



Monthly Newsletter of the Wairarapa Branch of the Vintage Car Club of New Zealand  
February 2023



#### From the Branch Chairman

As I sit here and write this report my thoughts are with all of those who have suffered from the devastating effects of Cyclone Gabrielle. It is very hard to comprehend the challenges and adversity people are dealing with. Locally the Tinui community have had major flooding with homes effected and stock losses. Our thoughts are with them and other eastern properties that have had a double dose of heavy rain and flooding.

The Coastal Run was postponed a couple of times and then finally replaced with a very enjoyable run to Lake Ferry. Thanks to Hugh Hunter for being patient with the challengers of the weather and coming up with a worthwhile alternative.

A huge thank you to those who supported the display over Waitangi Weekend at the Wheels over Wairarapa Event. We had the best spot at the Showgrounds, shade, and seats. The positive engagement with the public was magic and I am sure we will gain some new members from the exercise. It was pleasing to see members sitting and chatting over a cup of tea in the shade while the public enjoyed reminiscing and taking a keen interest in their cars. I look forward to doing it again in two years' time with some refined planning and more signage.

The Bar-b-q at the Cliffs on the Monday of Waitangi Weekend was well supported and by the look of the chatter it was enjoyed by all. The afternoon was topped off with a few stopping in at the Top Pub in Greytown for a quite ale on the way home.

The National Executive meeting is being held in Christchurch over the 4th and 5th of March. I will not be able to attend, and Jim Laird is going as our branch representative. The main topic to be discussed is what will be the best structure for the governance of the Club under the new Incorporated Societies Act. Branches have been asked to canvas their members around what is proposed. We have posted the discussion paper on the [website](#) for your appraisal, along with a draft paper of what your committee is suggesting being tabled at the meeting. Please have a read and email me your thoughts.  
g\_jhodder@xtra.co.nz

The next Club run is the Remembrance Run this Sunday (Feb 19th) which Pat Dutton has enthusiastically put together. This will be an enjoyable outing with a magic picnic spot to complement the outing.

Then on Saturday 4th March is the Stretched Gymkhana, organised again by Simon O'Hara. If you haven't done it before, give it a go, see below for entry details - numbers are limited.

Our Annual Rex Porter Rally is being held on the weekend of the 11th and 12th of March. The White Swan in Greytown is delighted to be the major sponsor, providing a dinner voucher at their establishment for two as part of the overall winner's prize. This is a great opportunity to have some fun on country roads with likeminded motorists. Spread the word and get your entry in online (see below) or on our Club website. If you are not able to compete but are keen to help, please contact Chris Giles, the rally co-ordinator. Phone :- 021 433 995, [chris.giles64@gmail.com](mailto:chris.giles64@gmail.com)

The March Club night will be one not to miss!!!!!!!.  
Some Motor Bikes followed by a very accomplished couple speaking about their hobby.

That's all from me, stay dry and safe.

Cheers

**Graham Hodder**

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## Recent Events

### Coastal Run

After three failed attempts at a Coastal Run to Tora (two bad weather postponements and then the road being washed out) organiser Hugh Hunter, club captain, settled on a gentle run to Lake Ferry, with fish and chips at the pub for lunch.

It was a great success, with 34 people in 17 cars enjoying belated sunshine and pleasant driving conditions. The cars were an interesting mix, from Jim and Lynn Laird's huge Packard to Hugh's little Morris 8.

Ian Johnston arrived back from the UK to bring his 1927 Model A along, Kevin Troy and Bev Cameron gave their 1997 Chevrolet an airing, and the Stewarts from Martinborough turned out in their lovely Riley. It was good to see Peter Riddell in his Austin Hereford back

on the road and the sleek American lines of Darryl Longstaff's 1951 Plymouth drew a lot of admiring glances.

Hugh was pleased with the turnout and is looking to do more casual events of this type.

- Kevin Ball



*Cars lined up at Lake Ferry. Barry Wells' MX5 at right.*



*Dave and Gaye Stewart in their Riley - Rego "LIFE OF"*

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### **Wheels at Wairarapa**

What an amazing event we had for the Wheels event Clareville.

