



# Manawatu Car Club

April  
2015

P.O Box 542 Palmerston North  
E-mail: [manawatucarclub@xtra.co.nz](mailto:manawatucarclub@xtra.co.nz)

## Welcome

The 18<sup>th</sup> of April 2015 will be a significant date in the History of the Manawatu Car Club. On this date we hold our Summer Series Prize-giving at our MCC Clubrooms. During that evenings events we will dedicate the two Social Rooms in the MCC Clubrooms to two of our Patrons, both now deceased. The main original room will be dedicated to Fordy Farland, whilst the smaller of the two rooms will be named after Fred Parker. If you knew both of these men, then as you would know, Fordy was a very small man (big room) and Fred was a very tall man (small room). I'm picking that if they were around to see this, there would be a comment or two from them about this decision.

To honour these two men, it would be great to be able to put out the "Full House sign" for this evening, which would mean just over 100 people in attendance, so if you haven't booked yet please read the flyer in this newsletter for details of the evening.

I tend to be out and about quite a bit and what is amazing to me is the amount of people who are talking to me and commenting in a very positive way about our Car Club. I was fortunate enough to be invited to the Blues/Hurricanes match at the FMG Stadium on Friday Night, and to be seated in the Corporate Suite. Most of the evening was spent talking to various people about the Manawatu Car Club, its rebirth and Manfield.

This talk was up-beat (not a lot of rugby watching), however the Hurricanes did win. This talk filled me with pride of being part of our club. It would seem that as we get better at what we do there is the ever increasing expectation of what we can now deliver and that is the way with so many things in to-days life.

We need to keep re setting the Bar, in everything we do as a club, so that we become once again, the Premium Car Club to belong to.

So on the 18<sup>th</sup> April we look back and honour the "Originals" and in doing that we move forward into the future.

Geoff & Glenys Boyden

## Committee Members for 2015

**President** - Graham Buchanan – 027 497 5675

**Vice President** - Richie Arber – 027 2900 668

**Secretary** - Jeff Braid – 027 477 3337

### Committee:

Jeff Braid, Richie Arber, James O'Regan, Kerry Halligan, Noel Beale, Tim Wilde, Peter Edmond, Jaron Olivecrona, Trevor Weir, Geoff Boyden, Greg Browne, Danny McKenna

### Patrons

Fordy Farland (Deceased)      Fred Parker (Deceased)  
Robert Lester      Terry Rush      Stan Turner

### Life Members

Steve Bond, Brian Davies, Dave Hayward. Sir Pat Higgins.  
Robert Lester, Wendy Lester, Vern Marshall, Warren Masters, Marion Prisk, Terry Rush, Murray Starnes, Trevor Weir, Alan White, Stan Turner, Raymond Bennett.

### Archivists

Terry Rush      Geoff Boyden

### Editors

Geoff & Glenys Boyden

## ATTENTION! Track & Yack ATTENTION!

Time: 7pm – 9pm

Date: Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> April 15'

Place: Drovers Bar, Feilding

Bring your wife, partner, or friend and enjoy a special occasion, have a chat and catch up with friends and the news.

### Next Track & Yack:

Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> May 2015.

Speights Ale House  
Palmerston North

**Track & Yack - 14<sup>th</sup> April 7pm.**  
**Drovers Bar**  
**Feilding**

## Club History

### The Birth of the Manawatu Car Club And Early Motor Sporting Events

Extracts from the Manawatu Car Club Inc.  
Part 10 1947 -48 Years

#### Racing Drivers

Were these motor racing drivers or a bunch of poofs or yuppies. Early motor racing drivers in the Southern half of the North Island could only display their talents in beach races as this was the only racing available to them. For their part they were all enthusiasts who only had their everyday saloon or sports car to use. For them there was no prize money, no sponsorship (the word was unknown then), no insurance, no advertising, no protests and no public and most people viewed it about as silly as bungy jumping. In my view, of course, this was motor sport in its finest moments and not to be compared with motor racing as we see it today.

