



# The Vintage Car Club of New Zealand Incorporated President's Newsletter



## From The President

**Here we are again in the throes of Covid-19 lockdown. However we've done this before, we know what we have to do and we know we will get through it.**

At a time like this, we all need to be there for each other. Please spare a thought for our oldest Club members. As we did last year, if you personally know older members in your area, please give them a ring, have a chat, check that they are alright and whether they need

any help. The way our members responded last time was heart-warming and I can assure you that it did make a difference and our older members really appreciated it. A friendly voice of someone they know over the phone goes a long way to brighten their day.

I've put this newsletter together to keep you informed on developments within the Club and I've also asked some members of the Management Committee to keep you posted on what's been happening in their particular areas.

## Meetings with Waka Kotahi (NZ Transport Agency) and Minister of Transport Club delegation recent meetings with the NZ Transport Agency and the Minister of Transport.

George Kear and I, along with Rod Brayshaw who attended audio visually, met with four representatives from the Vehicle Standards Division of NZTA. This was a very productive meeting in which we were able to clear up some misunderstandings and there was agreement to put together a memorandum of understanding which will sit in the background as a base document. Members of the Vehicle Standards Division of NZTA intend to visit National Office to have a look at our VIC system, along with a representative of the LVVTA. I also had a meeting on 17 August with the Minister of

Transport, Michael Wood, along with Harry Duynhoven from the FOMC, Tony Robinson, who is the President of the NZ Hot Rod Association, and Nicole Botherway, who is the Senior Manager Safer Vehicles from NZTA. Topics covered included 12 month WoFs, CoFs for historic military and heavy commercial vehicles, Parade Permits, Biofuels, and WoFs for veteran vehicles. I was able to show Minister Wood some examples of our VIC card and he was very receptive to our representations with the result that there will be ongoing collaborative meetings between our group and NZTA.

## WoFs, Registrations, Licences during Covid-19 lockdown

NZTA advise that they are currently looking at options for extending documents with expiry dates (like WoFs, CoFs, certifications, driver licences and registrations) should the nationwide lockdown be extended for a longer timeframe. In the meantime, for more information go to the NZTA "Frequently Asked Questions" on their COVID-19 services page:

<https://www.nzta.govt.nz/about-us/coronavirus-disease-covid-19-services-update/frequently-asked-questions/>

**[CLICK HERE TO GO DIRECTLY TO THIS INFORMATION](#)**



## Vero International Festival of Historic Motoring

I am absolutely delighted to say that as of close of entries on 31 August, we have 504 so it's full steam ahead for January 2022.

## VCC Facebook Group

At times we walk a tightrope, striving to keep a balance of open discussion and providing a place to air our opinions and enthusiasms (Ford vs Holden, English v American ... the list goes on). As usage of our Facebook group grows, it includes a lot of group members that are not VCC members. We need to ensure that we keep to the original intentions of the Facebook group which is to publicise the VCC, have a social presence, promote events and get our members engaged regarding vehicles, history, restoration etc. It is not a platform for members to engage in debate over internal VCC issues. There are other avenues for that. Indeed, several members took the opportunity to email branches with their thoughts on the proposed logo. If the Facebook group was just for VCC members then that would be a different matter and it wouldn't be a problem to have those discussions. We have to always be aware of the image the Club presents to non-members or prospective members.

## Annual General Meeting and Executive Meeting

The Club's Executive and AGM meetings were held recently in Christchurch hosted by Canterbury Branch. A big thank you to the organisers Marilyn McKinlay and Katryna Shaw.

At the AGM I acknowledged the special occasion as we celebrated the Vintage Car Club's 75th anniversary. The Club has grown from that small group who started it in 1946 into a multi-faceted organisation with 8,500 members, 36 branches and 26,000 vehicles in our database.

I am pleased to advise that the Notice of Motion to change the constitution to allow on-line membership applications was passed with 93.64% in favour. Disappointingly, only 16.79% of the membership voted. Subsequently the Executive approved an amendment to the Club Bylaws to facilitate the introduction of online membership applications.

At the meeting I was delighted to present a one-off 75 year badge to our founding member Andrew Anderson and award the John L Goddard Trophy to Kevin Casey and a special Presidential Award to Ron Hasell.

