



# VINTAGE & CLASSIC CAR CLUB

## Hawkes Bay Newsletter

# THE MAG

**JULY 2026**

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



[www.hbvcc.org.nz](http://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](mailto: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](http://WWW.HBVCC.ORG.NZ)**

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## Non Committee Roles

### Librarian:

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### Wednesday Run:

Vacant position

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# TOTALLY SORTED START TO FINISH

We've totally got you covered with a wide range of farm buildings, garages, sheds, barns, commercial buildings and more.



**TOTALSPAN.**  
STEEL BUILDINGS  
WHO CAN'T TOTALSPAN!

Visit us at Totalspan Hawke's Bay  
707 Orchard Road, Camberley, Hastings  
Phone: 06 870 6936 Email: [HawkesBay@totalspan.co.nz](mailto:HawkesBay@totalspan.co.nz)

0800 TOTALSPAN [TOTALSPAN.CO.NZ](http://TOTALSPAN.CO.NZ)

HC 11.5294

# Chairman's Report

*By Robert Bengé*



As we head into winter, thank you to everyone who attended our 2026 Annual General Meeting. It was great to see such a strong turnout and continued interest in the future of our club.

The AGM gave us a chance to reflect on another successful year of activities, friendship, and motoring heritage, made possible by the dedication of our volunteers, members and committee members.

On behalf of the Hawke's Bay Vintage & Classic Car Club Committee and members, thank you to our departing committee members Steve Donovan and Paul Anderson for their commitment and service to our branch.

We also acknowledge Trevor Charman for his many hours maintaining the club grounds and Barrie Browne for organising the mid-week runs. As they step down from these roles, we thank them for their long-standing contributions.

A warm welcome to new committee members Hans Paaymans and Richard Comrie. Thank you for stepping forward to serve the club—we look forward to your ideas and enthusiasm.

Congratulations to Ian Elmsly on becoming Club Captain. His experience and commitment make him an excellent choice for the role.

There are several events to enjoy in the coming months. Our July Club Night on 8 July will be hosted by the Art Deco Trust in Napier, offering insight into the preservation and promotion of Hawke's Bay's unique Art Deco heritage.

The Mid-Winter Art Deco Weekend on 17-18 July will again be a highlight of the local calendar and a great opportunity for members to participate and showcase their vehicles.

Please also note Daffodil Day on 23rd August. This is an important Cancer Society fundraiser and is well worth supporting in any way you can.

Thank you to everyone who supports our events, runs and social activities. Your involvement keeps our club active, welcoming, and enjoyable. I look forward to seeing many of you at some of our upcoming events.

Happy Motoring

Robert



# Club Captains Notes

*By Ian Elmsly*



Greetings all,

Talk about Back to the Future!

Firstly, many thanks to Paul Anderson for his efforts over the past twelve months as Club Captain.

A great effort and many fine memories of runs and speakers formed over this period.

So now you are stuck with me (again!). Junes run following the AGM to Taylor Corp proved almost too good with some 40 plus cars and 80 odd members treated to a great display of cars and a truly impressive processing plant with an incredible presentation from Kelvin Taylor on the workings.

Going forward, our next Club Night on the on 8th July will be held at the Art Deco headquarters at the earlier start time of 7pm (refer details in the MAG) for what promises to be an informative night.

The club run for July is scheduled for the 19th July as part of the Winter Deco weekend in is NOT RESTRICTED to Art Deco (pre 1945) cars! Your are all welcome. Further details of the run and after match function will follow.

So that is really it from me, as another chapter with the club starts. Look forward to seeing you all at the club and our outings.

Cheers

Ian



# Calendar of Events for July 2026



**MID-WEEK RUN -  
Wednesday 1st July.**  
Refer to Details on **Page 15**



**WINTER ART DECO**  
18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> July  
Refer to Details on  
**Page 16 & 17**

**CLUB NIGHT -  
Wednesday 8th July at  
7.00pm. (Change of  
time for this night only)**  
Refer to Details on  
**Page 10 - 11**  
**AS MEETING NOT IN  
CLUBROOMS**

**MIX & MINGLE -  
FRIDAY 31<sup>st</sup> July**  
Doors open 6pm.  
Dinner from 7pm.  
BYO Drinks & Nibbles.  
BYO Drinking Glasses Too.  
**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.*



# Hawke's Bay Vintage & Classic Car Club Club Night Invitation

A reminder to all members that our July Club Night will be hosted by the Art Deco Trust on **Wednesday 8 July, commencing at 7.00pm At the Art Deco Trust building Clive square Napier**

This promises to be an informative and enjoyable evening, with an opportunity to learn more about the Trust's activities and plans for the future.

