

The **Crank Case**

December 2025



**Newsletter of the Nelson Branch
of The Vintage Car Club of NZ (Inc)**

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Club Rooms: Speedway Assn Grounds, Entry Lower Queen St, Richmond .

Web Site: www.nelsonvcc.org.nz.

Branch Bank Account : 03 -1354-0058853-00

Hi All

Just a reminder that this will be the last Crank-case until February as we do not produce one over Xmas / January - therefore take particular note of those which span this period.



In particular the Speedway car parking fundraising nights. Also the Dec / Jan Vero Rally working Bee days scheduled by Karen Thompson. Details pages 40&41

Thank you to all who have given their names for the Nelson and Richmond Santa Parades. Both these events will help publicise the Vero International and the support given to us by the Nelson City Council - details on pages 32 & 33

I wish you all a very happy Xmas and a thank you to all who have assisted me during the year with pictures, articles and in particular to the Vero Festival team who have been absolutely amazing, tackling every aspect with enthusiasm and a smile. Thank you

Regards

Ray

Front: Cover: Wes Richards 1945 Willys Jeep getting ready for Club Run to Top House St Arnaud

Branch Management and Appointments

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Swap Meet Co-ordinator	Kit Brydon	0274 431 498 gaylebrydon@hotmail.com
Daffodill Day Co-ordinator	Dianne Lewis	021 0848 2878 pauldiannelewis@gmail.com

Nelson VCC Calendar Of Events

Please note these events may be subject to change and some-

		November 2025	
Sun 30	1.-3pm	Nelson Santa Parade pg 32	
		December 2025	
Mon 1	7.30pm	2026 Vero Com. meeting	Karen Thompson
Tue 2	7.30pm	Committee Meeting	John Barker
Wed 3	10am	Morning Tea Mystery Lunch	Check Roster
Thu 4	9-4pm	Ladies Craft Day	Kyra Wareing
Thur 4	6.30pm	Club Night Isle Park page 40	Maureen Joblin
Thu 4		Club Night (TBA)	
Fri 5	10am-12pm	Vero Rally Working Bee p40	Karen Thompson
Sun 7	1-3pm	Richmond Santa Parade pg 33	
Wed10	10am-12pm	Vero Rally Working Bee p40	Karen Thompson
Fri 12	10am-12pm	Vero Rally Working Bee p40	Karen Thompson
Sat 13	6-10pm	Xmas in the Park page 41	Maureen /Dianne
Mon 15	7.30pm	2026 Vero Com. meeting	Karen Thompson
Wed17	10am	Morning Tea	Check Roster
Mon 22	7.30pm	2026 Vero Com. meeting	Karen Thompson
		January 2026	
Thu 1st	5.30pm	Picnic Tea - Wai-iti Domain	Maureen
Tues 6	7.30pm	Committee Meeting	John Barker
Wed 7	10am	Morning Tea	Check Roster
Fr 9	3pm-	Speedway Carparking p41	Paul Lewis
Sat 10	3pm-	Speedway Carparking p41	Paul Lewis
Mon 12	7.30pm	2026 Vero Com. meeting	Karen Thompson
Thu 15	10am-12pm	Vero Rally Working Bee p40	Karen Thompson
Sat 17	9.00am-	Golden Bay A & P Show	
Wed21	10am	Morning Tea	Check Roster
Thu 22	10am-12pm	Vero Rally Working Bee p40	Karen Thompson
Sat 24	3.00pm	Speedway Carparking p41	Paul Lewis
Mon 26	7.30pm	2026 Vero Com. meeting	Karen Thompson
Thu 29	10am-12pm	Vero Rally Working Bee p40	Karen Thompson

