



“Classic Chatter”



The Editor Says:-

July 2008

Somehow, I have made it to Newsletter # 3, without incurring the wrath of the members. This in itself is a notable achievement and one that I am pleased has happened. There have been some mistakes, so to those that I have either mis-represented or disadvantaged, please accept my apologies!

By the time you get this Newsletter, the mid-winter Christmas Dinner has been and gone. It is good to see members support these kind of activities as they really are an indication of the strength and commitment of the Club and its members. We trust you enjoyed the evening and that you encourage others to attend similar gatherings.

Winter is a time when the clubs activities slow. The event for Sunday the 22nd June was postponed due to the weather and despite me having the TR7 already and “hooded”. It was probably a blessing in disguise, but at least we were able to hold it a week later.

In our “Profile” section, we feature Winston Williamson. He has had a long association with the Club (from its inception) and it is great to see him continuing to support us as the Club Treasurer. I would like to target all of our Executive and feature someone new each time we produce the Newsletter. A bit like a “Rogues Gallery” really....but don't tell them!



This is a photograph of a group of “Italian Though-breeds”.... Ferrari's to us lesser mortals.

They were spotted by Winston Williamson parked at Mapua. Rumour has it that he was seen trying to swap his Triumph for one, but there were no

Important Notice

The Classic Car Club has been asked to provide Marshalls for the Nelson Round of the National Rally, to be held on the weekend of 20th & 21st September 2008.

We require 6 Marshalls on Saturday 20th September, from 11.00am—3.00pm and again on Sunday 21st September from midday—4.00pm.

*Those able to assist, please contact Russell Egan on 5442214 after 29 July or e-mail on:
Catherine.a.egan@gmail.com*



Club Executive 2008



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Articles and photo contributions to the newsletter
are **ALWAYS** welcome

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out newsletters.**

The President's Report.....



Hello Everyone!

It was very pleasing to see such a good turnout for the mid-winter dinner. It was unfortunate that the noise from the rugby fans in the adjoining room made it very difficult for Club Member Don Grant's entertaining speech, and the second part had to be abandoned. Best wishes for the Toastmaster's Competition Don.

This makes us more aware of timing the function so it doesn't clash with a high profile sporting event.

Both the meal and the venue was a success.

Thanks must go to Bruce Wellsford for organizing the June event to view the Austin Healeys and E Type Jaguars. This trip was enjoyed by all who took the opportunity.

Your committee is very aware of the fact that the rapid increase in the price of fuel is making us all think twice before we take our Classics out on the road. It is with this in mind that we are looking at short runs combined with social activities. For August Terry Byrne will be organizing a run to Kaiteriteri for lunch and a mini golf challenge.

Geoff Chilton has plans in place for October.

It is great to see a good field for the Lord Nelson Rally and Kevin York and his Committee have in place an enjoyable weekend. I hope those who have registered have all done their accommodation bookings by now.

If you would like to see the cars they will check in at the Tahunanui Beach Holiday Park Conference Venue Car Park at approximately 4.30pm on Saturday 6th Sept., and leave on Sunday 7th from WOW Car Park at 9.00am., for the final leg.

Plans are well underway for a 4 day tour in May 2009 that will include Akaroa. More details later.

Happy and safe motoring

Russell Egan



Executive Profile

Winston Williamson

TREASURER'S PROFILE

A little about your Treasurer, Winston Williamson!

Winston is an inaugural member of the Classic Motoring Society of Nelson which was established 10 years ago and has been the Treasurer since that time. (anyone out there who would like a job?)

Winston who is married to Natalie has been a travel agent all his working life. Starting work in 1958 with a Nelson company he took over their travel interests in 1967 in partnership with his then boss. After his partner retired Winston owned these travel agencies outright and at one stage had 5 offices in the Nelson district. For the last 20 years he has escorted overseas tours to some wonderful destinations including South Africa, Egypt, Jordan, South America, Europe, United States including twice to Alaska, Canada and most of Australia. Winston has now retired completely from both the company and escorting tours but together with Natalie they still travel frequently and especially love cruising the oceans of the world.

Winston has owned his 1975 Triumph Stag for 30 years and this is the classic of the family. He also has a BMW Z4 for when one is feeling a little old and needs modern comforts like heated seats etc!

Winston and Natalie's next big trip unfortunately clashes with the Lord Nelson rally. This time they will be cruising the North Atlantic following the footsteps of the Titanic! Hopefully not with the same consequences though.



