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**NOVEMBER 2018**

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## EVENTS DIARY

### SUNDAY NOVEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>

The meeting place for the November Sunday run will be Rolly Inn for 10.30 am departure.

### THURSDAY NOVEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup> Gold Card Cruisers

Gold Card Cruisers Thursday 15th November  
2018 Meeting Place is Main Akaroa Highway Tai Tapu beside river at 10 30am. Picnic Lunch.  
Organiser Kit Peverill.

### Barry's Banter:

A big thanks to Tony and Jeanette for their article last month. I hope their stories are encouraging you to write about your own cars and adventures.

As much as we enjoy our journeys to places far and wide I wanted to share some experiences around the art of breakdowns.

Still on a learners license I'd had a near fatal accident riding a motorbike when I broke my wrist. From the insurance payout I decided to find a car which couldn't hold up to nine people. This is because as a student no one in my crew had a car and I'd end up driving everyone home.

Not everyone was kind enough to contribute towards the petrol and I got sick of running them around for free. For my troubles while nine up on a trip back from Luton I ended up breaking a leaf spring in my beloved Red Cortina Mk2 GT. Dad said that in all his years of driving he had never broken a leaf spring and branded me as being a complete and utter idiot.

In those days it was hard to define a classic car. My first TR6 was bought in 1982 when they weren't yet considered collectable by anyone else than a wreckers yard. The TR was nothing more than a cheap second hand runabout. The only difference to this and a Ford Cortina Mk3 was that any garage could fix a Cortina. In 1982 all garage mechanics had already forgotten the concept of Lucas fuel injection. The sister Triumph 2.5Pi went from family car or Police pursuit vehicle to the banger racing track where they were all written off. Very few of these saloons exist on the roads as a result. So if anything went wrong with the smooth running of the beast you had to go to a one of only two PI specialists in the whole of the UK. Quite costly if you live 200 miles away as we did. So DIY was the order of the day.

Anyway, I responded to an advert in the Exchange and Mart and went to see a non original sky blue TR6. It was cheap. The exhaust was loud. It had these monster Dunlop SP sport tyres from a Jag XJ6. Yes, the ones with the aqua jets. The roof came off - sometimes by itself, but the fact remained I had to have it. That was the beginning of my reliability nightmare with Triumphs.

Whilst the engine itself was reliable after the third rebuild, the fuel injection, ignition system, gearbox, overdrive, differential, brakes and wheel bearings were not. I remember Kay's flat mate asking her if I had nothing better to do than take the wheels off the car every weekend.- and most nights. You see there was an added problem. The previous owner must have kerbed the car at high speed and the bottom trunnion chassis mounts had parted company from the chassis.

That car broke down everywhere it went. Fortunately, I was good at getting her home. As a student I had started my own RAC mobile repair service. A motorist had broken down one night, so I stopped, diagnosed the problem and was able to get him going. He was so grateful he gave me money. I figured this was a great way of making some additional income. So I carried jacks, spanners, hammers and a blow torch and was able to help out a majority of stranded motorists.

One night, on a drive by call out, I was busy convincing a young lady that her tights could be used as a temporary fan belt for her broken down mini. She had been stuck on the roadside for over an hour waiting for a friend to come and help her. I said I would have her car running before they turned up. She was just about to provide the temporary fan belt when some guy rocked up with a gallon of petrol, poured it in the tank, started the car, she then got in and drove off. As this bloke got into his car he shouted out "Sorry mate. That's my step sister. Bloody Essex girl she is. Won't ever put petrol in the car. First time she broke down the "Real" RAC guy told her she had run it dry and she just said "Well it had petrol in it when I bought it!" He took off in his Savage Ford Capri with me stood there like a complete muppet in a cloud of burnt rubber.

With my RAC rescue training complete I signed up for proper RAC breakdown membership just in case we were not quite confident enough to take our chances outside of London. I had started working and could now step up a gear to the awesome AA Five star membership. This was true international rescue. With this membership your car can be taken home from any country in Europe for free. So armed with both breakdown memberships Kay and I spent the next fifteen years being rescued from all over the UK and France.