## Where do we go from here?

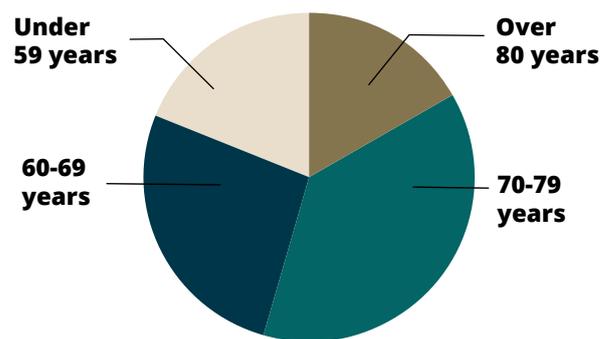
Looking back over the last 75 years, the Club has achieved a huge amount in terms of what we provide to our members. I firmly believe that our strength is our diversity of vehicles and interests which in turn has allowed us to grow our membership base and be financially sound. It also means that branches have the necessary members to provide, operate and maintain clubrooms and facilities. That large membership base also allows us to get a "foot in the door" in dealing with government agencies and regulations so that we continue to have a say in determining our future.

However - the next 10 to 20 years will likely see huge changes in the makeup our members. Of our current membership base of 8,500, nearly 17% are over 80 years of age. That means in the next 5-10 years we will realistically lose 1400 members. A further 37% of our members are aged 70 to 79 which means we could lose another 3000 members over the next 10 to 20 years. Our current rate of recruitment of new members will not be enough to ensure that we keep our membership base sufficient to keep the Club and branches viable.

27% of our members are aged between 60 and 69 and only 19% of our members are under 59.

A sobering figure is that 80% of our members are over 60.

### VCC Club Membership by Age



We have to consider the big picture and the possible implications of any decisions made. To be a coherent force we must have the same name across the whole Club. While we are a historic Club, we can't be historic in our thinking. We must look forward - not back.

Like the dinosaur - if we don't adapt the Club will become extinct.

Please keep yourselves safe and be kind.

**Diane Quarrie**



From the  
Hon.  
Secretary/Treasurer

The budget for the 2022-2023 year was tabled and approved by the Executive at their meeting held Friday 13 August. Of course, working over a year in advance does present challenges, but the document did indicate a likelihood of there being an excess of income over expenditure. A key recommendation was that the Club's subscription remained unchanged.

## National Office

Our Office Administration Assistant, Julie Orwin (AKA Jo) has decided to move on and her final day was Friday 20th August. Sadly, her leaving date coincided with the Level 4 lockdown restrictions which meant there was no farewell. Julie does have to return office equipment and collect her personal bits and pieces so it is hoped something can be organised for her at that time so that we can wish her the best for her future endeavours.

Julie's departure came in the middle of a review of staffing requirements for National Office which is ongoing. However, I can advise that Linda Duffell, the Club's Office Administrator employed on a fixed term contract while the review was being carried out, has accepted the offer of a permanent employment contract. The Management Committee is very pleased to welcome Linda to the office team.

The review of staffing levels and skills for National Office is on-going as the streamlining of office processes and procedures have meant our requirements have changed. We are looking to create the position of Administration Assistant in a part-time role, with an emphasis on organising Management Committee and National meetings, minute-taking, Branch Coordination, and Membership Liaison responsibilities.

**Chris Leith**



VERO  
International  
Festival of Historic  
Motoring



## Registrations

At the time of writing, we have over five hundred entries for the VERO International Festival of Historic Motoring. Four hundred was the minimum number we needed to make this a financially viable event so this is very pleasing

While registrations close at the end of August, we will still accept late entries, so if you are yet to decide on whether to enter or not, there is still time. Don't miss out on what will be a great event and quite possibly the last of this type of VCC event in the foreseeable future.

