

# BULLETIN

March 69



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# AUCKLAND CAR CLUB (Inc)

P. O. BOX 2591 AUCKLAND

## BULLETIN

March 1969

### CLUB OFFICERS

**PRESIDENT :**

F. B. Webber Phone 595.282  
23 Maroa Road, One Tree Hill

**VICE PRESIDENTS :**

L. F. Rankin Phone 2747M  
3 Arther Place, Papakura  
I. Ivers Phone 7738 Glen Eden  
28 Archibald Road, Glen Eden

**IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT :**

E. G. Mallard Phone 677.519  
17 Marion Ave, Mt. Roskill

**SECRETARY & TREASURER :**

G. J. McKinstry **373.484**

**EXECUTIVE :**

P. A. Jukes, B. J. Hamilton, M. H. Lawson,  
P. Bruin, T. Molloy, P. C. Allely,  
J. Stuart-Masters, E. G. Mallard,  
M. I. Marshall

**CLUB CAPTAIN :**

K. Galbraith Phone **659.122**

**DEPUTY CLUB CAPTAIN :**

M. I. Marshall Phone 699.815

Flat 2, 135a Landscape Road, Mt. Roskill

**CHAIRMAN OF SUB-COMMITTEES :**

Club house	- I. Road	GLE 5204
Trials	- W.J. Martin	83.554
Racing	- L. F. Rankin	84.164 Papakura
Speed	- I. Ivers	7738 Glen Eden
Building	- M. H. Lawson	6156D Howick
Bulletin	- Mrs. Marshall	699.815



And now for my next trick !

# COMING



# EVENTS



## AUCKLAND CAR CLUB

CLUB EVENINGS - Every Thursday night 8.00 p.m. Table Tennis, Darts etc.

CLUB AFTERNOONS - Every Saturday from 4.30 p.m. - 6.30 p.m. Except when there is a major event on.)

9TH MARCH - SUNDAY - CLUB PICNIC - SNELLS BEACH - Bring Togs, Lunch, Sausages, cooking utensils, etc. for Barbecue. Convoy starts Clubrooms at 10 a.m. in time for swim at full tide - 11 a.m.

16TH MARCH - SUNDAY - CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP HILLCLIMB - CHAMBERLAIN ROAD, BOMBAY - Entries on day until 9.30 a.m. Observations for Speed Extensions. Points towards Exide Trophy. Trophies for each class winners. You require your crash helmet, overalls, scrutineering Log Book, current Membership Card. Under 21 year old's must have parent's signature on Entry Form which are available at the Clubrooms.

IMPORTANT!!! NO PRACTICING ON THE VENUE BEFORE THE DAY.

20TH MARCH - THURSDAY - CLUB NIGHT - FILM EVENING - 44 Stoddard Road, Mt Roskill, Films, Discussions, Supper, New Car on display. New members, please introduce yourselves to a Committee Member.

PLEASE NOTE: DO NOT PARK OVER FOOTPATH OR NEAR THE LOCAL DAIRY, ALSO PLEASE PARK CORRECTLY AND NO NOISE WHEN LEAVING. Thank you.

22ND MARCH - SATURDAY NIGHT TRIAL - Starts Farmers Carpark Hobson Street. First car 7.00 p.m. Entries at start. Sealed clock. Auckland A.A. Local Tours Map. Duration - 2 hours. Finish at Clubrooms. Easy navigation and timekeeping. Counts for Exide Trophy points. Trophy for winner. Certificates 2nd and 3rd.

29TH MARCH - SATURDAY - SOCIAL AND DANCE - This is a pre-race get together at the Clubrooms. Dress informal. Yes, you can come straight from Pukekohe after practice "as is". Clubrooms open 6.30 p.m. for pre-social warm up. Dancing from 8 p.m. Excellent band and supper. Entry fee from 6.30 p.m. to midnight - \$1.00 per head.



23RD APRIL - WEDNESDAY NIGHT - CLUBROOMS AT 8.00 P.M. Trials Instruction Evening. If you are going to take part in trials this year come along and get the message on trialling. Bring your problems along and discuss them with experienced trialists who will help you with advice on what is required to go trialling successfully.

28TH APRIL - MONDAY NIGHT AT 8.00 P.M. AT THE CLUBROOMS - Auckland Car Club Annual General Meeting. Election of Officers. Make sure that you are there to have your say in Club affairs.

## INVITATION & OPEN

1ST MARCH - SATURDAY - R.A.T.E.C. DULUX RALLY - Six hours duration. First of the Mercury Trophy series. The Secretary, P.O. Box 14-228, Panmure 6, for further information.

8TH MARCH - SATURDAY - ROTHMANS MOTOR RACE MEETING - PUKEKOHE - NORTHERN SPORTS CAR CLUB - National Formula Championship Event.

