



WHEELSPIN

March 2012

www.hccc.org.nz

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WEBSITE: <u>www.hccc.org.nz</u>

COVER PHOTO

Brian Worboys & RoadRat at Wallaceville

Harbour Capital Car Club Clubnight

First Wednesday of the month Fireman's Arms, 313 Jackson Street (North End of Jackson Street, just South of Cuba St intersection) Petone

Committee Meeting 3rd Wednesday of the month, Fireman's Arms, 313 Jackson St Petone, 7:30 pm. Note:— anyone is welcome to attend committee meetings.

Wheelspin is the official magazine of the Harbour Capital Car Club, PO Box 4102, Wellington.

Wheelspin is the official magazine of the Harbour Capital Car Club, PO Box 4102, Wellington. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Club or Committee.

To other Car Club Editors: While we do not object to other magazines using articles or material from our Wheelspin, we do appreciate recognition of the source of said material. Originals are usually available on request.

DEADLINE

The Deadline for Wheelspin articles is the 20th of the month approx.

Clubnight

The Fireman's Arms Jackson Street, Petone

Wednesday the 7th March 2012 7:30



The year is going past in a blur of events at the moment, which is excellent fun (if expensive fun).

I headed up to Kapiti for the first time in ages to do the Otaihanga Autocross up there. I've had a few issues in the past with the track tending towards big rocks, and me tending towards being a wimp about my car. But the ground was in good condition this time, and although we put some grooves down in the road, it held up pretty well! There were the occasionally rocky visitors onto the track during the day, but there weren't the big car rolling piles of tyres that were out on the corners in the past, and even my fairly low car coped well.

Blair had decided that snows and retreads were ok for that event, to allow people to use up some of the tyres they've been sitting on for ages without a venue to use them on. I decided that I'd keep on saving my retreads for grass only, just in case, so I was running some fairly ordinary rubber! It definitely made it quite an exciting drive having rather wide road tyres on the back of the Corolla, as it meant that unless you were on the gas, you were perpetually in some sort of oversteer! Good for tucking in nice and close into the apex of the corners though once you got used to it.

To my total amazement it turned out that I was fourth overall (behind Graham H, Blair, and Viv Eden) which was a pleasant surprise, and quite genuinely surprising as I'd not really paid attention to the results figuring I'd be my usual bottom half of the field position.

There were a couple of hilarious cars there, along with Viv in his big yellow station wagon, there was also Stephen in his Tallguy Racing Falcon, and even a guy in a Hilux ute running a Lexus V8. The ute sounded impressive, but I'd say it definitely wasn't the sensible choice of vehicle for the day! Especially not with the auto box behind it. Looked like a lot of sideways loud fun though.

I also finally made it to the Triumph Wallaceville Hill event, which I've been aiming to get to for several years now. Oh boy was it worth it! What a neat bit of road, lots of second and third gear corners, crests in the road, and a very damn scary finish line.

It wasn't what you'd call a fast day for me, as I was seriously struggling to learn the road, and spent basically the whole day saying "**** wrong gear" and doing hurried gear changes. The rev cut got an absolute hammering that day. But on the positive side, I didn't fall off the road or have

any particularly scary moments during the day. Brian Craig came out with me in the passenger seat for a few runs, and there weren't any screams or anything from that side of the car so it can't have been too bad.

Jake managed to rotate the Baked Bean (Starlet) rather rapidly, but kept it out of the scenery. Alan Austin carried on the tradition of looping into the scenery over the brow of the hill, but by some miracle managed to get away with very little damage done.



Tallguy Racing Falcon at Kapiti.

There were some interesting cars running too, including what I think was a Triumph Dolomite crossed with a carbon fibre factory, crossed with some sort of V8. It made all sorts of angry noises though.



Had a bit of fun in the morning, as Webster discovered that courtesy of his new upgraded brakes, that some of his wheels don't actually clear the brakes. We did some wheel swapping between

his car and mine, then discovered that in addition to his wheels not clearing his brakes, his wheels also fail to clear my rear strut. So there was a frantic search (begging mission) around the car park for some wheel spaces. So for the first couple of runs I was using his wheels, and he was using mine. The arrangement was that he had to stay in second gear so that he didn't beat me. I have my suspicions looking at his times, that he may not have lived up to his end of the bargain!

