



# *Wheelspin*

*May 2024*



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*Roll cage and authority card sign off*

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*Cover Image: Cam Garthwaite at Port Road Street Sprint - Image by Mark Sawyer*

## Committee Meetings

are held on the third Tuesday of each month  
Location: 1841 Bar, Disraeli Street, Johnsonville  
7:30pm, everybody welcome

## Club-night

first Tuesday of each month

**This month - 7th May**

Location: 1841 Bar, Disraeli Street, Johnsonville

**7:30 pm**

All members and friends welcome

***WheelSpin*** is the official magazine of the  
Harbour Capital Car Club, C/o 13 Gray Street,  
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The views and opinions expressed are not necessarily  
those of the Club, its members or the committee.

You're welcome to share the content of this magazine,  
please remember to recognise the source,  
writers or photographers of the material.  
Original photographs are usually available upon request.

## Magazine content deadline

The **Deadline** for ***WheelSpin*** articles is the

**14TH OF THE MONTH**

*If you'd like to submit a story but feel you need  
some editorial assistance please reach out to the Editor  
as we can help.*



## ***Digital Wheelspin***

*delivered to your email in June*

We will still be doing a small print run each month. If you'd like to continue receiving a copy of the magazine by post, please email the editor on [chellesroberts@gmail.com](mailto:chellesroberts@gmail.com) or phone 0272 984 960 and we'll add you to the mailing list.

# May as well write an article

by Leon



Pretty decent month of the car things has been past, I should have written this article a few days ago, but magically all my spare time became consumed by small jobs that decided to take ages. So here we are!

Managed to do another Rubber Duck autocross, get myself and Emma down to Dunedin to chase Rally Otago with a camera, took the Corolla out of the garage to go to a Kindy fundraiser, and took a sociable walk around Cars Inc (the new car museum).

When I arrived at stupid-o'clock at the Masterton paddock this time around, it was actually raining. Which was briefly exciting, as it suggested possibly we might have a slippery auto-cross.

However on walking the paddock, the ground was absolutely rock hard, so within an hour of starting the event, we were throwing up clouds of dust. As soon as it stopped raining, it went back to totally dry.

We had a pretty good turnout, with 30 starters, which allowed us to have two runs at the first course, and then three runs at the second course. While we were waiting for the BBQ to do BBQ things, we set up a "Cloverleaf" motorkhana course for those who wanted to, to have a bit of a thrash around. That seemed to be fairly well received, so might do such things again to try to help build up motorkhana people from our current level of about 12 (which seems to be the number we get when we run one).

I managed to avoid making a confusing course this time around, so we didn't end up having to build a wall of cones to keep people on the right line. There was a pretty decent straight with some good wiggles and a nice 90 degree corner to feed into the start / finish zone.

Several new to the Rubber Duck series people came out to have a go, which was good to see. Had a father and son Gavin and Brad Doughty, who started off in a very stiffly sprung CRX, but finished in an Accord when possible distributor issues struck. Shu Run was entered in the mighty Probox (all fear the Probox!!), while Rob was on camera and Safety Officer duties for the day (thanks Rob). So if you have a look at the HCCC Facebook page, you'll see a good album up there from Rob. Tara was out there giving it a bloody good go in her MX5, which meant we had if I recall correctly four drivers in two MX5's. Josh and Kyle were there in Kyle's damaged, repaired, and totally stripped out Honda Logo. Although given the two wheel action the Logo achieved,



we should really call it a Honda Pogo.

At the front of the field, we had some very consistent outcomes, Adam achieving first in both courses, and then overall. Graham second in both course, and then overall. Followed by myself third in both courses, and then overall.

Adam and Graham were less than a second apart in their two Toyota GR's (one slightly more authentic than the other...), while I was a couple of seconds behind them in the Swift.



