



VINTAGE & CLASSIC CAR CLUB
Hawkes Bay Branch
Newsletter
THE MAG

April 2026

Official Publication of the Hawke's Bay Branch of
The Vintage Car Club of New Zealand (Inc.)



www.hbvcc.org.nz

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The clubs Facebook page is HAWKES BAY VINTAGE & CLASSIC CAR CLUB

BRANCH DETAILS

Address: PO Box 3406, Napier 4142
Clubrooms: 67 Sandy Road,
Meeanee, Napier

Phone: Please note that the
landline number has been
disconnected, please refer to our
website

Email: hawkesbay@vcc.org.nz

Website: www.hbvcc.org.nz

Club night is the 2nd
Wednesday of the month
@ 7.30pm at the
Clubrooms - Supper
provided.

**Clubrooms, Library &
Spares Department Open:**
Tuesday morning's @
9am - 11am.
Morning Tea served @
10.00am

Send In Your Contributions

Articles, Photos, Reminiscences, Mechanical Tips, Notices, Funnies

- **Please submit your contributions by:**
- **20th of the Month**
- **Please supply your content in a word document with photos sent separately. Please indicate within the word document the image number that needs to be placed within.**
- Late contributions are accepted only if time allows, please phone to check if this is ok.
- Email to: hbvccmag@gmail.com
- Editor: Kay Elmsly, Mobile 027 286 6480
- Contactable during work hours 9am-5pm
Monday-Friday

**To view this magazine online at:
WWW.HBVCC.ORG.NZ**

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Chairman's Report



By Robert Bengé

Firstly, a warm welcome back to those members who travelled to the Vero Rally in Nelson. By all accounts it was a fantastic event, and it's great to see our club so well represented. Thank you to everyone who made the trip South to Nelson and flew the flag for our Branch .

Congratulations to those members who will be receiving their 25, 35, and 50-year membership awards. These milestones are a testament to your dedication and passion for the club and the vintage car movement. We thank you for your continued support and commitment over the years.

Larry's club night presentation on this work with Green Atlas and the horticultural sector amazing especially working with AI.

This was a most interesting and informative evening, it was great to see a good turnout of members to supporting him.

Looking ahead, preparations are well underway for our annual Swap Meet on Sunday, 3rd May. This is one of our major events of the year and an important fundraiser for the club. We will be looking for volunteers to assist on the day, so please lend a hand if you can.

I know Paul is busy planning some upcoming activities , so be sure to check the calendar and get involved.

Also don't forget our mid week runs and our Tuesday coffee mornings.

Participation is what keeps our club vibrant and enjoyable for everyone.

Safe motoring,

Robert



Club Captains Notes

By Paul Anderson



Vero International Festival of Historic Motoring

- **One 90-year-old Chevrolet Coupe**
- **850 miles (1368 km)**
- **\$550 in petrol costs**
- **14 days**
- **Two very delayed ferry sailings**
- **6 Ice-creams**
- **One minor tune-up**

Vintage motoring at its best.

We have just returned home from the Vero International rally in Nelson. It was a great week, fabulous weather, great runs through very scenic countryside and for the most part a very well-run event.

It was also an event where you met new people and reacquainted yourselves with old friends. There were a couple of minor negatives relating to the traffic congestion, particularly in central Nelson and on the road to Richmond, and the quality of meals served at the evening events left a little to be desired. But overall, it was a great event and well worth attending.

Many of you will know that when you take old cars that are not used every day on a long journey, over an extended period of time, you often get little niggles with the running of the car, if not a complete breakdown.

In our case, after travelling well from Napier to Otaki, the Chevrolet developed a minor “miss”. I suspected this to be the points as I had been unable to track down replacements to fit before leaving.

A “happen - chance” discussion informed me that there was a gentleman in Paraparaumu, who dealt with old cars, had plenty of old spares and was a member of the Wellington VCC.

I contacted him on the “off chance”. He said come around and he moved his Jaguar car out of the shed so we could work out of the rain. He did not in fact have the parts required but we cleaned and reset the points, cleaned the distributor contacts (all of which I should have done before leaving home).

Some of our older members will know the gentleman concerned, Mr Ken Saville and I owe him a debt of gratitude. The car ran like a “modern” till we got home two weeks later. I was not the only one who received and benefitted from the willing assistance and access to spare parts (I know of at least four others from our branch) from other clubs. It just goes to show that the camaraderie between members and clubs is strong and the willingness to assist fellow members abounds.

