

Traction Avant

May 2023



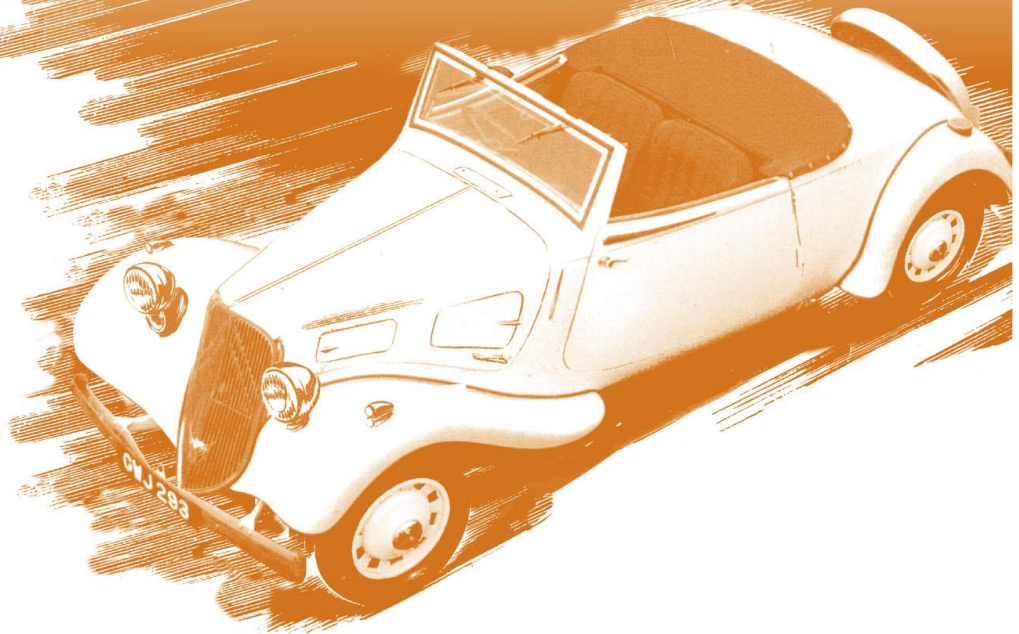
Geoff Tyler in his 2CV at the National Rally

The Magazine of the Auckland Citroen Car Club Inc



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TRACTION AVANT

May 2023

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PO Box 74 393 Greenlane, Auckland 1546, New Zealand

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 may 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.

Coffee & Cars: An informal get together for those interested in cars, Maurice Road entrance of Mt Smart Stadium, the last Sunday of every month from 9am.

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

EDITORIAL

After The Event

By Christine Tyler

Monday 13 March saw those of us who had opted to be part of the post-Rally tiki tour head off from our respective accommodation. The weather had turned somewhat custard-like. In fact, it was pouring down and the windscreen wipers of our trusty 2CV were working flat out - to use an old term. So flat out, in fact, that as we sped...motored...and then chugged...through the hamlet of Colgate, it became clear that all was not well with our little car. Fortunately, the only business in Colgate is a garage and so we stopped for investigation. What followed was the beginning of a series of tests that determined the car needed a new alternator. Contact was made with David Jones and arrangements completed to have the part couriered overnight. Meanwhile, Peter Akeroyd graciously assisted and drove us to the Terrace Station event. What joy to spend time in Peter's warm, dry and reliable C5 at this point in the day! (with apologies to our sturdy little 2 horsepowered vehicle) and back to the Colgate garage. We were able to have enough life-force injected back into the little car to get ourselves to Darfield. The plan was that we would stay overnight, awaiting the arrival of the alternator, anticipating we would then rejoin the tour.

Little did we know how much plans would change! The first surprise was learning that the term 'overnight courier' is merely a term and not a fact. Secondly, we were informed that the dreaded Covid was making its way into the group and a number of people had tested positive and were indeed unwell. At this point we put our trust (and the 2CV) into the hands of the good garage owner at Colgate, caught a taxi to take us to a car hire at Christchurch airport, and donned our masks. Our next few days were spent following the trail of the rest of the group surrounded by the beautiful Canterbury/Otago scenery.

