

AUGUST 2024

Wairarapa

Zenith



Mercedes-Benz Center

Mercedes-Benz Museum



Introducing new Zenith editor Dennis Burns

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Cover Photo

As you can tell from the front cover, my happy place is visiting car museums and to be honest one of the most amazing one I have been to is the Mercedes - Benz Museum in Stuttgart.

Dennis Burns



The Thorneycroft Challenge
Quiz night with the Wairarapa Vintage Machinery Club

Usual Start time - 7:00pm

I have been informed that there will be lovely sausage rolls to enjoy!

To add extra fun, for those really hard questions, each team can buy answers for \$1.00 each with a maximum of two answers per round.

Club night 2nd September



Pizza Night at the Club rooms

We are picking up a selection of delicious Pizzas from Chapelli's Pizzeria.

Usual Start time and Pizza Delivery - 7:00pm

Please email Graham to confirm you can be there and if you have any special dietary requirements.

g_jhodder@xtra.co.nz

Cost \$10.00 per person

This is my first time ever being editor of a Newsletter, so I am looking forward to introducing myself and learning the ropes.

In the articles attached are some of the usual fare, including an article from Simon on the recent Gravel Challenge.

I introduced myself to those attending the July club night and enjoyed the evening. As a relatively new member I particularly liked getting to meet other members. The theme for the discussion part of the evening was a question "What was the first car you purchased" put to us all by Graham". Great to hear from those there about exploits of their past. I was initially embarrassed to mention mine was a Morris 1100.



Purchased in the mid seventies (with a loan from Mum & Dad), though it ended up being serendipitous, as the week after picking it up, I took my future wife to be, Diane out on our first date.

Many cars followed from Toyotas Corolla (now a Classic) , FJ Holden, Honda Civic, Hyundai, several Mini's, Vespa GST , a Porsche 968,



a Series III ex NZ army Landrover, and then my dream GT an Aston Martin Vanquish.

And now I am down to a couple of Vehicles, both of which reinforce my love of British Marques.

Both are Landrover's, a more modern, Discovery Sport and my favorite, Olive, a 1954 Series I,



I'll be easy to spot as I regularly like to cruise to one of many great Wairarapa Caf  s, unless of course I am like the photo above , taking the long and less travelled way home

Of all the cars I have had;

- I regret selling the Porsche 968.
- I don't regret selling the FJ Holden.
- Best thing about my first car, Diane was more interested in me not the car.
- The worst thing about my first car; position of, and length of the gear stick.

The car I would love to own (one day) – 1970's Lancia Stratos HF Stradale.

I would like to write about you your cars history and invite you to contact me, I will hop in Olive, and come round for a Cuppa or we can arrange to meet for a coffee.

Though no mechanic I enjoy reading about, watching programmes on and talking about cars and planes. (especially classic ones!)

In that vein, I have just finished reading the latest copy of Beaded Wheels and it was great to read about the North Island Club Captains run penned by our very own Judi Harding.

You can of course reach me and Judi at.

editorvcc@gmail.com

Cheers Dennis

The shortest day has come and gone and Summer is just around the corner.



What a magic turnout we had at the July club night. Was it the offer of Mulled Wine or a chance to just have a chat with other fellow club members. Despite it being winter everyone turned up early and were keen to be involved. I think the highlight was an opportunity for members to give a short speech about the very first car they purchased. There were some entertaining and very enlightening stories. A wonderful relaxing way to become more familiar with fellow members.

The wine went down a treat as well. I have attached the recipe at the bottom of my report.

The Annual Gravel Challenge was held on Sunday the 14th, starting from Eketahuna, thanks go to Neil Algie for the time and effort he put into making it a successful event with more coverage of it in Simon O'Hara's report.

Next month we start with the Annual Thorneycroft Challenge with the Wairarapa Vintage Machinery Club on the 5th of August. The questions have been researched, compiled and are awaiting the answers. We need another good turnout from club members. Sausage rolls will be on offer again; we do ask if you could bring along some extra goodies for supper as well. The night gets underway at 7.00 pm, so do some home prep and join us for a night of intellectual challenge and laughter.