On the Saturday there were around 30 members' cars on display.

Blazing heat brought out the crowds to see the cars, trucks, tractors etc lined up on the showgrounds. In addition to the Wairarapa VCC display there were perhaps a dozen Wellington branch vehicles plus 20 or so Land-Rovers and a host of other classics. VCC numbers were depleted on the Sunday, but there was still masses to see.

There was a huge Burrell steam engine chugging around (was that the late Chris Slater's one?) and a tiny perfect-in-every-detail Burrell giving kids rides. There appeared to be two more working steam engines among a host of other wheeled vehicles -- wheeled and tracked tractors, and trucks,

A highlight for me was Laurie Cocker's 1906 Cadillac van. He drove it all the way from Rongatea to Carterton and return at the weekend (3 hours each way at 30mph). That's nothing, says Laurie. He's driven it to Bluff five times and to Cape Reinga once, including driving down 90-mile beach. The only place it's never been was up the Takaka Hill. The engine employs a total loss lubrication system -- it uses a quart of oil to every 250 miles. "It's totally trouble-free," he grins, then adds "but there's always something to be done."

Another character spotted at the show was TV fishing guru Bill Hohepa. He was particularly taken with Featherston man Neale Ryder's magnificent Vauxhall Vagabond, trying it on for size.

**- Kevin Ball**



*Away from the English winter ... a happy Richard Johnson with his Model A.*



*Bill Hohepa tries out the Vauxhall Vagabond, while owner Neale Ryder watches on.*



*Variations of a Baby Austin.*



*Roger White's immaculate 1928 De Soto K sports roadster. It is from the first batch of 34,000 models sent to dealers, a record-breaking new model.*



*Lauri Cocker at the wheel of the 1906 Cadillac.*



*Clive Lintern, of Hawera, takes kids on the working miniature Burrell steam engine he built.*

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### **Waitangi Day BBQ**

op marks to our chairman, Graham Hodder, for a splendid picnic held beneath the trees and alongside the swollen Ruamahunga on Waitangi Day.

Graham went to enormous trouble to produce a feast of sausages, patties, boiled spuds, plus hot drinks, to feed around 30 members. The fine weather of Saturday and Sunday continued and members enjoyed both the shade and catching up with friends.

There was delight at the arrival of Mike D'Alton in the Bentley. He and Jane have been on extended holiday in England.

**- Kevin Ball**





*Chairman Graham Hodder prepares the feast, overseen by wife Joy*



*Mike D'Alton chats with Ian Stewart*

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## Upcoming Club Rallies and Events

### Club Outings & Rallies.

#### **Sunday 19th February**

#### **Remembrance Rally**

Organised by Pat Dutton

The rally will start from the Clubrooms

The clubrooms will be open from 9am for 10 o'clock start

Bring your picnic lunch and chairs with you

The lunch stop has plenty of parking in the shade, if wet some undercover and toilets will be available,

#### **Saturday 4th March**

#### **MARK IT ON YOUR CALENDERS!**

#### **Wairarapa VCC Grass Time Trial Gymkhana**

Masterton A & P showgrounds

Details and Entry Form on our website

[Click Here](#)

#### **Saturday/Sunday 11/12th March**

#### **Rex Porter Memorial Rally**

The rally will be run on Saturday 11th, with the prizegiving dinner on Saturday evening, followed by brunch at the Clubrooms on Sunday morning.

The rally itself will be over 3 stages; navigation, timed and touring, all up just under 300kms (180 miles)

The White Swan will be the major sponsor. In return the Branch have agreed to provide rides for patrons in two or more cars on three Sundays, 16th, 23rd and 30th April.

Details and Entry Form on our website

[Click Here](#)

#### **Sunday 9th April**

#### **Club Captain's Run**

Details to come

**Saturday 13th/Sunday 14th May**

**Motorcycle Reliability Run**

Details to come

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## **Club Nights**

### **Monday 6th March**

7.30 at the clubrooms

The Bike is the Star - some interesting motorbikes will be on display

Followed by a talk from Sarah Mason.

