

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WOLSELEY CAR CLUB NEW ZEALAND INC

JANUARY to APRIL 2021



Gary Winter with son Braxton on board crests Cemetery Hill on 'Grandma' the 1900 Wolseley on the 2021 Dunedin to Brighton Run.

OUR CLUB OBJECTIVES:

- To promote interest in and use of Wolseley vehicles.
- To arrange social functions for the purpose of promoting the objectives of the club.
- To promote and encourage the efficient maintenance of members' vehicles.
- To render technical assistance to members.
- To produce a newsletter regularly as a vehicle for the exchange of owners experience, technical information, the sale and exchange of cars and spare parts, or any other matters of interest to members.
- To maintain a library of information on the history, maintenance, repair and modification of Wolseley cars, to be available to members.
- To maintain a central register and stock of spares which may be established to assist members.



Club website (new one): www.wolseleycarclub.co.nz

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EDITOR'S STUFF

Firstly, an apology for the lack of newsletters since Christmas. I do indeed regret that I haven't produced newsletters because I realise that this is the prime conduit for information to you all, but at least alternative communication has been happening, thanks to our very competent branch secretaries and the use of emails and telephones.

With all club positions it's important to realise that they are being done on an entirely voluntary basis, and that sometimes (in my case once or twice a year), other circumstances intervene and some tasks have to fall down the order of priority. My overall input into the club has not diminished, and in fact has probably increased overall this year. Much of that time has been spent on spares, and many of you have been the recipient of supplies of parts



and information from me. Nick Stevenson (our appointed National Spares Coordinator) and I have full-time day jobs. We do our very best for you but obviously we can't do everything. Happily most of you are very patient when we need time to research your needs. On top of this we also have our own Wolseleys that like you, we want to use and enjoy, and maintain.

Jenny and I had a quiet Christmas and New Year at home, and in fact the farthest we ventured at any stage over the Christmas break was to Little River for the Banks Peninsula VCC Branch New Year's Day picnic – all of about 40 miles from home. Apart from that, I think I only went into Christchurch twice – once for some overdue clothes shopping (which I hate), and another time to Bunnings and Repco (much more enjoyable) and to catch up with friends and some family members. We spent lots of time at home, with me catching up on some long-overdue work in the garden, and of course a few Wolseley-related projects which have been occupying the shed for some time. There were many trips to Idlewood to pick up spares for members, so good to see that there is lots of work going on out there keeping your Wolseleys in running order.

The biggest shed project was to finish off an engine rebuild for Matthew's 1500, and get it back in the car. This we successfully achieved. I'm pleased it is now finished, although once we got the car going again we found the front brakes also needed some attention when two of the front wheel cylinders (one on each side) started leaking badly. Consequently the 1500 was put back in the shed and onto the hoist again, re-sleeved wheel cylinders and new brake shoes were fitted, and we had the drums machined as well. Also, while it was up on the hoist again, Matthew fitted new rear spring pads and bushes to the rear springs and shock absorbers.

This summer was a great veteran motoring season. We had been using the Wolseley 12/16 quite regularly since the National Veteran Rally in Gore last November, but up until Christmas the 10HP hadn't been touched for about 6 months, so it was time to get it out again and give it a bit of use too. Our VCC friends Malcolm and Anita McGibbon are as keen about veteran motoring as Jenny and I are, so we hatched a plan to take a car each (Malcom and Anita have a 1915 Swift and a 1914 Renault) to the VCC Banks Peninsula

Branch New Year's Day picnic at Little River – effectively an event nowadays open to any classic/vintage vehicle. The BP Branch are keen to see 'old' cars there (the older the better), so we thought we'd do our bit. The road to Little River (SH75) is definitely not suitable for veteran cars – it's a 60km journey from home, and it's quite narrow with bends all the way and very busy (particularly on a holiday weekend like New Year's day)

- so we decided it would be best to trailer them to somewhere nearby, and then drive them a short distance to the domain. Consequently, Malcolm and Anita and Jenny and I had the two earliest cars at the gathering. We had a really good day there with others from our branch - you can read more about it in the Christchurch Branch report later. During January we took the 12/16 down to Dunedin to take part in the annual Dunedin to Brighton Run. Matthew also took a couple of days off work and came with us. We got away mid-morning Friday and arrived in Dunedin about 4pm after a few stops along the way to make the trip down a bit more enjoyable. That evening



Arriving at Little River, one headlight short....Matthew is following in our 6/99.

we headed over to the VCC rooms to register and catch up with a few of the other entrants. Colin Winter was there of course – being the organiser for the event he was busy handing out the rally packs and chatting with everyone, but for him there is always the added pressure associated with making sure the 1900 Wolseley (Grandma) – the oldest car on the run - would once again perform faultlessly, and most of all that the weather would play it's part the following day.

