

Manawatu Car Club

P.O Box 542 Palmerston North E-mail: manawatucarclub @xtra.co.nz **February**

2015

Welcome

The weather for January was absolutely perfect, right across the country, giving everyone the opportunity to get out and about in this great country of ours. If it was relaxing at home, at the beach, on the water, or cruising in your car, when the weather is great we all feel fantastic. So what a great way to start 2015.

We now have a guest writer, submitting articles for our newsletter. Russell Harris has a long history of motor sport involvement, and his first article is in this issue. For those who can remember the Wellington Street Race, I know you will enjoy the read.

In January we had club members racing at both Hampton Downs at the Howden Ganly Festival and at Taupo in Round 3 of the Roadmarking Services Summer Series. At both meetings the air and track temperatures were extremely high, an experience I had never had on the track before. Good reports on these 2 meetings in this issue as well.

Our AGM was held again at the clubrooms and it's exciting to have 4 new committee members join the committee team. These 4 new committee members, will add to the "go forward" that the MCC is making, I'm sure. Congratulations.

This month sees the Clubs involvement in the Grand Prix being held from the 13th to 15th of February. Remember there is activity on the Friday night at the track, so get along and enjoy the event. Then the following weekend is the IRC meeting with testing on Friday the 20th and racing on the 21st and 22nd.

So two weekends Nose to Tail of some great racing at "Mighty Manfield".

Geoff & Glenys Boyden

Committee Members for 2014

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

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

Tuesday, 10th February 15' Date:

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, 10th March 2015. Speights Ale House Palmerston North

Track & Yack - 10th February 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

The N.Z. Sprint Championship
-"The Three F's Take First Place"-

The 1948-49 season Sprints Championship was run off under the control of the Hawke's Bay Sports Car Club upon a sealed roadway straight near Bridge Pa, Hastings, on March 26th. Although the day was fine there was a strong breeze blowing down the course which had an adverse effect on times.

Ten entries were received, including the redoubtable trio, Faulkner, Freeman, and Farland from the N.Z.S.C.C. and Manawatu Clubs. The B.S.A. Special of Captain Slade-Jones, which has lately defied efforts to bring it to the line at a number of events by such expedients as severing the towbar and wandering off into pastures green, was on this occasion given nochance and was driven to the meeting from Waiouru. The best it could manage was to break fuel lines in awkward places, but the trouble was defeated and the car ran well in the event.

Slade-Jones led off, and was followed by the Christchurch entrant, R.F. Christie, with stripping TA M.G. running at 7.5 compression but with lower than standard axle ratio. The result, 19.6 seconds, gives Christie the honour of being the first to get under 20 seconds in the Hawkes Bay area. In this class, A.S. Farland's elderly Magnette began by running on five cylinders with an occasional sixth, but escaped the consequences by grace of a timing failure, and re-ran to the tune of 19.5 seconds.

In the unlimited class the contest as might be expected lay between that V8 engined pair, Ewen Faulkner and Allen Freeman, both of whom can be expected to make few mistakes, if any and as Faulkner's weighs two or three hundredweight less, the position at the close of the play was that Faulkner had the silverware and Freeman the position of runner-up. To be continued



Doing Electrical Work For the MCC



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

We can embroider onto almost anything Caps, Polos, Shirts, Jackets, Polar Fleeces, 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

Roadmarking Services Summer Race Series.

Four Rounds in total

Round 4 (final round) - Sunday April 12th at Manfield

Please Note the New Breakout times!

RS Cup 1.30 SF Cup 1.24 IB Cup 1.17 Classic 1.22

Details, regulations and entry forms can be found on the MCC Summer Series Website Page.



MCC Palmy Members favourite Café meeting place





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

Projects and Clubrooms

As reported at the AGM we received a Grant from the Central Energy Trust, which will allow us to purchase 2 heat-pumps, a new fridge/freezer, a new stove and a large single HWC. We have heating in the clubrooms which does work reasonable well, however the heat-pumps will be modern, efficient, and give us heating in the winter months and cooling in the summer months.

We need extra fridge freezer space, and one of the stoves that we have has reached the end of its life, so the new one will help us greatly when we have functions. We have duel HWC's at present and a big single HWC will replace the 2 smaller units. The new French doors look fantastic. We have already purchased the drapes, which match the window drapes from the other doors, so it's a matter of getting some curtain tracks put up and the drapes can be hung.

The ceiling in the storeroom has been patched and is ready for painting, as we work towards making this room into an efficient store room for all the timing gear that is used at the track.