We were lucky in our area that we had a Club like the N.Z. Sports Car Club to run these races for us and so the 50 mile beach races were the in thing until aerodrome circuits became the norm. If anyone claimed that these unassuming chaps were to become racing drivers in the future I am sure they would have had a good laugh. However let me assure you these races were just as important to prepare for as the N.Z. Grand Prix's of today. At that time home constructed specials were only beginning to become popular and it was easy to put a large engine in a small chassis and do over the ton and what's more with complete reliability. Most of the work was done in the home garage and at a cost that was able to be coped with on the income in those days and these vehicles played a very great scene in the years to come in N.Z. Motor Racing.

So hats off to these racing drivers who were the forerunners of what N.Z. has reached today and indeed many were at the forefront of motor sport for some years to come, both driving and at administrative positions. There is a world of difference between Motor Sport and Motor Racing.

To be continued.

## Roadmarking Services Summer Series.

### Last Round Sunday April 12<sup>th</sup> at Manfield

Your last chance to gain points and to get a Podium  
Let's make the last round a big one, before we pack up  
and wait for the Winter Series Racing Program

## Working Bee - 11<sup>th</sup> April

It would be really nice if some of you could help out. It seems that just the usual people attend each time we have a working bee, so it would be nice if others could also help us out this time.

Help is needed for Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup> April  
Contact me if you can come.  
Geoff Boyden: 0274 447 348

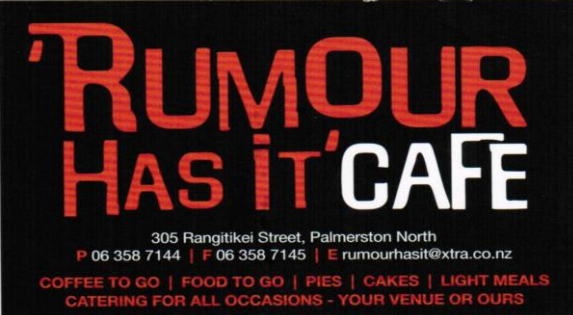


**Scott Lawrence**  
Trade Sales Representative

---

**Dulux New Zealand**  
719 Main Street, Palmerston North 4414  
Tel: +64 (0)6 357 3600 Fax: +64 (0)6 355 2817  
Mob: +64 (0)21 926 235  
Email: scott.lawrence@dulux.co.nz  
Web: www.dulux.co.nz

Suppliers of Paint to the MCC



**RUMOUR HAS IT' CAFE**

305 Rangitikei Street, Palmerston North  
P 06 358 7144 | F 06 358 7145 | E rumourhasit@xtra.co.nz

COFFEE TO GO | FOOD TO GO | PIES | CAKES | LIGHT MEALS  
CATERING FOR ALL OCCASIONS - YOUR VENUE OR OURS

MCC Palmy Members favourite Café meeting place

**maxtarr**  
ELECTRICAL

Doing Electrical Work For the MCC

 **Robert EMBROIDERIES**  
Since 1872

LOGOS, NAMES, BADGES, MONOGRAMS  
MASONIC, RAOB & FRIENDLY SOCIETY REGALIA

We can embroider onto almost anything  
Caps, Polos, Shirts, Jackets, Polar Fleece, Beanies, Towels  
Bring in your own garments or we can help you source them

**NO SETTING UP FEE - NO MINIMUM QUANTITIES**

643 Main Street, PO Box 69, Palmerston North  
Phone 06 358 628 Fax 06 358 6408  
sales@robertembroideries.co.nz  
www.robertembroideries.co.nz

Manawatu's Blue Loos  
**Gecko**  
ENVIRONMENTAL 2014 LTD

**0800 025 552**  
Septic Tank Cleaning & Portaloo Hire  
loos@geckoenvironmental.co.nz

Suppliers of Port-a-Loos to the Winter Series.

## Projects and Clubrooms

Our working bee on the 7<sup>th</sup> March was unfortunately only attended by 10 club members, most of whom were committee members, “where were the Club Members”? It’s a shame, but it would seem to me that we have a lot of “takers” but very few “givers”. It is the old saying, “before you can take, first you need to give”.