Next month we also have our Annual Daffodil Rally for Cancer run on Sunday the 25th of August. Jim Larid is again organising the run from Martinborough to the Farriers Carpark in Masterton. The format is the same as last year with a public display along with prizes, a sausage sizzle and raffle. All proceeds going to the local Cancer Society. There will be local advertising in the Times-Age to get awareness of the event out in the public arena. A copy of the poster advertising the event is attached. If you can canvas people and are happy to put posters up around the various towns, it would be greatly appreciated. I will send you all the poster as a PDF which will enable you to either print it or send it to others to print. We will also have them available on the 5th of August Club night. We are asking for donations towards the raffle. If you are able to provide some goodies, please bring them along on the 5th also. We want it to be bigger and better than last year. Tell everyone you know with a car to come along and be part of an opportunity to raise funds for a very worthy cause.

“As you would be aware, all families have been touched one way or another by cancer “

The Wellington Branch is holding their day on the Saturday before hand at Brewtown in Upper Hutt. We would prefer your support of course, but if you want to support the Wellington area as well, we have also attached their poster advertising the event.

I would like to welcome Dennis Burns to the team as editor of the Zenith. Dennis is going to bring lots of enthusiasm and his own flavour to the magazine. If there are any articles or photo's that you think worthy of publishing please send to Dennis for his appraisal.

The more information he receives it will make his job a lot easier and the magazine more informative. We also welcome Judi Harding to the team as Beaded Wheels scribe. You will have read her article in this months Beaded Wheels covering the North Island Club Captain's Tour.

Again, if you have photo's or reports you think Judi can use for the Beaded Wheels, please send them to her also.

Please use the following email to contact both Dennis and Judi : editorwaivcc@gmail.com

Chairs - Mulled Wine

Ingredients

- ½ medium orange
- 2 x (750 millilitre) bottle of red wine, such as Cabernet Sauvignon
- ½ cup of Brandy
- ½ cup of maple syrup
- 4 whole cloves
- 2 whole star anise pods
- 2 (3inch) cinnamon sticks

Equipment

- Corkscrew
- Liquid measuring cup
- 3 - 4 quarts slow cooker
- Vegetable peeler
- Ladle
- Knife and cutting board

Instructions

- Remove orange peel with peeler from ½ of medium orange.
- Place all ingredients into the slow cooker.
- Stir and combine.
Heat on LOW for one hour.
- Turn the slow cooker to WARM and serve.

Enjoy!

2024 Gravel Challenge

by Simon O'Hara



Sunday morning was a bit dreary and overcast, but we headed up to Eketahuna for the start of this year's gravel challenge rally.

On arrival in Eketahuna the sun started to bust through the cloud to welcome us.

Sadly, there was only eight vehicles to take on the challenge including Kevin "Captain Courageous" Sullivan on his BSA motorbike.

The morning session saw us take on some roads that most had never done before, taking us to great heights with what would be wonderful views on a clear day.

The sun came and went as did the odd shower. All in all the roads were pretty good with only minor soft patches.

Certainly, a workout for drivers with no power steering The oldest car was Alec & Jodie's 1933 Austin 7, which took it all in its stride and was the first one to the lunch stop .



Followed a minute behind by Francis Pointon and navigator Simon O'Hara in the Ford V8 pickup.



Darryl Longstaff in the 1957 Plymouth Cranbrook and Dave Eade in the Triumph 2500 TC were the same time over the last timed section before lunch.

Lunch was at the Pongaroa Hotel, which had a lovely fire going and a great menu to choose from.



A very friendly get together over lunch and then it was off on the afternoon section.

Due to road conditions, the gravel sections were cut short, but what there were good roads . Finish was at the Eketahuna Hotel, where most refreshed themselves while awaiting prize giving. Everyone was a winner on the day.

The closest to the course time Neal had set were Darryl and Dave, so they get to share the winner's trophy and the job of setting next year's challenge.

