



December 2012

It's hard to believe the All USA Day is behind us. First of all, a REALLY big thank you to all the club members that turned up and worked hard. The committee was very pleased with everyone who put their names down to work on the gates, help with parking and judging. The day seemed to run so smoothly as there were people to step in and help as jobs needed doing. We were lucky?? with the weather as our worst fears were that we would have to move to the Car Parking building, so even though numbers of the public may have been down, we all think it would have been worst if we have had to move. Please find Grants report attached.

MUSTANG MEMORIES



The All Ford Day at Blake Park last March was my lucky day! There I saw Ray Hayward's distinctive green and gold '67 notchback which was for sale. Temptation, as well as an overwhelming dose of nostalgia, won out and once again I became the owner of a Mustang following a gap of 33 years.

Way back in February 1966, some four months after arriving in Toronto, Canada from Scotland, I purchased my first Mustang – a '65 white convertible with red interior, initially put on the road in September of that year, with only 4,000 miles on the odometer by the original owner. Quite a step up from the Mini I had owned in the UK. First big trip in the car was to the Winter Carnival in Quebec City within a week of ownership – five of us packed in for the 550 mile drive each way. And cold it was too, particularly on the return leg, mostly in the dark.

Temperatures were down to the minus high teens Celsius and it was windy, so cold that the heater couldn't keep the car warm enough as the fabric top let so much of that heat escape. We did recover, and by the end of August I had driven 12,000 miles in the car exploring the provinces of Ontario and Quebec plus the north-eastern states of the U.S.

September 1, on my own, I set out on a memorable journey. Three months of driving around North America lay ahead. From Toronto I took the Trans-Canada Highway north-west around Lakes Huron and Superior (the final stretch of highway around Lake Superior had only been sealed the year before) to Winnipeg, Manitoba, then across the Prairies to Regina and Saskatoon in Saskatchewan, continuing west to Edmonton, Alberta, and on to the most northerly point of my journey – way up the gravel McKenzie Highway to the township of Hay River at 61 degrees North, on the southern shores of Great Slave Lake in the Northern Territories. The fall colours on the tree foliage were stunning.

Returning down the highway, I drove through the Rockies to Vancouver, then over to Vancouver Island, the most westerly part of my trip. From there I headed south, to San Francisco and Los Angeles. Then I drove east to the most memorable part of my trip – Zion National Park, Bryce Canyon and the Grand Canyon in Utah and Arizona – dramatic wonders of the World not to be missed if you are ever nearby. Back in a southerly direction and after five days of driving through impoverished north-west Mexico I reached Mexico City where the car protested at the lack of oxygen some 7,000 feet and more above sea level. Otherwise no problems for the car or me in Mexico, apart from Montezuma's revenge! Acapulco, at 17 degrees North, was the most southerly point of my trip. Back in to the U.S. at Laredo, Texas, then across the Gulf states to Florida and the Keys, north along the Appalachian Mountains to New York and in to Canada to visit friends in Montreal before returning to Toronto after having driven 18,000 miles in 91 days.

Now this is real nostalgia.....Total cost of my 3-month trip – car, accommodation, meals, entrance fees and other was Cdn. \$1,112.40. Some examples were: gas as low as 27.7 cents per U.S. gallon, overnights YMCA in Canada at \$2.50, cooked breakfast including grits and coffee in the U.S. including taxes for 52 cents, full day entrance to Disneyland including a book of tickets for the rides for \$4.50, Las Vegas show at the then newly opened, although recently demolished, Stardust Hotel to see Mitzi Gaynor - only \$8.65 including 2 alcoholic drinks.

In March 1968 I sold the convertible upon the purchase of a brand new '68 notchback – burgundy with a black interior – which I kept as my every-day, latterly commuter-to-the-train-station car for 11 years, selling it in tired condition for \$300 in January 1979 to a young guy who was keen to bring it back to an active life. So after the gap of 33 years it feels really good to be back in a fabulous classic Mustang and to be a member of such an active and friendly club – thanks, Ray.

Thanks for that John, I would love to receive some more reports from club members for the next newsletter :)

What's Coming Up??

Dec 12	6 th Toy Run, (Baypark stadium 6pm) 9 th Last run of the year! Hamilton	- Paul/Duncan
Jan 13	20 th New Year's Picnic – Christmas Theme, Omokoroa 20 th & 27 th Denny Hulme Festival, Hampton Downs	Dave Flett -
Feb 13	9/10 th Club Overnighter, Napier (8 th Gisborne?)	Paul/Gillian
Mar 13	3 rd All Ford Day 17 th Golf Run – St Patricks Day Theme, Okoroire	Ford Muscle Car Club/Grant Dave Flett
Apr 13	14 th AGM (Location TBC) 21 st or 28 th (TBC) Tri Club ANZAC Run, ?	Committee AMOC

Wednesday 5th December – Tauranga Toy Run

Meet at Baypark stadium 6.00pm Rain Hail or Shine!

Bring along a NEW Toy for Kids Cancer or Cash donation for Waipuna Hospice.

Run leaves 6.30pm cruising thru Papamoa, downtown Mount, across the harbour bridge, downtown Tauranga and thru to Fraser cove where cars will be on display!

You are then welcome to have dinner at any of the places available, have a burger at BK or a meal and a drink at Worlds End Bar & Restaurant and catch up with fellow petrolheads or start on the Christmas shopping with the shops which are open for late shopping!

9 December Club Run

Just to let you know about our December club run. We are going to the Classics Museum in Dinsdale, Hamilton. It is a brand new car museum. We are meeting at The Lakes to leave at 10.30am to travel to Hamilton. If you are coming from somewhere else let me know and we will plan a meeting place. Entry to the Museum is \$15.00 each. We will then have lunch in the Jukebox Diner, a licensed 1950's diner, that is attached.

I know we have asked for numbers but if you wanted to join us on the day you would be most welcome.

On behalf of the Committee I would like to wish everyone as Very Merry Xmas and safe driving over the holiday period. I hope you see alot of cars out and about!!



Cheers Debra
bopmustangclub@gmail.com