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President Rob's Report

Hello Members!

In my last Presidents report back in March, I alluded to the relative speed at which each year progresses... and low and behold, it's now June 2019! That's coming up six months into 2019 already! Crazy!

The good news of course is that June can only mean one thing on our Club radar... yes, our Annual Mid-Winter Christmas! Whoop Whoop!

The venue has been booked and we are working progressively with various sponsors to come up with a prize pool to end all prize pools..... Carl Phillips has plotted a run for in the morning to get you all to the event (that's something we have not done in a while!) at least for those that wish to make a whole day of it, and I have begun working on another – now almost mandatory? – Trivia quiz for us all to get stuck into after we have finished getting stuck into our Christmas themed luncheon. Yum! So keep an eye out for more details as they come to hand, including within this very magazine. It's going to be another great day out!

If I can once again reflect on the year so far, I can honestly say it's been huge! We have had some stupendous runs to date and to have non-committee members take on the task of organising two of those runs (so far) has been refreshing and greatly appreciated by your committee and everyone in attendance.

Our Club membership is holding steady at just under 100, which is just outstanding as everyone's personal circumstances can change year on year, so to keep that constant level of membership interest is very pleasing for me. I can't wait to crack the ton! Welcome aboard to the many new faces that we have seen at some of our recent events too, as well as past members rejoining. Way cool.

Before I sign off this Presidents reports, I just want to take this opportunity to thank everyone whom have expressed their concerns over my ailing health this past month or so. That has been very humbling and again, much appreciated. Rest assured, I'll be around a while yet... I think... but as yet the medical profession has been unable to actually pin-point what the problem is/was, so whilst I feel 100% better than I did mid-April – almost 'normal' even (for me... lol) we aren't quite out of the woods yet, so just waiting on the public health system to do its thing. But again, thank you for your well-wishes. It means a lot ☺ .

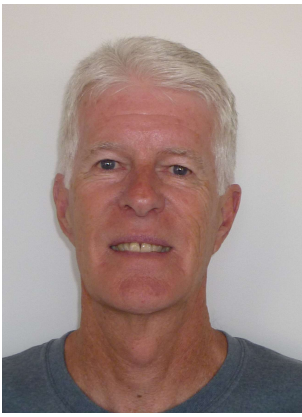
We have some more cool events scheduled for the next three months, always plenty for everyone to do, even as winter approaches in earnest. So until the next one, take care out there folks, and I'll see you soon!

Rob.



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Russell's Ramblings

Hi there folks, I have just renewed the insurance on the Pontiac (and the daily driver, along with the house and contents - they all seem to come at the same time for me), and noticed that it has gone up a small amount, due to the government increasing the Fire Services Levy. It is an onerous thing this insurance, but one we can't do without. However, NZ classic car owners are not as bad off as in Europe, as can be seen from the following courtesy of the FOMC of NZ Feb/Mar. newsletter Wheel Torque, which you may find interesting:-

“For European classic vehicle collectors and enthusiasts the requirement for compulsory injury insurance cover has resulted in a rather curious unanticipated increase in the costs they now have to meet. As a result of a finding of the European Court of Justice it is now compulsory for unused and immobilised vehicles to still be fully insured. This is because a Portugese grandmother, who became too old to drive, left her car parked in her yard and allowed the insurance to lapse without formally de-registering it. Without her knowledge her son took the car and killed himself and his two passengers in an accident. Portugal’s State Insurance Fund has successfully sued her to recover the payouts they made to the families of the accident victims. As a result of this case and another ruling, vehicles which are still registered and therefore have not been officially withdrawn from use, and are still capable of being driven, remain subject to the insurance obligation even if the owners no longer intend to drive them and have left them immobilised on private land. What this means is that all collectable and heritage vehicles which are on the European equivalent of our “on hold” register must now remain insured even if they are stored in museums or are undergoing a rebuild in a restoration shop.”

