

Traction Avant

April 2022



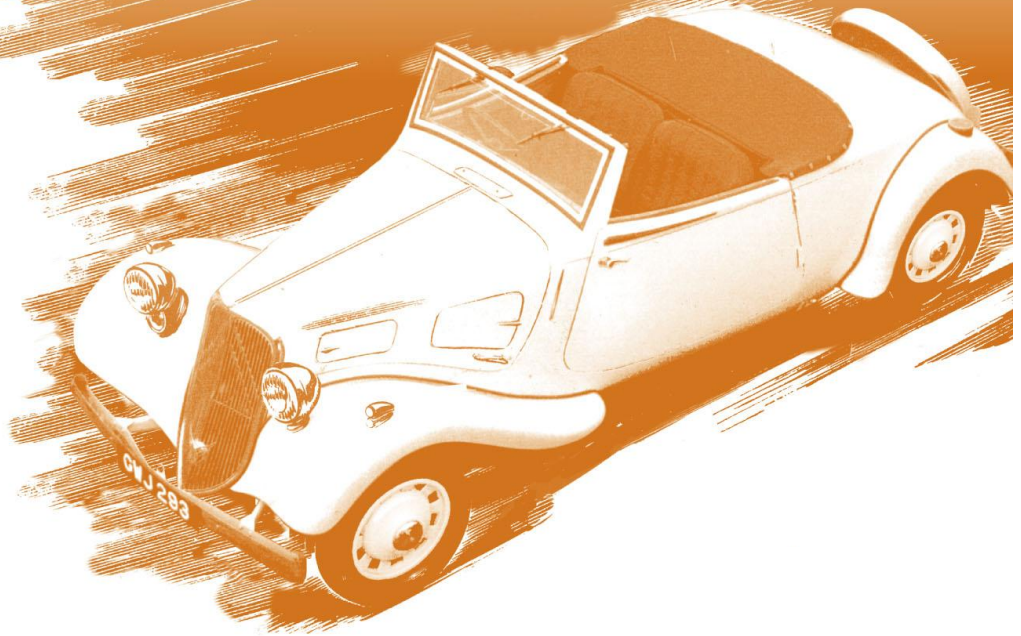
Max Poole and Stuart Craig's Lomax

The Magazine of the Auckland Citroen Car Club Inc



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TRACTION AVANT

April 2022

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The views expressed in contributions to this publication are those of the author
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BULLETIN BOARD

Discounts: A reminder, to qualify for Club discounts where these are offered, it will be necessary to provide your membership card / name tag, issued for such purposes, to show that you are a current member.

Facebook: The Club has a Facebook page. Look for it and “like” it, to be part of it.

Club’s magazine collection: Magazines from other Clubs are available to be borrowed, but not by just picking them up off the table at Club Night and taking them away. Arrange it through the Librarian, Chris Grove, so he knows where they are.

Invitation to Renault owners. It is okay to invite Renault-owning friends along as guests to our events; they will be made welcome.

EDITORIAL

With the lifting of "Covid" restrictions and cautious freedom upon our country, Committee is eager for us to socialize and catch up with each other. Over the next few months there are several very interesting events planned.

If you wish to suggest a venue or social event for us to visit, please speak up and let a committee member know your idea.

Positive ideas regarding Rally 2024 (which our club is hosting) came to us after last month's newsletter.... very encouraging suggestion.

Looking forward to seeing a great turn out for Miranda trip on Sunday 10th April....

Regards

Sue Jones

Gymkhana

Further to Sue's request above for suggestions, the Committee would also like to hear from you on the Gymkhana.

The Club's poor turn out at Karaka in February indicates that the members no longer find this an attractive event. Yet until recently it was probably one of the most popular items in the Club calendar.

What has gone wrong, and why has it suddenly lost favour?

We would welcome your feedback.

If you think you know, have some idea of what may be the problem, or even can tell us your personal reasons for not coming, please send me an email, or talk to a Committee member.

Thanks,

Bill Hill



RECENT EVENTS

National Rally Consolation Tour

March 2022

We Three Venture South

With the cancellation of our Citroen National Rally 2022 Max & Alan Poole & Peter Akeroyd decided to have their own "mini Rally". With an invite from Stuart Craig to join an event with the Taranaki West Coast Citroen Car Club in Manaia the lads headed off in Alan's lovely C6.

First stop was in Hamilton to enjoy morning tea with Sonja Craig (common surname among our Citroen fraternity) X partner of Andy Higgins. Lunch in Tokoroa where we avoided any patched gang confrontations or robberies.

As some of us had never been to Horopito in the Nation Park behind Mount Ruapehu (14.8 Acres of wrecked vehicles of all shapes, sizes, ages, and condition). It was featured in the Mini Movie Smash Palace. One Trac Avant was spied & lots of Peugeot's etc etc etc



From there straight to the home of Citroen Legend Rex Carkeek who had a great meal waiting for us all. Lucky lads 1!

