



VINTAGE & CLASSIC CAR CLUB
Hawkes Bay Branch
Newsletter
THE MAG
DECEMBER 2025/JANUARY 2026

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



www.hbvcc.org.nz

December 2025/January 2026

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

BRANCH DETAILS

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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 Benge



Greetings,

I must acknowledge the passing of Vic Gould, Vic was one of life's true gentleman we only met after I transferred here in 2021 we got to know each other over the last few years, Vic held real passion for motoring and was extremely proud of his long association with the Hawks Bay Vintage Car club.

Vic carried himself with true dignity I know he was delighted to receive his 60th badge.

My sincere condolences to Alison and family.

I was delighted with the turn out of vehicles and members for our annual Homestead run. It was a wonderful day and it was great to see so many vintage vehicles out.

Thanks to Esther and Graeme for organising a great day out and for arranging the visit to another amazing Homestead.

This is our last magazine for the year so the last report. I'm amazed at how quickly the year has gone I'm delighted to report that we've had a very successful year of events including some wonderful club nights with some amazing speakers.

The Tuesday morning get togethers are proving most successful with a strong number of members attending it's always great to part take in a bit of banter with the spares team and fellow members and enjoy a coffee.

The midweek run team has done a great job this year with organising some amazing events to some very interesting locations so well done.



I know this takes a lot of work and planning so it's greatly appreciated. I know the attendance has been strong over the year.

Finally, I would just like to thank everyone that has contributed over the past year and making our branch a great success so many members have contribute their time this is greatly appreciated without you theses events wouldn't be possible.

I would also like to acknowledge my fellow committee members for their dedication and commitment to the success of the club its greatly appreciated.

As we move into 2026 we start the year with the Art Deco weekend in February which I'm sure once again this event will be a huge success.

I would like to wish all members a very Merry Christmas and look forward to catching up in the New Year. Safe motoring and travels.

Cheers
Robert

Club Captains Notes

By Paul Anderson



Greetings members,

The boy's big day out.....A Story.....

Ever since becoming Club Captain, I have harboured the dream of taking the club on a run across a large farm or station. I had often listened to the "old timers" who would talk with misty eyes about running board runs across farmland from one rural road to another.

I could visualise our fleet of cars rolling majestically over green manicured paddocks to an idyllic picnic spot. But, when I checked out some of these runs, I found that Cyclone Gabriel had destroyed the few rural tracks that had existed.

So, when I was advised that Peter Jackson may be able to get us on to Te Apiti Station, to travel across the farm from Kairakau to Waimarama, I jumped at the opportunity, and a date was set to do a trial run.

On the appointed day, after signing Various waivers, Messrs Jackson, Elmsly, Blair with myself in the driver's seat of a Mitsubishi 2 wheel drive Ute, set out just after six o'clock on a lovely summers evening to cross the farm.

The Farm Manager said it should take us 30 - 40 minutes. We decided to use Barrie and Lyndsay Browne's Ford Anglia 105E as the benchmark vehicle - if the Anglia couldn't do it, we wouldn't do it.

However, about 500 metres into the journey things started to look ominous. The track when we could find it was rutted and it looked like it had not been travelled in some time. It was a goat track, but we pushed on, often with one walking point in front to determine the safest route.



After about an hour I could take no more and clamoured out of the driver's seat a jibbering and shaking wreck. We reckoned we were half way through, no point in turning around, so Malcolm drew the short straw and climbed into the drivers seat. He did a sterling job and after two and a half hours of battling the rugged track we came to a very steep hill.

We were buoyed by the fact that the track came out onto a road about one hundred metres from the top. But things took an even worse turn, and after six attempts at getting up this hill, we were still at the bottom, and with daylight fading fast, we were a pretty depressed lot.

But we decided to have one last effort before calling for the cavalry. Malcolm backed up as far as he could and gave it full noise and this time only just made it. Four very tired but happy chaps got home for tea around ten thirty in the evening.

Two things came of this little adventure; Firstly the little Anglia (representing the average club car) would have struggled to get about 300 metres up the track and secondly I don't think we will be doing a farm crossing anytime soon.

