

Editorial

26th July 2008 – National AGM in Christchurch. If you can get along to this event let Gary Boyce know. It is usually a fun event and you could make a very nice weekend away with it.

For payments online, for events which attract a cost, this is our bank account number. If you do use this, PLEASE make sure you have your member name and the event you are paying for, in the reference area.

This now can include payment for Club Fees. HOWEVER! PLEASE make sure your full name is in the reference part, so that this can be matched to your membership. If you are paying by personal cheque or company cheque, PLEASE print your name on the back.

The account details are as follows:

Mercedes Benz Club Inc (ANZ Bank) 01-0258-0076950-00

Geurt

Coming Events

Tuesday 8th July 2008 – Club night at Mullins European Tyres, 8 Margot Street, Newmarket – come and view a demonstration of a wheel alignment on a Mercedes Benz car and ask any questions you may have regarding tyres and shock absorbers. Refreshments are provided. Mullins are pleased to offer discount vouchers to club members attending this event, and door prizes.

Contact Ken Williams 0274 979 959 or 579 9395

26th July 2008 – national AGM in Christchurch. We would like to encourage members to attend this event if you can. Make it a little holiday break. If you can make it, let Gary Boyce know please.

12th August 2008 – Prize-giving dinner, same venue as last year – Portside Bar & Brasserie 132 Halsey Street, Viaduct ph 358 4577

Contact Thomas Müller 09 528 9232 or 021 528 510

21st September 2008 – Run to Gordonton through rural areas, bring along your GPS and male or female navigator.

Contact Jack Nazer 09 378 4580

New Members

We would like to welcome the following new members:

Duncan Sawyer 1970 280SE & 1981 280

Peter Braun 1991 300CE

Ray Williams with a CLK 230

TRUE STORY by Ken Williams

It was about 9:30 on a quiet Monday morning when I was driving my Mercedes 300SEL. I had just dropped the dog off at the hairdressers at Ihumateo, a small village between Auckland airport and Manukau Harbour. As I picked up speed to the 70kph allowed, a Police Patrol Car pulled out of a side road and followed me. After about 2kms there was a 30kph sign for roadworks with new tarseal for about 1 km. I slowed to 30kph expecting the Patrol Car to do likewise but instead he maintained or increased his speed, pulled out and overtook me, spraying gravel as he sped past. Feeling somewhat annoyed, I gave several long blasts on the horn and flashed my headlights.

The officer gave me a wave, continued at speed, then at the end of the roadworks where a 100kph sign was, disappeared into the distance.

I sped up to 100kms after the sign for about 3kms, then down to 70kph for about 2 kms then was slowing for traffic lights by the Mangere Industrial area, when I saw the Patrol Car moving off from the lights a few cars ahead of me. By the next set of lights by the Airport motorway I pulled up behind him. Still feeling annoyed, I flashed my headlights into his mirrors. As we moved off I continued flashing vigorously until he signalled he was stopping. We both exited simultaneously and met at the front of my car. "What's up with you?" he enquired.

"You know very well what's up with me" I replied angrily "Do you think there is one law for me and a different law for you. I'm talking about you doing more than twice the legal speed through those roadworks!"

He stared at me in disbelief then retorted "Oh, I had pressing business."

"I don't think so" I said, "you were stopped at the lights like everyone else"

"Oh, it was cancelled by then." he replied smugly.

"Well you didn't have your lights flashing or siren sounding when you passed me." I said. "anyway, it would be logged." I added

"Are you trying to be smart?" he threw at me "show me your licence" he demanded.

"No, You show me yours" I replied defiantly.

He had a good look at my Rego, WOF, & front tyres and demanded again "Show me your licence!"

"No, you show me yours first" I retorted.

"I don't have to show you mine" he said.

"Why not?" I enquired.

"Because I'm a Police Officer" he replied smugly.

"Well you're not behaving like one" I said forcefully "You are the one who has committed the offence here, not me!"

"You can make a formal complaint if you wish" he said guardedly.

"I know that I can and I know how to" I said calmly "but I'd rather talk to you about RESPECT!" He looked at me quizzically.

I continued "You guys are fast losing respect from Joe Public by issuing tickets for petty speeding just to get money and then you pull a stunt like that, It's not good enough."

He paused thoughtfully then said sheepishly as he made his way to his car. "I'm going now, Have a nice day, sir" he added.

"Yes I will!" I beamed, then added "and you behave yourself!"

I felt really good for days afterwards!

And what prompted this outburst???

I, like so many of us, had been fleeced by revenue collecting police, for increasing speed to 115kph in the passing lane, trying to overtake a car which has been cruising at 90kph for miles but sped up to 100kph for the passing lane and that's where the radar waits, knowing it happens often! or for safely staying with the traffic flow at 105kph towing a light trailer, instead of creating an overtaking hazard at 80kph.

I wrote this a couple of years ago when the trailer law was 80kph. Thankfully some sense has prevailed and it's been increased to 90kph.

Australia has no restriction for trailers and sees no reason to! I also feel there is less revenue collecting than a couple of years ago.