

The Hornblower



OCTOBER 2014



Vintage Sports Car Club



Vintage Sports Car Club

P O Box 11709, Dorpspruit, Pietermaritzburg 3206

"Forward into the Past"

This is the newsletter of the Vintage Sports Car Club. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily represent those of the Committee, the Editor, or of the Club.

Regular gatherings are held at the Clubhouse, Oribi Road, Pietermaritzburg, and as per the schedule of events published in this newsletter.

Visitors are welcome in the care of a Member and should be signed on by that Member.

On Bonnets-Up and Club Open Days, parking in front of the Clubhouse is reserved for Club Qualifying Vehicles Only, and you are requested to park modern vehicles behind the Clubhouse.

Office Bearers: 2014/2015

Trustees Peter Houston, Fred Rascher and Grenville Manton

Club President Clyde Wyatt

Committee and Portfolio Holders

<i>Chairman</i>	Junior Fouche	076 095 0449
<i>Vice Chairman</i>	Ron Richmond	082 859 6376
<i>Treasurer</i>	John Wilsworth	081 840 9619
<i>Secretary</i>	Janice McKenzie	084 557 7259
<i>SAVVA Delegate</i>	Ron Richmond	082 859 6376
<i>Clubhouse</i>	Norma and Norman Crouch	033 386 2751
<i>Spares</i>	Johan Viljoen	072 750 1255
<i>Spares Assistant</i>	Donne Townsend	033 346 0169
<i>Klink</i>	Tony Fourie	082 823 8833
<i>Newsletter</i>	Gillian Richmond	083 253 9762
<i>Cars in the Park</i>	Carl Habermann	082 447 3355
<i>Motorcycles</i>	Wayne Westwood	082 575 3027
<i>Events</i>	Charmaine Grayson	083 674 5540
<i>Library</i>	Vacant	

VSCC eMail:

Newsletter eMail: gillian2@telkomsa.net

Website: www.VSCC.co.za.

Affiliated to SAVVA

SAVVA Website: www.savva.org.za

EDITORIAL

The year is moving on and it is October already. Last month we had motorcycle day and we got a lovely collection of bikes on display as well as a good crowd of visitors. The National Blood Transfusion Service were on hand to take donations. I hope they managed to make their target number of units.

This month's bonnets up is Italian car day. This is also usually a day with a good turnout from visiting clubs. Let's give our visitors another rousing welcome.

In this month's newsletter I have the promised motorcycle rally report as well as a report on the Rendezvous Rally which a few of our club members attended. From the report it sounds like they had a wonderful time.

There is also a bumper selection of car jokes for your entertainment. I need to get down and do a few more research articles. I have some planned that should make for interesting reading.

Till next time...

Gillian

Short items of interest are always wanted for inclusion in our newsletter (max between one half and two pages) Contact Gillian at gillian2@telkomsa.net

ON THE COVER

Ron Richmond's 1948 and 1946 Velocette's that were on display at bonnets up.

INDEMNIFICATION

Members, guests, visitors and any other persons' attention is drawn to Indemnity requirements in the VSCC Constitution and posted in the VSCC Clubhouse bar and main hall.

SAVVA collector's vehicle insurance scheme

For Full comprehensive cover

Contact person - Glenn Broadhurst or Madelene Wiese at FNB Insurance Brokers

Phone - 087 736 2222

Fax - 011 699 0783

E-mail- madelene.wiese@fnb.co.za

MEMBERSHIP

Subscriptions 2013/2014 Club Year (based on Membership type & due 1 July).

Full Member	R230 including SAVVA fee
Full member plus spouse/partner	R290 including SAVVA fees
Country Member	R210 including SAVVA fee
Country Member plus spouse/partner	R260 including SAVVA fees
Associate Member*	R125 excluding SAVVA fee
Associate Member plus spouse/partner	R170 excluding SAVVA fees

* Applicable to members of another club and awarded at the committee's discretion.

New applications for Membership include an indemnity that is valid for Life.

Life Member (Principal) Newsletter postage *	R65 + R20 SAVVA fees
Life Member (Principal) Newsletter e-mail *	R20 SAVVA fees
Life Member (Principal and Associate – Spouse/Partner) *	R90 + R20 SAVVA fees
Honorary and Honorary Life Membership *	Free.