The April monthly run will be shed raids and obviously we will cut our cloth to suit with regard to the petrol situation. At this stage we will attend two excellent sheds, which I don't think we have been to before, on the road to Puketapu. Superfluous motoring will be kept to a minimum.

Safe and happy motoring

Paul

Calendar of Events for April 2026



**MID-WEEK RUN -
Wednesday 1st April is
CANCELLED. Refer to
Details on Page 17.**



**SUNDAY CLUB RUN
12th April -
Refer to Details on Page 12**



**CLUB NIGHT -
Wednesday 8th April at
7.30pm.
Refer to Details on
Page 11.**

**MIX & MINGLE -
FRIDAY 24th April**
Doors open 6pm.
Dinner from 7pm.
BYO Drinks & Nibbles.
Please Email the secretary

**Larry at:
hawkesbay@vcc.org.nz**
if you are attending or put
your name on the list at the
clubrooms.



***Every Tuesday morning the Club and the
Spares Department are open between 9am
& 11am.***

*A cuppa is made around 10am for those that would
like to have a sit down and have a natter.*



MEETING

Hawkes Bay Vintage Car Club
Wednesday 8th April
@7.30PM Please save the date

This meeting will feature the Presentation to members for their 50, 35 & 25 year badges.

Come along and join us to congratulate these members on their years of membership to the club.

Supper will be served after the meeting so stay for natter and a cuppa.

See you at the club.

SUNDAY CLUB RUN APRIL 12TH



SHED RAIDS

The April monthly run will be shed raids and obviously we will cut our cloth to suit with regard to the petrol situation.

At this stage we will attend two excellent sheds, which I don't think we have been to before, on the road to Puketapu. Superfluous motoring will be kept to a minimum.

Time & place for start will be advised at a later date.



APPAREL ORDERS

PLEASE NOTE MEMBERS

Our next order for Apparel will be placed on the 15th April.

So get your orders in for these smart looking caps and T- shirts ladies and gentleman

Please lodge any orders to Ian Elmsly Ph: 027 4790 682

Sizing for T-shirts & pricing are all on page 15



Apparel Orders



As per previous MAG's we now have Polo Shirts and Caps available for purchase.

Prices are as follows:

Caps \$30.00

Polo Shirts (mens & ladies) \$59.00

Polo Shirts (Kids). \$55.00

They are available in the following sizes:

Caps - one size fits all

Polo Shirts - Men's S to 5XL

Women's - 6 to 26

Kids - 4 - 16

These are all branded with the HBVCC logo and will only be available through Hawkes Bay Branch.



To place an order please complete the following order and hand to either Paul Anderson or Ian Elmsly.

Apparel Order Form



NAME:

PHONE NUMBER :

CAPS: NO. REQUIRED \$

POLO SHIRTS - MENS

SIZE NO REQUIRED \$.....

POLO SHIRTS - LADIES

SIZE NO REQUIRED \$.....

POLO SHIRTS - KIDS

SIZE NO REQUIRED \$.....

TOTAL AMOUNT: \$

Orders must be accompanied by either cash or bank deposit to the:

Clubs Account: 06-0701-0389864-00

Hawkes Bay Vintage Car Club Inc

Please ensure you include your Surname and reference "Apparel".

Classics on Wednesdays



PLEASE TAKE NOTE

In communication with Kevin McGrath, Kevin was going to do the April Run. We have decided that due to the petrol circus at present we will **CANCEL the April Mid Week.**

At this stage the May mid week run to a country pub is still planned.

Cheers

Barrie & Lyndsay Browne



Mid - Week Run Report

Classics on Wednesday - 4th March 2026



FIRST SAUNTER INTO AUTUMN RUNS

By Carol Eager

Wednesday 4 th March dawned overcast and cooler for those of us partaking of Barrie Browne's first autumn run for the year, and in Barrie's words we were heading "way out back where the hills are high, the valleys vast, roads are dusty and storm damage of 3 years is significant."

Alas though, poor Barrie was not feeling at his best and waited patiently for 5 cars to arrive at the club rooms prior to 10.30am. Once we were assembled Barrie handed out instructions to all co-pilots, with his apologies that he would be returning home and not joining us. Maybe, perhaps, for a warm toddy with honey and ginger. Hope you recovered quickly Barrie.



