



## *Newsletter, September 2019*

### *President's Report:*

Over the last month we have had another committee meeting and have made good progress on the planning for USA day. As a committee we can only do so much for an event of this size, but ..... WE NEED YOU, if you could help on the day, especially with parking vehicles, even for an hour or so would be a great help and much appreciated. If you are prepared to help please email the club [acccanty@gmail.com](mailto:acccanty@gmail.com) and we can add your name to the list of helpers.

This month's club run was a very interesting and enjoyable trip down memory lane, when we had a run to the "Toy Collector". I thought I had a lot of toys in my shed, but this takes toy collecting to a whole new level. We look forward to a return visit after their relocation, when Alan hopes to have at least three times more space to display the balance of the collection, and in addition have a coffee lounge on site.

Interesting listening to all the media focus recently over petrol prices, from monopoly price fixing to the old chestnut of taxes, when will they ever learn? For those of us with Gold Cards we can get some relief at the pump, but the amount of price cutting at NPD at times even makes the gold card surplus to requirements. My guess is they will still be trying to resolve this until we all drive electric cars, and we know when that will happen, don't' we?

Remember also, if you know anyone who may be interested in a sponsorship opportunity around USA day, please get in touch with any committee member with details and we can follow up.

Keep ya motor running and have a Pirfic day. . . .

*Bill Stanley*  
*President*

### *Welcome to new members:*

- Jonathan & Christina Jayet with their 1988 Cadillac Brougham
- Andrew & Vivienne Steele with their 2017 Chevrolet Camaro 2SS, 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition
- Leonard & Fleur Pagan with their 1980 Chevrolet Camaro Z28

## ***Club Captain's Report***

Sunday 11th August - Visit to The Toy Collector

The weather gods were good to us and we only got a couple of small skiffs of misty rain which didn't last for long. Ten cars attended our August Event. We all met at Princess Margaret Hospital and went for a short cruise around the foot of the Cashmere's and into town to the Toy Collector. All the cars assembled in the car park opposite. There were 5 children and ..... adults. All people there were impressed with the variety of old and new memorabilia that was on display. There was a great amount of die cast cars and motor bikes, a Harry Potter collection, train sets, Lego, All Black miniatures, Disney characters, Barbie dolls, Tonka Toys, war toys and an array of all different types of other toys. It was surely a great display and worthwhile visiting. We adjourned to Coffee Culture - Rolleston for a coffee and cake, which was a great way to end a good afternoon.

Keep on Cruising and stay safe

Ray Bewley (Club Captain)

## ***USA Day: Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2019***

***Save the Date: Planning for this day is under way***

*There will be a special newsletter sent out about this our biggest event for the year. We will be asking for assistance on the day and hope each of you will support the committee by giving your time either before the day or on the day – or both!*



## *ACCC September Event*

*Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September -*

*Mystery Shed, Foxdown Road, North Canterbury.*

*We will be meeting at The Peg Hotel (Belfast) at 10am to depart at 10.30am. There will be instructions for an approx. 1 hour run to Greta Valley where we are having brunch (brunch is at your own cost).*

*Don't miss this one it's sure to please all our avid car enthusiasts. We are celebrating the return of Spring. After brunch we will cruise for a further 20 minutes to a mystery shed, which offers an interesting variety of classic cars and a machinery display in a beautiful rural setting. Join us and give your car the run it deserves and also yourselves a break away from your usual routine.*

*Don't forget to wear your new membership / name tags.*

*Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October - Spring into Oxford*

**HAS BEEN CANCELLED**

But still keep this day free for our club event.

Further details in the October newsletter

# *Club Member's Blurb of the Month*

## *Christine & Peter Craig - 1959 Saratoga*

Since moving to Diamond Harbour 10 months ago from the Kapiti Coast in the North Island the Saratoga has had little use and this needs to change so it's time to put some miles under her. We imported "Sara" (As she's become known - or the Saratowcar as she's known to some!) around 10 years ago from Missouri, just outside of St Louis - little is known of her history stateside apart from that she seems to have spent quite a bit of time in the Ozarks.

