

The Crank Case



November 2024



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

Postal Address: P.O Box 3531 Richmond 7050
Email: nelson@vcc.org.nz
Club Rooms: Speedway Assn Grounds, Entry Lower Queen St, Richmond .
Web Site: www.nelsonvcc.org.nz.
Branch Bank Account : 03 -1354-0058853-02

Hi Everyone

Just back from the Marlborough Biennial Rally.

While a little disappointing Marlborough only received five entries from their closest neighbour Nelson.



Those who did attend were treated to a visit of the Pinoli Pine Nut Orchard where we were given a very entertaining talk on the subject of Pine nuts. The scale of their operation is unbelievably large with over 500 hectares of Pine nut trees

After leaving the Pinoli Orchard or should I say driving through it to the Cape Campbell Light house we were given an equally informative history of the Farm and Lighthouse.

For those who didn't attend you missed out on visiting a very interesting part of New Zealand which is in private ownership.

Kind Regards Ray

Front Cover: Karen & Rob Thompson in their Model T navigate the Pinoli Pine Nut Orchard part of the Marlborough Biennial Rally out to The Cape Campbell Light House

Branch Management and Appointments

Chairman	Mike Bryan	027 223 4893 rootesqpnz@gmail.com
Vice Chair	Joanne Hoffman (Vern)	021 598 873 Joanne.hoffman2@gmail.com
Secretary/ Treasurer	John Barker	027 9 110 763 drivingbaby7s@gmail.com
Club Captain	VACANT	
Asst. Club Cap- tain	Maureen Joblin	03 541 9017 leightandmaureen@gmail.com
Asst. Club Cap- tain	Dianne Lewis	021 0848 2878 pauldiannelewis@gmail.com
Asst. Club Cap- tain	VACANT	
Editor Crankcase	Ray Robertson (Debbie)	027434 0228 razar.robertson@gmail.com
Committee	VACANT	
Committee	Dianne Lewis	021 0848 2878 pauldiannelewis@gmail.com
Committee (Buildings)	Paul Lewis	0212502553 pauldiannelewis@gmail.com
Committee	Rob Thompson (Karen)	03 547 5120 or 027 5475120 rob.karen@slingshot.co.nz
Committee	Leigh Joblin	03 541 9017 or 0219450245 leightandmaureen@gmail.com
Committee	Malcolm Baker	03 542 3846 or 021 032 8833 1949grumpi@gmail.com
Committee	Lesley Barker	021 255 1571 drivingbaby7s@gmail.com
Swapmeet Web- site	Kerrin Mazey	021 181 2658 kmazey@gmail.com
Beaded Wheels	Carolyn Bolland	027 552 2256 carolynbolland@gmail.com
Membership / Badges	Wayne Price	03 542 3033
Website, IT	Wes Dayton	0220357110 wesdayton29aus@gmail.com
Vehicle ID	Max Clarke (Merylin)	03 548 3899 or 021 548 389 atmore.towers@xtra.co.nz
Librarian	Roy West	027 298 6994 61motra@gmail.com
Mowing / Grounds	Malcolm Baker	03 542 3846 1949grumpi@gmail.com
Clubroom Custodians	Jim & Kyra Wareing	0275449998 or 0275448001 jimnkyra@xtra.co.nz

Nelson VCC Calendar Of Events

Please note these events may be subject to change and sometimes it is not always possible to advise in advance

November 2024			
Sat 2	3.30pm	Speedway Fireworks Spectacular - Carparking - Meet at the Clubrooms	Maureen & Dianne
Mon 4	7.30pm	2026 Vero Com. meeting	Karen Thompson
Tue 5	7.30pm	Committee Meeting	John Barker
Wed 6	10am	Morning Tea Gordons Mystery Lunch	Check Roster
Thu 7	9-4pm	Ladies Craft Day	Kyra Wareing
Sat16 &-Sun 17th		Club Run to Mystery destination 30min from Richmond - unlikely you have ever been to this location - Stay overnight in your motor home or stay in the bunkroom (Further info to come p13	Maureen & Dianne
Wed 20	10am	Morning Tea	Check Roster
December 2024			
Tue 3	7.30pm	Committee Meeting	John Barker
Wed 4	10am	Morning Tea and Gordons Mystery lunch	Check Roster
Thu 5	9-4pm	Ladies Craft Day	Kyra Wareing
Sun 8		Club Run Xmas Celebrations	Maureen & Dianne
Mon 9	7.30pm	2026 Vero Com. meeting	Karen Thompson
Wed 18	10am	Morning Tea	Check Roster
Sat 28	3.30pm	Speedway - Carparking - Meet at the Clubrooms	Maureen & Dianne
January 2025			
Tues 7	7.30pm	Committee Meeting	John Barker
Thur 9		Club Night (TBA)	Maureen & Dianne
Fri 10		Speedway - Carparking - TBC	4
Sat 11		Speedway - Carparking - TBC	