9TH MARCH - SUNDAY - BAY PARK RACEWAY - Dual Sprint - Scrutineering from 7.30 - 9.30 a.m. - Entry Fee \$1.00. Further information may be obtained from the Tauranga Car Club, P.O. Box 533, Tauranga.

15TH MARCH - SATURDAY - WELLINGTON CAR CLUB GOLD STAR HILLCLIMB - Houghton Bay. P.O. Box 5142, Wellington.

15TH MARCH - SATURDAY - WANGANUI CAR CLUB - River City 8 Hour Open Trial. Commencing 12 noon. Prize money \$250 Total. Entries will close 4 p.m. Monday, 3 March. Late entries will be accepted up until 10 a.m. on the day. Entry Forms and A.S.R.'s available from The Secretary, River City 8 Hour Trial, 74 Niblett Street, Wanganui.

22ND MARCH - SATURDAY - LEVIN MOTOR RACES - GROUP 5 TOURING CAR CHAMPIONSHIP.

23RD MARCH - PUKEKOHE CAR CLUB - HILLCLIMB - Pioneer Road, Te Toro.

29TH MARCH - MT MAUNGANUI GOLD STAR TRIAL.

30TH MARCH - SUNDAY - DUNLOP MOTOR RACES - PUKEKOHE - AUCKLAND CAR CLUB Final round Group 5 Championship. Also races for single seaters, sports cars, standard production saloons and allcomers. Entries close Wednesday, 12th March, with Miss C.E. Dewar, Phone 583-497.

5TH APRIL - SATURDAY - BAY PARK RACEWAY. National Race Meeting.

7TH APRIL - EASTER MONDAY - ROTORUA CAR CLUB - D.R. Grass Track Meeting.

12TH APRIL - WHAKATANE CAR CLUB - Grass Track Meeting.

26TH APRIL - NORTH OTAGO CAR CLUB - Gold Star Trial.

26TH APRIL - SATURDAY - THAMES VALLEY CAR CLUB - Gold Star Hillclimb.

24TH - 25TH MAY - HAMILTON CAR CLUB - Open Speed Weekend. This event has been transferred from 15-16 March shown in the National Calendar of Events.

3RD MAY - Auckland Car Club Gold Star Trial - This event has been cancelled.

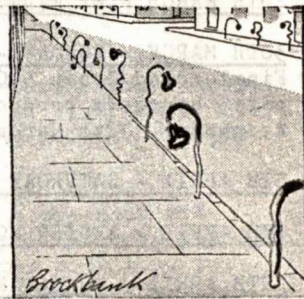
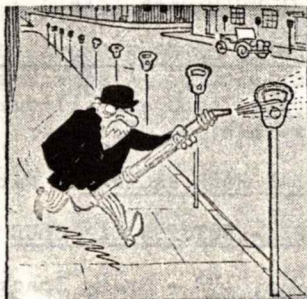
11TH MAY - SUNDAY - CLUB CIRCUIT CHAMPIONSHIP DAY - PUKEKOHE.  
Trophies for classes. Note - This event has been transferred from 20th April as advertised last month.

## Film

## Evening

20TH FEBRUARY

Despite Richard Kimble finally sorting out his affairs on AKTV 2 a lot of members and friends attended to see some excellent motor racing films. The 1965 Targa Florio film presented a thrill a minute and was beautifully filmed and narrated. The infinite detail provided by modern timekeeping equipment for every aspect of speed was displayed in a Longines film and covered everything from the cycling Tour de France to Formula One racing. A new Toyota Corolla was on display by courtesy of Campbell Motors Limited. Thanks to Noel Martin for bringing along this interesting little car. Presentation of a trophy to Mike Marshall and Ron Brown took place after the films. (See Shouts and Murmurs.





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# Club Circuit

Sunday, 23rd February saw many enthusiasts and spectators arriving at the Club Circuit, Pukekohe, to soak up the sunshine and racing.

Notable was the large contingent of Imp drivers - Roy Harrington being by far the quickest in practice until a bent valve finished his racing for the day; the distinction of fastest Imp then being handed to Ted Dutch and his chess-board topped version.

The first event of the day was the standard production saloons proving a win for Jim Palmer and his Monaro after a door handle swapping dice with Tony Rolley's 3.8 Jaguar.

Another notable point being the fact that the twin cam Fiat 125 didn't really run away from the 1500's of the same stable.

0-1000 Imp race was dominated by Ted Dutch with a strong challenge put in by N. Fergusson who gained second place.

The 0-1000 mixed saloons big race was livened by some fantastic dicing between Barry Phillips and Peter Levet with line honours being shared between them.

Mary Donald again turned on the performance now expected of her and dominated the 1001-1300 class.