More Information:-.



THE CLUB WOULD LIKE TO ASK ALL MEMBERS TO PLEASE WEAR THEIR NAME BADGES WHEN ON CLUB OUTINGS. THIS HELPS NEW MEMBERS TO GET TO KNOW EVERYONE BETTER.

A Story!

A man rang the police station. The phone was answered and the Sergeant introduced himself.

The caller then said, "Are you aware that my mate Rangi is storing dope in his wood pile?" The sergeant replied that he was not aware of this and then asked the caller for Rangi's address.

Early the following morning the police burst into Rangi's place, searched the house, went to the wood pile, split all the wood with axes, but couldn't find any dope. Frustrated, they packed up and left!

The next day, the caller rang Rangi's place. "Hi bro", he said. "did the police come and cut up all your firewood?"

"Yes" replied Rangi bewildered.

"Oh good and Happy Birthday Rangi! I knew I could get the wood cut for you some how"!!

Bumper Stickers

Sometimes I wake up grumpy; Other times I let him sleep!

Beauty is in the eye of the Beer Holder!

I started out with nothing and still have most of it left!

I don't suffer from insanity...I enjoy every moment of it!

Honk if you love peace and quiet!

Well, this day was a total waste of makeup!!

Seen at a Pub recently:

Free Beer Tomorrow!



The Long & Winding Road

On Sunday 29th June 2008, Bruce Wellsford was able to finally get the “Run to Ruby Bay”, completed. Unfortunately, due to inclement weather the previous Sunday, the Run had to be postponed, but the 29th proved to be a worthy substitute.

There was a disappointing turn-out, with some 15 vehicles present and 20 participants. Because of the cold wind, most tops were on, but the TR7 was “topless”. There are photographs on the following pages.

The Run was organised to end at **Colin Roberts** place in Ruby Bay. Now in the spirit of all good runs, Bruce decided that we would not take the “direct” route, nor would we take a “simple” route, indeed he found a very interesting “**Long & Winding Road**” (there has to be a song there!) Highlight of the route, was the 2 fords prior to the Inland Route and with the rain that we had over the previous week, it was fair to say that it posed a wee challenge for some cars.

The editor, in true Triumph fashion, entered the first ford slowly. This was the first time we had taken a TR7 into this type of “geographic feature” and it was a pity that there was not a photographer present to record the exercise. The TR7 is “Wedge Shaped”, with no large front to create a “Bow Wave”. With a sharp down sloping entry into the ford, the front of the car disappeared into the water and with a little bit of acceleration, suddenly we had this huge wave ride up over the bonnet and up to the windscreen. It was an exciting manoeuvre and whilst staying totally dry (and the engine remained running), it was nonetheless a new experience!!

Colin’s collection was of great interest and we were able to view his 1954 Austin Healy BNL, a 1967 Jaguar XKE “E” Type (both restored and in outstanding condition) and a “Work in Progress” Austin Healey “Bug-Eye” Midget. Colin’s pedigree was also interesting and he spent his early years in Southland with the Begg motoring empire and clearly his love of motor sport and classic cars has been well founded.

Following the visit, the group found a couple of café’s in Mapua and an enjoyable afternoon tea was had.

Finally, we must acknowledge Colin and his wife for allowing us to visit and view his collection and also to Bruce Wellsford for the arrangements.

Photographs



Lined up at the Start!



Bruce's Briefing



Colin Roberts Cars

A "Bug-Eye" (Work in Progress)



Our Cars at the Roberts Place



A “Sunbeam” Story

FROM CHARIOT to SPACE SHUTTLE.

The U.S. standard railroad gauge (distance between rails) is 4 feet 8.5 inches. That is an exceedingly odd number, why was it chosen? Because that's the way they built them in England and English expatriates built the U.S. railroads.

Why did the English build them like that?

Because the first rail lines were built by the same people who built the Pre-railroad tramways and that is the gauge they used.

Why did they choose that gauge?

Because the people who built the tramways used the same jigs and tools they used for building for building wagons, which used that wheel spacing.

So why did the wagons have that particular odd wheel spacing?

Because the roads they travelled were quite rutted and that is the spacing of the wheel ruts.

So who built the old rutted roads?

The Romans built the first long distance roads in Europe and England and the roads have been used ever since.