The Swift was quite a different experience from the Corolla, because it's open diff, so you can't drag the front around the corners like I could in the Corolla. Instead I'd just get a mad one wheel-er peeler going on. Also the Swift is so quiet, that courtesy of my tinitis, I literally can't hear the Swift most of the time on course. However it has factory window tints, and really nice modern air con. So that made it a much more comfortable experience for me. It wasn't quite a new record gap between purchase and competition, but

I bought it Thursday and raced it Monday. Many thanks to Dean Herd, who loaned me a couple of pretty good tyres for grass use.

Kyle was giving it everything in the Pogo Logo, with us seeing the car up on two wheels enough times that we had money on it tipping over at some point during the day (it didn't). So he ended up fourth in engine over driven wheels class.



Staying in the class results, Jordan was fifth in the Levin, although did inflict some damage on it, courtesy of a broken engine mount. So a certain amount of crucial fluids escaped, and lead to a DNS on his last run of the day.



Marty B in a different borrowed Civic was behind Jordan, followed by Neil Tapp, then Ben in the Renault. Cathy, Brad, and Corey rounded out the front drive top ten.

Graham was running by himself, so was first and also last in class, on his way to second overall.

A bit of a scramble in the rear skidder class, with



Dean putting in some clean (figuratively ... literally he was driving a convertible in heavy dust, so was actually far from clean) driving, to be first in that class. Lee was a second behind him, making it two MX5's in the first two. Spencer was third in a different MX5, making it a full podium of MX5s. Brendon clipped a cone on his fast run on the first course, which dropped him down from a potential second in class, back down to fourth. Donna was behind him sharing the drive in their Altezza, with Tara in her MX5 in fifth. Then rounding up that class in the RX8, was very long

time member (but quite rare driver) Alan Martin.

In the juniors, behind Jordan, Felix was out again in the Demio, having a really good day out, beating dad Corey in the first course, but had a bit of a cone murdering rampage during the second course. Sam and Lucas Webb were having a mega sibling battle, ending up only 0.35 of a second apart after the two courses, and finishing in that order.



So we're now two from three Duck rounds down, with the third and final round of the trilogy being the sealed (arf arf) event scheduled for 5th May.

The Kindy fund raiser was a nice little park up, and a good chance to have a good yarn to people with a bit less time pressure than during a competition event. The racing there was kids and parents on scooters and stuff, so was more environmentally friendly than our typical race events!



The new Cars Inc museum (a hop skip and one block away from where HVMC used to run their Kerb-o-Cross events) is pretty good. Quite a lot of 1950's onward American cars, but with a mix of other things in there too.

They also do a buffet breakfast for Japanese / Euro, 4 & 6 cylinder theme vehicles on the last Sunday of each month. Which I might need to check out some time where there isn't some competition driving on a last Sunday. Because it's pretty hard to go past a buffet with breakfast foods.

They've also got an impressive array of actual toy vehicles too, which took me back to all the Matchbox cars that I totally ruined with custom paint jobs over the years. Sigh, regrets.

The Dunedin mission was as always, a very enjoyable one. We randomly stumbled across Jilly and Adam in a cafe in Dunedin, along with their service crew Marty and Richard. So we had an impromptu brunch gathering, before waddling upstairs to check out the Rally Otago merch. Then headed out to Port Chalmers and Aramoana for a bit of a road trip and amble. Found a bunch of interesting shops in Chalmers (where Emma found a shop with many illustrations that were relevant to her interests, and purchas-



es were made), and then a gathering of seals at Aramoana. No seals were purchased, and Emma only made slight attempts to smuggle a seal into the rental car. Which was actually quite restrained.

We had another Mitsi ASX rental car, which was sufficient. It was super povo trim spec, but seemed to go a bit better than our ASX from last year. Also as useful bonus, this one didn't wind whistle like a bastard at 100kph, unlike last

year's one. We also got to follow through after a few stages were run, and we got to drive 3.5 stages. Showing me just how fast some of the stages were, as we were able to effortlessly sit on 80 to 100kph like it was SH1.

