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JAPANESE MOTORCYCLE CLUB NEWS LETTER



MAY 2015

ISSUE 114

Featured on the front page: The YAMAHA YA-1 is the first motorcycle produced by the Yamaha Motor Company. It was made from 1955 to 1958.

Editors Message

Hi Everyone,

Well here we are in May already! time flies when you are having fun. We had a really windy start to summer but when it came right, it was really hot and dry, so dry that we lost a couple of trees, one a King Protea, but by the time it was obvious something was wrong it was too late to save it. Some days it got too hot for me! We have had a couple of cold days this Month but mostly still warm and not a lot of rain yet. I am still tipping water from the washing machine onto the gardens. Though we are now getting a nice bit of rain that is washing the salt spray off the car and I think I can see some of the plants smiling! (No I haven't been drinking nor doing dope).

The rally has been and gone and was really good, the Christian Camp in Eltham had never allowed alcohol at the camp in its 50 odd years of existence, I asked the caretaker if we could drink there, she asked the board and they said we could if we were responsible and everyone behaved well so they are now looking at allowing it to groups in the future, so well done guys.

The weather was good for the weekend, the accommodation was okay, food and company good, heaps of good bikes so another successful rally.

The next rally will be in Nelson at Tahuna Beach 11th – 13th of March 2016 so put it in your diary, gives you plenty of time to prepare yourselves to attend.

Thanks to Don Sykes for his contribution of an article for the newsletter, we still need more input or we will have to start putting in recipes etc to bulk it up a bit!

Ross has been spending heaps of time in the garage getting the problems sorted out with the KH250. He wasn't sure if it was carburettors or electrical so had to painstakingly go through both and go out for a test ride after each alteration until it was fixed, he said that he is surprised now just how well she goes.

Now that it is darker earlier at night and getting a bit colder so not so nice for riding motorcycles how about taking a few minutes to put something together for the newsletter. You will make Angela and me extremely happy.

Sayonara,

Judy.

Members Corner

Hi all,

By way of a some introduction, I've been a member of the VJMC for many years.....joining back in the late nineties.

I have a couple of bikes.....a '78 CBX 1000 which I brought over with me from South Africa, a Suzuki RE5, '72 Z1, '74 Suzuki TS250 and a great little '79 Honda z50.

Until recently my ride around was a Kawasaki ZR1100 which I bought new back in 1992, celebrating at the time the twentieth anniversary of the Z1.

I've had a few more bikes in between but after reading the great article about Graeme Crosby in the last edition, I thought I'd share a short story about my Z1

Before moving to New Zealand, I lived in Johannesburg. Great weather, a dry climate with an almost complete absence of rust makes it good motorcycle country and I grew up with a progressive series of larger bikes starting as a schoolboy with a Suzuki 50 then 150, RD350, H1 Kawa, Yamaha XS1100 and a GPz 1100 before ending with the CBX before moving to New Zealand. It just seemed that everyone over there was into bikesand we Japies all knew the name of Graeme Crosby amongst other famous Kiwi riders. We looked upon him in awe and figured any TT winner must have two key qualities..... fantastic skill and absolutely no fear!

Kawasaki and the Z's in particular were a favourite so here in Auckland I bought I think, the first ZR1100 in the country fromCroz! A really great looking machine and with it's ducktail very much a reminder of the Z1.I cant recall how I found outbut I heard a certain Peter Hill had a pristine early Z1 with zero km on the clock. Peter I understand had recently been closely involved in the Kawasaki Motorcycle network in Auckland...not sure whether on the dealer or distribution side.

Anyway I tracked Peter down and as soon as I set my eyes on his Z1, I just had to have it!

I don't think Peter was at all keen to part with it...but as I recall, he was looking to move to a bigger property and so without haggle, I happily paid his price.

One of the questions he asked repeatedly was whether I intended to start, let alone ride the Z1.

Clearly, Peter thought it would be a shame to do so and had prepped it for static display.

I confess, I would have probably have said no just to close the deal.....but once I transported the machine back to my house.....I felt the same.

I was building a large triple garage and workshop so I decided to add in a large loft.

I framed in a large ceiling access space along with pull down stairs, and with a block and tackle hoisted the Z1 into the loft. The loft became my Boys Room I spent long hours both with mates showing off the beautiful Z over a few beers, and often just alone.

