



From the Editor

This is the first quarterly newsletter for the year. If you have been affected by the recent flooding, we feel for you. It is a tough time. We all hope that as a country we can work through this, to not only fix it, but avoid this sort of thing in the future. I did hear of one very expensive 240Z that got flooded out. That's a real hard one, as you can't just go and buy another. This leads me to an explanation of how to get the correct value for your classic should the untoward happen. See my comments later in this newsletter. We also have a bunch of events listed below.

Ramblings

I know that there are a couple of members who own the new Zed. I had a really neat experience recently. I had been in contact with Nissan about the new Zed from when we first heard one was coming. Following contact, they promised to provide one for me to take to the Ellerslie Concourse for our display. I had managed to get at least one of each model Z and the new Zed would complete the line-up. They advised that I would need to pick it up on the Thursday as they worked from home on the Friday. All good. We rocked up on the Thursday and I was handed the keys and told "here it's yours until Monday, go for it, enjoy. What, I can just use it? Sure, treat it like it's yours, enjoy." Man was I pumped! Not only did we have the car show on Sunday but we were driving down to Taupo for my grandson's birthday on Friday, and back in time for the show on Sunday. So, I was able to really use the car. Life does hand out great stuff every now and again.

The New Nissan Z Old but New

Exterior

I really like the look; it has clean neat lines with enough 240 retro look combined with modern aesthetics. From whatever angle it



photographed very well. The view of the rear is probably it's best angle. The front grille mouth has received a lot of criticism, but I didn't mind it at all. This car has enough retro and is instantly recognizable. The couple of times we were parked up for a coffee we had people wandering over for look.

Interior

Yes, there is a lot of the 370Z inside this car, but if you didn't know better, I don't think you would be disappointed. Yes, the air con controls are still the same round dials and not digital read outs but they work fine. The door



trims still look the same, however if someone hadn't pointed that out I wouldn't know. It now has two cup holders, thank you Nissan. The digital dash works well, with different display options. I particularly liked the sports display. No navigation in this one but you can plug your phone into it and use google maps. What I did like was the blind spot monitoring; instead of having a light in the mirror it had a light inside the door by the mirror arm. I found this much easier to use. The seats are very comfortable and work well on a long drive, still holding you firmly. It has plenty of space in the boot, easily taking our overnight bags and grandson presents, even space for little dog to sit. The one comment I would make is that the interior didn't look super sporty but was more in the sports sedan mold.

Performance



Look honestly, I am not the best person to ask about this. I enjoy a good drive but no longer drive really hard, so I had Anthony Baker take it for a spin and he will fill us in on that later. For me it was smooth and quiet, the suspension is firm compared with your everyday car but not unnecessarily so. Cornering is easy, and doing well more than twice the indicated speed for a corner is not a problem, even with my wife in the car. The speedo reading is a little out of sync compared with what I am used to; at 100kph on my GPS the car was indicating 107kph. I needed to ensure I was traveling above 100kph to avoid being the slower car. But at 100kph the engine is just doing about 1500rpm, so a down-shift is needed for overtaking, but when you do this, the car is really quick. I would be traveling behind a car at 80kph pull out to overtake and once I was past I would be doing 160kph without really trying. The turbo starts kicking in at about 2000rpm, then you know you have a 400hp car. This car has power in abundance, and available whenever you want it.

Overall

Well done, Nissan. Nissan has worked hard to make a car that is not based on another manufacturer's model and has still been able to keep the price affordable. For me it did everything really well. It was comfortable and pleasant to drive, looks good, had power when you needed it, or just felt like enjoying it, and if you wanted to do the twisties in spirited fashion it provided enough excitement. I am sure that this car could provide you plenty of fun for a track day if you so desired. My only wish is that it had a better sounding exhaust. I don't entirely understand why it doesn't. If you are in the market for a 400hp, sub 100K sports car, this is the car for you.

Past events

Waikato Garage Tour

We visited two garages in the Waikato. These garages were at opposite ends of Hamilton. The first meeting point was at BP Drury in Auckland where we met with



three cars, Rob Chubb joined us in his electric Hyundai. Rob is one of the very early members of the Z Club and was very involved back in the day, and it was great to have him join us.