I also headed over to the "wrong" side of the car and spent Barton's line with Brian Craig, calling out the notes. That really is a great bit of road, with quite a few challenges in it!

The level of overall carnage I think was actually quite low, with only a couple of cars spinning off into the green bits. It was a really nice day for it, although I think a few of the guys were hitting hanging dust during the day. As Brian and I tend to have a rather gradual paced approach to gravel, we definitely were not catching anyone!

Brian got quicker every run of the day, which is excellent, and he's getting a lot more confident when the car gets a bit sideways which is a massive improvement on years gone by! The new LSD is helping too, as the car gets out of the slower corners a bit more assertively now.



Looking to some future events, they're running a Classic Rally on Manfeild (same club and general arrangement as the Taupo Classic Rally that runs on the Taupo track. That event is April 14th (two weeks before Rally Wairarapa), and I'm very keen to give it a go, so the Corolla is being upgraded to Rally compliant spec!

Anyway, that's it from me for this month, see you some place where there are cars going! Leon



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A Short Story for Engineers

A toothpaste factory had a problem: they sometimes shipped empty boxes, without the tube inside. This was due to the way the production line was set up, and people with experience in designing production lines will tell you how difficult it is to have everything happen with timings so precise that every single unit coming out of it is perfect 100% of the time. Small variations in the environment (which can't be controlled in a cost-effective fashion) mean you must have quality assurance checks smartly distributed across the line so that customers all the way down to the supermarket don't get brassed off and buy another product instead.

Understanding how important that was, the CEO of the toothpaste factory got the top people in the company together and they decided to start a new project, in which they would hire an external engineering company to solve their empty boxes problem, as their engineering department was already too stretched to take on any extra effort.

The project followed the usual process: budget and project sponsor allocated, RFP, third-parties selected, and six months (and \$8 million) later they had a fantastic solution — on time, on budget, high quality and everyone in the project had a great time. They solved the problem by using high-tech precision scales that would sound a bell and flash lights whenever a toothpaste box would weigh less than it should. The line would stop, someone would walk over and yank the defective box out of it, pressing another button when done to re-start the line.

A while later, the CEO decides to have a look at the ROI of the project: amazing results! No empty boxes ever shipped out of the factory after the scales were put in place. Very few customer complaints and they were gaining market share. "That's some money well spent!" – He says, before looking closely at the other statistics in the report.

It turns out the number of defects picked up by the scales was 0 after three weeks of production use. It should've been picking up at least a dozen a day, so maybe there was something wrong with the report. He filed a bug against it, and after some investigation, the engineers come back saying the report was actually correct. The scales really weren't picking up any defects, because all boxes that got to that point in the conveyor belt were good.

Puzzled, the CEO travelled down to the factory, and walks up to the part of the line where the precision scales were installed.

A few feet before the scale, there was a \$20 desk fan, blowing the empty boxes out of the belt and into a bin.

"Oh, that," says one of the workers — "one of the guys put it there 'cause he was tired of walking over every time the bell rang".

J

TRIALS

Hello folks

Is it too late to wish everyone a Happy New Year? We're halfway through February and the first car trial of this year (if it happens) is only three months away!

It's time to ask again for volunteers to organise this year's events. I have one so far, and four more are needed.

I hope we can run at least the usual series of five night trials on the second Wednesday of each month from May to September. The provisional dates are: May 9, June 13, July 11, August 8, September 12.

Please, if you want to organise an event, or help someone organise, or want someone to help you organise, or just find out more about what's involved, let me know (email john.rapley@mch.govt.nz or home phone 562 8356). You don't need to have organised an event before - advice and guidance can be given. And seeing a car trial from an organiser's perspective is a great way to sharpen up your trialling skills as a competitor. I'd like to get a new organiser each year, rather than relying solely on the regulars. We could extend the series beyond five rounds, if enough willing organisers step forward.

Organisers, please contact me ASAP - and say what month you prefer (please don't all pick September!) and your start/finish venue.

And please tell your friends and clubmates about the series - we could always do with a few more entries.

cheers, John

Tappet chatter

Just so you know: - We don't miss much and we will print everything. We never let the truth get in the way of a good story and we will not be intimidated. We can however be bribed, but we can't guarantee that it won't be published anyway!



Note: We trust our informants' 100% and would never question their reliability!