Every new visitor would ask whether I intended to ride it; the answer was the same...no.

Then my wife Liz fell pregnant with our first child... and convinced me that we needed to move from our beautiful house at the very top of Scenic Drive and closer to town. Came the time to ease the Z1 back down out of the loft. This is the sadand at the time, tragic part of the story.

Yes, you got it. The pin pulled out of the beam with my beauty hanging half way down.

It happened quickly. I had the rope a few paces back while my mate Glenn was on his toes, steadying the bike. Glenn jumped back and the Z1 crashed to the ground, bouncing high on its suspension before flipping onto its side. At the time I may have thought Glenn somewhat cowardly.....but on reflection maybe its not a good idea to try and catch a Z1 in mid air!

Damage was pretty much limited to the one side... not prettycrushed pipes, dented tank etc. But I was devastated. You have to remember this was stunning, absolutely mint machine. It was early 1994, we moved to Greenlane and I put a cover on and stored the bike at Glenn's factory in East Tamaki. Maybe hard to comprehend, but I didn't touch it again for another twenty years! In fact I barely looked at it again. Of course there were various conversations with people who offered to buy it...and numerous New Year resolutions to repair it.

Finallylast year.....as I say almost exactly twenty years later, I was idling thru TradeMe, did a search on Z1 and came across Greame Crosby! Restorations? Kawasaki a speciality!!? Croz listened to my sad story (he's probably heard a few) and fortunately for me agreed to drive all the way to the East Tamaki factory and check it out. He confirmed age through serial numbers to the 1972 early first production run. Turns out he knows Peter Hill too and thanks to Peter's fastidiousness the engine is still just perfect.

Before undertaking the restoration with all new parts etc, Croz asked me "You gonna ride it?" I recall freezing for a second.....was there a wrong answer? "Yes!" I replied. "Good on ya!" replied Croz

Don Sykes

Interesting stuff

Victor's on his feet after making history By Michele Hunter

Despite having a revolutionary new pacemaker inserted less than 24 hours earlier, Victor Kamizona was back at work this week.

On Monday morning the Tauranga man was the first in the country to be fitted with a new pacemaker - called the Advisa DR MRI SureScan - which will allow him to still have MRI scans in the future.

People with pacemakers can't usually have MRIs as the giant magnet has the potential to flick a switch in a pacemaker and cause it to malfunction.

The new pacemaker's switches and leads were made from a material that would not react to the magnet and was first fitted to a patient in Italy in March.

"I was a bit apprehensive. Anything to do with the ticker is always a bit scary," Mr Kamizona said.

But he was back at work at Repco in Te Puke, where he is the general manager, catching up on paper work yesterday.

"I feel all right to be honest. I will just make sure I don't get carried away," Mr Kamizona said.

A heart "flutter" made the insertion of a pacemaker necessary and a medical condition meant Mr Kamizona was likely to need MRI scans in the future.

Bay of Plenty District Health Board cardiologist Jonathan Tisch said the devices had just arrived in the country and while inserting Mr Kamizona's wasn't any different to putting in the average pacemaker it was exciting what benefits it held for a patient.

"As he is only in his 50s he could get another 30 years out of this pacemaker," Dr Tisch said.

"So it was important we use a system that enables him to have MRI scans in the future if necessary."

The pacemaker implantation service has only been running in Tauranga for two years.

Mr Kamizona said he would have been too bored if he had stayed home to recuperate.

"There is only so much television you can watch," he said.

THE FACTS

Pacemakers and MRIs, they don't go together.

The New Zealand College of Radiologists recommend against MRI scans for people with implantable cardiac devices as they can interrupt the equipment and be life-threatening or cause damage to the device.

Patients with pacemakers are regularly denied MRI scans to determine the cause of a clinical issue and instead have to use less effective diagnostic methods.