Adam and Jilly had a relatively trouble free rally in the Starlet. Jeremy Aimers was co-driving for dad Tony in the Fiat, and achieved a 100% stage finish for the first time in a VERY long time. Sean Lockyear was navigating in a Fiesta, but they missed



several stages on day 1, after a spin that damaged their radiator. Fleur was navigating with Barry Varcoe in the Celica again this year (having done so a few years back too). Pete Langdon and Brendon Cantwell were down there flying the Wellington area flag in the V8 Corolla, adding some excellent noises to the atmosphere (and confusing a number of spectators). I think that's the Wellington area cars, although I'm bound to have forgotten somebody.





Looking ahead, we've got three tarmac autocross events planned through the winter months. May 5th, June 23rd, and August 18th. So that's the final round of the current Bond themed trilogy on the 5th May, and then two rounds of the yet to be named next trilogy. We're not dividing the Rubber Duck trilogies in any planned way into grass trilogy or tarmac trilogy. They're just going to run on whatever surface that those particular dates fall on. So if you're seriously hunting rubber ducks, you'll likely need to be prepared to race on both surfaces at some time or another.

Socially, we're intending to look at a family friendly movie (date TBA) "Poppy" afternoon (matinee?), and probably another go kart evening. So keep a watch on the Facebook page.

That's it for me, I need to sort some photos and send them to Chelles!

## Driver Profile - Cam Garthwaite

Cam has been involved in motor sport for over 20 years and it started with drag racing his supercharged FXGT Corolla at the old Masterton Aerodrome. But what got him into racing with corners was helping his good buddy Andrew build his Corolla race car over many weekends of yarns and tasty beverages.

Cam has been a member of HCCC since 2010, he's the guy that is quietly in the background doing the scrutineering (for

events and authority cards) and talking about all things engines and power. He operates a small engine building business (CG Engine Specialists) which means he knows a few things about making a robust engine to bolt on some goodies to get power!

In the early days, before he had his own race car, he volunteered at the Slipway Autocross series as a marshall and scrutineer. He was also often seen at Manfield in the timing booth and at marshall points at many a single and dual car sprint.

As an engine builder by trade, Cam has many skills in the automotive world and embarked on turning his immaculate 1993 Mitsubishi EVO1 into a race car. As it always seems it started slowly with doing a couple of rounds of the Road & Track dual car series and pulled out a 2nd in the 4WD forced induction class for the season in 2011... the prize was a bench vice (best prize ever, according to Cam), which has ended up being an integral part of the 'evolution' of the racing car. From there he has developed his car and his skills to create a very competitive car.

When asked what his favorite event has been over the last 10 years he was quick to say 'Mt Vic this year, because the car was feeling great on the road and placed 12th overall and 6th in class



out of 17 drivers. He learnt a lot about the car that day and is looking forward to next season. He also mentioned that he is looking forward to Shelly Bay as this event was the motivation to put a roll cage in the EVO.

Over this winter Cam is building an engine for the EVO (perks of being a qualified engine builder) that will be stronger and more reliable



as the current engine was thrown together (with spare parts) in 2015 to get the car ready to be his wedding car. The engine had 330kW massaged out of it with the skillfull tuning of Dan of Lithch00n. Between Cam and Dan they managed impressive things from a stock bottom-end and bits from a box from 'under the bench'.

Cam talked about how the car has been a combined effort over the years, as Andrew Thomson has done many hours of fabrication work, and in Cam's words 'the man's an artist with a welder'.



In the next couple of years Cam plans to take the EVO back to Manfield to do some testing with the new engine and also learn the car with the new power. He's not sure the power he'll achieve but he is certainly hoping it will at least match the current 330kW and in his words 'that will be plenty in that car on a hillclimb, and will have to develop the suspension a bit more to match the power ability!'

*If you need your car checked for an Authority Card or have any questions regarding the application of Schedule A, Cam is available to help. His contact details are on the inside cover of this magazine.*



## Fisher's vs. the Otago Rally



Adam and Jilly took on the Otago Rally this year after having not made it last year due to the ferry not running. The two previous years weren't very successful, however this year they were determined to make every stage count.

The couple had a great first day and there was a real battle of the Starlets in class A. After day one they were running 2nd in class and 26th in Classic.