Sarah and her partner Richard together have won 25 New Zealand Rally championship rounds. Including Rally Wairarapa a record 8 times (2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2014) and Rally Otago 5 times (2006, 2007, 2008, 2012, 2014). They hold the record for the most consecutive round wins at 6. Internationally they were contracted drivers for the Chinese Rally Championship for GITI Tyres Rally Team 2006-2008 and Wanyu Rally Team in 2014. Winner of Rally Longyou and many podium finishes. Also competed in Rally Japan for Terioka Autodoor. They campaigned primarily in Subarus and in 2022 were inducted into the Wairarapa Sports Hall of Fame.

Bring something for supper, tea and coffee provided.

### **Monday 3rd April**

7pm at the clubrooms

The Car is the Star - Jim Laird's Packard

Speaker to be advised

### **Monday 1st May**

The Car is the Star - Dave Patten's Daimler/s

Speaker to be advised

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## **The Way Things Were**

### **Some curiosities from the archives**

Looking through a 1935 Automobile Association Guide and Handbook provides some interesting details:

The main road north out of Wellington followed around the Paremata Inlet and over the Paekakariki hill road. There was a tearoom at the summit with access to an Emergency Telephone.

The road was probably gravel, in fact in 1935, less than 1% of roads were sealed, and that included urban streets.

The open road speed limit in 1935 was 40 miles per hour ( 64 km/h) which was probably more than adequate given the state of roads. The town speed limit was 25 mph (40 km/h).

Those limits did not stop Chevrolet promoting their 80hp – 80 mph car in this ad from the 1935 AA Handbook

**CHEVROLET**  
"Leader in World Sales for past three years"

**CHEVROLET**

*Drive it only 5 miles*  
and you'll never be satisfied with any other low-priced car

Only "CHEVROLET" offers SIX CYLINDER ECONOMY with valve-in-head Motor.

Specialised service for CHEVROLET and BUICK OWNERS. Modern Garage and Equipment.

KNEE ACTION WHEELS change your ride to a glide.

FISHER BODIES with "No-Draught" Ventilation.

80 h.p. - 80 m.p.h. full sized 112in. wheelbase sedans.

**MANTHEL MOTORS LTD**

Sole Wgtn. Distributors. Buick Cars. Chevrolet Cars & Trucks.

Used Car Dept. Office, Showrooms and Garage :  
Telephone 54-760 Cnr. Wakefield and Taranaki Streets.

Although the open road speed limit in 1935 was 40 miles per hour ( 64 km/h), and town speed limit was 25 mph (40 km/h), local authorities were able to set their own limits and traffic regulations

The Auckland City speed limit was the same as that set nationally, 25 mph, however drivers were also required to observe a speed limit of 10 mph through intersections, and walking pace around all corners! If you happened to stray across into Glen Eden borough there was a speed limit of 15mph in the main shopping street.

Wellington City also had a speed limit of 25 mph, with a limit of 20 mph through tunnels, and 15 mph past schools and hospitals, and intersections without unobstructed views of the traffic on other streets entering that intersection

Confused? Then how about this unusual Wellington parking regulation: no parking was allowed on any public street, private street or public place for longer than 30 minutes between the hours of 3am and 6 am. The only exception was for medical practitioners attending a patient !

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### **NZ Federation of Motoring Clubs Information**

NZFOMC is an umbrella organisation representing over 120 Motoring Clubs in NZ including VCC, Motor Caravan Association and many others. It represents more than 140,411 members in individual clubs, who own more than 121,167 vehicles. Its primary role is interfacing with Regulatory Authorities and in particular, the Ministry of Transport and NZ Transport Agency.