*** Awarded at Committee discretion.**

There is a once off entrance fee of R100 on application for membership.
A charge of R120 will be levied for posted newsletters.

~~~~~  
**Banking Details:** Account name – Vintage Sports Car Club: Bank – Nedbank:  
Branch - Hayfields: Branch Number – 13 40 25: Account number – 13 40 505 339:  
**Always include member's name on the deposit slip.**

**REGALIA:** The club has caps, of the "one size fits all" type, embroidered with the VSCC logo, available for sale at **R45** each. See the 'Klink' attendant, for your Requirements.

**VISITORS:** Visitors are welcome, but as we are licensed, please ensure that your guests are 'signed on' in the visitors register. This gives them temporary membership status, and entitles them to make purchases from the bar.

## CLUB TIMETABLE

### Every Friday night: 'Klink'

**October 3<sup>rd</sup>. 10<sup>th</sup>. 17<sup>th</sup>. 24<sup>th</sup>. 31<sup>st</sup>. November 7<sup>th</sup>. 14<sup>th</sup>. 21<sup>st</sup>. 28<sup>th</sup>.**

The AIR-CONDITIONED 'Klink' will be open from 17h30 until 21h00. Braai fires will be provided, and you are invited to bring your own braai meat and/or salads to enjoy at the Club..

### Second Saturday of every month: 'Bonnets Up' / Club Open Day:

From around 12 noon until then '**The Klink**' will be open, plus the availability of either boerewors rolls, hamburgers or an alternative being made available for purchase.

**Don't forget**, tea/coffee, pancakes and/or other goodies are a regular option.

**The Library** and **Spares Department** will also be open.

**Third Sunday of every Month; Regular Club Outing. Motorcycles are most welcome at this run.**

(Happens the weekend following after bonnets Up which becomes 4<sup>th</sup> weekend if 1<sup>st</sup> falls on a Sunday

## PAST EVENTS

### September

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September: VSCC Bonnets up / Open Day.** Motorcycles. Due to the large attendance of motorcycles on this day, please do not park any cars in the front yard.

*12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> September: Rendezvous Tour*

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September: Regular Club Outing.** 9.30am--- Breakfast run to the Hopwood farm at Ashburton ( Hennie Kritzinger ) at a cost of R50 per person.

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September: Sunday lunch at the Clubhouse.** 1PM at the VSCC Clubhouse. R65 per person. View the menu on page 12.

## COMING VSCC AND OTHER CLUB EVENTS

**RED BOLD - Depicts VSCC Club Events**      *ITALIC - Depicts other Events*

### October

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October: VSCC Bonnets up / Open Day.** Italian Cars

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October: Regular Club Outing.** To be announced

### November

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> November: VSCC Bonnets up / Open Day.** Ford Day

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> November: Regular Club Outing.** To be announced

## **Bonnets up Events 2014**

|                  |                                  |
|------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>JANUARY</b>   | <b>EUROPEAN CARS</b>             |
| <b>FEBRUARY</b>  | <b>AMERICAN CARS</b>             |
| <b>MARCH</b>     | <b>SPORTS CARS</b>               |
| <b>APRIL</b>     | <b>NO THEME</b>                  |
| <b>MAY</b>       | <b>NO THEME</b>                  |
| <b>JUNE</b>      | <b>NO THEME</b>                  |
| <b>JULY</b>      | <b>HOBBIES DAY AND BOOT SALE</b> |
| <b>AUGUST</b>    | <b>AGM / NO THEME</b>            |
| <b>SEPTEMBER</b> | <b>MOTORCYCLES</b>               |
| <b>OCTOBER</b>   | <b>ITALIAN CARS</b>              |
| <b>NOVEMBER</b>  | <b>FORD DAY</b>                  |
| <b>DECEMBER</b>  | <b>NO THEME</b>                  |

Please note that all cars/bikes are welcome regardless of the theme

# CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

## New Members

We have no new members for introduction this month.

## Spares Department

**Note to non-local enthusiasts.** Please be advised, we work on a select-yourself system and are unable to take orders or arrange delivery. It is advisable to bring a sample, as not all parts are identified.

The spares department is currently under reconstruction, and it is temporarily closed for business. Apologies for any inconvenience.

## Hoist

The rules for the use of the hoist are as follows:

1. The members use the hoist entirely at their own risk.
2. Members using the hoist must remove all old oils, fluids and cleaning materials from the site after they have finished and leave the site in a clean and tidy condition.
3. Members wanting to use the hoist should contact Rodney Davidson at 033-3964471 to arrange a date and time.