February 2026			
Tues 3	7.30pm	Committee Meeting	John Barker
Wed 4	10am	Morning Tea	Check Roster
Mon 9	7.30pm	2026 Vero Com. meeting	Karen Thompson
Mon 16	7.30pm	2026 Vero Com. meeting	Karen Thompson
Sat 21	10.00am	Murchison A & P Show	Mike Bryan
Sat 21		Moutere Hop	
Sat 21	10.00am	Top of the South Motor Show	
Mon 23	7.30pm	2026 Vero Com. meeting	Karen Thompson
March 2026			
Mon 2	7.30pm	2026 Vero Com. meeting	Karen Thompson
Tues 3	7.30pm	Committee Meeting	John Barker
Sat 7	10.00am	Rai Valley A & P Show	
Mon 9	7.30pm	2026 Vero Com. meeting	Karen Thompson
Sun 15 - Fri 20 Mar 26		2026 Vero International Festival of Historic Motoring Nelson	Ray Robertson Festival Director
April 2026			
May 2026			
Fri 8		Swap meet set up Day	Kit Brydon
Sat 9		Swap meet	Kit Brydon
June 2026			
Sat 27	1.00pm	Restoration of the Year and Pride of Ownership	
Sat 27	2.00pm	AGM at Clubrooms	

NEED A VCC NAME BADGE?

Name badges help everyone get to know you when on VCC Events

Contact Wayne Price at the clubrooms or on 03 542 3033

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From the Chair

Since my last report, life has been completely consumed—gloriously so—by the Coast 2 Coast Tour. “But what *is* this tour?” I hear you ask. Well, picture this: a three-day vintage motoring adventure that starts in Blenheim, winds its way over some of the country’s most iconic high-country roads, and finishes on the wild West Coast in Hokitika. It’s part road trip, part endurance challenge, part social event—and absolutely unforgettable.



This year’s tour leaders were the dream team: Rex and Lynette, Vern, and myself. Supporting us were four mighty support vehicles, each crewed by people who were not only capable but downright legendary. Gene and Ainsley headed the support squad, joined by Stephen and Angus, Roy and Marian, and Warren and Lynette. Together they formed the backbone of the tour—mechanics, rescuers, cheerleaders, and occasionally chauffeurs!

We had 44 entries, and as always with backroad touring, the Ford Model A brigade dominated the lineup. But they were joined by some special gems: a stunning 1929 Rolls-Royce and the smallest (and arguably the bravest) car in the fleet, an Austin 7 Tourer. Entrants came from all over—many from Auckland, plenty from Canterbury, and a good handful from everywhere in between.

Friday Night – Blenheim Kick-Off

We kicked things off at the Blenheim Clubrooms on Friday the 7th, where entrants collected their run packs and, importantly, their bottle of South Pacific Ocean water—destined for Hokitika’s river mouth. The evening had a great buzz as everyone mingled, swapped stories, and sized up the adventures ahead.

Saturday – Into the High Country

At 8am sharp, the crew gathered behind the Marlborough Clubrooms for briefing and lineup. Then it was off over Taylor Pass and into the vast landscapes of Molesworth Station. A few cars tested the nerves of their owners (and the skills of the support crew), but everyone pulled through with plenty of good humour. One car didn't make it past the start line, so its owners hitched a ride with the support crew and ended up having the time of their lives.

By late afternoon we'd survived the notoriously bumpy—and occasionally hair-raising—descent into Hanmer. Dusty, tired, and hungry, we refuelled both cars and bodies before settling in for a well-earned sleep.

Sunday – The Big One

Sunday promised even more dust and even bigger views as we headed back into the high country through Molesworth and along the Rainbow. We were granted private access through Rainbow Station before it opened for the season—a real privilege.

There were a few nervous chuckles when we announced that the day included both Jacks Pass and New Zealand's highest public road, Island Pass. This was the toughest leg of the tour: water crossings, rough tracks, and endless scenery that made every bump worth it. We rolled into Murchison tired and very satisfied, ending the day with a brilliant dinner at the Recreation Hall.