The Federation publishes a newsletter twice a year, which can be found on their website:

[www.fomc.nz/newsletters/](http://www.fomc.nz/newsletters/)

The most recent in September has an article about the maintaining supplies of compatible

## Club Events Calendar for 2023

Your committee has prepared a calendar of all club events planned for the coming year. As things sometimes change, the most up to date version can be downloaded from the club website [here](#)

Printed copies will be available at Club nights

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### Other Events

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### National Veteran Rally 2023

**WHEN?** 23 - 25 February

**WHERE?** Rural Tuakau, Franklin

*bordering north Waikato, 56 km south of Auckland*

**ENQUIRIES:** Barry Birchall [barrybirchall@xtra.co.nz](mailto:barrybirchall@xtra.co.nz)

Nicola North (Rally Sec.) [nicolahnorth@gmail.com](mailto:nicolahnorth@gmail.com)

Tel. (09) 8188755; 0277225225 (Nicola's mobile)

*Open to all veteran vehicles manufactured before 31 Dec.1918*

*VIC required.*

*Hosted by Auckland Branch*



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### THE MANAWATU BRANCH

**Ruahine Ramble**

**Sunday 5th of March 2023**

For all club eligible vehicles and Families,

Meet at clubrooms for morning tea by 9:30 am. First car away 10.30 am.

Run length approx. 100 miles.

Picnic lunch at Foxton. Bring your own lunch and hot water. Local cafes may be open



**Horowhenua Branch  
Annual**

# Swap Meet

& Collectables Day

## Saturday 18th March 2023

Levin Show grounds  
Events Centre

enter via Victoria St and  
Tiro Tiro Rd entrances



**Gates  
Open  
7am**

Stalls \$10,  
public \$5,  
kids Free

Enquiries [horowhenua@vcc.org.nz](mailto:horowhenua@vcc.org.nz)  
Self contained overnight camping \$10

**CASH ONLY**

### Saturday 18th March 2023

#### Hawke's Bay Classic Motorcycle Club Inc

#### 34th Taupo – Napier MAIL RUN

This is the 34th year of running this event. It is the intention of the HBCMC to encourage riders to ride their vintage/classic bikes with girder forks and/or ridged frame and sprung saddle over a challenging road with like minded people. In the beginning this attracted 80-100 riders, but over the years this number has decreased due to age of machines and age of riders. This is still the theme, although we are noticing a slight increase of 'modern' motorcycles creeping in. If you wish to ride a post 1950's bike – due to health, age or a mechanical reason, that is fine, but if you just want to ride the Taupo Rd because it's a good road or you just enjoy this event because of the camaraderie then please get in touch.

- There will be a "\$100 Reward" for any pre 1922 motorcycle entering, upon completion of the Mail Run ridden or part thereof.
- The Friday night meal is at Cobb & Co, Tongariro St, Taupo. Bring your "Gold Card" - sit down for the meal at 7.00pm.
- The ride will depart Taupo at 10am. In doing so, allowing time for those who may wish to make the journey to Taupo that morning.
- The first stop will be at the Rangitaiki Tavern on the RIGHT to regroup.
- The lunch stop will be at the Tarawera Café (your own expense) with arrival in Napier around 3pm for a static display outside the Masonic Establishment.
- The Saturday night meal and prize giving will be at the RSA, 34 Vautier Street, Napier – Buffet two course meal at 7pm.

Come along and enjoy a memorable trip over the Taupo - Napier highway

Contact Jim Lord with any queries:-

Email: [hbcmailrun@gmail.com](mailto:hbcmailrun@gmail.com)

Phone: (06) 8750391

Cell phone: 0273547386

Entry Form on our Website

[Click Here](#)



*Lions International*  
LIONS CLUB  
OF RONGOTEA & DISTRICT

# Presents A Car Show Day



**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2023**, Te Kawau Recreation Centre, Wye St, Rongotea from 10am – 2pm  
All classics, future classics, vintage, and veterans etc welcome. *Swap and boot sale area.*

**Display entry: \$20/vehicle including 2 people. \$5 pp thereafter.**

**Public entry: \$10 each or \$25/family (Mum, Dad and 2 kids)**

Prizes and entertainment, food and drinks for sale. *Eftpos available. All proceeds to charity.*