November Club Meeting - The speaker at our November meeting was Cameron Taylor and his presentation regarding surviving cyclone Gabriel was extremely interesting and thought provoking. This was followed by a short talk by Wayne Richards about his own harrowing experience during Gabriel. I think that some of us who were not directly impacted by the cyclone, sometimes tend to forget the financial and emotional toll on those who did suffer loss.



Club Events - I understand from Janine that the ladies lunch held at Hygge, Te Awanga, was a great success. Thank you, Sandra, for organising a great day.

The annual homestead run to Castle Hill was also a resounding success (see the report later in the Mag). By my count there were 52 cars in attendance and it was great to see the old tradition reinstated of presenting a painting of the homestead to the owner. Thank you Carolyn Manning for your beautiful painting of the homestead.

Also, thank you to Esther and Graham Smith for organising the run for the umpteenth year. The visits have always been a highlight in the calendar.

Merry Christmas to all.

Safe and happy motoring - Paul

Calendar of Events for December 2025



MID-WEEK RUN -

Wednesday 3rd December

Refer to Details on Page 13

Meet at the Club rooms

10am for a 10.30am

Departure.



CLUB NIGHT -

Wednesday 17th

December at 7.00pm.

**Please note change of
date & time**

Refer details on page 12



SUNDAY CLUB RUN 14th December

Details on Page 14

NO MIX & MINGLE FOR DECEMBER.

**NEXT DATE WILL BE
27TH FEBRUARY 2026**

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.*

Club Night - Wednesday 17th December

Please take note of the change of date & Time.

And now for something completely different.....

A Scottish Christmas Evening



Come along and enjoy a fun filled Scottish themed evening.

Wednesday 17th December 7.00pm @ the Clubrooms

The programme for evening will include -



**Piping in of the haggis
The address to the haggis
Toasts to the haggis**



**A taste of haggis, neeps and tatties
And lots of fun**

Attire: Casual with something tartan, (However if you do have a kilt – it would be a great opportunity to wear it).

You can also wear something Christmassy!



R S V P: for catering purposes to p.anderson1@xtra.co.nz

Classics on Wednesdays



Wednesday Dec 10th our Christmas Run and Café Lunch.



Gather at the club rooms from 9.30am for a 10.30am start.

Bring with you a Christmas gift to value of about \$5.

Also bring your EFT POS cards, you know why.

Our run will take us over many roads that we have travelled before but sometimes that just has to be the case. Distance to finish venue is 80KM

Lets dress the cars a little and perhaps the drivers and crew could do the same.

If you havent emailed Barrie, its not too late to do so he needs numbers please, email is -

clydebrowne@xtra.co.nz

A huge thankyou for your support and involvement this year, we done many different interesting trips and know there are more to come.



This is our last outing for 2025 we all take a break and recommence on Feb 4th, 2026

Wishing everyone of the Hawkes Bay Branch a joyful and enjoyable Christmas and great New year. Merry Christmas Cheers, Barrie Browne.

Sunday Club Run - 14th December



"The Redemption Run" Finishing at GodsOwn Brewery



Start at the Bridge Pa School (just through the Bridge Pa Township when coming from Hastings / Napier - look for the VCCC signs).

Assemble at 1.15pm for briefing with first cars away at 1.30pm.

Our run will head into rolling countryside (approximately 60 Km) with a small portion of the trip being over metal road and if the weather is good, I can promise some spectacular views - where have you heard that before. there is a "Plan B" but still finishing at GodsOwn Brewery if the weather is inclement.





We should arrive at the brewery about 3.00pm and we have reserved the large "Safari Tent" which will accommodate our group. There will be a range of non-alcoholic drinks available and pizzas to snack on.



Gods own is open till 6pm on a Sunday

Any questions

Please contact Paul Mobile 0274 463 908

Mid - Week Run Report



Classics on Wednesday - 5th November, 2025

It was a beautiful November day as we gathered at the clubrooms, ready for a run in the country, ending up at Hawke's Bay Fish and Game in Jervoistown. The run took us through Taradale, out to Puketapu, to Fernhill, then along the Taihape Rd, doing a loop along Matapiro Rd and Ohiti Rd, back towards Taradale, onto the expressway and then Meeanee Rd to Burness Rd and Hawke's Bay Fish and Game.



While we sat in the shade and ate our picnic lunches (with tea and coffee kindly supplied by HB Fish and Game - thank you very much!) we were welcomed by Education Officer, Kerry Meehan who gave us a run down on the history and activities of the organisation.