We headed out to Church Road and then Puketitiri Road climbing through the valleys and dales. Although the weather was overcast, the sun poked its shiny head through every so often.



We made tracks to the Red Wood Anzac carving near Rissington, passing over the old bridge next to the new one still being constructed. Then up the hill to the old Weka Scout Camp which was decimated during Cyclone Gabrielle. Remnants of the Scout barracks still remain, along with the flying fox, although that is looking very rusted and unloved too.





We were lucky to only come across two sets of traffic lights on this road, one in operation, where cyclone repairs are still taking place, and one set that was not being used.

We then turned into Waihau Road, the scenery breath taking, at least for Paul and I as we were leading the charge and were not eating dust. This gravel road went on for around 20 kms, with two sets of traffic lights for bridge and road repairs. Kinda felt sorry for Paul Boylen behind us with his roof down.

We then turned into Dartmoor Road, yay onto tarmac again, and continued on our jolly way to the Puketapu Park where we made use of the toilet facilities and then the park benches for our picnic, and where the sun decided to appear which made for a more picnicky, late summer lunch break feeling.

When we first arrived at Puketapu Park some of us were chatting with a family from Switzerland, who are motor caravanning around our beautiful country. They were here three years ago, on their way to Hawkes Bay, when the cyclone hit so had to centre their stay that time on the West Coast of the North Island. This time around, they have been in the South Island for 3 weeks, and headed over to Hawkes Bay for a few days. Tomorrow they're heading to Gisborne and East Cape, Tauranga and Auckland before flying home in 3 weeks time. Despite the lack of sun today, they were loving the weather because back home it's winter and very cold. Happy camping to them.



Next months Wednesday run, on the 1 st of April, is being organised by Kevin and Pauline McGrath as Barrie and Lyndsey are off on a train ride down to Ashhurst and back. Nice one Lyndsay and Barrie - enjoy.



The book, written by Graham Stewart, is called “The End Of The Penny Section”.

A couple of Passages from the book supplied by Bruce Mckechnie

From the New Zealand Herald 15 November 1886.

“Some steps should be taken to prevent furious driving in Queen Steet on Saturday nights when the streets are crowded with people. The tramcars move almost at a walk, with whistles blowing, though confined to the rails, but it is no uncommon thing to see a cabman careering along - driving through long lines of people at six or seven miles an hour, the only warning being the occasional crack of his whip. On Saturday nights this reckless conduct is most conspicuous and gives the impression that such that such rapid driving is done out of bravado and pure cussedness, rather than anything else.”



Bear in mind that all the vehicles in this snippet were horse drawn.

Tests found that three horses could take a tram containing 35 passengers up the Wellesley Street West grade, the same grade as College hill, namely one in twelve.

A "hill boy" astride a clydesdale would hook a chain on to the pole at the bottom of the hill and help the lighter "tram horses" on the haul to the top and then ride back down to the bottom of the hill and wait for the next tram.

Anyone who knows these two roads will know that getting these horse drawn vehicles to the top was no mean feat. I recall as a teenager watching Morris 8s and Ford 10s, which were everyday cars at that time, grinding up these hills in first gear and hoping to get to the top and hoping also not to overheat their thermos syphon engines. I recently drove up College Hill and hardly noticed it was a hill but it certainly brought back some memories at the time.

Your Branch Photos



Vero International Festival of Historic Motoring Nelson 2026



Kaiteriteri Beach Motor Camp





Kaiteriteri Beach



Redstone Golf Park



Your Branch Photos



Willow Bank Heritage Village



Your Branch Photos

Higgins Heritage Park



Your Branch Photos

Ngatimoti School



1915 Renault Charabanc giving the school kids rides around the grounds



Kids getting rides in the dickie seat.



HQ Trafalgar centre



East Cape Motorhome Caravan Trip

A few members with motorhomes and caravans are kicking around the idea of a trip around East Cape in September or early October for about two weeks. Would you be interested.

The idea is to travel to Gisborne, spend a couple of nights there and visit Eastwoodhill Arboretum and other places of interest then amble on up the coast to Tolaga Bay, Anaura Bay, Tokomaru Bay, TeAraroa and East Cape light, Hicks Bay, Waihau Bay, TeKaha, Opotiki and then either through the Waioweka Gorge to Gisborne and home or via Whakatane, Waikite Valley for a hot swim, Taupo and home.