4. The cost will be R20.00 per lift for VSCC members and R40 per lift for non members

## Hire of Club Hall

If members wish to hire the club hall please could the form on the adjacent page be completed and handed in. Copies of the form are also available at the Klink.

## Vehicles for hire

The following members are willing to hire out their cars for weddings and other such occasions.

Mike Westray      072 244 4272

[mikewestray@gmail.com](mailto:mikewestray@gmail.com)

Robin Phipson    033-345 0061

[hipson@wandata.com](mailto:hipson@wandata.com)

Saxon Murray.

Tony Psaila (1937 Cadillac)

[tonytractor@tpstorage.co.za](mailto:tonytractor@tpstorage.co.za)



# VINTAGE SPORTS CAR CLUB

PIETERMARITZBURG

P O BOX 11709, DORPSPRUIT, 3206, KWAZULU-NATAL

*"Forward into the Past"*

## APPLICATION FOR USE OF THE HALL

To the Chairman:

Date:.....

Club member responsible for the function:.....

Date of function:...../...../..... Nature of function:..... No of guests:.....

Applicant:..... Land line:.....

Cell:..... Email: .....

Expected time to start:..... Expected time to finish:.....

Hire charge will be R500 and there will be a charge for breakages if incurred.

Will bar facilities be required? Yes No

Please note that the cost of staffing the bar is a private arrangement between the hirer and the barman. Requests for stock not normally carried must be made directly to the barman.

As there is a security system in place, the responsible club member must arrange for the opening and closing of the hall.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the indemnity notices on display in the clubhouse and it is a condition of this application that the hirer accepts these limitations.

Applicant's signature:.....

Date approved by the committee:.....

Chairman:.....

Cc: Treasurer  
Barman



THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN VETERAN & VINTAGE  
ASSOCIATION

**SAVVA Technical Tip 90 – Refurbishing Bakelite**

Many cars from the late 1940's and into the 60's have Bakelite components; especially dash board and window trim items. Unfortunately, over the years Bakelite takes on a dull unhappy appearance. The question is how do we refurbish it without damaging the original lustre (antique dealers call it patina).

I had this problem and was given the following advice from a restorer of early radios. You may recall radio cabinets from the 30's and early 40's were made of wood then from the 40's into the 50's were made of Bakelite. Bakelite was subsequently replaced by more modern plastic. Incidentally, Bakelite radios, telephones etc have become highly collectable. Bakelite is a brittle product and if broken extremely difficult, if not impossible to repair.

Here is what I was told to do – Firstly, clean all the old junk off by washing with a good solvent like Handy Andy. Then using water, lightly sand it down with a very fine water (flattening) paper. I used 1200 then 1800. Once the old dry powdery surface is removed, dry it and polish it with good old Nugget shoe polish. You may have to repeat the polishing sequence a few times as the polish is initially absorbed into the Bakelite. Buff with a soft cloth and Walla a really nice original looking finish.

One day a lady was driving on the Highway. She frequently checked her speed gauge to make sure she stayed within the speed limit. However, when she looked into her rear mirror, much to her dismay, she saw a police car not far behind! And, to make matters worse, the police car turned on his flashing lights. She thought to herself, "Uh-oh, what have I done now? I'm not speeding. I'm not drinking. I have my seat belt on! I have kept up my license dues and everything!"

So, she pulled over and the police car pulled over to the side right behind her car. She drove her car slowly to a stop, slowly rolled down the window, and prepared for a ticket when she knew she didn't deserve it. A policeman walked up to her window, and spoke to her. The lady pointed to her ear and shook her head, meaning she was deaf. The policeman smiled slightly, and knowing sign language, signed back, "I know. I'm here to tell you that your horn is stuck."

## SERVICES

*The VSCC is not responsible for the quality of the services provided by the above service providers.*

- **PMB Carburettor Centre:** Contact Robin on 033-3450061 for all carb and distributor spares and repairs back to about 1920. If they haven't got it, they can usually make it, or import it. Proper computerised gas flow rig also available for test/development purposes for anything through which gasses or liquids flow.
- **Silver Wings:** For silver plating and expert welding, soldering and brazing repairs. Polishing of brass, copper, aluminium and stainless steel. Contact Robin or Sue on 033-3453650.
