

Wairarapa **Zenith**

May 2026 .



Bootleggers Run 2026 .

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Club Night 4th May

Guest Speaker - Patrick Harlow

No Club Night June

AGM 7th June -



Pointon Motors open for WOF's and repairs

Francis is open for WOF's and limited vintage repairs at reduced working hours. Contact Francis at (06) 378 6710

With the ending of daylight saving, we seem to be in a mixed bag of weather conditions. The cyclone luckily didn't affect our region to the extent it has further north, In hindsight one might think we should have continued with the Club Captains run.

But the day wasn't the best as it was and postponing means we will have an opportunity to have a more enjoyable day Sunday the 24th of May is the new date. Same format.

The **May Club night** is on the 4th, we will have a guest speaker, The speaker is Patrick Harlow, who is an automotive historian with a fascination for unique New Zealand produced cars. He has written for a number of publications and is a regular contributor to the New Zealand Classic Car Magazine. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Don't forget about the **Reliability Trial** to Mangaweka on the weekend of the 9th & 10th of May This outing is open to cars as well motor bikes. Come along and enjoy a weekend with magic company and wonderful conversation.

The **clubs AGM** is being held at the Greytown Working Men's Club on Sunday the 7th of June at 11.00am. We will again be having a meal following the meeting. The cost per head is \$44 paid into the clubs account before the 31st of May please.

Account number :- 03-0687-0323649-001
Surname in the Reference please.

New blood for the club's committee

As we get closer to the Annual AGM, please put some thought into how you may be able to help with club activities. We have a very dedicated team at present, but some members are stepping down. I thank them for their unwavering commitment and energetic support. We need some new members to refresh our group. If you enjoy laughter and short stories, along with keeping the wheels turning in our club.

Please come and join in by completing a nomination form.

The trip to the **museums over the Remutaka Hill** has been shifted back to the 5th of July.

The bus will leave Masterton at 9.30 am, stopping in Featherston and then travelling on to the Trentham Classic Car Museum.

There is a Café at the venue which will give us an opportunity to have a bite to eat before heading onto the Porirua Police Museum. We would then return to the Cosy Club in Upper Hutt for an evening meal before heading home. The plan is to be back in Masterton by 8.00 pm.

I will have confirmed costings in the next couple of weeks.

The **Annual Daffodil Rally for Cancer** is to be held on the 23rd of August.

Nationally the Car Club raised \$140,000 for the Cancer Society.

The challenge is for all clubs to better that amount.

We will again be having a **Daffodil Day Motor Show** at the Masterton MotorPlex on the 23rd of August Please mark this date "now" on your calendar or lock it into your phone calendar

As soon as we have a poster and information we will get it out to you to pass onto as many car enthusiasts as you can. The more people who know about it the better the day will be.

Beaded Wheels

Please make sure you have read your Beaded Wheels for April and May, page 52. It is a Notice of Meeting outlining the new rules for the election of Officers. You will be aware of the adoption of the new Constitution which has change the National Committee Positions.

All elected positions are open for nomination. If you are keen to put your name forward for one of those positions and require advice please contact me

It is with a more sombre note I close my report.

On behalf of the club our condolences go out to Aaron Webster and his family with the loss of their father Mike Webster. Hugh Hunter and I attend a service for Mike on the 7th of April. Mike was a quiet man with strong values and a real passion for cars. A number of stories were told of car projects he had undertaken

There was one which included the help of his two young sons by putting sand in the petrol tank.

A true " Ford Man "

No longer with us, but not forgotten. His stories will be part of the next generations DNA and their cars.

Cheers
Graham Hodder



Greytown Bootleggers Run 2026

The 1920s may have done it first. We simply chose to do bootlegging differently. While many entrants embraced the Prohibition era, the Greytown Ginrunners arrived from a slightly later chapter—1976.

Same idea. Better tailoring. Faster cars.



The Car (and the Cast)

Our vehicle of choice was the familiar 1971 MG Midget — “MG Fox”—compact, responsive, and well suited to Wairarapa roads. A two-time winner of the Targa two-day time trial, it continues to prove that light weight and balance remain a compelling combination.

Malcolm Fleming took the wheel, with Gina Jones navigating. Supporting operations (timing, logistics, and matters best left unexplained) were handled by Francis “Mr Fox” Fox.

