

# October 2023 Newsletter



## GETTING INTO THE BLUE THEME

**Welcome to the Hibiscus Rodders Inc Newsletter. Please contact any Committee Member or the Newsletter Editor if you have anything to discuss or to submit for the next issue. All input is greatly appreciated. We take this opportunity to thank all those who do submit articles and ads for the newsletter and to welcome those new members to the Club. It is great to have you on board with us.**

# Club Contacts

## 2023/2024 Committee

President	Simon Bishop	0274963443
Vice President	Eric Heynen	021839135
Treasurer	Shari Woodward	0272903989
Secretary	Pam Williams	
Janice Ness	Official Scribe	
General Committee	Dave Swan	021614133
General Committee	Eric Heynen	021839135
General Committee	Grant Watson	021463120
General Committee	Cherie Walsh	0277108180
Sheriff	To be advised	
Club Newsletter	Dave Swan	021614133
NZHRA Rep	Grant Watson	021463120

### Beach Festival 2022-23 Contact:

Organiser Sharon Morris 027 457 8712 09 426 5520



### ***NOTICE***

***Anyone wishing to “dob” in or pass on a funny story about a fellow club member is asked to speak up on club nights.***

## **MONTHLY CLUB**

## **MEETING**

***OCTOBER 11<sup>th</sup>, HIBISCUS COAST RSA,  
starting around 7.30 pm.***

# ***Swannees Story***

Hi everyone, just as we have been in the club a while now thought I would give some of my experiences with motor racing and the Hibiscus Rodders.

First up, in my teens, a long time ago, me and my mates were into Stockcar and Saloon car racing. My first car was a 1951 LIP Vauxhall, and also a 1956 Chev, in my wisdom I swapped my nice little 60s vintage Mini, it was a great little car which I had spent a lot of money on, but, was talked into swapping it with the above cars, by Quick Quid Sid Goldsmith, who at the time had a car wreckers right opposite Waikaraka Park, looking back on that, was a bad decision, probably one of many back then.

Did a few meetings with the Vauxhall, but the Chev was sold, memory eludes me exactly how that came about, but didn't have a car to tow them, lol, but we did have a friend who lived just up Captain Springs Rd, by the shops, so, after the meetings were over we would just drive it up Neilson St and up to his unit, the LIP was a fun car, standard engine, 3 speed column change, went ok, but just wasn't competitive, never won a race in it and was lucky to come off the track without any damage because of inexperience with the racing, of course, and started to get too much damage, and as I was just on apprentice wages, this was a real problem. For the life of me I can't remember where and when this was sold.

Then, stockcar racing, I brought a flat chassis minus engine, surely wouldn't be too expensive or that hard to get on the track, mmm, my mate's father had an Armstrong Siddley that he was wrecking, had a cross flow six pack in it, wow, so, brought this, took an extremely long time to get it ready, just me and a couple of mates did all the work. This was when I was living over in White Swan Rd, Mt Roskill and my mate lived in Lynfield, just up from the shopping centre, so once we got this beast going, we took it down to the supermarket carpark, of course it is different now from then, and we had this car up and running around the carpark, no one stopped us and it was great fun.

We finally managed to get the car to the track, towed at the time by another LIP Vauxhall that was a great car as well, didn't have a trailer, used an A Frame to tow it, must have looked crazy going down the road, but we got away with it back then. But, big problem, even though we were allowed to have practice runs in it round the track, it was well and truly overweight, the engine was the problem too heavy, so that was that, sold it to the owner of North Shore Car Wreckers, and of course, lost heaps on that.

Many years go by and was made redundant in 1999, decided in my wisdom, again, to get back into stockcar racing, brought a complete car this time, with trailer, lots of parts and it had a 221 Ford V8 in it, not overly powerful. So got this car, did a load of work on it, like getting it sandblasted, along with the

trailer, painted it all by hand, red, of course, managed to get a couple of sponsors, which helped with the fiberglass body and engine work, even had an ex club member Karl Kadlac, who lived in Silverdale, get the engine up and running perfectly.

