[Reprint of article July 1980 with major additions and alterations] May 2012

I have gone through my records of Northland Car Club speed events which cover from 1956 to 1969 and there are some amazing homebuilt [or converted] cars listed. Being involved in competing myself I am ashamed to admit I only peripherally noticed a lot of these cars and so I can't give them full justice in this article.

- 1. Graham Walkers Challenger Special. Beautifully built on basically a go-kart chassis it won a lot of hillclimbs due to a very skilful driver and a good power to weight ratio.
- 2. the Aeolus V8 Special. Built by Lynn Armstrong of Kapiro Garage North of Kerikeri. Later sold to Geoff and Dot Potter. Based on s.v Ford V8 mechanicals. Doug Marsh bought this car and eventually grafted a Lloyd saloon car body on to it.
- 3. Ian Cullens Cooper Mk9 into which he fitted a Hillman Imp engine and gearbox.
- 4. My RGR [Cooper clone] Norton in to which I shoehorned a 1340 Ford with an Imp transaxle. Now restored with a JAP engine in England.
- 5. A JBS Ford again based on a F500 type car driven by Mal Clark. And was this the same car driven at Puhipuhi in 1966 by Stu' Williamson?
- 6. Ken McLennan built a sports car based on Riley mechanicals including the pre-selector gearbox and hand-crafting a fiberglass body. This competed at Austins Road and Waipu Gorge.
- 7. I also heard of a Volkswagen saloon with a Peugeot 404 engine where the rear seat should be which got written off on the Parahaki road.
- 8. Ray Jordan turned up in a Holden FJ with a Ford V8 in it.
- 9. Peter Wenzlick built a Mk1 Zephyr with a 272 c.i Ford V8 in it which he comprehensively rolled at Griffens Road Maungaturoto. I later bought this car and rebuilt it with a second hand body.
- 10. Then we have the Bucklers of Roy Billington, Vic Simpkin and Nigel Swann basically Ford 10 based sports cars with individual tweaks by their owners.
- 11. Fred Courtney of Kaikohe shoehorned a side valve Dodge 6 cylinder Motor into a 1948 Vauxhall J saloon and is it true that Doug Marsh put a Ford V8 into one of those too?
- 12. Doug And Eric Swinbourne built an Austin Seven based sports car.
- 13. Ray Jordan came down with a Humber 80 into which he had installed a Vanguard 6 engine [same as a Triumph 2000 engine] and

I see in my notes a Ken Nordstrand with an Austin A55 with a Vanguard 6 engine. Who said 6 won't go into 4.

- 14. Doug Maunder of Kaikohe came down with a pretty Ford 10 based sports using a proprietary fiberglass body. Dennis Barstow DB4 Special.
- 15. Fred Midson / Doug Marsh Dodge GT Special. Glen McLean / Mike Lister Hotrod Ford V8.
- 16. Simon Bliss Simca Etoile / Zephyr 6 supercharged!

And no doubt many more I've missed.

Brian Skudder



Doug. Marsh Dodge GT Special



Doug. Swinbourne Austin 87 Special Ormandy Road



Mike Lister Ford V8 Hotrod Ormandy Road



Doug. Maunder DRM Special Puhipuhi



Geoff. Potter Ford V8 Sports [orig. called Chalmers Spl.]



Ken McLennan Piccolo Riley Austins Road



Ray Jordan Holden FJ / Ford V8 Ormandy Road



Fred Courtney Vauxhall J / Dodge 6 Ormandy Road



These 2 pictures not actual cars but sample pictures.



Ray Jordan Humber 80/Vanguard 6

K.Nordstrand Austin A55/Vanguard 6



Simon Bliss Simca / Zephyr s/c Ormandy Road

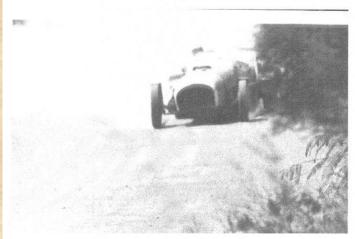


Brian Skudder Ford Zephyr V8 Ormandy Road

lan Cullen Cooper Imp Ormandy Road



Doug. Marsh Aeolus Ford V8 McLeans Road



Brian Skudder RGR Ford [Cooper clone] Ormandy Road

