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New Members

A warm welcome to Paul and Lene Christensen with a 1975 450SL, also we welcome Estelle Robertson with a 1958 Mercedes Benz.

Congratulations to Ian and Michelle Hutchinson, who were married on the Soren Larsen out on the harbour on 17 December. They then enjoyed some time with family from overseas who had come out for the wedding. We wish you much happiness.

We would like to promote the Auckland branch of the Mercedes Benz Club and would encourage you to take a moment to talk to anyone you know who has a Mercedes and encourage them to consider joining.

We look forward to see you and welcoming new members at one of this year's events.

Past Events

Galaxy of Cars Sunday 4th February

I hope we all had a good time at the Motat Galaxy of Cars event. The weather was very kind to us. On arrival around 8.30am we set up the Club Marquee and tables (very nice new ones) We were parked up at the same place, just like the years before.

Once set up everyone was free to look around or cook their own breakfast or brunch. It is nice to see that there is always a big interest in cars, and the Museum of Transport and Technology.

A good selection of 23 cars on site included a 1929 Mercedes SSK sports car. This SSK has been described in the Mercedes classic centre in Stuttgart as not a replica but a facsimile. The Mercedes 600 Pullman Limo, this years Peoples choice winner, was a remarkable and luxurious wonder of engineering, second only to the Titanic. On the whole it was a very enjoyable day. A big thank you to Klaus Buwert, Brian Haslip and Paul Kaiser. It was really nice to see some of our long time members participate. Keep it up.

This year the people's choice winners were:

1st 600 Pullman Limousine David.Blackmore

2nd 1929 Mercedes SSK replica

3th 190SL Mercedes Garry Boyce

Congratulations to all of you.

Liane

Ellerslie Intermarque Concours d'Elegance

For the third year in a row, Garry Boyce, assisted by Brian Hood, organised the Mercedes-Benz display at this event where 69 car clubs displayed. The theme was 'origin of the marque.'

Incredibly we were fortunate to have Garry secure a working replica of the 1886 Patent car. (how does he pull these things off?) It created quite a stir each time the engine was started with crowds coming from every where. We also had a 1928 SSK replica belonging to a new member on display. Both in working order. Along with a range of SL cars.

It was an early start at 7am, and a long day to finish at 4pm. Lovely to see a range of members come by and talk to us all on the MB site. Thanks for your support, especially those from the far north.

As for the results, the MG Car Club made a rare clean sweep, winning every major event. So they will host the 2008, event, 35 years after it helped establish the show with other car clubs at Cornwall Park.

An impeccable 1939 MG TB owned by Frank Langridge of Pukekohe won the supreme award Masters Class Event. It car was one of the few MG's to be imported before WWII. Frank is a world authority on the originality of pre war MG's and the stunningly restored car was 100% correct in every detail, and literally better than new.

The MG Car Club Auckland also took the Team and the Best Display Awards with a display of early MG's on an assembly line on a set reflecting MG's first factory.

Masters Class runners up in order were a 1965 Ford Cortina GT, a 1974 Maserati Boraand and a 1978 Ferrari 308 GTB.

Runners up in the Teams event, in order, were Porsche Club NZ, Auckland Mustang Owners Club, BMW Club of NZ; the Auckland Jaguar Drivers Club then the Mini Car Club of Auckland.

On the Saturday at the Meguiar's Fun Run, they had over 220 cars involved. Four MB

cars had a pleasant drive to Port Albert and a picnic on arrival. Some MB members went on alternative routes – one going to a vineyard and the other to points south.

So mark your calendars for the second Sunday in February 2008 for the next event. It's a wonderful sight.

Lyn Hood

Coming Events

March 14 Wednesday (Previously set for 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 (please pre book with Paul) 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

May 8 Tuesday 7.30pm. Noggin and Natter. Horse and Trap, Enfield St, Mt Eden. Join us for a convivial evening among fellow enthusiasts as we discuss "The Marque", recent events, future ones and what ever else takes our fancy. Why not come early at 6.30pm and enjoy an inexpensive meal first. Street and off road parking available. For further details contact Garry on Ph 366 4748 or Brian Hood Ph 6343573.

May 26 Saturday 10am. Visit to Allied Fighter Rebuilds Ltd at Dairy Flat. Meet at the Coatesville turnoff, top of Albany on the old State Highway north. Park on the gravel area on your left, heading north. This is a working company who specialised in total rebuilds of Allied fighters from before the 2nd world war and after. A place where you can see and touch air craft used mainly by the RNZAF, in the 1930's 1940's and the 1950's which are under various stages of restoration. Planes such as an American Kittyhawk found derelict in the islands, a Spitfire, the first jet fighter a Gloster meteor used by the English at the end of the war. Biplanes, and many more plus air craft memorabilia. Planes do move on as they are completed. Bring your picnic lunch as there is some under cover space we could use. This visit is a must as these places are not easy to find so please let us know if you wish to join us. Contact Roy Hobson oh Ph 298

