



WHEELSPIN
November 2023
www.hccc.org.nz

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COVER PHOTO

Graham Heath at Puketiro Rd

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 November 2023 @ 7:30



November Nattering.

Two events under my belt in the last month, one with a steering wheel, and one with a clipboard.

Headed over to the rescheduled Puketiro Road Gravel sprint armed with a Corolla. I was actually only able to attend Puketiro Road following a reschedule. Initially it was set to run the day after I got back from Hong Kong, which wasn't something I fancied my chances of getting to, while being awake and functional. However it ended up being moved due to a rain out, onto the date that was previously Admiral Road. Admiral Road couldn't run this year, as the road condition wasn't up to competition use, so they pulled the plug.

The Corolla is still running the old smokey engine, awaiting the engine re conditioner to do his thing. But it's still going, so I'll still keep on using it at sprint events, just keeping a watch on the oil level.

It wasn't a huge turnout at the sprint, with only 24 entries. While that's less helpful to Wairarapa's finances, it did mean that the day went pretty quickly.

The wind during the day was relentless, certainly wasn't t-shirt weather. Even the day before was pretty rugged, with a strong Northerly blowing rain into my car port rather nicely. Which of course made getting the car ready particularly delightful.

Invariably I do badly at Puketiro, and this year was definitely no exception! I always reach the end of the day, and am cursing myself for being a gear down on a few corners.

Deep gravel meant it was pretty slippery all day, which made it amusing if not fast. Even with decent rubber on it, the back was having a nice wander around on me whenever I was off the gas.

As far as I am aware, only one car fell off the road properly, with Simon from Wairarapa throwing it into a ditch at one of the tight corners. Not immediately obvious if the car was damaged, other than dismounting one of the tyres.

Only Graham and I from HCCC there that day, with Graham bringing the Pulsar home second in class, behind Tim from Wairarapa in the Escort.

I'm told that Tim in the ex John Esler Escort has made quite a big engine change from an old V6 (Capri or something maybe?) up to a big power Commodore V6 from a speedway car. Which helps explain the change in engine note, and suddenly a decent chunk more speed.

As usual, front of the field was the Cross Car contingent, with Stu Andrews in the Evo giving them a bit of a hurry up.

Ryan and Jodi were there in the Mirage, having dried out the inside after the car having competed in Daybreaker with Gordon Diggle holding the steering stick.

Very strangely though, Class C (1601-2000cc) was completely empty, and Class A was the usual poorly supported class, with Dayle running all by himself in the Barina. As usual though, Dayle put in a time that would have seen him running second in Class B anyway.

They didn't do privileging at the venue due to the level of wind. Which was probably a good call, given that once again within ten minutes of leaving the venue, it was fair chucking it down. I was actually having to run the air con to stop the car from fogging up inside.

Corolla got a wash and put back under the cover, in anticipation of the Akatarawa gravel sprint last weekend of October.

The Akatarawa (Woolshed Road?) gravel sprint this year is a bit longer than the previous running (two years ago), as they're starting a bit earlier, and finishing a bit later. Hopefully that suits the Corolla a little bit better, as it won't be starting immediately on a steep uphill. Also with the closer ratio box, theory says that I might perhaps be able to be in third gear for a decent section of the hill, rather than being stuck in between madly rev-cutting in second, or not quite having enough speed to hold third. Though if it doesn't work this year, I need to decide if it's gearbox out time, to swap the diff ratio, or throw the close ratio box against a wall and go back to the old six speed (well, after getting the six speed rebuilt anyway, as it's very very tired, and has been since the day it went in the car).

My second event of the month was my first outing as a MotorSport NZ Steward (because apparently what I really need more of in my life, is weekends spent at Motorsport events?), where I was largely the observer under the guidance of Wayne Gair.

Luckily there wasn't any real drama to deal with, as HVMC has run this event once or twice before. Meaning largely they have the operation down to a pretty smooth process.

There were a couple of car versus scenery incidents, with a Honda S2000 spinning into a footpath, a Golf kissing a footpath, and an Audi electing to depart the road into a concrete building. As you'd expect with such scenarios, the score was Scenery 3, Cars 0.

However while damage to cars always sucks, the crucial thing was that nobody was hurt. The bent cars were moved slightly and left where they were for the rest of the day.

I'm also due to head up to Manfeild with another HCCC steward, John Rapley for an Intermarque sprint in November too. I'll very much still have my learner plates on there, and I suspect it will be a little while before I'm unleashed on an event without there being an adult present.

Also having being nominated as new Stewards in our area are Stu Andrews from Wairarapa, and Andrew Knox from HVMC. So there's a bit of new(er) generation coming in to shoulder some of the load.

Upcoming events, I'm happy to report that we've got quite a few now as we head into summer.

An **allegedly** dry but windy summer we are told.

Socially, a couple of events that might be already done before the magazine hits publication and letterboxes. We've got a go kart session in Porirua on November 1st, and we're also trying to confirm another movie session at GNS mid November (to be confirmed, so just watch FB for that notification).

Competition season is kicking off again, as theory says (note I'm applying a high level of disclaimer here because of Murphy and his law) we're through the wet season, and the Wairarapa paddock should be drying out.

December 16th Motorkhana (likely only on grass this time), followed by a dinner at Neil and Lynda's.

December 17th Autocross, Kim Naylor status has been requested.

January 28th Autocross (just a sh*ts and giggles event)

18th February Autocross (Kim Naylor status has been requested).

So that should give you a bit of notice to dust off the autocross cars, so that we can apply a fresh coat of paddock dust to them instead!

Keep a watch on the Facebook page, for Mark to create some events, and put some more information up!

