

Editorial

We have set our AGM for 10th June. See details in coming events. Please make the effort to come along, have a nice meal, a drink and a chat at 6pm before the meeting.

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 treasurer is desperately trying to put a name to some cheques already received. If you have sent him one via a company cheque, please contact him with your details.

The account details are as follows:

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

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Coming Events

Sunday 25th May: Mystery Fun Run. We will join the Cadillac Club for this event. Start time 10.30 at Peterson Reserve, beside Waipuna Lodge, Mt Wellington. This will finish at Manukau.

Contact Ken Williams on 0274 979 959 or 579 9395 or Brian Hood on 09 634 3573

Tuesday 10 June 2008 – Annual AGM to held at the Commerce Club, Ohinerau Street, Remuera, start 7.30pm sharp, dinner & drinks are inexpensive available from 6.00pm, mix & mingle. Contact Thomas Müller 09 528 9232

22 June 2008 – garage raid: Start 10.30 am At Harold Decker, 278 Waitoki Rd Wainui RD1 Albany.

After Coffee Harold will show us through his collection of MB cars including his 2 restoration projects a 190 SL and a 1957 220 SEC Cabriolet.

The next Garage will be a very interesting eclectic collection of both classic and race cars including a master class winning 1949 XJ120 fixed head coupe and the rebuild of a recently damaged race car.

The last Garage will be fascinating . Classic rally cars under restoration and on display. The complete remanufacture of 2 Bentley roadster specials with RR Merlin engines. A rare collection of motor sport memorabilia and much more.

Lunch will be taken between Garage 1 & 2 . Addresses will be given out at garage 1. The day should end between 3.30 and 4 pm.

Contact . Jack Nazer or Garry Boyce

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. Mullis 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

Past Events

A fun way to spend a Sunday (13 April 08)

God had decided to water the gardens that morning and the rain gods were smiling. So was I. Finally *my precious* was being taken out for a long drive through the country side. As per plan we all met at the Jolly Farmer car park in Drury though the jolly man himself was gone. The enthusiasts were there in their glossy MB's, spirits were high, and the weather seemed to have cleared up. Five cars had showed up by the scheduled departure time and five minutes later we waved farewell to the spirit of the Jolly Farmer and commenced our fun run.

The first stop was the township of Waiuku. We went our separate ways in the town each seeking out their personal favourite spots: a craft shop; a café; a museum. We found a chocolate shop where my wife bought macadamia nuts (go figure). We also dropped in at the information centre to help plan the rest of the day. Plan in mind and pamphlets in hand we headed towards the wild seas of Kariotahi Beach. Once there half of us (6) had lunch at the cliff top restaurants while the other half enjoyed a leisurely picnic lunch on the beach, with the roar of the sea and the drone of quad bikes for company and the majesty of nature's beauty all around us. The highlight was a freshly brewed cuppa prepared over a gas camp-stove.

On to the next stop which was about 50 kms away. After a number of tight U-turns, an unorthodox but scientific left turn and a free dusting of the under-carriage as we drove over an unpaved section, we reached the Lighthouse at the Manukau Heads. All twelve sportingly climbed the hill to the lighthouse and most proceeded up to the top. The views from the lighthouse were truly fantastic and we were happy to donate towards its maintenance.

Back down at the cars again, it was time to record the moment and cameras and cell-phones were engaged to capture the beautiful MB line up. Of course everyone immediately forgot about the lighthouse and no one actually got it in the background at all.

There was still time and enthusiasm was running high, so we decided to squeeze in one more activity before calling it a day. All had to make a rather miraculous U-turn through soft rubble as we missed the turn-off into Waipipi Wharf Road but we finally made it to the Waipipi Bird Park. If you are ever that way do not miss this wonderful project. It is still "under development" yet the gardens are beautifully landscaped and there is a stunning array of colourful birds in exclusive aviaries. The variety of birds and the plumage on show is fantastic and the owner's passion and dedication can be seen every where and most of all in the man himself. The members had a memorable time chatting with the birds, coaxing them to respond and feeding pistachio nuts to the "Poly wants a cracker" sulphur crested cockatoo. It was fascinating to see how he snapped open the nut with surgical precision. Eight nuts later and a lot of dancing from the keeper got the bird to dance for us as well.

After this we went our separate ways heading home, looking forward to the next fun event.

Special Request

I am looking for two wedding cars in on November 22 2008. Do you have any members that would be interested in doing this?

Name: Melissa Clinch
Address1: 61 Chorley Avenue
Address2: massey
Address3: auckland
Phone_Number: 8329398
Email_Address: melissaclinch@clear.net.nz