Please welcome the following new members, who have joined over the last couple of months, and don't forget to say hi when you meet them on the next club run:-
Bruce Anderson - 1970 Cadillac El Dorado, 1969 Mustang Mach 1, 1946 Ford Coupe
Peter Lee Jnr. & Judith Robertson - 1974 AMC Javelin
Mike Rielly - 1965 Rambler Classic

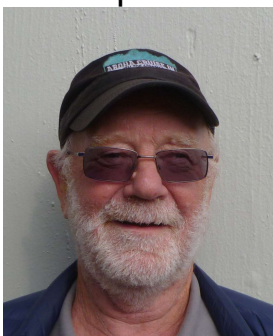
Ciao4now, regards Russell

Committee Members

<u>President</u>	Rob Milligan 4836615-0274 988292	LongRoofRob@outlook.com
<u>Editor/Webmaster</u>	Russell Wilson 0211 448222	StarChiefRussell@gmail.com
<u>Treasurer</u>	Dave Roper 0274 4212967	dave.roper@xtra.co.nz

General Duties

Phil Officer	021 971333	philip.officer@gmail.com
Peter Lee	0274 450993	pjm.lee@xtra.co.nz
Carl Phillips	0211 500210	carlphillips@xtra.co.nz



Dave



Phil



Peter



Carl



JUST JOKING



SO, YOU THINK YOU KNOW EVERYTHING???

A cat has 32 muscles in each ear

A crocodile cannot stick out its tongue.

A dragonfly has a life span of 24 hours.

A goldfish has a memory span of three seconds.

A "jiffy" is an actual unit of time for 1/100th of a second.

A shark is the only fish that can blink with both eyes.

A snail can sleep for three years.

Al Capone's business card said he was a used furniture dealer.

Almonds are a member of the peach family.

An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.

Babies are born without kneecaps They don't appear until the child reaches 2 to 6 years of age.

Butterflies taste with their feet.

Cats have over one hundred vocal sounds. Dogs only have about 10.

"Dreamt" is the only English word that ends in the letters "mt".

February 1865 is the only month in recorded history not to have a full moon.

In the last 4,000 years, no new animals have been domesticated.

If the population of China walked past you, in single file, the line would never end because of the rate of reproduction.

It's impossible to sneeze with your eyes open.

Leonardo Da Vinci invented the scissors.

No word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver, or purple.

Our eyes are always the same size from birth, but our nose and ears never stop growing.

Peanuts are one of the ingredients of dynamite.

Rubber bands last longer when refrigerated.

"Stewardesses" is the longest word typed with only the left hand and "lollipop" with your right.

The average person's left hand does 56% of the typing.

The cruise liner, QE2, moves only six inches for each gallon of diesel that it burns.

The microwave was invented after a researcher walked by a radar tube and a chocolate bar melted in his pocket.

The sentence: "The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog" uses every letter of the alphabet.

The winter of 1932 was so cold that Niagara Falls froze completely solid.

The words 'racecar,' 'kayak' and 'level' are the same whether they are read left to right or right to left (palindromes).

There are more chickens than people in the world.

There are only four words in the English language which end in "dous": tremendous, horrendous, stupendous, and hazardous.

There are two words in the English language that have all five vowels in order: "abstemious" and "facetious."

Tigers have striped skin, not just striped fur.

TYPEWRITER is the longest word that can be made using the letters only on one row of the keyboard.

Winston Churchill was born in a ladies' room during a dance.

Women blink nearly twice as much as men.

Your stomach has to produce a new layer of mucus every two weeks, otherwise it will digest itself.



There, now you do know everything!

Fact 621:

It has been scientifically proven that the less you know, the more you think you know.

Chuck's Restoration Supplies visit – 24 March 2019

It finally had to happen, after a string of beautiful sunny days for club runs this year, Sunday morning brought a drizzly start to the day. After setting off in the somewhat heavy rain, it started clearing up closer to the city with dry roads, until arriving at the Westgate meetup where it was sloshy once again.



But that didn't deter the forty plus members of the American Classic Car Club, who turned up with 23 wonderful American classics to brighten the day. After the usual meet up and natter, Rob welcomed everyone, including first time out new members Andrew and Raewyn in their lovely 1962 Chev Impala. The tiki tour Phil plotted took us through Hobsonville, Herald Island, and Swanson before arriving at Chucks, where we were welcomed by the Manager, Mike Rielly, who is also the newest member of the club.

We were given free rein of the premises to explore, which included the new parts store, the main warehouse with sheet metal, glass, used doors, fenders, motors, the upstairs second hand parts storage, and the MPI area where the cars and goods are inspected. Also on the premises were a number of vehicles that had been imported by Chucks for customers and for sale, which certainly attracted a lot of attention.



Although Chucks initially focussed on Tri-five Chevy parts, they have expanded out into parts for all American makes and models, and will also source and import parts that aren't available locally upon request. They are a well respected and resourced company, and this certainly showed through upon inspection of their very clean, tidy, and well organized premises.