The small group who gave they time, completed almost six of the eleven tasks I had set up. Terry & Tim Rush mowed the long grass on the road frontage. The Brown family cleaned up all the rubbish off the bank, including taking away the old brown fence, and joined with Buck to almost complete the first seal of the Clubrooms exterior wall.

Peter Edmonds worked out how to park the cars and marked out the car-parks, ready for the lines to be painted on by Roadmarking Services.

Danny McKenna ripped into making the shelves to go into the storeroom, with James O’Regan helping out later in the morning.

I got the first coat of paint on the new door revels, and have since given them a second coat.

The flat roof on the Clubrooms has now had most of the roof repairs completed, and two new Clearlite sheets have been put on the garage roof to replace two old sheets before they started leaking. We are now waiting for the two heat-pumps to be installed thanks to NZ Refrigeration; these should be installed in time for our prize-giving dinner on the 18<sup>th</sup> April.

New Curtain Tracks have now been ordered and by the time you receive this newsletter, they will be up with all the matching drapes hung.

### **Jobs still to be completed are:**

The third shelf in the storeroom, which is all cut out, needs to be assembled, and fixed into place.

The ceiling of the storeroom needs to be painted, and it would be good to paint all the new shelves as well.

The side wall at the back of the old bar is still to be built, and then painted, and then this area will be complete.

The exterior wall needs its first coat of sealer to be completed, and then we can get onto the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> coats.

The Clubrooms need a good “Autumn Clean”, dusting, cleaning, vacuuming, cleaning of the toilet area etc...

The next Working Bee will be on the 11<sup>th</sup> April, the day before the final round of the Summer Series and whilst we do have an event on this day as well, this being the first Manawatu Toolshed Open Track Day, I know that not all members are involved in this, so please let me know if you are able to attend our Working Bee to help us complete these jobs.



### **Working Bee:**

**Saturday - 11<sup>th</sup> April - 9.00am to 1.00pm**

**Let me know if you can help please - 0274 447 348**

## Prize Giving Dinner & Awards Night

A celebration of a Great Event.  
The Roadmarking Services Summer Race Series Prize Giving is to be held at the Clubrooms at  
120 Kawa Kawa Road Feilding.



The programme for the night will be -

- Prize giving
- Marshall Awards
- A Retirement Award
- Plaque Unveiling Ceremony

### JOIN US FOR A POT-LUCK DINNER

- Date: Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April
- Time: 6.30pm Pre Dinner Drinks
- This is a Pot-Luck Dinner
- Bring your own Plates & Cutlery
- It is BYO Drinks Only (No Bar)
- Bring your own Glasses
- Please Bring a Meat & Vegetable Dish & enough food for you and your group.

This system works really well and has been very popular.

We request Series Sponsors and Class Sponsors to attend.

We also request that all those who have been advised they will be receiving awards, to be present at this event, you'll know this of course after round 4.

Because of the huge success of these dinners, we require you to reply to us by RSVP to reserve a place at a table.

There will be a cut-off point on numbers, so please let us know ASAP.

### Pot-Luck Registrations:

To: Richie Arber – Ph 027 2900 668  
[richie@trgroup.co.nz](mailto:richie@trgroup.co.nz)

Geoff Boyden – Ph 0274 447 348  
[gboyden@xtra.co.nz](mailto:gboyden@xtra.co.nz)

### We want you to attend

**A NIGHT NOT TO BE MISSED.  
COME DINE AND SOCIALISE WITH US**

# POTLUCK DINNER



## THE STREETS OF WELLINGTON (PART 3)

The second Nissan Mobil 500 in 1987 saw a new generation of touring cars arrive in the form of a four cylinder revolution, the turbocharged Ford Sierra Cosworths and the normally aspirated BMW M3s, driven by the biggest names in the business.

Interpretations of the World Touring Championship rules saw the factory-backed Ford and BMW teams receiving disqualifications during the series, which meant that the outcome of some races was decided by the stewards long after the chequered flag had fallen. Formula One boss Bernie Ecclestone also got involved and promptly imposed a US\$60,000 registration fee for each car which resulted in only a small number of starters being eligible for championship points - not surprisingly the WTTTC only lasted a year.

