



WHEELSPIN

May 2021

www.hccc.org.nz

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COVER PHOTO

Neil at Clubsports, wondering what to win next?

Committee : 3rd TUESDAY : 1841 Disraeli Street Johnsonville, 7:30pm, everybody welcome

Club-night : 1st TUESDAY of the month, 1841 Disraeli Street Johnsonville, 7:30 pm.

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.

CLUB NIGHT

1841 Pub (Upstairs)
1 Disraeli St, Johnsonville (next to the BP)

TUESDAY 4th May 2021 @ 7:30



Presidential Ramblings May Edition

Seems as though I may have well and truly made up for my prior lack of motorsporting, in the last month or so. Clubsport Champs (watching), Duck Autocross (racing?), Rally Otago (watching), Tea Creek (watching).

Where I last left you, it was the night before the Clubsports, and I had just bought a terrible car, with the intention to drive it to Hastings and “race” it. So that didn’t happen (spoilers). I got an extinguisher into the car (thanks Webster) and cleaned it enough so that I could see out the windows, and tried to head to Hastings.

Got as far as the traffic lights in Johnsonville. At that point, the clutch decided that it wasn’t really that interested in disengaging. So I had to switch it off, put it in gear, and then start it. Given that the only event I wasn’t going to suck in catastrophically was the motorkhana, and that event counts rather heavily on your ability to go into first, or reverse, quite a number of times ...

So I pulled the plug at that point, drove the Corolla II Super Windy back home, and jumped into a more sensible vehicle to drive long distances, and put my spectator hat on.

That was disappointing, but did mean that I could take the camera up, and get a bunch of photos of folks driving around

The overall number of entries was extremely low, with I think only 12 cars lined up to start. However it just seems to be a year where other events (motorsport and otherwise) were scheduled for the same weekend.

It was going to be interesting at the top end, with Brent Sellens (City), Cameron Morrison (Mirage-Evo), Neil (VW Golf?!), Al (Albaru), Webster (Startled) all turning up to play.

As I write this article, the results are still to be finalised, as there was a blooper in the motorkhana results as published on the day. So they’re going back to examine that.

But it looks like Cameron & Brent fighting for the top of the podium, with Albaru following.

Without results, I can only really report on impressions, and moments.

Neil's VW Golf is a bit of a shock to see in action, because I'm so very used to seeing him in a City. So even something that is barely medium sized seems absolutely enormous; Plus it actually has some power, and reasonably set up adjustable suspension.

It does seem to be a big car though, as in the motorkhana he managed to flatten one tyre, and partially remove another one from the bead. Also, while it is a V6, it definitely sounds like a 5 cylinder Audi, which is a bit weird.

He had a heck of a moment in the autocross, carry way too much speed into a corner and having a bit of a flying excitement moment around the berm on the outside, before landing any carrying on.

Webster's Starlet was as usually a very effective bit of machinery, albeit one with very poor rear vision for motorhanas as I understand it, he was only a small fraction of a second behind Brent for third place in the hillclimb too.

Al had a weekend. He was running very very hard in the autocross, and had a moment on the same corner I did a few years ago, and nailed the side into a tractor tyre on the side of an earth bank, just after the finish line.

So he got launched into the air, and rotated, coming to a stop with an altered driver side rear door, and rear guard. It was kind of good luck that he got away with relatively repairable damage, but also quite bad luck that the finish line caught him out.

Tim Savage was there in a very peculiar Nissan commercial station wagon, as he is just determined to mess with my head by changing cars all the time. There was a fast change of fire extinguisher for him at scrutineering. Luckily Neil had anticipated that a spare extinguisher was a wise thing to carry, so that got attached to Tim's car in quick time.

I'm going to hazard a guess from the apparent 45 degrees of body roll that the car displayed at even the slightest hint of a corner, and what seemed to be no power at all, that it's a station wagon of complete standardness, and a tiny tiny engine. However, he had a smile on his dial the whole weekend.

Ian Atkinson was in his element in the MPS (previously owned by Webster), generally having fun applying large amounts of power to the front wheels at any given moment. That thing seems to have all the power that is missing from Tim's whip. He got progressively faster throughout the weekend, and was getting his teeth into the different surfaces (figuratively speaking that is).

Myself, I had a nice weekend, as it turns out that Havelock North where I was staying is a bit of a foodie destination, so I had a couple of nice meals, was staying at a really nice motel (because all the cheaper ones were booked out ... but hey ...) where the Humber Rally people were congregating (so I was surrounded by odd British cars), and generally had a weekend of relax. No really early starts or anything, and got to hang out with (and take photos) of friends playing. So I'll count that as a win, even if it wasn't actually the plan.