**To assist with catering and seating arrangements, please RSVP to Robert by either: By July 2nd please  
Email: [horselessauto@gmail.com](mailto:horselessauto@gmail.com)  
Phone: 021 757 215**

We look forward to seeing as many members as possible in attendance.

Robert Bengé  
Chairman



## **Venue:**

Art Deco Trust Building, Clive Square,  
Napier



## **Time:**

Drinks & nibbles from 7.00pm



**Presentation: Begins from 7.30pm**



# HBVCCC

CLUB NIGHT

HOSTED BY  
THE ART DECO TRUST  
BUILDING CLIVE SQUARE  
NAPIER

— WEDNESDAY —  
— 7 PM —  
**JULY**  
**8<sup>TH</sup>**



DRINKS  
&  
NIBBLES



RSVP BY 2ND JULY TO  
[HORSELESSAUTO@GMAIL.COM](mailto:HORSELESSAUTO@GMAIL.COM)  
OR CALL 021 757215

# AWARDS PRESENTED ON AGM JUNE MEETING 10<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2026



## Best Vintage Restoration

Steve Manning - 1937 MG VA



## Best post 1960 Restoration

Larry Morgan - 1972 Range Rover



## Best Post -Vintage Restoration

Hans Paaymans - 1957 Chevrolet  
Bel Air



## Barry Newman Memorial Trophy for a Meritorious Restoration

Denis Snelgrove - 1966 Jaguar Mk2



Club Captain Paul reading out awards for the night. Hans Paayman & Steve Manning were unable to be present on the night.



**Larry Morgan** presented with his award by Chairman Robert



**Denis Snelgrove** with his award presented by Chairman Robert



**Barrie Browne** for his service with Wednesday Club Runover the many years



**Trevor Charman** for his services for ground maintenance over the many years



# Classics on Wednesday's



Hawke's Bay Vintage and Classic Car Club

Wednesday Wanders

Date 1st July 2026.

**Meet at Red Bridge Coffee Container. Cnr Tuki Tuki and Waimarama road.**

**For a 10am Start** to our Visit to Martie's Red Shed. A Collection of Historical Family Items. Note \$5 entry fee to be collected at the Coffee stop.

After we have enjoyed our visit we will go to the Patanga Hotel for Lunch. As they do not normally open on a Wednesday listed below is a menu for you to chose from.

**Could you please advise your choice to me no latter than Saturday night 27th July. Email [stevedon@xtra.co.nz](mailto:stevedon@xtra.co.nz) or Tex 027 2177730.**

**Option 1 -Fresh fish meal chips and salad**

**Option 2 - Seafood Chowder and garlic bread**

**Option3 -Sweetcorn fritters stack and Bacon with a small lettuce salad sour cream and chilli sauce**

I look forward to enjoying a day out with you all.

Regards.

Steve Donovan



# Hawke's Bay Vintage & Classic Car Club Mid Winter Art Deco Vehicle Display

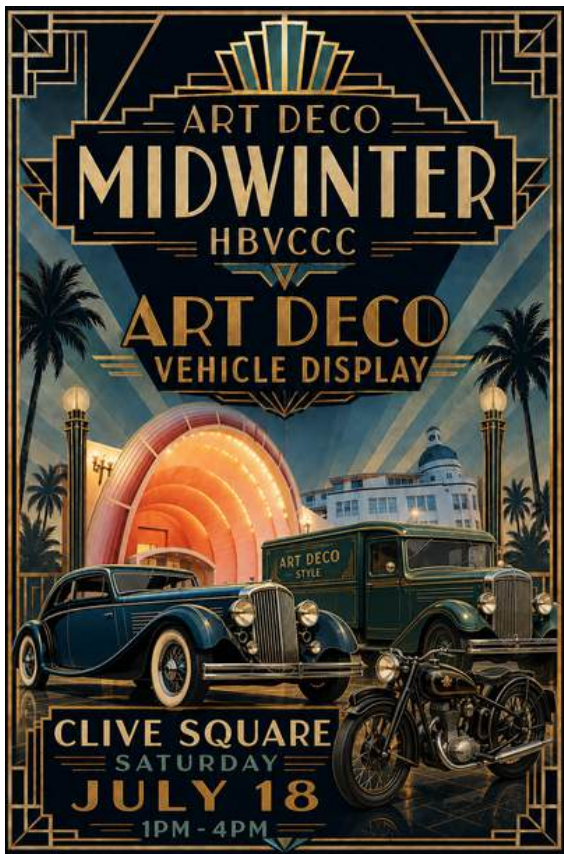
**Volunteers Required** at the upcoming Mid Winter Art Deco event. A reminder to all members that we are seeking vehicles for display