Mike very kindly donated a \$100 voucher towards parts from Chuck's inventory, the winner being drawn from a brake drum of members details, which was won by Dave Roper.



After the visit it was off over the road to the Swanson RSA for a very lovely buffet lunch, which seemed to be enjoyed by all, ending up another very well attended club outing.

You may have noticed our newest club supporter, POR NZ's advert on the back page of the Cruisepaper. They have very kindly supplied us some online gift vouchers to the value of \$25, which we will award to a participant member after each month's club outing. The winner for this month's \$25 online voucher is Shane and Adith Stoneman.

Ciao4now, Russell Wilson

Waiau Pa Hop & Hedges Estate visit – Saturday 13 April 2019

A beautiful but crispy Saturday morning saw 19 classics, 1 daily driver and 40 plus people raring to go from the BP Papakura meeting point. Club member Phil Stickney very kindly organised the day, easing the load on your committee team, so off we went in convoy through what can only be described as beautiful rural countryside to the Waiau Pa Hop held at Clarks Beach.

A gold coin donation had a number of us park up in the Hop site itself right beside the beach, while the rest stopped on the verge just before the entrance. And what an absolutely stunning location it was, with the sun shining, the water sparkling, and classic cars and hot rods to ogle at.



A number of club members had never been to Clarks Beach, and were most impressed by the location and show. The show itself was somewhat small in numbers, especially when compared to some of the Auckland events, but it was very laid back, with a large number of cars not seen before which made for an interesting morning's viewing.

Midday came around very quickly, with the temperatures warming up, so it was off on another short cruise through more stunning South Auckland rural countryside, to Hedges estate on the outskirts of Waiuku. It is hard to describe how beautiful the house and gardens are, looking over towards the Waikato landscape, and everyone was in total awe.

The house and gardens are used as a wedding and function venue, and we were warmly welcomed by our hosts Fleur and Grant (who are friends and neighbours of Phil and Garry), who allowed us to park on their picture perfect lawn.



We had our lunch of sandwiches, sausage rolls, savouries and scrummy cakes in the conservatory, overlooking the lawn and our cars, before the tour of the gardens. The aviary of very colourful, but noisy birds was a highlight for some of the ladies, but the guys were more taken by the large shed with Grant's collection of MG's. As well as restoring the cars, Grant is a keen racer, peddling a very rapid V8 MGB on the racetrack, and is in the process of putting together a Marina circuit car also.

The afternoon was finished off with a sampling of chocolate Easter eggs filled with Baileys liqueur which were very decadent indeed, kindly supplied by our hosts. Phil performed the official club thank you to Fleur and Grant, followed by a hearty round of applause from the attendees, before everyone departed mid-afternoon.

The run prize of the day of a POR \$25 online gift voucher for the members who turn up in their classic, goes to John and Pat Campbell in their 1955 Plymouth Belvedere. Ciao4now, Russell Wilson

Four-Door Dreams: The 1966 Chevrolet Caribe Concept



When we think of convertible-top body styles today, we generally think of two-door convertible coupes and roadsters. But in the Classic Era of the American automobile (the years 1925 through 1948, approximately, according to our friends at the Classic Car Club of America) there was another popular style, the convertible sedan—that is, a convertible with four doors.

Costly to manufacture and elegantly detailed, convertible sedans were typically regarded as the top of the line in the Motor City's sales catalogs. But as times changed and tastes evolved, the body style gradually disappeared and by the 1960s, only Lincoln offered a four-door convertible among U.S. manufacturers. We don't know this for certain, but we like to think that Bill Mitchell and his staff at the General Motors styling studios were thinking of the classic convertible sedans of days gone by when they conceived the Caribe, a four-door convertible dream car based on the Chevrolet Impala.



Green-lighted in late 1964 by the corporate brass, the Caribe (internal designation XP-834) was based on an Impala four-door sedan with 396 CID V8 and Turbo-Hydramatic transmission. The roof panel was surgically removed, a convertible windshield and A-pillar assembly were installed, and the cowl, rockers, and door posts were reinforced to stiffen the body structure as required. On paper at least, a folding convertible mechanism was nestled under the form-fitting top boot, but we don't know if it was installed or functional.