## Covid-19 Cancellation Policy

The recent level 4 Covid-19 lockdown is a reminder to us that Covid restrictions can eventuate at any time. I am aware a number of members have been wondering what would happen if the Festival is cancelled due to a Covid-19 outbreak. I am pleased to be able to announce that the Management Committee have decided that if the VERO International Festival of Historic Motoring is cancelled due to Covid, a full refund of entry fees will be provided

## Vehicle Identity Cards

Please remember that it is mandatory for entrants to have a current Identity Card for their vehicle. This must be done before the start of the festival, so it is important to get this sorted now and don't leave it to the last minute and risk missing out. The forms for applying for an ID Card are available on line from the VCC website. If you have any problems down-loading or completing these forms, please contact your branch secretary for assistance.

**Greg Terrill**



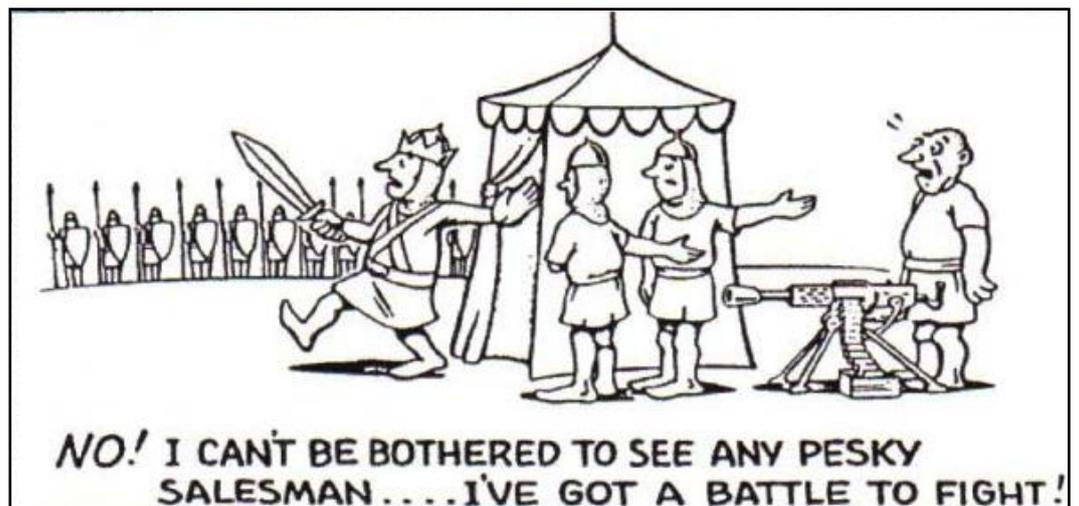
## Office Systems Update

**Since my report to the March Executive meeting, where we had been live on the new systems for just over a week, we have continued the development of the systems, including.....**

- Setting up and automating the running of monthly branch reports, including the branch receipts and membership reports, and membership files that get emailed to branches each month.
- Setting up routines for the invoicing of the Beaded Wheels subscribers every two months.
- Setting up the monthly accounting processing, reporting, and handling of the GST, for the IFHM event committee.
- Fine tuning the new financial reporting system and working with the auditors as they performed their annual audit review, using the outputs and reports from the new system.
- Tidied up a lot of vehicle data. We processed all the old Dating Committee cards into the system, and also some vehicles details found in spread sheets. We now have a single complete vehicle database in the new system. We checked for duplicate chassis and engine numbers and identified and removed some duplicates. All manually maintained spreadsheets used previously for reporting, have been replaced with proper reports from the new system, thus ensuring data completeness, accuracy and timeliness.
- Set up new bulk emailing system as we found that the original email system was inadequate for handling thousands of emails.

- Subscription invoices will soon be emailed to all members with an email address. We are able to make considerable staff time and cost savings using these modern methods, which were not possible in the old systems.
- In the process of simplifying the processes, and because we now have a proper debtors system, the Management Committee has dropped the prompt payment discount. So, the subscription you will be charged this year is the same amount as the previous discounted amount. The debtors system will allow National Office to send statements to overdue members in December, and in February, and those not paid by the March Executive meeting will then be struck off.
- We have streamlined the processes when a struck off member later pays, and requires reinstatement. There is no longer a need to complete a new application form nor involve the Branch.
- In the last two weeks during the Covid Lock-Up, the processes for entering Vehicle ID Card applications, scanning the documents, emailing the parties, and printing some of the documents have been significantly streamlined. As have the ways we store the scanned documents, and back them up.
- After the successful vote for on line membership applications, we will deploy the first on line membership application form extension to the Club website, later this year. This is in development now.

