



# *Wheelspin*

*July 2024*



## The team that make it happen...

### **President:**

Leon Cast

Ph 027 699 6838 - mowogeditor@yahoo.com

### **Club Capitan & Points Keeper:**

Webster Gough

Ph 027 3688 6131 - webstergough23@gmail.com

### **Social Convener:**

Mark Rutherford

Ph 027 706 9143 - mark.rutherford81@gmail.com

### **Secretary:**

Brian Craig

Ph027 221 6004 - brian.craig@WSP.com

### **Treasurer & Memberships:**

Jilly Fisher

Ph 027 230 5801- 4jilly.hu@gmail.com

### **Committee:**

John Tennent - Ph 021 058 9807 - johntennent.45@gmail.com

Adam Fisher - Ph 027 457 7149 - flyingfish.adam@gmail.com

Dave Wilce - Ph 027 533 9757 - dwilce@actrix.co.nz

Paul Tapper - Ph 021 900 171- Paul.a.tapper@gmail.com

Neil Tapp - Ph 027 244 6696 - gonzo@tappsville.com

WMSA Rep - Dave Wilce - 027 533 9757- dwilce@actrix.co.nz

Emma Shaw - Ph 021 268 0028 - emmaclaireshaw@gmail.com

Sarah Jaggs - 027 697 0394

**WheelSpin** editor - Chelles - Ph 027 298 4960 - chellesroberts@gmail.com

### **Club Scrutineers**

*Roll cage and authority card sign off*

Leon Cast Ph 027 699 6838 & Cam Garthwaite Ph 027 726 6859

### **Event Scrutineers**

Neil Roots Ph 027 248 3979, Adam Fisher Ph 027 457 7149, Leon Cast Ph 027 699 6838

Cam Garthwaite Ph 027 726 6859 & Chelles Roberts Ph 027 298 4960

*Cover Image: Graham Heath - Image by William Brothwell*

## 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 - 3rd July**

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,  
Pukerua Bay, 5026, New Zealand

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.*

*Sunday 18th August 2024*

**SEALED AUTOCROSS  
ROUND 2**

**DAWN OF THE DUCKS**



*Entries Open Now!*

# El Presidente Musings

by Leon



July driving things (because I'm still struggling for bad puns that I've not done to death over the last 25+ years of writing these things monthly...).

Actually, I wonder how many words I've written over the last perhaps 30 years of doing a monthly column for a car magazine? I'm guessing quite a few. I really should go digging back through some 1990's magazines and work out when I first started... Plus, I wonder how hilariously nonsense things I

wrote back in the day, that I totally don't agree with, or relate to now?

We've got a lot of events coming up between now and September. So keep a watch out for details on the Facebook page.

Autocross events August 18th, and September 29th. Both are in Masterton on the seal (arf arf). By the time this magazine comes out, the 23rd June Autocross will have already run. So it's going to be all three events of this trilogy scheduled as being on Tarmac. We'll look at running on grass again in Spring or Summer.

Thanks as ever to Neil Roots / Neil's Wheels for sponsoring these events. Not to mention scrutineering, and marshalling!

Talking of marshalling, apologies to Brendon for missing him off the marshals thank you list from my last article.

On the social side of things, we've got a daytime movie showing of the movie Poppy, out at GNS. We've aimed for an early start, and a family friendly movie, so that those with smaller human beings in their household can come along. Reminder that because it's a private theatre inside a business, it's a non snacks theatre. So put that in your calendar for about 2pm on July 6th (refer to the Facebook event).

Then socially, in August, we're looking at Go Karts at Porirua, fourth Tuesday of August (August 22nd). Time to be advised, again, keep a watch on the Facebook page. Probably in the region of 7pm.

Other people's events that could be a bit of fun, Taranaki Tarmac rally is running July 7th under dual permits, depending on if you want to do the short Clubman's rally, or the full fat National permit variety. Levin Car Club will be running Wairongomai Road gravel sprint up at Otaki, on July 21st. Triumph (and friends) are running their next round of the Surgery Intermarque Sprints on July 28th. Also in July, Manawatu is running their single/dual sprints on July 14th, and 24 Minutes of Le Manfield (don't ask me... it's their name!) on July 20th & 21st if you don't fancy the gravel event on the 21st.

The long suffering Corolla Notion is in with John getting engine swap surgery, with the (standard) rebuilt engine finally being fitted. I'd hoped to get to the engine in prior to Daybreaker Rally last year. But with the very long rebuild time, that clearly didn't happen. Then it has taken a while for there to be a spare hoist at John's work.