As for the race itself, the two crack European teams dominated as expected with the Eggenberger Sierras scoring a 1-3 result, the German pair Klaus Ludwig and Klaus Niedzwiedz winning with Steve Soper and Pierre Dieudonné in third place. The black Texaco cars were split by the factory Schnitzer BMW of Roberto Ravaglia and Emanuele Pirro.

Back again was Bryan Bate who shared his faithful Toyota Corolla GT with fellow club member and top Formula Ford driver Robbie Rogers in a race that revealed the cruel side of sport. Bate had won the 1600cc Class C in the James Hardie 1000 at Bathurst with Aussie co-drivers Bob Holden and Gary Willmington, and a top finish in Wellington would have brought a world championship title. With the pair leading the class in the very final stages Bate had one hand firmly on the trophy, but the dream was shattered when the gearbox failed one and a half laps from the finish - *"I must admit that I did cry"*.

On the brighter side, it was obviously a day to remember for fans of the blue oval badge, but it was the BMW supporters who would celebrate victory for the next five years thanks to the dynamic M3 combined with the star Schnitzer driver line-up of Pirro, Ravaglia, Johnny Cecotto and Joachim Winkelhock and the Australian duo Tony Longhurst and Paul Morris.

For the enthusiastic Bate team the following years brought more frustration, back-to-back DNF's with Andrew Maher, while the return of Robbie Rogers as co-driver in 1990 didn't change the pattern when the venerable Corolla GT suffered crankshaft problems.

The running of the 1990 Nissan Mobil 500 also had special significance for the Manawatu Car Club and its band of talented officials and volunteers, the strong link with the Wellington street race ended. Collectively they acted with true professionalism in every aspect of the event and made a massive contribution to its success. They accepted a challenge that was a mighty mountain, yet year after year they conquered their Everest under enormous pressure and often difficult conditions to perform their respective tasks with the world watching via the medium of television.

Officials are the unsung and often un-thanked heroes, drivers get the bouquets while officials get the brickbats, usually undeserved, but without them there would be no sport.

The Manawatu Car Club event organisation/management team may have gone but many of the club's volunteer marshals remained, while club drivers continued to participate in both the main event and support races.

It should also be remembered that there were very large numbers from the region who made the annual pilgrimage to the nation's capital to fill the spectator areas, from the first meeting to the last. In 1992 there was a special reason to make the trek down SH1 for the last 500 run with the circuit including the wharf areas, the arrival of a new star with a very strong Manawatu connection...

Russell Harris



Welcome to our renewed Manfeild newsletter, providing a preview of what's coming up at our fabulous multi-events venue as well as a review of previous happenings here.

You'll probably know that Manfeild has undergone some staff reshuffles of late; we've farewelled our chief executive Heather Verry – now with the Police Association in Wellington, which some might call a fair cop. Our fantastic Events Manager, Julie Keane, has stepped up to become General Manager, so the whip keeps cracking!

Sales and Marketing Manager Louise James departed on maternity leave just before Christmas. Nature took its course and she and husband Henry are proud parents of Jack, who is growing fast. The James family came to see us during the recent Central Districts' Field Days; a mix of work and pleasure for both parents as Henry is now managing a sheep farm just outside of Taihape. The shift to this property from the Wairarapa farm they had been at occurred... you guessed it ... right around Louise's due date. FYI he is a Masterton boy!

Louise was around long enough to help the new guy become acquainted with the facility. That's me, by the way: Gavin Halls, a Brit who arrived in October, having come to Manfeild from the Bahrain F1 circuit, where I spent eight years as a senior track instructor and being part of the Activities and Events Department.

Manfeild is certainly a big change; but then, after the Middle East, so is Feilding and New Zealand. I'm really loving it here. The United Arab Emirates is really another world entirely of course; I've come from a world of exotic supercars and incredible affluence to somewhere a bit more grounded. My wife, Rae, is a Kiwi (we met in Bahrain) and I'd been here before. But the change has still been immense; it was great to introduce my children, Leyton and Elise to actual lawn grass. I won't miss the intense heat and the sandstorms, either.