Getting up the next morning, it was obvious we were in for a beautiful day, so we decided all 3 of us (Jenny, myself and Matthew) would do the run in the 12/16 together – a bit crammed, but so much better being able to all enjoy the day together. At 8.45am we headed into town to park in the First Church car park just behind the Octagon, where we were lined up pretty much in order of age of our cars. We then all moved into the Octagon where the cars were on display for an hour. If you are reading this article online, the link below has an excellent video of all of the cars assembled in and then leaving the Octagon. We were entry No.15.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HoauPTIktJU&t=352s

The run out to Brighton is a good test – it's about 20km and there are a few hills on the way which can be a challenge, particularly for the one and two-cylinder cars. Gordon & Beryl Duthie were in the Octagon to see us off, and also joined us for lunch at the domain



at the end. We also saw John Macadam on the way, and then Mary-Jane and Fergus Sime were parked up along Brighton Road in their Austin Westminster – great to see some familiar faces along the way. It was a hot and sunny day, and everyone was looking for shade at the finish in the domain, with many people retreating into the shrubs to get out of the sun while they had lunch.

At 3.00pm we re-traced our route back into town. We were soon back at the motel and enjoying a relaxing cup of tea, thinking about how fortunate we

are being able to enjoy these sorts of events in today's Covid-ravaged world. As is tradition, we had a prizegiving dinner that night at the Otago Golf Club, a very fitting way to finish the day off.

Sunday morning is always spent doing a run out to the Careys Bay hotel for lunch, but the weather had packed it in overnight so we took the modern out there instead. Only 4 Veterans were driven out there, but lots of the Brighton Run entrants turned up, and we had an enjoyable lunch. After lunch we said our farewells to everyone, and then headed back over to Green Island to visit John and Rosie MacAdam (club members). John and I stay in contact occasionally (mainly by email) discussing a whole manner of Wolseley-related issues, some of which become topics John writes about for the Word.

This was the first time we'd been to John and Rosie's house, and it was an eye-opening experience. John is one of those very unique people who can turn his hand to anything and is a master at re-purposing items and materials into all sorts of useful things. Many parts of their 2-story home have been made from salvaged and restored timber and items from around Dunedin, and John knows where each part has come from and what he did to it to modify and incorporate it into the house.

We also went for a short drive in his recently-purchased Riley 1.5 (which is a very nice example), and then had a look in his sheds at his other car, motorcycle and tractor projects, and the interesting displays he's made up out of grilles, old signs, and even twincarburettor and manifold sets! Time went quickly, and after a cup of tea and a good chat we bid them goodbye and headed back into Dunedin to go and catch up with Gavin and Wendy Turner.

Gavin is well on the way with the restoration of his Hornet Special, and it's now almost a fully assembled chassis with all of the running gear installed. The body is about to be

handed over to a panel shop to be repaired, but there are lots of other items to attend to while that's being done so it's going to be a while yet before we see it on the road. Time went quickly and we chatted on late into the evening before heading back to the motel.

The next morning we headed for home, running into a very strong head-wind all the way

which made the going a bit hard, arriving home about 4pm after a couple of stops along the way.

During February Jenny and I headed to



Gavin's Hornet Special - making great progress.

Napier to take part in the Art Deco weekend, taking the Wolseley 12/16 with us in the trailer. We also went to the Wellington British and Euro day on the way to Napier on Sunday 14th February and caught up with a few of the lower North Island club members there, which was superb. We even managed to pick up the Peoples' Choice award which was very humbling, as there were lots of deserving cars there.