There's a few other tasks being done at the same time, with different springs going into the back along with replacement shocks. Hopefully the replacement rear springs are a touch softer than the current Celica units, however the only way I will find out is to drive it. Plus the Whiteline front swaybar is finally coming out, having been fouling the front tyres on full lock for at least the last decade. So either that bar was never for an AE92, or Whiteline's quality control has some questions to answer.

There's a bit of a smoking crater where my Visa card used to be, but I can't get too grumpy about it, given that the current engine has been in there 8 years now, and has been burning oil the entire 8 years. She still hasn't blown up as such, but there's definitely some solid (chunky) evidence of dirt having bypassed the air filter, and having been breathed in. So I'll just quietly stash that engine under the house and pretend that I've not seen anything (until I need to get it rebuilt anyway). It is looking like John has managed to make an AE101 airbox fit in the AE92 enginebay, so hopefully the filter issue is addressed.

The goal is hopefully to get the car back and run in, in time for Wairongomai Road. The current state of my bank balance suggests that it will be a stretch to get the car to Daybreaker 2024 though.

As to the events I've managed to get to since last month's marathon efforts, I've been to Manfeild twice. Once for the Surgery Sprint round in June, armed with a clipboard to do official things, and once to drive the Swift at the Manfeild 4.5km full track sprint.

The Surgery day went pretty smoothly from the officials point of view, some spins, but nothing in the way of car vs anything else contacts that I'm aware of.



Shane's Golf did rather nervously return to the pits with what he described as being "a lot of warning lights on the dash", but he wasn't forthcoming with information beyond that. Possibly because of my ruthless pisstaking of him before the start. Although it might just be a co-incidence (it isn't a co-incidence).

Dick Butters had a good day circulating in the Mirage, he really does seem to be enjoying that car a lot, which is excellent to see. Son Kerry on Chauffeur / Tow Car driver duties for the day.

There were some interesting engine mismatch vehicles running on the day too. A Fiat 124 Sport, running a rotary. A very very pretty yellow Lotus replica, running a Honda. A BMW E30, running a Toyota V8. Then also what I thought was a Vauxhall Firenza (Viva with a V8 bugged in it), but actually turned out to be a Chevrolet Can Am, an obscure South African market car.



The day ran smoothly, and I think some people had actually done their official timed runs by lunch break. Which is not a bad achievement. They ran out of cars on the grid by 3pm, so I even got to hit the road home pretty early.

I took the Rav up there, and it really is a nice comfy solution to long drives, which is quite pleasing. It has taken me since January to actually get a decent length of drive in it, which is pretty funny given that I think within a week or so of owning it, Geoff and Sarah borrowed it to go to Rotorua and back. There's a lot to be said for radar cruise control, when you're driving on SH1. Really can set and forget, especially considering the amount of red and blue lights enforcement out there these days.



Having roasted the brake pads in the Swift at the first sealed autocross, I invested in some Japanese (not overnight freight) brake pads that might hold up under higher temps. She was letting some smoke out pretty well after a couple of back to back runs, and the pedal wasn't feeling very reassuring.

So having fitted some hotter grubbier pads, it seemed only right to take it up to Manfeild for a play. So I had a go at the 4.5km Manfeild sprint, which is the old track + the backtrack joined with a fairly gnarly chicane.

I had the extremely elderly semi slicks sold to me stupidly cheap by Dean Herd, and a fire extinguisher bracket courtesy of Webster. So it was race ready(ish).

Having arrived to the track, and chucked the other tyres on it, a bunch of race cars turned up. This suggested to me that I might have brought a rubber chicken to a gunfight.

It started out a bit damp and cold underfoot, so my first run of the day was hilariously loose, swapping understeer and oversteer throughout some of the quicker corners. The brakes were working pretty well once I'd cooked them a bit, as they hadn't really bedded in properly in just road use.

The tyres lived up to the expectations Dean set to me, which was “they might be okay in an autocross but don’t use them on the race-track”. He wasn’t kidding! Definitely substantially under tyred for racetrack stuff.

I’ve no idea where I am in the results, but I’d have to assume somewhere in the bottom quarter of the field!

There were some familiar looking faces and cars up there though, with Brent Sellens in the stickered up GR, Loren in the Sti, Nick Chong in another GR, Lee Herd in the AE111, and Stephen Heise in the Falcon.



From the in car video footage, it would appear that Lee has sacrificed another gearbox on the altar of speed, coasting to a halt after a mighty bang in his last run. Although he did win class. That’s actually the only result I know from the day, as at the time of writing, we’ve not seen any results out.



I’ll wrap this up here, and hopefully I might be able to supply some results for the next magazine!

See you at an autocross, movie, gravel sprint, or go karts!