I did a couple of meetings in it, but starting racing at 50 with lots of bodily problems, decided it wasn't me, so had a friend drive it, I did most of the work, was able to back then, it was great fun, met loads of really great people, had heaps of good times, apart from when Mai FM had a contest going and one of the prizes was a drive of a stockcar, well, muggings me agreed to this, not realizing that the woman had never driven a manual car, tried to explain to her what to do, but, she drove around the track in first gear, ended up with smoke billowing out of it, she was finally black flagged, the engine was stuffed, I was absolutely gutted, I was a bit lucky that the club put in some cash for another engine, but finding a 221 Ford V8 engine was not that easy and had to settle for one that was not great, and it didn't last.

So I had to decide what to do with it, had a contact with one of the owners of the midgets, Jeff Harper, he had a workshop in Birkenhead, but I think he thought I was really rich as in 2002 after a bill of over \$10,000, and still going, on just the engine, a V6 Commodore, had to pull the plug on it and it just wasn't quite finished, but was driveable. It definitely went well, the engineering that he put into it was really very ingenious, converted it from fuel injected to a carby, and got rid of all the electronics and put a distributor in it running a cambelt off the main engine pulley. Never seen it done to any other stockcars.

Around this time had a marriage break up and met my lovely Barbara, she was really interested in the stock and saloon racing, and between us decided that she wanted to have a go at demolition derby racing.

We got a car, but didn't last long, the next one I brought a Falcon station wagon, we stripped the car out, got it ready for racing, but, the inexperience came into it again, with autos, once you get a crash in the front and you lose all the fluids, you don't get any drive, mmm, definitely a learning experience.

But, we were lucky to get another race ready Falcon car to use for a caravan demolition derby, and low and behold, Barbara was the first lady to win the caravan derby at the park, what a great night. We also had a streetstock, a quality HQ Holden, but found that to be even more expensive, so sold everything up and as we were both petrolheads we were still interested in automotive things, we were looking through Trade Me ads and there it was, our car, it just stood out for us, asked lots of questions about it, and as it so happened it had been featured in the Hot Rod magazine some years back, so, we decided to go and see it, in Wellington, Wainuomata.

We went down on the Saturday, in Barbara's MX5, great trip, went and sorted out some accommodation and then it was off to see the car. Well, we just fell in love with it, nothing over the top, just a little cruiser, something we could enjoy



together and still be involved in the car scene. We brought it, and I drove it home on the Monday, with no issues at all. But, it certainly is not like driving a later model car as it does have issues, like all modified vehicles do, it still has the 1936 rear suspension and, mmmm, a Ford 9in diff, in it.

Two of the first things I changed was the steering, for some reason they had used a Hillman Avenger rack and pinion steering for it, and when you talk about 3 point turns, well it was more like a 20 point turn, and heavy, no power steering, still doesn't have it, but I had Des at the Rodz Doctor put a Holden Commodore rack and pinion steering into it and it made a big difference, and the mounting for the gearbox was so low that it would hit speed bumps all the time, so I had Des change that as well.

One of the first things we did was check out the local hot rod clubs, and ended up going and seeing Shane Bennett who was president at the time, he was very friendly, so we decided to join the club. There were so many nice people in it, made us feel very comfortable, think our first outing with the club was the Santa Parade, great fun and we have done it every year since.

It is always difficult joining clubs and not knowing anyone, but we found a lot of people willing to help us mingle in.

There has been a few changes in the club over the years for sure, when we joined, club nights were held at the Wade Hotel in the public bar, it certainly was cramped. We also used to meet at the Wade for our club runs.

After the Wade it was decided to go to the Orewa Surf Club, that worked out really well, mostly, but you did get the public mingling in while we had our meetings, which was not that great, then the club had the opportunity to move to Sharks in Victor Eaves Park.

Now of course we split it between the RSA and Muldoons, and it seems to work well. There certainly is a lot of new members in the club since we first joined, and a lot of newer model cars, and, should I say, a lot of Mustangs, but good to see a few Chevs now coming through.

I still enjoy doing the outings, but just the health and finances are a bit tough at the moment.

I do enjoy doing the Santa Parade, which is coming up again in November, pity about breaking down last year, was certainly lucky it didn't happen during the parade, can you just imagine the comments I would have had to endure.

