

## Newsletter February 2024

## President's Report

Happy New Year everyone! I trust you all had an enjoyable festive period and are now well settled into 2024. Good luck for the year ahead!

Over the last couple of months, we have enjoyed both the ACCC Christmas party and President's Picnic. Both events were well supported by members and a great time was had by all, I'm sure you will see more pictures of both events later in this issue.

Christmas 2023 was held at The Top Club Lyttleton, an excellent venue for many different functions and fabulous views out over Lyttleton Harbour.

The team at the Top Club provided a great festive atmosphere, and produced a pirfic Christmas dinner with all the trimmings. Santa was in residence for the Christmas party and did his best to satisfy all the Christmas present requests. A very big thank you to all committee who helped arrange Christmas with a difference, where the committee could sit down and relax, instead of doing all the work for a change.





January was time for the annual President's Picnic. This year we had a good old fashioned BYO picnic, sit back, and watch the American trains pass by. It was great to see so many American Classic cars in the street and nearly 50 American Classic cars on the layout.





Look forward to see you all at our next exciting run, arranged by Paul Williams. Keep ya motor running and have a Pirfic day.

Bill Stanley President

## Club Captain's Report

Continued Greetings and salutations - now for the New Year!



It seems so long since we had the Christmas function at The Top Club in Lyttleton that it's a bit of a struggle to recall finite details! However, suffice to say that we all had a fantastic time of it - we nudged close to 60 members in attendance and the street being closed off for our exclusive parking, was quite a unique occurrence. The bar and serving staff were top notch and the food was excellent.

Santa took delight in having increasing numbers of members sitting on his knee and the spontaneous long line up for this opportunity put me in mind of Santa as I recall back in the 60's at a major Wellington department store seeing to all the kids lined up for a chance to sit on his knee and express their Xmas wishes – quite remarkable. Thanks again for everyone's participation and good-natured buying into the day's proceedings.

Next out of the blocks was Bill & Maggie's "President's Old School Picnic" held at their home in Lincoln. Preceded by a run through quiet country roads which saw around 22 cars turn up for the day. In a manner we've all become accustomed to their hospitality of course was faultless and Bill's passion for his train layout was awesomely evident. The weather was mint, and we all settled in under gazebo's and good helpings of good-natured banter and ribbing set the scene for a really neat day. Quite a few new faces, some guests and our own team made for a great time.

We also welcome some new members and member applications as follows.....

- Roy & Rachel Ford (joined 3rd October) with a 1982 Chevrolet Z28 Camaro
- Andrew & Carla Pereira with a 1960 T Bird.
- Robby & Aurora Wilson with a 1958 Oldsmobile 98 Holiday Sedan.
- Gary & Julie Millar with a 1965 Ford Mustang GT, a 1966 Plymouth Satellite Hemi and a 1968 Chevrolet Camaro
- Pete & Vicki who we met on Sunday at the picnic with a 59 Ford and a 67 Pontiac Firebird.

Some serious American Iron here, testament to the good heart and growth of the club. We're looking forward to getting to know you all and hearing back stories about you and your cars. Upcoming Events - save the dates.....

- Sunday 18th February Non-Club event 2024 All Ford Day being held at Wigram Air Force Museum grounds hosted by the Canterbury Mustang Owners Club.
- Non- Club Event Saturday 24th February Hanmer Springs Motorfest
- Sunday 25th February Paul Williams has been working hard on getting us access to an incredible, unique and exclusive museum in the making as a labour of love by Daniel Smith, a well-known and prominent Canterbury business man. This museum covers 3 large buildings in landscaped grounds and features something like 200 cars, extremely rare and impressive brands from Brock Holdens to Fiat Bambina utes which also includes 4 5 helicopters hanging from the ceilings as displays. This will also be a picnic BYO everything event with further details to follow closer to the time. We'll be asking for an indication of numbers for this one not to be missed.
- 14th 17th March Caroline Bay Rock & Hop. As usual there will be a contingent meeting in Timaru to take in the happenings of this event. Further details to follow regarding meeting points and any other get togethers a little closer to the time.
- Saturday 23rd March The potential of a mystery event at this point for those not inclined to take in Caroline Bay Rock & Hop and indeed any members at all. The opportunity to view a particularly impressive production facility which will be of strong interest - progress to be advised.
- Sunday April 28th another mystery event to be locked in so again details will be provided.

In the meantime, stay safe & well, looking forward to seeing you all again at the February run.

Peter Craig - Club Captain

# **Classic Torque**

### <u>1962 Dodge Dart 330 - Unknowingly Keeping It In The Family</u> <u>by Gary & Barb Court</u>

Having enjoyed a road trip to a concert in Gibbston Valley with friends in a Ford Galaxie Convertible, it was inevitable the classic car search was about to begin.

In no time at all classic cars started being added to our TradeMe watch list. A discussion was held that we would start going to a few car shows to get an idea of what sort of car we both liked before we started seriously looking. Yeah right!

The first show we attended was the Twin Rivers Car Show at the Showgrounds in 2015.



One of the first vehicles we spotted was a lovely bright red 1962 Dodge Dart 330 with a white roof and a For Sale sign propped up in front of it. Although we decided there were plenty more cars to see at the show, we kept circling back to the Dodge until the third look resulted in a lot of questions being asked of the elderly gentleman selling it.

A couple of weeks later we drove to Ashburton on a lovely April morning and purchased the vehicle from Derek Busch. It was at this point that Gary recognised the surname as being part of his family tree and it soon came to light that Derek's great-great-grandfather was in fact Gary's great-great-great-grandfather. From that point we felt a sense of keeping the car in the family.

The vehicle is New Zealand new, having been assembled by Todd Motors in Petone.

Derek had documented the restoration of the Dodge from 2008 to 2010 with a photo album of progress which came with the car.



At the Timaru Rock & Hop 2021 we managed to obtain some more history about our car

when we were approached by a man claiming it was once his car. We got chatting with Johnny and Lynda who gave us a bit more history about our Dodge. He had rescued it from under a macrocarpa hedge at the Petrie's property in Browns Road, Swannanoa while visiting a mate. Johnny had taken it



back to his home in Kurow before eventually selling it to Derek Busch. He said he was able to recognise it at the Rock & Hop because Derek had visited him in Kurow after he had completed the restoration.

We enjoy being part of the American Classic Car Club which enables us to go on regular runs, with like-minded people who appreciate a good old classic.





Refreshments available on the day include a Selection of Food & Drink, ice cream & Baristo Coffee # Raffles # Entertainment # Inter-Club Challenge # Prize Giving # Trade Displays #

> SATURDAY, 17" February 2024 organized car run, meeting at 4pm for 4.15pm departure from

the Air Force Museum car park

#### Admission:

Exhibitors: \$10.00 per car (includes Driver) Passengers \$10.00 each

Spectators: \$10:00 per Person

(Children 12 & under free)

partied by the Centerbury Mustang Owners Club on behalf of all Ford Clubs and enthrouse sever beteleversative sever.





This is a friendly reminder that all cars attending our car runs should have a current WOF and registration.