2765/027-276-3664

June 19th Tuesday 5.30 / 7.30pm. AGM at the "The Commerce Club of Auckland Inc' 22-33 Ohinerau St , Remuera. Starting from 5.30pm onwards, meals are available for purchase at these licensed premises. 7.30pm prompt start for the AGM. Contact Heather Newkirk for more details on Ph 09 426 2664

August 14 Tuesday 7.00pm. Annual Dinner and Prize Giving. This year we are going upmarket. Join us at PORTSIDE at the Viaduct basin (132 Halsey Street). Wonderful outlook, great food. Subsidised two-course dinner costing you just \$30 per person. Buy your own drink and dessert. Mark this date in your calendar now and be sure to keep it free. Confirm your place by 2nd August by sending your cheque payable to Mercedes-Benz Club to P O Box 1587. Phone Lyn Hood for more details. Ph 6343573

MERCEDES RACING RAMBLINGS by Ken Williams

December 1,2 & 3 saw the 'Tasman Revival' meeting at Eastern Creek Raceway in Sydney. 8 cars from NZ were invited to race, with freight paid, and the BBM Mercedes was one of them. Being built in Adelaide in 1963 it was only proper that it should be. I duly helped design & build a platform to fit 6 cars into a 40ft container & off they went.

What a fabulous weekend. Over 200 racing cars from mostly the 1960s. There were lots of Brabhams, several Lotuses & Coopers, some Elfins, a couple of McLarens, & a few 'Specials' like the BBM.

There was good racing, where I managed a 7th & 6th in the BBM but then it blew the front oil seal so missed the last 2 races. The Aussies were very pleased to see & hear this car again with it's supercharger screaming & wanted it to stay but it's back here now.

December 17th Sunday I went to Pukekohe to watch the 2 500SECs race in the Muscle Car series. Tim's black coupe looks great & was already half way up their field.

Lawrence was further back as his car is less modified & he's new to track racing but his times improve each meeting. (& he's loving it!)

January 27 & 28 saw us back at Pukekohe. I only raced the 280CE as the BBM was not fixed yet. Tim & Lawrence had their 500SECs there. My 280CE ran well & had some good battles with a Morgan V8 & a Datsun 260Z. I got 2 6ths & 2 9ths. Tim's 500SEC was flying! He'd done some mods over Xmas & was 3rd in the Musclecars, having a great duel with a Falcon Coupe & a Torana V8. In the Tracer series race with me he won by a clear margin. Unfortunately on Sunday morning with the musclecars he was in 3rd place again but a rocker failed, causing the valve to hit the piston & destroy the motor. (what a HUGE cloud of smoke down the back straight). It's just as well he has a couple of spare motors! He's building up an even faster motor now!!! Lawrence's car keeps running reliably & his times keep improving. He won the handicap race on Sunday.

We are all looking forward to Taupo 10/11 March & Pukekohe 17/18 March. See you

there???

Club Person's Points

2006-2007 Points (February)

Club Member

Hein Vankan 70; Paul Kaiser 63; Garry Boyce 64; Klaus Buwert 60; Brian Hood 50; Brian Haslip 50; Frank Parker 50; Ken Williams 48; Peter Fieldsend 42; Jack Nazer 42; Roy Hobson 42; John Tate 40; Howard Jack 33; Judith Fleming 32; Thomas Muller 30; Gary Upchurch 30; Iain Fletcher 30; Jim Hetherington 22; Russell Clark 20; Rod Klarwill 20; Pater van den Brink 20; David Blackmore 18; Graeme Collie 16; Peter Brown 12; Phil Ainsley 10; Barry Bollington 10; Eoin Burns 10; Alex Buwert 10; Andrew Campbell 10; Roger Clavell 10; Barbara Firkin 10; Tom Frei 10; Nigel Gerbic 10; Krishna Gopal 10; Geoff Halkett 10; Gerald Koller 10; Alex Newkirk 10; Harald Pech 10; Geurt Renzenbrink 10; Malcolm Reynolds 10; Craig Stratton 10; John Stratton 10; Graham Yan 10; Harald Decker 10; Joe Burns 10; Stu Fordyce 10; Wayne Bending 10; Ian Hutchinson 6;

Family Person

Liane Buwert 68; Heather Newkirk 60; Lyn Parker 50; Willy Vankan 50; Lyn Hood 44; Cilla Kaiser 43; Chris Fieldsend 42; Noeline Service 40; Eveyln Tate 40; Brian Fleming 32; Marilyn Nazer 32; Marianne Hobson 32; Alison Haslip 30; Pam Upchurch 30; Alison Reid 23; Alison Boyce 20; Wendy Clark 20; Linde Fletcher 20; Estelle Hetherington 20; Karin Klarwill 20; Zena Renzenbrink 20; Robyn van den Brink 20; Gail Godfrey 12; Sarndra Ainsley 10; Marion Bollington 10; Rosemary Burns 10; Sheryl Campbell 10; Carol Clavell 10; Dave Firkin 10; Jutta Frei 10; Lorraine Halkett 10; Margaret Koller 10; Jan Pech 10; Marilyn Stratton 10; Lucy Tate 10; Vivienne Decker 10;