Monday – Rain, Roads & a Bagpipe Finale

Monday dawned grey with the promise of rain—and it delivered. We headed up the Matakita Valley to Springs Junction, over the Rahu Saddle, and down into Reefton for lunch. A stop at Rosco's gave

everyone a chance to admire his impressive car collection before the rain really set in.

The final stretch took us along backroads to Hokitika, where everyone gathered on the beach at the river mouth. In true Coast 2 Coast tradition, the bottles of South Pacific water were poured into the Tasman Sea as John Campbell played the bagpipes—a dramatic, windswept finale worthy of a movie scene.

We wrapped up the tour with dinner, prizegiving, and many stories shared over full stomachs and tired smiles.

The feedback?

“Best tour ever.”

“When’s the next one?”

“Sign us up now!” And honestly—after three days of adventure, scenery, mishaps, laughter, and the magic of vintage motoring—I can’t say I blame them.

Before we sign off, a special mention must go to the **Vintage Driven** team, who joined us on the tour to film a full YouTube story. Their video should be out by Christmas, and it promises to capture all the dust, drama, and delights of the Coast 2 Coast. In the meantime, you can take a look at their channel here:

□ [Vintage Driven on YouTube](#)

And for our own photos, updates, and stories, check out our Facebook page:

□ **VCC Coast 2 Coast Tour – Facebook Page**

Joanne Hoffman

Reminder

Members coming into the Club Rooms using the key pad lockbox are reminded to make sure it is securely closed and the key pad numbers jumbled.

There have been a two occasions in the past week where the keypad has been left open and unlock combination still showing - like wise the door has been closed but not locked correctly



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Club Captains Report

November already and most days feel summery out of the wind.

We have had a couple of good runs October/November and the weather has been kind for both. A huge Thank You to all who have come along on these runs, it is so good to see the cars out and about and people enjoying themselves. You will see we had an early club run this month (November) but with the Coast to Coast taking up a few



days and speedway parking, it seemed easier to do our run early rather than late. Lets enjoy the relative calm of November before the madness and build up to Christmas in December begins and we run out of days to catch up.

October

Wed 22 Special Morning Tea

This morning we celebrated Derek Tomason receiving his 50 year award and Ray Maguire receiving his 35 year award. These are great achievements for any club to have such long standing members and we are fortunate to have a few in ours. We were privileged to have Murray Trounson from the National support office in Christchurch, here to present these awards along with words from Ray Robertson and Mike Bryan. Murray also gave a slide show and talk of the move from the old premises to the beautiful new building in Christchurch. Looking at the photos it was good to see some of our club members present at the opening. Murray also reminded us to come visit the new premises when ever we are in the vicinity.

Thank you to Leslie for organising cake and savouries and to all 26 of you who came along for the occasion.

Sat 25th Morning Tea & Mystery car

Thank you Dianne, Karen Grey and Jill for your work in the kitchen keeping everyone fed and watered. Karen, the ginger slice was delicious. We had 28 come along this morning and it was lovely to see people here who are normally working.

Our mystery car was actually two cars, Rob & Karen Thompsons, sons 1963 Fiat Bambina that Rob has done a lot of work on to get it road worthy. This wee yellow beast goes by the name, The Weapon and with a number plate starting with AK47.. you can understand where the name came from.

Dick Anderson brought along his beautifully restored 1938 Fiat Topolino. It was immaculate and you could see a lot of love and care has gone into this restoration. Thank You to both of you for sharing your cars and their histories with us.

November

Sunday 2nd Club Run to Top House

We couldn't have asked for better weather for our run to Top House. We had 12 cars and 25 people come along to a straight forward run. It was also a first visit for a couple of our members, Debbie and Shirley and I don't think Top House disappointed them. The Nelson Triumph motorcycle club arrived about the same time as us so we had a good mix of people and vehicles up there. Our hosts Helen and Clint have done an amazing job restoring the glory of the place, despite its sad history (bullet holes still showing in the roof.) The gardens are abundant with glorious colour and the grounds beautifully laid out. We had plenty to eat and drink, a wander around and enjoyed the sun, company and views. From Top House we headed up to Lake Rotoiti to check out the eels. The day was so warm, Lucia and little Wes (children of Wes and Lauren Richards, new members and they drive a Willys Jeep) braved the cool Rotoiti waters and the eels for a swim. Oh to be that young!