After a good hot summer it may be time to look at sealing the exterior wall which faces the grassed area, because it has not been sealed previously and is damp and is pushing the paint off the interior of the wall. So some professional advice is needed to advise what needs to be done / used on the wall to stop this happening. Once that is decided, then if it is a sealer that's required, we will need 2/3 members to do this job on a nice sunny day.

Working Bee

7th March 9.00am – 1.00pm MCC Clubrooms



- Remove an old fence.
- Remove rubbish.
- Weed the bank.
- Bring a weed-eater to cut the roadside grass.
- Spray weeds around the clubrooms.
- We need a truck or big trailer to take the rubbish to the tip.

Manawatu Car Club Subs

All members are reminded that membership to the Manawatu Car Club annual fee was due on the 30th September 2014.

We have set one price of \$90.00 for full membership.

Your payment would be appreciated. Your fees help to keep the club alive and allow everyone to keep racing.

Payments can be made by Direct Debit through the MCC Website.

Alternatively Payments can be made to Craig Patterson at Mag & Turbo on Featherston Street opposite Countdown supermarket.

Thank you for being part of this great club!

A Member Lost Too Soon

Kevin O'Connor (Oaky) who was a MCC Member and supplied us with Gecko Port-A-Loos, passed away on Monday the 26th January. His son Mark had already taken over the Gecko Business, due to Kevin's illness and will carry on with the same arrangement for the MCC. Thank you Mark.



Rest in Peace Oaky

Your humour will be missed.

The 67th Annual General Meeting of the Manawatu Car Club

Secretary Jeff Braid

On Wednesday 28th February 2015 at 7.30pm the Manawatu Car Club held its 67th Annual General Meeting in the clubrooms on Kawakawa Road, Feilding. There was a good attendance including two of our patrons, Stan Turner and Terry Rush. Manfeild Park trust was represented by General Manager Julie Keane and Business Development Manager Gavin Halls. There were eight apologies including Rob and Wendy Lester, Murray Starnes and Steve Bond. Kevin 'Oakey' O'Connor was named in the Valedictory. We omitted to name Colin Parkin who I will now include in the minutes.

In his annual report President Graham Buchanan outlined the progress made by the Club after implementing some structural changes the year before. The Club had a financially successful year and returned its first profit for some time. The Feilding Auto Electrical Winter Race Series, the Roadmarking Services Summer Race Series, the IRC Meeting and the Manawatu Toolshed Road & Track Sprint Series all contributed to the result. Contracting to run events with other clubs and hiring out the race equipment also added to the bottom line.

The President thanked the family of other sponsors for their continuing support in hard times. He singled out Richie Arber and TR Group for their efforts in organising the TR Group Truck Expo, which has become a permanent fixture on the Manfeild calendar.

Graham added a brief summary of the refurbishment of the clubrooms, the revised IRC format and the Club's involvement in that series, the upcoming 60th NZ Grand Prix Meeting, free non-voting membership for volunteers and the marshals training day. He also included comments about Manfeild Park Trust, our part in a Fit for Purpose Review commissioned by the MPT Board and the appointment of Richie Arber to the MPT Electoral College to replace Gordon Smith.

Treasurer Tim Wilde presented the Annual Financial Report, announcing a significant improvement in financial performance turning around a \$23k deficit into a \$11K surplus. The audited accounts were made available to club members.

Geoff Boyden gave a detailed account of work done and future plans for the refurbishment of the clubrooms. The work so far has mainly been done with volunteer labour and supportive businesses offering generous discounts for materials. Plumber Mark Allen got a special mention for his contribution. An application for funding to the Central Energy Trust resulted in a grant of \$7500 for the upgrade of electrical appliances and the installation of heat pumps which will be installed over the next few months. Geoff took the opportunity to announce that, in a motion passed by the Committee, the two rooms of the clubrooms will be named in honour of two of the founding members of the Manawatu Car Club, Fred Parker and Fordy Farland. Plaques will be unveiled in a ceremony at the Summer Series prize giving in April.

In the election of officers patrons Rob Lester, Stan Turner and Terry Rush were returned, Barry Britten retained as honorary solicitor and Cotton Kelly retained as Auditor. Richie Arber was elected Vice President unopposed. Eleven nominations were received for committee and all were elected. The committee for 2015 will be Geoff Boyden, Greg Browne, Kerry Halligan, Trevor Weir, James O'Regan, Jeff Braid, Riche Arber, Tim Wilde, Noel Beale, Danny McKenna, Jaron Olivecrona and Peter Edmond.