That's it from me, as it's a sunny day, I need to get outside and do some car washing!
Leon

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PuketiroRd Pits Fotos





What a fantastic day competing in the [Battery Town Rally Bay of Plenty 2023](#). 60 started, 43 finished and we were 33rd overall and 1st in class A so another trophy to add to our collection. This is the first run I have had in the Starlet since the motor change back to 1300cc and a few other upgrades with softer suspension all round and WOW what a difference. The handling is so amazing now after all the years of wrangling it to stay on the road, now it just hangs on brilliantly. Thanks heaps to Al McLennon for all his help.

Our amazing crew of [Neil Roots](#) and [Dennis Lukies](#) thankfully had not a lot to do, just fuel, Tyre change and windscreen clean which meant it was a good days rallying. This was the last round of the NZ Rally Champs so big prize giving dinner. [Hayden Paddon](#) and [John Kennard](#) have a 7th NZ title to add to this year's massive collection, well done to you and all your team.

To our CamFish family, we'll done Mike and [Helen Cameron](#) on your 3rd in the NZ Championship Historic Class.

Lovely to have a visit from [Hannah](#) and [Luke](#) and Roman and Lillie. Lillie just loved playing in the car. Will see you guys again next month.

Time to pack up and head back down the island again.



WAIRARAPA CAR CLUB – Puketiro Road Gravel Hillclimb
Sunday 15 October 2023



Car #	Name	Club	Car	Prac.	Run 1	Run 2	Run 3		Class	Overall
A: 0-1300cc										
05	Dayle Brock	Wai CC	Barina	1.34.48	1.28.32	1.28.12	1.26.14		1	9
B: 1301-1600cc										
12	Brent Miller	Levin CC	Corolla	1.45.57	1.36.11	1.32.49	1.30.86		7	18
29	Gary Leach	Wai CC	Escort Mk1	1.37.99	1.33.51	1.31.62	1.29.25		3	12
6	Jody Seabright	Wellington CC	Mirage	1.41.69	1.36.65	1.37.20	1.35.92		10	22
15	John Keen	Wai CC	Levin	1.42.56	1.38.66	1.34.82	1.36.61		9	20
8	Justin Murray	Levin CC	Corolla	1.36.34	1.32.39	1.29.96	1.30.51		5	15
7	Leon Cast	HCCC	Corolla	1.41.06	1.35.16	1.31.62	1.30.61		6	17
85	Rob Piper	Wai CC	Sprinter	1.36.33	1.34.27	1.32.80	1.29.50		4	14
64	Ryan Seabright	Wellington CC	Mirage	1.44.73	1.38.85	1.36.93	1.33.20		8	19
91	Shane Mackay	Levin CC	Starlet	1.26.93	1.25.28	1.22.46		Not Classified	-	-
9	Simon Johnson	Wai CC	Starlet	1.32.71	1.27.82	1.25.85	DNF		1	7
112	Toby Miller	Levin CC	Corolla	1.39.33	1.35.14	1.31.24	1.28.91		2	11
C: 1601-2000cc										
D: 2001cc & over										
1	Brent Henson	Wai CC	Corolla DX	1.44.80	1.38.76	1.38.50	1.35.27		5	21
44	Chris Steel	Wai CC	Lancer	1.35.49	1.34.67	1.33.87	1.29.36		4	13
11	Graham Heath	HCCC	Pulsar Gti	1.35.21	1.32.75	1.28.79	1.25.88		2	8
86	Matt Patterson	Wai CC	Sprinter	1.31.59	1.29.13	1.31.84	1.26.73		3	10
40	Richard Prouse	HVMC	BMW318is	1.43.91	1.41.30	1.37.83	1.37.05		6	23
33	Tim Campbell	Wai CC	Escort Mk 2	1.31.36	1.27.78	1.24.23	1.25.24		1	5
E: 4WD open										
2	Hendrix Hennessy-Ropiha	Levin CC	Celica	1.42.56	1.37.55	1.33.41	1.30.29		3	16
71	Kim Lace	Dannevirke CC	EVO6	1.31.26	1.26.92	1.26.67	1.25.62		2	6
3	Stu Andrews	Wai CC	EVO3	1.23.71	1.19.90	1.19.18	M/T		1	3
XC: Cross Car										
10	Warren Tunley	HVMC	Semog	1.24.15	1.21.54	1.20.85	1.19.97		3	4
14	Wade Noedl	HVMC	Semog	1.23.10	1.33.90	1.18.50	1.17.33		2	2
4	Josh Trybula	HVMC	Semog	1.33.17	1.22.94	1.23.52	1.16.02		1	1

You can live in a car but you can't
 race a house



MemeZilla.com



Some of Leon's Port Road Pix



Harbour Capital Car Club Calendar 2023 Confirmed dates in RED

Month	Date	Event Type	Club
November	5	Sealed Sprint Shelley Bay	Wtn
	12	MG Classic Atiamuri rally	Manfeild Taupo
	16-19 26	WRC Rally Japan Surgery Sprints	Manfeild
December	10 25	Dorsets Rd Christmas Day	
January 2024	21	Racetech Port Rd Sprint	HVCC
	22	MG competitor coaching	
February	25	Wallaceville Hillclimb	HVCC
March	10	Mangahau Dam RallySprint	Levin
	17	Alexandra Rd	Wtn
April	21	Kahinau Rd seal sprint	Levin
July	21	Wairongamai Rd Gravel Sprint	Levin

Club	Contact
Levin	027 442 1639 (Chris)
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First Name/s		Surname	
Other family Members name			
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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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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.

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