



GOING PLACES

Austin-Healey Car Club of New Zealand Inc



Calendar 2017/18

i *Sunday, 29 October*
VCC All British Day - see flyer

Tuesday, 7 November
Meet and Eat at the Racecourse
Hotel Motor Lodge 6pm

Sunday, 12 November
BYO Picnic
to Awa Awa Rata Reserve.
Meet at The Fat Beagle Cafe,
Darfield, at 10am for coffee.
Do not forget to bring
INSECT REPELLENT

i *Sunday 29 November*
Sekwyn Motor Fest

Lunch at Cruisy Days Diner in Oxford on Sunday 15 October

A day in the sun with the hood down was an excellent idea after all the rain we have had and it started with the ubiquitous coffee and scone(s) at The Option Cafe before being given our tour directions to Oxford.

Peter Gooby had documented a comprehensive and interesting drive, skirting the airport seeing we can't use the new flyover yet, and then through lush spring farmland and small towns for the 97 km tour to Oxford. Secondary roads are always a joy because of the lack of traffic.

We enthusiastically arrived early into the township and we were delighted to enjoy the new shops and businesses. It has certainly moved ahead since my last visit anyway.

Our cafe for the day was the Cruisy Days Diner, period interior decor, funky, colourful and the menu was perfectly matched as was the friendly, crisp service. It appears it is mostly staffed by family members and they are passionate about what they do. Peter Gooby was asked that we dress in the year of our car and

most did just that, given a year or two.

Orders taken and while the juke box played tunes from the 60s, we waited for our orders of hot dogs, curly chips, milk shakes, ice cream sundaes and other like food, all very delicious.

It was an excellent turnout again. Colin and Anne, Len and Val, Trish and Terry, Jeni and Russell, Yvonne and Graham, Joan and Martin, Shirley and Alan, Peter and me, our wonderful tour leaders Peter and Ursula, also with Sue and Rob who dropped in at our coffee time and after lunch.

It was a treat for Len and Val to win a bottle of wine as first prize for the dress code, even Len's boots were from the year of his car and then surprise, surprise, Peter and I came second. I always knew that saving that genuine old English duffel coat for over 50 years would come in handy sometime. Peter was ready to toss it out!



the winning boots

Our sincere thanks to Peter and Ursula for arranging the day. You put in a lot of effort, it ticked over very smoothly and it was a great success.

Diane Nelligan



Calendar 2017/18

Sunday, 3 December

Christmas lunch - see invitation

Tuesday, 5 December

*Meet and Eat at the Racecourse
Hotel Motor Lodge 6pm*

i *Monday, 1 January*

*New Year's Day VCC picnic in
the Little River Domain*

Tuesday, 2 January

*Meet and Eat at the Racecourse
Hotel Motor Lodge 6pm*

Friday, 26 January

*Top Down Twilight Run to
Diamond Harbour.*

Tuesday, 6 February

*Meet and Eat at the Racecourse
Hotel Motor Lodge 6pm*

Tuesday, 6 March

*Meet and Eat at the Racecourse
Hotel Motor Lodge 6pm*



First place Len & Val Rickard



RUMBLE STRIP

Electrifying Information

So, after all the talking it has been proclaimed by the British Government that petrol and diesel cars will be a distant memory by 2040.

Our own politicians have also decreed that the Government fleet will be 25% battery powered some time soon, all good encouraging news to the anti-oil brigade, and given the progress on storage battery performance I can almost believe the hype myself.

And this is where I can see many areas in which very radical changes will have to be made to realise these dreams. I do appreciate the advantages of moving people about by direct current powered vehicles, one of which is the motivating force behind the idea, reduced emissions. This is the new age 'dirty word', conjuring up pictures of millions of belching exhausts pouring out diesel smoke, carbon particles, and CO₂ into the atmosphere.

Don't form the opinion that I am either a dinosaur or climate denier having recently driven a hybrid Honda to Auckland and return and enjoying the experience. And I love dry cell batteries, they have been a game changer for me personally as they power microphone, amplifier and speaker in hearing aids. Over the years the little batteries have moved from Nickel/Cadmium, to Zinc/Air, they are smaller, much more powerful, last longer, keep charge at optimum level to the last gasp, and the progression shows no signs of slowing. In short batteries are a thousand times better than when in 1866 Georges Leclanche lowered a bar of Zinc into a jar of Ammonium Chloride and registered an electrical output of 1.4V. There are non-liquid gels, rechargeable dry cell, integrated solar, and more. But with the exception of the last type they all need regular topping up with yet another power source.

