



WHEELSPIN

February 2023

www.hccc.org.nz

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COVER PHOTO

Len's Hobby Room. You guys need to send me stuff I'm getting desperate!

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 7th February 2023 @ 7:30

Remember THIS MEETING is the AGM

Have you Paid Your Subs?



Presidential Prattling

Pretty good end to 2022, with two from the intended three events happening.

Levin Car Club had a new gravel road that the council was keen for them to try out, so that happened in December at fairly short notice. It was described as a short-sharp sprint, and it lived up to the name!

Really little bit of road, I think the competition distance was 1.2 km or so, with just barely enough room between the finish of the sprint, and the junction with the main road to squeeze in a dozen cars (so long as we squeezed and stacked anyway).

It was quite heavily gravelled, so was pretty slippery, and remained very deep offline. The finish line was on quite a challenging sort of a corner, so I kept frightening the cone by the finish line.

As is my tendency at my first couple of times at an unfamiliar venue, I spent the entire day being unsure at what was going to happen around every corner, which didn't serve me very well, but did mean that I didn't throw the Corolla at the scenery. So I'll take that as being an acceptable outcome.

With the tall first gear, I definitely appreciated that this event had a downhill start! There were three official runs, and then for those who were keen, another two unofficial runs. Pleasingly I picked up lots of time in the unofficials, and managed to miss the finish line cone, despite my best efforts. Then when I reached the end of the day, and I came to put air in the tyres again for the drive home, it would appear that I was running far too high a psi. I'm not entirely sure why,

possibly related to a \$10 Repco tyre pressure gauge... luckily I have another three or four of them, so I can just chuck this one in the bin if I need to.

I've had another muffler chucked on the back of the Corolla instead of the high performance one, as the volume out the back of the car is fair doing my head in. The noise is reduced considerably, however I think it's still maybe a fraction still too loud (given that with the changed gearbox, my 100 kph cruising RPM is now 4000 rpm).

Although this week NZTA announced they're dropping the speed limit between Featherston and Masterton, so I will be able to drop the noise down for that section of road.

Oh, and courtesy of Ross McKenzie I replaced the top hats on the Corolla front struts, having mentioned that I punched through the top hat at Dorsets, in my last article. So thanks for that Ross, much appreciated! This was done before the Levin sprint, just in case you thought I was enough of an animal to do an event with a knackered strut.

Then we had another dose of the Masterton weather curse. Because, of course we did.

It was the double header weekend with the Motorkhana Saturday afternoon, and the Autocross on Sunday.

Saturday was on and off rain, showers, then misty rain throughout the afternoon.

We did three tests on the drag strip seal, as best we could given that the drag strip is pretty narrow, and then three tests on the wet grass.

I dragged the newly purchased tiny appliance car (Kia Picanto) over to the motorkhana so that I could actually enter, and had a fun little fang around. She's only a very small car, which is good, but has a disc brake rear end, which is less good for handbrake antics.

Even a car the size of a shoebox was struggling a bit on the narrow track, so there were a few attempts at setting courses before finding ones that were possible to achieve, without just being a slalom or ever increasing/decreasing circles (aka: the most boring motorkhana test ever).

To be democratic, I threw it over to the competitors if they wanted to stay on tarmac or split the tests to do the second half on grass. Only one driver wanted to stay on tarmac, with the rest being keen to go get coated in mangled greenery.

I ended up with the usual dose of diced grass distributed over every surface of the car, even including between the undertray and bumper.

The Picanto is pretty hilariously slow on the road. It was okay over the Remutaka range, although I tried twice and failed twice to overtake a slow car up the hill. Turns out my slow car was just as slow as their slow car. In the end, they actually pulled out of the way so I could get past them. Possibly because it was just too embarrassing to keep seeing a tiny car attempt to get past, and then end up at the end of the overtaking lane, exactly the same distance behind them as it was at the start of the overtaking lane. The steep sections of hill on TG heading South have to be tackled by holding a steady 100 kph by using 5000 rpm in third gear. To make matters worse, it's not even as economical as you'd think, given the lack of power. It's still good for 16 and a bit km per litre, but to be honest I was hoping for 20, given that she's only 1100 cc of fury.