What remains to be said are a number of thank yous. Firstly a big thank you to Richard for all his work to make the post-event tour so remarkable. Thank you to Peter A for driving us around on that fateful wet Monday. Lastly, thank you to Colgate garage for speedily installing the said car part once it arrived - 5 days after it was ordered!

Not such a big thank you to Interislander Ferries for not contacting us to tell us our particular crossing had been cancelled – however, they did fit us on a crossing the next day and we were fortunate enough to get a bed in Picton overnight.

Despite all, it was a joy to squeeze ourselves and our luggage back into the 2CV and to listen to its sweet murmurings once again.

The last day driving back to Auckland saw all two windows down and both of us masked again, as by now Geoff had tested positive for Covid.

What a trip!

RECENT EVENTS

Visit to Matakana Markets / Mortimer Motorsports Museum

By Peter Akeroyd

On Saturday 15th April 2023 members of our club independently made their way initially to the township where parking is always an issue. This allowing casual meeting and mingling and chatting in small clusters around a very interesting array of food vendors and entrepreneurs selling anything from safety pins to rodeo saddles. The terrain was mixed and varied and even had their own stream where tame eels abounded. Even a Movie Theatre if one was that way inclined and you got 10 out of 10 if you could locate the onsite toilets. Altogether an interesting multicultural venue.

Those who attended the lunch Pit Stop were >>

Alan & Gwen Poole, Allan Lennard, Lawrence Nicholson, Kevin & Bridget Beeby, Sue Jones (with grandson Mitchell), Terry Brown, Sam Doh, Peter Akeroyd with grandsons Mack & Marlin and guests Jaison Kerr and Murray Smallfield.

It was then a game of “hide and seek” as it appears with my late return from the South and never reading our club magazine on the internet I hadn’t checked the Museum address for which I apologise. Most of us including Bruce & Heather West plus two guests did arrive in time.

We were treated to an interesting array of sports (including a fantastic McLaren M8), single seater racing cars, saloons and a small number of motorcycles. Our hosts Tina and Tony (who gave an excellent commentary of all and sundry) Gould were both charming helpful and informative.

Thank you all to those that made the effort to attend. Tatou tatou.





Murray Smallfield, Terry Brown and Peter Akeroyd being entertained by Tony Gould



The McLaren M8

April Club Night

By Graham Pilgrim

April's Club Night was held on the 19th at the usual venue, the Veteran and Vintage Car Club's rooms in Penrose.

Just thirteen people attended, and most of the evening was spent looking at members' photographs, projected on to a large screen, that had been taken during the recent Brit and Euro Show in Pakuranga, and of course, the Canterbury Rally.

This was accompanied by some very nice Whitestone Camembert cheese from Oamaru, and some cracker biscuits of dubious history.

The evening wound up with tea, coffee, and fruit cake, and concluded at around 10:00pm.



Among the National Rally photos was Ian Moore's newly restored 1957 2CV pickup

Ellerslie Classic Car Show

Sunday 23 April

By Lawrence Nicholson

It was great to be back. Several years had gone by since our club had put on a display and we had a manicured enclave shared with an also returning Peugeot club and a classic Renault group.

It started out as just a committee event for ease of organisation, but as people and cars became unavailable, some shoulders had to be tapped.

Thanks to John for bringing his DS, Laurie (DS Chapron), Hasita (2CV), Scotty (CX), Alan (Traction), Peter (Mehari) & I took my Ami.

The event seemed to draw a healthy attendance from the general public, which generated some rewarding conversations.

Overall the Ellerslie grounds are going through a rather substantial redesign so it was worth ignoring all the upturned earth.

I'm sure our club will be back again in 2024.



Coming Events

Kaipara Harbour Cruise Sunday 21 May - **Cancelled** because of lack of numbers.

Instead: We'll be going to see a classic film:

Blow-up

At the Bridgeway cinema, 122 Queen St, Northcote Point, at 3pm, as part of an Italian Film Festival running that weekend. This film, in English, was a box office hit in the 1960's, and is described as a clever, existential, stylish, thriller.

Then we'll retire to the Clarence Rd Eatery next door for food, drink and a chat.

Note: We are not sure just how popular this showing is likely to be, so it may pay to book with the theatre, 09 481 0040.

Explore Awhitu Peninsula

Saturday 27th May – join in all or part.