We require Vehicles for a display from 1.00pm until 4.00pm, Clive Square Napier and your support would be greatly appreciated in helping showcase the wonderful range of Art Deco vehicles within our club

This is an excellent opportunity to promote both our club and the vintage and classic vehicle movement to the public while supporting one of Hawke's Bay's iconic events.

If you are able to display your vehicle, please contact Robert Bengé or Ian Elmsly as soon as possible.

Thank you in advance for your support.



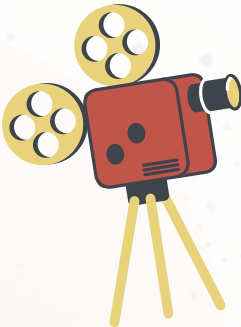
## **HAWKE'S BAY VINTAGE AND CLASSIC CAR CLUB**

### **ART DECO RUN - SUNDAY 19TH JULY**

Come along and join us for an interesting local run followed by a delicious afternoon tea at the Clubrooms.

#### **Meet at 1pm at the Soundshell on Marine Parade - Napier**

- The run is open to all VCC Eligible Vehicles. Art Deco Dress is optional
- We will be parking in the Soundshell, then prior to setting off on the run we will leave the cars on display while we go for a short walk, so wrap up warm
- Afternoon Tea will be from 2.30pm at the Clubrooms -Cost is \$10 per person (pay at the door on the day)
- For catering purposes, we will require numbers attending, so if you could please register your interest to [hawkesbay@vcc.org.nz](mailto:hawkesbay@vcc.org.nz) by Monday 15th of July
- Recently rediscovered in a dark corner. We have a long-forgotten item of Club history to show you. Digby Young will be coming along to tell us all about it.



Organisers:  
Esther and Graham Smith  
[humber@xtra.co.nz](mailto:humber@xtra.co.nz)  
027 464 7314

# Mid - Week Run Report



Classics on Wednesdays - 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2026

## FINAL SAUNTER FOR BARRIE

10am arrived for those of us joining Barrie Browne on his last mid-week run after sooooo many years of great trips for us.

Around 13 cars assembled in the car park of the clubrooms for a 10.30am departure. We headed off down Meeanee Road, through Jervoistown, into Pirimai and up Clarence Cox Crescent past the house where Barrie and Lyndsay had once lived.

From there we headed into Kennedy Road, then through to Knightsbridge where we learnt there once had been a small cottage on an orchard, another of Barrie and Lyndsay's abodes.

On to Church Road, past the Church Road Winery. Barrie had hoped to be able to stop for a tour here, where he had spent many hours working, but they were super busy and unable to accommodate unfortunately. We then headed via Battery Road and over Shakespeare Road to another ex-home of the Browne's.



Our first stop was at the Tabard Theatre where Barrie spends a lot of his time working on backdrops for their shows. It was very interesting to be able to see areas of the Theatre that one is not normally privy to, like the work areas, sewing room etc. out the back of the stage.

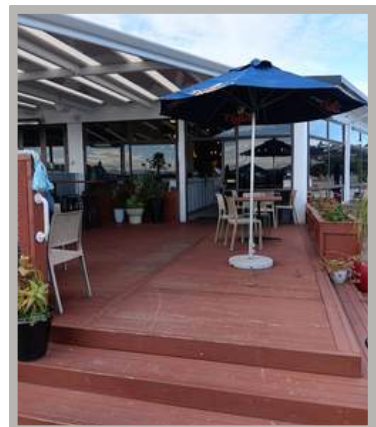
My favorite area, the sewing room, with lots of swatches of beautiful materials, laces, costumes ready for their next show and costumes from previous shows that can be remodelled. We all spent quite some time wandering around the Theatre taking everything in.