The big modified saloons turned out to be the crowd thriller with Noel Goodwin's MK II Zephyr sounding every bit the part but even he had to bow out to Kevin Masterton in the Mini Ford 1500 until Jim Richards borrowed Jim Carney's twin cam Ford Escort and headed him off.

The sports cars were again poorly represented and this class was run with the Formula (anything goes) class. A. Hopkins in the Cooper Norton winning line honours from Peter Bruin's Cooper Vincent.

The Formula Vees didn't have the usual ten entries but the racing was again close, interest in this class dwindling, however, when B. Wainwright hit a tree much to the disgust of his rear suspension.

Another notable incident was Graham Tanner's excursion into the fence at the loop after finding that his brake pipe had fractured, leaving him without stopping power of any description, his A40 Farina suffering damage to the passenger's side.

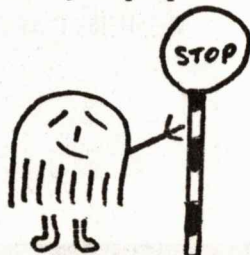
Thankfully, in the above incidents no-one was hurt.

In all a good day's racing watched by a crowd of some 1500 people.



A PLIN

'STROP'



A SAFETY PLIN.



# Results

Results of Club Circuit Race Meeting held at Pukekohe on Sunday,  
23 February 1969 -

## Race 1 - Saloons - Standard Production:

41	J. Palmer	Holden Monaro G.T.S.	5000	1st
33	T. Rolley	3.8 Jaguar	3781	2nd
17	D. Davie	Vauxhall Victor	3294	3rd

## Race 2A - Saloons - 0-1000:

74	T. Dutch	Hillman Imp	998	1st
25	N.S. Fergusson	Hillman Imp	998	2nd
26	G. O'Donnell	Hillman Imp	875	3rd

## Race 2B - Saloons - 0 - 1000:

165	P. Levet	Morris Cooper	997	1st
36	N. Silcock	Morris Cooper	998	2nd
39	R. Sisler	Austin A40 Farina	998	3rd

## Race 4 - Saloons 1301 c.c. and Over:

101	M. Donald	Austin Cooper 'S'	1275	1st
62	L.R. Rogers	Ford Escort	1298	2nd
110	B. Shields	Ford Escort		3rd

## Race 5 - Saloons:

77	K. Masterson	Mini	1583	1st
102	J. Carney	Ford Escort	1598	2nd
130	N. Goodwin	Ford Zephyr MK II	1553	3rd

## Race 6 - Racing Cars:

2	A. Hopkins	Cooper Norton	500	1st
14	P. Bruin	Cooper Vincent	998	2nd
1	R. Duirs	M.E.R. Series B	1275	3rd

## Race 6A - Formula V

19	B.S. Yates	Formula Vee	1192	1st
6	E. Wainwright	Formula Vee	1192	2nd
134	I. Berry	'Ike' Vee	1192	3rd

## Race 7 - Saloons - Handicap:

41	J. Palmer	Holden Monaro G.T.S.	5000	1st
33	T. Rolley	3.8 Jaguar	3781	2nd
29	R.L. Sinclair	Fiat	1608	3rd

Race 8A - Saloons - Handicap:

74	T. Dutch	Hillman Imp	998	1st
25	N. Fergusson	Hillman Imp	998	2nd
92	D. Ross	Hillman Imp	998	3rd

Race 8B - Saloons - Handicap:

86	B. Phillips	Morris Cooper 'S'	970	1st
165	P. Levett	Morris Cooper 'S'	997	2nd
36	N. Silcock	Morris Cooper	998	3rd

Race 9 - Saloons - Handicap:

101	M. Donald	Austin Cooper 'S'	1275	1st
62	L.R. Rogers	Ford Escort	1298	2nd
110	B. Shields	Ford Escort		3rd

Race 10 - Saloons - Handicap:

102	J. Richards	Ford Escort	1598	1st
77	K. Masterson	Mini	1583	2nd
40	R. Skinner	Ford Cortina	1400	3rd

Race 11 - Sports and Racing Cars - Handicap:

2	A. Hopkins	Cooper Norton	500	1st
38	I. Stephenson	Lola Climax	1220	2nd
14	P. Bruin	Cooper Vincent	998	3rd

Race 12 - Formula Vee - Handicap:

34	I. Berry	'Ike' Vee	1192	1st
19	B. Yates	Formula Vee	1192	2nd
90	D. Burrows	Formula Vee	1192	3rd

Race 12A - Saloons - Handicap:

41	J. Palmer	Holden Monaro G.T.S.	5000	1st
10	F. Radisich	Ford Escort	1295	2nd
44	G. Pedersen	Fiat	1498	3rd

Race 14 - Saloons - Handicap:

31	M. Cox	Hillman Imp	900	1st
32	P. Wong	Ford Escort	1298	2nd
92	D. Ross	Hillman Imp	998	3rd

Race 15 - Saloons - Handicap:

36	N. Silcock	Morris Cooper	998	1st
101	M. Donald	Austin Cooper 'S'	1275	2nd
62	L.R. Rogers	Ford Escort	1298	3rd

Race 16 - Saloons - Handicap:

102	J. Carney	Ford Escort	1988	1st
30	D. Provyn	Ford Cortina G.T.	1500	2nd
40	R. Skinner	Ford Cortina	1400	3rd



### Race 17 - Racing Cars - Handicap:

2	A. Hopkins	Cooper Norton	500	1st
134	I. Berry	'Ike' Vee	1192	2nd
1	R. Duirs	M.E.R.	1275	3rd

### Race 18 - Saloons - Handicap:

10	F. Radisich	Ford Escort	1300	1st
34	P. Macks	Fiat	1498	2nd
41	J. Palmer	Holden Monaro G.T.S.	5000	3rd

### Race 19 - Saloons - Handicap:

92	D. Ross	Hillman Imp	998	1st
31	M. Cox	Hillman Imp	900	2nd
32	P. Wong	Ford Escort	1298	3rd

### Race 20 - Saloons - Handicap:

101	M. Donald	Austin Cooper 'S'	1275	1st
165	P. Levet	Morris Cooper 'S'	997	2nd
62	L.R. Rogers	Ford Escort	1298	3rd

### Race 21 - Saloons - Handicap:

64	B. Cox	Ford Cortina	1498	1st
30	D. Provyn	Ford Cortina G.T.	1500	2nd
75	T. McLean	Ford Cortina G.T.	1525	3rd

### Race 22 - Handicap - Racing and Sports Cars:

1	R. Duirs	M.E.R.	1275	1st
2	A. Hopkins	Cooper Norton	500	2nd
46	D. McKenzie	Ford Special	998	3rd

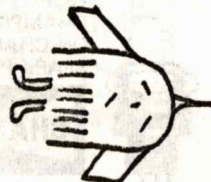
### Race 23 - Saloons - Scratch -

102	J. Richards	Ford Escort	1598	1st
41	J. Palmer	Holden Monaro G.T.S.	5000	2nd
86	B. Phillips	Morris Cooper 'S'		3rd

## BARBEQUE

Thanks go to the Clubhouse Committee for organising the barbeque facilities following the Club Circuit Race Meeting. A large proportion of drivers, crew, marshals and club members stayed behind to demolish the liquid refreshment provided and many a well cooked sausage.

In suitable weather this could become a welcome addition to Club Circuit itinerary.



AN AEROPLAN.

# Denny

(good on you mate!)



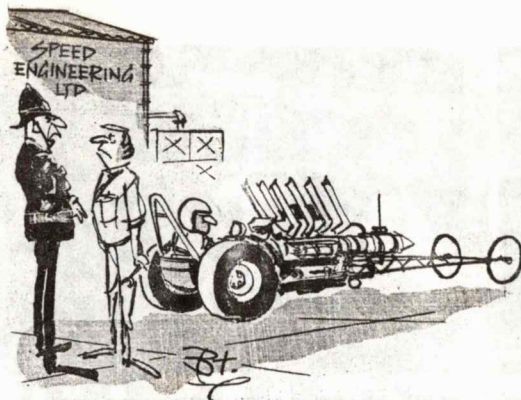
DENIS HULME  
WON THE 1967  
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SPARK PLUGS

**CHAMPION**

WORLD'S FAVOURITE SPARK PLUG ON LAND, SEA, AND IN THE AIR



# funnies



"I have reason to believe that someone in this neighbourhood is driving on completely bald tyres"

★ LITTLE Johnny came home from school crying. "All the boys are picking on me," he told his mother. "They say I have a big head."