**Murray Trounson**





From the South Island Club Captain

The current situation has been alarming to say the least. It is a shame that our National Day had to be cancelled by some branches but I am hopeful that the remaining branches who have opted to postpone will have the opportunity to run this event successfully, albeit at different timing.

There is an idea around Covid that we cannot do events at all but as Kiwis we have the ability to adapt to our surroundings, we just need to do things a bit smarter. With this in mind the organisers of the National Veteran Rally to be held in Cromwell in October are quietly confident that in eight weeks time they will be going ahead. If restrictions linger to the point that a normal rally can't happen with the use of a restaurant, then plan B will kick in and something more simple will happen.

A number of popular events in the South Island are coming up in the next few months, events that allow quite a few branches in the neighbourhood to join together and continue our clubs friendship and comradery, events that have been favourites for many years.

I would hate to think that some thought can't be had in relation to how these can be run safely with reduced contact for the enjoyment of all. Maybe without the after-match function or worst case scenario limited numbers to suit a venue but I would encourage event committees to think outside the square as there is much sanity to be gained by a touch of normality.

With the ability to get vaccinated against this virus we have the chance to have a normal life like before and also the ability to keep each other safe.

A big thankyou to all of you who are working tirelessly to keep our country running in such trying times with the hope that we will lead the world again in staying ahead of this threat.

**Alon Mayhew**



## 'My Two Pence'

From the North Island Club Captain

Greetings Members from the sunny Bay of Plenty. We have now been in lockdown now for a couple of weeks, and to say the least, isn't it a 'bummer?' Cooped up inside. Queues for Covid tests and vaccines... and a struggle to find something decent to watch on Netflix.

I have to say, we older New Zealanders are a pretty resilient bunch. I know many of you will be taking all of this in your stride, but even so, now is the opportune time to pick up the phone for a chat. Call a fellow member, or two for a chat, especially our members who are alone in their own bubble. On a more positive note, there are a few things I would like to bring to your attention.

## National Day

Cancelling this event for the second year in a row has been gut-wrenching.

Particularly so because all the stars were aligned in our favour. Our National Branch participation this year was more than brilliant, with over 95% of you who had planned something, whether it was a static display, a run, or a rally, your enthusiasm and energy for this event was electric!

Additionally, the Cancer Society had set up a specific VCC online portal to receive online donations. And then on the eleventh hour, the rug was pulled from under us! Subsequently, many of our Branch Coordinators have been in touch, to offer their ideas on alternatives to how we could possibly resurrect our special day, to a later date, and not let 2021 pass us by.

Please be assured, your pot-pouri of suggestions has not gone unnoticed, and are currently being considered, as we too, don't want to lose the momentum of our organisation getting the opportunity to showcase ourselves, and our



wonderful Veteran, Vintage and Classic machines, to the wider New Zealand public.

When we are confident that the country will move to Level 2, you will be advised **if** there is an alternative plan.

In the meantime, please keep spreading the word of the Cancer Society VCC online donation page, share the magic link: [HTTPS://DAFFODILDAY.ORG.NZ/VINTAGECARCLUB/](https://DAFFODILDAY.ORG.NZ/VINTAGECARCLUB/)

This link will remain until the end of October

## The NICC Tour 2021

Another disappointments. Unfortunately, we had no choice, but to cancel the starting date of this event of the 9 September, as the restrictions in place at Level 3 just wouldn't allow us to leave our regions. We have offered to the entrants a postponement date of the end of November.

## A Highland Fling Movie

A reminder that a 60-minute professional movie has been produced of the 2021 BOP Branch 'Inaugural Highland Fling Rally.' I can assure you that showing this movie at one of your monthly club nights will not disappoint, it makes entertaining viewing, and showcases a great variety of vintage autos, and motoring! The cost to purchase this movie is \$20, if you are interested just send me an email: [nicc@vcc.org.nz](mailto:nicc@vcc.org.nz).

## The Power of the Dog

Keep an eye out for this Jane Campion movie soon to be released into selected theatres, and Netflix on 1 December. The movie includes the following highlights of interest for VCC Members.

