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WHEELSPIN

December 2021

www.hccc.org.nz

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COVER PHOTO

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 2nd November 2021 @ 7:30



December mutterings.

Might be a bit of a short rambling this month, which will be a relief to some of you, but not the editor, as it means there's less content.

Talking of content put some digits to some keys people, even if it's just short and to the point, the opposite of what I do.

My only event for the month (or maybe it is the only event I remember, because let's face it, my memory isn't something or another) was our Rubber Duck Autocross.

We had a bit of a slow start to the day, as there's a triple padlock situation on the gate at Motorplex, and they should be all daisy-chained, so that opening any one lock means you can get in the door. However, there was a bit of a blooper somewhere along the lines, that saw the Wairarapa car club lock literally on a bit of chain all by itself, with that bit of chain doing nothing other than lurking on the gate, rather than keeping anything closed. So Adam and Ian had to do an emergency dash back to Bob the Motorplex guy's house, for other keys.

That put us about 30 minutes behind time for starting the day, meaning we ended up doing 2 & 3 rounds, rather than 3 & 3.

The Altezza got the old road tyres chucked on the back again for the day, and composed itself okay. I couldn't keep up with the flying Herd Brothers in the MX5 though, and cruised home third in class.

The times would have been good enough to just sneak up to second in class, but I decided to completely and utterly run over a cone, rather than drive around it. Turns out that mowing down a cone costs you five seconds, which in this case worked out to be about five places overall as well.

Whoops!

It was however quite a stylish running over, so at least there's that going for it.

Some interesting results on the day, with Brent Miller getting the lap of the gods, and absolutely cleaning out the front driver class. Pete getting a second in class, followed by Marty B (in the Fisher Starlet).

This means that neither of our usual two dominant front drive pilots, Neil & Adam made it onto the class podium.

Adam is leading class in this trilogy, as we head into the last round, followed by PC, and then Neil. However, they're only separated by a total of four points, over those three places, and there's five points a place difference between first and second in class, then another five points difference for third in class. So that class is going to come down to who can take out the third round of the trilogy.

Dean and Lee are tied for first place in the rear skidder class, so there's no chance of a dead heat in that class for the series, and I expect the level of smack talk involved to be absolutely legendary.

In the four-wheel jeepers, poor Albaru made his life very difficult by having no clean runs on the first course, which given that it's a fairly competitive class, immediately kicked him out of the first couple of places. So' despite a scorcher of a time in the second course, he was relegated to the bottom step of the podium.

Graham is relishing his new toy, bringing it home first in class, followed by Geoff (who was having all kinds of fun playing with his new hydraulic handbrake).

This means that with Geoff having missed the first round, Graham is leading the series, five points ahead of Al. So potentially we might end up with a draw for top of the series in the jeeps.

We had no Cross Cars on the day, so that remains Matt G, Matt R, and then Wazza.

The final Duck of the Trilogy, we're aiming for December 19th, bookings and weather gods willing.

Those of you who were there on the day will have noted that we've invested some of the club funds into a set of magnetic numbers, to make life in the timing car a bit easier. I'm relatively reliable at knowing who is who, but when we're running up to four people in a car, it can be a bit of a head scratcher.

I'm not sure yet what our next round will look like as far as the traffic light system rules go. We're still waiting on specific guidance from the sport about the exact nuts and bolts things like driver briefing, and scrutineering. There are definitely some obvious instances of people not reading the briefing, so while it takes some pressure off me not having to speak in public, we're losing some of the attention of the competitors.

My attempt to stay at a semi controllable number of cars on the fleet immediately failed, as we all know it would. With the price of 95 & 98 gas going absolutely bonkers, running the Altezza as a daily, while it would be nice, was going to run me at least \$100 a week. So, I had a bit of a scout around to see what I could get that was cheap to run.

I ended up with a Toyota Aqua, which kind of makes sense as it is the exact car that I've talked two of my non-car-people friends into buying. Because they're a basic little car, generally Toyota bulletproof, and run on the smell of an oil rag.

Because I'm me, I've immediately spent multiple hours on paint correction and protection on it, plus I've given one of my sets of minillite replica wheels a big birthday and paint job. So now it's a boring little appliance, on some ultra JDM wheels (with my third set of new tyres from Neil, in almost no time at all). Next step, cruise control, and a Kiwi stereo, so that I'm not stuck listening to CD's that I burnt around 15 years ago. Have to say, I'm not missing commuting in traffic in a manual car... must be getting even more old.