Wed 5th Morning Tea/Mystery Lunch

A great turn out this morning with 53 people attending. Thank You Geoff, Dianne and Leslie for manning the kitchen and keeping everyone happy. Thank you to Charil who organised the mystery lunch which was at Harvest Kitchen. We didn't make it to the lunch but I believe there were around 12 members who did.

Sat 8th Speedway Parking

It sounds like Speedway parking was successful, a comment being "it was the biggest crowd to attend the speedway and fireworks in a long time." Merilyn kept everyone fed and I am sure there were others helping here also. A huge Thank you to you all for doing the parking, the money made from helping with the parking benefits our club financially. It is also a great way to get to know each other better, especially our newer members, over a meal.

Sat 8th to Mon 10th Coast to Coast Run

I am sure Joanne will have a good report about the Coast to Coast run. There were a few from our club who did this and it was well run, through spectacular countryside, amazing weather, travelling with some fun people. A highlight for me were the comments of awe from people who have never been through any of that part of the world before.

Thurs 13th Club Night, Pea, Pie & Spud

We had 34 attend Pea Pie and Spud night at the club rooms. A huge Thank you to Lesley Barker and Dianne Lewis for taking control of the food and serving up a good meal and to all of you who came along. It wouldn't be the same without you. Lovely to have Zoe Gough and Bruce Heywood from Reefton join us. Malcolm ran a few photos of his recent trip to Kalgoorlie

and the Red Dust Racing as well as some Coast to Coast photos. Both his trips had one thing in common, **A Lot of Dust!**

Extra Bits

November 30th Santa Parade, a good turn out please

December

Wed 3rd Morning Tea/Mystery Lunch

Thurs 4th Club Night. Tea at Isel Park

Sat 7th Richmond Santa Parade & club barbecue starting at 4pm

Sat 13th Christmas in the Park Washbourne Gardens Richmond

Wed 17th Morning Tea...The last Hoorah before the big guy in Red arrives

January


Thur 1st Picnic tea at Wai-iti Domain

Wed 7 Morning tea. A welcome back to the New Year

Sat 17 Golden Bay A & P Show

Wishing you fun out on the road in your old motors

Maureen & Dianne



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COAST 2 COAST

Wow, what busy and exciting three days we had on the Coast 2 Coast Rally recently.

43 vehicles and several support crews, enjoyed great weather (until the last Afternoon), fantastic scenery, companionship and real motoring challenges as we kept the spirit of the late Gordon Dacombe sparking.

A huge thankyou to the event leader, Joanne Hoffman, supported by husband Ver, Rex Smith and Lynette, Roy and Marion West and others.

Feedback was so supportive and most said they will be signing up again in 2026!

Participants came from several VCC Branches from North Shore to the South, with national Daffodil Day Con-Ordinator Kaaren Smylie, saying it was one of the best organised and socially friendly rallies she has been on!

Places are limited and will be in demand next year.

A huge thankyou to Joanne and her team!

Mike Bryan

Coast 2 Coast







Wanted

Some one to do data input for the 2026
Swap Meet Site Bookings
on our Website

Ian McLennan
Is happy to provide the training required
to process the bookings

The Swap meet will be held on Saturday
9th of May 2026

Please contact Ian McLennan
Phone 021 544 374

Or

John Barker
Phone 027 911 0763

Simon Linstones 'other' Saab







Wesley (Wes) Richards 1945 Willys Jeep









Selwyn and Noreen Hannahs 1965 Ford Zephyr



Membership

We note the passing of Max Smart who passed away late July and offer our condolences to his wife Sue.