- **Magneto Repairs:** Offered by Rod Thomas of Waterfall. He can be contacted on 031-762 1509 or 073-365 6494
- **Gearbox Shoppe:** Gearbox and diff specialists. 14 MacFarlane Street, PMB. Contact Graham Keir. Phone 033-3427543 / Fax 033 -3450479 / Cell 0828938782.
- **Silverton radiators.** Radiators, auto air-conditioning and fuel tanks - sales, service and repairs. 299 Boom Street, Pietermaritzburg. 033 3422604.
- **Piston rings** of any size made up to suit your engine. – H.W.Godwin & Son. Phone: 011-622 2546. Speak to Andrew or David.
- **Peter Malherbe** does very good job of making up brake hoses - any type. Phone 082 682 8142
- **Colour restoration** and repair of leather – vinyl – plastic – velour, and carpets. Contact: Sonette van Niekerk. 033 330 3352.
- **Wood burnt Art:** Commissions undertaken, portraiture, ethnic, plus the Big 5 Showroom: 524 Bulwer Street, Pietermaritzburg. Tel: (033) 342 2513
- **Old car engine Spares.** "If it's available I'll find it for you." Telephone Lionel on 072 146 9543. Cape Town.
- **B-Secure:** For your alarm and security needs contact B-Secure on (033) 3424 222.

Do you know why Turtle Wax is so expensive?  
Because turtles have really tiny ears.

## FOR SALE

- \*\*\*1961 Peugeot bakkie Licensed and running . This is a very rare vehicle in SA as it was never available here. Also a big selection of old tools . Tins of bolts and nuts many sizes including BSW and AF and carriage bolts. Many other workshop sundries and plumbers tools.  
Call Allen at 033 342 68 99 he is at 54 Walter Short Road .

- \*\*\*A gentleman has handed in this car badge to us to sell for him at our next flea market (see picture). Before we dispose of it - is it of any interest to any Natal club members? He said that Mike Milner-Smythe gave it to him jonks ago. He wants R250.00 for it.

Eric Mc Q

[eric@anatomical.co.za](mailto:eric@anatomical.co.za)



- \*\*Kevard sports car. Body and chassis in very good condition. Needs BMW 325i running gear. Price R40000 onco. Available in Howick KZN.  
Citroen approximately 1950 front wheel drive. Needs restoring, good body, most spares plus manual available (list of spares available on request). Available in Howick KZN. Price R40000 onco.  
Contact Basil Speed on 033 3307713 or 0764060408 or E-mail [magandbas@telkomsa.net](mailto:magandbas@telkomsa.net)
- \*\*1964 Renault Caravelle Convertible – Rear Engine – 1100. Original condition except rims, Hard Top.  
According to the current owner there are only 12 on the road in SA.  
Selling at R115 000. For more info call us or come view the car.  
We have more photos if you wish to view.  
Contact Renato on Tel:031 7643414 or Email: [marketing@car-go.co.za](mailto:marketing@car-go.co.za)
- \*\*1981 BMW R100 motorcycle, in good running order. Contact Bryan Parsons @ [bap48@hotmail.co.za](mailto:bap48@hotmail.co.za)
- \*Jaguar XJ6 1972 4.2 licenced. In daily use and good condition. R33000 .contact lan 0832657938
- \*Overlocker sewing machine, Empisal model 437D, working order – as new. R500-00. Phone ; 033 344 1943 / 082 859 6376
- \*Gedore combination spanner sets and hand tools eg. Vicegrips, pliers etc. Crescent shifters from 18” to 2” set all in almost new condition.  
Phone 031 701 2176 or 083 788 7434 or email [budventer@gmail.com](mailto:budventer@gmail.com).

## A womans embarrassing first date

She said it was midwinter...Snowing and quite cold... and the guy had taken her skiing in the mountains outside Salt Lake City , Utah .

It was a day trip (no overnight). They were strangers, after all, and had never met before. The outing was fun but relatively uneventful until they were headed home late that afternoon.

They were driving back down the mountain, when she gradually began to realize that she should not have had that extra latte. !! They were about an hour away from anywhere with a rest room and in the middle of nowhere! Her companion suggested she try to hold it, which she did for a while. Unfortunately, because of the heavy snow and slow going, there came a point here she told him that he had better stop and let her go beside the road, or it would be the front seat of his car.

They stopped and she quickly crawled out beside the car, yanked her pants down and started. In the deep snow she didn't have good footing, so she let her butt rest against the rear fender to steady herself. Her companion stood on the side of the car watching for traffic and indeed was a real gentleman and refrained from peeking.

All she could think about was the relief she felt despite the rather embarrassing nature of the situation.

Upon finishing however, she soon became aware of another sensation. As she bent to pull up her pants, the young lady discovered her buttocks were firmly glued against the car's fender. Thoughts of tongues frozen to poles immediately came to mind as she attempted to disengage her flesh from the icy metal.. It was quickly apparent that she had a brand new problem, due to the extreme cold.

