

December 2006

Editorial

Welcome to the last Issue for 2006, the year pasted us so fast but I hope you all had a good year regardless. We have had outstanding events thanks to all the organisers and thanks to all who took part.

Have a merry Christmas and a happy new year. I hope to see you all next year, drive carefully these holidays.

It's always good to hear from readers, especially those with contributions for the magazine, so please keep those stories coming.

Liane

New Member

We would like to welcome Drew Ayers with his W11450CE 1970 Mercedes.

Past Events

NZ Classic Car Rally

Twelve months has gone by in a rush. Normally these rallies are two yearly but they snuck an extra one in!

When you know what serious fun these are, you understand why our excitement had been building for some time.

One of our convoy needed a minor adjustment at Coutts before we departed on Saturday but we were soon on the road. An overnigher at Taupo made the trip down to Paraparaumu quite relaxing. We could have stayed home on Saturday and done lawns and such like then made the mad dash all the way down on Sunday, but part of the fun is always the wonderful company and socialness of these events.

On arrival at Southwards Sunday evening there was a goody bag for the ladies with moisturiser, sun tan cream, vouchers and a neck rope for keys or security cards. A BBQ welcome was put on for us. What a fantastic venue for a car rally. We were so lucky. The Gullwing takes pride of place in the foyer of the museum which was exciting for us. And 20% of the entrants were Mercedes-Benz vehicles – mostly Aucklanders.

Monday found 64 cars setting off on the most majestic long trip, over narrow and spectacular roads from the coast, over Moonshine Hill, and then over the Akatarawa Road, through beautiful farmland. This later even more narrow road wound for over

30km's. Imagine the surprise of the three vehicles coming towards us, finding 64 vehicles going the other way on this challenging rural road. I bet they have never had that happen before. They would have really cursed us. We discovered that our own "Marianne" had lived in these parts as a young lass. Afternoon tea was an amazing pottery come café at the bottom of the famous Akatarawa Road. Animals roaming everywhere and curios in every corner. Dinner was in the local RSA.

We also got a chance to go through the Southward workshop. They have four staff looking after the collection. They do no outside work whatsoever. And the collection has only once ever sold any of its vehicles. We also got a chance to hear the magnificent Wurlitzer organ, previously used in the Civic Theatre, Auckland.

Tuesday was a free day so it was on to the electric train for the one hour journey into Wellington. Te Papa is always a must see. We also discovered the Maritime museum which had a fascinating history of old Wellington, and a great display on the Wahine disaster.

Wednesday was rally day again and this time we headed further north by the back roads, to finish up at Otaki by the windmill. Some of us went to a working flax mill and had a wonderful demonstration of how it was done. Of course there are always many food stops so by now our waist lines were expanding. We also got the chance to drop in of Doug and Warren Anderson – their car sales yard had been included in the rally! Nice to see you folks. Quiz night rounded out the day and no, they were not all car questions.

Thursday it was a Kryptic rally. Much shorter trip but it included some 'straight line' driving which was a first for many. This rally followed many of the haunts of the Hobson's who spent their early wedded years in these parts. We managed a visit to Roy's sister before the start of this rally and were fascinated by the wide variety of bird life to be found along the estuary and had a wonderful talk by Roy's knowledgeable brother-in-law who does guided trips in these parts. At lunchtime we again got a chance to hear the Wurlitzer, and this time in conjunction with some old time movies. What a great combination. Awesome! And yes, it goes down in to the floor just like it did at the Civic.

Friday found us visiting Eoin Burn's sister in Old Hautere Road, Otaki. What a magnificent garden and a beautiful Provencal style house. It was great to have local knowledge and relatives to visit. Made for a very interesting few days. The afternoon was reserved for a spot of car cleaning for the Concours to be held at Southwards the following day. That evening we had a preliminary prize giving with the winners and runners-up of the individual rallies being presented with trophies.

It was full day on Saturday with other car clubs coming to join the rally cars in the grounds to put on a public display. I fell in love with an XK140 Jaguar – just stunning and Garry, I recognised the teardrop shape! There was also a concours where Jack and Marilyn Nazer spectacularly and deservedly cleaned up plus a gymkhana. Gail Godfrey and Peter Brown as navigator had a go in the gymkhana – it was the first time she had

ever tried one. She said afterwards it was good fun.

A ball was held on Saturday evening and a dinner. More prizes were picked up by the Mercedes-Benz drivers. We had an early night though as there was the long haul back to Auckland the following day.

The next rally will be in 2008, possibly March. Although there was talk of trying to tie it in with Wings over Wanaka. Keep you ear to the ground for details as this is an event worth participating in. Check out the web site also www.nzclassiccarrally.org.nz

And our results follow.

Lyn



A plethora of Merc's



Our happy Winners



Gail in her first gymkhana



The wonderful Wurlitzer from Auckland's Civic Theatre, and yes, it does go down in to the floor.