Well that's about it from me, all I can say now is that the Hibiscus Rodders are a great bunch of people with a huge variety of occupations as well, and we are very glad we joined when we did, so have a great 2023, what's left of it. Hope this wasn't too boring for you all. I have included some of the photos of the cars.



This was my first outing into stock and saloon car racing, an ex Sid Goldsmith vehicle, a 1950s vintage LIP Vauxhall, straight six, no mods, was slow by todays standards but I loved it.

Below is my stockcar prior to having it upgraded.







Top is my stockcar after I had it upgraded and below is my 1979 T Top Camaro, which I also loved, it was an awesome car, but, marriage complications forced a sale.





Above is Barbara in one of the demolition derby cars we had and below is the Chev truck we used to own, pity I had to sell it.





**Above Barbara and myself on our wedding day, one to remember, and below me in front of our car doing a wedding, for free of course.**

# Presidents Report

Hello all club members

Finally the weather is coming right, about time I might add. It's so much nicer to be out in the sun with our toys. Had a good run up to the Salty Dog Inn with a good bunch of clubies first time for me up the new part of the northern motorway.

The Burger runs are remaining very popular and Eric is doing a great job of organising these events for us. The last one had a blue theme for Blue September, a good effort by most people to get into the Blue mood with some very interesting outfits. A special mention goes to Dave Swan for dying his beard blue.

We have decided to donate the money from this month's Repco Moments to the Prostate Cancer Foundation.

Next month's Burger run will be for Pink October and as such will have a Pink theme, details will be announced closer to the day. I also need to remind people about the upcoming Wrinkly Run on October 15, we have 30 oldies to take for a ride to the RSA for afternoon tea, I hope you all get behind this event.

There is still some room for the Karapiro car show weekend, this will be a lot of fun with all the activities that are planned.

The Rodders Beach Festival planning is coming along great we will soon have a form so that you can order merchandise, IE: T shirt's polos and singlets. Look forward to seeing you all at the next club meeting October 11 at the RSA.

***Simon***



# CLUB MERCHANDISE FOR SALE





# ROD's RODS

**HQ HOLDEN Street Machine.  
It changes colour depending on the light.  
One of my favourites.  
Something different next month.  
Over and out, Rodney.**











**Hey everyone. Hope you are keeping Burnouts to a minimum.**

**This month is about our friends across the Ditch.  
Yeah, the Australian cars.**



# Muldoons Club Night





# Sugarloaf Breakfast



Another great breakfast with car enthusiasts from other clubs. A shame to see the demise of Waiwera Hot Pools - demolished.



# Salty Dog Sunday Cruise

Dave Swan suggested a run up to The Salty Dog Inn, Snells Beach and we met at Victor Eaves, Orewa. On a lovely spring day we went on the new motorway to Warkworth and followed the leader to our destination. Great getting the cars out for a lovely lunch, lots of chatter and laughs. Thanks Dave for organising.









# Blue September Burgers

We met at Victor Eaves Park, Orewa - it was great having daylight to take photos of the cars - and many were wearing blue to support Blue September. We drove in convoy through Orewa and then motorway to Albany. We went to Cock A Doodle a newish restaurant who catered well for our group, the biggest they have had since opening. We all sang 'Happy Birthday' to Dave Swan as his birthday was on Saturday. While waiting for meals Eric had searched out questions relating to Blue and we had 3 groups of medal winners - well done everyone. Great evening, enjoyable food and lots of chatting and fun.











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New Zealand Hot Rod Association receive a \$50 discount\* off the \$199 recommended retail price when ordering the New Zealand Car Construction Manual. \*Does not include postage.

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New limited edition T-shirts every year.  
We have found that our limited edition Tee's are very popular so don't delay in buying one.  
\$20 for members. \*Does not include postage.  
Contact NZHRA office to order.  
NZHRA Rodders Help List\_ contact names and numbers for members around the country who are available to help if you have car trouble on your travels.

Save 15% when you purchase Dynamat goods online



\*Members must quote their membership number in order to take advantage of the above offer



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# Coming Events

OPEN TO ALL



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**COFFEE & CARS**  
— MT SMART STADIUM, AUCKLAND —  
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EXOTICS • JDM

Open to all classics, hot rods, exotics and JDM vehicles. Launching Sunday 30 Jan, and continuing throughout the year on the last Sunday of the month, best to check the date it is on, use the Maurice Road entrance.