The ruts in the Roads

Roman war chariots formed the initial ruts which everyone had to match for fear of destroying their wagon wheels. Since the chariots were made for Imperial Rome they were all alike in the matter of wheel spacing. The U.S. standard railroad gauge is derived from the original specifications for an Imperial Roman war chariot and bureaucracies live forever. Next time you are handed a specification and wonder what horses ass came up with it you may be exactly right because the Roman war chariots were made just wide enough to accommodate the back ends of two war horses.

It gets worse.

When you see the space shuttle on the launch pad, there are two big booster rockets attached to the sides of the main fuel tank. These are solid rocket boosters, or SRBs, made by Thiokol at their factory in Utah. The engineers who designed the SRBs would have preferred to make them a bit fatter, but because they had to be moved by train from the factory to the launch site and had to go through a tunnel in the mountains. The SRBs had to fit through that tunnel. The tunnel is slightly wider than the railroad tracks and the railroad track, as you know are about as wide as two horses behinds.

So a major Space Shuttle design feature of what is arguably the worlds most advanced transportation system was determined over two thousand years ago by the width of a horses arse!!!

New Members

We have not acknowledged our new members since February and given that members are the “life-line” of our Club, this is most important.

To that end, we wish to welcome the following new members and encourage them to make themselves known at the next event. Equally, current Club members should target those they do not know and introduce themselves to make them welcome.

The new members are:

Graeme & Dianne **Bibby**—Mapua—1967 Triumph Herald 1200
 Keith & Lorraine **Bradley**—Hokitika—Mk II Jaguar 3.4 Manual
 Rob **Brown** & Theresa **Spence**—Blenheim—'65 Lotus S2 & '67 Cortina
 Donald & Gillian **Campbell**—Stoke—Triumph Stag
 Mike & Christine **Day**—Atawhai—XJS Jaguar
 Reece **Garlick**—Blenheim—Mk I Escort
 Paul **Hargreaves** & Jan **Emery**—Nelson—'69 Corvette & '53 Zephyr
 Lloyd **Heslop** & Jan **Aberhart**—Richmond—Saab 900 SE
 Tjeerd & Nikki **Huizinga**—Nelson—'68 Lotus Elan
 Geoff & Robina **Jensen**—Renwick—'74 Mk III Jensen Interceptor
 Brian & Daryl-Anne **Johnson**—Christchurch—Austin Healy 3000
 Owen & Wendy **Packham**
 Lyn & Jeanette **Parlane**—Christchurch—'69 Hillman Hunter & '90 Toyota MR2
 Murray & Helen **Russell**—Kurow—MGB Roadster
 Chris & Judi **Simmonds**—Blenheim—'66 Mk II Jaguar 3.4
 Ron & Noeline **Stewart**—Blenheim—Mk 7 Jaguar
 Tom & Belinda **Wheatley**—Atawhai—Porsche Carrera 911

It was interesting seeing the list of vehicles that the new members own and given the “editorial license” that I have, I have chosen to display a photograph of 2 of them (but not the owners ones).

1974 Jensen Interceptor



1968 Lotus Elan + 2





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Bruce Wellsford, 03 5446818 or wellsford@ts.co.nz



Club Events & Happenings



10th August 2008

[“The Mini-Golf Challenge”. Nelson Vs Blenheim—Kaiteriteri Mini Golf.](#)

Depart Waimea College car park at 11.00am. Blenheim members to meet at the Railway Station at 9.00am for a 9.30am departure. Bring lunch and afternoon tea or utilise the local restaurants. Terry is organising the run, so watch out!

5-7th Sep—Lord Nelson Rally

Kevin York is once again organising this and entry forms will be sent out shortly. Kevin has indicated that entries will **only** be accepted on the “BLUE” Entry Form. Should you wish to receive a form or require further details, please contact Kevin York on:- 03 5287942 or k.york@xtra.co.nz

We currently have 59 vehicles entered, the route is planned, the entertainment arranged and prizes organised. Have fun folks & make it an event to remember!

19th October 2008

A Car trial, organised by Geoff. A BBQ will follow and details will be advised later. Mark the date on your diaries and get ready to have some more fun!

November—Date TBA

A run and visit to the Taplins in Murchison is planned. The run will conclude with a BBQ, but details will be advised sooner to the date. Again, mark it in your diaries—it will be an enjoyable event.

The Mid-Winter Dinner

What a great night and there was a good turn-out despite the All Blacks Vs Springboks Test being on. A special thanks to the organisers and also to Don Grant for his talk. These are wonderful social occasions, so don't miss out on our future ones!



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