Next up after that, the Windy clutch issue was resolved, and I did some basics on it like try some engine degreasing to try to track some leaks, replaced a rocker cover gasket, chucked some new spark plugs and a thermostat at it.

Took it over to Masterton and threw it around the autocross paddock on March 28th.

I managed to bring it home 4th in class, and somewhere in the top 10 overall I think. Which I'm pretty happy with, given that it had zero functioning shocks, and was only randomly in contact with the ground at any point in the circuit.

One out of the box though was Ben Watson, who some of you may remember was the proprietor of Slipway back in the day, and a heck of a decent pilot. He rocked up in a Celica GT4 rally car,

and outright won the event by a decent margin. That's a heck of a thing to achieve given his lack of autocrossing background, and definitely a reflection on a natural ability with driving, and a LOT of miles on and around the farm that runs right down Long Gully Station (where Slipway used to be).

The overall results suggest that POWERRRR was useful on the courses we set up that day, which probably isn't a big surprise given that the dry and the dust meant that we had pretty straightforward courses, and a decent straight in the first course.

First was Ben in the GT4, followed by Geoff WRX, Neil Golf, Graham Pulsar, Adam Starlet, Mark WRX, Brendon Altezza, then myself in the Windy.

If you're wondering why there wasn't an Albaru up there, he was away doing ninja things (Martial Arts) that day, and Webster was absent due to not being able to get into the Starlet (keys in his Hyundai which was at the mechanics).

I managed to still get too hot during the day, despite air con in the Windy, and hiding away in Webster's courtesy car. So Monday afterward was a day of migraine pills. So I'm going to need to keep working on my survival skills on a hot day of motorsport. Which is frustrating, as it's basically meaning I'm wiped out after any warm race day these days.

Notion is still off the road, as unfortunately my mechanic had a mechanical failure in his leg, and is out of action for two months, whilst still needing to put the Notion back together again. Which has meant I've now missed the first WMSA gravel sprint of the season (Tea Creek). So it might be that 2021 could be a year of some more car development stuff for me, and not so much focus on getting to all the rounds.

Jeeze, okay, I'm well into three pages, and I haven't even talked about Otago, or Tea Creek. So I might pull the plug there, and leave that until next article.

Round #3 of the latest trilogy, The Life of Duck is scheduled for May 9th, so I look forward to seeing a bunch of you there with us.

Cheers
Leon



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My Mother wanted me to be a priest. Can you imagine giving up your sex life; and then once a week people come in to tell you the details and highlights of theirs?

Club trophy night
May 4th (Star Wars Day!)
WMSA prizegiving.



1841 Johnsonville.
Upstairs
Gather ye 7ish for meals, 7:30 ish for
yarns

Frank always looked on the bright side. He would constantly irritate his friends with his eternal optimism. No matter how horrible the circumstance, he would always reply, "It could have been worse."

To cure him of his annoying habit, his friends decided to invent a situation so completely bad, so terrible, that even Frank could find no hope in it.

On the golf course one day, one of them said, "Frank, did you hear about Tom? He came home last night, found his wife in bed with another man, shot them both and then turned the gun on himself!"

"That`s awful," said Frank, "But it could have been worse."

"How in the hell," asked his angry friend, "Could it have been worse?"

"Well," replied Frank, "If it happened the night before, I`d be dead now!"

ClubSport Champs March 2021

Outward Journey

Met up with Webster at Pukerua Bay lookout. It was a stunning day - hot with great views Kapiti Island, the sea and the South Island. We're hoping to go up with Leon too and he had purchased a car the night before specially for the champs but the car disagreed and the clutch stopped properly disengaging. So Leon came up later and took plenty of photos.

Prep

Have now got a cage in car so internal storage has been reduced and access to be back seat storage area is diabolical. Normally would take up grass motorkhana tyres but there was no room so planned on using road tyres for the motorkhana and the weather forecast was quite suitable. Hoping for hot dry conditions and hard dry paddock. Took up semi slicks for limestone autocross track. Again hoping for no rain. Semi-slicks to be used for Salisbury Road sealed sprint up a hill. Not a hillclimb.

Scrutineering

Had got full scrutiny previous time for Mt Vic in prep for CS Champs, and they honoured that. (Sometimes they don't at cs champs which makes for long useless scrutineering session.) All tyres were checked for legal/illegal tread and stamped.