The mighty Starlet ran like a dream and the decision to soften up the suspension made such a difference on the fast south Otago roads.

Adam's driving was amazing with only a couple of moments, however, those moments didn't cause any issues and they completed all stages strong ready for day two.

Day two struck clear and warm. Adam and Jilly flew through the day without any issues at all. The Service parks went like clockwork thanks to the crew of Richard Haines and Marty Bertelsen, who did a fantastic



job looking after things and the support of Tony Johnston and the wider crew worked like a well oiled machine looking after all the cars in the group. This meant they were able to help others and even do a little spectating.

They achieved an amazing result of 2nd in Class A of the International Classic Rally. Congratulations Adam and Jilly, what a team!!



Final placings for HCCC members

Adam and Jilly - 71st overall, 26th in Classic, 2nd in Class A.

Tony and Jeremy - 69th overall, 25th in Classic and 29th in Class C

Fleur (co-driving Barry Varvoe) - 36th overall, 12th in Classic and 11th in class C

Sean Lockyear (co-driving Bryn Jones) sadly was DNF on day one after a slight off nudged the front bumper onto the radiator but all fixed later in the day. But did come away with 7th in NZRC for day 2 and 2nd in class 2.



# Neils Wheels Rubber Duck Challenge 2024 - Results

Driver (Ahr in red)	Car	Class	Club	Rd 1 ThunderDuck 18 Feb 24	Rd 2 No Time to Duck 01 Apr 24	Rd 3 Live and Let Duck 05 May 24	Total
Graham Heath	Yaris GR	4WD	HCCC	30			60
Aaron Duncan	Lancer Evo7	4WD	HVMC	25	30		25
Dean Herd	MX5	ENOD	HCCC		30		30
Lee Herd	MX5	ENOD	HCCC		25		25
Spencer Priea	MX5	ENOD	HVMC		20		20
Brendon Norling	Altezza	ENOD	HCCC	30	19		49
Donna Wright	Altezza	ENOD	HCCC	25	18		43
Tara Blake	MX5	ENOD	NI	17	17		17
Alan Martin	MazdaRX8	ENOD	HCCC		16		16
Adam Fisher	Starlet	EOO	HCCC	30	30		60
Leon Cask	Corolla	EOO	HCCC	25	25		50
Mary Berreiken	Starlet / Civic	EOO	Levin	17	18		35
Corey Smith	Demio	EOO	HVMC	15	13		28
Jilly Fisher	Starlet	EOO	HCCC	16	11		27
Ben Hutchingson	Miglane	EOO	NI	11	16		27
Cathy Reid	Mirage	EOO	HVMC	10	15		25
Kyle Bell	Logo?	EOO	NI		20		20
Peter Collins	Vitz	EOO	HCCC	20			20
Jordan Herd	Levin	EOO	HCCC		19		19
Jamie Allie	Corolla	EOO	HCCC	19			19
Baden Smith	206	EOO	HCCC	18			18
Neil Tapp	Corolla	EOO	HCCC		17		17
Felix Smith	Demio	EOO	HVMC	7	9		16
Owen Todd	Platz	EOO	MOWOG	14			14
Brad Doughty	CRX	EOO	HVMC		14		14
Tim Savage	Mazda Neo	EOO	HCCC	13			13
Ian Stewart	MPS	EOO	HCCC	8	5		13
Khalid Mason	Corolla	EOO	Demn CC	12			12
Steven Webb	Pulsar	EOO	HVMC		12		12
Aaron Duncan	Accord	EOO	HVMC		10		10
Shane Atkinson	VW Golf	EOO	HCCC	9			9
Neil Rush	Demio	EOO	HVMC		8		8
Gavin Doughty	CRX	EOO	NI		7		7
Josh Merritt	Logo?	EOO	HVMC		6		6
Shur Run Ysp	Probox	EOO	NI		4		4
Sam Webb	Pulsar	EOO	HVMC		3		3
Lucas Webb	Pulsar	EOO	HVMC		2		2

## Editor's note

Hi everyone,

You may remember I put the call out, on the HCCC Facebook page, for cars to take to a display at the Whitby Discovery Kindergarten fundraising event. I had a great response, and we put together 10 cars and a pretty impressive electric motorcycle.