The interior featured color-matched upholstery materials with elaborately filigreed trimming and a hybrid bench-bucket front seat arrangement that would be marketed by Chevrolet as the Strato-back option. At some point, the exterior sheet metal was updated from 1965 to 1966 spec, but reportedly, the Caribe never made it onto the show car circuit as planned and the sole example was scrapped. The name was then recycled for use on the 1968 Camaro Caribe concept, an El Camino-esque roadster pickup.

Photos courtesy of General Motors, article courtesy of Mac's Motor City Garage.

Betty Bean Classic Car Show Tuakau Saturday April 20th 2019

Saturday April 20th was a stunning late summer/early Autumn day and somewhat last minute I had been asked if I could provide some cars for what turns out to be have been the very last – at least for the foreseeable future – Betty Bean Café Classic Car Show at rural Tuakau.



I took down one of my English vehicles for a change, my recently acquired 1974 Hillman Avenger Station Wagon... and before you all scoff, it's one of only 26 known registered examples still on the road here! And yes, it made it there – and back, lol!

I'd also put the call out to Dave & Catherine and the boys Phil & Gary, as both couples were relatively close, at such short notice. So between us we added four cars to the carpark.

Gary even brought their P6B Rover V8, to keep the English theme amongst us alive and well. And yes, that made there and back too!

Unfortunately a reoccurrence of some historical health issues has subsequently meant Betty Bean has been unable to continue with her coffee trailer and her monthly car shows – a real shame as they were really starting to take off, so much so the local Council was prepared to let her hold future ones at Les Batkin Reserve down the road as they were proving too popular for the carpark out front of the Tuakau Pony Club.

Hopefully it's not the last we see of Betty Bean and her damn fine coffees, but it was a pleasure to have been part of her last Classic Car Show and on behalf of the Car Club I wish her a speedy resolution to her health concerns ☺ .

Rob Milligan



Chevrolet Enthusiast Club Pukekohe Swap Meet Saturday May 4th 2019

The Weekend of Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th of May was Pukekohe Swap Meet Weekend. And yet again, the weather was kind – at least on the Saturday when I ventured down for a fossick around.

It's always been a great Swap Meet this one, although the change of venue over recent years may have hindered it a little? Hard to know, to be fair it had been a few years since I'd been to one here. But there was still plenty of swapper stalls to browse through, with the majority being of an automotive nature. And the casual car show within the grounds of the swap meet certainly had plenty to admire also.

I even managed to pick up a complete Avenger front indicator assembly, as well as an almost NOS rear taillight cluster for a mates Mk1 Escort Van... both gold in our books! Betty Bean even managed to score a heap of FB Holden parts to keep hers looking mint.



Great to see several of our members present too, including Bryan Martin, Dave & Catherine Parker, Ian and Margaret Bloxom. Phil & Cindy Officer also dropped in on their way North from Hamilton.

I had a great time, topped off with an excellent late lunch at the quirky Café called Kaos in Pukekohe Township. Highly recommend you have a look at that one day soon too!

Rob Milligan



ROSS BROS. CAMBRIDGE – 18 May 2019

Saturday 18th May saw a group of 22 classics and 1 daily driver, and around 50 club members and guests gather at BP Drury for a run down to Hautapu on the outskirts of Cambridge.



After the usual briefing from our illustrious president Rob and the dispensing of the run instructions, we set off in convoy on what I hoped would be an interesting drive down to Huntly, trying to stay off SH1 as much as possible. After stopping regularly to check we were all still together, it became apparent that we had lost a few along the way. No worries, as everyone knew where we were heading so I assumed people would eventually find the venue using the instructions or their phones.

By the time we stopped at Gordonton for a planned regroup we were down to about 15 cars which was a bit of a worry. Never mind, as many were busting and had to queue for the toilets and as time went by everyone who had got lost trundled in, so by the time everyone took advantage of the comfort stop, we were once again all together. We continued on along SH1B to the Hautapu Dairy Co where we regrouped before continuing on around the corner to the Ross Bros. amazing collection, where we were met and given a brief rundown on the history of the museum by our host Nelson.

This would have to be the most stunning collection of Classic and Muscle cars, along with motorbikes, earthmoving machinery, vintage fire engines, memorabilia and interesting stuff that the club has ever visited. Possibly the highlight for most was the humongous yellow Komatsu Super Dozer, one of only 40 odd ever produced, with a replacement value of \$5.5 million.