Subscriptions remain the same, there was no Award of Merit and no new Life Members appointed.

General business consisted of a discussion of 'Track & Yak' and a suggestion to move to more of a club night with night trials or some other social event for the members. There was a suggestion the new drink/drive rules are likely to have an effect on participation. Poor flag point shelter was brought up by a volunteer member. Plans to upgrade these had been percolating for some time. The Manfeild staff were keen to discuss this matter further.

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm and the members enjoyed some refreshments and ongoing discussion.

Roadmarking Services Summer Race Series Round 3- Taupo

HOT! Man it was **HOT!** Taupo laid on a perfect summer Auckland Anniversary Weekend for Round 3 of the Roadmarking Services Summer Race Series but we all nearly melted!

The format differed to last year with the Taupo Car Club effectively running three race meetings over the two days, hosting the Fujitsu Classics, GTRNZ and us. Saturday was a test day that ran around the Fujitsu Classics races and Sunday was a combined GTRNZ and RSSRS race day. This arrangement worked well for the Taupo Car Club with 83 drivers competing on Sunday.

Due to the level of entries RS Cup ran with SF Cup and Classics and European Cup ran together. Kerry Halligan was competing in GT1/GT2 so the remaining GT Cup cars joined in with IB Cup. Gareth Hogg got his slick tyres super-sticky in the heat and qualified nearly a second ahead of new club member Graeme Fendall, who unfortunately had to later withdraw with mechanical woes. Denis Churcher showed he still had it in third and Marvin Towers proved he didn't need a twin-turbo V8 by wringing the neck of one of Lance Wagstaff's Corolla hatches. Ben Boyden and Mark Nicholls were the only RS Cup competitors and would hog all the points. Race 1 saw Gareth Hogg win over Marvin Towers and Gerald Watson in his Datsun 1200 Coupe. Race 2 was the Gareth and Marvin show again with Denis Churcher third. The handicapper was kind to Marvin in Race 3 and he was able keep Gareth behind him for the win with Mark Nicholls crossing the line third but first in RS Cup. Brendon Blank-Retter had a DNF after a smoke trail followed him around the track, earning him a meatball flag. Ben Boyden was only half a second away from a RS Cup clean sweep for the weekend.

IB Cup drew the biggest field of the day with the four GT Cup cars joining them. Again the heat took its toll with Gary Maddock's Starlet and Dave Thomsen's Mitsubishi suffering from electrical and cooling issues. Oliver Gordon was the quickest IB in qualifying, with Chris Turnbull and Geoff Spencer following. Tony Satherley had his WRX well sorted and led the GT Cup field by 1.3sec over Mitch Kerr and Alan Pearce. When the lights in Race 1 went out Tony ran away and hid from the GT opposition, winning by over 6.5sec from Mitch Kerr, with Alan Pearce a further 12sec behind. Nick Brough, Chris Turnbull and Oliver Gordon headed the IB Cup field home with Anton Bryant hot on their heels. Race 2 Reverse Top Ten again saw Tony Satherley romp away from Alan Pearce and Mitch Kerr, who was really feeling the heat with cabin temperatures well over 50 degrees. IB Cup win again went to Nick Brough and Chris and Gordon swapped places for second and third. The handicapper could not hold Tony back in race 3, making it three out of three and a perfect points score. The other two GT cars had DNFs with Mitch retiring late in the race. In IB Cup the Taxis finally came through with the two Craigs; Larking and Schofield taking the top two podium steps, with fast-finishing Geoff Spencer third by only 0.124sec.

Eleven Classics/European Cup cars qualified with Andrew Johnson a solid 3.1sec ahead of the next car. Youth beat experience in the Classics as son Leighton Lancaster qualified P1 only 0.3sec ahead of father Tom, with Ross McKormick in between the two. In race 1 Andrew led all the way, opening up a 9sec lead over Ross, with Leighton pipping Tom by 1.088sec. Geoff Boyden was the other European Cup entrant but finished the race with the temperature needle right off the gauge. Race 2 had Andrew in his now familiar top spot trailed by Tom, Ross and Steve Marks in his E30 BMW. The heat and various issues whittled the field down to 8 cars for the handicap race. Steve Marks took the win from Tom, with Ross in third place.