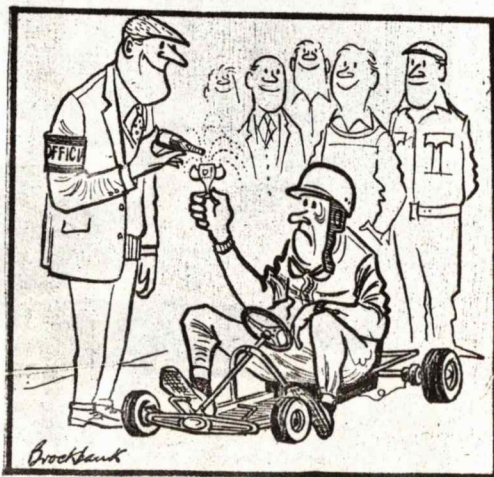
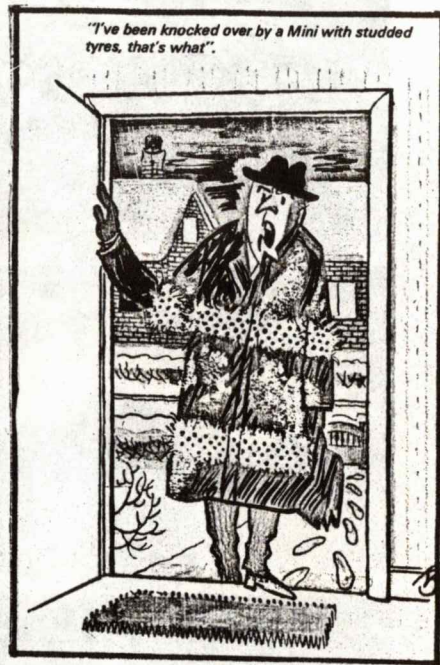
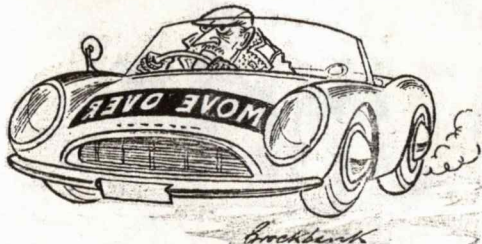
"You don't have a big head," said mother. "Now go along and play."

The same thing happened the next day. Once more his mother comforted him. On the fourth day Johnny came home with the same story.

"Once and for all, Johnny," said his mother, "you don't have a big head. Now please go to the shop and get me 10 lbs. of potatoes."

"Okay, but give me a bag."

"Bag? What do you need that for? Use your cap."



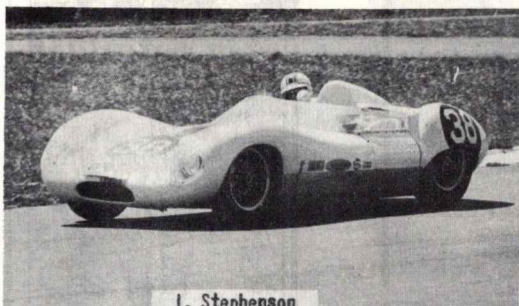




N. Goodwin



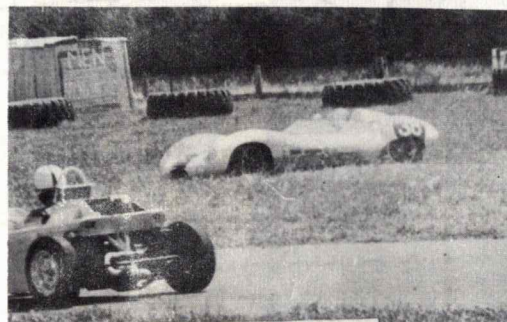
M. Smurthwaite



I. Stephenson



T. Rolley



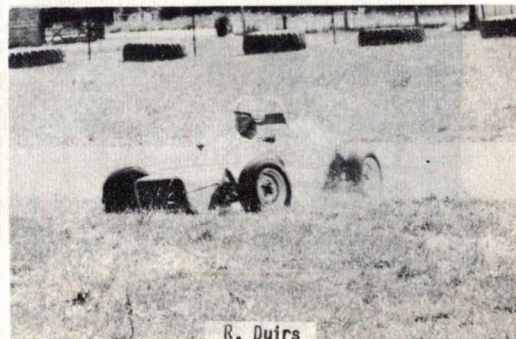
R. Duirs - I. Stephenson



J. Carney



N. Fergusson



R. Duirs

Photos by courtesy of Doug Carson  
CLUB CIRCUIT SUNDAY FEBRUARY 23RD



# DUNLOP Motor Races



Sunday, March 30th  
**PUKEKOHE**

PROMOTED BY THE AUCKLAND CAR CLUB

Photography: Richard Osborn

Artwork: O. van Bokhoven

# DON'T FORGET!

SNELLS BEACH PICNIC



Saturday the 9th of March. Bring your togs, lunch, cooking utensils (?) and sausages.

See you at 10 a.m. at the club.

---

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Madam,

I would like to say thank you through the Bulletin for the flowers I received whilst in hospital producing yet another future member for the A.C.C. (Let's hope she turns out to be a good driver!)

If you could say something for me at the next Committee Meeting I would be grateful, because one of the Committee members instigated the idea I'm sure.

Once more thankyou very much.