RALLY RESULTS Kapiti Classic 2007

Concours d'Elegance

Class 1 up to 1970: Jack & Marilyn Nazer (Auckland) 1969 Mercedes Benz 280SL

Class 2 1971 onwards: Roy & Marianne Hobson (Auckland) 1992 Mercedes Benz 500SL

Runnerup: Brian & Lyn Hood (Auckland) 1979 Mercedes Benz 280CE

Entrants Choice:

Runnerup: Graeme & David Collie (Auckland) Mercedes Benz SSK (replica)

Overall Concours Winner:

Jack & Marilyn Nazer (Auckland) 1969 Mercedes Benz 280SL

Kapiti Kryptic Kar Trial:

Jack & Marilyn Nazer (Auckland) 1969 Mercedes Benz 280SL

Autogymkhana:

Graeme Collie (Auckland) Mercedes Benz SSK (replica)

Coming Events

Sunday 10 December from 11am. Annual Xmas party at Klaus and Liane Buwert's home. 18 Treetops Way , RD2, Albany 1311. This event promises great fun with lots of entertainment for all. BBQ food and tea/coffee supplied by club. Please bring your own drinks, glasses, plates, cutlery as well as picnic chairs. Any one willing to bring a desert please let Liane know. For more details Ph Klaus or Liane on ph (09) 444 9366.

February 4 2006. Galaxy of Cars at Western Springs. Our annual show and shine. Display your car and enjoy a magnificent day's outing with the chance to BBQ your own brunch to eat among great company, then look around the other exciting car and museum displays at this well attended annual event. Contact Brian Haslip (09) 232 1305 for more information.

February 11 2006. Ellerslie Intermarque Concours d'elegance. New Zealand's most prestigious car club event. If you would like to help out at this event, which last year netted your club a substantial cash injection to club funds, then contact either Brian Hood (ph 6343573 hm) or Garry Boyce (ph 366 4748 hm) to see how you can help. This could be with organising our club car display or simply by being there on the day there to talk to prospective members or those interested in the marque.

March 13 Tuesday 7.30pm. A 220SEC Odyssey 7794.42. Join us at Garry Boyce's, for an evening of fascination as we watch and listen to him while he guides us through his recent journey to Germany and Austria. Hear about the joy's of Classic motoring in Europe. Directions: 390 Parnell Road, entrance and roadside parking on St George's Bay Road. For further details contact Garry on Ph 366 4748.

April 29 Sunday 10.00am. Mystery Run. Other German Marque Car Clubs will be invited. Meet at the car park by the sunken garden at One Tree Hill for some fun and laughter as we explore Auckland, and just in case you get lost, we will finish at Villa Maria Winery in Mangere where you can either purchase a late lunch at their restaurant or enjoy your own picnic in their stunning grounds. Bring maps, cell phones, a pen and a sense of humour. An indication of numbers for lunch would be appreciated so please contact Paul Kaiser soon if you are interested on Ph 537 0408 or 021 758 354

Club Member and Family Person Points

2006-2007 Points

Club Member

Paul Kaiser 43, Klaus Buwert 40, Hein Vankan 40, Brian Hood 38, Howard Jack 33, Garry Boyce 30, Thomas Muller 30, Jack Nazer 30, Frank Parker 30, Ken Williams 22, Russell Clark 20, Peter Fieldsend 20, Brian Haslip 20, John Tate 20, Jim Hetherington 12, Phil Ainsley 10, Barry Bollington 10, Peter Brown 10, Andrew Campbell 10, Roger Clavell 10, Brian Fleming 10, Tom Frei 10, Nigel Gerbic 10, Krishna Gopal 10, Roy

Hobson 10, Rod Klarwill 10, Geurt Renzenbrink 10, Malcolm Reynolds 10, Craig Stratton 10, John Stratton 10, Gary Upchurch 10, Pater van den Brink 10, Graham Yan 10

Family Person

Liane Buwert 42, Willy Vankan 40, Cilla Kaiser 33, Heather Newkirk 30, Lyn Parker 30, Lyn Hood 26, Alison Reid 23, Wendy Clark 20, Chris Fieldsend 20, Marilyn Nazer 20, Zena Renzenbrink 20, Noeline Service 20, Eveyln Tate 20, Sarndra Ainsley 10, Marion Bollington 10, Sheryl Campbell 10, Carol Clavell 10, Judith Fleming 10, Jutta Frei 10, Gail Godfrey 10, Alison Haslip 10, Estelle Hetherington 10, Karin Klarwill 10, Marilyn Stratton 10, Lucy Tate 10, Pam Upchurch 10, Robyn van den Brink 10

MERCEDES RACING RAMBLINGS by Ken Williams

October 7th & 8th saw our first outing at the new TAUPO track. I took down the 1971 280CE but not the 1964 BBM Mercedes Historic single seater because it has gone to Sydney for me to race it at Eastern Creek on 1,2,3 December!....(I'll write about that later).

We had the use of the all new 'intermediate track' which doesn't use any of the old track. I found it to be very tight & twisty with lots & lots of corners & only enough straights to just get into 4th gear a couple of times, & no use for 5th. I do wonder how the A1GP cars will fare in January???

After a lengthy familiarisation & practice session I was 7th on the grid in the 280CE, just behind a BDA Escort & just ahead of a TR7V8. Up front were 2 hot Minis, an Alfa GT, 2 Morgan V8s & Tim's 500SEC. Tim finished 3rd & I finished 6th, with Lawrence in his 500SEC 16th. Our next 2 races were 'handicap' events, but because the track is so tight there was not much overtaking so most of us finished in our starting order, but all closed up into 1 line.

During one race a large rock got thrown from a Morgan straight into Tim's windscreen, shattering it right in front of him. He finished the race but did not come racing on Sunday.

The last race I had a great battle with the 2 Morgan V8s & finished 4th (in between them). My next meeting is Manfeild with the 280CE but the 2 500SECs will not be going.