		January 2025 Continued	
Mon 13	7.30pm	2026 Vero Com. meeting	Karen Thompson
Wed 15	10am	Morning Tea	Check Roster
		February 2025	
Tues 4	7.30pm	Committee Meeting	John Barker
Wed 5	10am	Morning Tea - Mystery Lunch	Check Roster
Thu 6	9-4pm	Ladies Craft Day	Kyra Wareing
Mon 10	7.30pm	2026 Vero Com. meeting	Karen Thompson
Thur 13		Club Night (TBA)	Maureen & Dianne
Fri 14		Moutere Hop	
Sat 15		Moutere Hop	
Wed 19	10am	Morning Tea	Check Roster
Sat 22		Top Of The South Motor-show- A & P Showgrounds	
		March 2025	
Tue 4	7.30pm	Committee Meeting	John Barker
Wed 5	10am	Morning Tea	Check Roster
Thu 6	9-4pm	Ladies Craft Day	Kyra Wareing
Sat 8		Swap meet set up	
Sun 9		Swap Meet	
Mon 10	7.30pm	2026 Vero Com. meeting	Karen Thompson
Fri 14		Speedway - Carparking - TBC	
Sat 15		Speedway - Carparking - TBC	
Wed 19	10am	Morning Tea	Check Roster
		April 2025	
Tue1	7.30pm	Committee Meeting	John Barker
Wed 2	10am	Morning Tea	Check Roster
Thu 3	9-4pm	Ladies Craft Day	Kyra Wareing
Thu 10		Club Night	Maureen & Dianne
Wed 16	10am	Morning Tea	Check Roster
Mon 14	7.30pm	2026 Vero Com. meeting	Karen Thompson
		March 2026	
Sun 15 - Fri 20		2026 Vero International Festival of Historic Motoring Nelson	Ray Robertson Festival Director

Nelson Branch Committee & Appointments



Mike Bryan
Chair
027 223 4893
rootesqpnz@gmail.com



Joanne Hoffman
Vice Chair
021 598 873
Joanne.hoffman2@gmail.com



John Barker
Secretary/Treasurer
027 911 0763
drivingbaby7s@gmail.com



Maureen Joblin
Asst. Club Captn
027 552 5690
leightandmaureen@gmail.com



Dianne Lewis
Asst. Club Captn
021 0848 2878
pauldiannelewis@gmail.com



Ray Robertson
Crankcase Editor
0274 340 228
razar.robertson@gmail.com



Paul Lewis
Committee (Bldings)
021 0848 2878
pauldiannelewis@gmail.com



Rob Thompson
Committee
027 5475120
rob.karen@slingshot.co.nz



Leigh Joblin
Committee 6
0219450245
leighandmaureen@gmail.com



Malcolm Baker
Committee (Grounds)
021 032 8833
1949grumpi@gmail.com



Lesley Barker
Committee
021 255 1571
drivingbaby7s@gmail.com



Carolyn Bolland
Beaded Wheels Scribe
027 552 2256
carolynbolland@gmail.com



Kerrin Mazey
Swapmeet website
021 181 2658
kmazey@gmail.com



Max Clarke
Vehicle ID's
021 548 389
atmore.towers@xtra.co.nz



Wayne Price
Membership/Badges
03 542 3033
jandwprice@outlook.com



Jim & Kyra Wareing
Clubrooms Custodians
0275449998 or 0275448001
jimkyra@xtra.co.nz



Wes Dayton
Website/ IT
0220357110
wesdayton29aus@gmail.com



Roy West
Librarian
027 298 6994 7
61motra@gmail.com

Hi folks

I've just returned from three weeks in the South of our lovely country, catching up with family and friends but in many places attending other Car Club and VCC meetings and activities.

We often hear the cry... 'where will our Club be when we all pass on... there are no young ones coming on!' Evidence that I have seen in my travels contradicts this.. there are lots of younger ones out there and many are keenly involved!



In Dunedin I attended the 50th Anniversary of the OTAGO CLASSIC MOTORING CLUB, formally the NZ Post Vintage Car Club, that I was involved with when we formed in 1974. The older members were able to relax, interact and enjoy their participation as the whole weekend was organized by a group of younger members, several with pre schoolers tearing around, and what a great job they did!

From the registrations and rally packs to finger food and mingling on the Friday evening, right through the weekend everything hummed! Saturday we had four touring sections with lots of observational questions, photos of things we passed to locate and other in car Activities which took us south from Dunedin, down the Akatores, out to Milton and finally to Balclutha for morning tea. We then continued to Owaka and followed a gravel road, new for me, that by passed Clinton and finally popped onto HW1 at Pukurau from where we motored to the Gore VCC clubrooms for lunch.

After catching up with a few members of the first VCC Branch I was involved with, after I joined Gore in 1984, we continued through a parkland, round a lake, and back onto a winding gravel road I'd never traversed before, that took us through the Hokonui Hills [no moonshine found] finally emerging at Centre Bush, North of Invercargill. The final section headed down to Riverton then back to Invercargill, although several of us elected not to do this as it was already 4 O'clock and the evening function at the Ascot was scheduled for 6pm!