We collected a lovely C6 to be sold (see our ad *Trading Post*).

Rex & Max

Next day we headed off in convoy to Manaia led by the “the Oldest Rally Driver in NZ” our Rex.

We received the wonderful “Craig royal welcome” led by Stuart and his mum Jessie.

On Saturday night a great in house BBQ was attended by us all and some local friends & Car Club members. Lucky Lads 2!

Sunday mid-morning we headed off to a Café in Hawera to meet with the CCC members. At the car park we were given instructions to proceed to a private parking lot to complete two static Gymkhana type “things to complete”. Then an “open home don’t get lost Mini Trial” which ended up at the beautiful sea side settlement at Kaupokonui Heads. We were hosted at “Craig’s Batch” which has been in the family for yonks. We enjoyed a picnic lunch with yummy hot Scones etc accompanied by Pears etc. Lucky Lads 3!



The local CCC held their meeting there too that day. Rex headed home. We trouped back to Manaia for a repeat BBQ. Lucky Lads 4!

Monday we decide to visit Murray & Lynn Bublitz who had just moved into a great property in Hawera. Well now you would have sworn you were at a

Citroen Museum come wrecker's yard. Citroens of all shapes & sizes. Approximately twelve including a New C5 Crossover & C3 Shine. To say Murray is a character is an understatement but very hospitable.

Back to Manaia to shower and take Jessie and Stuart to a well-deserved dinner at the local Hotel which was excellent. But do watch out now as the Indians are heading South.



Stuart Craig & the Poole brothers

Tuesday morning two C6's headed off for New Plymouth for a visit to Denis Adlam at Neville's old Dairy factory where he has set up shop at Omata south west of NP. It looked like a Citroën Horopito. Then on to book into our Amberly Court Motel which is great value for money.

A pleasant afternoon tea was had with John & Caroline Brough who are well known Citroën enthusiasts but are becoming less famous as they have reduced their very large Citroën Fleet drastically. But let's face it! How many cars do we really need? That should stir up a "hornets' nest".

A very modest Burger dinner was had that night. Last of the Lucky Lads venues.

Wednesday morning the Poole Boys headed home via a friend in Cambridge. Yours's truly headed for Taupo via Bennydale for the night with lifelong friends. Home Thursday to catch-up on car cleaning and laundry.

Altogether a fun trip with great company and hospitality along the way.

Cheers,

Peter A.



Before leaving New Plymouth we also managed to catch up with Bill Hill & his mother

Coming Events

Miranda Bird Sanctuary

Sunday 10 April

Let's have another go at getting to this! It may be a bit late in the season for the godwits, but there are other birds to see. Waikato will be joining us.

Meet from 11am at Pukorokoro Shorebird Centre 283 East Coast Road, Pūkoro, Miranda to learn about the birds before making our way down to the shore, then head 2km down the road to the bird hides to view the birds.

Finish off in Kaiaua for a picnic lunch – either bring your own, or fish and chips from the world famous in NZ fish & chip shop across the road.

What time of day is best ?

The best time is within **two hours either side of High Tide**. As the tide comes in, the birds move from far out on the mud flats where they feed to areas closer in towards shore.

High Tide on the 10 April is about 1.45pm



Club Night

Wednesday 20 April, VVCC Rooms, 39 Fairfax Avenue Penrose 8pm

Beeby Quiz

Read magazines from other Clubs. Usual supper and chat to finish.

Waikato CCC May Event “FIELD’S TRACK”

An invitation to join Barb and Ross on one of Ross’s mid-winter trips into the great unknown on highways and byways you may not have travelled.

Starting Taupo Friday 13 May

Finishing Whanganui Sunday 15 May

See full programme next page.

Club Visit to Hampton Downs Race Track

Sunday 15 May

For those not taking up the Waikato Club invitation, we are planning a visit to Hampton Downs. We probably won’t get any track time, but we hope to see over some workshops and Bruce McLaren Trust. Details not yet finalised, but should be an interesting day.

Club Library

The following printed newsletters from other car clubs are available to borrow or keep. Just let me know and I will get them to you. Or contact Bill if you would like them by email:

Peugeotex	October, November, December 2021
Bow Tie	February, March, April 2022
Roverdom	Oct-Nov, Dec 2021-Jan, February 2022
ACE WA	January, February, March 2022
Victoria	November, Dec 2021-Jan 2022, Feb 2022
Avant Garde (Queensland)	July-August 2021, Dec 2021 – March 2022
Waikato Chevrons	February, March, April 2022
Taranaki CCC	February, April 2022
Cit Bits	December 2021
Citroenesque	February, March, April 2022
Citroenian (UK)	August, September, October 2021

Cheers, **Chris Grove** 09 4837638 or <grooveytwo@xtra.co.nz>

Field's Track Programme

Friday 13th May 8.30am

Assemble for Breakfast at the SUN COURT HOTEL 14 Northcroft Street, TAUPO. A cooked breakfast is available at \$25.00/person. Please send me your numbers wishing to partake. I have to have this info to the hotel 8 days before Event.