Horrified by her plight and yet aware of the humor of the moment, she answered her date's concerns about ' what is taking so long' with a reply that indeed, she was 'freezing her butt off' and in need of some assistance! He came around the car as she tried to cover herself with her sweater and then, as she looked imploringly into his eyes, he burst out laughing. She too, got the giggles and when they finally managed to compose themselves, they assessed her dilemma. Obviously, as hysterical as the situation was, they also were faced with a real problem.

Both agreed it would take something hot to free her chilly cheeks from the grip of the icy metal! Thinking about what had gotten her into the predicament in the first place, both quickly realized that there was only one way to get her free. So, as she looked the other way, her first time date proceeded to unzip his pants and pee her butt off the fender.



# Bike Chatter

## Swazi Rally

**Friday:** After months of talking about it we were at last all parked at KFC at 05:30 on Friday morning ready to ride the 650km to the Swazi Rally. The morning air was cold and while sipping our coffee we were all finding ways to get warmer. Some of us even putting rubber latex gloves over our riding gloves. We left KFC just after 6am and headed for our 1<sup>st</sup> stop on the N2 to meet Lein from Toti. After more coffee the next stop was at Umhlali to meet up with Sam (Krish's friend).

We stopped for breakfast at Empangeni. This stop was too long and I knew that if we did not get a move on we would be setting up camp in the dark .... or even worse riding in Swaziland in the dark.

From then on we tried to keep the pace up a little and got to the Swazi border about 2pm. We spent about one and a half hours at the border standing in queue's and filling out all the necessary paper work to import our bikes , backup vehicle ,and trailer into Swaziland for 2 days.

We were lead to believe we would be able to get petrol at the border but only found a petrol station with no petrol. Luckily Adrian had 20l of petrol in the backup vehicle and this was shared between the three bikes that needed it. The original plan was to take the road to Big Bend but as we were running late we took the short rout to Nhlangano (T-Junction) where we were able to get petrol. From then on we went through some scenic passes with plenty of twisties to play on.

Lein was very lucky as he hit a dog on one of the corners. Both of the wheels of his BMW went over the dog and he came out the other side a little shaken but with no damage to himself or the bike. We rode to the rally site with the sun setting in our eyes and by the time the tents were up and we opened the first bottle of cool drink (??) the sun was gone. That night we enjoyed a few drinks in the bar. The well-known Clint & Co played the music and by 9pm we were all tucked up in bed.

**Saturday:** The Boys left to come home and the Men stayed behind. A few of us did the mass ride. We watched Drag racing and the Swazi drifting club put on an excellent demonstration of drifting for us. The first time I have seen this at a bike rally. This track was built especially for this rally and had never been used before. There were also the usual biker games taking place like the slow races and egg and spoon races. Saturday night we took it a little easy as we had a long ride home the next day. Richard offered to stand in the hall with all out tickets to see if any of us could win the R20 000 Rand on offer. No such luck and we were in bed by 9pm.

**Sunday:** We packed up camp and were on the road by 7am. The weather was cold and windy. We had a wonderful ride back to the border. All was going well, until at the border they entered my bike registration into their system wrong and this came

up as a stolen vehicle. Of course they said nothing to me and just put their whole stolen vehicle procedure into operation. By now I was the only one there and all the other riders had gone and were waiting for me back in South Africa. My Passport and Drivers licence were taken and photo copied. When I asked what was going on they told me my vehicle had been reported stolen? They then realized their mistake and were very sorry, but I then had to go to the police station at the border and sort out the mess.

Back in South Africa ..... WIND, WIND and more WIND.... all the way along the N2, Soutie enjoyed it the most of all of us. We said goodbye to Sam at Umhlali, Lein while on the move at Spaghetti Junction and we were all back at KFC by 4pm.