In this country we will use a bank of solar cells or the national grid, the former by way of another bank of home batteries, the latter a wonderful (largely) natural renewable supply.

This is where my cynical mind uses (and here is a good word to work into your next conversation) "Ratiocination" in other words, to do what chess grand masters do all the time, 'think an idea through to its logical conclusion'

In most western countries like our own we tend to sleep when it is dark and work during daylight hours just as nature intended. Picture the scene at 6 pm each evening when 'Mr Average' returns from a day of toil, exits the place of employment using battery powered remote to open electric vehicle, drives home utilising bluetooth or phone en-route, activating garage door, and plugs car into charging port. Upon entering his/her home and expecting to prepare a meal using microwave or conventional oven you are informed that owing to nationwide staggered timing for power use dinner will be delayed until it is time for your allocation on the grid. That has become par for the course and you plug in the phone charger, use remote and fill in time watching advertisements for cheap battery replacements for your car offered at competitive rates thanks to Chinese coal fired power stations.

"In breaking news" weekend motoring for pleasure will be restricted owing to the Lewis Pass and the Southern Motorway being blocked by two battery powered curtain siders with power loss and the electric breakdown truck needs an electrician. Added caution as St John has only half of its fleet fully charged and one of the electric Westpac choppers has a dead cell.

"Now where did we put those plans to flood the Waianiwaniwa valley above Colgate".

Alan Wills



VCC Swap Meet

This year for the first time, the Canterbury Austin-Healey members promoted the club at the Canterbury Vintage Car Club's display area at the annual Swap Meet, a three day affair. Our new gazebo with the Austin-Healey banner and the new Austin-Healey sail were set up in the prime position at the clubs' display area with help from Graham Smith and Len Rickard on the Friday. For the rest of a normally quiet Friday we sat back with our three blue Healeys and watched other clubs setting up and enjoyed the occasional Healey visitor.

On Saturday Graham Smith and I returned early in the morning and again set up the gazebo and sail, and waited for the crowds to visit, except nobody came. On Friday night it had started to rain and the rain never stopped, washing out the Swap Meet. We sat out the quiet wet Saturday with very few Healey visitors and decided not to display the cars on Sunday.

Martin Mechen



2017 ALL BRITISH DAY



The 2017 Canterbury All British Day will be held on **Sunday 29th October**.

The start point will be our Vintage Car Club grounds at McLeans Island, where vehicles will need to assemble between 9.30 and 10.30 am. Soon after 10.30 all vehicles will depart on a scenic run which will take participants to a country domain.

A mix of long and medium runs will be provided to cater for everyone.

The entry fee will be \$10.00 per vehicle, with all proceeds once again going to the Van Asch Deaf Education Centre.

Bring a picnic lunch, or food may be purchased along the route.

The event is open to British vehicles of all ages (veteran to modern) and all types
- mopeds, motorcycles, cars and trucks.

IF IT'S BRITISH AND CAN BE MADE ROADWORTHY, PLAN TO BRING IT!

Organiser: Colin Hey, Phone 359-8737

Area Representative: Joan Mechen
mechenmj@xtra.co.nz

Christmas Lunch

Sunday, 3rd December

*Meet at The Raspberry Cafe, Rhodes Road, Tai Tapu for coffee
leaving there at 11am for Methven*

Lunch at the Brown Pub, Main Road, Methven at 12:30pm

Numbers to Joan Mechen by Wednesday, 29 November

mechenmj@xtra.co.nz - 03 338 7758 - 027 656 4508

Menu available at www.brownpub.co.nz

I had a thought

I am sure someone told me that in the movie "Hidden Figures" the employees turned their computers on their sides so they could read the documents in portrait, one whole page at a time?

So, looking at the screens on my devices I wondered if landscape would be more practical than portrait to read digital publications? I decided to give it a try and you can let me know what you think.

After opening the email attachment, I went to "VIEW" in the toolbar and selected "FULL SCREEN" and found that I was able to read an entire page at once. No scrolling up and down or dashing from side to side. To escape this view, I pressed the "ESC" button which is top left on my keyboard.

Newsletter: Diane Nelligan
nelliganpd@xtra.co.nz

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