In 1988 thanks to the guys working at TR Improvements we started following the Silk Cut

Jaguar team and would go to Silverstone, France and Belgium to see them race. On occasion we made it home in our own car. But in the main I was given the opportunity to wreck the manual gearboxes on those LHD Renaults 5 replacement cars.



Stagzilla meets his mate at Mossburn

Now I started writing this article in a motel on the lakefront in Te Anau. The car of choice for this Labour Day weekend road trip is Stagzilla. I am hoping I haven't put a curse on the Stag by writing about breakdowns. I have blown this engine up before and hope not to do it again, but at the end of the day this is a Triumph. I renewed my AA subscription before the journey and carry two phones, one Spark and one Vodafone to make sure I have the best possible coverage in the event of an emergency.

Fortunately for me, Kay is actually pretty cool about breakdowns. As long as she has a book, a blanket, at least one bottle of wine and some nibbles she doesn't make a drama out of it. To be fair, in order to minimise the chaos, she did come up with pre flight inspection which we would run through a week before the journey. Over the years we have become a bit more relaxed. So relaxed in fact that the checklist is only initiated when something fails on the journey.

So for our trip to Milford Sound this weekend I was only reminded of the checklist when the heated seats were found to be inoperable whilst driving through Dunedin. This was the second item to fail as the radio hadn't worked since Ashburton.

"Right then", she says while grabbing her woolly blanket from the rear seat and draping it over her lap.

"Lights"

I reply "Working, as long as your shoes stay put and don't knock the rear light bulb holders"

"Brakes!"  
 "Main brakes OK"  
 What does that mean?  
 "Handbrake doesn't work, That's why we aren't stopping in Dunedin cos I can't do hill starts"  
 "Horn!"  
 "Check - For the moment. Besides that's not exactly life threatening".  
 "It was pretty life threatening for that woman you nearly mowed down in Hanmer Springs!"  
 "Yeh, I was lucky the brakes were pulling to the right that day".  
 "Heated seats! Yes, well we can scrap that one."  
 "Wheels! Have you tightened them up this time?"  
 "Yeh yeh yeh! For crying out loud. Move onto something else!"  
 "Why we stopping?"  
 "On second thoughts, just a quick check."  
 A few moments later " All four wheels confirmed.  
 "Right then, Water leaks!"  
 "Radiator is fine and I've got an Oxo cube just in case the head gaskets start to go."  
 "When will you know that they are going to go?"  
 "Pretty much when they've already gone but it will help us to keep running to get to a garage. Just like the last time."  
 "What about leaks in here. I don't want water pouring in my lap whenever it rains OK!"  
 "Sorted I think. I used some bathroom sealant on the windscreen. Need rain to see if it works. Been great so far though don't you think?"  
 "Engine!"  
 "Check. Well it is there. I can hear it."  
 "Gearbox!"  
 "Check - Its a Toyota 5 speed remember."  
 "Diff!"  
 "Check - It's a Nissan limited slipper remember"  
 "Petrol! Why do we ALWAYS have to run out of petrol!"  
 "That's not my fault. I can only get discount using my AA fuel card at BP and Caltex.  
 "Are you telling me you'd rather run out of petrol and walk twenty miles than pay a few cents more and use another petrol company?"  
 "OK! Point taken. From now on we will fill up whenever we see a petrol station.....as long as it isn't Allied, NPD or GAS. That stuff isn't fit for a ride on mower!"  
 The good news is that the long weekend was a complete success. Went to Fleurs at Moeraki for dinner on Thursday. Spectacular food as always.

Checked out the Chilean restaurant in Te Anau where we had the 'death by meat' Barbecue Lamb.

With clear skies, snow topped mountains and deep blue lakes, the views were simply spectacular. Weather over the weekend has been awesome with roof down motoring for 95% of the journey. Only saw rain heading in and out of Milford.

The other good news is that I did not have any conversations with the Police. However, I can tell you where you can find one if you want one.