We all then piled into cars and off to The Boat Ramp Eatery in Ahuriri for lunch, wine and a good old chin wag. Lyndsay was able to join us for lunch after finishing her stint at the Citizens Advice Bureau.

Thank you both very much for some wonderful runs, picnics, lunches, camaraderie and fun. Hopefully you may be able to join us on some new adventures in the coming months.

Cheers everyone,  
Carol Eager



# **HBVCCC Visit to Taylor Corporation**

## **SundayClub Run - 14 June**

Sunday 14 June was a perfect winter's day for the Hawke's Bay Vintage & Classic Car Club. Under clear sunny skies, 45 vehicles carrying around 100 members and guests gathered for a visit to Taylor Corporation, hosted by Kelvin Taylor.

Following a short run briefing, we set off from the Club rooms on a very quick 8 km drive to the Taylor Corporation Headquarters.

On arrival, members were warmly welcomed and invited to view Kelvin's impressive vehicle collection featuring a diverse range of vehicles, the collection reflected years of passion and careful preservation, sparking plenty of interest and discussion among attendees

The afternoon also included a guided tour of the Taylor Corporation apple processing plant. Kelvin explained the journey from orchard to export market, highlighting the scale and efficiency of the operation. For many members, it was a rare chance to see one of Hawke's Bay's key industries in action.

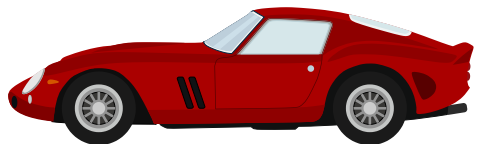
Members were particularly impressed by the company's significant investment in modern technology and robotics. Throughout the processing facility, advanced automated systems and robotic equipment play a major role in sorting, grading, packing, and handling fruit. Kelvin explained how these investments have improved efficiency, consistency, and productivity while helping the business remain competitive in international markets. The integration of cutting-edge technology with traditional horticulture provided a fascinating insight into the future of the industry.



Equally interesting was Kelvin's account of the devastating impact that Cyclone Gabrielle had on the business. Members heard firsthand about the significant damage and disruption caused by the cyclone, and the enormous challenges faced by the company in the aftermath. Despite these setbacks, Taylor Corporation has shown remarkable resilience, rebuilding operations and continuing to support growers, staff, and the wider Hawke's Bay community. The story of recovery and determination was both inspiring and a testament to the strength of local businesses.

The combination of classic vehicles, local industry, innovation, great company, and beautiful weather made for an enjoyable and memorable afternoon. On behalf of everyone who attended, we sincerely thank Kelvin Taylor and the Taylor Corporation team for their generosity in sharing both the vehicle collection and processing plant with our club. Their hospitality and willingness to provide such an informative visit were greatly appreciated. The day was thoroughly enjoyed by all .

Robert



## **Article from News Wire - 9<sup>th</sup> June 2026**

### **Hawke's Bay apple exporter Taylor Corp doubles its output as AI and robots take over the packhouse**

A Hawke's Bay apple exporter has doubled the amount of fruit it can pack and ship by handing much of the work to artificial intelligence and robots, and it has done so without cutting a single packhouse job.

Taylor Corp Apple, a family business that has been exporting fruit from Napier for more than a century, now runs a packhouse stuffed with around 30 million dollars of technology. At full tilt it processes between 12,000 and 14,000 cartons a day, which works out at roughly 3,000 apples a minute moving along the line. About 10 forty-foot shipping containers leave for Napier Port each day during the season. Fourth-generation operator Cameron Taylor told RNZ the new gear had doubled the tonnage the business could push through, a step change for an exporter that has spent the past few seasons clawing its way back from disaster.

The centrepiece is a grading machine that uses AI to inspect every single apple. It captures up to 500 images of each piece of fruit as it passes, looking for splits, stem punctures, black spot and any sign of codling moth, then grades the apple by colour and size and decides which export market it is good enough for. Fruit that once needed a trained human eye to sort is now read in a fraction of a second, and the machine is consistent in a way that a tired worker at the end of a long shift cannot always be.

