

Chairman's Report for the 2009 Annual General Meeting 12th May 2009

It is my pleasure to present the Chairman's Report on the New Zealand Classic Car Weekend and the 36th Intermarque Concours D'Elegance held at Ellerslie race course on the 7th and 8th February 2009.

This Years theme was a "weekend in my Classic"

This was the 5th year of the classic car weekend format and despite the depressed times attracted 73 Clubs, a record entry and 4 more than ever before. Our event is the premier Classic Car event in New Zealand and these numbers confirm its standing. The size of the event presents both opportunities and challenges and I will talk about them later in this report.

At the 2008 AGM the following committee was elected to organise the 2009 event.

As of right

The host Club the Porsche Car Club	Ashley Powell Mike Wyse
The previous Host MG Car Club TACCOC	Michael Perry Stan Edwards

Elected

Alfa Romeo Club	David Burke-Kennedy
Mercedes Benz Club Auckland	Garry Boyce
BMW Car Club NZ	Adrian Blok
Mustang Owners Club	Ian Langley

The Committee elected Garry Boyce as Chairman, Adrian Bock as Secretary and Ian Langley as Treasurer. The following were also co-opted onto the committee: Alisdair Keucke from the TR register NZ as Data base Manager; Ashley Webb representing NZ Classic Car magazine and Gary McCrystal, Cobra & Corvette Car Clubs. Colin Upchurch from MG agreed to organise and run the Fun run and Andrew Walbran from MG organised and ran the motokana.

I wish to thank all these people personally and on behalf of you all here tonight for the time given and their efforts that make this great event happen.

An example was a series of email correspondence between Adrian Blok and a lady, Judy, which culminated with this final reply.

"Hi there, We went today, my Dad in his wheelchair. He had a thoroughly marvellous time. Some of the cars brought tears to his eyes (he was a mechanic and very involved in motor sport). I am not as enthusiastic but enjoyed it despite of my childhood memories of cars, cars, cars. Congratulations on staging such a friendly and comprehensive event."

The weather for the weekend was just sublime. In the 5 years I have been on this committee I have been the Host once and the Chairman twice. On all three occasions we have had great weather; I have been lucky.

The Fun Run: The Saturday morning Fun Run was again very popular with 189 cars participating. The cars that come out of the woodwork for this event continue to amaze me. All 6 run destinations were well supported. This event has now established itself as a major part of the weekend. The starting line-up from 8am through 10am is for me the best part of the day, as each car arrives and lines up in its run. The variety of cars that our hobby represents shows itself. We must continue to enhance this part of the weekend. The comments at the destination I went to were very positive. We must get other clubs and people involved in running and organising the Fun Run.;MG cannot be expected to do this for ever.

Sunday is the big day of the weekend. The committee was apprehensive as it was a long holiday weekend, Friday being Waitangi Day. But as much as we lost people going out of Auckland we also gained many out of town visitors. This gave us a record of over 3700 people through the Gates. Increased gate takings helped to offset the fall in commercial exhibitors because of the decimation of the local motor industry, and helped balance the budget. Extra effort put into marketing through Radio and Newspapers also had a major effect on the gate and we must acknowledge David Burke-Kennedy and Ashley Webb for their tireless work in this regard.

There were a large number of attractions with the main ones being.

The Intermarque Concours D' Elegance Clubs team event and the Master class

The Best Club Display sponsored by Swann Classic Car Insurance

The Personalised Plates Motorkana

The Parkside Media Rare classics and Performance Car Exhibition

The Meguiar's best in Show award

The Motorkana attracted 11 teams. This year the entry fee was \$10 per team. MG arranged the permit from Motorsport NZ which then provided the organisers with the public liability insurance. This event adds life, movement, noise and smell to what is a static day and attracts a large crowd of onlookers.

Parkside Media sponsored a display in the Newmarket room of rare classics and performance cars. This display encouraged those younger than most of us here tonight to come along, and helps keep our classic car hobby in front of those younger car enthusiasts.

The Swan Insurance Best club display completion with the Theme "Weekend with my Classic" really encouraged clubs to go to some extra ordinary lengths with their presentation. The standard was amazing. It is now up to the new committee to come up with a theme that will keep the enthusiasm going. Auckland Mustang Club was the worthy winner.

The main event of the day the 36th Intermarque Concours D'Elegance competition sponsored by New Zealand Classic Car continued to amaze us with the quality of both amateur and professional restorations. The cars presented at Ellerslie this year are the

best of their type in New Zealand. The Porsche Car club was the winner and will be the host club for 2010.

The Master Class was won by Alex Ross with his Chevrolet Impala Sports Coupe.

I wish to thank Stan Edwards and his judging team from TACCOC for all their efforts on the day. All completed on time for the prize giving starting at 3 pm.

The Meguiar's prize for their selection of a car not entered in any competition was won by Grant Owen with a 1964 Cadillac Fleetwood.

The number of entries for the master class over the last 2 years has been disappointing. The new committee has resolved that it will no longer leave it to clubs to organise entries but will go out and actively solicit cars for this part of the competition. This is the practice for most overseas Concours competitions.

With 73 clubs participating, space at Ellerslie is now at a premium. For the first time we used the small parade ring behind the stables. The site allocation group had a difficult job meeting all the requests from different clubs for extra cars. To accommodate all the new clubs we and Meguiar's agreed to drop the Show and Shine contest from the programme. This gave us the space that this year was allocated to Morgan which was celebrating their 100th anniversary. This space will be kept for any club that wishes to present a special display and will be allocated at the discretion of the committee.

With more cars entering the venue, the new committee along with Ellerslie events will be introducing a new club car arrival and vetting system for next year. This will eliminate many of the frustrations experienced getting into the show.

It was extremely disappointing to see clubs leaving and driving out at 2.30 in the afternoon. Not only is this an insult to the paying public but it is also dangerous and violates the OSH clauses in our contract with Ellerslie events management. For next year, Clubs will be asked to sign a declaration that they will stay until after the prize giving as part of the acceptance of their entry.

An event of this size requires a lot of support and I would like to acknowledge the support we have from all the commercial sponsors who took space at the event.

The size of the event and its organisational structure needs to be kept under review to ensure we can continue to cope as a volunteer organisation.

The committee have booked the Ellerslie site for the weekend of February 13th and 14th 2010 for the 37th Classic Car weekend.

This report will be posted on our web site in the next days.

Garry Boyce
Chairman
NZ Classic Car Weekend Committee 2009.