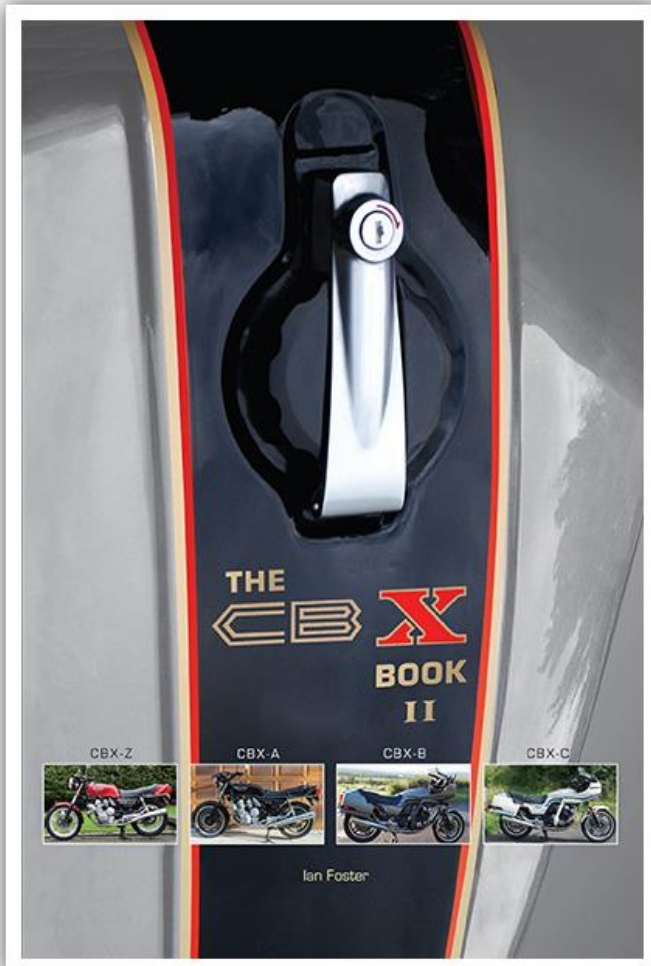
Between 50 and 75 per cent of patients with pacemakers worldwide are expected to need an MRI during the lifetime of their devices.

- Bay of Plenty Times

CBX BOOK II

By Ian Foster

BUY or Sell



I have two copies left of this amazing book.

It's big, heavy and full of great detail and photo's; also comes with a CDhave a look at

www.cam-hk.com/cbx/cbxbook.html

I bought bulk from Ian to save on postage and have offered them at absolute cost..... \$95.

I can leave a copy for pick up at my office in either central Wellington or Auckland.....or can post.
Really a fabulous book

Don at 021 520416 or don@sykes.co.nz

Borrowed stuff

2015 VJMC national Rally

This year's VJMC Rally was held at Eltham Presbyterian Camp on the last weekend of February. 5 Blue Haze members from Palmerston North were joined by Barry, Bruce C, Ken, and Barry's son Danny for the ride up on Friday evening. The muster of bikes included RG400 (Dion), TZR 3XV (Kim), GS450 (Ian), GSX750 (Mike), H2 (Alan), T350 (Barry), GT750K (Bruce), RD350 (Ken), and Suzuki FXR150 (Danny). We arrived in time for the BBQ and a few snorts and a few yarns.

Saturday morning was Bike judging which resulted in a single gong for our team with Best Suzuki going to Dion (and Kim) for their RG400. Ross Charlton scored best Kawasaki (bit hard to compete with), while People's Choice went to a better-than-new Z1 restoration. Alan DL arrived for the day on his recently renovated Honda VF1000F (as good as anything there) and we decided to head off around the mountain on the Top Rd, stopping for lunch in the sun at Okato. Then in to New Plymouth to look at a Mini for sale with Dion. After that we parked up at Alan's place and walked into town to look at a display of American cars and hot rods. As it was a hot day it was necessary (to prevent dehydration) to call into the pub for a cold one!

The Saturday evening meal was put on by the camp and was excellent and plentiful. A good night was enjoyed over a few drinks, a lot of laughs, and plenty of stories. Judy and Angela had everything well organised and everyone received a prize. I now have a Vernier Calliper, which will be pressed into service as soon as I learn how to drive it. Barry received a new 'dick of the year' award for something - possibly for his roadside bike maintenance policy!

Sunday we split into 2 groups with Mike, Dion, and Ian heading back on the main road (Ian having troubles with his GS). Kim, Bruce, Barry, Danny, Ken, and I took the long way home traveling via Whangamomona to Taumaranui, National Park to Raetihi, and down the Parapara to Wanganui and home. There is about 12km of gravel road left on the Forgotten Highway which is currently well packed and very dusty, but easy riding. From the end of the gravel the road into Taumaranui is 60 km of great corners.

