

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2020



Compiled and written by Gary Bexley (Club Captain / Events)

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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

Whilst standing at our letter box this morning at 6.00 (Anzac Day) the “thought “really hit home to me how absolutely miniscule our sacrifice has been over the last six weeks and to a lesser extent for the next six weeks. On a scale of 1 – 10 for what our defence forces had to endure, particularly WW 1 and WW 2, it wouldn’t even register. We got out of a nice warm bed, stood in the cool (7 degrees) but not really cold and wet, then came back inside a warm dry house to fresh Anzac biscuits and a cuppa. Basic things we all take for granted but our military folk overseas never had for years on end.

Since being retired, and in particular the last five weeks, I’ve been watching programmes on the History Channel about the wars and I’ve learnt a little of what they had to endure and can really appreciate the sacrifice they, and their families back home, made for our benefit today. May never again just one man be allowed to cost us all (friend and foe) so much!! All we’ve had to endure is being grounded, along with our Jaguars, for a few months. Don’t get me wrong – I know there will be a lot of folk really badly effected at this time but it’s still nothing compared to being out in the open for weeks on end in the wet , cold, mud , hungry , sick , exhausted , traumatised etc. whilst being shot at and with the corpses of your mates at your feet.

Lest we forget. I’m just thankful for being comfortably retired at this time so Covid-19 will have very little effect on Estelle and I, and by good luck only, our kids and grandies. In a few months’ time I’ll be able to get the car out and travel again and all will be right again in our world. So - - I have been giving “thought “to a run for us as soon as we reach Level 1. The only difference being we’ll have to keep a “Contact Tracing list” and there can be no huggin and kissin! Just bumping of elbows. Check out the Events Calendar and stay tuned.

Further random thoughts and observations;

A. This is precisely why it’s so important for us, at our age, to make the most of every day as we just don’t know what’s around the corner.

B. Can somebody please please switch off 2020 and then re-boot it. This current version has a real stubborn virus in it.

- C. This virus has done what no woman has ever been able to do - - cancel all sports, shut down all bars and keep men at home.
- D. Taking a shopping list into the Supermarket is the new Bingo.
- E. Remember when we used to wish the weekend would last for ever – happy now?
- F. Remember when we used to tell the time by am or pm. Now it's coffee or wine time!
- G. I'm not sure what to join first when out of this – Weight Watchers or AA!
- H. I feel sorry for the first person who steps outside of a Fish & Chip shop. The seagulls will have them!
- I. I heard a good story the other day but with Covid-19 I'm not allowed to share it.
- J. Dating profile; single man with toilet rolls would like to meet a woman with hand sanitiser for some good clean fun.
- K. Is it too late to change who you're quarantined with? Just asking on behalf of a friend.
- L. The other day the cheeky cat asked me if I would like the radio left on while **'he'** went out -- b_____ d!!

True story: I was talking to a friend the other day in Auckland and he told me of a conversation he'd been having with a grandson. Martin – what have you been doing today? Grandson – nothing. Martin – but you were doing that the other day. Grandson – yes, but I wasn't finished!! I know how he feels so hang in there – we can do this.

Events Calendar

AGM Sunday June 28th.

To be held at the Fairview Country Club in Katikati as per our Xmas function. This will be similar by way of menu; costs etc. so will be very nice. Stay tuned for further detail.

Coming Out Run

Ideally, I would like us to be re-acquainted before the AGM but the date will be advised when we reach Level 1. As I'm planning on 100 people (and may well be limited to 100) we've chosen a Luncheon in the Vintage Barn at the Model Barn shop in Kopu / Thames – thanks to Tony Johnson's suggestion. Checkout their Webpage – you may be able to pick up a birthday or Xmas present whilst there. This offers us a good hour or two runs with excellent facilities by way of kitchen, parking etc. We'll have to bring our own food – no sharing – but tea and coffee will be provided. A \$5.00 ea. (cash, no eftpos) charge will cover all this.

Depending on the weather we may even extend the run for those looking for more of a full day out. What I've been thinking of is meeting in all our different clusters; North, South, East and West and making our way to a re-group / starting point for morning tea let's say in Matamata. Then going North via Waihou, Awaitei and Turua avoiding the State Highways where possible to Kopu. The Eastern cluster could then make their way home via Waihi thereby completing the circle. If anyone has further suggestions or would like to add to this then please message me.

In the meantime, take care and stay safe in your bubble.

Gary