I anticipate departing from this venue about 10.00am.

Maps will be provided at the briefing over breakfast.

10.00am Depart Taupo

Head to Ohakune via SH1 – because this is a state highway perhaps we should not all bunch together.

Lunch at Ohakune There are two cafes side by side in the main street of Ohakune. I have not booked us in, but there is plenty of space under cover between the two cafes.

Taupo to Ohakune is a distance of about 135 km so allow about 1.5 hours.

1.30pm Depart Ohakune

Head towards Waiouru on SH49, turn right and off SH49 onto Whangaehu Vallie Road then follow the map to **Fields Track**.

Head South down SH 4 (Parapara Rd). Turn left into **Te Rimu Road**. Then follow map into Whanganui. This leg is about 100+ kms.

Book your 2 night's accommodation at the Grand Hotel. Jeremy Rodgers is giving us a room rate of \$90.00/night if you identify you are on the WCCC run and book directly via **06 3450955**. The hotel is on the corner of St Hill & Guyton Streets.

Friday Night Dinner forage for yourselves, there are cafes and restaurants within walking distance.

Saturday 14th May This is your day to explore Whanganui. Look at Whanganuinz.com

Saturday Night dinner 7.00pm

The dining room is large and with a wonderful ceiling! I don't think we need to restrict numbers. (More info to follow).

Sunday 15th May

We will find a place for a farewell breakfast, then suggest we head back home via the drive up the Whanganui River to Pipiriki, Raetihi, then home.

Two of these roads you may never have been on or heard about.

None of my events are ever racer's but an opportunity to enjoy good cars on unknown roads.

Contact me Ross Malcolm Ph 07 929 9362, 021 1688216, Email ross.malcolm@slingshot.co.nz

I need your numbers attending and your cell phone number so a list can be provided to all.

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New Members

We welcome the following new members:

Garry Queenin Devonport	1926 B12, 1938 L15, 1971 D Special, 2 x 1989 BX Autos, 1989 BX 16 Valve, 1990 BX 4x4
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Hepke & Ann van der Sluis Gulf Harbour	DS5
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We look forward to seeing you at Club events

Come and join in RAID KAIMOANA O AOTEAROA! February – March 2023

Spend just over five weeks on a trip around the North and South Islands of New Zealand, sampling the many and varied local foods, and learn a bit about the people and places. Enjoy the beautiful scenery from your car and the occasional boat. While travel by 2CV is preferred, due to the costs of getting cars to and from New Zealand, this will be a 2CV Friends Raid, to enable those who cannot get a 2CV here to join in by hiring a car in this country.

The trip starts in Auckland (Orewa) on the evening of Saturday the 18th of February 2023 with a pre-Raid dinner and **finishes with the Final Dinner near Christchurch** on the evening of Sunday the 25th of March.

Included in the cost (\$1100NZ pp): some (approximately 6) dinners, travel on the Ferry to the South Island, some (approximately 5) trips, Raid Tee Shirt. There are also approximately seven other optional trips available.

Not Included: Travel to & from NZ, transport of cars to & from NZ, hire of cars in New Zealand, on road costs and insurance for cars, Ferry Picton to Wellington (back to the North Island for those returning there), Ferry to & from Rakiura/Stewart Island, food, fuel, accommodation.

North Island leg only: \$450pp **South Island leg only:** \$450 pp

For people wanting to return to the North Island, there is **Raid Return to Reality**, which takes about five days and arrives in Auckland on the afternoon of Friday 24th March. Cost \$350 pp. (Covers cost of ferry and final dinner, but does not otherwise include food, accommodation or fuel, etc, the same as Raid Kaimoana)

Maximum number of cars is 25, so register soon and join this trip.

Enquiries/Registrations to:
lesleyanne258@hotmail.com



Auto-Citroen

Stanley Reed's Auto-Citroen was designed in early 1947 by Stanley and Gordon Reed of AA Reed, the Cape Citroen distributors. It was originally made mainly for hillclimbs and sprint work hence the rear positioned engine for maximum traction.



The attractive bodywork was designed by Gordon Reed and was said to have been inspired by the pre-war Auto Unions that had been on display in Reed's garage when the German team visited to race in the 1937 South African series.

The unique Auto-Citroen turned out to be one of the most successful of the "specials" and was a regular front runner from 1948 to 1955 when Stanley hung up his helmet.

The chassis consisted of four thin walled high tensile steel tubes of 1½" outside diameter braced on each side following aircraft construction to form a very rigid structure.