Want to ride that again. We lunched in the sun at the Angel Louise café with the Harley owners club, and some Patriots guys. Always a good place to stop. Sunday was a long day in the saddle but the best roads of the trip.

In addition to Ian's GS problems Barry was having ongoing issues with the T350 for the whole trip and my H2 developed a problem on the way home not revving over 4500rpm. Always something to do on old bikes. Most impressed with Danny on the Suzuki FXR150; Wellington to New Plymouth and back with the throttle pinned and not giving an inch to anyone. Good on ya mate!

Article courteously of <http://bluehaze-gazza.blogspot.co.nz/2015/03/2015-vjmc-national-rally.html>



Just for a laugh



Photo Gallery







Rally Results

As usual the choice was hard as the Motorcycles were of a high standard making it difficult to choose the best in each category.

Members Choice

Peter Hitchman Kawasaki Z1A

Best Honda

Robert Scown Honda CBX

Best Suzuki

Dion Tornquist Suzuki RG400

Best Kawasaki

Ross Charlton Kawasaki H2 750

Best Yamaha

Murray Smith Yamaha TDR

Best 2000's Bike

Victor Kamizona Honda ST1100

First Rally entry

Ross Douglas

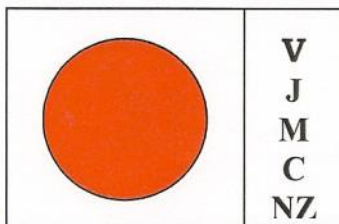
Driest Chain

Dennis Goodwin

Furtherest distance travelled

Alvin Swete Dunedin.

Application for Membership



Vintage Japanese Motorcycle Club (New Zealand Register)

☐ New Application

☐ Renewal

Name: Title Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms

Surname -----

First Name/s -----


Postal Address -----

Phone Number -----

Email -----

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Please use your name as the reference.

☐ Send completed form with cheque to Ross & Judy Charlton, 2 Te Miti St,
Paekakariki 5034

Schedule of Fees

Single/Double/Family \$30

Overseas Membership \$40 NZ

- * Membership is renewable on 01 August yearly.
- * Members are entitled to free advertisements in the VJMC (NZ) News letter, which is issued Bimonthly.

News Letter: Ross & Judy Charlton – 2 Te Miti St Paekakariki 5034
Phone 04 9058-179 **Email** ross.judy@xtra.co.nz

Office Use Only:

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Reply Sent: ____/____/____

Angels Angle

Hi All

Another Rally over for another year. Lots of fun and lots of choices of where to go and what to do. Many thanks to Victor for taking me to see the American cars. It was great to get back on a bike again. Especially when it was like a lazy boy recliner LOL. I hope everyone enjoyed themselves. The bar seemed to work well which was a relief. It would have taken me a week or two to drink all that if it was a flop! A big thanks to those that contributed to the newsletter. Thanks to Blue Haze for letting me steal photos and article's from their site. I hope that Victor doesn't mind us sharing his newspaper article. A little bit of inspiration for us all.

Its been completely crazy the last few weeks so I must apologise for the lateness of the newsletter. Just for a laugh here are my excuses:

I went to Melbourne one weekend, Queenstown the next and then Taupo J

My dog ripped her leg open chasing a rabbit, had emergency surgery and was on cage rest for 7 weeks. It's a Kelpie. Try doing that and not having the staples from the wound ripped out. I succeeded but I had to entertain her.

My horse got a wind wand stuck in his tail and bolted full gallop through a solid wooden gate as well as 2 electric fences. I found him on the road and thanks to the scissors in my car now has a short tail. I have a broken hairy wind wand.

A guy came to visit one night saying he had broken down and needed a ride. Hubby being more forgiving than me agreed. As soon as they were out of site I called the Fuzz. Turned out the ute was stolen, even though he had keys? There had been a high speed chase that resulted in the police abandoning it because he was doing 160km down the wrong side of SH1. Poor hubby got the fright of his life when the police were there to meet him after he dropped said criminal off. Dogs were deployed and the thief has a portion of his ass missing. He went to jail and the police have uncovered several other stolen cars. He was in the process of trying to get my horse trailer off my Terano so he could steal that. He must have thought a one ton trailer would slow him down a bit.

Those are my excuses not to mention work making me go to Wanganui, Wellington, Danvirke and Hunterville! So until next time keep safe.

Love

Angel