From my side a big thank you to all that made this trip possible and for the time I spent with all that went along. We really had a good weekend and I will do it again. To Adrian and Richard thanks for the back-up vehicle. Made things a lot easier for us all. Until we Ride again.

*Stephen Peate*

Dear Dad

Berlin is wonderful, people are nice and I really like it here, but Dad, I am a bit ashamed to arrive at my college with my pure-gold Ferrari 599GTB when all my teachers and many fellow students travel by train.

Your son, Nasser

**The next day, Nasser gets a reply to his e-mail from his dad:**

My dear loving son

Twenty million US Dollar has just been transferred to your account. Please stop embarrassing us. Go and get yourself a train too.

Love, your Dad

Son had just received his brand new drivers license. The family troops out to the driveway, and climbs in the car, where he is going to take them for a ride for the first time. Dad immediately heads for the back seat, directly behind the newly minted driver.

"I'll bet you're back there to get a change of scenery after all those months of sitting in the front passenger seat teaching me how to drive," says the beaming boy to his father.

"Nope," comes dad's reply, "I'm gonna sit here and kick the back of your seat as you drive, just like you've been doing to me all these years."

A blonde with an older Volkswagen Beetle pulls over on the side of the highway as her car stalls. She doesn't know much about cars but decides to pop the hood to see what the problem is. At this time, another blonde pulls up behind her in another Beetle. the second blonde asks what the problem is and the first blonde says "Someone stole my engine!". The second blonde goes back to her car and says "I just checked my trunk, I've got a spare you can use"

.....

A not-too-bright but beautiful blonde was driving home one night when she was caught in a terrible storm. The hailstones were as big as golf balls, and her car was dented badly.

Next day at the auto shop, a repairman decided to have a little fun at her expense. "To fix the dents in the body," he said, "drive home, park the car, and when the tailpipe is cool, get down on your knees and blow really hard into the tailpipe, and the dents will pop out.

Later, a girlfriend of the blonde is driving by and sees her friend on her knees, blowing hard into the tailpipe. She asks what's going on and is told the story. The girlfriend laughs. "Well, duhhh! You need to roll up the windows first, silly!"

.....

A man is sitting on the road-side looking unhappy. A passer-by sees his glum face and asks what the problem is. 'I've locked myself out of my car,' replies the man. 'No problem,' replies the passer- by. 'Let me try rubbing my backside on the door.' The motorist is perplexed but reckons there's no harm in letting the man try. The passer- by puts his bum to the car and slowly rubs it up and down the door. Suddenly, the lock clicks open. 'That's amazing!' says the motorist. 'How did you do it?' 'Easy,' replies the passer-by. 'I'm wearing khaki trousers.'

.....

Harry and Bob are out in their car. They park, get out, and shut the doors when Harry realises that they've locked themselves out. Bob says, 'We can get a coat hanger and try to unlock the door.' Harry says, 'Or perhaps we could try to prise the door open.' 'Well, whatever we do, we'd better hurry,' says Bob. 'A storm's coming and the top's still down.'

.....



## 2014 FREESTATE RENDEZVOUS

A contingent of five vehicles set off from the meeting point at Howick North/Tweedie offramp on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September, to represent the VSCC at the 2014 Claudi van Rooyen Memorial Rendezvous Tour. This year the event was held in Ladybrand and because of the greater distance, it was decided to take an extra day and stay overnight in Fouriesburg on the Wednesday.

The participants were: Fred & Aisne Rascher (1957 Rover P4 90), Len & Claire Slater (1961 Cadillac Coupe de Ville), Martin Schofield & Charmaine Ahrens (1972 Lancia Fulvia), Trevor & Val Lewis (1970 Ferrari 365 GT Coupé) and Clyde & Rose Wyatt (1958 Rover P4 90). Unfortunately, Fred's Rover started overheating and they had to turn back at Nottingham Road and return home to swop vehicles. After a quick change and fuel stop, they managed to catch up with us in time for lunch. This time they were in the Jaguar which, being a modern vehicle, could not participate in the competitive event. However, they still followed the route of the rally, with Fred acting as SAVVA steward.

Having stopped for fuel and a tea break at Montrose, we travelled via Harrismith and Bethlehem. On this route there was a long stretch of roadworks, with no overtaking allowed, which slowed us down somewhat. Arriving at Fouriesburg, Clyde noticed that the Lewis's Ferrari had a puncture, and stopped to help change the tyre. Unfortunately, it proved to be more than just a puncture, as the rim had a long split – probably caused by one of the many potholes we had to negotiate.

