

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2019

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

Good roads and cars are killing us. How so? As I drove through to Taumarunui the other day this thought occurred to me. I noticed on the short distanced travelled on St. / Hwy's 29 and 1 there was a lot of evidence of crashes. Even a recent one with the car still in the paddock having gone through a six-foot-high fence. This was on a wide, straight piece of road (Hwy. 1) as we approached Cambridge. Once we turned off in Cambridge onto "B" roads and then "C" roads around the back of Taumarunui I did not see one sign of an accident. I'm sure there must have been, but nothing fresh or frequent. Also, possibly because I was focused and concentrating on "driving".

This got me thinking. How could this be? My conclusion was that as the roads got easier, we didn't need to concentrate as much. Then as the car becomes more automated with auto transmission, auto wipers and lights, lane assist, cruise control and now even adaptive cruise control, Navman doing the thinking / navigating, good brakes and plenty of power etc. then our brain really goes into neutral. We switch on the cruise control, switch off our brains, then get bored and switch on a podcast or start texting etc. This in-attention leading to a crash!! We blame drunk / drugged locals and tourists for the accidents. But – I believe a lot of crashes are caused by sober intelligent individuals just not paying attention and thinking. A couple of years back some good friends of ours were travelling back from "Americana" in New Plymouth to Auckland when an American tourist turned right in front of them causing an horrific head-on smash as they approached Waitomo. They all ended up in Waikato Hospital and Martin asked the other driver "what was he thinking?"

His reply was the Navman said to turn right so he did. Obviously without thinking / looking. There was another case further south in Taranaki, I think, about the same time. An American Neuro-Surgeon (intelligent sober guy) turned right in front of a milk tanker killing his wife and the couple / friends in the back seat. Same thing – blindly following a device without thinking!

When I learnt to drive, we had to concentrate and "read" the road as our brakes weren't much chop and we didn't have the power to get back up to speed again.



This meant, and it still does, you had to “think “about what we were doing in order to maintain a good flowing speed. Now – newer drivers just point and squirt from corner to corner putting brain into neutral in between.

My concern is we’re dumbing down society to the point of not considering the consequences of a bad decision. Employees don’t think of their safety as that’s the employer’s responsibility!! This mentality is even reaching right back to our kiddies. I read the other day that the Otago Council recently installed a new kids playground with the swing bridge 2” off the ground!! And it had a thick rubber mat under it!!

House-keeping

We had a great run through to Taumarunui but had a situation where someone forgot to pay for their meal and some their admission to the garden tour. Fortunately, someone else picked up the tab this time. Thanks guys. I know it’s easy to get caught up in the moment with all the great chatter etc. and forget but, please then, remember if there is a charge, can you make sure to settle your own account . In this way it’s fair to all members and saves the reputation of the club.

Question

Why is one constantly reminded that a retired husband is often a wife’s full, life-time job? Just asking on “behalf of a friend “.

With the imminent rise in fuel costs please remember; for us it’s not the miles per gallon but the smiles per gallon! Stay safe ‘n cheers for now

Gary

Thursday October 17th.

Morrinsville Classic Collections.

Organiser; Gary

Visit to two collections with byo smoko & lunch with tea and coffee being supplied for both.

Start will be at the Marist Rugby Park for a 9.00 start as normal then a re-group / start for others just through the Gull roundabout in Matamata on Broadway (the main drag) @ 9.45. The first venue also has lovely gardens to view and both have comfortable sitting areas for those wanting to chill-out and natter. These venues were suggested by Bert Loveridge (Member) and we’ll meet just over the road from his place at 27 Sunridge Park Rd. in Morrinsville at 10.15 am.

November 15, 16 & 17th.

Whanganui & Taranaki

Organisers; John & Raewyn

Starting in Rotorua Friday 15 at 10.00 am then travel via some interesting roads to stay over in Whanganui on the 15 th. & 16 th. in the Kingsgate Hotel at \$ 140 per night including breakfast. Then enjoy conducted tour / visits to historic homesteads on Saturday. Travel to Taranaki on Sunday to stay over then return home on Monday. More details on page 22

December 8th

Christmas Lunch

The Xmas lunch venue, this year, will be at the Fairview Golf and Country Club in Katikati. More details later.

January 25th. 2020

Rotorua Concours at the Vintage & Classic Car Show on the green by the lake where we will have a separate reserved area just for our club.

Rally to Whanganui and Taranaki November 15" to 18" 2019

Friday 15" November. Meeting for morning tea in Rotorua at 10 to 10.30 am. Leaving Rotorua in staggered fashion from 10:45 to 11:15. Lunch at Benneydale . Continue on to Whanganui via Taumaranui.

Spend nights of 15" and 16" November in Whanganui staying at Kingsgate Hotel. \$140 per night including breakfast.

On 16" November we visit Historic Homesteads with commentary from an expert on historic homes as our guide.

Leave for Taranaki on morning of 17" November and

overnight in Stratford. Accommodation cost around \$140 but no breakfast. Some interesting places to visit are being organised.

Return home on 18 November after visiting Lake Ratapiko where lunch will be provided. Fully detailed instructions will be handed out prior to departure from Rotorua , Benneydale, Whanganui and Stratford.

PLEASE NOTE. To hold the accommodation, close off date is 20" OCTOBER.

Immediately advise our Club Captain, Gary Bexley if you wish to join this event.

John



***ALL MEMBERS – PLEASE NOTE: For bookings made by the Committee for Events where the Club is required to pay deposits (or full amounts) e.g. for motels, meals, entry fees etc. in advance on behalf of members attending the Events: Members must reimburse the Club promptly and before the final confirmation date under the terms of the reservations.
NO refunds will be made after the final confirmation date.***