Margarette Marshall

★ ★ ★

### Conversation overheard at a large car manufacturer's Board Meeting

Design Chief ..... yes, but look at the line along the side here. See how the light brings out the subtle curves in the metal. We had to build several clay models and then spray them with metallic paint before we could get it just right. And of course there was the stretch in the metal to consider: if we over-did it, there would have been too big a per centage of rips in the production examples because there's a limit to what you can ask of pressed mild steel. Anyhow, we reached a pretty good compromise, I think you'll agree, and there's every chance that the Design Centre will be displaying it (this is off the record meantime, I'm afraid) as the supreme example of British styling this year.

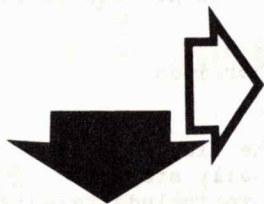
Chairman: Seems a helluva carry-on for a rocker cover.



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AUCKLAND

# Shouts & MURMURS

Margarette Marshall and Raewyn Brown have at last stopped playing the waiting game and produced the goods. A girl for Margarette and a boy for Raewyn. Congratulations. Mike and Ron were presented with a trophy last film evening in the form of a chopped and channelled pram. Each half was painted in the colours of the mins of the proud paters. Their racing numbers were also attached to their respective sides. Being lowered and fitted with wide wheels it is now the fastest pram in New Zealand.

Married on 15th February, John Power and Lorraine Morrison. Congratulations and best wishes to you both.

The Club T.V. set was the centre of attention at the Clubrooms last film evening when Richard (the Fugitive) Kimble finally stopped running. Hamilton stock cars aren't the only ones to include television as an extra!

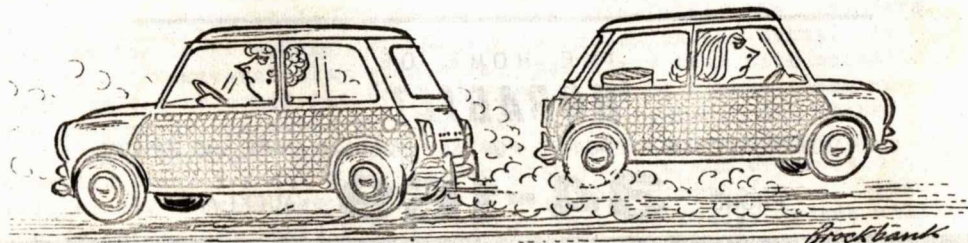
Owing to lack of a suitable sponsor we have been forced to abandon the promotion of our Gold Star Trial set down for 3rd May this year.

Due to pressure of work and her forthcoming marriage, Bulletin Editor Kerry Leahy has been forced to give up this position. Thank you Kerry for your past help in this demanding task. Our new Bulletin Editor will now be Margarette Marshall.

Improvements in the Clubrooms are really starting to show now. The ceiling downstairs has now been completed. Within the next few weeks the carpet will be laid. With the installation of some comfortable furniture it will be a home away from home for members and friends.

Willard Martin has taken over from Phil Jukes as Trials Sub-Committee Chairman. Phil has been around the trials scene for a long time and his efforts have always been greatly appreciated. Willard, who plotted last year's Gold Star Trial, should turn on some interesting events in this job.

Have you obtained your tickets for the pre-race social on 29th March yet? Any Committee member can supply you with them. This promises to be the best stir for quite a while.





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Saturday 29th March.

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Clubrooms open 6-30

Band opens up at 8-00

Dress is casual

Get your  
tickets from  
a comittee  
member



tickets only \$1.00 each.

# My School Holidays

School holidays are beaut because it means you don't have to go to school.

Sometimes in the holidays dad gets mum to ring up his boss at work and say he's sick and then we go for a long ride in the car. Our car isn't a new car but dad says its better than the new ones because they can't make cars like ours any more. Mum says thank God. Our car was made before the big war that happened when a man called Hitler started a fight that dad had to go and fight him in. Dad's always working on our car to make it go better and he's got lots of shiny tools but I'm not allowed to touch them but dad gets me to hold on to bits of the car while he's fixing them 'cause I can get my hands in places that dad can't.

Last year in the holidays when I was only eight I was playing in dad's pile of sand next to the car and some of it got in the petrol tank. When dad found out he said a lot of swear words and ran towards me. Mum came out and said for him to put the tyre lever away and what was he thinking of and did he want to spend the rest of his life in jail. Dad looked pretty wild and I don't know why because the car never had a flat tyre anyway.

Dad's in the Car Club and he's pretty important because he's always going to meetings that they have at night at their big building. Sometimes he takes me and I play slot cars there. Mum says why doesn't he take his blankets with him and stay there but I reckon that's mad because there aren't any beds there.