Our stop for lunch and overnight was at Wyndford Holiday Farm, just outside Fouriesburg, where we had a pleasant stay in beautiful surroundings and enjoyed their delicious meals. The next morning we stopped in Ficksburg for the Ferrari tyre to be changed and then headed off to Ladybrand. Our accommodation there was in Cranberry Lodge, where most of us stayed across the road in a house belonging to the establishment.

Registration and scrutineering took place on Friday morning, and the rally started after a light lunch. The route was a straightforward run to Ficksburg and back, with a stop for tea & pancakes, with cherry icecream, at a lovely farm stall specialising in cherry products. The trick, as always, was maintaining correct speeds so as to pass marshalls at precise times.

At dinner that evening we were chuffed to see on the results board that we (Clyde & Rose) had come in 5<sup>th</sup>, with 103 seconds error, and the Lewises came 8<sup>th</sup>.

On Saturday, the rally route took us to Tweespruit, where we had a tea stop, then on past Hobhouse to Wepener. Here we had lunch at Lord Fraser Guest House, a magnificent old sandstone building. After taking a look around the house and gardens, we took a drive around the town to see the beautiful old sandstone Dutch Reformed Church and the historic Town Hall, which was looking very neglected, part of it having been destroyed by fire.

The return route was direct back to Ladybrand, with a tricky finish at the entrance to the town, which had some of us taking the wrong glide-off. Fortunately we still passed the marshall and did not lose maximum points!

The Slaters somehow took the wrong direction out of Wepener and finally realised they were heading for Bloemfontein. After a call to the rally officials, they were put back on track and arrived back at Ladybrand a couple of hours after the rest of us, having enjoyed some scenery that the rest of us missed.

At the prize-giving dinner on Saturday evening, Martin was delighted to be awarded a trophy for best vehicle in the post 1960 category – well deserved, as he had prepared it well and was hoping for some recognition.

There were no other trophies for the VSCC group, but we (the Wyatts) were very pleased to finish in 6<sup>th</sup> place overall – our best result ever – with 203 seconds error over the 1½ days. The Lewises came 7<sup>th</sup> (215 error), and the Schofields 13<sup>th</sup> (595 error).

At the dinner, Clyde & Fred managed to raise some laughter with a skit where Fred had an invisible dog on a leash and Clyde made noises of a dog yelping as he yanked the chain for misbehaviour! After that Clyde played some tunes on his mouth-organ. (This has become a tradition and he's always invited to do so by the organisers.) Some of the other guests joined in with singing and the musical interlude was most enjoyable.

We returned home on Sunday via Clarens and Golden Gate, travelling individually and not in convoy, with the Lewises leading the pack before 7am. It was sad to see huge areas burnt black from recent serious fires, but fortunately this time the national park appeared to have escaped the devastation.

As usual, this was a thoroughly enjoyable event. It is always good to meet up with old friends, see their beautifully restored vehicles and enjoy the companionship of others with the same interests. We are grateful to the VSCC for sponsorship towards participation in such rallies and only wish that more members became involved and joined us on these events. They can be quite challenging, but practice makes perfect!

Clyde was very happy with the Rover's performance, which was faultless, and she averaged 11L/100km (±23,5mpg).

There was a good selection of vehicles on the rally, including: Cortina GT, Ford Model A, Alfa Spider, Peugeot 403, MGA, two MGB GT, Ford Capri, S-type Jaguar, Austin Healey Sprite, Porsche 911 S, VW Beetle, 190 SL Mercedes, DKW, two Citroen Light 15, Triumph Stag, Chevrolet Fleetline. In all 23 vehicles registered, of which two did not arrive and two had to withdraw due to mechanical problems.

*Rose Wyatt*

*There are some photos on the next page from the rally*



# MARQUES THROUGH THE AGES

## DELOREAN

DeLorean Motor Company was formed in 1975 by John DeLorean in Detroit, Michigan in the USA.

John DeLorean was an engineer in General Motors. To establish the company he obtained financing from the Bank of America as well as several investments by other individuals. The manufacturing facilities were built using financing from government and economic organisation incentives. This led to the first factory being built in the Republic of Ireland as unemployment was very high and the Northern Ireland Industrial Development Board made an offer. About \$120 million in capital was also raised from the British Government.