Staying a few nights at some of the above places and visiting points of interest along the way and in those areas. The exact itinerary and places to stay eg NZMCA parks, freedom camping places and campgrounds will be worked on with input from all those interested in joining the trip. Also giving flexibility for those who want to stay longer in some places to do some fishing, diving and then catch up with others further along the journey.

As an example of the journey style, day 1. Leave Napier about 10am, stop for morning tea at Putorino Domain, lunch at Wairoa, Morere hot springs for afternoon tea or a soak. Then onto Eastwoodhill and set up for the night, happy hour then cook own dinner. Next day visit the Arboretum. Any travelling day would be broken up into morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea stops plus visits to places of interest for those who wish. End of each day would have a group get together happy hour.

If you could be interested, then email Colin Barnes thebarnz@xtra.co.nz with Eastcape Trip as the subject and what vehicle type you have, if you are an NZMCA member, would prefer campgrounds or don't mind some freedom camping, have pets travelling with you and any other input you would like to give.

Prior to the above a shorter trip possibly down the Wairarapa coast is also being considered for late April early May.

Thanks Colin Barnes



Attention Members!



Club Room Hire

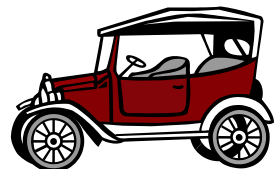
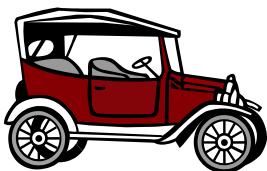


Our clubrooms are available to members to hire for special events!

Costs are: \$150 Hire fee
Refund of \$50 providing the
club rooms are left in a clean
and orderly manner.

The booking club member must
be present for the full duration
of the booking hire and is responsible for the premises including the
locking up and securing of the building and site.

*For further enquiries please contact Steve Donovan - Club Custodian on mobile
number 027 217 7730*



Classifieds - For Sale/Wanted



FOR SALE



1957 AUSTIN A35. Unregistered but have ownership papers.

Has rust in floor and sills and upholstery needs replacing. \$100.

Contact Diane Quarrie 027 3331329



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Classifieds - For Sale



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Caretaker
Te Kura Kōhine o Ahuriri
06-835-1069
www.nghs.school.nz
4 Clyde Road, Bluff Hill,
Napier 4110



Spares News

By John Durry



Hi All

A few months ago Geoff Quarry brought into spares a assortment of parts and amongst them was a valve cutting tool, we hadn't seen one of these before & decided to turn it into a trophy, and we called it "Spares Best Yearly Helper" and for 2025 the helper is Colin Sherriff, BT made the mounting block & JD did the engraving & hopefully it will be given to a worthy person from now on, picture G.



The spares have been very busy firstly cleaning out the Ahuriri Woolstore of all its car parts, and then to Brian's orchard, the next day we sorted into apple boxes & then last Tuesday the apple box was taken to club rooms & sorted & put away. We wish to thank all those that helped over the 3 days. Following are some pictures of things we want to sell before the swap meet, all Plymouth parts.

2 Sets rear wheel spats
\$140 per set



3 Nose cones & a bonnet
\$50 each



Fully ground crank shaft
\$100



Rear axles \$75 each



Set of 4 - 17inch mags, fit chev pattern \$400 the set



2 Gearboxes \$100 each



Until next time
Cheers
John Durry

CLUB SPARE PARTS CORNER

For any enquiries phone:
Brian Taylor on 027 443 6009 or
John Durry 022 676 9401





Welcome to our Club

Chris & Kaye Smith - 1953 Ford Prefect &
1972 Fiat 125 special

Matthew Bonnett - 1925 Morris Cowley roadster

Calendar of Up and Coming Events



April Events	May Events	Future Events
<p>1st April Committee meeting</p>	<p>3rd May Sunday Swap Meet</p>	<p>29th May Mix & Mingle Evening</p>
<p>8th April Club Night</p>	<p>6th May Committee meeting Mid-week Run</p>	
<p>12th April Sunday Club Run</p>	<p>13th May Club Night</p>	
<p>24th April Mix & Mingle Evening</p>	<p>17th May Sunday Club Run</p>	

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