Veteran vehicles were to be the feature of this year's Art Deco event, plus the 12/16 was a Hawkes Bay car before we bought it and has been in the Art Deco parade at least once previously, so it was good to take it back there again. As most will be aware, all of the official Art Deco Trust events ended up being cancelled at the last minute due to the

COVID lockdown in Auckland earlier that week, but the Hawkes Bay VCC had organised a number of events around the weekend which were still able to happen even under COVID restrictions, so there was plenty to keep us occupied. Luckily, the restrictions were eased on the Thursday, so the town suddenly came alive, especially on the Friday and Saturday evenings when old cars and costumed people



Art Deco -Peter Johns' 1911 Wolseley 16/20 (right) next to our 12/16

swamped the CBD in very much a festive atmosphere. One of the highlights for me was meeting up with Peter Johns from Havelock who has a 1911 Wolseley 16/20, and chatting about all manner of things related to veteran Wolseleys. I even got the opportunity to drive his car – a very sorted, fast and capable veteran. All in all we really enjoyed the trip. We had fine and warm weather the whole time except for a brief shower on the first day, and best of all, the 12/16 performed faultlessly every day we used it.

Another event of note was a trip down to Cromwell with the Wolseley 1500 race car early in April to the Highlands Festival of Speed. This was the first time I had driven on the Highlands circuit, but my focus was on overcoming some reliability issues and finishing the whole meeting rather than trying to compete with the other cars in the VCC group I was racing in, most of which were high-performing historic specials. There was a practice session and then qualifying on the Friday, followed by two races on Saturday (one of which was my first experience of wet-weather racing), and then two on Sunday. It was a challenging circuit to learn, but it suited the 1500 gearing perfectly and I had a good weekend with no incidents and no real issues with the car. Much better than a couple of competitors in other classes who found the concrete safety walls were capable of dealing out some serious damage!

It's been great seeing our membership numbers growing month on month, and to meet many of our new members at different events and at our branch working bees. It gives me lots of hope for the future of our club in the face of "the electric revolution??!!" Incidentally, at work we've been told our entire fleet is going electric, but they still haven't told me how I'll be able to guarantee getting to the West Coast and back in a day, once a week, as I do most weeks now. However that's a small problem, as I'm sure they haven't worked out that they may need a quarter of a Mega-Watt of power just in our part of the building car park to re-charge the fleet overnight! We drove past the Waitaki hydro lakes on our way to Cromwell and they looked very low (especially considering winter is just around the corner), so when are we going to be told how and where all this extra energy will come from?

Have a good month everyone. Colin Hey

Deadline for next Wolseley Word:

Friday 28th May 2021



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Hi Members,

There is a lot to catch up on in this edition but will keep things brief. We have been all over the place with the car starting with the Roxburgh Show'n'Shine 6th Feb which was held in the school grounds. The School was raising funds to upgrade the schools swimming pool.

We decided to take the caravan to the show and then to the camping ground for the night. On the 1st March I helped Philip Barnett to get his 6/110 MKII going. This was his father's car and had issues with the distributer but with spare bits I had and half an hour of time we had it going. It ran really nice considering the old fuel in the tank. The



engine had been done up some time in its life and Philip was ecstatic to hear it running again. He has some work still to do on the brakes and has become a club member.



Philip Barnett's 6/110

Our next trip was to the Twizel Show'n'Shine on Saturday 13th March. We took the caravan on this trip as well going through to my brother's at Glenavy for the night. We stopped off at Waikouaiti by the sea for lunch on our way up. Saturday morning we left Glenavy and travelled up the Waitaki Valley in fog most of the way, over the bridge at Kurow (Ritchie McCaw country) and on to Omarama where we unhooked the caravan at the Top 10 Motor Camp. It was nice and sunny by this stage as we travelled on to Twizel for the Car Show. Brother Owen came up in his modern with visitors he had for the day as well.

The next day (Sunday) we decided to go through to Mt Cook as we haven't been there for a long time - in fact the road was mostly gravel the last time. There were a lot of cars parked in the parking areas where the walks start with very few people about, and the Hermitage and

associated businesses were all closed. As a result we went back down the road a few Km's to Glentanner for lunch. It was a perfect day to be in this stunning area. We then went on to

Tekapo for a look around before going back to camp.

On Monday morning, cloudy and windy we headed home via the Lindis Pass. Once we got into the mountain area the wind wasn't so bad but the climb to the top of the pass never

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - continued

lets up. The Wolseley started to get hot as we climbed the last steeper section to the top.

The rest of the way home to Lawrence was a breeze.

The next trip was to "Wheels at Wanaka". Six of us chaps from the Vintage club took quite a bit of gear up for the three day event which was ten times bigger that the first one two years ago. We had taken our caravan up with the Toyota a week before however I did have the trailer in tow behind the Wolseley with a walk behind tractor and plough on it. The Friday and Saturday were great but very strong winds got up Saturday night and made it a bit unbearable especially the dust never the less we had a great time. We have been out without towing something so I'm not hard on the car all the time!