Max joined the Nelson branch 1st January 1981, so had been a member for 44 years.

Wanted

1936 Buick Gearbox, 34-37 will fit - also Old and Pontiac use the same box, possibly 35 and 36 Chev.

The casting number on the side of the gearbox is 1293153-2

Please phone Patrick Smith on 0273 139 102

Swap Meet 2026

Kit Brydon has kindly agreed to take on the Role of Swap meet Co-ordinator for the Swapmeet to be held in May 2026. Kit would like to make an early start asap and kick of with a list of helpers

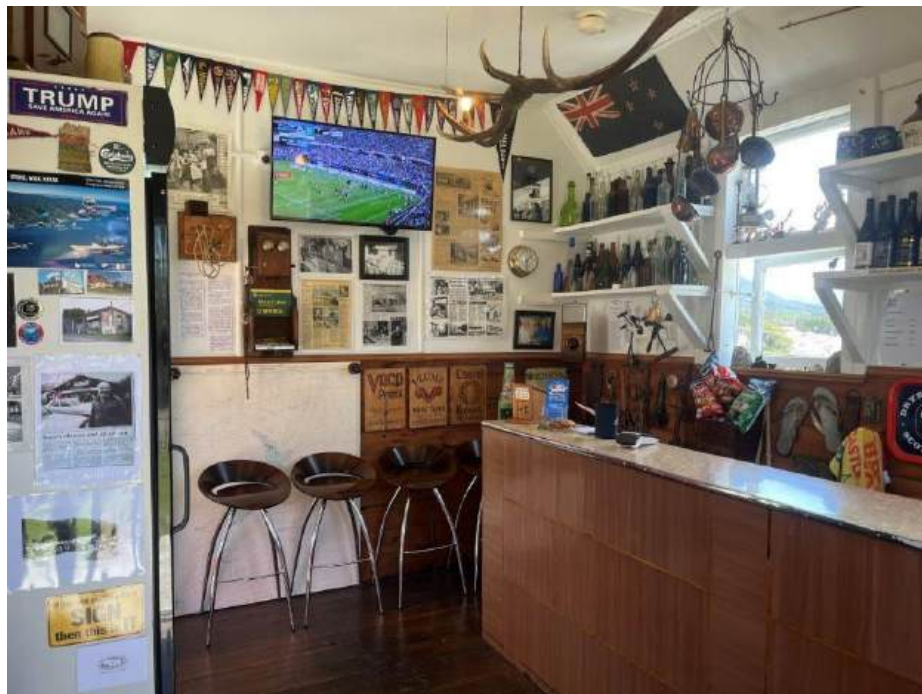
You can contact Kit on 0274 431 498 or by email at gaylebrydon@hotmail.com

Clubrun to Top House



The whole team along with Helen & Clint Brough outside the Top House Pub





John Mumford
& Rob Thompson



Ron & Kerrin
Mazey



Martin & Shirley Wal-
lace



Noreen & Selwyn Hannah

Wes, Lauren and daughter



Noreen Hannah, Darcy Bovey, Charil Milne

Below: Some of the Cars on the foreshore Lake Rotoiti





Thanks to all who have given me their names.
Approx 20 vehicles

Bring your own Xmas Decorations to decorate your car.

**Meet at 11.45am Montgomery Car Park from
Rutherford Street Entrance.
Cars need to be ready for inspection by organis-
ers at 12.30pm sharp**

Parade commences at 1.00pm

We will have Nick Smith and four new councillors
who will be travelling in our open cars,

We will also have four utes displaying large sign-
age advertising the **2026 VERO International
Festival of Historic Motoring**