Motorkhana

The Motorkhana coincided with the local country school Maraekakahoe school annual fair and fundraiser. We were 2 paddocks over and luckily arrived an hour earlier than the public. SH50 was absolutely packed solid with traffic for hours as they descended and had a great country day.

We also had a great country day in a horse paddock playing with cars and trying out courses named Napoleon, Tiger Moth, Garage, Forwards & Reverse Slalom, Mothballs, Butterfly. 1st run was slippery because early morning and slick grass. By the 3rd run we had good grip and puffs of dust. Ground didn't break up and the horse droppings weren't an issue. The heavy 4wd Subaru didn't do good on slippery runs and it understeered a bit. Later on; grippy ground it was better. Hadn't done practice apart from 3 of the runs back in late 2020 so each course was new. Plus I was #1 in the ordering and 1st onto each track. This was due to an administration failure where I indicated an interest for the Champs on the Possum site a month earlier than anyone else. So that put some pressure on myself to work out exactly where the course went to. And then line it up at the start line, and then do it properly. The night before I woke at around 2:41am with the thought that I may not know where the courses went so did some quick swatting up. That worked because I went back to sleep knowing I'd done enough :) Or at least all I was going to do.

The handbrake turns worked 90% well because it works on grass. The other 10% where it didn't work was because I couldn't get the right speed for the turn. My personal highlight was a 360 around a cone with all 4 wheels spinning and rotating tightly keeping the nose pointing at the cone. Often these don't work so well but today did.

For results I got 5th but there's currently a judicial enquiry in progress - I kid you not. And it's possible I may get 3rd. Which is as high as I could possibly achieve behind Brent Reddington's Honda city 2 and Cameron Morrison's mirage. I could bump Craig O'Brien's Pistacchio and Neil Root's VR6. The judicial review is because the scorers forgot to add in all my groups 2nd runs, which are normally the faster ones. By the time you read this the jury should have decided.

Autocross

... was held at the club's dedicated autocross track. For those who don't know, it's roughly an egg-shaped oval with 1 long fast straight, a big 110 degree sweeper, a short straight, an esse, and a corner back to the main straight. I really like this track but most of all I like the esse corners. You can get the rear of the car out, you can sledge, you can get it right (or wrong), choose a few lines, and it's awesome. Anyhow, my result was 2nd to Cameron in his 600hp Mirage so happy with that time. Unfortunately, I left my brain at home, because I finished the course, passed the finish line, going a bit fast out of the corner onto the start of the main straight and slide into a tractor tyre embedded in a bank. Good news was that I got a good time only 0.20 secs behind the winner. Bad news was I dented rear door and rear quarter. Repairable, but annoying. Because I've done this exact thing before with another wrx and told myself earlier in the day not to do this. I didn't listen. Still... no harm done. Cage and safety gear all worked. No sills damaged.

Sat night speedway

Sat night our host, Brent, was entered in the Street Stocks at the Meeanee Speedway. It was a tremendous meet. There was also Stock Cars and Super Sprints and Lesser Stock Cars. Great night. Brent got 2 1sts and a 5th in his Soarer. He was heading for a 3rd 1st but one of the backmarkers decided he wasn't going to allow that and he tapped Brent's rear which stepped him out. Then the 2nd guy (The Sherriff) who had been chasing down Brent, finished him off and spun Brent right round and off the track. The Sherriff came 1st, and Brent recovered and got 5th. Overall he won the night and received free signwriting on his car for next year. Exciting night. Especially when the Super Sprints came past. They showered the spectators with mud.

Sprint

The sprint is a short 2km hill climb that is mainly steep, windy but with 1 longish straight where you get 4th gear before a jump then onto the straight and then you brake hard on a minor rise before the road drops off a little immediately before a sharp 90 left. The windy bits are 2nd gear tight corners with about 5-6 corners tied together. It was good. I think I came 5th behind Webster, Brent, Cameron and a VR4 on my 2nd run. I realised there was an opportunity to drive the car too hard (see my autocross exercise) so backed off from the final death or glory run by going slower by about 3 seconds. The hill climb was the only one of the events with extra competitors, of which there were about 6. One of them was a late model Subaru with a shopping list on the doors. No offence to the driver but it does the soul good to out drive a faster car.

My results

While typing this I don't have access to the other club members results but no doubt they will tell you about it. I came 2nd in autocross, 5th/3rd in motorkhana - judicial review pending, 5th in sprint, and 3rd overall. Cameron 1st overall and Brent 2nd overall, but the review could flip that. We'll see if this all happens, or not. MSNZ make up strange rules for themselves then follow even stranger rules they make up on the fly, as it seems to me.