On the positive side though, she's only got 36 km on the clock, has an acceptable stereo, and has

properly freezing cold air con. Plus very importantly, it's not drinking diesel and demanding RUC's, unlike the Sorento.

Then while we were up at the motorkhana on the Saturday, the weather insisted on precipitating, so we had to pull the plug on the Sunday autocross, or we would just have knocked all the grass off the ground, and basically been at a standstill all day. But at least we had an excellent dinner at Neil and Lynda's on the Saturday night after the motorkhana.

Then January rolled around again, and a cyclone weather system turned up at the same time as our next scheduled event... so that was rained off too. I believe we're up to six rained off autocross events in a row. Which is just crazy, as it means the only autocross in this area that ran during 2022 was the January 2022 Women in Motorsport Autocross. So there will be no Kim Naylor autocross trophy being awarded for the year gone. Very disappointing!

I would say "hey but we have another two scheduled, on February and March 5th".. but I'm not going to say that, because apparently that offends some sort of rain god, and we'd just get rained off again and again.

I'm writing this just before Wellington Anniversary weekend, and a few of us are heading up to Manfeild for the weekend to do their Multi Event Weekend. That comprises of a grass motorkhana and autocross on Saturday, followed by a sealed full track (reverse direction) autocross, and then a three lap track sprint (3 km normal direction).

Should be a good weekend, and will be my first outing in the GR Yaris, which ought to be entertaining.

As well as the theoretically possible February and March autocross events (go away rain), we also have AGM at Club night in Feb. Hope to see some of you there.

That's it from me for now.

Leon



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WAIRARAPA CAR CLUB – Dorsets Road Gravel Hillclimb
Sunday 20 November 2022

Car #	Name	Club	Car	Prac.	Run 1	Run 2	Run 3		Class	Overall
A: 0-1300cc										
5	Dayle Brock	Wai CC	Barina	2.33.7	2.27.6	2.24.6	2.22.1		1	11
B: 1301-1600cc										
23	Paul Tapper	HCCC	Corolla	MT	6.09.9	2.41.4	2.33.2		3	16
85	Rob Piper	Wai CC	Sprinter	2.34.4	2.32.8	2.30.7	2.30.2		2	15
15	Leon Cast	HCCC	Corolla	2.40.5	2.32.3	2.28.2	DNS		1	14
C: 1601-2000cc										
	no entries									
D:2001cc & over										
40	Richard Prouse	HVMC	BMW 318is	2.49.5	2.41.3	2.37.2	2.37.0		7	18
6	Graham Heath	HCCC	Pulsar	2.30.6	2.24.9	2.20.1	2.20.6		3	9
44	Chris Steel	Wai CC	Lancer	2.34.8	2.30.2	2.25.9	2.26.0		5	13
33	Tim Campbell	Wai CC	Mk2 Escort	2.24.8	2.20.4	2.17.6	2.14.4		1	6
86	Matt Patterson	Levin CC	Sprinter	2.27.9	2.16.9	2.18.1	2.15.8		2	8
7	Max Bevan	Manawatu CC	BMW 320i	2.43.6	2.46.2	2.26.9	2.24.3		4	12
12	Brent Henson	Wai CC	Corolla	2.51.2	2.40.5	2.35.7	2.36.6		6	17

22	Bevan Parker	Dannevirke CC	BMW 323i	2.31.1	4.08.7	2.21.9	2.20.3		-	-
22	Bevan Parker	Dannevirke CC	BMW 323i	DNS	2.26.2	2.22.5	2.20.5		-	-
E: 4WD open										
20	Alan Groves	HCCC	Impreza WRX	2.25.1	2.17.1	2.14.7	2.14.4		2	7
3	John Bouzaid	Sth Taranaki CC	Impreza WRX	2.20.2	2.14.4	2.09.2	2.13.2		1	3
19	Chris Bellis	Dannevirke CC	Legacy	2.44.6	2.24.5	2.22.2	2.21.5		3	10
17	Richard Mason	Dannevirke CC	Impreza WRX	MT	2.04.7	2.02.4	2.01.4		-	-
17	Richard Mason	Dannevirke CC	Impreza WRX	2.05.3	2.06.7	2.02.5	2.00.1		-	-
XC: Cross Cars										
14	Josh Trybula	HVMC	Bravo Semog	2.22.5	2.14.6	2.11.6	2.08.6		1	1
4	Wade Noedl	HVMC	Bravo Semog	2.23.6	2.20.8	2.14.3	2.09.8		3	4
11	Warren Tunley	HVMC	Bravo Semog	2.20.4	2.12.3	2.12.0	2.09.0		2	2
18	Matt Gaskin	HVMC	Bravo Semog	2.24.6	2.16.1	2.11.7	2.11.6		4	5