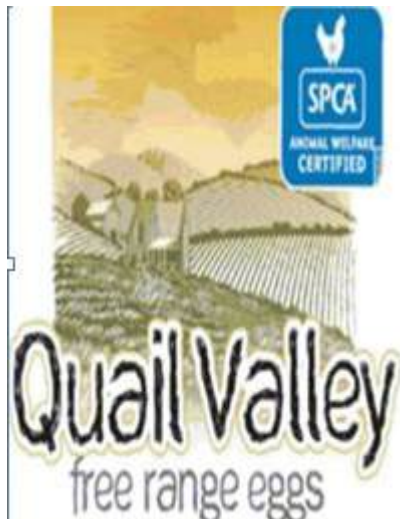
Any queries ring Ray Robertson on 0274340228



Meet at Waimea College Carpark to decorate the Cars 11.30am - ready to arrive at Edward Street assembly point by 12.30pm

The parade will leave Edwards Street at 1.00pm before heading down Queen Street

This year and for the next three years Quail Valley Free Range Eggs have agreed to sponsor the Richmond Santa Parade



**A BBQ will follow at the Clubrooms at 4.00pm
Please bring a salad**

For information contact
Dianne Lewis on
021 0848 2878

A photograph of a workshop interior. In the foreground, a silver station wagon is parked. Behind it, a yellow and white convertible is being worked on. To the left, a red classic car is visible. In the background, a green van is on a lift. The workshop has blue pillars and various tools and equipment.

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VCC Nelson Website

The proposal to add a section to our website where members could show off their “pride and joy” has been approved by our committee and, as you should be able to see, we have added it to the website (link below). Since this is only going to contain material submitted by members who are happy have their cars included online, available to the public, we need you to submit your individual contributions.

Therefore, as I write this, it only contains photos of my two cars so members can get a feel for what it might look like. This message is meant to solicit your contributions to the site. The goal is to get as many of our cars out there so that members, as well as prospective members, might get a better picture of the range of cars represented in our club. As a relatively new member, I am well-aware that I’m only familiar with a few of your treasures.

To use the website, just “hover” over a thumbnail to see the caption. Clicking on the photo should show it in “full screen” mode along with the description provided.

So if you’re happy to have your car included, please send your info to me at the email address below. Please include the following:

- A photo of reasonable resolution. I think I can handle just about any format you can throw at me.
- A short caption. Basically your name(s) and the car model.
- A longer description (optional). Just about anything you’d like to say about you and the car.

I would like to acknowledge the wonderful help I have received from Michaela Kerr in getting this up and going. There are still a few kinks we need to iron out:

There might be some extraneous information on the righthand side of the screen we want to get rid of. Working on it. In the meantime, just ignore it.

If you are using Firefox on a Mac to access the Internet, you may not see the captions when you hover over a photo. Again, working on it.

Feel free to contact me with any questions, comments etc.

Wes Dayton
wesdayton29aus@gmail.com
022 035 7110

<https://www.nelsonvcc.org.nz/members-cars/>

Mystery Cars Oct 2025 Fiats Bambina & Toppolino



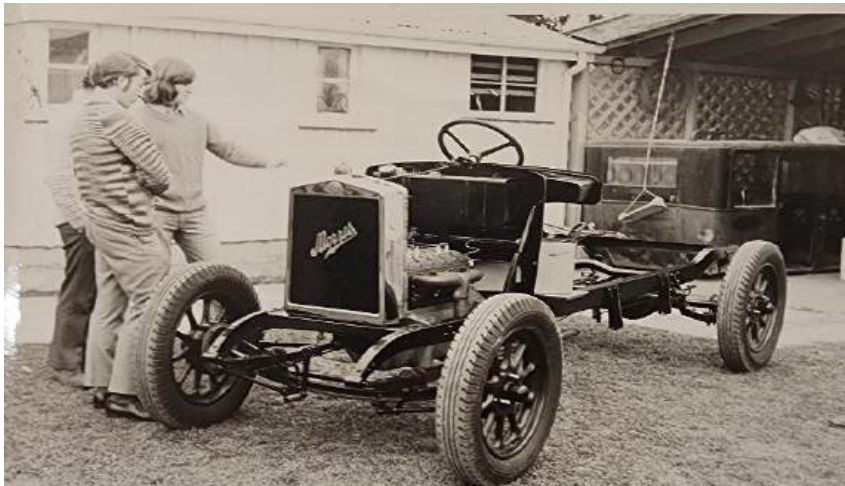


Mystery Car - Peter Fields 1927 Morris Cowley





Below: Sept 1973 Lower Queen St Richmond- a very young John Barker in a Lesley Barker Jersey and an equally young Ray Robertson with the long hair view Peter Fields 27 Morris Cowley finished rolling chassis