Around that core sit a string of other machines. New Zealand-designed Aporo units place fruit into trays by size and colour. Self-learning robotic forklifts, known as autonomous mobile robots, move pallets around the floor and teach themselves the most efficient routes. Out in the orchard, robots handle weed-spraying and grass-cutting that used to tie up staff for days. The whole system was rebuilt almost from scratch after Cyclone Gabrielle tore through the region in 2023 and flattened much of the Hawke's Bay fruit bowl, and the company puts the payback period on the investment at about five years.

The most striking part of the story is what did not happen to the workforce. Taylor Corp employs around 400 people at the peak of the season and roughly 80 in the packhouse, and those numbers have barely moved despite output doubling. Rather than laying people off, the business retrained packers to run and supervise the robots, turning line jobs into machine-control jobs. Taylor has framed the family's appetite for new gear as something close to a tradition, pointing out that his grandfather was among the first in the country to put hydraulics on a farm tractor.

That distinction matters in a part of the country still nervous about automation. Hawke's Bay leans heavily on seasonal horticulture work, and the fear that robots arrive to replace people rather than help them is real. Taylor Corp's experience suggests a different path, where machines absorb the surge in volume that a doubled crop creates while the same crew moves up the skill ladder to keep the line running. Whether that holds across the wider industry, where margins are tighter and not every grower can find 30 million dollars, is the open question.

The investment is landing at a good moment for the sector. The 2026 harvest has been one of the best in years, with growers reporting exceptional fruit quality and strong pack-out rates after a run of seasons wrecked by Covid disruption and the cyclone. Industry body New Zealand Apples and Pears has linked the productivity lift to maturing intellectual-property varieties and modern high-density growing systems coming into full production. Taylor Corp itself is moving its 450-hectare orchard over to hedgerow planting and backing newer branded varieties such as Sassy, Posh and King, which it says have been well received offshore.



The national numbers tell the same upbeat story. New Zealand’s apple and pear exports pushed orchard gate revenue past one billion dollars for the first time, and the industry reckons its total economic impact on the country sits at around 2.5 billion dollars while employing more than 13,500 people. Most of that fruit is grown in Hawke’s Bay and the Nelson region, and most of it is sent overseas, which makes the sector unusually exposed to shipping costs, exchange rates and the buying power of customers in Asia, Europe and North America. Anything that lets exporters move more fruit through the same building, at the same labour cost, with fewer rejects, feeds straight through to the bottom line.

There is a broader lesson in the Napier packhouse for anyone watching how AI actually shows up in the real economy. The headlines tend to focus on chatbots and software, but some of the clearest gains are turning up in unglamorous places like a fruit-grading line, where a camera and an algorithm quietly do the work of a dozen sets of eyes and let a century-old family firm export twice as much without doubling its wage bill. For a region that was under floodwater two years ago, that is a recovery worth watching.



# Your Branch Photos





# Your Branch Photos



# Your Branch Photos



# Attention Members!



## Club Room Hire

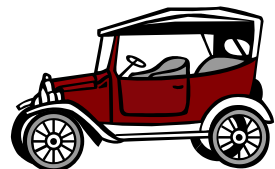
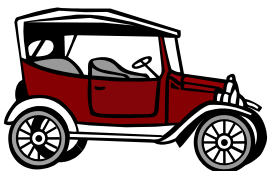


***Our clubrooms are available to members to hire for special events!***

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



### 1939 Chrysler Royal Project

The car has been in dry dark storage since the 1970s. The model is C22. The chassis has been sand blasted and painted and reassembled with the wheels on and has been sitting on blocks , with new tyres on the front, since 1976. Motor, diff, suspension, brakes etc have all been rebuilt although the engine needs to have new valve guides fitted. All the valves were new. The gearbox, overdrive and steering box have still to be rebuilt although they were all working well with no noises before the restoration was started.

The car came with an overdrive gearbox from new and it also was working well and the gearbox was quiet.

At the moment the body is sitting on the chassis but no work has been done on it. The rebuilt motor is the numbers matching original 3 3/8" bore motor the car came with when new. There are lots of parts to come with the car. The seats have been reupholstered and never used.

There is also a spare car which I bought for spare parts and which I strongly recommend should go with the car as it gives a guarantee that all parts are available. Both cars were NZ new and are RHD. I have lots of paper work for the cars and the old style personalised plates, which have never been used, are on hold.

## Classifieds - For Sale

The last time this car was driven was from Auckland down to Hawkes bay in 1976. It was quiet and comfortable and easy to drive and I loved it.