Between our races we had the pleasure of watching GT1/GT2 and NZGT. The Crawford-Pontiac of Kerry Halligan, the Crawford-Porsche of Glen Smith and the TVR of Carl Hansen are simply sensational. MCC Club member Mark Allen had a solid day in NZGT as he got familiar with recent changes to his Chev-Firenza, although the extreme heat and jelly-tyres probably didn't help.

The Taupo Car Club has booked Wellington Anniversary Weekend 2016 for a repeat of this event. It is a week earlier and will suit more of our members. Mark January 17th 2016 in your diaries now!

THE STREETS OF WELLINGTON PART 1

When reflecting on the proud history of the Manawatu Car Club, often overlooked is the fact that that the Club and its members were heavily involved in one of this country's biggest international motor racing series during the 1980's and 90's that saw touring cars running on the streets of Wellington.

The concept of a long distance street race on the spectacular background of the Wellington waterfront was first mooted in 1984, the idea becoming a reality the following year as part of a two round series that also involved the Pukekohe circuit. The 12-strong Race Organising Committee were all prominent Manawatu Car Club administrators, for the inaugural event Rob Lester was the Race Controller & Clerk of Course while the club also provided the heads of the various departments - pits, scrutineers, grids, flags, timekeeping, lap scoring, crash/rescue and medical together with the support of an army of experienced volunteers for the many and varied roles.

Not surprisingly the first event in 1985 wasn't without its problems on several fronts because it was stepping into the unknown. It was a massive logistical exercise to transform the downtown Wellington wharf area into a concrete barrier, Armco and shipping container lined 2.5 kilometre motor racing circuit, set up the grandstands, covered pits and hospitality suites. Everything was temporary and most would work under extreme pressure in trying and difficult conditions. However the lap scorers did enjoy a degree of luxury with tarpaulin cover to protect them from the sun and wind, the latter depending on direction. The appointed FIA circuit inspector had serious concerns regarding the narrowness and safety aspects of the track that included a one-way bridge, the inspection failed and it required a last minute rewrite of the regulations to lower the status of the race from international to national, bypassing the need for FIA approval!!

There was also another late problem. The naming rights for the race involved Nissan and Cue and was promoted as the Nissan Cue 500, when the Auckland-based magazine suddenly ceased publication New Zealand's first touring car street race became the Nissan Sport 500. The race itself was shortened to 375 kilometres (150 laps) because of time constraints (lap times were 15 seconds slower than predicted) and produced the most unlikely winner when the chequered flag fell on the battered Volvo 240T of Robbie Francevic and Michel Delcourt. The Belgian drove a very aggressive first stint, going from last to first in just 20 laps, and many incidents later Francevic crossed the line three car lengths ahead of a BMW 635 CSi to win the first Group A event held in the Southern Hemisphere. It was a result that stunned 'downunder' motor racing, one of those fairy tale stories that sport produces from time to time because the team's preparation wasn't helped by a complete lack of spares, the car only arrived in Wellington in time for the final practice session and was forced to start from the rear of the grid!!

The race programme shows only one MCC entrant at the meeting, Phil Kettle in the Mini 7's, but in the years that followed there were many more drivers in many more racing categories.

The event was an extraordinary new experience for everyone - drivers, teams, officials, marshals and the thousands of spectators. The narrowness of the track might have limited overtaking opportunities but the drivers of the winning car showed that it could be done by going from last to first. And who could forget the incredible noise as the exhausts reverberated and echoed off the high-rise buildings along Jervois Quay.

It was a weekend to remember for the Manawatu Car Club members involved. Their resolve, determination and enthusiasm made it happen, and they were rightfully proud of that - they also set their own standard for the future...

Russell Harris

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 18th 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 Geoff Boyden – Ph 0274 447 348

<u>richie@trgroup.co.nz</u> ggboyden@xtra.co.nz

We want you to attend

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



Hampton Downs

Howden Gandly Festival of motor racing. Weekend 1.

The first weekend of the Howden Gandly Festival saw a number of entrants from the Manawatu Car Club competing, plus others from "our area". From what I saw there were,

- Terry & Tim Rush
- Mark Allan
- Graham Barnes
- Ben Boyden
- Bruce Goodwin
- John Rush (2nd weekend)
- Jon Telford Dannevirke
- Rob Bartly Wanganui

What a great weekend of motor-racing. The weather was too good, providing very high temperatures and extreme heat on the track. The line-up of Muscle Cars was impressive, along with the 5000's, Sport Sedans, and Heritage Touring Cars.