We were looking for a late 60's Roadrunner, Plymouth GTX or a Charger at the time when Sara burst onto the screen during one of our many long searches. I've always had a soft spot for the big Mopar "Finnies" so she pretty quickly caught my eye and these things are not that easy to come by any more. The Saratoga was for sale through a dealer and 20 Hi Res pics had me seduced and many phone calls followed at all hours to get the process moving. An appraisal was commissioned which showed her to be in very sound condition (yeah right) - more on that later - and the help of Steve Curl, a NZ expat from Kiwi Shipping was enlisted to handle all things stateside. This was our first foray into a purchase out of the U.S and we were as green as it gets - thank God for Steve's help as a pretty big chunk of Kiwi cash disappeared into the American banking ethers and it took Steve several days and a number of visits to said bank to locate it again - sleepless nights! - don't even go there!!!

After a few weeks the Saratoga was loaded onto another Kiwi expats slider and transported to Long Beach California, after another interminable period she finally arrived at the holding warehouse in Seaview Wellington which rekindled another huge wash of emotions. When I called at the yard full of excited expectation to see what we had bought we had an emotional roller coaster on our hands. She was sitting on her front brake hubs at the front of a 40 foot container with another car loaded on top of her on wooden ramps and 2 other cars behind her -- looking pretty filthy and sad. Getting her out was a nightmare and they nearly dragged her 2 meter long fins down the side of the container - when she was out and wheels put on things improved a little however when we filled the radiator to fire her up the water ran out the side of the block as fast as it went in - rusted welsh plug - Arghhh!! Anyway, got her home and gave her a wash and a tidy and the diamond in the rough began to show. A quick check over and it became very evident very quickly that rust means very little to the Americans - it seems that if it looks great from 10 feet - it is. Both front foot wells were rusted as was the trunk floor, all triple skin with no replacement panels available - most body mounts were also rusted. Several quotes were sourced to repair these panels and ranged from reasonable to utterly ridiculous. Enter John Cam - John runs a restoration shop on the Kapiti Coast - Mustang Restorations - and had me take the Chrysler home and over the 3 weeks I got off at Christmas I spent every day under the Saratoga on jack stands and removed every scrap of factory underseal with a heat gun and scraper and hand sanded / scraped all under pinnings, same for the interior, everything came out apart from the dash and headlining and a relatively naked body was handed back to John who set about bringing her back to life. John did an incredible job of hand fabricating panels and we are eternally grateful for his work so I now know every square inch of her from front to back in and out and she is totally rust free - no mean feat for a late 50's Mopar!!!!

Mechanically the Saratoga was pretty good apart from a cracked rear brake drum, rusty frost plugs and sloppy tuning so she quickly responded to some mechanical love and understanding -

I swear she has a mechanical soul and is grateful for all her TLC having rewarded us with years now of absolutely trouble free and incredibly willing performance, easily the best classic car we've ever owned. The Saratoga is quite a rare car, 3,025 were built in 1959 and I believe she is the only running example in NZ, the motor is an exceptionally strong and smooth 383ci RB (Raised block) big block with a long stroke built to replace the Hemi which went out of production temporarily in 1958, she is running a little factory 2 barrel carb so is really easy on the pocket but still maintains huge amounts of torque - towing a 64 Buick over the big hills in the Coromandel Peninsula like it wasn't even there attested to that claim., mechanically the car is totally original apart from a new generation starter motor, exhaust system, brakes rebuilt, alternator fitted and radiator recorded she has recently just turned over 100k miles. Gearbox is the bullet proof cast iron 727 3 speed push button auto and is idiot proof - believe me I've tested it! -- All of the dash and dash pad is original as is the headliner, door panels and seat upholstery, new carpets were installed in NZ. So there she is, definitely a keeper-- Christine and I are looking forward to getting more involved with ACCC and getting many enjoyable South Island miles on the clock.....



# Non-Club Events you might like to diary and attend:

## 1st Sunday of each month:

Rodder's Breakfast meeting at the Kustoms Car Club McLeans Island 8.00am

## BellaRat's Gas & Gander:

On the last Friday of each month at 7pm. Meet at the NPD, 740 Jones Road, Rolleston.