Her Diary:

Tonight, I thought my husband was acting weird. We had made plans to meet at a bar to have a drink. I was shopping with my friends all day long, so I thought he was upset at the fact that I was a bit late, but he made no comment on it.

Conversation wasn't flowing, so I suggested that we go somewhere quiet so we could talk. He agreed, but he didn't say much. I asked him what was wrong. He said, 'Nothing.' I asked him if it was my fault that he was upset. He said he wasn't upset, that it had nothing to do with me, and not to worry about it.

On the way home, I told him that I loved him. He smiled slightly, and kept driving. I can't explain his behaviour. I don't know why he didn't say, 'I love you, too.' When we got home, I felt as if I had lost him completely, as if he wanted nothing to do with me anymore. He just sat there quietly, and watched TV. He continued to seem distant and absent.

Finally, with silence all around us, I decided to go to bed. About 15 minutes later, he came to bed. To my surprise, he responded to my caress, and we made love. But I still felt that he was distracted, and his thoughts were somewhere else. He fell asleep -I cried. I don't know what to do. I'm almost sure that his thoughts are with someone else. My life is a disaster.

His Diary: My Harley wouldn't start today, but at least I got laid.



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CLARKSONISM'S

"I'm sorry, but having a DB9 on the drive and not driving it is a bit like having Keira Knightley in your bed and sleeping on the couch."

Wallaceville Hill Climb, February 2012

The Wallaceville Hill Climb has been held by the Triumph Sports Car Club every year in January for the last seven years. It uses the bit of road that goes from Wallaceville (hence the name) in Upper Hutt over to Whiteman's Valley. I think that there used to be an event that started at the UH end, and used that delightful stretch of zig-zag hill road through the pines, but I believe the increased number of dwellings in the area finally put the kibosh on that course. Now it runs the other way, starting at the gun club and running along the flat of the valley before taking a few turns up to the crest then diving down the UH side briefly to the finish line. This is the first motorsport event I took the Roadrat in back in 2007 and I have done it every year except 2011 when the car was out of action pending an engine rebuild.



A couple of weeks before the event this year I finally got the Road Rat engine all together, found all the necessary bits, and put the car together again. I had picked up a "new" pig-in-a-poke transmission from Trademe and swapped the crown wheel over so I chucked that in too. Easy to say this, but as usual there were all sorts of bits an pieces that didn't quite fit as they used to so it took many many hours in the garage to just get back to where we used to be. As never ceases to amaze me, the new engine fired up straight away and ran well.

I got a new WOF and reg and drove it about a bit for the 2 or 3 days in between to sort of shake things down. Since I still had the same old barrels, pistons and rings it seemed to me I didn't need to specifically run it in and it should be OK to just go out and do the event and see how we went.

The even, as usual, was well run by the Triumph folks. The weather on the day was fine and there was only one off, when the V8 powered RX7 of Alan Austin, winner from the previous year and fastest time this year as well, took the traditional dive off the top of the hill down the bank towards UH. Seems to happen to someone every year and it must just have been Alan's turn. I try to keep as far as possible away for the brink by keeping a wheel in the concrete gutter on the other side of the road.

Starting this year was using an electronic rally timekeeping system that sets off a car every minute on the minute. You just watch the Christmas tree and the lights count you down till the green light comes on and you're off. However, I must confess that I quite like to old human starter with a hand counting down to zero in front of the windscreen, with four fingers, three fingers, two fingers, one finger, go!

Basically I didn't really do as well as I have in previous years. Down a couple of seconds; I don't think I was babying the engine at all, I think it was mostly that I was just out to give the car a run and didn't feel that urge to squeeze out another second. I never had a single "moment" which means I was obviously going too slow just Sunday driving I guess. Also I had a one plug go out for a while on a couple of the runs — my fault really, new crank case, new crankshaft, new rods and cam. Same old spark plugs. And as Phil Derby pointed out all my shocks are way past their expiry date.

Overall: a good day out; Car running OK. I'm confident with it all. Some oil leaks to address, A few other minor things to adjust or replace, but basically we're back on line with Alexandra Road on 18 March now in the sights. After the Island bay parade of course.

These photographs are courtesy of Geoff Warren from MotorDrive Photography, more at http://www.flickr.com/photos/motordrivephotography/ .