I have set the price for the two cars at what we have estimated is a little more than would be the cost of rebuilding just the motor. This gives all the other work, spare parts and second car at no cost. I have been offered some very good money for some of the parts but they need to stay with these cars so the restoration can be completed.  
\$18,000.00

Ph 027 246 9899 or email [mcbruce1951@gmail.com](mailto:mcbruce1951@gmail.com)



## **FOR SALE:**

1959 Morris Minor 1000

2 family owners from new

New Head lining and paint in good condition with a couple of small blemishes

Current Rego & WOF

Runs well and has been regularly serviced at local Garage

Selling on behalf \$10,000 ONO

Contact Kevin 027 5976000 member



## **For Sale**

Set of five 6.70 x 15" cross ply tyres. These were all retreaded but never used. They have been kept covered from the light. \$250 the set.

Two 4.75/5.00 x 19" Firestone tyres. Recently replaced and are possibly still warrantable but best as spares or for a car under restoration. \$60 the pair.

**Contact Graham Smith 027 2290158  
or humber@xtra.co.nz**

## **Free - Restored Cars magazines**

I have Australian Restored Cars magazines from the very first issue No. 1 Nov/Dec 1973 to No. 81 in 1988 with just one No.64 missing.

There is a huge amount of useful information in these compact magazines. Too good I think for recycling. Free

**Contact Graham Smith 027 2290158 or humber@xtra.co.nz**

# Spares News

*By John Durry*



Hi All

I wish to thank Derek and the team, for all the hard work that was put into our scrap, that's copper, aluminum, brass & copper wire, the team raised \$463, talking about scrap, our scrap bin from outside was also emptied & the weight was 1.280tonnes, we raised \$320.00, the weight was gained by spares cleaning out our horns, steering boxes and steering wheels to make more room, so once again I want to thank the team involved.

Also need to mention Malcolm Blair for 2 electric motors and a barrow, also want to thank Ron Ward who donated a big workshop manual that has every car in it.

The Spares Team was asked by S.D. to help remove the sign that was hanging on the front of the building for refurbishment, so ladders obtained and sledgehammers, but after 2 hours of struggle we found it had been glued on to the building, so with a knife we managed to pull it off.

2 weeks later the team again assembled to reinstate the sign, again took awhile, couldn't get bolts thru the wall so had to get a carpenter in with a chisel to make the holes bigger, so all worked out in the end.

A photo of the new sign on the next page.





## Welcome to our Club

Dave Sawers-1934 V8n Ford Roadster

---

**Manawatu VCC is holding their Annual SWAP MEET!**

**SATURDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2026**  
Undercover at Manfield Stadium,  
59 South Street, Feilding

<b>ALL SELLERS</b> <i>Please enter from</i> <b>KAWAKAWA ROAD</b> GATES OPEN AT <b>7 AM</b> (NOT BEFORE)	<b>ALL BUYERS</b> <i>Please enter from</i> <b>SOUTH STREET ENTRANCE</b> GATES OPEN AT <b>8 AM</b> (NOT BEFORE)
--	---

**SELLERS: VEHICLE + DRIVER** Entry Fee is **\$20.00**  
All Additional Vehicle Passengers Entry Fee is \$10.00 per person

**SELLERS: VEHICLE + TRAILER + DRIVER** Entry Fee is **\$30.00**  
All Additional Vehicle Passengers Entry Fee is \$10.00 per person

**ENTRY: BUYERS ONLY - \$10.00**

# Calendar of Up and Coming Events



July Events	August Events	Future Events
<p><b>1st July</b> Mid-week run/committee Meeting</p>	<p><b>5<sup>th</sup> August</b> Mid-week run/committee Meeting</p>	<p><b>30<sup>th</sup> October to 2<sup>nd</sup> November</b> Safari</p>
<p><b>8th July</b> Club Night -To Be hosted by Art Deco Trust -Refer to Poster.</p>	<p><b>12<sup>th</sup> August</b> Club Night</p>	
<p><b>17th -19th July</b> Winter Art Deco</p>	<p><b>23rd August</b> Daffodil Day Club Run</p>	
<p><b>31st July</b> Mix &amp; Mingle Night</p>	<p><b>28<sup>th</sup> August</b> Mix &amp; Mingle Night</p>	

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