I've been covering Louise's role and am also here in a new capacity, as Business Development Manager. It's a challenge I really relish and one that I know will be of significant benefit to our facility. I'm with a great team and I'm pleased to say that we have already put some runs on the board.

The Christmas break was brief for us; we'd barely digested our treats before we were back in the office, running at full throttle preparing for the 60th running of the New Zealand Grand Prix, staged on the weekend of February 14-15. Actually, count in the 13<sup>th</sup>, too, because we of course kicked off with a Friday night fireworks spectacular.

It was a great night: Lots of good fun stuff including, as always, free ice-cream for the wee ones. We had loads of entertainment, with a definite focus on track with stunt bike riding, some amazing drift demonstrations (with fantastic after-dark lighting effects). The Feilding fire brigade teamed up with St John and the search and rescue helicopter to perform a live vehicle extraction. The Manawatu pipe band performed with a superb light stick illuminated march that led into the highly anticipated fireworks display.

The Grand Prix was also blessed with favourable weather all weekend that allied with a superb race card comprising the Toyota Racing Series championship finale, NZV8s, ENZED Central Muscle cars, Formula 5000s, TR86 Championship, NZ Formula Ford Championship and the NZ Formula First Championship. We saw some close and exciting racing.

We'd put huge effort into this event, the point where we created a special race programme that was highly praised and much appreciated. We also went to the effort, again off our own bat, to stage a display of famous racing cars from previous GPs, including securing the car that won the very first NZGP, at Ohakea back in 1950. We were delighted to host the current owner of what was then the Jackson Special (and is now the Northland Special), Fred Courtney and his wife, Lin.

If you missed this year's NZGP be sure to mark the date in your calendar, 12-14th of Feb 2016, it's going to be a good one.

Gavin Halls

# 2015 – 2016 Events Calendar

## APRIL

- Saturday 11<sup>th</sup>** Manawatu Toolshed Track Day Series (MTTDS). Driver training, single and dual-car sprints, drift practice, licence testing. 3.03km track.
- Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>** Roadmarking Services Summer Race Series Round 4
- Friday 18<sup>th</sup>** Manfeild Test Day. Competition cars and bikes
- Saturday 18<sup>th</sup>** Roadmarking Services Summer Race Series Prize-giving, Marshals Awards, Clubrooms ceremony & Potluck Dinner
- Friday 24<sup>th</sup>** Manfeild Test Day. Competition cars and bikes
- Sunday 26<sup>th</sup>** Central Districts Classic Car Club Track Day

## MAY

- Friday 1<sup>st</sup>** Manfeild Test Day. Competition cars and bikes
- Friday 8<sup>th</sup>** Manfeild Test Day. Competition cars and bikes
- Saturday 9<sup>th</sup>** Alfa Club May Madness. Driver training, sprints and races
- Friday 15<sup>th</sup>** Manfeild Test Day. Competition cars and bikes
- Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>** MG Charity Classic Race Meeting
- Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>** Manfeild Test Day. Competition cars and bikes
- Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>** Intermarque Sprints

## JUNE

- Saturday 6<sup>th</sup>** Test day. Driver Training, drift practice
- Sunday 7<sup>th</sup>** Feilding Auto Electrical Winter Race Series Round 1
- Friday 12<sup>th</sup>** Manfeild Test Day. Competition cars and bikes
- Friday 19<sup>th</sup>** Manfeild Test Day. Competition cars and bikes
- Sunday 21<sup>st</sup>** MTTDS 2 Driver training, single and dual-car sprints, drift practice, licence testing. 3.03km track.
- Friday 26<sup>th</sup>** Manfeild Test Day. Competition cars and bikes

## JULY

- Saturday 4<sup>th</sup>** Test day. Driver Training, drift practice
- Sunday 5<sup>th</sup>** Feilding Auto Electrical Winter Race Series Round 2
- Friday 10<sup>th</sup>** Manfeild Test Day. Competition cars and bikes
- Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>** Intermarque Sprints
- Friday 17<sup>th</sup>** Manfeild Test Day. Competition cars and bikes
- Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>** Manawatu Toolshed Back-Track 1 Motokhana/Autocross Drift Training 1.5km track
- Friday 24<sup>th</sup>** Manfeild Test Day. Competition cars and bikes

