

WHAT'S BEEN

Blenheim Charity for Hospice Car Show Sunday March 18th

20 cars from Nelson joined the approximately 280 cars from Blenheim to make this an incredible event. Apart from a bit of wind the weather was ideal for the big crowds who came to look and drool about some very exciting vehicles. A cheque for \$5000.00 was presented to the Blenheim Hospice proving what a great day this was. Our club has gained a lot of good publicity from this event which we hope is translating into new members.



A small sample of the variety of vehicles on show

Drive To Westport (Denniston Coal Mine) 30th/31st March

When the West Coast turns on the fine weather it really is a special part of the world and the twenty cars and crews on this run enjoyed a weekend of the coast at its best. Most of the Blenheim and Nelson group met at Murchison for a bite before that great drive down the Buller Gorge to Westport.

Following 'happy hour' at the Buller Court Motel, the group adjourned to various pubs and restaurants for a meal, and of course with rugby being the draw that it is, there were plenty lined up in front of the big screen to support the Highlanders, who had a win over the Rebels.

Saturday kicked off with a visit to Coal Town Museum at 9.30am....maybe a bit early for one or two of the ladies, who were looking a little fragile!!! However all seemed to find the museum really interesting, especially the very good displays on the Denniston mine and its famous incline which was to be our next stop, that is, after the obligatory coffee stop in Westport.

A short drive north of Westport, we turned off the main road and climbed up onto the Denniston Plateau. Pat Pascoe had arranged with one of the Friends of the Hill preservation group, Gary, to meet us at the Denniston Hall (formerly the school) to tell us a little of Denniston's history. Gary lives on the plateau (currently about 5 families do so) and is not only very knowledgeable on the areas history, but conveys a love and enthusiasm for the area which is quite infectious. Since I last visited Denniston, an enormous amount of work has been done near the top of the incline, with etched

glass story boards and viewing platform....well worth a visit. Once again the weather was perfect, and the drive down from the plateau afforded great views of the coastline north and south.

Then it was on to Karamea. The Little Wanganui Hotel loomed large and a good number of the drivers and crews reckoned they had earned a break and some refreshment after the drive over the Karamea bluffs. The Last Resort at Karamea was very welcoming, with a buffet dinner followed by live entertainment...no, not the extroverts amongst us, but a young woman with guitar, and her young son, who managed to get most up dancing. The more sedentary types could not tear themselves away from the big screen. They did however help the Chiefs to a win.

On the return run to Westport (fine and sunny again) we visited a private collection of tractors (some beautifully restored Fergusons) and various army vehicles, including Jeeps and a Ferret scout car complete with Rolls Royce engine. It might sound a bit ho-hum, but it really was an interesting collection and many of the lads were enviously eyeing the large building housing it.

Back in Westport, more food and coffee, and farewells all round, everyone sorry the weekend was over, and it was back to reality....until the next time. Thanks to Pat Pascoe for organising a great weekend.

Thank you to Bill Osborne for this excellent report.

22nd April Garage Raid Blenheim

23 cars from Blenheim supported by 1 lonely Nelson car had what I heard was a very interesting visit followed by a barbeque at the home of Pat Clay. Time constraints prevented this outing from being better advertised, my apologies.

Anzac Afternoon Autumn Colours Run

A convoy of 31 vehicles left the NMIT car park on a very enjoyable drive through the Golden Downs and Motueka valley, then over the hills to finish at the Mapua Wharf area. This is an excellent finishing place with a variety of watering places to suit all tastes. Surprisingly I did not see all the cars that left Richmond at Mapua but I did see several others that were not at Richmond. A great day was had by all.

A retrofit cup holder, adjusts to fit any car?



May 4th 5th and 6th Portage Visit

Only 19 drivers and the same number of navigators took the opportunity to appreciate all there is at Portage. The meals were excellent, and the first class accommodation helping to make this a great weekend. A drive to Punga Cove on Saturday for lunch was enjoyed by most while the others were exploring the vicinity and admiring some of the "Holiday Baches". The weather guru conspired to send lovely fine days Friday and Sunday while Saturday was a bit inclement. A leisurely drive home on Sunday gave time to explore many of the fine bays this part of the sounds has to offer. The excellent value this weekend with the special rates from Portage Resort make it a shame more members did not take advantage of this.