The four-hectare site was established as a game farm 90 years ago, and used to raise pheasants, quail and kiwi, although that was not particularly successful. Now, they have hatcheries for trout, eels and koura (freshwater crayfish), set in grounds that have wetlands, a large pond and native plantings.



A major part of Fish and Game's work is providing educational programmes for students in years 2 to 10. This includes an introduction to fishing, scavenger hunts, orienteering, native planting, clean water education and plans for a camp with tents, composting toilets and BBQs.

Schools can book classes in for sessions, but Fish and Game also run open days during school holidays. We had a walk around the lovely grounds with native birds flying around us, and fish and eels to see in the waterways.



A very interesting and educational day for us all. What was really interesting was how many of us knew that Fish and Game were sited here, but most of us has never been there - sometimes we miss what is right on our doorstep.

Huge thanks to Kerry and the team for hosting us, and to Barrie for arranging the visit and the run in the country - a very enjoyable day!

Diane Friis





Deco Dash train trip to Palmy

STOP PRESS!!!!



Steam Inc have allowed Barbi Speers to commandeer a whole carriage to herself for the JA engine, towing the vintage train, on the train's trip back to Paekakariki after Art Deco Weekend.

Yes, the train goes back empty(well, not quite) on the day after Deco Week finishes, so, on Monday 23rd Feb.

There will be a steam train stopping at the Hastings Railway Station -that-was- platform at 8.25 am for all the glam people who spent the weekend all dressed up, and didn't get enough of Steam Train rides, to board, and have a ride to Palmerston North,.all dressed up in whatever doesn't need washing after Deco week!(Not too flash. Just a hat and gloves for the ladies and perhaps a waistcoat and cap for the blokes.It is called a Deco Dash, after all!)

There, they will disembark from “Barbi’s Carriage” and be met by Cam Maxwell, and his Divinely comfortable bus, around 1 pm, go to a nice local café for a spot of lunch, and be transported home to the Hastings Railway site where they left from. Arriving approx 5 pm.

Cost for the whole trip? \$130.00 pp, for both train and bus. Lunch you will be paying for yourselves, and it pays to carry a bit of cash if you want to shop on the train. (Please note, no alcohol to be taken on the train please. You can buy it on board.).

There are only 40 seats on” Barbi’s carriage”, and 26 of those have already gone, so, if you’re keen to get one, please email Barbi asap on -

**barbara.jim@ xtra.co.nz, OR ring her or text on
0274538714...**

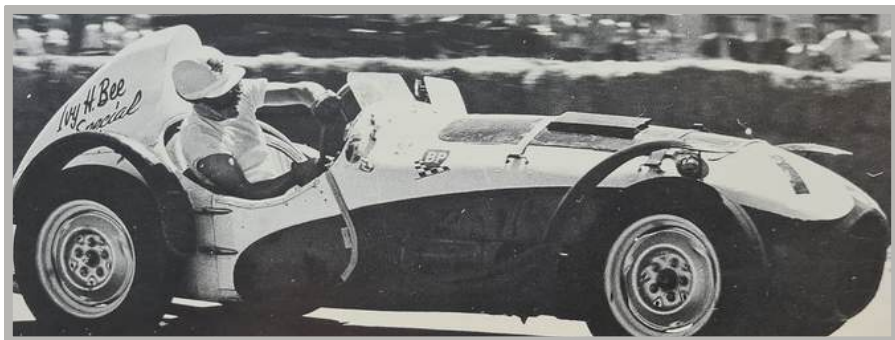
We used to do this years ago. It is a really fun day out!

Help Needed To Locate Cars

In the 1950-60's there were several car "collectors" around New Zealand, for instance Gilltrap in Rotorua who had "Genevieve" the 1910 Darracq.

Here in Hawkes Bay we had Merv Hunt who had a car yard at Stortford Lodge, a garage in Taradale and a large shed nearby. He was a community man as photos showed him in a Minerva taking part in the 1956 100years of Napier City parade.

In another parade he was driving a single cylinder Rover much like the one at the Faraday Centre. Merv also had a number of specials, one of which was the "Ivy H Bee" which raced in Napier when street racing at the Inner Harbour Events was the norm.