Journey back

On the way back (Monday morning) we saw 3 cars on side of road that had suffered varying misdemeanours over the weekend, most likely Saturday night. Now we know what some Palmy people get up to in the weekend. On the Aukoutere side of the Paihiatua track there was a Suzuki Swift stuck well into trees with police tape around it, 50m beyond a downhill corner. Went down the hill a little faster than they thought. Further down was a shiny looking twin turbo legacy with no wheels on hubs on the side of the road. Presumably been stolen and joy-ridden and the 17's taken for on-selling. And just outside the back of Massey there was a Mitsubishi Diamante nose first in a ditch, also 50m after a downhill corner.

Alan Groves

Harbour Capital Car Club Calendar 2021

Confirmed dates in **RED**, traditional dates left in place as indicators

Month	Date	Event Type	Club	Venue
May	1	Day-Night rally sprint	Wanganui	Fordell
	2	The Surgery Sprint Rd 1		Manfeild
	9	Another Duckin Autocross	HCCC	Masterton
	14	Whangarei Rally		
	20-23	WRC Rally Portugal		
		CRSS Academy		
	24	Motorsport AGM		
	25	Motorsport AGM		
	30	Autocross	Hutt Valley	Upper Hutt
June	7	Queen's Birthday		
		Gravel Sprint	Dannevirke CC	Tararua Rd
	3-6	WRC Rally Italy		
	13	The Surgery Sprint Rd 2		Manfeild
	19	Sth Canterbury Rally		
	24-27	WRC Rally Safari Kenya		
	27	Autocross	Hutt Valley	Upper Hutt
July	15-18	WRC Rally Estonia		
	18	Gravel Sprint	Levin	Mangahao Dam
	24	Hawke's Bay Rally		
	25	Autocross	Hutt Valley	Upper Hutt
August	29-1	WRC Rally Finland		
	1	The Surgery Sprint Rd3		Manfeild
	15	Gravel Sprint	Wairarapa	Puketiro Road
	19-22	WRC Rally UK		
	29	Autocross	Hutt Valley	Upper Hutt
September	4	Goldrush		
	5	Quarter mile Sprint	WTSCC	Wainuiomata
	9-12	WRC Rally Chile		
	26	The Surgery Sprints Rd4 Autocross	Hutt Valley	Manfeild Upper Hutt
October	14-17	WRC Rally Spain		
	19	Waitomo rally		
	17	Sealed Sprint	Wairarapa	Admiral Road
	26	Labour Day		
	24	Sealed Sprint	Hutt Valley	Port Road
	31	Gravel Sprint	Levin	Wairongamai Rd
November	9	Race (MG Classic)	MG	Manfeild
	10	Race (MG Classic)	MG	Manfeild
	11-14	WRC Rally Japan		
	21	Gravel Sprint	Wairarapa	Dorsets Road
	28	The Surgery Sprint Rd5		Manfeild
December	7	India Rally		
	25	Christmas Day		
February21		Sealed Sprint	HVMC	Wallaceville

Levin	027 442 1639 (Chris)
Hutt Valley	027 439 7616 (Neil)
Wellington	021 717 676 (Jody)
Kapiti	027 446 9986 (Bryan)
Wairarapa	027 4397616 (John)
MG	04 970 8644 (Terry)
Intermarque	027 232 2523 (Alan)
Dannevirke	j_pperformance@hotmail.com
Manawatu	manawatucarclub@xtra.co.nz
Wanganui	barbaramgray@gmail.com
Hawkes Bay	donna_elder@clear.net.nz



WAIARAPA CAR CLUB - Teo Creek Day/Nighter Gravel Hillclimb
Saturday 24 April 2021