Brian Worboys

An Aussie stockman and his wife had just got married and found a nice hotel for their wedding night. The man approached the front desk and asked for a room.

He said, We're on our honeymoon and we need a nice room, with a good strong bed."

The clerk winked, You want the 'Bridal?

The stockman reflected on this for a moment and then replied, "Nah, I reckon not. I'll just hold onto her ears until she gets used to it."



CLARKSONISM'S

"The last time someone was as wrong as you, was when Chamberlain stepped off an aeroplane in 1939 waving a piece of paper in the air saying there will be no war with Germany ."

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Cahoots

I have been in many places, but I've never been in Cahoots.

Apparently, you can't go alone. You have to be in Cahoots with someone.

I've also never been in Cognito. I hear no one recognizes you there.

I have, however, been in Sane. They don't have an airport; you have to be driven there. I have made several trips there, thanks to my friends, family and work.

I would like to go to Conclusions, but you have to jump, and I'm not too much on physical activity.

I have also been in Doubt. That is a sad place to go, and I try not to visit there too often.

I've been in Flexible, but only when it was very important to stand firm.

Sometimes I'm in Capable, and I go there more often as I'm getting older.

One of my favourite places to be is in Suspense! It really gets the adrenalin flowing and pumps up the old heart! At my age I need all the stimuli I can get!

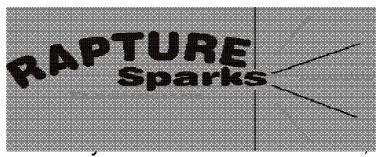
Wellington Motorsport Association Calendar 2012

	Wotorsp		sociation Calendar 2012	<u> </u>	
March	1	All	Stewards Meeting	Carried and COO	Taratanaa
	3		Clubsport Championship	Southland SCC	Teretonga
	4		Race (Midsummer Thunder)	NZIGP	Hampton Downs
	4		Clubsport Championship Race (Midsummer Thunder)	Southland SCC NZIGP	Teretonga Hampton Downs
	10		Hillclimb (King of the Mountain)	Manawatu	Hampton bowns
	11		Hillclimb (King of the Mountain)	Manawatu	
	17		Targa Bambina	Targa	
	17	JR/WG	Hillclimb (NZ Champs)	Wellington	Valley View
	18	JR/?	Hillclimb (NZ Champs)	Wellington	Alexandra Rd
	24	314.	Hillclimb	Dannevirke	Whariti
	25		Hillclimb	Dannevirke	Whariti
	31		Rally Whangarei (APRC/NZRC 1)	RNZ	Whangarei
			Ohakune 1000		
April	1		Rally Whangarei (APRC/NZRC 1)	RNZ	Whangarei
		2	Ohakune 1000	10.4	Monfoild
		?	Intermarque Sprint	IM Lovin	Manfeild Mangabas Dam
	8		Gravel Sprint Autocross (Gravel)	Levin Kapiti	Mangahao Dam Otaihanga
	14		, ,		Taupo – Track 3
	14		Sprint and Races Rally (Manfeild 2wd Tarmac)	Triumph Taupo Classic R	Manfeild
	15		Sprint (Road and Track Rd 1)	Manawatu	Manfeild
	21		WMSA PRIZEGIVING	ivialiawatu	HVMC CLUBROOMS
	22		Autocross	Hutt Valley	Silverstream
	28		Race	Mspt Manawatu	Manfeild
	20		Rally Wairarapa (NZRC Rd 3)	Rally Wairarapa	Wairarapa
	29		Race	Mspt Manawatu	Manfeild
	27		Rally Wairarapa (NZRC Rd 3)	Rally Wairarapa	Wairarapa
May	5		Autocross?	Harbour Capital	Tauherenikau?
iliay	6	(GG)?	Gravel Sprint	Wairarapa	Tea Creek
	9	(00).	Night Trial	Vanarapa	Tod Grook
	13		Autocross (Gravel)	Kapiti	Otaihanga
	19		MSNZ Conference	- rapin	Auckland
	20	?	Competitor Coaching/Autocross	Hutt Valley	Silverstream
	21		WMSA Meeting		HVMC Clubrooms, Petone
	26		Rally Otago (NZRC Rd 2)	Otago SCC	Otago
	27		Rally Otago (NZRC Rd 2)	Otago SCC	Otago
			Intermarque Sprint	IM(?)	Manfeild
June	9		Rally Hawkes Bay	Hawkes Bay	Hawkes Bay
			Targa Rotorua	Targa	
	10		Targa Rotorua	Targa	
	13		Night Trial		
	23		Rally NZ (NZRC Rd 4)	Rally NZ	Auckland
	24		Rally NZ (NZRC Rd 4)	Rally NZ	Auckland
July	11		Night Trial		
	14		Rally (Daybreaker)		Manawatu
	15		Intermarque Sprint	IM(?)	Manfeild
	22		Sprint	Levin	Kaihinau Road, Shannon
August	4		Rally (Taupo 2WD Tarmac)	Taupo Classic R	Taupo Motorsport Park
	8		Night Trial		
	12		Autocross (Gravel)	Kapiti	Otaihanga
	20		WMSA Meeting (AGM)		HVMC Clubrooms, Petone
	25		Rally Gisborne (NZRC Rd 5)	Rally NZ	Gisborne
	26		Rally Gisborne (NZRC Rd 5)	Rally NZ	Gisborne
	1.5		Intermarque Sprint	IM(?)	Manfeild
September	12		Night Trial	111 1 2 1 1	
	16		Motorkhana	Harbour Capital	Silverstream
	23		Intermarque Sprint	IM(?)	Manfeild
October	7		Gravel Sprint	Levin	Waiorongomai Road, Otaki
	14		Autocross (Gravel)	Kapiti	Otaihanga
	21		Gravel Sprint	Wairarapa	Puketiro Road
	21-28		Targa Rally	Targa	