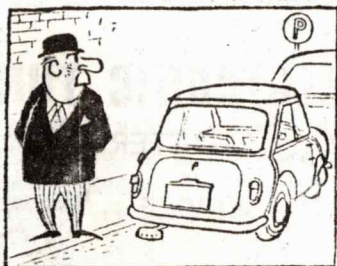
At the beginning of the last school holidays dad took me to the hillclimb with him and we stood on the corner about half way up the hill and dad had a white coat on like doctors wear and he waved a big red flag at some of the cars and shouted at the people crossing the road. The cars all belted past pretty close and we got all covered in dirt and mum went mad when we got home because she reckoned it would take a week to get me clean. A lot of the time dad was talking to a lady with one of them short dresses on and he gave me twenty cents so I could go to the big tent and get a soft drink and some chews, so I don't know what they were talking about but it couldn't of been cars 'cause dames don't know anything about cars. I reckon her 'phone was out of order or something 'cause before we left she wrote her number on a bit of paper for dad and said try her later. When we got home dad told mum he had to go to a committee meeting so I don't know if he fixed her 'phone or not. She wasn't as old as mum anyway. Later on in the holidays dad took mum and me to see the car races at Pukekohe and when we were there we met this lady again but dad acted like he didn't know who she was and when I started to tell mum about the



hillclimb and the telephone and everything, dad trod on my foot so hard that I bawled my head off and forgot to tell mum about it in the end.

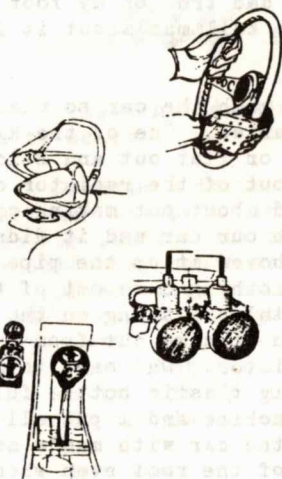
During the holidays dad said for me to wash the car so when the day got sunny I got the hose out and got started. One of the kids at school reckons that if you turn the hose on flat out and stick it up the exhaust pipe the water will come out of the radiator cap. I reckon this is what dad meant when he said about not making cars the same these days 'cause I tried this with our car and it didn't work. I had the hose on full bore when I shoved it up the pipe and I kept it there for about five minutes but nothing came out of the radiator. It started pouring out of the metal box thing on the exhaust pipe that dad calls the silencer and it came out from under the bonnet but it wouldn't come out the radiator. Dad said to make a good job of cleaning the car so I got the big plastic bottle full of the stuff that mum squirts in the washing machine and I put all of it in the biggest bucket we got and put it on the car with mum's scrubbing brush. I couldn't reach up to the top of the roof even when I stood on the running boards so I used the yard broom for the top bits. Boy you should of seen all the bubbles when I finished. You couldn't even see our car under them all. Anyway I got the hose going flat out again and washed them all away. It took a hang of a long time and more bubbles kept coming and then I found out that they were coming from inside the car 'cause I forgot to wind up the windows before I started. Dad went mad at me when he came home from work and tried to start the car. He said everything was wet and he put bits of the motor in the oven and mum went crook at him and they had a big fight.

Since school started again last week I haven't had much time to give dad a hand with the car or anything but I told him that I'd help him again next holidays. He was pleased but its a long time before the next holidays come. He must be glad that I helped him because he and mum haven't had any fights since last week.



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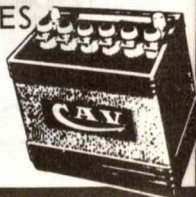
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- Rule 1 At the rise of the hand policeman, stop rapidly.
- Rule 2 Do not pass him by or otherwise disrespect him.
- Rule 3 When a passenger of the foot heave in sight, tootle the horn. Trumpet at him, melodiously at first, but if he still obstacles your passage, tootle him with vigour. Express by word of mouth the warning Hi! Hi!
- Rule 4 Beware the wandering horse, that he shall not take fright as you pass him by. Do not explode the exhaust box at him as you pass him by. Go soothingly by.
- Rule 5 Give big space to the festive dog that shall sport in the roadway.
- Rule 6 Go soothingly in the grease mud, as there lurks the skid demon.

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A DUMB PLAN

# Brands Hatch, what it is really like

A lively discourse on motor racing by  
an English writer - Ronald Collier

For one brainwashed at an early age into believing that Brands is a jar of shrimp paste, and convinced that a Hatch can be nothing but an object that gets stove in during typhoons, it is not easy to associate the words Brands Hatch with anything but a Picasso painting.

Brands (the Hatch is ignored by the cognoscenti like the bottom button of the waistcoat) is, in fact, a bosky dell in Kent abutting a major highway built to carry one-fifth of the coast-bound traffic it has to bear.

Interlacing the gentle green and wooded slopes is a tortuous ribbon of macadam nearly three miles long.

The faithful flock there each weekend and few congregations offer the newly-converted such a stimulating symphony of colour, sound and scent.