Car #	Name	Club	Car	Day Run 1	Day Run 2	Day Run 3	Night Run 1	Night Run 2	Final Day 1 Final Night	Class	Overall	WMAA
A: 0-1300cc												
05	Darlie Brock	Dannevirke	Barrus	1:44:30	1:40:55	1:39:41	1:44:40	1:42:50	3:22:19	1		
4	Greg Dridish	Wai CC	Saret	1:52:02	1:51:35	1:49:56	1:53:45	DNS	3:43:11	2		
31	John Cluade	Kapiti	Sunny	1:58:04	1:51:41	1:55:52	-	-	-	-		
B: 1301-1600cc												
17	Adam Fisher	HCCC	Starlet	1:45:35	1:43:41	1:44:43	1:48:01	1:46:24	3:29:45	1		
3	Lilly Fisher	HCCC	Starlet	2:05:02	2:00:11	2:03:38	2:14:42	2:10:44	4:10:45	3		
19	Kevin George	Wai CC	Levin	1:50:12	1:47:28	1:47:04	1:50:45	DNS	3:37:52	3		
23	Paul Tapper	HCCC	Levin	2:08:48	2:00:15	2:03:41	2:11:16	2:04:41	4:18:06	-		
85	Rob Piper	Wai CC	Sprinter	2:41:53	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNS	-	-		
14	Boss McKenzie	HCCC	Corolla	1:52:17	1:49:39	1:47:13	1:52:41	1:50:25	3:37:42	2		
C: 1601 - 2000cc												
15	Mike Reid	HVMC	Ford	2:00:51	1:58:25	1:53:48	1:59:14	1:59:09	3:53:05	2		
89	Paul Stent	HCCC	BMW 318i	1:55:03	1:53:11	1:52:00	1:55:49	DNS	3:47:49	1		
D: 2001cc & Over												
5	Brent Henson	Wai CC	Corolla	2:06:59	2:00:27	2:04:00	2:06:51	2:01:05	4:01:32	3		
12	Chris Steel	Wai CC	Lancer	1:46:44	1:43:38	1:44:32	1:46:11	1:44:14	3:28:52	3		
11	Graham Heath	HCCC	Pulsar	1:43:41	1:38:47	1:37:04	1:44:45	1:40:26	3:27:30	3		
86	Matt Patterson	Levin	Sprinter	1:41:07	1:40:40	1:39:46	1:45:18	1:40:40	3:19:26	1		3
33	Tim Crispbell	Wai CC	Escort	1:42:42	1:38:57	1:41:20	1:41:55	1:41:06	3:19:43	2		
E: AWD Open												
22	Alan Goyne	HCCC	WRX	1:43:10	1:41:33	MT	1:42:45	1:41:42	3:25:45	1		
13	Ben Watson	HVMC	Corica	1:33:26	1:30:20	1:28:44	1:30:15	1:29:46	2:58:30	1		
-	Don Hole	Wai CC	EVO	DNS	DNS	DNS	-	-	-	3		
53	Goeff Warren	HVMC	WRX	1:43:15	1:40:58	1:41:41	1:44:33	1:42:46	3:23:44	3		
-	Marty Smith	Wain CC	Legacy	DNS	DNS	DNS	-	-	-	-		
53	Sarah Jagers	HVMC	WRX	2:08:43	2:06:02	2:03:32	2:06:41	2:02:19	4:06:22	2		2
3	Stu Andrews	Wai CC	EVO3	1:35:24	1:33:47	1:31:02	1:33:42	1:34:10	3:04:44	2		
G: XC (Cross Car)												
6	Matt Gaslin	HVMC	Scorpio	1:50:37	1:43:55	1:41:48	-	-	-	-		
	Matt Gaslin	HVMC	Sereno	1:36:48	-	-	-	-	-	-		

Asda (UK Supermarket chain) installed a medical kiosk, for £10 and a urine sample, it would diagnose any condition. When my friend went with a sore elbow, the computer printout read "You have tennis elbow. Soak it in warm water and avoid heavy work for 2 weeks." Impressed, my friend wondered if he could fool the machine. He mixed tap water with dog crap, urine samples from his wife and daughter, and then pleased himself into the mixture. When he put the sample into the machine the next day, the printout read: "1. Your tap water is too hard. Use softener. 2. Your dog has ringworm. Give it antibiotics. 3. Your daughter is on cocaine. Get her to rehab. 4. Your wife is expecting twins. Not yours. Get a lawyer. 5. If you keep playing with yourself, your bloody tennis elbow won't get better! "Thank you for shopping at Asda"



SEND THIS TO: Harbour Capital Car Club (Inc)
 P.O. Box 4102
 Wellington
 New Zealand

First Name/s		Surname	
Other family Members name			
Address: Residential			
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Email			
Occupation			

Make & Model or car / s

--

How did you find out about us

--

My interests are in – (Mark relevant areas)

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Rallies			
Motorkhanas			
Car Trials			
Social Events etc			

I am prepared to help on: - (You may be contacted if help is required)

Trials	Motorkhanas	Speed	Rallies
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 Student: \$ 35.00 p.a.

_____ Amount enclosed: \$

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www.hccc.org.nz

Various Pix from Leon, see Facebook, I counted over 300!