As I write this, the Corolla is loaded up in the driveway, ready for the early (EARLY!) morning mission up to Dorsets. Hopefully I can remember how gravel works again, as this is only my second gravel event in 2021, and the first one (Puketiro) was not a good display of driving on my part. I was slightly hindered by a really soft brake pedal on that event, which made me good and nervous. But hopefully that's sorted out now.

Then assuming I survive that event, I'm out on gravel again the next weekend on a new bit of road, Woolshed Road, somewhere out the back of Totara Park. That should be a bit of fun, as none of us has even seen that road, much less raced on it.

It's a mad run of events basically until Christmas, all going well. I plan to wield a camera at Rally Waitomo, for Mark's first gravel rally in the Ka. Then I think I might be having a weekend off, as I'm not sure I'm brave enough for the Trentham sealed sprint in the Altezza. Then if my working of a calendar is right, then it's our next Rubber Duck round!

Then hopefully go into a coma for two weeks to recover from the previous month.

But wait, there's more.

Okay, so I was apparently very wrong about this being a short article. Sorry.

We're still trying to nail down the date, but we're hoping to run a Women in Motorsport autocross in January. If we can, probably in one of the Tauherenikau paddocks, rather than the usual Masterton one. So, keep a watch out for this one to crop up in the calendar, and see if you can encourage one of the females in your life to come along and have a play day. If they don't want to be timed, and just want to spend a day fannying around without pressure, we're happy to provide that option.

So, start having chats with people about that, because if it's in January, it is going to be during the school holidays. Which may add logistical hiccups, and potentially reduce our numbers.

Right, I'll shut up now, I promise.

See you somewhere with cars or burgers!
Cheers, Leon

Leon

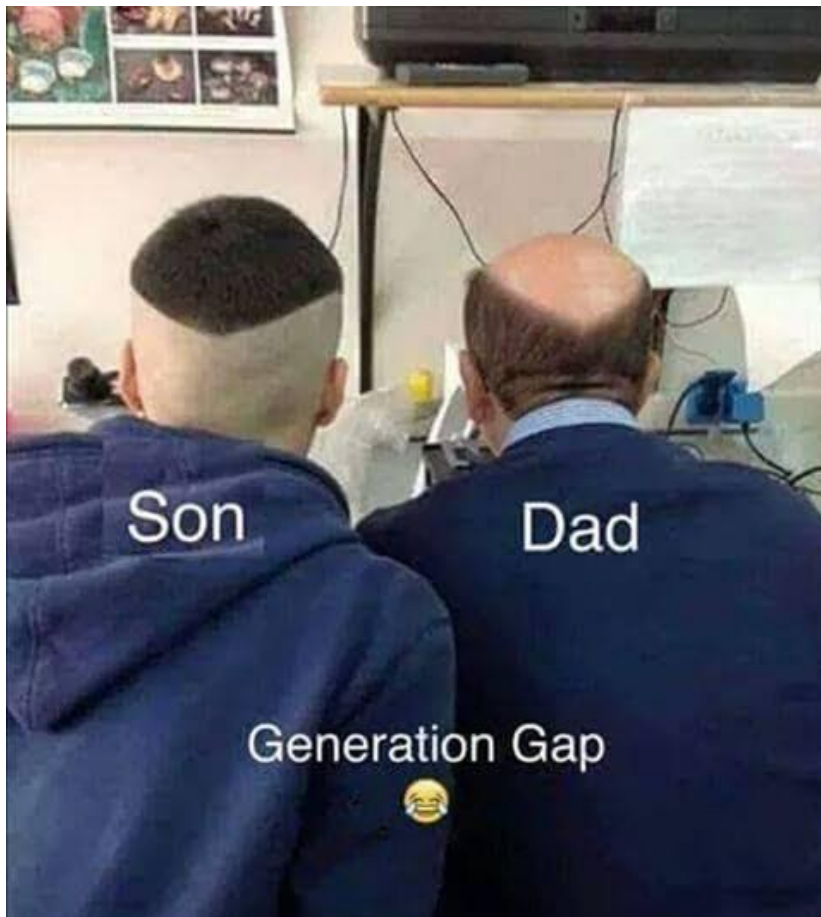
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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2021 AT 7 PM

HCCC Clubnight

1841 Bar & Restaurant, Johnsonville



Harbour Capital Car Club Calendar 2021

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

Month	Date	Event Type	Club	Venue
December	7	India Rally		
	25	Christmas Day		
February	21	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_ppformance@hotmail.com	
		Manawatu	manawatucarclub@xtra.co.nz	
		Wanganui	barbaramgray@gmail.com	
		Hawkes Bay	donna_elder@clear.net.nz	

Part 2 of the WRX-on-trial (Parihaka Gravel Sprint).