Talking to our National Secretary Michael, he said there has been 38 new members so far this year. I extend a welcome to you all. Please feel free to involve yourselves within the club and also



Summiting the Lindis Pass

let us know a bit about your selves and your project. Planning is now underway for the Clubs' National Rally in March 2022 on the West Coast of the South Island. Look out for updates on this in the Word and also on the Club Web Site.

That's all from me, enjoy the Autumn Colours.

Regards,

Gordon Duthie.





Left playing with the Big Boys at the Wheels into Wanaka show, and (above) on the parade ground.



Gordon & Beryl's 6/110 in good company at the Twizel Car Show

Wolseley Car Club National Rally 2022 The Amazing West Coast of the South Island. Advance Notice

Yes, it's time to start getting organised for our next New Zealand National and Australasian rally – we're all hanging out for one given that the Australian National Rally proposed for Adelaide in May had to be cancelled due to the ongoing uncertainties around COVID.

The Rally will be based in Greymouth on the West Coast of the South Island, **beginning** on Sunday 6th March 2021, finishing on Friday morning 11th March. There will be connecting runs from and to Christchurch on the first and last days over each alpine pass for those who want to begin their West Coast adventure there.

Proposed highlights of the Rally will include a bus trip to Franz Josef on the Monday, visits to the amazing Westland Industrial Heritage Park in Hokitika, Shantytown just out of Greymouth, the cool blue waters of the Hokitika Gorge, the Punakaiki blowholes and visitors centre, and much more.

We can guarantee you a great time, but maybe not fine weather every day, but we will do our best.

Book in the dates now – updates will follow each month.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Hi Fellow Wolseleyites,

Three months of the New Year has already disappeared, my does the time move fast when you are retired. On the family front Raewynn and I are about to come grandparents.

Our daughter Victoria in Auckland has had TWINS .We spent two weeks in March helping in out. Also, to add to that our son Jeremy and his partner are due to have a baby in soon in Brisbane. So,



within a few months we go from having no grandchildren to having 3!! It is so exciting!! On the Wolseley front in January we travelled up to Hamilton for a Picnic at Hamilton Gardens and meet up with Life Member Alex Sutton, unfortunately however our guest of Honour Alex Sutton was in Hospital and not be able to make the picnic. So, we went to see him and presented him with his 25 year Badge. We would like to express a speedy recovery to Alex. On Sunday morning we visited Digger/ Earthmoving machinery collection in Cambridge. Recently we have had three bereavements in the Club. Heather



Merv receiving his 50 Year membership Certificate from the VCC in 2015

Wall passed away late last year we are thinking of you Gary at this time. Evelyn Quin from Auckland was 90 and was always cheerful when I rang her. Merv Warner from New Plymouth was 96 he had sold his 4/44 a few years ago.

SECRETARY'S REPORT - continued



Left - Ray Chappell, Claude Moffat, Janice Belcher and Stephen Belcher at Hamilton Gardens

Below Winton Cleal , Michael Kruse and Stephen Belcher visited Life member Alex Sutton In Hospital



Below: At the Ross Brothers Truck Museum in Cambridge. The truck coming out of the wall is real!





Above - A \$5,500,000 Bulldozer

SECRETARY'S REPORT - continued



Raewynn is dwarfed by the 175 Ton Bulldozer's Blade!!



Left: Sue Bethell, Winton Cleal, Raewynn Kruse and Janice Belcher relaxing at Diner

Below: The collection of cars at the Museum

Summer has now gone - I hope you have had many chances of using your Wolseley.

Happy Wolseleying Michael Kruse.

REGALIA SALES AND LIBRARY LOANS

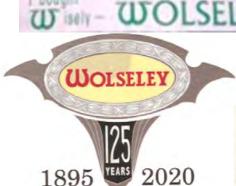
For any Wolseley Car Club regalia (caps, shirts, badges, books etc), and for any Wolseley-related books or technical information, please contact Danny or Sharon O'Malley on 03 3244421 or 021 498 162 phone or text.

Sharon can also provide copies of handbooks, workshop manuals, and parts books for most Wolseley models, either to loan or photocopies. Some general information Wolseley-related books are also available to loan – please just ask him.