CLARKSONISM'S

Illustrating the lack of power of a Boxster: "It couldn't pull a greased stick out of a pig's bottom."

	Abbreviations		Club Contacts		Stewards
ΚN	Kim Naylor Autocross Series	Levin	027 442 1639 (Chris)	AW	Alan Wright
DM	Duncan McKenzie Sealed Sprint Series	Hutt Valley	021 515 642 (Geoff)	BS	Barry Swanerton
ST	Stewards Trophy Motorkhana Series	Wellington	021 717 676 (Jody)	GG	Gordon Gandy
VB	Vesta Battery round of ST series	Harbour Capital	027 6996 838 (Leon)	GM	Gus McMillan
GS	Gravel Sprint Series	Kapiti .	027 446 9986 (Bryan)	JR	John Rapley
RT	Road and Track Sprint Series	Wairarapa	027 627 80 05 (Mort)	IS	Ian Snellgrove
RS	Rallys print Series	MG .	04 970 8644 (Terry)	PT	Paul Te Punga
IM	The Surgery Intermarque Sprint Series	Intermarque	027 232 2523 (Alan)	SM	Stephen Marks
Nat	National meeting	MOWOG		WG	Wayne Gair
NT	Night Trial Series				-



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The Irish Brothel

Three Irishmen are sitting in the pub window seat, watching the front door of the brothel over the road.

The local Methodist pastor appears, and quickly goes inside.

"Would you look at that!" says the first Irishman.

"Didn't I always say what a bunch of hypocrites they are?"

No sooner are the words out of his mouth than a Rabbi appears at the door, knocks, and goes inside.

"Another one trying to fool everyone with pious preaching and stupid hats!"

They continue drinking their beer roundly condemning the vicar and the rabbi when they see their own Catholic priest knock on the door.

"Ah, now dat's sad." says the third Irishman.

"One of the girls must have died."

Alex Kelsey Dusts Off Bartons Line

Bartons Line Rallysprint - 19th February 2012



The first two runs saw the field familiarising themselves with the road but already the drivers pressing for overall honours were becoming known. Alex Kelsey (Subaru Impreza) led the charge in the early rounds with a best time of 4.23.0 followed by Andrew Spier (Mitsubishi Lancer EVO 6) 4.28.5 with Gareth McLachland (Mitsubishi Galant VR4) third in a time of 4.39.3. The two wheel drive class was led in a magnificent effort by Peter Langdon (Toyota Corolla V8) 4.48.7 with Paul de Rose (Mitsubishi Mirage Mivec) second 4.49.3 and Aaron Cook third with 4.50.1. Other drivers also showing their form were Piran Pigneguy (Mitsubishi Lancer EVO 6), Steve Bond (Hillman Hunter V8) and Stu Andrews (Toyota Corolla)