Start: 9.30am at Tuakau Hotel, 1 George St, Tuakau
OR 10am at Dickeys Museum, 9 Kitchener Rd, Waiuku. Admission \$10
per person.

The Dickeys Museum is a private museum, visited by appointment only, housed in what was previously a supermarket. There is an extensive collection including tractors, cars, mopeds, fire engines, trucks, farming equipment, toys, sewing machines and salt and pepper sets.

Explore Awhitu Peninsula

- driving time Tuakau Hotel return is approx 2 hours 15 mins.
- visit Pollok Art and Crafts Co-op gallery and sculptures
- Awhitu Regional Park - there are easy short walks here (or longer walks for eager people).

Saturday evening - dinner is booked for 7pm at Elsie's restaurant in the Tuakau hotel.

Sunday 28th May - suggestion to visit Port Waikato

- Drive time from Tuakau to Port Waikato is 30 minutes on a scenic sealed road.

Accommodation: Rooms have been pencilled in at the Tuakau Hotel for the nights of Fri 26 & Sat 27 for those who wish to stay there.

<https://www.tuakauhotel.co.nz/accommodation>

For bookings, please ring the hotel direct on 09 236 8084 and say you are booking under Sharon Armit. This will give you 15% discount on their advertised rates. Payment is not required until arrival. As it is a group booking, any cancellations will need to be made more than a week before staying at the hotel.

Please let Sharon know via e-mail, text or phone if you are attending:
sharon.armit@gmail.com, Ph: 027 5188335.

Club Night

Wednesday 15 June, 8pm

VVCC Rooms, 39 Fairfax Avenue, Penrose

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 2022
Bow Tie	July, August, October 2022
Roverdom	February/March, April 2023
Victoria	January, February*, March, April 2023
Waikato Chevrons	February, March, April 2023
Taranaki CCC	December/January, February/March 2023
Cit Bits	December 2022
Citroenesque	January, February, March, April 2023
Citroenian (UK)	November, December 2022, January 2023

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

In addition, the following are available by email only. Bill will forward them to you on request:

ACE WA	February, March, April 2023
Avant Garde (Queensland)	October - December 2022



Display Sign Stake

Stick-in-ground holder for information about your car at display events.

Cost \$12 each.

These are now in stock, held by Kevin. Contact him at kevinbeeby2@gmail.com. Or if you have already ordered one, pay the money into our bank account 123021-0254097-00, and arrange delivery with him.

Project / parts cars

Citroen 72 DS Pallas parts car

Would anyone be keen on a 72 DS Pallas car as parts? Has been sitting in our farm yard with no future ahead of it and will be advertising it on trademe soon. Was originally found on a neighbouring Waitane district farm 20mins out of south Gore in the same condition. Engine block and 5 speed gearbox look to be in sound order. Open to offers if someone in your club would like to view.

Contact Ross Murdock 02108127759, [rsmurdoch@gmail.com](mailto:rssmurdoch@gmail.com)

You can view images at the following link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Kdxhtjf5NQ8NM-bEch7e1KKtNkwhIEE?usp=sharing>

BX Estate

I am a former member of the club; but haven't been for some years. I have an as is where is Citroen BX Estate (station wagon not hatchback) - 1992 - and am wondering if there would be any members interested in buying it. It would require significant work, but I understand there are not many estates in NZ and its relative rarity may mean something to someone. I am not in a position to get it running again. If there is no interest in it, I will move it on to a wrecker.

Contact Amanda <ajxbrown@gmail.com>

Progress report: 2022 DS 9 vs Citroen XM 1990

Two fancy French saloons, each claiming pillowlike comfort. How do they compare?



[Peter Rawlins](#), *Topgear*. Published: 28 Dec 2022

AN XM? I'VE NOT SEEN ONE OF THOSE FOR AGES



You and us both. Citroen's luxobarge pedigree began with the DS, followed by the CX, and then this, the XM. Launched in 1989 and styled by Bertone, one of its key selling points was its self-levelling, electronically controlled hydropneumatic suspension that promised a silky smooth ride. Despite

winning plenty of plaudits from the automotive media, sales suffered due to perceived unreliability issues, and it was quietly phased out 11 years later.

WHAT'S THE CAR BELOW?