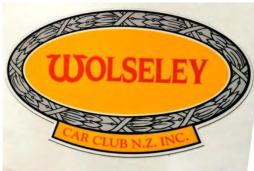
Now in stock:



Rear window stickers as shown on left – "My Other Car's a Wolseley, and "I Bought Wisely – Wolseley" These are \$5.00 each



Windscreen sticker – special design to celebrate 125 years of Wolseley. Limited numbers \$5.00 each

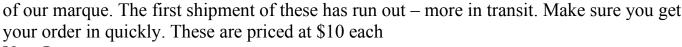


Our very own NZ Club windscreen stickers, also \$5.00 each



A variety of other items, including grille badges, lapel badges, key rings, coasters and fridge magnets.

And not quite last, but by no means least, a brand new addition to stock – a special **pin badge** (for jackets, caps etc) commemorating 125 years



New Items:

Ladies Blouse. \$65.00

We have a choice of colours. Photo's on next page.

Men Sweatshirt \$40.00 Bucket hat \$20.00 in Bottlegreen

Beanies in Bottle green and Black. Wool Blend Beanie \$20.00

Acrylic Beanie \$15.00

Wolseley Registration Label hoders (for your windscreen) \$5.00 each



REGALIA - continued...







Registration Labels \$5.00

Ladies Blouse

Beanies



Also newly produced:

Caps, Tee shirts and Polo shirts. These are only getting made to order:

Tee shirts \$25.00

Polo shirts \$35.00

Cap \$20.00

The caps will be bottle green with

"Wolseley Car Club N.Z." in white across the front.

Both shirts are bottle green, and the picture (left) has the emblem that will be embroidered on the top left chest.



Wanted:

Photos of your Wolseley, your restoration project, or just good photos of an outing you've been to with the club. Please just email them to me at: heywolseley699@gmail.com

or post hard copy to me to 34 Rossington Drive, West Melton 7618. Please provide me with a simple caption. If you can pen together a quick story to go with it, so much the better.

BRANCH NEWS and EVENTS

North Island Regional Branch News and Events

Lower North Island:

WOLSELEY CAR CLUB NORTH ISLAND BRANCH GENTLE ANNIE RUN TO NAPIER SATURDAY 22 MAY 2021

Hi Everyone

We have been promising for some time to organise a run to Napier over the Gentle Annie Road starting at Taihape, and here it is. You may wish to stay the previous night in Taihape, and there are a couple of motels and two hotels where you can book accommodation. We have booked at Aspen Court. If enough people are coming we can all go out to one of Taihape places for dinner.

10.30 am

Meet at the toilet complex by the Taihape Railway Station. Bring a picnic lunch with you because there are no shops or cafes on the road. We will be stopping at a picnic spot which has shelter in case of rain and also a toilet. Also bring a warm jacket because it can be cold at this time of year. We have a contact in Hawkes Bay who is organising a visit for us once we get there.

We suggest you stay at the Quality Inn Napier on Marine Parade. It has a range of accommodation with some very good prices but gets booked out quickly so we suggest you make your booking without delay.

6.00 pm

Meet in the foyer at the Quality Inn Hotel, and we will go to a suitable restaurant for dinner – this will be arranged once we know numbers.

On the Sunday we propose arranging a number of visits for those who want to stay, and this includes the honey centre in Havelock North, Clifton Bay for lunch, and a couple of wineries in the afternoon.

Please let us know if you are coming. Do not hit the reply button to this email, otherwise your email will go back to Michael.

Our contact details are:

fincle@icloud.com

Mobile: 021 178 4253 (Winton) or 027 314 0411 (Ruth)

Landline: 04 293 3369

We look forward to hearing from you soon and seeing you in Taihape – the gumboot

capital of NZ.
Ruth and Winton

Upper North Island

The Auckland area had a very successful two outings in the last month. The first being a trip to a private car collection in Brookby organised by the Dixons from Morrinsville. The Rover Car Club also attended this event which meant there was a good turnout of vehicles and members.

The second event was the Brit Euro Show at LLoyd Elsmore Park on Sunday 11th April 2021. We had five Wolseleys on display, being three 6/110's, one 16/60 and one 1500. It was uncertain weather the day before and members who may have turned up, obviously were deterred by the weather which was terrible on the Saturday. However by 10a.m. on Sunday, the sun was out and plenty of visitors were about viewing the cars which were on display.