© Can Stock Photo - csp43434901

There were :- 13 Police cars, two static speed cameras and one mobile speed camera between Christchurch and Hampden on Thursday afternoon. In a range of highly invisible colours too. Red, Orange, White and now a new Blue.

On Friday travelling from Hampden to Te Anau - Zero police

On Saturday - Te Anau to Milford and back - Zero Police.

There were two police cars parked unattended outside the Speights pub in Te Anau at 7.00 P.M. Clearly Saturday nights' alright for fighting in Te Anau. Or they'd simply earned enough for a pint!

On Sunday those same two cars were seen parked up together on the road to Mossburn.

From Mossburn to Omarama - Zero police.

Monday Omarama to Rangiora we counted six police cars.

All of which were either chasing, waiting or talking to speeding motorists. Of course it would have been nice for them to speak to those narrow minded caravan and mobile home drivers who refused to pull over and let the tailback of cars pass.

That's my rant for the Month.

And remember, the more articles you contribute the more fun for everyone.

Cheers All.



## REPORT ON OCTOBER SUNDAY RUN.

This run was an example of how co-operation in the Club works. Rod planned the route & Julian ran the event on the day and organised the most important Coffee & Cake Venue.

*We were pleasantly surprised to see 20 cars at the start in Rolleston – after a Rugby Game in the middle of the night – Bathurst (Hope you enjoyed it Rod) and F1 from Japan later in the afternoon. Sadly Stewart had car troubles at the start and had to return home. It was good to see Bruce & Caroline again after Caroline's hip surgery.*



Dick Gurney's new toy - photo Gill Peters

Rod had organised an interesting route for us to get to The Oxford Men's Shed open day. We headed South to Norwood when we travelled along Telegraph Road (it is now difficult to see where that road shifted sideways in the September 2010 earthquake) to Darfield – This road is a main route for milk tankers but we only saw 2 on this trip. It is amazing to see all the big water systems on the farms - big pipe work above ground with a solar panel to provide the power to the pumps. So the long lead in for the Water Scheme is now helping the farmers with their production – hopefully not more cows! Due to the earlier start some folk had their morning coffee there. We then drove down Kimberley Road to the Old West Coast Road. On we went and as we crossed the Waimak Gorge Bridge we were most surprised to see a large group of Kayak's on the river – perhaps a training day for the Coast to Coast. After

crossing the river we took Harmon's Gorge Road to drive around through View Hill – the farms were looking in tip top condition and it was also good to see folk enjoying themselves at the local horse riding school.

When we arrived in Oxford we were directed to a parking spot in the middle of the domain. Not so many cars there this year but a very enjoyable day was had with the sun coming out so that we could enjoy our picnic lunch. Several club members were there with their one make clubs and Jeanette & Tony with their Grandchildren!

As the cafe had a 4pm closure we left Oxford a little earlier than usual and went to a newer cafe in Silverstream West Kaiapoi for another natter and relax before heading home.

A very enjoyable day. Thanks Rod & Julian !

Gill Peters



An enjoyable coffee stop on our way home from Oxford - photo Gill Peters

## REPORT ON GOLD CAR. CRUISERS OCTOBER 18<sup>TH</sup>

Thirteen cars left Yaldhurst for a cruise along Old West Coast Road to Courtney making a left turn to drive through Kirwee onto Bealey Road. We then travelled through Hororata where the weather was a little bleak, drizzly with low cloud spoiling the rolling landscape a little as we detoured through the windy rolling green countryside to the Inland Scenic Route. However when arriving at Darfield Sports Ground for our lunch stop it was warm and sunny to enjoy our Picnic lunch. Later we motored back to Yaldhurst Museum Cafe to sit outside to enjoy Coffee and Cake.

Gill Milne.