WHAT'S COMING

27th May Drive to East Coast Inn for lunch. Please contact Pat Clay with numbers attending for catering purposes. Nelson cars will leave from QE2 carpark at 9.30 am to meet with the Blenheim cars who are leaving the Railway Station at 11.00 am (Organised by Pat Clay 572 4022)

9th & 10th June Drive to Hanmer via Blenheim and East Coast. Nelson cars leaving QE2 car park June 8th at 12.00 noon to meet the Blenheim contingent who will leave from Montana Winery, Riverlands at 2.00pm. Please arrange your own accommodation. We hope we can all stay at either Hanmer Inn Motel Ph 03 315 7516 or Alpine Garden Motels Ph 03 315 7332 (Organised by Pat Clay 03 572 4022 email pclay@xtra.co.nz)

24th June Mid Winter run Leaving from NMIT Richmond 1.30pm destination still unknown at this stage (Organiser Bruce Welsford 544 6818 email sota@slingshot.co.nz)

1st July Top of the South Dawn Breaker. Drivers briefing at the WOW centre 06.45 am leaves at 07.00 am finishing at a secret breakfast location (\$20.00 per person includes coffee) A charge of \$5.00 per car for this event. (The Organiser is Richard Erdman 021 134 9878 or email scimi79@hotmail.co.uk)

29th July A mystery drive. Starting at 11.00 am from Stoke, finishing about 3.00 pm further details later (Organiser Ladd Robinson 544 6728)

12th August Blenheim based short drive (Organiser Chris Rhodes 578 5943 email 1960cr@gmail.com)

2nd September Classic & Collectable Show Day at Wakefield Steam Museum, contact Chris Clark 547 9363

21st to 24th September Lord Nelson Run, there is an entry fee of \$200.00 for this event (Organiser Geoff Morris 547 4494)

7th October A short drive in the Nelson area. (Organiser Bill Osborne 544 7693)

14th to 20th October National Classic Car Rally based in Christchurch. (Details available from the co-ordinator Roy Hughes 03 332 7500 or royhsyncom@xtra.co.nz)

4th November A short drive in the Nelson area (Organiser Geoff Chilton 547 4446)

A renowned classic car driver was found dead in his home over the weekend.
Detectives at the scene found the man face down in his bathtub.
The tub had been filled with milk, sugar and cornflakes.
A banana was inappropriately inserted in his body.
Police suspect a cereal killer.

A retro fit GPS system, adaptable for any car



FOR SALE

With the sad parting of Tom Tenuwera the following vehicles are now for sale.

1951 Renault 4CV 750cc Blue 36,400 KM \$21,000.00 Very good condition.

1947 Citroen Light 15 84,800 KM with 500KG spares \$25,000.00 Restored.

1973 Citroen SM Maserati 74,300 KM \$30,000.00

1967 Citroen ID 19 64,700 KM \$25,000.00

1985 Citroen 2CV6 Charleston 20,700 KM \$20,000.00

Please contact Nicola Thompson; phone 03 572 7949 or 021 405 477

More about Lucas (The Prince of Darkness) electrics

The Lucas Electrics motto "Get home before dark." They deny they invented darkness but do claim sudden, unexpected, darkness.

Some inventions claimed by Lucas

- 1:- The first intermittent wipers.
- 2:- The self dimming headlights
- 3:- The three position headlight switch DIM, FLICKER, OFF. Or SMOKE, SMOLDER, IGNITE.
- 4:- The original anti theft device
- 5:- Lucas invented an electric powered torpedo but it sank.
- 6:- Lucas diversified and made a vacuum cleaner, it was the only product they made that didn't suck.

If Lucas made guns, wars would not start either. I must however praise Lucas for the pacemaker I have as I have never experienced any probl.....

We say a very grateful thanks to "HAVEN REALTY" for donating the paper and photocopying the newsletters.