The Run

Departing from The White Swan in Greytown, the day unfolded as a relaxed circuit through the district, taking in vineyards, rural roads, and a number of well-chosen stops. Unlike a traditional rally, there were no timed stages or competitive sections. The emphasis was firmly on participation, presentation, and enjoyment of both car and company. The focal point came at the checkpoint, where entrants were judged—not on speed or accuracy, but on

execution: vehicle, dress, character, and overall interpretation of the theme. A certain level of charm, persuasion, and well-timed “offerings” did not appear to hinder progress.

Style Over Speed

For many, the appeal of the Bootleggers Run lies precisely in this shift of emphasis. Cars are still central—but the event rewards:

- attention to detail
- consistency of presentation
- and a willingness to fully inhabit the brief

Stops at locations such as Urlar, The Runholder, and Palliser vineyards provided opportunities to regroup and socialise, with the MG performing faultlessly throughout.

The Field

A number of Vintage Car Club members were well represented among the entrants, with several featuring strongly in the final results. Not sure where MG Car Club cars were. The standard of presentation across the field was notably high, reflecting both enthusiasm and a clear sense of occasion.

Outcome

By the time the field returned to The White Swan, it was clear that the combination of car, presentation, and consistency had resonated with the judges. The Greytown Ginrunners were awarded “Star of the Show.”

Closing

Events such as the Bootleggers Run occupy an interesting space within the motoring calendar. They are not competitive in the conventional sense, yet they encourage a different kind of discipline—one of detail, character, and engagement. For MG and VCC members alike, they offer a reminder that these cars are not only to be preserved, but to be used, enjoyed, and occasionally—given a role to play.

Well played all.



Date	Event	Other dates / events of interest
May 2026		
Monday 4 th	Club Night	Guest Speaker to be confirmed
Tuesday 12 th	Committee Meeting	
Saturday 9 th & 10 th	Motorcycle Reliability Run, Cars are invited to join in.	Possibly a return to Mangaweka
Sun 24 th	Bus Trip to the Classic Museum at Trentham with an evening meal	To be confirmed.

June 2026		
Monday 1 st	King's Birthday	
Sunday 7 th	Club AGM & Lunch	Greytown Workingmen's Club
Tuesday 9 th	New Committee Meeting	
Sunday 21 st	Winter Wander	TBC

July 2026		
Sun 5 th	Bus Trip to the Classic Museum at Trentham with an evening meal	See Chairs report
Monday 6 th	Club Night	Fish & Chip
Fri. 10 th	Matariki	
Tuesday 14 th	Committee Meeting	
Sunday 19 th	Gravel Challenge	

August 2026		
Monday 3 rd	Club Night	Quiz Night with Vintage Machinery Club
Tuesday 11 th	Committee Meeting	
Fri. 14 – Sat. 15 th	National A.G.M & Executive Meeting	Manawatu Branch
Sunday 23 rd	Annual Daffodil Rally for Cancer	Daffodil Day Motor Show

September 2026		
Monday 7 th	Club Night	
Tuesday 8 th	Committee Meeting	
Sunday 14 th	Spring Rally	
Tuesday 9 th	Committee Meeting	
TBC	Gentlemen's Drive	Fundraiser for men's health

Date	Event	Other dates / events of interest
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October 2026		
Saturday 3rd	Rex Porter Rally	
Monday 5th	Club Night	Car is the Star
Tuesday 13 th	Committee Meeting	
Monday 26 th	Labour Day	
Sat 31 st Oct. – Su. 1 st Nov.	Wairarapa A & P Show Clareville	TBC
TBC	Bygone era of wings and wheels.	Organiser is Wellington Festival
Date	Event	Other dates / events of interest

November 2026		
Saturday 7 th	Wellington Branch Annual Rally	TBC
Sunday 8 th	New Members Rally	TBC
Monday 2nd	Club Night	
Tuesday 10th	Committee Meeting	
Sunday 15th	Wai Wheels Annual Car Show	Card Reserve - Featherston
Saturday 21st	Gold Medal Motorcycle Trial	TBC
Sunday 22nd	Veteran Run	TBC
Sunday 29th	Mangatainoka Vintage Car Day	

December 2026		
Monday 1st	Club Night	Twilight Run



I attended in my yellow 1957 DKW 3=6 and it ran perfectly (of course) for all of the 1000 miles I drove, burning about 160 litres of petrol and four litres of two stroke oil.