## Laurel Wreaths

The clumps of multi-coloured exhortations to fit Dunodo and Ferlop, to read the Motorcar, to fill up with Shesso ..... the laurel wreaths waiting to be hung around the necks ..... the powerful odour of frying onions.

The deep liturgical voice over the loudspeaker summoning Bert to the chief marshal's office ..... the gaily striped umbrellas blowing themselves inside out ..... the noisy laughter in the caravans where the VIPs are living it up ..... the grandstand bar.

There is also motor racing for those who are restless.

This, as a score of notices warn you, is a dangerous sport. The chief danger is that you will make a fathead of yourself if you think you understand what is going on and say so in a voice that can be overheard.

Racing begins with a figure in armlet and blazer (about two score of these crowd the arena serving purposes the onlooker can only guess at) walking boldly into the path of a platoon of cars drawn up in silent but menacing of three.

He hoists a card aloft which bears the strange words: Lucas 5.

Not unnaturally, you expect Lucas to jump out of car 5 and report to the marshal's office with Bert, but what you get is the sound of 200 donkeys braying through loud speakers.

This is called the klaxon and means that the race will begin in five minutes. Lucas - since presumably that is the name of the inhabitant of the blazer - repeats the performance at one-minute intervals, bearing placards marked 4, 3, 2 and 1.



On sight of the figure 1, the silent cars start their engines with a scream that drowns the klaxon. A blazer-cum-armlet brandishing the Union Jack glares at the cars, raises the flag, drops it suddenly, and they're off.

### Out of Road

Exhausted by the noise, drama and tension of it all, the congregation now streams back to the bars, restaurants and flapping umbrellas to restore its tissues.

The fortunes of the gladiators tearing round the macadam in what appear to be five different directions on the Brands Hatch switchback, are reported remorselessly - and largely indistinguishably - over the loudspeaker.

"Jack's made a nonsense at Druids", it cries excitedly. "Jim's run out of road at Westfield. Peter's motoring very comfortably in the Dracula - no, sorry, I'm wrong. It's Pietro in the Pizza .....

To enliven the afternoon, wheels fly off and try to tour the circuit alone and flags of all colours are shaken at drivers to warn them to stop at the pits, move over to let someone pass, or just get off the circuit.

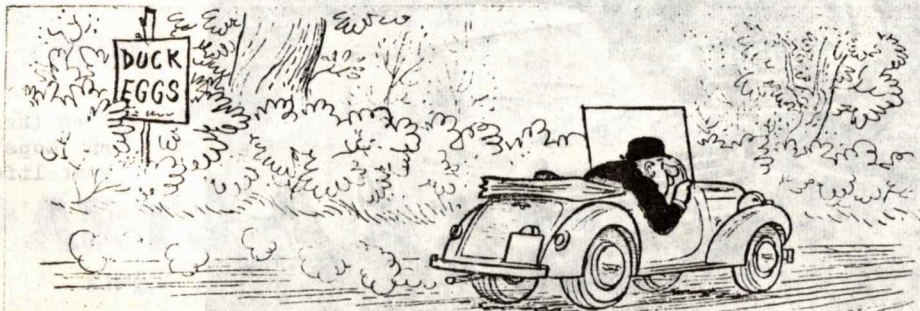
Everybody laughs heartily and nods knowingly in the bars as these misfortunes befall the competitors.

As the race draws to its close with the car you thought was in front actually five laps behind the car you thought was last, half-eaten hamburgers are abandoned in another surge to the circuit.

### Chequered Flag

The loudspeaker grows hoarse with excitement, another armlet and blazer stalks out of Control with a chequered flag, voices are raised in cheer and counter cheer, VIPs blossom on the finish line, photographers look to their lenses ..... and quietly you steal away into the sunset to get on the road 10 laps ahead of the congregation, who are going to play Jim Clark at full chat all the way home.

Anyway, you can read all about what really happened in the Motorcar.





The Photographer  
at this meeting  
was probably  
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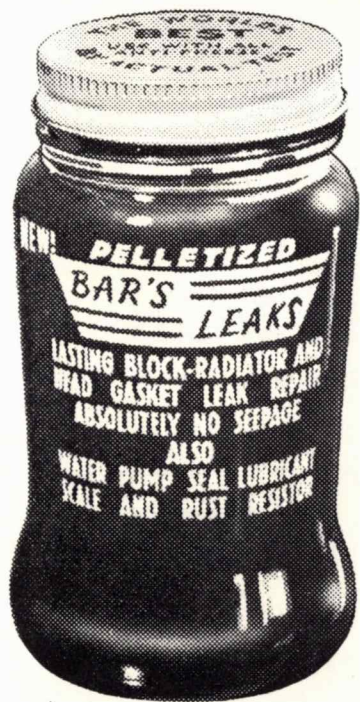
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