

# BROADSHEET WAIKATO BRANCH JANUARY 2019



BRANCH CAPTAIN	SECRETARY	TREASURER
Ross Carroll 07 552 4585	Graham Jenner 07 357 4129	Ian Gerrard 07 549 2884

***From the Editor:** If you're out and about in the Waikato in the next week, watch out for some Talbots from the UK that are touring NZ. Alistair Robinson and Kevin Beesley have organised a tour of New Zealand on behalf of the U.K. based Talbot Owners' Club. There will be 20 vehicles in total on the tour, mainly 1930's vintage, with 11 Talbots, 3 Sunbeams and a Speed 25 Alvis coming in from U.K. and Europe. They'll be passing through the Waikato on 14-15 February, staying overnight at Waitomo. Kevin says that they will welcome any of our Branch members who come across them during their travels, to say hello, give a toot and a wave if you see them pass by.*

*Planning has started on the Dawnbreaker event in May with the organisers getting their heads together to discuss potential routes around Tirau. Put May the 18<sup>th</sup> in your diary and come along for a lovely morning of touring Waikato roads.*



## NEXT EVENTS FOR YOUR CALENDAR

- **22-24 Feb– National AGM – Hanmer.** The Gerrards, Carrolls and Thorburns are heading down to join Mainland Branch. I also hear that there will be a good Auckland contingent heading through to Hanmer.
- **Sunday 17 March (Waikato run)** – 2pm Waikato coffee catch up followed by the committee meeting at 3pm at Okoroire. Come along for catch up over a cuppa at the Okoroire Hotel. This is a great chance to get your Sunbeam (or yourself) out for a run or to see other Sunbeams. All welcome.

### **UPCOMING WAIKATO EVENTS (Ross Carroll 07 5524585; robro@kinect.co.nz)**

- **May 18 – Dawnbreaker – Tirau – 9am start plan. More details in the March Broadsheet.**

## **UPCOMING AUCKLAND EVENTS (Kevin Brown 09 422 2128; brownkandg@xtra.co.nz)**

- **3-6 May –Northland Tour.** I know it is early for this, but we have been planning this tour and want to ensure that you get accommodation booked as soon as you can because we don't want to lose these great accommodation options. We will be staying two nights in Russell and you need to book at the Hananui Lodge on the nights of May 3 and May 4 (Friday and Saturday). There are various options but Rooms range from \$135 for a studio to \$220 for a two bedroom apartment if you want to share with another couple. There are several options in between. Call Hananui Lodge on 094037875 or view and book via [www.hananui.co.nz](http://www.hananui.co.nz). When booking mention the Sunbeam Car Club because they are looking out for us. The final night (May 5) will be at Oceans Hotel at Tutukaka, and again please mention the club when booking. Rooms at Tutukaka will be either \$135 for a country view or \$175 for a Marina view. Call Oceans on 09 4702290 or view and book via [www.oceansresorthotel.co.nz](http://www.oceansresorthotel.co.nz). We will later provide more details of the Tour when it is all locked down.

## **OTHER EVENTS:**

### **Planned BOP InterClub events**

There are 2 events planned in 2019:

**Sunday 28th April 2019** – Lotus Car Club event. John Mallard organiser. Date to be confirmed.

**Sunday 25th August 2019** – Vauxhall Club event. Laurie O'Connell organiser. Date to be confirmed.

## **FOR SALE**

The Peppers are selling their Rapier due to total retirement and letting out the house for a while and do a bit of freedom camping. 1963 plate no ELLENZ 75,000 original miles colour green. New solid walnut dash, new weber carb, Alpine manifold and exhaust. 1725 motor fitted, goes extremely well, no whine in first gear. Nice mag wheels fitted with new tyres. Original parts available twin carb manifold air cleaner wheels hubcaps and heads. Rego needs rear brake shoes and adjustment for warrant. Price \$22,000. Contact Gavin Pepper

## **PAST EVENT**

### **Waikato Branch AGM Saturday 19 Jan – Firth Tower, Matamata**

We had another great day at the Firth Tower for the Waikato Branch AGM. There was a good line up of classic cars for the "People Choice" award.



Although going to the Firth Tower again for our AGM may sound like a déjà vu this venue allows for a great display in a very relaxed venue under the Tower. The Firth Tower was built in

1882 by Josiah Clifton Firth to provide a lookout over the country side. It was also used as the estate office and sleeping quarters for single men. The grounds contain a school, church, homestead and sheds displaying historical agricultural equipment.

Andrew and I almost missed the AGM section of the day, so it was surprise to hear that I had been awarded the attendance trophy – more for my attendance to branch newsletter writing than actual event attendance. In my absence I was also re-elected as Broadsheet editor. Ross Carroll, Ian Gerrard and Graham Jenner remain as Branch Captain, Treasurer and Secretary, respectively.

The People's Choice award went to Tweety – the Blomfield Rapier, which Reg had prepared beautifully for the display.



The event ended with a relaxing lunch under the shade of the nearest tree. While we were sitting there we noticed the berries on the tree and started a discussion on what the tree was – it turns out that it was a Yew Tree. Yew trees have long been associated with churchyards. It is not clear why, but it has been suggested that yew trees were planted on the graves of plague victims to protect and purify the dead, but also that graveyards were inaccessible to cows, which would die if they ate the leaves. Perhaps in the case of the Firth Tower, this tree was planted as an insurance policy by the gardener.



Yew trees were used as symbols of immortality, but also seen as omens of doom. For many centuries it was the custom for yew branches to be carried on Palm Sunday and at funerals. In Ireland it was said that the yew was ‘the coffin of the vine’, as wine barrels were made of yew

staves. Yew timber is rich orange-brown in colour, closely grained and incredibly strong and durable (hence why old trees can remain standing with hollow trunks). Traditionally the wood was used in turnery and to make long bows and tool handles. One of the world's oldest surviving wooden artifacts is a yew spear head, found in 1911 at Clacton-on-sea, in Essex, UK. It is estimated to be about 450,000 years old.

Yew is a popular hedging and topiary plant. Anti-cancer compounds are harvested from the foliage of *Taxus baccata* and used in modern medicine.

For those you rested under the Firth Tower Yew and wondered about the tree that provided our shade, here ends your lesson on the Yew.

### **VCC Car show – Rotorua Lakefront - Sunday 20 January** by Graham Jenner



I enjoyed a good day at Sunday's car show on the village green.

The day started cloudy with drizzle but by 10am it was fine and sunny.

Two members there with our cars, new

member Ann Fosberry from Tauranga with her recently purchased S/T 90 and my Alpine.

The variety of vehicles present is impressive, and it gets better each year. It was well attended by the public and the supported charity, St. Johns Ambulance Service would be pleased with the success of the event.

Newsletter prepared by Kim McGrouther 7<sup>th</sup> of February, 2019  
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The Broadsheet is also on the Newsletter section of the club website at  
[www.sunbeamcarclubofnewzealand.org.nz](http://www.sunbeamcarclubofnewzealand.org.nz)