It was great to catch up with other Wairarapa members (see attached two photos of the Hodders). I also met up with two other DKW friends - making a three car "Wolf pack"!

I enjoyed this Vero International Festival of Motoring just as much as the previous one that I attended in New Plymouth and I really look forward to the next one.





THE VINTAGE CAR CLUB OF NEW ZEALAND
INCORPORATED
WAIRARAPA BRANCH

2026 Reliability Trial

The 2026 Reliability Trial will take place on the 9th and 10th of May.
The destination this year is once again Mangaweka.

Accommodation will be in cabins at the Awastone campgrounds

Once again we are inviting car drivers to participate in this event alongside the motorcyclists.

The entry fee is \$20.00.

Accommodation is \$39 per person which includes bedding payable in advance.

The event will start from the VCC clubrooms in Chester Road, Clareville.
There will be a riders/drivers briefing at 9.30am with the first vehicle away at 10am.

Fill out the attached entry form and email it to Kevin Sullivan at
keysully52@gmail.com

Accommodation is limited to 20 persons. In order to secure the accommodation please return your entry form ASAP.

**THE
DISTINGUISHED
GENTLEMAN'S DRIVE**

WAIRARAPA

SAVE THE DATE

**SUNDAY 27TH OF
SEPTEMBER 2026**

START & FINISH: THE WHITE SWAN, GREYTOWN

**RAISING FUNDS FOR MEN'S HEALTH –
PROSTATE CANCER AND MENTAL HEALTH VIA
MOVEMBER**

WWW.GENTLEMANSDRIVE.COM



Hi Everyone,

Thanks very much to those who've already registered their interest in entering this event: The 40th anniversary of the MG Classic Race Meeting, being held at the Manfeild Chris Amon Circuit in Feilding, Friday 13 to Sunday 15 November 2026. We've had a great response from both the North and South Island, and look forward to welcoming a wide variety of VCC vehicles and their drivers to be part of a separate VCC grid at this MG Classic Race Meeting. Reminder: This event is open to all pre 1966 VCC eligible sports cars, racing cars and specials, (not just MG's).

Draft Programme:

Friday 13 November: Documentation, scrutineering, practice and qualifying.

Saturday 14/Sunday 15 November: Racing (along with an informal VCC get together at Murray's Bar in Feilding after racing on Saturday).

1. Accommodation:

Most entrants will need to book accommodation for the nights of Thursday 12th to Sunday 15th November. Feilding accommodation is limited, but Palmerston North has a far greater choice of options and is only about 20 minutes away.

2. Travel:

We recommend that South Island entrants book via Tony Hirst at Cook Strait Crossings asap. Bookings Picton to Wellington Wednesday 11th/Thursday 12th and Wellington to Picton Monday 16th/Tuesday 17th November are likely to be filled quickly, so please book now to avoid disappointment. Tony offers a brilliant discount service, along with the added benefit of flexibility to cancel at no cost should your travel plans change. Please refer to his contact details below:

3. Entry Forms, Supplementary Regulations, Queries etc:

Subject to confirming some further details with our hosts, the MG Classic Race Committee, we're planning to have all entry documentation and supplementary regs etc available during May 2026. In the meantime, please forward this email to any of your friends who may be interested in entering our VCC grid in November.

Any queries, please contact me directly.

Regards,

Rod Corbett
VCC Organiser for the MG Classic Race Meeting 2026
rod.corbett88@gmail.com
+64 27 433 8772



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	
David Eade	021 227 7338	
Bob Cumming		

Social Convenor Position vacant

Custodian Position vacant

Website Admin	A J Hunter	027 201 9738	info@waivcc.nz
Zenith Editor	Dennis Burns	021 428 547	editorwaivcc@gmail.com
Beaded Wheels Scribe	David Eade	021 227 7338	davethehandyman11@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
Hugh Hunter	06 306 9847	j.h.hunter@xtra.co.nz
Kevin Sullivan	022 377 8443	kevsully52@gmail.com
Dave Patten	027 247 7956	dave.patten28@gmail.com



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:

- First Tuesday morning of the Month.
- 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

Clubrooms:

A&P Showgrounds, Chester Road, Clareville

Postal Address:

PO Box 7, Masterton 5840 Branch

Website:

<https://waivcc.nz/>

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

Wairarapa Zenith

MAY 2026 .



Wairarapa