We were also joined there by the Waikato Mini Club, and a pimped out Rolls Royce V12 twin turbo of all things, which only added to the eye candy. After about an hour and a half of drooling at this incredible collection (even the toilets were interesting!!!) we set off in convoy for our lunch break at the beautiful Prof's Café, which is part of The Woodlands Country Estate where our hosts once again catered to our every need by way of a set menu buffet lunch, which I trust everyone enjoyed.



As this was the first run my wife and I have ever organised I must say it was very rewarding to see the numbers attending, and gives us an insight into what our committee undertakes on a monthly basis. Thanks to everyone who attended. See you on the next run. Phil & Robyn Bourke.
PS. The run prize of the day of a POR \$25 online gift voucher goes to Phil & Robyn Bourke, for their tremendous effort in organizing the run to Ross Bros. Muscle Garage.

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HOT DATES

<u>June</u>	
3	Parked up out West, Northwest Shopping Centre, Westgate. 9.30am-1pm
6	Yank Tank Thursday, Botany Town Centre, East Tamaki. 6-9pm
9	Winter Drag Wars 1, Meremere Dragway, Waikato
9	Oogah Rodders Big Breakfast, Swanson RSA, 663 Swanson Road. 8.30-11am
16	Mid West Street Rods' breakfast, Mitre 10 Mega, Westgate. 8.30-10.30am
23	Winter Drag Wars 2, Meremere Dragway, Waikato
27	Manukau R&C Club Burger Night, Repco Takanini, 230 Gt.Sth.Rd. from 6pm
30	ACCCA mid-winter Christmas Lunch & Trivia Quiz, Soljans Estate Winery, 366 State Highway 16, Kumeu from 12-4.30pm. \$46 per head, and RSVP's must be in by June 21. Optional mystery coffee cruise departing Hooton Reserve Gate 1, 14 Mills Lane, Albany at 9.30am, to arrive at Soljans before midday
30	Caffeine & Classics, Smales Farm, Northcote Road, Takapuna. 10am-1pm
<u>July</u>	
4	American Independence Day Run, leaves Beaumont Street 7.30pm sharp
6	Winter Warmer Vintage Market, 9 Lupton Road, Manurewa. 9am-3pm
7	Winter Drag Wars 3, Meremere Dragway, Waikato
14	Rotorua Swap Meet, Paradise Valley, Rotorua. 7am-2pm
14	Oogah Rodders Big Breakfast, Swanson RSA, 663 Swanson Road. 8.30-11am
20-21	CRC Speedshow, ASB Showgrounds, Greenlane
21	Mid West Street Rods' breakfast, Mitre 10 Mega, Westgate. 8.30-10.30am
25	Manukau R&C Club Burger Night, Repco Takanini, 230 Gt.Sth.Rd. from 6pm
28	ACCCA run to Whitford Toy Museum. Meet at Vector Wero Whitewater Park, 770 Great South Road, Manukau. Arrive at 9am for tour of Park, or from 9.30 to depart at 10 for museum. \$10 entry per person for Toy Museum. Buffet lunch at Formosa Country Club Whitford is Yum Char buffet at \$20 per head
28	Caffeine & Classics, Smales Farm, Northcote Road, Takapuna, 10am-1pm
28	Winter Drag Wars 4, Meremere Dragway, Waikato
<u>August</u>	
1	Yank Tank Thursday, Botany Town Centre, East Tamaki. 6-9pm
2-4	Prowear Chrome Expression Session, Hampton Downs, Waikato
11	Oogah Rodders Big Breakfast, Swanson RSA, 663 Swanson Road. 8.30-11am
11	Winter Drag Wars 5, Meremere Dragway, Waikato
18	ACCCA run to Kaihua Hotel for the famous fish and chip lunch. Meet at BP Papakura, Southern Motorway from 10am to depart at 10.30 for visit to Miranda Shorebird Centre en route (donation optional). Buffet lunch is \$16 per head.
18	Mid West Street Rods' breakfast, Mitre 10 Mega, Westgate. 8.30-10.30am
25	Caffeine & Classics, Smales Farm, Northcote Road, Takapuna, 10am-1pm
25	Winter Drag Wars Final, Meremere Dragway, Waikato
29	Manukau R&C Club Burger Night, Repco Takanini, 230 Gt.Sth.Rd. from 6pm

Refer to the latest issue of NZ Petrolhead & NZ Rodder for more information on dates and times, or for a subscription visit www.petrolhead.co.nz or phone 09 263 5305