Neal had done a great job sourcing sponsorship of prizes, and these went to several competitors. Categories for oldest vehicle, Bravest person (also only motorbike), dirtiest vehicle etc.

Thanks to those who braved the winter weather; Alec & Jodie O'Hara, Darryl Longstaffe with Navigator Bruce, Kevin Sullivan, David Eade with Navigator dave Plant, Francis Pointon & Simon O'Hara, Simon & Andrea Byrne, Earl & Tina Goodin, Hugh & Jill Hunter.

A great thank you to Neal Algie for the time and effort to arrange this rally. Once again, the club was let down by the number of attendees meaning that the \$5 entry per vehicle didn't cover costs, so to all the rest, from all accounts those who stayed home in front of the fire, missed out on a great event.

Thanks again, Neal well done



Events

August

Monday 5 th	Club Night - Thorneycroft Challenge	With Wairarapa Machinery Club
Tuesday 6 th	Committee Meeting	
Fri 9 th - Sun 11 th	National VCC AGM	Bay of Plenty
Saturday 24 th	Club Parts Dept Open	9:30am to 12:00
Saturday 24 th	Wellington VCC - Daffodil Rally for Cancer	Daffodil Rally - See attached flyer
Sunday 25 th	Wairarapa VCC - Rally For Cancer	Rally for Cancer - See attached flyer

September

Monday 7 th	Club Night	
Tuesday 8 th	Committee Meeting	
Sunday 13 th	Rex Porter Rally	See attached flyer and Entry Form
Saturday 18 th	Club Parts Dept Open	9:30am to 12:00
25 th to 28 th	7 th National Commercial Rally	Oamaru - Hosted by Otago Branch

October

Monday 7 th	Club Night	
Tuesday 8 th	Committee Meeting	
Sunday 13 th	Rex Porter Rally	See attached flyer and Entry Form
Saturday 18 th	Club Parts Dept Open	9:30am to 12:00
25 th to 28 th	7 th National Commercial Rally	Oamaru - Hosted by Otago Branch

November

Monday 4 th	Club Night	
Sunday 10 th	Wai Wheels Swap Meet	Featherston Football Club Grounds
Tuesday 12 th	Committee Meeting	
Saturday 16 th	Club Parts Dept Open	9:30am to 12:00
Saturday 16 th	Gold Medal Motorcycle Trial	
Sunday 24 th	Mangatainoka Vintage Car Day	

Save the Date

15-21 March 2026	Vero International Festival of Historic Motoring 2026
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Daffodil Rally for Cancer

Saturday 24 August 2024

DRIVING OUR HISTORY

CARS
MOTOR CYCLES
COMMERCIALS
all welcome!

CAR DISPLAY

Brewtown

10 am to 2 pm



From the vintage Model T Ford era to the chrome and wings of the fifties, fine English tradition to Aussie muscle, French flavour to Japanese function

Hosted by the Wellington Vintage Car Club, this is our annual fundraiser for the Wellington Cancer Society

All proceeds to the Wellington branch of the New Zealand Cancer Society

Public entry **FREE OF CHARGE!** (But please bring your purse for this worthy cause)

Want to display your car? **\$20 PER VEHICLE** (a donation to the Cancer Society)

Supported by our sponsors:

Capital City Ford



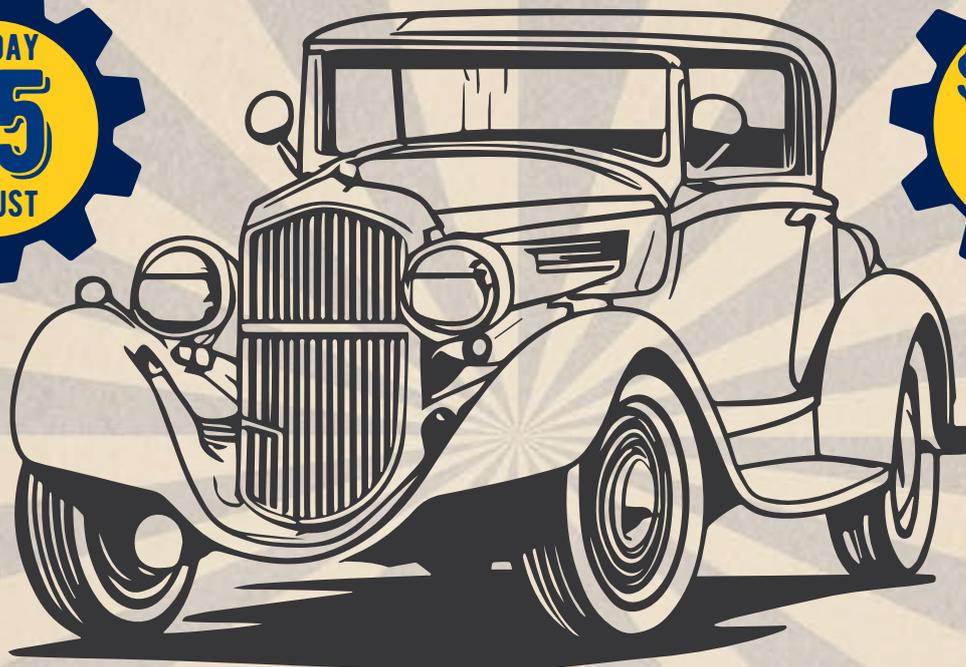
Enquiries: contact organisers wellington@vcc.org.nz or phone (027) 4425799





RALLY FOR CANCER

PROUDLY SUPPORTING THE WAIRARAPA CANCER SOCIETY



25TH AUGUST

REGISTRATIONS OPEN AT: 9:00AM

STARTING IN MARTINBOROUGH
FINISH AT FARRIERS CAR PARK

ALL CAR OWNERS ARE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE



REX PORTER MEMORIAL RALLY SUNDAY 13TH OCTOBER 2024

The late Rex Porter, foundation member & past President of the Wairarapa Branch, joined the Vintage Car Club of NZ (Inc.) in 1955 as a member of the Wanganui branch, being the nearest to Wairarapa in those early days. It is to this pioneer motorist, veteran enthusiast and noted club member, we dedicate this rally to.

THE RALLY:

The rally assembly point is the VCC club rooms at the Clareville A & P complex, Carterton.

Be Early. Have a cuppa and a biscuit.

Rally briefing at 9.30 a.m. Rally notes and car numbers given out. first car away at 10 a.m.

This is an all-day event with 2 competitive routes in the morning based on category chosen and 1 x competitive route in the afternoon combining all vehicles. Most aspects of rallying will be included. If there are insufficient entries in a particular class, they may be combined with another.

Lunch stop is at a community hall with toilet facilities.

LUNCH: BYO

The 2 rally routes in the morning are:

Short: This an all sealed route of approximately 56 miles, especially for Veteran and Vintage vehicles. Vehicles from other classes may take this route but will not be eligible for major prizes.

Long: a route of approximately 77 miles. Suit average speeds between 35 – 60 miles per hour

Afternoon: Approximately 51 miles of all tar sealed roads.

Fuel available near lunch stop.



REX PORTER MEMORIAL RALLY SUNDAY 13TH OCTOBER 2024

Classes:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1: Veteran Car (up to 1918) | 2: Veteran Motorbike |
| 3: Vintage Car (1919 to 1931) | 4: Vintage Motorbike |
| 5: Post Vintage Car (1932 to 1945) | 6: Post Vintage Motorbike |
| 7: Post War Car (1946 to 1960) | 8: Post War Motorbike |
| 9: Post 60's Car (1961 to 1980) | 10: Post 60's Motorbike |
| 11: Post 80's Car (1981 to Feb 1994) | 12: Post 80's Motorbike |
| 13: Commercial | |

Classes may be amalgamated if insufficient entries for any one class.

Regulations:

There must be at least one person in a vehicle that is a financial member of the VCC of NZ (inc.).