Leon





# Wairarapa Car Club's Tea - Creek Road

Images by William Brothwell - Will's Pics







## Did you know...

HCCC's website has recently been updated and is looking snazzy (*yes, I said snazzy...*)

You'll find a comprehensive list of all HCCC trophies and details on how you can qualify for the array of awards. There is the membership renewal form as well. There is an extensive archive of Wheelspin Magazines as well if you're wanting to read some back issues.

Your homework this month is to head to [www.hccc.org.nz](http://www.hccc.org.nz) and check it out, you'll find a link to the WMSA Calendar there as under 'Friends of HCCC.

If you find anything that needs updating please let us know by emailing Neil Tapp at [gonzo@tappsville.com](mailto:gonzo@tappsville.com).



[Cups and Trophies](#)   [Membership](#)   [Wheelspin Magazine](#)   [Friends of HCCC](#)

## Harbour Capital Car Club

---



Where we drive whatever we own (no matter how humble), as fast as we possibly can. We are a strongly Clubsport level competition based club, with some members venturing as high as National Championship Rallying. We're not all about who wins, it is much more important that we have a lot of fun on the way. A very social car club, our monthly meetings are a good opportunity to catch up over a pizza, and tell lies about how fast we could have been at that last event if only we'd just held it all together on the last run. Sometimes we even have events that are nothing to do with cars, such as movie nights, or a Christmas BBQ. HCCC does hold several of the local area inter-club trophies, in areas as diverse as Autocross, Motorhena's, and Navigational Trials. We welcome people of any age, who share the spirit of fun, and an enthusiasm for a good days competition, where whoever has the biggest smile is the real winner on the day

HCCC regularly runs events in the greater Wellington region that cater for many different levels of motorsport for all ages. Whether you are dedicated to the track, or have more fun on the gravel & grass, there are opportunities for you to compete (or support!) in many events throughout the year.

Our Facebook Group is active and has information about events we are holding

[Find Us on Facebook](#)



## MOTORSPORT ONLINE UPDATES

A series of updates were recently released to MotorSport Online. These updates are summarised below.

**Email Notifications:** An overhaul to the email notifications that are automatically generated by the platform was implemented. This will result in clearer email notifications for competitors, organisers, officials and administrators.

**Licence Application Filter:** A filter has been implemented to prevent competitors from applying for licences they already have or do not require (e.g. C Grade licence holder applying for an M Grade).

**Prevent Duplicate Profiles:** Improved measures to prevent existing users from creating duplicate profiles were introduced.

More detailed resources detailing these updates will be published in due course. Please don't hesitate to contact our team (at MSNZ) for support if you have any issues with MotorSport Online.

If you have questions about the new updates, please contact Jordie Peters, Development & Marketing Executive, on 027 479 1510 or [jordie@motorsport.org.nz](mailto:jordie@motorsport.org.nz).

*Motorsport Online can be found here <https://online.motorsport.org.nz/msnzprofile/login> or you can download the app.*

# Editors Note

Hi team.

Hope June treated you well and, welcome to July's edition of the Wheelspin. This month I'm a little light on content as yours truly caught her first dose of COVID and has spent the last three and a half weeks being less than productive. I wouldn't recommend it and I certainly do not want to trade again', as the saying goes.



In saying that, I did manage to get out the house briefly and head out to the Doctor Who World of Wonder Exhibition for a birthday treat. If you're a fan of the series I would very much recommend it. Great things to read, some very cool interactive multi media and the monsters were in full



force... I wasn't a fan of seeing the weeping angel, creepy thing!

I note there were three amendments to the motor-sport manual in June. Nothing major, however, if you are interested there were tweaks to Schedule A Part 1. They refer to racing nets and logbooks, safety clothing, safety structures and seating. If you missed the email in your inbox you can head to <https://motorsport.org.nz/competitor-resources/> and under 'General' click on the Motorsport Manual and you'll find the amendments in the National Sporting Code section.



While I was wafting around the MSNZ website I found (again) the members benefits section. If you didn't know, MSNZ members get some perks then I'd recommend you head off to <https://motorsport.org.nz/partners/> and check them out. There is a partnership with an insurance broker, which I didn't know about.

Catch you next month!

*Chelles*



## Movie Time!!

*Saturday 6th July at 2pm*

**Join us at GNS Science's movie theatre at  
1 Fairway Drive, Lower Hutt  
for a screening of the locally filmed car movie, Poppy.**

**Poppy won the Cannes Ecrans Seniors competition  
at an annual competitive film screening organised  
by the city and the Cannes Seniors Club,  
during the Cannes Film Festival**

# 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.*