Coming Event - Meal and Movie Day, 26th June

An invitation to all Wolseley members to an event being hosted by the Rover Car Club on Saturday 26th June 2021 - Lunch meal and movie at Ryders 177 Riversdale Road, Avondale. The cost is \$35.00 per adult and \$15.00 per child under 14. This includes the roast dinner, dessert and movie. We are having the meal at 12.30 p.m. for a 2 p.m. movie. Please advise Noeline Billing on 0274531049 or 9639516 by 19th June 2021 with numbers.

Regards Noeline Billing

BRANCH NEWS and EVENTS – Christchurch Branch.

Christchurch Branch News and Events

Our annual Christmas BBQ and social on 12the December was once again excellent, with a good turnout of members, wives and partners – a total of around 30 people. It was especially good to see Peter and Karen Nixon who had come from all the way up from Timaru, and to Murray Bethell and a friend who were visiting from Te Awamutu. Noel Nevin did his usual excellent work on the BBQ, and the salads and desserts bought along by everyone were superb. A special thanks to all of those who spent time preparing the garage and the kitchen, and then cleaning up afterwards, and to everyone who turned up and made it so successful.

Our first official outing for 2021 was the New Year's Day picnic at Little River Domain. Perfect weather prevailed for this VCC Banks Peninsula Branch-organised event (a

BRANCH NEWS and EVENTS - Christchurch Branch.

fundraiser for the local fire brigade), and there was a huge turnout of cars in the domain – in places lined up 3 rows thick in the shady areas – and lots of happy people walking around catching up with friends and checking out the cars. Together with a brass band playing and a real picnic atmosphere, this would have to be one of the best casual old-car events anywhere. We had about 8 cars turn out from our club, including new members Rod and Wendy



O'Brien in their 15/60, and Wayne and Catherine Tibbles and Jan Parker in the family 6/110. As has become a tradition, Tim Dunningham and Sheryl Hunter always bring a different car, and this year the Mk1 Jaguar got an outing, fresh from a full engine re-build. Tim was totally impressed with the way it was running.

It was somewhat concerning to see the fire brigade team walking around the domain at one point trying to find the owner of a very significant part that they had found on the driveway into the domain that they though had probably fallen off a car as it arrived. It looked like a shackle pin, complete with one nut and a grease nipple on one end. We were amongst the last to leave and there was no-one left looking like they were waiting for a tow-truck, so it was either claimed and re-fitted or wasn't from one of the cars that attended – hopefully the latter!

Late in January we had an outing to Broadfield Gardens near Prebbleton. Possibly due to it being a Saturday we only had a few attend (7 cars and 14 people), but we were treated to another perfect day. On ringing the bell when we arrived, the head gardener came out to meet us and then spent the next hour walking us right around the garden and telling us all about the way it was developed and all about the plantings and different themes for each area of the garden. He would have been well into his 70's and has worked there for 17 years. He now works there 3 or 4 days a week, but was still very active and spritely, and absolutely passionate about the garden. Interestingly, it was developed from empty paddocks starting about 20 years ago, there is no house on the property, and the owner lives about 20km away. It has a 6-star NZ Gardens Trust rating, and has the largest collection of NZ native species anywhere in the world. It is a garden worth visiting probably a few times a year when different areas are in full bloom. After the tour we enjoyed our afternoon tea in a sheltered part of the garden – a fitting way to end an interesting and relaxing afternoon.

BRANCH NEWS and EVENTS – Christchurch Branch.



Afternoon tea at Broadfield Gardens- the distinctive Llew Summers sculpture in the foreground



Some of our cars on display at the Twin Rivers event

On 14th March we attended the annual Twin Rivers Vehicle Display and Extravaganza at the **A&P Showgrounds** with a display of 10 cars. It is always a challenging to put a display together at this event because the cars are parked as they arrive, and it's hard to set aside room for late arrivals and for our club shelter. We tried to arrive at the same time this year, and that did seem to work better. It was a huge event this year with over 600 vehicles attending, but it was well organised and there was plenty to keep us all occupied. After the display some of us retired to 'The Bridge' in nearby Prebbleton for some afternoon refreshments before heading home. The following Sunday the VCC Coffee meeting was held, and afterwards some of us had a quick lunch at

Idlewood before heading into town to visit the Museum of Toys and Collectibles to check on progress since our display day held there in October last year. There are some new displays, and we actually found the matchbox Wolseleys we gave to them on the display day sitting in golf course car park in the model railway layout. We also used the opportunity to present them with a framed photo of our display day, which was really appreciated.