Sometime in the 1960's Merv decided to move to the South Island and as I understand, some of his cars went to Southwards Museum and also to Horopito Motors.

At that time our Derek Gordon was working for Horopito Motors and he collected car parts especially but thinks vehicles may have gone there as well.

A veteran Overland was bought from Merv Hunt by Charlie Black and restored by him. A 16/20 Wolseley which eventually was bought by Pete Johns, etc etc. Quite by accident I have located the "Ivy H Bee" mentioned , its in a loft here in Napier waiting restoration.

A veteran Overland was bought from Merv Hunt by Charlie Black and restored by him. A 16/20 Wolseley which eventually was bought by Pete Johns, etc etc. Quite by accident I have located the "Ivy H Bee" mentioned , its in a loft here in Napier waiting restoration.

Please if you know anything make contact with either:

Geoff Johnston 027 342 1696 or

Email on:

geoff.johnston@outlook.com

Digby Young 021 124 2814 or

Email on:

digbyyoung52@gmail.com

Sunday Club Run -23rd November 2025

Mangkuri Homestead

Dad got his number 1 chauffer (and eldest son) enlisted to drive the homestead run this year (mothers in Oz with my sister and nieces).

“Where do you think we’ll go dad?” I asked.

“Don’t know, homestead runs are always a mystery”

I was triggered, as it took me back to the 70s where it was always a lottery to which old car crony dad would visit, Lionel, Dizzy, Jim, Wayne, Paul, or, oh the list was endless, the answer was either ‘there and back again to see how far it is’ or “to see a man about a dog”.

Appreciative now that I’ve recently moved home to the best countryside and climate for VCC driving, and a little grown up (aside 1 ascent later).- That and I had very fond memories of growing up with the car club kids in the 70s on rallies.

BYO chairs and no pets were the only clues. Oh and bring accoutrements for picnic lunch, though we’re meeting at the showgrounds if you want to get something there, first car away 10:15, 60km each way, and no gas stations en-route.

Weather forecast looked iffy but we chose his roadster but kept the lid up.

Dad got the car and chairs ready, I baked the B&E pie and filled the thermos with coffee.

A great turn out at the showgrounds, beautiful cars and great to see old friends and make new ones.

I've not been to the farmers market for a few years, it just gets bigger and better. I said hello to a cousin in his stall and bumped into a friend from Wellington on his holiday.

Esther and Graham organised this rally and I fondly remember the big Easter rally over 15 years ago at the race course that they'd organised which went really well.

Homestead rally was no different. Clear instructions which we received verbally over the bull horn, we're heading out towards Elsthorpe, and its a 'non Le Mans' get away.

Dads already mounted shot gun just in case, so I'm driving again.

2 left turns in a vintage is always a great start, then a roundabout to Pilchers road Mangateretere and we're in the country. Unlike Wellington, no hard shoulder motorways to use or cross.

Any rumour of the Bixley boys doing a 360 around the Lawn road Te Mata Mangateretere roundabout to take the 6th exit instead of the 2nd with these good instructions could be just that.

Following the Tukituki river out Elsthorpe was a treat, weary that we'd run over a wild turkey I tested the brakes a few times just in case.

Great countryside and noncompetitive and not a race, nice. "Where do you think we're doing dad?" I asked.

"Williams first station house before they built and moved in 1928 where you nana worked and met grandad" he replied.



Ooh, sounds ancient I thought, older than '28, great. Wow, what a beautiful part of our country, okay some metal roads but they were well surfaced and perfect for 19" cross ply tires.



We pretty much followed the leader, it was a nice pace with a few hills, dips and corners and a slight detour (I think, instructions were forfeit once dad figured where we were off to) for most of us to pit stop at Kairakau beach.

People stretched their legs, used the bathrooms, took in the beach, camp site and slash that looked like cyclone Gabrielle vintage before heading back to the route.

A few mins later and we were back on the road and onto the Mangakuri Station Homestead, Esther, Graham and other helpers ushered us safely to the home paddock with the parking near the chapel.

We gathered our chairs and kai and wombled across an interesting if scary looking rusty steel plate bridge to the front lawn of the beautiful Homestead.

We the people assembled ourselves on the big front lawn with random precision, it said to bring chairs but there were some awesome tables, some free standing, some cleverly attached to peoples chairs, some very vintage looking picnic baskets that Yogi bear would steal from, neat table clothes, picnic rugs and more.



