

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2019

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Please note: more events, extra details and possible changes may be added to this Calendar each month.

Events Committee:

Gary Bexley, Phil Barron, John & Raewyn Bourke, Bruce Jamieson, Liz Standen-Penn.



THOUGHTS FROM GARY

OMG - - another year all dun and dusted. Time sure flies when you're having fun. Well what a finale with our Xmas lunch held at the Fairview Country and Golf Club. With eighty members and guests (a record number) joining in and I'm sure everyone enjoyed the wonderful menu , venue and heaps of socialising catch-up with fellow members. I'm quite sure no one went home hungry.

Special thanks must go to John D. for organising and co-ordinating this venue for us. It accommodated our large family admirably. The lucky draw Xmas gift basket kindly donated by Dennis & June was won by Dave Penn. The Jag bag c/w alcohol beverages was re-gifted by Paul & Jill and a magnificent Jaguar heavy metal leaper was gifted by Santa and both put up for auction. John - the Auctioneer - Bourke, then managed to extract some good money for these treasures to add to our bank account for future use. Please refer to page 16 for Colleen's report on this great event.

With regards to **My Thoughts** for this month, I'm pleased the Government has finally made a couple of decisions that are long overdue and make sense to me. Firstly – the roads of national importance. This was happening and then got canned by the current Governors, in a sop to the Greenies, causing a two-year delay in what is of vital importance to the efficient and safe movement of all of us around this country. Whilst not quite so relevant to us as a “Drivers Club”, where we prefer the more forgotten highways, I'm sure it'll mean quicker and safer travels for us in our everyday journeys - - eventually! The State Highways 29 and 1 intersection - for one prime example. Secondly – the closure of the Ports of Auckland.

This is another obvious and long overdue decision. As an ex Aucklander and an ex North Aucklander, when I saw the light and where I met Estelle, this is a win win for everyone. As an ex Truckee it's long been obvious that bringing a large chunk of NZ's imports into the bottom of Queen St. is totally crazy! With most of the Port contributing to the profit of car dealers by way of the most expensive parking lot in the country and no further room for containers, the country has simply out-grown it.

Getting the slow crawling trucks out of the long slog up Grafton Gully and Spaghetti Junction will do wonders for the environment there. So what if it's going to cost \$200 more to transport a car from Whangarei or Tauranga. On a \$6000 or \$60000 car – that's nothing. Further - Auckland Port is import only – one way, whereas Whangarei and Tauranga handle a major chunk of NZ's exports.

Therefore, it makes sense to develop these as we'll get two bangs for our buck. Now, as Tauranga is under pressure for room as well, I'm hoping Northland will be the major benefactor. Go Whangarei!!

As this magazine was printed before Xmas, I just hope I'm still married! When I asked Estelle what it is she would like for Xmas, her reply was; "Nothing is better than a diamond necklace" Now being a SNAG (sensitive new age guy) I bought her **nothing**. I just hope she appreciated my thoughts.

Trust all your hints to Santa were answered and you've had an over-indulgent Xmas. All the very best for a happy and healthy New Year and safe travels.

Gary

IMPORTANT NOTICE

January Sunday 19th. 2020

Please note change of date – change your diary now! The Rotorua Concours this year will be held at the Vintage & Classic Car Show on the green by the lake where we will have a separate area reserved just for our club. Please arrive at 9.30 and follow directions to our area where we need everyone parked up by Show Start at 10.00 am. We plan on having the Club gazebo there for shade / shelter and there's also plenty of trees so a very good venue for a Concours.

There is also plenty of Cafes and shops nearby for those needing another "fix" after Xmas. Please bring a gold coin admission / donation for St. Johns Ambulance.

See flyer on page 23.

February Thursday 13th.

Mid-summer picnic. Meet at the Marist Rugby park Oropi Rd. at 9.45 am for a 10.00 departure to Bowentown (south of Waihi Beach) We'll have the Club gazebo up for shade / shelter and there's plenty of trees for more shade which I hope we'll need. There are toilets but no café so bring your kai and drinks.

This will be just a social relaxing day, totally casual and come and go as you please. There is also nice walks and beach for those wanting / needing to burn off lunch. Please reply to Web page as it will be good to get a handle on the level of interest.

March Thursday 12th.

Murapara Run; this is the visit to a collection that got rained off in July. Meet at the Marist Rugby park as normal at 8.30 am for a 8.45 am departure. Meet / re-group at 10.00 am in Rotorua at the Coffee Club on Tawawera Rd. for a 10.30 departure. Please bring own food for a picnic lunch. Hot water will be available. Please also bring \$5.00 ea. cash (no eftpos) for admission to the Museum.

We'll then travel home via Galatea Rd. taking in a couple of scenic spots along the way to Te Teko and then disperse from there.

HELP Required

The Committee is keen to hold another Gymkhana event and is looking for the use of a grassy paddock somewhere and that it's OK to give it a decent rark-up. These are great fun events and we're very keen to hear of any possibilities. Please message me.

Gary