The first executive saloon from Citroën's luxury sub-brand, the DS 9 launched in 2020 and is here to take the fight to its premium German rivals. Design-wise there's much chrome trim plus several nods to DSs of old, including those cornet-style lights on the C-pillars. Like the XM, however, its biggest party trick is its Active Scan Suspension, which works by way of a camera which scans the road ahead in conjunction with multiple sensors, with each wheel individually damped to improve ride quality. Clever stuff.

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE IN POWER?

The XM was available with a range of diesel and petrol engines – including a 3.0-litre V6 – throughout its lifetime, with this early example featuring a 2.0-litre petrol producing 130bhp mated to a four-speed automatic gearbox. DS 9 buyers get a choice of a 1.6-litre petrol 4cyl good for 222bhp, a plug-in hybrid (as we have here) that pairs a lesser 1.6-litre petrol engine with a 108bhp electric motor for an identical 222bhp and up to 34 miles of all-electric range. Plus there's a range-topping 355bhp variant.

GOTCHA. SO WHAT'S THE XM LIKE?

Settling in, the first thing you notice is the glorious single-spoke steering wheel – replaced on later facelifted models – shortly followed by just how beautifully soft the seats are. At lower speeds it's a comfortable cruiser, but up the ante



and the 2.0-litre engine feels somewhat underpowered. Still, it's oh-so comfortable, with the fancy suspension smothering out any bumps in the road. Owner Rob regularly uses this on his 100-mile round commute, and it's not hard to see why. What reliability issues?

AND THE DS 9?



Where the XM feels delightfully old school, the DS 9 feels suitably premium, with its digital dials, fancy infotainment system, plush materials and cocooned interior. In truth, there are few similarities between these two, the DS 9 feels

positively space age by comparison. On the move the DS 9 glides where the XM floats courtesy of its smart suspension – slightly firmer, less forgiving, but still pleasingly pillowy – with the hybrid powertrain adding to the sense of harmony.



Conclusion? Draw your own.

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.

For Sale: 2008 C5 Tourer. Black. 236,000km, one family owner, in good condition. WoF & Reg, but there is a problem in that the engine will occasionally cut out. It has always gone again, but any purchaser needs to be aware of that. Contact for more information: Doig Smith, 027 4478807, doigsmith182@gmail.com

For Sale: 2007 Citroen C6 2.7 HDi Turbo diesel auto. Reg No PFN669
Speedo 104,178 MLS. A chance to buy a classic Citroen in the making. The C6 was introduced in 2006 and was produced until 2012. The cost to buy New in NZ was approx. \$109,000. With self-levelling hydro-pneumatic suspension which is electronically controlled. Automatic rear spoiler, alloy wheels, heads up display, lots of airbags, air conditioning, am/fm stereo, leather seats plus many many more. Power full V6 / 2.7 litre turbo diesel engine coupled to a six speed Tip Tronic transmission. Driving is believing. I purchased this vehicle six months ago from the original owner who had brought it new in the U.K. (First registered in NZ 1/12/2015) It has been my "pet project" since then but still has two things to complete i.e. the EGR valve at the front of the engine needs **servicing** or replacing and the passenger's door doesn't stay central locked. Along with the electronic key not working. (These parts sourced from overseas). I have priced the C6 to allow for these to be completed by its new owner. Would consider a tidy vehicle in part exchange. MTF finance is available to an approved purchaser. Speedo 104,178 miles. WOF expires 11/11/2023, Registration expires 31/08/2023, RUC current to 106,271 MLS. **Price \$12,990** ono. Call Peter Akeroyd on 029-5250800 to view and test drive.



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EVENT REMINDERS

Committee Meeting

Wednesday 17 May, 7.30pm, VVCC Rooms 39 Fairfax Avenue Penrose

Movie at the Bridgeway Cinema, Northcote Blow-up

Sunday 21 May 2023, 3pm

Explore Awhitu Peninsula

Saturday 27 May 2023, starting at Dickeys Museum, 9 Kitchener Road,
Waiuku, 10am

Club Night

Wednesday 21 June 8pm, VVCC Rooms 39 Fairfax Avenue Penrose

Committee Meeting

Wednesday 19 July, 7.30pm, VVCC Rooms 39 Fairfax Avenue Penrose

Club Night

Wednesday 16 August - **AGM**

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

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