Working Bees at Idlewood have continued, however I haven't been able to get along to all of them so I can't report on numbers. I did hear however that there was a big turnout at the

BRANCH NEWS and EVENTS – Christchurch Branch.

April one, and that Ray Willoughby (who has been diligently working away at the stock that came from the Williamson estate) had to drop what he was doing and try and sort out parts orders for a few people.

The new year didn't start off particularly well for a couple of our members. Allan Francis was in and out of hospital with pneumonia during January and February, and in March moved into Parklands Retirement home in Papanui. His 6/90 has now moved to Hamilton and is the ownership of his son Graeme. Similarly, Cecily Shanks ended up in hospital after a stay on the West Coast earlier in the year, and was then transferred to Burwood Hospital in Christchurch, but is she is now back home again, and has even made it out to Idlewood with the mid-week maintenance group a couple of times. Anthony Dacre is also under doctor's orders and although still out motoring occasionally, needs to be careful about what he does. Our thoughts are with all 3 of you.

May will be an active month for us, as we have two notable events coming up. The first weekend in May is Wheels week in Ashburton, so as well as the Swap Meet on Saturday 1st May, there is the Annual Ashburton Rotary Vintage and Classic Run on Sunday 2nd. This is always an excellent day out, and this year it starts at the Ashburton Showgrounds and finishes at the recently revamped and enlarged Ashburton Fire Museum, which is part of the Plains Museum in Tinwald. Details are in the Coming Events list below.

Christchurch Branch Coming Events:

Saturday 1st May - Ashburton VCC Swap Meet

Always a good event, often with treasures to be discovered. Held in the VCC grounds, Moronan Road, Tinwald – starts as early as you want to get there.

Sunday 2nd May - Ashburton Rotary Annual Vintage & Classic Run

The Ashburton Plains Rotary Classic Car Rally is always an event not to be missed – always a great run in the countryside, this year finishing at the Ashburton Fire Museum in Tinwald - a very interesting place where there will be lots of interesting items to look at. The run starts at 9:00am at the Ashburton Showgrounds. As usual lunch is available at the destination. Entry fee is \$20 per vehicle with all proceeds going to charity.

PS: Weather forecast looks great for a cruise in the country! Please travel down there at your own pace, and we'll catch up at the start at the Showgrounds.

Saturday 8th May - Working Bee at Idlewood.

The usual working bee/social opportunity/parts buying and sorting session. Starts about 9.30am. Morning tea is provided, and those who wish can stay on for lunch and the branch committee meeting straight afterwards.

We have a couple of recent parts car arrivals, so any help dismantling those would be appreciated.

BRANCH NEWS and EVENTS - Christchurch Branch, continued

AN IMPORTANT EVENT NOT TO MISS:

Sunday 16th May - Combined outing with the Jowett Car Club and the Riley Car Club.

A fun and social event, to be hosted at our very own 'Idlewood', 771A McLeans Island Road (1km west of the VCC grounds).

The meeting point will be the Vintage Car Clubs' Old Cars, Bikes and Coffee event in the VCC grounds, McLeans Island, from 9.00am that morning.

At 10.30am or thereabouts we'll depart on a short and simple run

(Prebbleton/Lincoln/West Melton) that will finish at 'Idlewood' in time for lunch (please BYO picnic lunch - hot water is available)..

If the weather isn't good we will host the event indoors in the garage and clubrooms. The spare parts shed will also be open for viewing.

After lunch we'll have some fun slow-speed field tests in the adjacent Caravan Clubs' grounds. There will be a few simple prizes, but nothing too serious.

All welcome - if your Wolseley isn't on the road, please come in your modern.

Sunday 6th June -Timaru All British Day

Another popular run, and very much worth the trip down there to take part in it. Assembly point is the Caroline Bay car park - you need to be there no later than 10.00am. Usually about a 50km run, finishing at a country destination.

Saturday 12th June - Working Bee at Idlewood.

For your diary:

Sunday 22nd August - Daffodil Rally.

This year there will be 4 start desinations – Rangiora, New Brighton, Cashmere and Rolleston, with all runs converging at the VCC grounds, at McLeans Island. Please put this date in your calendar now – it will be a big event this year.





Southern Regional Branch News and Events



Members of the Southern Branch of the Wolseley Club at the Black Swan Café, Waihola, 13 February 2021.