2026 Vero International Festival of Historic Motoring

Rally Working Bees

**We need willing hands to help make table
decorations**

10.00pm to 12.00noon
**at the Clubrooms on each of the
following dates**

Fri 5th December 2025
Wed 10th December 2025
Frid 12th December 2025
Thur 15th January 2026
Thur 22nd January 2026
Thur 29th January 2026

For info Phone Karen on 022 120 1124

Isle Park - December 4th

**Meet in front of Isle House at 5.30pm overlook-
ing the stalls and purchase your tea**

Parking is scarce, so park where you can

Maureen & Dianne

Speedway Carparking

A VCC Fundraiser

**Friday 9th January 2026
Saturday 10th January 2026
Saturday 24th January 2026**

3.00pm onwards

Ring Paul Lewis on 021 250 2553

We need at least 12 willing members
It is a very easy way to raise funds for our Club
Come and enjoy a meal on the club after the
parking then watch the racing

Christmas in the Park 6.00 - 10.00pm

Washbourne Gardens Richmond

We can stay for the 'After Glow 'or

Take a drive to check out the Xmas Lights

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1934 Austin 7 (in pieces, equating to many many boxes, motors and parts, etc, but as I understand everything needed is here to make a complete car, possibly an Austin 7 Special).

1951 Sunbeam Talbot 90, registration on hold (also complete parts but not fully restored)

1926 Vauxhall 20/60 (also complete parts in pieces, many boxes

Contact Sue by email: maxnsue@xtra.co.nz

Or phone 03 545 2287



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LADIES CRAFT GROUP *Sew, Paint, Knit, Everything*

Calling all VCC ladies Wives, Partners, etc. to come and enjoy the company of other members at our Craft group.

Held on the first Thursday of every month at the clubrooms.

Next meeting Thursday December 4th 2025 9am to 4pm.

Just come for a chat and or share your hobbies with others.

Come for the day or an hour or two. Tea and coffee on the house. If staying for the day bring your lunch.

Need to be pickup, this can be arranged.



For more info contact

Kyra 544 9998.

VCC Member Discount at

Mitre 10 Mega Nelson



Present your membership card at checkout and you will get a discount on every purchase.

How it works: After completing your shopping go to any checkout, simply tell the operator the account number: **NNVCC (Nelson Vintage Car Club)** then present your membership card.

Every item gets a discount which in some cases is better than other accounts and is definitely a better discount than gold card. Its that easy.

If we support this scheme there could be opportunity in the future for a rebate back to the club.

<p>VEHICLE VALUATIONS</p> <p>Classic, vintage vehicles & all trucks</p> <p>For Insurance, Tax man, Lawyers 35 year's experience with valuations in Nelson and Marlborough Area I will come to you</p> <p>CITY MOTORS NELSON</p> <p>Patrick Pascoe Manager</p> <p><i>Mobile: 027 442 1786</i> <i>Phone: 03 573 8964</i> <i>Email: p.pascoe@xtra.co.nz</i></p>	<p>Waimea Vehicle Testing Station</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — WOFS Cars, Trailers, Light Trucks & Motorcycle — 2 SERVICE LANES — OIL & FILTER CHANGE — FRIENDLY PROFESSIONAL SERVICE <p>55 McGlashen Ave Richmond. 03 544 3969</p> <p><small>Owned & Operated by Chris & Al Webley</small></p>
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