NOTE: double entered drivers do not feature in class or overall placings R Hardgrave 20/11/2022 2.52pm

Harbour Capital Car Club Calendar 2023 Confirmed dates in RED, traditional dates left in place as indicators

Provisional dates in BLUE

Month	Date	Event Type	Club	Venue
December	17	Motorkhana	HCCC	Masterton plus dinner at Neil's place
		Autocross		Masterton
January	8	Rubber Duck Ac	HCCC	Masterton KN
February	5	Rubber Duck Ac	HCCC	Masterton KN
	9-12	WRC Sweden		
	19	Autocross	Levin	Levin KN
March	4	Paroorangi Rd Gravel sprint	Dannevirke	hawkes Bay
	5	Rubber Duck Ac	HCCC	Masterton KN
	11	Westland rally		
	12	Mangahao dam - Gravel Sprint	Levin	Shannon
	11-12	Extreme E Saudi		
	16-19	WRC Mexico		
	19	Sealed Sprint	Wellington	Alexandra Road, Wellington
	30-2	Otago Rally		
April				
Easter	7-11			
	15	Whariti -Gravel sprint	Dannevirke	Palmerston
	25	Anzac Day		
	20-23	WRC Rally Croatia		
	16	Sealed Sprint	Levin	Kaihinau Road
	30	Track Day		Manfeild

	30	Tangaoio Rd Gravel sprint	Dawkes Bay	Hawkes Bay
May	1	The Surgery Sprint		Manfeild
	10-12	Whangarei Rally		
	13-14	Extreme E Scotland		
	11-14	WRC Rally Portugal		
	22	Gravel Sprint	Dannevirke	Speedy Rd
	26	Autocross	Hutt Valley	Upper Hutt
	27	Far North Rally		
June	5	Kings Birthday		
		Fordell Gravel Sprint Day/night	Wanganui	Wanganui
	1-4	WRC Rally Italy		
	12	The Surgery Sprint		Manfeild
	18	Sth Canterbury Rally		
	22-25	WRC Rally Safari Kenya		
	26	Autocross	Hutt Valley	Upper Hutt
July	8-9	Extreme E Sardinia		
	14	Matarili		
	20-23	WRC Rally Estonia		
	25	Taranaki Rally		
	31	Autocross	Hutt Valley	Upper Hutt
	31	The Surgery Sprint		Manfeild
August	3-6	WRC Rally Finland		
	13	Taupo gravel Rally		

	21	Gravel Sprint	Wairarapa	Puketiro Road
	27	Gravel Sprint	Wanganui	Mini Pikes Peak, Rangitautau rd
September	7-10	WRC Rally Greece		
	16-17	Extreme E Brazil/US/Chile		
	25	The Surgery Sprint Autocross Gravel Sprint	Hutt Valley Levin	Manfeild Upper Hutt Wairongamai Rd
	28-1	WRC Rally Chile		
October	8 or 29	RallySprint	Levin	Akatarawa
	13-14	BOP Rally		
	16	Sealed Sprint	Wairarapa	Admiral Road
	23	Labour Day		
	23	Sealed Sprint	Hutt Valley	Port Road
	26-29	WRC Rally Passau		
November	5	Sealed Sprint	Wtn	Shelly Bay
	12	Atiamuri rally	Taupo	
	13	Atiamuri Gravel Sprint (MG Classic)	Taupo	
	16-19	WRC Rally Japan		
	20	Gravel Sprint	Wairarapa	Dorsets Road
	27	The Surgery Sprint		Manfeild
December	25	Christmas Day		

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First Name/s		Surname	
Other family Members name			
Address: Residential			
Postal address (if different)			
Home Phone		Business Phone	
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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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Family: Normal Member: \$ 45.00 p.a.
\$ 55.00 p.a. for a couple plus \$10 for each additional family member
Student: \$ 35.00 p.a.

_____ Amount enclosed: \$

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