# Coming Events

**NOTE: CLUB RUNS TO BE ADDED AND SOME COULD BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

- Oct 1 National Hot Rod Show continues, from 9 am to 4 pm.
- Oct 7 Howick Village Hop, Picton Street, Howick, check times out on their Facebook page.
- Oct 8 Oogah breakfast, Swanson RSA, from 8.30 am to 11 am.
- Oct 15 or 22 WRINKLY RUN reignited, need lots of cars for this one, a great community event, meet at Sharks in Orewa, from midday, to leave at 1 pm.**
- Oct 8 Warkworth breakfast **The Sugar Loaf Bar + Café in Waiwera, from 8.30 am.**
- Oct 11 CLUB NIGHT, HIBISCUS COAST RSA, meeting starts at 7.30 pm.**
- Oct 15 Mid-West breakfast, Westgate Mitre 10, from around 8 am to 11 am.
- Oct 21 North Shore Rod and Custom, 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Hillside Rd, North Shore, from 5 pm.
- Oct 23 North Shore Rod and Custom Recovery Run, meet Major Tom Café, 87 Apollo Drive, leaving at 10.30 am for a cruise to Puhoi Pub.
- Oct 27 Friday night Burger night, meet at Sharks at 6 pm.
- Oct 29 Mt Smart coffee + cars, not sure what the start time is, but probably from 8 am, at Mt Smart Stadium, Maurice Rd entry.
- Nov 8 CLUB NIGHT, MULDOONS, OREWA, meeting starts at 7.30 pm.**
- Nov 12 Oogah breakfast, Swanson RSA, from 8.30 am to 11 am.
- Nov 12 Warkworth breakfast **The Sugar Loaf Bar + Café in Waiwera, from 8.30 am.**
- Nov 19 Mid-West breakfast, Westgate Mitre 10, from around 8 am to 11 am.
- Nov 24-26 Stragglers Karapiro Show, make your interest known ASAP, for details see full page ad later in the newsletter.**
- Nov 24 Friday night Burger night, meet at Sharks at 6 pm.
- Nov 25 Orewa Santa Parade, meet at George Lowe Place, from 3.15ish, decorate your car and get ready to line up, we are usually up the front of the parade.
- Dec 4 NSR&CC Toy Run
- Dec 13 CLUB NIGHT, HIBISCUS COAST RSA, meeting starts around 7.30 pm.**
- Dec 25 MERRY CHRISTMAS.**

## 2024

- Jan 10 POSSIBLE CLUB NIGHT (TO BE ADVISED).
- Jan 26-28 RODDERS BEACH FESTIVAL, Orewa, three days of events, going to be a great outing for everyone.

## More to be added.

# Coming Events



Get your vintage on! Join us on Picton St for the Howick Village Hop!  
 Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
 Phone 09-534 4505

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 Includes the Tim Whittle Homes  
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## Coming Events

# WRINKLEY RUN

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15,  
RAIN DATE  
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22**

*Meet at usual place, Victor  
Eaves Park, Orewa, from  
midday, to leave at 1 pm.*

Transporting about 30 people so need  
lots of cars for this community event.  
Taking them for a drive and ending up  
at the RSA for coffee/tea and cake.

# Coming Events

## NORTHSHORE

ROD & CUSTOM CLUB

# 60<sup>th</sup>

## PARTY

**FEATURING**

NOSTALGIA RACE CAR CRACKLEFEST

HEAR & FEEL THE SOUNDS OF 'BALOO', THE GREEN MEANIE & 'WILDTHING'.

**FREE  
ADMISSION**



**CASH  
BAR**



**5PM**



**TIL LATE**

# SATURDAY 21ST OCT

NSRCC CLUBROOMS  
26 HILLSIDE RD GLENFIELD



# Coming Events

## **NORTHSHORE**

ROD & CUSTOM CLUB

**"THE DAY AFTER"**

**RECOVERY RUN**

SUNDAY 22ND OCT

MEET AT: MAJOR TOM CAFE  
87 APOLLO DRIVE, ROSEDALE  
FOR A LEISURELY CRUISE TO  
PUHOI PUB

**LEAVING 10:30AM**

SO GET THERE EARLIER  
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# Coming Events

It's that time again

## **THE OREWA NEW WORLD SANTA PARADE SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2023, 4.30 PM RAIN DATE SUNDAY 26**

Yes, now that its October and time is racing by, we're starting to organize the Orewa New World Santa Parade.