**Arohanui**  
HOSPICE

**Contacts:**  
Bernard Lilburn - 0274425913 or [bernard.l@inspire.net.nz](mailto:bernard.l@inspire.net.nz)  
David Calow – 0272392311 or [windings2054@gmail.com](mailto:windings2054@gmail.com)



CLASSIC CAR  
Driving for Charity  
Breakfast Club



## 2023 Highland Fling! 21 - 23 April 2023

**DATES TO MARK IN YOUR DIARY** Friday 21st April - Registration

Saturday 22nd - Fling Rally

Sunday 23rd (day) - Fling Rally continues and Field Tests

Sunday 23rd (evening) - Prize Giving Dinner

### ACCOMODATION

Before departing Taihape last year, most of the entrants made their accommodation bookings for 2023, a very wise move. However, for anyone who is considering joining us this year in April it would pay you to make your bookings now, as Taihape is not what you would exactly call a 'sprawling metropolis' with numerous options. Please note: bookings for the Gretna

Hotel are being managed by us, and bids for rooms will be taken as soon as we work out what is available.

Entry forms will be out in February

Contact

**Kaaren Smylie**

**VCC NICC**

**(Vintage Car Club North Island Club Captain)**

*"Driving our history"*

**CELL PHONE: 021 66 43 41**

**EMAIL: [nicc@vcc.org.nz](mailto:nicc@vcc.org.nz)**

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## Welcome to New Members

Recent new members:

Bob & Lyn Cumming, Martinborough, transfer from Wellington. They have pre & post war Rovers

Donald Gyde from Masterton - 1955 G9 500 Matchless

Patrick & Amanda Teagle from Masterton - 1964 MGB

Ian Johnstone from Martinborough, Ford Model A

Allan and Dale Fayen, transfer from Wellington, they have a 1945 Chev pickup.

A big welcome to you, we look forward to you joining us in the various activities of the club. If you have not received a name badge please contact Mike D'Alton ([mickyjdalton@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mickyjdalton@yahoo.co.uk)) to arrange this. The cost of the badge is \$20 each.

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## Offers to Members

### **Bluebridge and Interislander Specials**

Both Bluebridge and Interislander are offering special prices for VCC members. Details can be found on our website: [Click Here](#)

### **Classic Tyres**

Hamilton based Tyreline can provide access to a full range of Michelin tyres

More information and catalogue on our website [Click Here](#)



DISTRIBUTORS OF:



**MICHELIN**

**BF Goodrich**

## Market Place - Buy, Sell or Swap

If you want to advertise something here, send an email to: [editorwaivcc@gmail.com](mailto:editorwaivcc@gmail.com)

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**FOR SALE**

- SCA metric set - socket sizes from 4mm to 19mm, pliers, hacksaw, hammer vice grips, wire cutters
- Sidchrome sockets AF 7/16" to 1" and 1/16" and Whitworth 3/16" to 5/8" and spark plug socket 13/16"
- S & K sockets long and short shanks 3/8" to 3/4", 15/16" spark plug, elbow sockets 7/16" to 11/16"
- Metric socket set short shanks 6mm to 22mm, long shanks 16mm to 20mm
- Mixed set metric and imperial sockets 4mm to 19mm and 3/16" to 3/4"

Asking \$50.00 for each of these.

- 6 Drawer mobile tool cabinet complete with a variety of spanners, pliers, screw drivers and other items

\$500.00 the lot.

Open to negotiation on all items.

**Phone Tony Lane (06) 3773064.**

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## **FOR SALE**

1948 Austin Ten

Reconditioned motor. The car has been in storage for 20 plus years. It is complete although the guards and windows need refitting. Has been repainted at some stage but needs touching up.

