

Aussie Day Out

November 2016

by Philip Meyer

The Site: Clevedon School, Sunday Morning

Next Door; Clevedon Hotel. Open

The Players: The General Motors Enthusiasts Club

The Cast:

Holden's 50%, Ford's 25%, Leyland's 10%, Chrysler's 14% Others 1%

I could list the names (and Addresses) of all those participating, but in the interests of reader participation there are probably better ideas. It has been our history that over the last few years we have done pretty well in the trophy stakes but this year Chrysler cleaned us out, it is fair to say, so our bag totalled four and that is including one that was uncollected from a previous year. How can you forget your trophy?

The short list is appended later. Not that there is ever a completion within our group, because we are far more refined than that, but it remains a fact that Waikato outnumbered Auckland by six to three.



Left: Best Leyland recipient displaying all the trophies appears below, being guarded by Ed, Peter and Philip.

And I must admit it was our pleasure to have the company of Elva Sutherland and Annette (CB Super) Steve Learmonth (RF Leyland) Ian Sutherland (AG Executive) Edward and Annette (ON Leyland) and Mike and Carmen (CW Super).

The rest were Alex Reid and Gordon Gruebner (B as B Supers) Peter Venning (FB Deluxe) and David Timms (AEB Executive) which totals nine.

But wait, my Saab 96 (off white two door – ref Club web site) made us ten. It had been registered for the day and it must be noted that for that day only it was an honorary Aussie! The colours mentioned in brackets following the names indicates the colour of the vehicles, rather than any other characteristic. And the Editor correcting those colours doesn't alter this fact.

The vent was from my point of view, immensely enjoyable however I did note that the vehicle placement left a bit to be desired as we were not all grouped together – neither were the other makes to be fair. The enjoyable part was the camaraderie that pervaded – but wait, the breakfast was ok too. It is to my regret that we have to rely on the fourth tier of photographer for photos of the event and there is a sad tale to relate as to why this situation arose. No 1 tier (Paul) was busy in Wellington, No 2 tier (Philip) remembered his gear but hadn't charged either of the batteries for his camera, No 3 tier (Peter) checked his camera, same result. No 4 tier Gordon, came to our rescue. Thank you Gordon. It reminded me of the time on the Coromandel, fifteen of us went for "a walk" to the top of the highest mountain. Upon reaching the summit, seven of the group produced cameras and not one of them had a film in them. That gives you an idea of how long ago this was. Then there was the engine destruction event. A wrecked Nissan, remove engine oil and coolant, start motor, place brick on the accelerator. Sell tickets at \$2, estimate the time before the engine seizes. Put out the fire started in the grass by the exhaust pipe, turn the engine off at 50 minutes. That's how long it took, true story and no photos!

This year prize winners were;
Best Leyland: Steve Learmonth
Furthest travelled: Steve Learmonth and/or Mike King. Tied without a map to finally determine the longest distance.
Best Other: Philip Meyer for the little Saab
Latest collection of a trophy; Peter Venning, for what remains a mystery. Maybe next time.



Guys with their trophies

Here we see above, Alec, Peter with trophy, Ed with L&P, David and Philip with trophy, and below, an olden Holden, a Ford LTD, a Monaro and a nice looking CJ Valiant 360 V8. And of course that special "Aussie Saab" otherwise known as KiwiSaab!



The olden Holden



The LTD



The Valiant



The Monaro



PM Saab



The people shown are L to R; Philip Meyer, Steve Learmonth, Mike King, Peter Venning, Edward Tubman obscured, Annette Purcell