



### **From the Editor**

Its been a while since the last Newsletter. In this newsletter we will take a look at some of the past events, look at the New 2023 Nissan Z, and also some upcoming events.

### **My reflection on the new Nissan Z**

There has been a lot of talk about the new Z, and a bit of criticism around the car, mainly in regard to the interior, much of which has been carried over from the 370Z. Yes, the New Z is basically a vastly improved 370Z, and yes, the seats, knobs and door trims have been carried over, as has the running gear. After a first- hand experience with the car and having sat in it, I can report that it in no way looks dated. Its is extremely comfortable and has a good feel to it. I am still to drive one and I am working on this with Nissan. Maybe they will let us have one for a day for a deceit evaluation.

I think there are a few things we need to consider when evaluating this car.

1. This is a Nissan standalone vehicle, not a BMW look alike. Hence the underpinnings of the 370Z
2. Nissan has in the past built some great, if not the most, iconic sports cars.
3. This car is as good as any other sports car in this market segment.
4. The New Z is a real driver's car, tuned for the average enthusiastic driver.
5. Is very tunable
6. It is an affordable new sports car.

Here is the best comparison against the Supra that I have seen

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wc\\_iYf3h5J0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wc_iYf3h5J0)

### **Past events**

#### **Greet and Meet**

A group of members joined together for a 'Meet and Greet' on 14 September at The Good Home in Mt Eden.

We had the company of our ex- president and founding matriarch Dee Collins, along with 12 other Z Club members.

Anthony Baker, Dale Maxwell, Murray Chapman, Kelvin Healy, Stuart Horne, Keith Smith, Jeff MacGroucutt, Danny & Vicky Burkhead, Jack Chapman, and Paul Hansen had even left his Aussie home to get a Kiwi beer and meal with us. Grant Lee was also present early on.

Dee bought along one of her collection of Club photo albums.

Looking back some 40 years showed a happy bunch of younger faces and when you see a photo of 19 'Z' cars at a Bay Park race meeting you appreciate how vibrant the Club was. We realise how lucky we all were driving a Japanese sports car that has now become a 'classic', and is worth very much more than the original financial outlay.

This is the first 'Meet and Greet' for some time and we hope to organise more in the future.

### Moses Car Collection

This was an event that was some time in the making and had to be postponed at one stage.

Sean Moses is a very keen JDM car collector. He has a real passion for collectable Japanese classis. Sean has a



management history in new car sales and has turned his hobby into a business. I have known Sean for quite some years. When I was managing a panel shop in Manurewa, we used to do a lot of sales rectification work for Sean and his team at Auckland Motors Mitsubishi and Hyundai. Sean can import Japanese cars to order, catering especially for the classic variety. <https://import2order.co.nz/> He had various cars that were part of his collection, and also cars that he would be willing to sell. Sean

generously put on a BBQ at his expense for those that attended.

This event was well received and well attended. In fact, I would class it as one of the best events of the year. Sean had some real gems all laid out for us to view. Some of which included a Z31 200ZR which



are pretty rare in NZ, as they came out with a 2-litre turboed straight six. He also had a Z32 two seat turbo that he had just recently imported. a very original 180SX, a Mazda Luce 4 door manual turbo, also extremely



rare. A couple of Sigma turbos plus much more. Check out our web page for all the pictures from this event. The pride of his fleet was the Starion. See the complete set of pics in our events gallery.

<https://zclub.nz/latest-gallery/>

## Hampton Downs Go-Karts

What thrills, this is supposedly one of the best go kart experiences you can have. We had 14 people participating, with a few spectators along as well. This was a well organised competition which was much appreciated by all those that attended.



## 2023 Z Reveal

When we first heard committee made we were keen to do something when the new z arrived. The opportunity arose when I was contacted by Amar from Nissan Marketing who wanted to get the new Z along to a Caffeine and Cars at Mt Smart in Onehunga. It was decided that we would put a call out to members and have a meet, which while featuring the New Z, would also have a good contingent of past Datsun and Nissans Z's in attendance. Despite the weather not coming to the party, and providing us with the wettest day of spring, we had a really good turn out of Z's . And



about the up-and-coming 2023 Z the contact with Nissan NZ, advising that



I mean it absolutely poured down. I woke up at 6.30 am to get ready and it was bucketing down. I imagined that no one would turn up, but come they did, some even from the Waikato. We met at Hugo Johnson Drive just down the road and cruised in together. This meant that we could form one line of cars. We had 15 cars in total. Because of the rain, the event itself was not well attended so I would guess there were about 100 cars in attendance. The organisers advised me that the best attendance they have had was 950 cars. The rain eased up a bit so we

could have a walk around and a nice warm coffee. The new Z attracted plenty of interest with those in attendance. My thanks to Kasey from Nissan NZ for bringing this car along. I would recommend this event to all our members, it being a good event to attend, with several areas laid out for parking. On this day we were parked in front of the cafe in the karting area. You can go to the Club site to see more pictures <https://zclub.nz/latest-gallery/>

## How to get the best from The L Series Engine.

The L series engine featured in Datsun cars throughout the 70's, either as a 4 or 6 cylinder. The engine ranged in cc from 1400 to 2800. This engine was developed by Nissan in Japan, and is said to be a derivative of the engine developed by the Prince Motor company which had started manufacturing it for the first Skylines before Nissan acquired that company. The engines were extremely robust. They can take a real hammering and last forever. The philosophy at Nissan was to over engineer everything and thus achieve



reliability. The L series engine was no exception. We have people join the club who have wanted to know "who they can get to rebuild their engine". Our answer has always been to ask "why". The usual reply is "I am rebuilding the car and want everything up to scratch" our advice has been "Refresh it, unless there is something wrong with it' it won't need rebuilding".