This is an ideal entry level car

Only \$1200 ono

Contact Tom Wilson at Tom Wilson Motors, Martinborough  
06 306 9565

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## **ATLAS AUTO SERVICES**

Open Saturdays for WOF inspections on old cars, by appointment.  
Located in Featherston

Contact Aaron Webster (Wairarapa Branch member)

PH 021 0853 0341

EMAIL [aaron@atlasclassic.co.nz](mailto:aaron@atlasclassic.co.nz)

VINTAGE AND CLASSIC CARS

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## For Rent - Secure Storage Shed Space

- Indoor or outdoor storage.
- Long or short term rental available.
- Discounts for long term and VCC members.
- Access flexible and by arrangement.
- Car, boat, caravan, campervan, farm machinery, etc. No household goods.

Have a look at Trade Me Listing #3332441379 for indicative prices.

Phone Paul on 021-252-0409 with any queries.

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**The Wairarapa Branch Spare Parts Shed** is open on the 3rd Saturday of the month from 9.30am to 12 noon, and the first Tuesday in the month from 9am to 12 noon, Come down to the clubrooms, join Frank, Barry and Jeff for yarn and a cuppa. You might also find the bit you have been looking for.

You can also contact Frank for an appointment outside these hours: 06 379 7167

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### Wairarapa Branch of the Vintage Car Club of New Zealand

**Clubrooms:** A&P Showgrounds, Chester Road, Clareville

**Postal Address:** PO Box 7, Masterton 5840 Branch

**Website:** [www.sporty.co.nz/wairarapavcc](http://www.sporty.co.nz/wairarapavcc)

**Club Night:** First Monday of the month (except January) and June (second Monday) at 7.30pm.

**Spare Parts:** Open each Tuesday morning following club night and the 3rd Saturday in the month 9.30am -12 noon. Committee meet: Second Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm

### 2022/23 Committee and Office Holders

**Chairperson:** Graham Hodder - 06 308 9087 027 226 3738, [g\\_jhodder@xtra.co.nz](mailto:g_jhodder@xtra.co.nz)

**Secretary:** Mike D'Alton - 021 137 2395, [secretarywvcc@yahoo.com](mailto:secretarywvcc@yahoo.com)

**Treasurer :** Kevin Sullivan - 022 377 8443, [kevsully52@gmail.com](mailto:kevsully52@gmail.com)

**Club Captain:** Hugh Hunter - 06 306 9847, [j.h.hunter@xtra.co.nz](mailto:j.h.hunter@xtra.co.nz)

**Publications & Newsletter Editor:** Chris Giles - 021 433 995, [chris.giles64@gmail.co.nz](mailto:chris.giles64@gmail.co.nz)

**Social Convenor:** Val Ball - 06 377 1236, [wtakevin@xtra.co.nz](mailto:wtakevin@xtra.co.nz)

**Librarian:** Pat Dutton - 06 379 7918, [betyjo29@gmail.com](mailto:betyjo29@gmail.com)

**Spares:** Frank Lipinski - 06 379 7167

**Motorcycle Liaison:** Kevin Sullivan - 022 377 8443, [kevsully52@gmail.com](mailto:kevsully52@gmail.com)

**Custodians:** Dave Patten - 06 306 9006, [dave.patten28@gmail.co](mailto:dave.patten28@gmail.co); & Kevin Sullivan  
Jim Laird - 0274 412 659, [jim.laird@wise.net.nz](mailto:jim.laird@wise.net.nz)

Simon O'Hara - 021 141 2332, [simonsandieohara@gmail.com](mailto:simonsandieohara@gmail.com)

**Beaded Wheels Scribe** - Kevin Ball - [wtakevin@xtra.co.nz](mailto:wtakevin@xtra.co.nz) - 06 377 1236

### Spares

Frank Lipinski - 06 379 7167

Barry Wells - [ljangbjwells@gmail.com](mailto:ljangbjwells@gmail.com) - 06 377 1152

Jeff Percy - [j.percy@xtra.co.nz](mailto:j.percy@xtra.co.nz) - 06 377 4622

### Vehicle Inspectors

Francis Pointon - pointonmotors@xtra.co.nz - 06 378 6710

Graham Reidy - g-a.reidy@xtra.co.nz - 06 372 7855

Hugh Hunter - j.h.hunter@xtra.co.nz - 06 306 9847

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