A few dogs from the farm and I'm guessing neighbours played fetch, one handsome long haired tri coloured border collie almost fetched an unguarded croissant and played eye dog with many people for their food.

Admiring the view and making new friends we enjoyed our picnic lunches, the day was overcast but warm and company was very pleasant.



Esther, ably aided by her man servant ;-) holding the bull horn aloft, and making it work, introduced us to the owner - Rosemary who spoke about her and husband Bryan Careys love of the house, their drive to secure it and the history of the chapel and the house.

They chased it for years but only recently were able to afford it after the homestead and home paddock were subdivided off the Williams other land.

We were all invited to view the homestead after lunch and it was a treat to see inside. Its been beautifully restored and modernised (bathrooms inside these days) and tastefully decorated.

Rosemary and Bryan as retired teacher and preacher were very grateful to be able to secure such a wonder, and made the offer to welcome visitors anytime.

They're hoping to have a monthly service in the chapel in future too.

As the Triumph stag left the homestead I admired from the car park the beautiful sound of the V8 climbing up the metal road. I tried emulating in the straight 8 a moment later, dad an old hoon didn't tell me off, exhaust note and engine roar was nice from inside the cabin.

Dad spent many years of his Xmas holidays as a kid with whole extended family at Mangakuri beach, so we did a little detour on the way home to reminisce.

We got home a few mins before the few spots of rain (forecast was as much as 4ml at 4pm hour at one stage).

Thank you again Esther and Graham for organising, it was a grand day out, I'll certainly be back for more.

Bruce Bixley

Homestead Painting

This painting of the original Mangakuri Homestead is a watercolour by Caroline Manning. Caroline and husband Steve have recently joined the VCC.

At the 2025 Homestead run to Mangakuri, we presented the painting as a thank you gift to Rosemary and Bryan Carey our hosts and current owners of the property.

Rosemary really appreciated the gift calling it a lovely thing and commented on the fact that Caroline had included the red love seat that sits on the verandah, apparently it was a present to each other on the occasion of their 50th Wedding anniversary.

I was thrilled when Caroline agreed to do the painting, as it revives a tradition of when Shirley Vogtherr used to do a painting of each homestead which we would then present to the owners.

Esther Smith



Ladies Christmas Lunch at Hygge at Clifton Bay



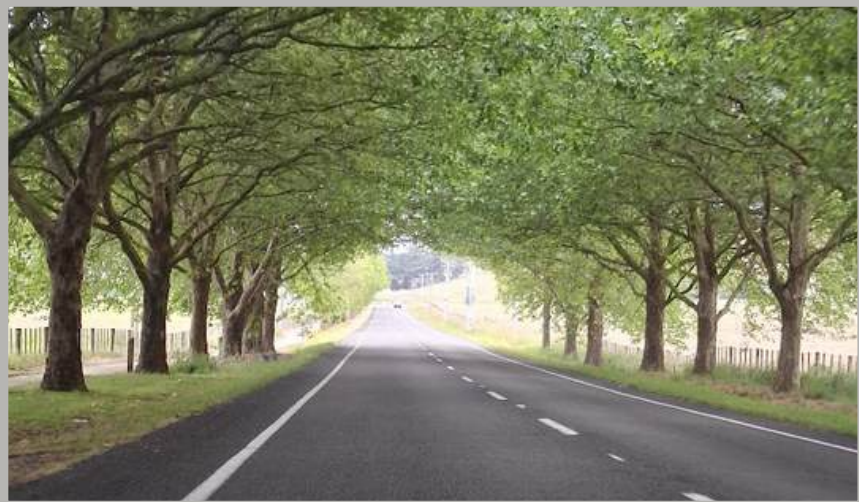


Your Branch Photos

Homestead Run November 2025



Farmers Market Hastings



Your Branch Photos



Mangakuri Station



Your Branch Photos



Mangakuri Homestead



Lunch on the Lawn



Rosemary telling her story of the property



Rosemary with the painting of the homestead she was presented with.



Attention Members!