All current traffic regulations must be strictly observed. Common courtesy applies, keep left and allow other vehicles to pass when safe.

Points are awarded for various sections of the rally. Failure to stop for checkpoints will incur penalty points.

We advise that you carry a fire extinguisher.

Absolutely no electronic navigation devices are to be used. If caught this could mean disqualification.

End of event:

Afternoon tea and prize giving at the VCC club rooms Clareville.

We are looking for sponsorship for prizes for each category, so if you can assist please contact any of the committee.



REX PORTER MEMORIAL RALLY SUNDAY 13TH OCTOBER 2024

Helpers required:

We are always on the lookout for volunteers to help out on these major rallies, so if you want to get involved, please call the organiser.

We require time Marshalls and helpers to get afternoon tea ready.

If you want to be a part of the actual rally but don't have a vehicle or are unable to drive yours, sing out to the committee members to see if something can be arranged. We want to see as many members as we can from local and neighbouring clubs to join us to celebrate in the memory of Rex Porter.

Rex Porter 1905 – 1984:

His association with Veteran vehicles began in October 1937 when working on a 1900 Cudel-de Dion, which he later owned. He attended the Inglewood show in 1956 with the Cudel, and many subsequent rallies at Wanganui till 1960. This machine is now in the Southward Museum.

In June 1957 Rex acquired the remains of a 1907 De Dion-Bouton, and although a complete car, it required a major rebuild, which he completed in 1960. Rex went on to do many rallies in the De Dion-Bouton. Rex was an assistant editor for the "Beaded Wheels" magazine from 1959 to 1965, and National Executive member from 1961 to 1964.



REX PORTER MEMORIAL RALLY SUNDAY 13TH OCTOBER 2024

ENTRY FORM

DRIVER / RIDER:

ADDRESS:

NAVIGATOR:

PASSANGERS / PILLION:

CONTACT PHONE / EMAIL:

MAKE & YEAR of VEHICLE:

REG NO: VCC MEMBER NO:.....

MORNING ROUTE: LONG (77 MILES) SHORT (56 Miles) *Please circle one*

CHOSEN AVERAGE SPEED: (Between 25 & 60 MPH):

AFTERNOON ROUTE. ALL CARS (51 miles).

ENTRY FEE: (per vehicle):\$ 20.00

TOTAL TO PAY:\$

Payable to Wairarapa VCC, pay by internet banking to A/C **03-0687-0323649-01**

Use reference **REXP** and your **name**

Cash payments will be accepted on club nights till Monday 7th of October

ENTRIES CLOSE 7TH October 2024. NO LATE ENTRIES

Post entries to: Simon O'Hara - Rally Organiser. 36 Ranfurly Street, Solway, Masterton

Email entries and enquiries to: simonsandieohara@gmail.com

Organiser: Simon O'Hara (06) 3708844, or mobile: 0211412332





VERO INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF HISTORIC MOTORING 2026



15th – 21st March 2026

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST



Nelson, Tasman

The Vero International Festival of Historic Motoring is an event organised by the Vintage Car Club of New Zealand Incorporated.

Every 4 years we celebrate veteran, vintage, and classic vehicles and the people who love them. This is an international rally that attracts participants from all over the world and New Zealand. Previous events have had over 1000 vehicles taking part.

In 2026 this exciting event takes place in the Nelson Tasman region over the course of the week of 15th to 21st March. Put the dates in your calendar and register your interest and/or ask us questions below. You will be the first to be notified when full registrations open and receive a regular, informative, newsletter leading up to the event. It is also extremely helpful for our planning to know who is keen to join us and what vehicles you might bring.



REGISTER YOUR INTEREST

First Name*

Surname

Your email*

Contact Number

What vehicles are you planning on bringing?