## AUGUST

- Saturday 1<sup>st</sup>** Test day. Driver Training, drift practice
- Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup>** Feilding Auto Electrical Winter Race Series Round 3
- Friday 7<sup>th</sup>** Manfeild Test Day. Competition cars and bikes
- Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>** Intermarque Sprints
- Friday 14<sup>th</sup>** Manfeild Test Day. Competition cars and bikes
- Friday 21<sup>st</sup>** Manfeild Test Day. Competition cars and bikes
- Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup>** Manawatu Toolshed Back-Track 2 Motokhana/Autocross, Drift Training 1.5km track

## SEPTEMBER

- Saturday 5<sup>th</sup>** Test day. Driver Training, drift practice
- Sunday 6<sup>th</sup>** Feilding Auto Electrical Winter Race Series Round 4 Fathers Day, TR Group Truck Show
- Friday 11<sup>th</sup>** Manfeild Test Day. Competition cars and bikes
- Saturday 12<sup>th</sup>** Feilding Auto Electrical Winter Race Series Prizegiving and Pot Luck Dinner
- Sunday 13<sup>th</sup>** Intermarque Sprints
- Friday 18<sup>th</sup>** Manfeild Test Day. Competition cars and bikes
- Sunday 20<sup>th</sup>** MTTDS 3 Driver training, single and dual-car sprints, drift practice, licence testing, 3.03k track
- Friday 25<sup>th</sup>** Manfeild Test Day. Competition cars and bikes

**OCTOBER** - No MCC events planned.

**Date TBC** Intermarque Sprints  
**Friday 9<sup>th</sup>** Manfeild Test Day. Competition cars and bikes  
**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup>** Manfeild Test Day. Competition cars and bikes

**NOVEMBER**

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup>** Manfeild Test Day. Competition cars and bikes  
**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>** MTTDS 4 Driver training, single and dual-car sprints, drift practice, licence testing, 3.03km track  
**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>** Summer Club Race Meeting 1 Manfeild (Note: May change to IRC meeting and is also the V8 Supercars Pukekohe Meeting date)  
**Friday 13<sup>th</sup>** Test Day MG Classic  
**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup>** MG Classic Race Meeting  
**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup>** MG Classic Race Meeting  
**Friday 20<sup>th</sup>** Manfeild Test Day. Competition cars and bikes  
**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup>** (reserved)  
**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup>** (reserved)

**DECEMBER**

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup>** Manfeild Test Day. Competition cars and bikes  
**Friday 18<sup>th</sup>** Manfeild Test Day. Competition cars and bikes  
**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup>** MTTDS Day 5 Driver training, single and dual-car sprints, drift practice, licence testing, 3.03km track, prize-giving afterwards  
**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup>** Summer Club Race Meeting 2 Manfeild

**2016**

**JANUARY**

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>** Summer Club Race Meeting 3 Taupo Wellington Anniversary weekend

**FEBRUARY**

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup>** Manfeild Test Day. Competition cars and bikes  
**Friday 12<sup>th</sup>** NZGP Test Day  
**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup>** NZGP  
**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup>** NZGP  
**Friday 19<sup>th</sup>** IRC Test Day  
**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup>** IRC Race Meeting  
**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup>** IRC Race Meeting

**MARCH** - No MCC events planned

**APRIL**

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup>** MTTDS 2016 Round 1  
**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>** Summer Club Race Meeting 4  
**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup>** Summer Race Series Prizegiving

**Subject to change and will be updated**

**MCC New Members  
January / February / March 2015**

**Sam Barry  
Bruce Dyer  
Graham Fendall  
Shayne Strom**

**Waipukurau  
Feilding  
Hawera  
Volunteer**

**Welcome and we look forward to seeing you  
soon at one of our events.**

**Prize Giving Dinner  
We want YOU to Attend.**

**Come Racing With Us**