Club Room Hire

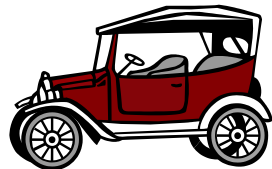
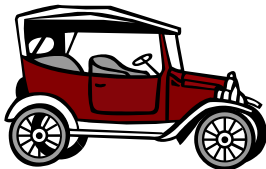


Our clubrooms are available to members to hire for special events!

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



Wanted:

I am building a 1913 Cyclecar and will need paraffin side lamps and a single acetylene headlamp and tail lamp.

Anything cluttering up the workshop you want to offload? If you have anything else that might suit I'd be pleased to hear about them too.

David Gardiner: dirge@mailfence.com Ph: 06 835 9492

Wanted to Buy:

Austin A40 Devon engine in good running order with or without gearbox.

Would consider reconditioned short block or whole car with good motor for parts.

Contact: leoniegale@hotmail.com

Regards

Larry Gale

Classifieds - For Sale/Wanted

Wanted - Junk !

I am producing the 2026 Art Deco Festival Play for Napier Repertory called Radio Waves by the Sea. The action takes place in 1933 in a shed somewhere in Central Hawkes Bay.

I need props of all types for the set and set dressing. All the pieces should be old and worn, rusty is OK.

The shed is supposed to be an amateur's attempt at a power plant and radio station so anything with dials or wiring would be great. Plus anything you could find in a shed of the 1930's e.g. Old boxes, bits of anything mechanical, old tools an old bike.

The "shed" will be lined with roofing iron, so if you have a couple of old sheets hanging about, that would be good too -though not too shiny- that gives the lighting man problems!

Anything provided will be returned in the same condition - unless of course you want me to get rid of it for you!

If you think you might be able to help ring or text on
027 241 5279 or email artdecobertie@gmail.com

Thanks- John Cocking aka Bertie

Clothing Tape: Mend your furs
in time for Art Deco
Festival 2026.

\$4 per metre.

Phone: Carolyn on 06 844 3323 or

Email: carolynasian-seed.co.nz



Spares News

By John Durry



Hi All

The parts department have inherited a 1973 MG Midget as per attached photo, it came from England about 15 years ago and has been sitting outside in Haumoana for the last 4 years, so the body is not the best.

Before we de-part it we are wondering if anyone would be interested in the complete car? Please phone me or B.T. for more information.





Still have good numbers turning up for Tuesday, but sales are slightly down. We want to thanks these people for parts they have dropped off, Greg Dowse for blinker glasses, gauges & various Mini parts. Rod Heaps for different size V8 clutch plates and pressure plates. George Rowland for various head lights and reversing lights and ford overiders. Rex Edwards for Ford model T gearbox, Manifold & Speedo cables. We hope to be getting a larger than normal object in the new year.

Club room dates for this year & next year for the spares -

16th December 2025 last day spares open this year

20th January 2026 is spares start back date.

Have a Merry Christmas & Happy new year

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



Calendar of Up and Coming Events



January Events	February Events	Future Events
<i>Happy Holidays!</i>	4th February Mid-Week Run/committee meeting	3rd May 2026 Sunday Swap Meet
Club Re-opens on - 20th January 2026	11th February Club Night	
	February 19th - 22nd 2026 Art Deco Festival	
	27th February Mix & Mingle Evening	



Notice Board



Notice to all Members



The Club's closing dates for 2025 are:

Parts department and the Tuesday morning tea group:

Tuesday 16th December 2025

Club Events:

Wednesday 17th December 2025



WE WISH YOU
A
★★★★ MERRY ★★★★★
CHRISTMAS

Club will resume on Tuesday 20th January 2026

Apparel For Sale



The club now has available Polo Shirts and Caps for sale. These are very good quality with embroidered logos.

Polo Shirts (Mens & Women's sizes) \$59.00

Sizes available are:

Men's - Small through to 5XL

Women's - 6 through to 26

Kids sizes are available (same price) from size 4 through to 16

Caps \$30.00 Caps are fully adjustable.



Order forms will be available at the next Club Meeting and payments are to be made on the day of order via Bank payment or eftpos if at the clubrooms.

Orders will be compiled and placed with the supplier as soon as a minimum of 10 items are ordered and will be available for collection at the clubrooms two weeks after order placed (subject to some variation)

For orders requested to be delivered, couriers charges will be applied.

Any enquiries to either Ian Elmsly or Paul Anderson.

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