Production began in 1979. The company only ever produced a single model. It was the DeLorean DMC-12 sports car. It was produced with the American market being the target market. The car was a little unusual with Gull-wing doors, and a fibreglass "underbody" with brushed stainless steel body panels.

During development of the car it almost required a complete re-engineering. Colin Chapman of Lotus was called in to take care of the problem. As a result the DeLorean has similar specs to that of the Lotus cars. Only a few more than a dozen cars were built on a right hand side basis.

It was not particularly successful as a model and only about 9000 units were made. Company problems led to financial difficulties that hampered the transfer of the cars to the USA car market. As a result the car is relatively rare today. When the USA car market went into the worst slump in decades, the company went into liquidation in 1982.

John DeLorean assisted the financial decline with his expensive habits. He maintained expensive offices in New York and flew on the Concorde regularly. At the end it was found over \$17 million was siphoned out of the company.

In 1995 a Liverpool based company was created called "DeLorean Motor Company" and it acquired the remaining inventory and the Logo trademark of DeLorean. There is also a Texas based company called "DeLorean Motor Company" that supports owners of DeLorean cars, but has nothing to do with the original company.

The DeLorean car became famous when it was featured in the "Back to the Future" movies, modified into a time machine. In a recent report it was reported that Steve Wickenden, a hard core "Back to the Future" fan bought a DeLorean in 2010 and converted it into a replica of the movie model - neon lights, smoke, lights and flux capacitor included. The car is street legal and is used as the family run about. It attracts a lot of attention. It is used for wedding transport and fund raising. He is not the only fan who has gone to lengths to convert their cars in this way.

This article was written with reference to Wikipedia and "The Encyclopedia of Cars" by Peter Henshaw.

*Gillian*

## TAILPIECE

Grandma is eighty-eight years old and still drives her own car. She writes to a friend:

The other day I went up to our local Christian book store and saw a 'Honk if you love Jesus' bumper sticker ..

I was feeling particularly sassy that day because I had just come from a thrilling choir performance, followed by a thunderous prayer meeting. So, I bought the sticker and put it on my bumper. Boy, am I glad I did; what an uplifting experience that followed.

I was stopped at a red light at a busy intersection, just lost in thought about the Lord and how good he is, and I didn't notice that the light had changed. It is a good thing someone else loves Jesus because if he hadn't honked, I'd never have noticed.

I found that lots of people love Jesus! While I was sitting there, the guy behind started honking like crazy, and then he leaned out of his window and screamed, 'For the love of God! Go! Go! Go! Jesus Christ, GO!' What an exuberant cheerleader he was for Jesus!

Everyone started honking!

I just leaned out my window and started waving and smiling at all those loving people. I even honked my horn a few times to share in the love! There must have been a man from Florida back there because I heard him yelling something about a sunny beach. I saw another guy waving in a funny way with only his middle finger stuck up in the air. I asked my young teenage grandson in the back seat what that meant. He said it was probably a Hawaiian good luck sign or something. Well, I have never met anyone from Hawaii, so I leaned out the window and gave him the good luck sign right back. My grandson burst out laughing. Why even he was enjoying this religious experience!!

A couple of the people were so caught up in the joy of the moment that they got out of their cars and started walking towards me. I bet they wanted to pray or ask what church I attended, but this is when I noticed the light had changed. So, grinning, I waved at all my brothers and sisters, and drove on through the intersection. I noticed that I was the only car that got through the intersection before the light changed again and felt kind of sad that I had to leave them after all the love we had shared. So I slowed the car down, leaned out the window and gave them all the Hawaiian good luck sign one last time as I drove away. Praise the Lord for such wonderful folks!!

---

**Drive Carefully! See You at the Club.**

---



P O Box 11709, Dorpspruit, Pietermaritzburg 3206  
VSCC Website: [www.VSCC.co.za](http://www.VSCC.co.za)  
VSCC eMail:  
Newsletter eMail: gillian2@telkomsa.net