### NB. Some Float Guidelines:

- To ensure maximum visual appeal and vibrancy, 'floats' consist of a group of walkers or a vehicular flat or vehicular towed float.
- Please no 'solo' walkers. For any sole traders or brands with one person, we will group these together
- Vehicles need to be festively decorated – even balloons or streamers en-mass. Children aren't excited by plain vehicles.
- We encourage you to play festive music from your vehicle – loudly. All vehicles are spread out to ensure sounds don't cross over.
- We encourage 'groups of walkers' to engage with the audience – the more interaction, the more the crowd energy.
- The New World Santa Parade is the largest Santa Parade north of Browns Bay and is attended by around 10,000 people a year, and please no Santas in the cars, remember there is only one.

*As usual we will be assembling in George Lowe Place to decorate our cars and line up, the parade will be starting at Alice Avenue, meandering down Florence Ave and then along Hibiscus Coast Highway and finishing at the Orewa Beach Surf club.*



# Coming Events



# CAMBRIDGE

2023 CHARITY CUSTOM & CLASSIC CAR DISPLAY



SUNDAY 26TH NOVEMBER

FOOD STALLS & LIVE MUSIC  
9AM - 2PM LAKE KARAPIRO

ENTRY BY GOLDEN COIN DONATION WITH ALL PROCEEDS GOING TO LOCAL COMMUNITY SERVICES.



## **Coming Events**

# **STRAGGLERS KARAPIRO SHOW**

***November 24 to 26***

*The Stragglers President, Wayne, would love us to go down again. Wayne can help arrange accommodation. The Committee has made a booking in principle. The run is Friday to Sunday with fun stuff to do on the way. There will be a park up in Cambridge on arrival. Saturday we will find things to do, Saturday night Stragglers dinner, Sunday, Karapiro show.*

**Cost will be \$50 per booking,  
\$33 a night per person,  
it will be for two nights.**

*If anyone is interested please get in touch with President Simon to register your interest.*



# Other Coming Events

**THE ANNUAL FAR NORTH ROD & CUSTOM CLUB**

# WHEELS OF MAYHEM

*Celebrating 10 years of FNRCC*

*11<sup>th</sup> November 2023*



**\$1000 SPOT PRIZE**

**FAR NORTH ROD & CUSTOM CLUB**



**VEHICLE SOUND-OFF CASH PRIZE 1.00 PM**

**CAR & BIKE SHOW | FOOD STALLS | KIDS ACTIVITIES**  
9AM-3PM A&P SHOWGROUNDS KAITAIA | CAMPING AVAILABLE TO SHOW CAR ENTRANTS  
CAR & DRIVER FREE | FAMILY PASS \$12 | ADULTS \$5 | 5-13YRS \$2 | UNDER 5YRS FREE  
NZHRA SANCTIONED EVENT | FOR CAMPING ENQUIRIES CALL 027 318 2297 | FOR UPDATES VISIT [FACEBOOK.COM/FNRCC](https://www.facebook.com/fnrcc)



# Coming Events

**'24**

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# RODDERS

## Beach Festival

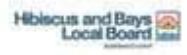
OREWA

2024

FAMILY FUN WEEKEND

# HBC HIGHWAY JAN 26TH-28TH

VISIT [RODDERSBEACHFESTIVAL.CO.NZ](http://RODDERSBEACHFESTIVAL.CO.NZ) FOR TICKETS





# Other Coming Events

**TAKAPUNA**  
*Rocks*

**SAVE THE DATE**

*Knuckle Draggers*

**ROD+CUSTOM**  
**RUMBLE**

*MEATSTOCK*

MYSTERY CREEK - HAMILTON  
**24-25TH FEBRUARY 24**

Rotovegas  
**Knuckle Draggers**  
Custom Car Club

L0W56  
REVERB