- Several South Island members driving their veteran autos
- One of the movie stars who has a minor part is, Paul Heron, Chairman of the Gore Branch
- BOP Member Murray Toms, Veteran Dodge, is showcased as the 'Hero's Car,' and as well,
- The Late Robin Dixon, a VCC member, had a collection of 67 cars that are about to go under the hammer at an auction on 25 September, three of his cars feature in this movie

Take care everyone in your respective bubbles, it won't be long now, before we are back out there again 'driving our history'.

**Kaaren Smylie**



## Branding

At the Executive meeting before the recent AGM, the delegates agreed to delay any vote on a new Logo after feedback received from Branches indicated that a lot of members were not aware of the proposed change and, while what had been put forward had merit, it still could do with some refining.

Part of our Strategic Plan adopted in 2015 highlighted the need for the Club to have a better public presence to help attract new like-minded car enthusiasts.

Since then a number of initiatives have been undertaken such as updating our website, creating an active Facebook page and our very successful National Day which promotes our Club throughout the country.

Feedback from people attending these events has highlighted that they don't know a lot about our Club or most importantly, that we cater for all vehicles that are 30 years old.

At the 2019 AGM in Greymouth the members and delegates directed the Management Committee to develop a new logo as the first part of a branding upgrade. A number of designs were created by a small design company however Covid-19 lockdown in 2020 delayed the process but the delegates at the March 2021 Executive Meeting had the opportunity to look at several variations of the logo. After discussion a list of changes were given to the design company who actioned these to come up with what has now been presented.

It would seem that a lot of the rationale behind this upgrade has been lost/forgotten since the 2019 AGM and the "logo change" has become the thing rather than part of a branding strategy.

As a Club we hold many different types of events throughout the country, such as a back-country run down shingle roads, a speed event held in conjunction with a major motor racing weekend, a motor bike rough run or a picnic trip to a place of interest. These events get noticed by the general

public and we should be taking every opportunity to advertise and promote ourselves. This is where branding is important.

It is not just our name, it is not just our logo, it is not just a single event that will bring us new members. It is having a consistent message across all that we do and across all the 36 branches throughout the country. A consistent message that is seen at all events and across all media that we produce so that we become instantly recognisable as a club that caters for any vehicle that is 30 years old and that we welcome anyone with an interest to join our fold.

The first part of our branding upgrade is our logo. A logo is not our name, it appears on magazines, letterhead, badges, stickers, apparel etc, usually alongside our name. For this reason the logo does not need to include our name. There is much debate about whether the word 'Vintage' in our name needs changing. For this reason it was decided that we should focus on VCC being on the logo.

Most of the time the logo appears smaller than a 20 cent piece so any text should be kept to a minimum.

The logo needs to represent all classes of vehicles we cater for from the late 1800's to 1991. While "the wings" are used on many vehicles throughout this period, do they represent a motoring club catering to such variety today?

Most importantly, the logo must have a tag line that is simple, catchy and instantly recognisable as being what we are about as a club.

After considering many options, we have put forward "Driving our history" to be our tag line. This is a play on words and indicates that we are driving the protection of historic vehicles in NZ as well as using them. This will become more and more important to us with the current drive against fossil fuelled vehicles.

**"It is not just our name, it is not just our logo, it is not just a single event that will bring us new members. It is having a consistent message across all that we do and across all the 36 branches throughout the country."**

## THE NEW DESIGN



## Elements of the design

- It has the letters 'VCC'
- It has the silver fern
- The stylised wheel was chosen as it is not specific to any age or type of vehicle
- It has the tag-line 'Driving our History'

## How it could be used:



## Where to from here:

As mentioned above this logo still needs refining. We are working on a second draft of this now and hope to have it available soon.

The management committee is happy to undertake presentations around the country to branches that are interested so please contact us to arrange.

The amended logo will go to vote at the March Executive meeting.

In the meantime, as soon as you're allowed, get out and enjoy New Zealand in your favourite vehicle and help our businesses and the economy recover. Remember, buying locally is the key to having services retained and available when you need them. Thank you once again to those who have kept in touch with older members of your clubs, or those living alone. We hope many of you have managed to spend some time working on your vehicle tasks.

**George Kear**