The final three runs of the preliminaries saw a continuation of the early rounds. But this time it was Andrew Spier who took the lead with a best time of 4.14.7. Alex Kelsey was now second (4.16.4) with Piran Pigneguy third (4.22.8) after a bit of a mishap in Run 4. The fourth quickest driver (who also made the final four shoot-out) was Marty Smith (Subaru Legacy) in a best time of 4.26.9. 4WD pilot Gareth McLachland got close to the cut off with a time of 4.32.2. In the two wheel drive catagory it was Paul de Rose who led the the charge with a time of 4.30.2 just pipping Aaron Cook who scored 4.30.3. Can't get much closer than that!!!!! The third quickest was Peter Langdon in a time of 4.32.8 and the fourth place (and final round qualifier) was Steve Bond in a time of 4.34.4. Among the unlucky drivers was Stu Andrews (Toyota Corolla) who looked as though he might have a chance of the top 4 but he failed to complete Run 4 and ended up back on a trailer. Other two wheel drivers who also did very well (in order of their times) were Gary Leach (Ford Escort), Kevin George (Toyota Corolla) - who was driving his car with an engine down 60BHP on his normal blown engine-, Greg Browne (Toyota Corolla) and John Esler (Ford Escort) who had a battle-royal with Kevin George for most of the day.

Clarkson's highway code on cyclists: "Trespassers in the motorcars domain, they do not pay road tax and therefore have no right to be on the road. Some of them even believe they are going fast enough to not be an obstruction. Run them down to prove them wrong."



Now the finalists could forget all about their other times because the final positions came down to their final run. In the two wheel drive category there was a disaster for potential victor Paul De Rose when he hit a bank about two thirds of the way through his run and folded the front of his car underneath the engine. The other three drivers all scored their best times to show everyone was trying hard; the final result being third Peter Langdon (4.31.3), second Steve Bond (4.27.5) and the winner was Aaron Cook (4.25.7) In the 4WD class there were no accidents and, again, everyone scored their best times. Fourth place was Marty Smith (4.22.4), third place was Piran Pigneguy (4.20.3), second place was Andrew Spier (4.11.9) and the winner, snatching the led from Andrew in the final run, was Alex Kelsey in a time of 4.10.0.





Congratulations to all the winners and well done to all the drivers who participated. Thanks to all the marshalls who stood out there in the dust and well done Wairarapa Car club for another brilliant event.

Club merchandise

It is great to see the club shirts at events as they are quite striking; Navy blue and yellow with the club logo on the front and 'HARBOUR CAPITAL CAR CLUB' in yellow on the back. If you would like one of these shirts they are only \$45 each. I will be bringing them to events so come and see me or you can order via the website. We have hats too; they are \$20 each in navy blue with the club logo on the front.

My daughter and I went to the McDonald's drive through check-out window to pay our bill and I gave the clerk a £5 note.

Our total bill was £4.20, so I also handed her a 20 pence piece.

She said, 'You gave me too much money.'

I said, 'Yes I know, but this way you can just give me £1 back.'

She sighed and went to get the Manager who asked me to repeat my request.

I did so, and he handed me back the 20 pence and said 'We're sorry but we do not do that kind of thing.'

The clerk then proceeded to give me back 80 pence in change.

Why I Was Fired

For the annual Company Christmas party, management decided that because of liability issues,

we could have alcohol, but only one drink per person...



I was fired for ordering the cups.

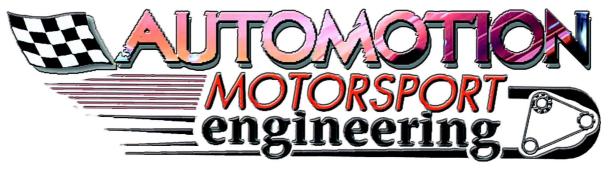
We had to have the garage door repaired. The GARADOR repairman told us that one of our problems was that we did not have a 'large' enough motor on the opener.

I thought for a moment, and said that we had the largest one GARADOR made at that time, a 1/2 horsepower.

He shook his head and said, 'Lady, you need a 1/4 horsepower.'

I responded that 1/2 was larger than 1/4 and he said, 'NOOO, it's not. Four is larger than two..'

We haven't used Garador repair since. Happened in Moor Park , near ${\bf Watford}$.



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