Anthony Baker ran this event, Anthony has a ton of knowledge around getting the best from these engines. He has a full blown S30 race car and has

been competing with it for many years. All the work done on his engines and car are done by him in his garage- come workshop. Anthony tapped into this knowledge database for us and covered making a standard engine run to its potential, right through to full blown race modifications up to a 3.2 L28 revving at 9,000 rpm.

The most interesting part of his talk was on getting up to 30% power gain from a standard engine by just making the engine flow better, and how this could be done with the standard issue twin carb set up.

He had an engine on site that he was able to pull down to help illustrate the different changes that could be made. This engine was our old cut away engine made lovingly by the late Brian Schou, which had fallen into disrepair after being stored for the last 5 years. Attendees were able to walk away with some of the good parts from this engine.



I have made a video of most of Anthony's presentation and will be working through posting this up somewhere for those who couldn't make it to the event. I will keep you posted.

## **From the committee**

As you can see from the above, the committee have been very busy organizing events. We have 2 more events coming up before the end of the year and are now looking into a calendar for 2023.

**Track Events:** We had been trying to organize a drag day, but unfortunately the cost, and the changes we see with our membership, has meant that this is no longer feasible. Holding a club track day is also not feasible at this time. Again, cost, and I think a lot of our members are in a different space in this day and age. But for you keen guys we are thinking of doing some events combined with other clubs. Early days but watch this space.

**Web Site:** We are doing some upgrades to our Web Site and Forum. Times are a changing and we are moving with them. These changes will not be too far away.

**Those out of Auckland:** We are very conscious that most of our events are in the Auckland – Waikato area. This is due to the highest number of members and the committee being based in Auckland-Waikato. We would welcome anyone organising an event in their area. The best way to organize an event is to set something up that you know you will enjoy, advise club members and run the event. If you don't get big numbers, it doesn't matter, you can enjoy that event with a lot, or a few people. The committee is able to do all the advertising for your event. If financial help is needed, talk to us. Although we would very much like each event to pay its way, we realise that there can be risk involved and we are prepared to help out if needed.

If you are keen to organize an event in your area, just contact me [bernie@profile-int.co.nz](mailto:bernie@profile-int.co.nz)

**Committee Meetings:** Committee meetings are open to all club members, and we would welcome anybody that would like to attend, even if it's a one off, just to meet up with us. We will usually have a drink together after the meeting. Meetings are low key and reasonably social. They are held in Newmarket the first Friday of the month from 7.30. Interested? contact me and I will forward an agenda and meeting location. [bernie@profile-int.co.nz](mailto:bernie@profile-int.co.nz)

**Selling items:** If you have something Z related that you wish to offer for sale or free to club members we are willing to advertise it for you in this newsletter. This is a free service for club members. You can contact me for this. [bernie@profile-int.co.nz](mailto:bernie@profile-int.co.nz)

**Valuations:** When did you last look at the insured value of your Zed? Values are on the rise with good early 240Z's selling close \$100,000.00. All models across the range have seen appreciation. If you need it, we can do a valuation for you. Free to Club members. Please contact me. [bernie@profile-int.co.nz](mailto:bernie@profile-int.co.nz)

**Coming Events:** Please note we have cancelled the Snow Planet event.

**Meet and Greet:** Following on from the success of the first one we have organized another Meet and Greet. <https://zclub.nz/events/meet-and-greet-2/>

This it to be held at **The Good Home Bistro Bar** 37 Normandy Rd Mt Eden. From 7.30pm Come and join us for a beer or drink and some nibbles if you wish. This is a great time to meet fellow Zed enthusiasts and just chat about Zed related stuff.

**Kawhia Run and Lunch:** 27<sup>th</sup> November, we have two meeting points. BP Drury for Auckland people at 9.30am and the Classics Car Museum in Hamilton at 11.00am. Currently we are unsure if we will include Kawhia in the run as we have been advised that with all the rain the road is a bit rough, but will advise any changes on the day. Lunch will be at Pirongia. The drive home is of your own choice. We have always enjoyed a good cruise so get you car (doesn't need to be a Zed) and join us. We are open to anybody coming along, so if you have any friends that may be keen, please invite them.

<https://zclub.nz/events/kawhia-run-and-lunch/>

**Club caps:** I still have 5 of these available. Cost is \$35.00 includes postage. Contact me

[bernie@profile-int.co.nz](mailto:bernie@profile-int.co.nz)