I witnessed great (stand up and cheer) racing from Jon Tellford, Graham Barnes and Mark Allen in the Sports Sedans, who left the rest of the field wondering where these guys came from! The preparation on these 3 cars also left no other impression than that, they were here to do the business, and they did.

The Mayor of Ohangitti was on form in the MK111 Zephyr and showed good form. Bruce and the car were getting better as the weekend progressed, even with Bruce's relaxed style (as photos will show).

Tim & Terry Rush didn't have a great weekend with the McLaren taking a knock. Whilst you could say, "that's motor racing" sometimes these sorts of mishaps just shouldn't happen, considering the value and uniqueness of these cars.

Ben Boyden in the Commodore was just getting into the grove, but the temperature on the tunnel in the car was reading 76deg C. which meant something was not quite right here. Result was a blown head-gasket after 2 races – Spectator for the Sunday.

Rob Bartley & John Rush - I'm unsure of their weekend results, but the Custaxi sure draws the crowd.

Great to see so many MCC Cars at Hampton, plus MCC Spectators.

It's a great weekend - mark it on the calendar for 2016.

Geoff Boyden















New MCC Club Members November - December 2014

Stacy Dixon	Adult	Did 2 rounds R&T then joined MCC	P Nth
Greg Browne	Family		Halcombe
Teresa Browne	Family		Halcombe
Sean Browne	Family		Halcombe
Hoki Jerry	Volunteer	Rescue Crew	Turangi
Manu Jensen	Volunteer	Rescue Crew	Turangi
Tom Lancaster	Family		Levin
Leighton Lancaster	Family		Levin
Dwayne Martin	Family		P Nth
Sarah Blinkhorne	Family		P Nth
Troy Davies	Volunteer		Masterton
Deejay Silberg	Volunteer	Rescue Crew	P Nth
Alison Morgan	Volunteer	Rescue Crew	Masterton
Aaron Pike	Volunteer	Rescue Crew	Masterton
Tim Howard	Volunteer	Rescue Crew	Feilding
Owen Campbell	Volunteer	Rescue Crew	Paraparaumu
Tony McCabe	Volunteer	Flags	Wanganui
Lars Way	Volunteer	Rescue Crew	Waverley
David Goulstone	Volunteer	Rescue Crew	Feilding
Shayne Strom	Volunteer	Rescue Crew	Wellington
Dave Webster	Volunteer	Flags	Wanganui
Chris Strom	Volunteer	Rescue Crew	Porirua
Nick Toulmin	Volunteer	Rescue Crew	P Nth
Jodie Hogarth	Volunteer	Rescue Crew	Feilding
Russell Harris	Adult		P Nth



MANAWATU CAR CLUB RACE CALENDAR

February 2015

Friday 13th: NEW ZEALAND GRAND PRIX Test Day. Manawatu Fireworks Spectacular from 6pm

Saturday 14th: NEW ZEALAND GRAND PRIX Race Day Sunday 15th: NEW ZEALAND GRAND PRIX Race Day

Friday 20th: IRC Round 2 Test Day
Saturday 21st: IRC Round 2 Race Day
Sunday 22nd: IRC Round 2 Race Day

April 2015

Saturday April 11th: MANAWATU TOOLSHED ROAD & TRACK SPRINT SERIES ROUND 1. 3km circuit

Sunday April 12th: SUMMER RACE SERIES ROUND 4 - One-day club race meeting

June 2015

Saturday 6th: TEST DAY AND DRIFT PRACTICE

Sunday 7th: WINTER RACE SERIES ROUND 1 - One-day club race meeting

Sunday 21st: MANAWATU TOOLSHED ROAD & TRACK SPRINT SERIES ROUND 2 3km circuit

July 2015

Saturday 4th: TEST DAY AND DRIFT PRACTICE

Sunday 5th: WINTER RACE SERIES ROUND 2 - One-day club race meeting
Sunday 17th: MANAWATU TOOLSHED BACK-TRACK AUTOCROSS/MOTORKHANA

August 2015

Saturday 1st: TEST DAY AND DRIFT PRACTICE

Sunday 2nd: WINTER RACE SERIES ROUND 3 - One-day club race meeting
Saturday 23rd: MANAWATU TOOLSHED BACK-TRACK AUTOCROSS/MOTORKHANA

September 2015

Saturday 5th: TEST DAY AND DRIFT PRACTICE

Sunday 6th: WINTER RACE SERIES ROUND 4 - One-day club race meeting

Prize Giving Dinner
We want YOU to Attend.

Come Racing With Us