Good food for sale ... show up in your rat rod, hotrod, classic or whatever. All welcome.

## 18th to 22nd September – Kaikoura Hop, Kaikoura Racecourse

## Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November – Selwyn Motorfest and Family Fun Day. Springston Rolleston Road, Rolleston.

## Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2020 – Top of the South Motorfest – Hosted by Nelson Holden Club 10am – 3pm at the A & P Showgrounds, Nelson

## Saturday 29th February 2020 – Hanmer Motorfest



# Car Rally



2019 DHS Yr 9 & 10  
New Caledonia Trip  
Fundraiser



Sunday September 15<sup>th</sup> 2019  
10.30am at Darfield Recreation Centre  
Fantastic Fun Day Out!  
Prizes, BBQ Lunch available, Raffles  
\$50 per Car

See the countryside and enjoy the activities while helping the students get to New Caledonia for a French cultural exchange

Entries to Catherine Thorne  
0275 385 240 or [catherine.thorne@xtra.co.nz](mailto:catherine.thorne@xtra.co.nz)

Limited to the first 100 entries, Entries taken on the day if available



**SWAP MEET & DISPLAY**

BOOK NOW

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**11, 12 & 13 OCTOBER 2019**

**Cutler Park – McLeans Island Road**  
Friday/Saturday 9am-4.30pm,  
Sunday 9am-2pm

Join us on this fun weekend and visit the Mecca of Vintage Motoring of New Zealand

Admission Friday, Saturday and Sunday  
\$5 per day or \$10 for a three day pass  
Accompanied school children free

For information email [kevinclarkson1@gmail.com](mailto:kevinclarkson1@gmail.com) or  
phone Kevin 021 0270 6525

[www.theswapmeet.org.nz](http://www.theswapmeet.org.nz)

SELWYN

# MOTOR FEST & FAMILY FUN DAY

The year's charity is Edmund Rice Camps

## HYDRAULIC SERVICES AND REPAIRS LTD

# AUTOSPECTACULAR 2019

CLUB DISPLAY THEME: MILD TO WILD

SPECIAL FEATURES  
100 YEARS OF MINI  
EUROPEAN PERFORMANCE  
FALCON

THANKS TO:

**EDGAR SPORTS CENTRE**  
Cnr Portsmouth Drive & Midland St  
SATURDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER 2019 9AM - 4PM

ENJOY: 270 plus classic vehicles, swap meet, trade sites, kids entertainment,  
**\$1000 TYRE VOUCHER DOOR PRIZE FROM MAG & TURBO!**

**SPONSORS**

Exit Funeral Services	Sundair Auto Electrical	Mag & Turbo
Dixon Supply Centre	Bearing & Engineering Technology Ltd	PTB
W Bonfield Ltd	Aluma Steel 2011 Ltd	Sigmal Hill Pools
Mike Truscott Motors Ltd	Norman Auto Electrical	Dunedin Security Locksmiths
Spadic Services & Repairs Ltd	Chappi Tyres	Ray Macdonald Automotive Engineering
Total Diesel	All Car Services	AMC
TJ McLean Ltd	Frankie Enterprises Ltd	Southern Electrical Ltd
Levitts Motor	Sim's Brake Services	Clisco & Pipeline
Woodwards Motor	TRIPLE WRELL Ltd	
	AA Auto Centre	

ORGANISED BY:  
Chagga Classic Motoring Club Inc.  
Chagga Falcon & Sparrow Club Inc.  
[www.autospectacular.org.nz](http://www.autospectacular.org.nz)  
email: [info@autospectacular.org.nz](mailto:info@autospectacular.org.nz)  
Contact for Edmund Rice Camps  
www.edmundricecamps.com 047 548666

## THE CHRISTCHURCH CAR SHOW 2019

8 SEPTEMBER 2019

# Kaikoura Hop

**MAG & TURBO**  
THE TYRE & SERVICE CENTRE

19-22 SEPTEMBER 2019

## CARS, CRUISING, CAR SHOW, FUN, FOOD, AND ENTERTAINMENT

# The Toy Collector – Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> August Met at Princes Margaret Hospital