From there we cruised to the Classics Museum in Hamilton where Auckland met



Hamilton. From there we had a 15-minute drive to Billys garage in Gordonton. Billy has a very generous sized garage, currently having 5 cars with working room around them all, and enough workshop space to keep the best of us happy. You can see he uses this

space, with his 2 Nissan R31 300's and a couple of Nissan GTi's. He also has his parts cars parked up. I loved his lawn ornament.



Then we set off to the opposite end of Hamilton, a 50-minute drive through some really beautiful countryside. There we met at Ken's. Ken has a 240Z set up on a rotary stand and has had it blasted and etch primed ready for a complete rebuild. This is his original car, and he has owned it since his early days in the club. Ken has started sourcing new or reconditioned parts for it. With near new seats, a recovered dash, new rubber set, and list goes on. His aim is to tackle



the mechanicals next. The body

does need a lot of work, as rust and age have taken their toll, but it's all do-able. I look forward to seeing the progress. He also had a sprint car and a well-known Subaru powered quad bike, which has featured in local magazines.



After we left Ken's, we shot down the road to Pirongia Five Stages for Lunch. It was great to spend this time together, and as usual the Waikato guys proved great company. Many thanks' guys and gals.

More photos can be found on our website <https://zclub.nz/latest-gallery/>

Ellerslie Car Show and Concourse

I was hoping to report on this event but unfortunately it was postponed when Auckland went into a state of emergency after the floods. See note below for rescheduled date. I recommend this event to all our members. It's the premier car show of the year, and does have some really good displays. Come along and say Hi to those at our stand.

From the Committee

Website: As previously advised we have changes afoot and they should start in the next few weeks. We are aiming to make it more user friendly, remove some of the duplication, and integrate it better with Facebook.

Meet and Greet: You will notice that they are back on the calendar. We are intending to hold these monthly and will move them around different locations to make it more convenient for members. We are also holding one in Hamilton and I encourage the Auckland members to attend, as it's only a 1 hour Drive and not much more than you would take travelling locally.

AGM: This will be held in April, and we would like to encourage club members to attend. The official AGM will not take long, with a report from the president, election of committee positions, our financial report, and we will allocate time for feedback or questions. After the official meeting we will have something to eat and drink and time for a chinwag. So here is the opportunity to meet the committee and catch up. Food will be free with drinks at your own expense.

Events: we have more events in the pipeline please refer to website for more updates.

Classic Car Valuations: As you will be aware, values for our classic cars have been on the rise, with a bit of a flattening out just at the moment. Its important that you have your classic valued in such a way that you have your investment protected. There has been a lot of discussion around the concepts of Market value and Replacement value. Replacement value in this context being the amount of money you have invested into your classic car. Although its almost impossible to insure everything you have spent, there is a way to get a value that is a good reflection of not only its worth, but also towards the cost of improvements that might take it above a normal value.

I have had a conversation with a couple of insures of classic vehicles. These insurers have registered valuers that they rely on for insured values. If you speak to your insurer, they will give you a list. Moorehouse Muscle cars in Christchurch was one of these. On speaking to them, they advised the following: that they will do a valuation on market value of your car, and will take into consideration the extra you have spent. They are able do this using pictures of your car. So, you don't need them to physically see the car. The cost for this is \$90.00. Go to their site and see some of the values they have on cars they are selling.

<https://www.moorhousemusclecars.co.nz/vehicles.aspx>

Future Events

April

- *Ellerslie Car Show:* Sunday 23rd 10.00am

Ellerslie Race Course

100 Ascot Avenue Remuera Auckland

- *Meet and Greet:* Thursday 13th 7.30pm

New Brew Café Bar and restaurant

49 William Pickering Drive Albany Auckland

- *Club AGM* Sunday 16th April 12.30pm

Union Post meeting room 124 Main Highway Ellerslie Auckland

See notes above

Please register for this event on the Web site

May

- *Kumeu North Cruise:* Sunday 21st

Details to follow

- *Meet and Greet:* Wednesday 17th 7.30pm

Stonefield's Speights Ale House

40 Stonefield's Avenue Stonefield's Auckland

June

- *Meet and Greet:* Wednesday 14th June

Cock & Bull Hamilton 7.30pm

4 Maui Street Pukete Hamilton

Club caps: I still have 3 of these available. Cost is \$40.00 includes postage. Contact me bernie@profile-int.co.nz