Left to right; Mary Jane Sime, Fergus Sime, Gavin Turner, Wendy Turner, Stewart Milne, Noeline Milne, Bill Buist, Beryl Duthie, Peter Duthie, Margaret McKenzie, Moray McKenzie

Gavin Turner suggested an informal afternoon catch up for the branch, as it has been some time since we have been together. We met up at the Black Swan café on Saturday 13th February. It was a beautiful sunny day, so a great opportunity to get the cars out for a run. The McKenzies brought their 1964 16/60, Bill Buist his 1956 4/44 and the Turners their 1954 4/44. Two Austin Westminsters were out, Peter Duthie's 1957, and the Sime's 1964. We had good food, very enjoyable chats and plenty of laughter. Congratulations to Margaret and Moray McKenzie on celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary on February 6th.

BRANCH NEWS and EVENTS - Southern Region Branch, continued

The Best of British Day was held on March 14th at the Milton A&P Showgrounds. Three of our members entered, Gavin and Wendy Turner, Frank and Jane Arthur and Fergus and Mary Jane Sime. Unfortunately the Turners had a car mechanical problem on the trip to Milton so didn't get to the show. Trevor Johnson, now a new member, won the best Wolseley prize with his immaculate 1967 6/110 and Fergus and Mary Jane Sime won the best Austin prize with their 1964 Austin Westminster.

We have had a significant number of new members join in the last few months. We warmly welcome them all. They are: Bill Keen, Peter Duthie, Glenn Schuitman, Phillip Barnett, Trevor & Dot Johnson, and Bernie Horn. One other person has received an Application for Membership form and Fergus is awaiting its return. This increase in membership is very encouraging indeed.

We are planning another get together, like we did at Waihola, over lunch in Balclutha soon. Look out for further details.



2021 Best of British Day at the Milton Showgrounds. In the foreground is Trevor Johnson's 6/110. At left Fergus & Mary Jane Sime's Austin Westminster.

Best from the Emails:

I'm Chris Thomson, a new member of the Wolseley Club.

Looking through the November newsletter, I see you want some stories, photos etc.

So, given the wet weather today, I concluded that I could use the opportunity to send in something you may find appropriate.

The Project.

Living, as we do, 20 Kms out of Rotorua at Lake Tarawera, and having been down to one car for a couple of years, we decided to get back-up wheels.

Having owned a Morris 1100 and two Austin 1300 GTs in the past, another, ahem, Land Crab seemed to be an obvious choice. I still have manual and tools and something to restore and use seemed like a good idea. I like a project.

So, the result is what you see below.

1970 Wolseley 1300 Mk2.

It had been sitting in a garage in Levin for several years, unused but rego on hold.

The horn didn't work, the brakes were spongy and carb so far out of tune that the car was so gutless that it couldn't have pulled the skin off a custard pudding!

However, with a new set of plugs, more than one prayer and a few anxious shaking heads, I commenced the journey back to Rotorua. 6 hours and some very slow hill climbs in 1st gear. However, I made it home. That was all late Feb this year.

Since then spare time has been gobbled up bringing Willy Wolsly up to speed.

With the help of some parts that came with the car, the twin carbs are repaired and tuned.

Miraculous speed and power is the result...

This was followed by getting the horn going, (50 year's grime around the fuse holders was cleaned out), and Bingo, a voice.

Heater cleaned out and new hoses.

Some tidying up of wiring connectors.

Upholstery cleaned.

Original carpets in amazing condition after a thorough clean.

Dash completely removed, stripped and resurfaced.

Brakes bled and rear slave cylinders unseized and checked.

Hand brake adjusted.

Wheels painted.

Very pleasing to be this far into restoration.

Next will be a few little items to find - Courtesy light fitting, 1300 badge for boot lid, Wolseley hub cap. (Editor's note: these parts have now been supplied by the Parts Department)

Then a respray in original green.

So, looking forward to the latest newsletter and a club trip or two Kind regards,

Chris

Best from Emails, continued







Chris Thompson's 1300 project – progressing well!



Photo Gallery



The ultimate Man-Cave seat for a Wolseley enthusiast – photo supplied by Sharon O'Malley





The two most recent arrivals at the Christchurch Spares Dept at Idlewood – both suitable for spares only

Photo gallery, contined



It takes three good men to mow the lawn at Idlewood! From left, Jonathan Gaut, Merve Wayne (bending over) and Eddie Bishop



Display at the Trentham British an Euro Day, February

Buy & Sell

No listings for this issue......

The Thomas W

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