Message/Questions (optional)

Sign me up for the newsletter

Submit

*Required

Useful Links

- Vero IFHM Facebook
- Nelson Branch VCC Website
- Nelson Tasman Vero Website
- VCC Website
- Nelson Branch VCC Instagram
- VCC Ferry Deals

Contacts

Chairperson	Graham Hodder	027 226 3738	g_jhodder@xtra.co.nz
Secretary	Mike D'Alton	021 137 2395	secretarywvcc@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Kevin Sullivan	022 377 8443	kevsully52@gmail.com
Club Captain	Position vacant		

Committee

Hugh Hunter	027 665 9911	j.h.hunter@xtra.co.nz
Pat Dutton	027 711 2735	betyjo29@gmail.com
Simon O'Hara	021 141 2332	simonsandieohara@gmail.com
Francis Pointon	06 378 6710	pointonmotors@xtra.co.nz
Dave Patten	027 247 7956	dave.patten28@gmail.com
Frank Lipinski	06 379 7167	

Social Convener	Position vacant		
Custodian	Position vacant		
Beaded Wheels Scribe	Judi Harding	022 379 9126	editorwaivcc@gmail.com
Zenith Editor	Dennis Burns	021 428 547	editorwaivcc@gmail.com
Librarian	Pat Dutton		betyjo29@gmail.com
Motorcycle Liaison	Kevin Sullivan	022 377 8443	kevsully52@gmail.com

Spares

Frank Lipinski	06 379 7167	
Graham Reidy	06 372 7855	g-a.reidy@xtra.co.nz
Jeff Percy	06 377 4622	j.percy@xtra.co.nz
Dave Walker	06 379 5008	

Vehicle Inspectors

Francis Pointon	06 378 6710	pointonmotors@xtra.co.nz
Graham Reidy	06 372 7855	g-a.reidy@xtra.co.nz
Hugh Hunter	06 306 9847	j.h.hunter@xtra.co.nz



Our Information



Clubrooms:

A&P Showgrounds, Chester Road, Clareville

Postal Address:

PO Box 7, Masterton 5840 Branch

Website:

www.sporty.co.nz/wairarapavcc

Club Night:

First Monday of the month (except January) and June (second Monday) at 7pm.

Committee meet:

Second Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm

Parts Department:

A&P Showgrounds, Chester Road, Clareville

Join Frank, Graham and Jeff for yarn and a cuppa when the Parts Department is open.

In this treasure trove, you might also happen to find any bits and pieces you've been looking for.

Located at the clubrooms, the Parts Department is open:

- Each Tuesday morning following clubnight.
- The 3rd Saturday of the month from 9:30am - 12noon.

You can also contact Frank for an appointment outside standard opening hours by phoning (06) 379 7167

Bits and bobs, here and there.



Graham Hodder receiving the Torque Hudson Trophy at the AGM



Kevin all ready for the Gravel Roads



Gina enjoying the MG Mid-Winter Backcountry Adventure 2024 - Look out for their article in September Zenith



Spotted on a lovely weekend walk around Greytown



Help!

Engine Hoist

Nick James would like to borrow an engine hoist for an hour or so to lift an engine from his garage floor and mount it on his engine stand.

If you can help Nick who lives in Carterton please Txt/call him on 021 647 744

Nick will pick up and return

Parting words



I took the opportunity to pop down to the clubrooms on Saturday morning. And it felt like I was entering Aladdin's cave. Though not many things glittered like gold. Treasure it is nevertheless.

It was a hive of activity, though I did notice (and soon joined in) that there was a lot of discussion needed when seeking out that hard to find part. Especially as I am no mechanic!



I thought I had better go along with a list of things I need for Olive. It was a short list,

- A 1950s period Smiths temperature gauge
- A 15/16 wheel brace
- A wiper motor.



I knew the last one would be a bit of a stretch, but you never know. And as the old song goes, "two out of three aint bad".

Well worth meeting the parts team and happy to give a donation to the clubs coffers.

If you haven't done so or its been a while, pop down and have a chat. You never know what you'll learn or find.

Until next month - Dennis

Wairarapa Zenith

Mercedes - Benz Museum.
Stuttgart, Germany.
The museums first exhibit.

AUGUST 2024

"If I had asked people what they
wanted, they would have said
faster horses".

Henry Ford