Lunch at Darfield - photo Jim Milne



Colin standing beside an Austin the same as his first car! - photo Gill Peters

## FOR SALE



**Club Caps** only \$15 each  
**sew on Badge** \$8 each  
 see Kit & Carol Peverill  
 or Rod Hurst

## 2019 ALPINE CLASSIC

May 2<sup>nd</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup>

### The G G's Last Ride



We have finalised the dates for the 2019 Alpine. Planning is still at the early stages but at this stage we plan the following

Day 1: Timaru to Cromwell

Day 2: **Morning** visit to Highland Park

**Afternoon** winery tour by bus and **Evening/night**, bus to Queenstown, Earnslaw to Walter Peak for Dinner and then back to Cromwell by bus

Day 3; Cromwell to Gore

Day 4 Gore to Dunedin

Day 5 Dunedin to Timaru and final Dinner.

We understand the dates do not clash with school holidays or Easter and is just after peak tourist season.

Once G1 and G2 have finished the plotting and negotiating with venues, costs will be announced.

Expect details before Christmas .

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA ODYSSEY 2019.

4<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2019 .

G2 has planning underway for the last of the State odyssey's in Australia.

The plan is to take the sleeper train from Sydney to Perth from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 7<sup>th</sup> of September.

Car pick up/rest day will be Sunday the 8<sup>th</sup> with the road trip commencing on the 9<sup>th</sup> and

finishing on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September. The basic route is to travel south to Busselton, south east and east to Esperance before heading north to Kalgoolie and Leinster. From there it is west to Geraldton and south back to Perth. A day trip to Rotness Island of the coast of Perth is planned.

**Train Travel:** G2 advises that he has already started talks with Railway Australia to ensure that we can travel as a group and not be spread over many carriages. **We have 18 crews and train will be booked shortly. Have space for two more cars.**

Please email G2 at [info@saabclassics.net](mailto:info@saabclassics.net) to confirm your intentions. He has a good list so far but does need to know that those who have expressed interest are still starters. Numbers may have to be limited for small centre accommodation.



Regular updates will be send to all those who register their intention to join the Odyssey.

## OTHER EVENTS THAT MAY INTEREST YOU:

### The Pleasant Point Lions Club Classic and Vintage Car Display

The Pleasant Point Lions Club is organising a Classic and Vintage Car Display at Pleasant Point on **Saturday 3rd November 2018** as part of the “**Get to the Point**” Day.

The day includes Food and Market Stalls, Shearing, Highland dancing and other events as well as live entertainment.

If any of your club members are able to come we would like the cars to be there by 10am and if possible to stay until 2pm. The entry fee will be a gold coin donation to South Canterbury Heart Kids. There is to be a competition for people’s choice of the best car.

The Car Display is on Afghan Street which runs parallel to the Main Street. The Railway Station is on Afghan Street. You will be directed from the Timaru end off the Main Road to the display area.

Bring your kids, grandchildren, Aunt etc, to a fun day!

### Fifth Annual North Canterbury Classic Tour Christmas Picnic

**Sunday November 18<sup>th</sup>**. Departs from Hurunui District Council car park.

**9.30am – 10.45am.**

Visits to three or maybe even four places of interest including a fantastic collection of British vehicles. **All sealed roads**. Win a years’ subscription to New Zealand Classic Car magazine – via the numbered route sheet, but we will have a fun I.D. quiz suitable for all ages. All correct (or most correct) will go into a draw for another years sub.

Regards

Trevor Stanley Joblin

## SELWYN MOTOR FEST

1000+ Show Vehicles of all shapes and sizes expected

- Market Stalls & Food Vendors
- Live Entertainment
- Raffles & Auctions, Activities, Rides, Bouncy Castles, Face Painting and much more

**Where?** Opposite Rolleston College

**When?** November 25th 2018 from 10am – 3pm

**Prices:** Adult – \$5 | Child – \$2 | Family – \$10

Pre-registered vehicles \$15 | On the day vehicle registrations \$20

*\*All proceeds donated to charity*

PROUDLY SUPPORTING

JONES ROAD AUTO

SELWYN MOTOR FEST

& FAMILY FUN DAY

Rolleston  
Sun. 25 Nov.  
10am - 3pm

CHECK US OUT ON 