It was a good day with the kids being pretty impressed with the cars, especially those who were able to sit in the Laser, the Nugget and the Exocet, that really put smiles on their faces. One young man was heard saying to his mother 'muuum, can I have a racing car for my birthday', to which said mother replied 'I think we'll let you get the hang of riding your bike first ay'. Good call mum!

There was a substantial baking stall, which we all supported strongly, and of course a fair wouldn't be complete without a classic sausage sizzle.



We were treated to a series of racing events too! The lower carpark had a turn around loop which was pretty quickly transformed into a race track. We witnessed a scooter race that would rival any Saturday night stock cars event! Helmets were on, elbows were out and the kids were determined to take down their competitors, which did happen with a few 'racing incidents'. I have to question some of the cornering techniques on the hairpin, however, one young lady used the gutter to her advantage and in a great display overtook a competitor who was so cross

about it they threw their scooter to the ground and yelled at her... such drama (reminds me of events I've been to myself).

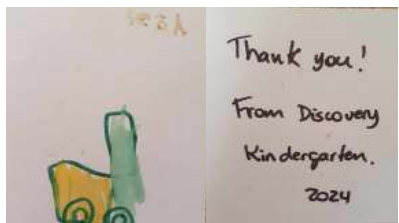
The parents' race I think was probably the most entertaining. Seeing grown men on tiny bikes certainly had an air of a fair attraction about it. I do think their race prep may have been missed though, as it became obvious the weight difference between riders had the tyres suffering greatly.

A huge thanks to all who came along it was very much appreciated.

A reminder that next month the Wheelspin will hit your email inbox. I plan to have it emailed out around the 1st of the month. Please search your junk mail folder if you can't find it. If you don't receive it please check we have your correct email address by emailing Jilly at [4jilly.hu@gmail.com](mailto:4jilly.hu@gmail.com) to make the update to your details.

Until next month Team!

*Chelles*



*A fine drawing of Brian's Nugget*



**HCCC Auto Cross Dates:**

Sunday 5 May - Sealed \$60

**The Surgery Sprints 2024 - Round 1**

Dual Car Sprint & Single Car Sprint

5 May

Manfield - Feilding

Details - [www.thesurgery.co.nz/links/the-surgery-sprints/](http://www.thesurgery.co.nz/links/the-surgery-sprints/)

**Te Creek Gravel Hillclimb**

12 May

Wairarapa Car Club

**Albie Barron Memorial Dual Tarmac Weekend**

Pukerimu Road, Manawatu, Hillclimb 25 May

Okoia Road, Manawatu, Hillclimb 26 May

Wanganui Car Club

*Enter via the Motorsport Online App*

# Membership Application & Renewal

Post completed form to: Harbour Capital Car Club, C/o 13 Gray Street, Pukerua Bay 5026, New Zealand

First name: \_\_\_\_\_ Surname: \_\_\_\_\_ DoB: \_\_\_\_\_

Other family members names and date of birth:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DoB: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DoB: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DoB: \_\_\_\_\_

Residential address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal address (if differs): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: HM \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Make and Model of car: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you find out about us: \_\_\_\_\_

## Events I'd like to compete in

	Not Many	Some	Lots
Speed Event			
Rallies			
Motorkhana			
Car Trials			
Social Events			

I'd like to volunteer: Speed \ Rallies \ Motorkhana \AutoX\ Social Events (please circle)

Annual subscriptions paid to: Harbour Capital Car Club

Per year: Single membership \$45.00 - Student \$35.00 - Family \$55 for a couple, add \$10 per additional person.

Bank details: BNZ 02-0500-0351392-02

Reference: your name

*The information you provide in this form is used and held by the Harbour Capital Car Club Committee for matters relating to your membership and participation in events. Your date of birth is requested to enable us to register you with Motorsport New Zealand.*