Springing was by torsion bar and all four wheels were independently sprung and damped by hydraulic shock absorbers.

It used a standard Citroen front end reversed in a mid-engine layout with the steering rods locked to the chassis to form the back section and another Citroen front end at the "forward" end, complete with rack & pinion steering.

The Auto-Citroen had 12 inch brake drums at the front and 10 inch rear. Interestingly, a standard woven material was used for the linings. Initially brake fade became apparent after ten laps of racing but when cooling scoops were fitted there was no more trouble.

The gearbox was adapted by fitting the differential assembly on the 'opposite' side of the pinion.

Other technical details:

7.5:1 compression ratio, twin Solex down draught carburettors, later SU, flywheel lightened by 17lb.

Sealed radiator at the front and header tank with filler mounted above and behind the engine.

Marshall Roos blower fitted 1950.

Item supplied by Peter Akeroyd

New Citroen C5 X 2022 review

[John McIlroy](#) 11 Mar 2022

If you're in the market for a large hatchback or saloon, the new Citroen C5 X is an intriguing choice



It's hard to know how many people are really still in the market for a large saloon or hatchback these days, but for anyone who is, the [Citroen C5 X](#) is definitely worth considering. It's comfortable, spacious and practical, and while the design and format won't appeal to everyone, we don't think Citroen is being unduly optimistic when it says it expects to attract a few customers out of family SUVs.

On the road it strikes us as a solid, well-judged compromise between low-speed comfort, motorway waftability and sensible B-road progress.

Trading Post

Trading Post ads are free, but because people too often forget to let us know when no longer required, will run for only three issues unless you ask for a repeat.

OPPORTUNITY: ARE YOU UP FOR A RENAULT RENO? IF SO – READ ON ! have a 1981 Renault 4 GTL car, partially dismantled, but ready for restoration to commence. This vehicle was NZ new in 1981, WOF expired 05/10/2003, and registration lapsed 15/10/2003. The odometer reading is 92844 km. The vehicle is in reasonable condition and is suitable for restoration but has some body and chassis rust to be attended to. As far as I am aware there are no major mechanical problems to be dealt with. Replacement chassis and body parts have been obtained from Germany for the necessary work.

The Renault 4 is a very interesting vehicle although not common in New Zealand as it seems it was only available here by private order. It was Renault's take on the Citroen 2CV but is a bit bigger and has a hatch back door, very versatile. I understand that over 8 million of these cars were built from 1961 up to 1992. If you are at all interested in the opportunity please contact me by phone, email or letter. Chris Grove, POBox 40006, Glenfield, Auckland 0747, or grooveytwo@xtra.co.nz, or Ph(09)4837638.



For Sale: 2010 Citroen C6, on behalf of a life long friend. 2.7 V6 Tdi Auto in excellent condition. NZ new with service history. Met. Grape with beautiful Cream Leather Trim. Michelin Tyres of course. Genuine 138,900 kms. A true classic Citroen in the making \$19,990 ono. Would consider any very tidy car as part exchange. Call or txt PeterAkeroyd on any evening at 029-5250800. Be quick. It can only be sold once.



For Sale: 2010 C5 2 litre diesel, dark blue, black leather. Has done 81,000km. Great economical car, good condition. Pete Sinton
Ph. 412-2016, Mob. 021-637-772, e.mail petesinton@townplanner.co.nz

Free to take away: Small boot L15 in Massey, West Auckland – bring a trailer.
Contact dammad74@gmail.com



Wanted: Temporary visit by BX16V to park alongside a 1991 car in Auckland that has been in parts and off the road for far too many years, so I can check where things should go. Won't take long, nothing required apart from an open bonnet. An "appreciation" can be arranged, any help much appreciated.
Contact Tony 021 911 703, tony@diggabits.co.nz.



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EVENT REMINDERS

Miranda Bird Sanctuary / Kiaua fish & chips
Sunday 10 April, 11am at Pukorokoro Shorebird Centre

Club Night
Wednesday 20 April, VVCC Rooms, 39 Fairfax Avenue Penrose from 8pm
Beeby Quiz

Waikato Field's Track Trip
Friday 13 - Sunday 15 May

Club Visit to Hampton Downs
Sunday 15 May

Committee Meeting
Wednesday 18 May 8pm, VVCC Rooms, 39 Fairfax Avenue Penrose 8pm

Waikato Dawn Trial
Sunday 19 June

Bastille Day Dinner
Saturday 16/Sunday 17 July

Committee Meeting
Wednesday 20 July 8pm, VVCC Rooms, 39 Fairfax Avenue Penrose 8pm

Club Night
Wednesday 17 August
AGM

For more information ask any committee member. (Contact details on inside front cover).

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EVENT

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SUNDAY

5 March

2023

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