I entered Parihaka Road Gravel Sprint. I'd heard that it was a good one for novice types so it would be ideal for me. When I was at the event, Helen Cameron told me that the reason it was good for novices was because the paddocks were flat at the same level as the road so if you rolled off the road you don't go down a bank or hit a cliff and so the roll will be a gentle one. Do you think that eased the tension I may have been feeling about doing a new gravel road?

Anyway, back to the story. My wife Bid was going to Christchurch on Saturday morning and we needed to get up at 6am so on Friday night there was leaving drinks at the Fork n Brewer and too many people just plain offered to buy drinks. It would have been rude to refuse. Got home that night a little later than expected. Back to Saturday, we had internal domestic delays but we got Bid to the airport with 4 minutes to spare for final baggage check-in. Don't want to cut it that close again, but it worked.

Having made that delivery, I packed up the WRX for the weekend and called in on the way to Mum's in Whanganui and took her out for lunch. Also stocked up on filled rolls for Sunday because there wasn't going to be any catering at the event. Mum is in her mid-80s and getting a little frail so we got her into the passenger's Racetech 1000 and went down the road for a bite. She got into the car okay but needed assistance getting out. Notwithstanding, she was a trooper and we got her out okay. And now she's had a ride in the noisy caged rally-car.

Did some supermarket shopping in Whanganui for dinner and headed up to Midhurst at Chez Cameron's? As always there was a warm welcome and friendly people. I'd brought up pre-dinner

nibbles - wine, cheese and crackers. Helen and Mike had whipped up a delicious roast pork with crackling meal, and Jilly and Adam had brought up dessert from Viv's kitchen.

Next day we travelled half-way round the mountain to the gravel sprint. Got there in plenty of time because we arrived with the organisers, and then set up. Tyres on and pressures checked - ready to go.

I think the road was about 3km long. It had straights which I can handle a bit and corners which I am learning to do. The road must have had a slight rise because it was always pointing towards the mountain, and it always looks magnificent.

Had a practice run and 3 timed runs. 1st timed run was 9 seconds quicker than practice. 2nd run was 1 second quicker and 3rd run was 3 seconds quicker. It's great when times improve. Was happy with that. There was 1 corner on the 3rd run that I was determined to put the car sideways around it in the time-honoured fashion. It worked, and that was the highlight of my driving day 😊

Enjoyed the gravel runs, I'm finding that I'm braking too hard for the corners and should have carried more speed through pretty much every corner for the entire day. This is a confidence thing and I don't have enough right now so just taking as much time as I need and am expecting that sooner or later the confidence will build. But not by too much, I hope, so that the car stays mainly on the road.

Anyway, it was fun and didn't scare myself. There is a narrow bridge on this sprint and the corner coming into it is a 2 left and the gravel was really loose but also incredibly slippery and also just as you entered the bridge there was a large and 6" deep rut in the ground ending up in the square concrete of the bridge floor. I just tootled around the corner and took the bridge approach very carefully. Could have saved time by going faster but also could have ruined my day.

Ended up 3rd for the day in a field of just 12, behind Adam in the Starlet, and Caprice in an Impreza.

The event people brought a food caravan which did great chips, coffee and venison burgers so I ate heaps.

Had to leave early to pick Bid up from Wellington Airport because she'd been down to Christchurch for a Hen's party for her future Daughter-in-Law Lucy. Helen kindly allowed me to interleave runs and I finished up early.

Got home, parked up the wrx, and picked up Bid from the airport. We'd made contingency plans in case I was late but they weren't needed. We had a late dinner of delicious Whanganui filled rolls from the day before, still fresh. It was a very successful weekend.

Photos: courtesy of Stacey Jeffries



Adam and Jilly In Nelson:



No.	NAME	CAR	CL	RUN 1	RUN 2	RUN 3	RUN 4
1	Tony C	VW0	A	1:57.40	1:55.46	1:59.00	
2	Pat Norris	Vitz	A	1:55:12	1:50:36	1:55:39	
3	Rob McKenzie	Corolla	A	2:25:58	2:07:37	2:08:14	
4	Graham Wilson	Starlet	A	1:55:87	1:50:98	1:59:17	
5	Phil Lash	Starlet	A	1:54:47	2:04:43	2:16:50	
6	Ollie Ward	Semog	XC	1:39:13	1:46:09	1:37:01	
7	Adrian McGillan	Corolla	B	2:00:78	1:59:86	1:56:71	
8	Adam Fisher	Starlet	B	1:48:04	1:47:71	1:49:50	
9	Caleb Sim	BMW	B	1:55:36	1:56:25	1:52:45	
10	Paul Roughan	Starlet	A	1:47:70	1:48:40	1:48:33	
11	Ashton Wood	Escort	B	1:44:17	1:44:19	1:45:67	
12	Rob McKee	Escort	B	-	1:48:63	1:49:49	
13	David Taylor	Civic	B	1:47:96	1:49:79	1:47:42	
14	Bruce Forley	BMW	B	1:50:28	2:06:57	1:44:75	
15	Phil McManus	BMW	B	1:49:52	1:48:73	1:48:04	
16	Peter Bouden	Escort	B	2:06:69	1:49:06	1:51:57	
17	John Clifton	Escort	B	1:51:16	2:17:44	1:52:49	
18	Tylo Vincent	CRX	B	1:40:32	DNF	DNF	
19	Bruce Monro	Escort	B	1:58:48	DNS	DNS	
20	Jared Peterson	FXGT	B	1:49:87	1:50:41	1:48:36	
21	Neville Kidd	Escort	B	1:43:03	1:45:11	1:43:26	
22	Tony P	Sentra	B	2:01:00	2:22:25	2:05:26	
23	Lucy McGillan	Corolla	B	2:10:17	2:12:05	2:03:51	
24	Jilly Fisher	Starlet	B	2:00:47	1:59:99	1:59:90	
25	Bryden Sim	BMW	B	1:51:45	1:52:68	1:48:04	
26	Jeff Ward	Semog	XC	1:35:32	1:37:78	1:35:59	
27	Scott Alexander	Semog	XC	1:36:71	1:37:22	1:36:08	
28	DJ Musk	Merc	P	1:58:83	1:57:67	2:03:28	
29	Jordan McGilroy	Altezza	P	1:55:13	1:57:75	1:53:05	

No.	NAME	CAR	CL	RUN 1	RUN 2	RUN 3	RUN 4
30	Lynne Hermans	Civic	P	1:57:82	1:53:09	1:56:05	
31	Micheel DeLew	Impreza	P	2:24:63	2:00:39	2:05:55	
32	Taylor Devine	Primera	P	1:46:36	1:46:08	DNF	
33	Craig Mills	Civic	P	1:52:77	1:49:31	1:45:15	
34	Corban Rodford	Pony	P	1:57:47	1:57:71	1:56:42	
35	Montez Singh-To	Mix5	P	1:49:72	1:51:73	1:49:87	
36	Ben Musk	BMW	P	DNF	DNF	DNF	
37	Adrian Leitch	Starlet	P	1:52:94	1:52:66	1:50:77	
38	Tane Malcolm	WRX	D	1:39:52	1:39:85	2:05:75	
39	John Nelson	WRX	D	1:42:20	1:44:81	1:38:78	
40	Jason Clark	EV05	D	DNF	1:55:34	1:34:06	
41	Stuart Creeber	WRX	D	1:40:46	1:40:79	1:37:14	
42	Oscar Bowden	Celica	D	1:43:39	DNF	1:40:80	
43	Mark Kibble	Omega	D	1:44:24	1:43:06	1:45:19	
44	Daryl Smith	WRX	D	1:41:74	1:42:16	1:39:58	
45	Carey Howard	WRX	D	1:39:58	1:39:03	DNF	
46	Airi Pattigrew	Semog	XC	1:31:32	1:35:55	1:30:50	
47	Eathan Musk	Merc	P	2:01:58	2:10:65	1:52:24	
48	Tom Henman	Altezza	P	2:10:25	1:55:70	1:51:45	
49	Luke Hermans	Civic	P	1:59:79	1:53:27	1:53:81	
50	Matt Gaskin	Semog	XC	1:37:30	1:34:26	1:37:-	
51	Warren Tunley	Semog	XC	1:34:25	1:34:71	1:50:47	
52	Tim Alexander	Semog	XC	1:38:44	1:36:23	1:35:75	
53	Paul Butler	Semog	XC	1:34:22	1:35:37	1:33:82	
54	Chris Hill	WRX	D	1:40:44	1:40:36	1:44:30	
55	Stewart Nelson	WRX	D	DNF	1:52:18	1:40:42	
56	Brian Kirkwood	Civic	B	2:01:02	1:57:10	DNF	
57	Nigel Curtis	Copacino	A	1:48:49	1:57:98	1:49:54	
0	Bryden Roddon	AP4	R	1:27:42	1:26:76	DNF	

That annual favourite: Dorsets Road 21 Nov





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			
Postal address (if different)			
Home Phone		Business Phone	
Mobile			
Email			
Occupation			

Make & Model or car / s

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How did you find out about us

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My interests are in – (Mark relevant areas)

	Not much	Some	Lots
Speed Events			
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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