A magnificent evening followed, pre dinner drinks and chatter, lovely meal, historic videos rolling over, and brief talks by several of the

founder members still actively involved! Sunday saw everyone gathered at E HAYES and SON's shop to view the Burt Munro collection, other motorbikes and vehicles and have group photos taken. Hayes provided the Morning Tea drinks before everyone headed for home or to view Invercargill's other attractions! What a great weekend for about 70 of us, many of whom are also VCC members... all organized by the next and the next generations! Thanks team... your huge efforts were really appreciated by us 'oldies'!

I returned North, After a couple of days enjoying the Dunedin floods and another night or two thawing out at Akaroa, to the Canty VCC's Swap Meet at McLeans Island. Again it was great to see the teams of members involved in ensuring everything ran smoothly and the good crowds benefitted from the excellent weather on both the Friday and Saturday. For the last couple of years several of the Branches younger members have organized a display of Club eligible Japanese Cars, Nissans, Toyotas, Mazdas... and what a beautiful display it was attracting a lot of the public's attention!

At least 20, and perhaps 30, with different vehicles appearing on other days, from the 70's to the 90's were parked up together, some are modified many are very original but these vehicles are all Club eligible, and regularly turn out on VCC activities, adding an appealing variety to the VCC vehicles seen out and about... hence attracting the younger generations to be part of the VCC!

As I wandered I encountered many people I knew from other Branches, and some from our Branch, both with stalls, or just wandering and catching up, [talking burble] like me! I ran into our past



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Chairman, Kevin Mercer, who was returning from helping Lloyd run our Grasskana.... If I recall what he told me... 19 vehicles took part, 5 were younger drivers and only one younger person was a Branch member!

Again, a few younger ones came out because this is the sort of activity they enjoy.... I'm sure we'll welcome more new and younger members into the VCC if we continue to foster these types of events! A big thank you to Lloyd for letting us use his land and to Kevin for travelling up from Geraldine to help put together a fun day!

This year the Canty Branch held their Ladies Rally, as a Ladies and YOUNG PERSON's Rally.. and yes some younger people took part! An idea...maybe!

Your Committee has remained enthusiastic during my absences [6 weeks in the last 3 months, missing several meetings and great activities] and thank you Joanne for Chairing your Sept meeting!....But as I read through the minutes of my missed Sept meeting I have to be concerned! We are a busy, active Branch providing lots of activities for YOU, one of our 300 plus members BUT..... these minutes do not make great reading!

TO QUOTE.... from Rob's report to the Committee...

8th DEC, Richmond Xmas Parade... **we will not participate unless we have an ORGANIZER.**

10th - 11th JANUARY.. Fund raiser for us, providing the PARKING at the SPEEDWAY... a **COORDINATOR Needed PLEASE!**

15th - 16th FEBRUARY.. MOUTERE HOP... \$500 to be won by best CLUB DISPLAY... a **COORDINATOR needed PLEASE!**

14th MARCH.. SPEEDWAY STAMPEDE... another chance to raise funds for our Branch... yep you guessed it.... a **COORDINATOR is needed PLEASE!**

I havent even mentioned our **SWAP MEET on the 8th MARCH...** yep we have Coordinators but we need lots of YOUs to carry out the tasks before and on the day! PLEASE contact me or a Committee member with your offers of help now! Thanks...

... I have to say I'm mildly surprised that we are having so much trouble getting people to come forward and help to organize things... yep, we all have good reasons [I have a wedding in Thames on the 11th Jan] but there are lots of other folk who I know could be helping and aren't! **Please your Club needs YOU now!**

Our **Club Captains team**, of Maureen, Dianne and Rob, are doing a great job carrying us forward into 2025 but they need your help... **PLEASE, we urgently need TWO more members to join our CC and spread the load... in anticipation, THANK YOU!**

Our many activities always lead to many individual thank you letters, particularly following our hugely successful Daffodil fund raiser for the Cancer Society, and I would like to give a huge accolade to your Sec/Tres, **John Barker, assisted by Lesley, who the Minutes show have been very busy, on your behalf, saying THANK YOU!** Thank You to them, too!

Your Committee has also studied the Club's updated **Constitution** that brings us forward into the 21st Century and helps us conform with the Governments directives. We have agreed with this and forwarded our approval to your National Office, who will present the returns from all the 36 Branches at our Executive meeting in March. As I wandered and chatted at the Swap Meet, I received only positive responses to the new document!

I had promised you an update on the outcomes from the **National AGM in Tauranga last August**, but it is already November and already we have moved rapidly on! Your National President, George Kear has circulated a comprehensive document summarizing these outcomes... so I'm not reinventing the wheel! If you didn't receive this recently, and would like a copy, please let me know and I will happily forward you one.

In brief, a little other information;

- If applying for a **VIC**, please allow at least 3 months for the whole process.
- * You will soon receive a document from the National Office requiring you to **update your personal information**... including phone, email Address, vehicles owned etc. [National office records quickly become out dated as your situation changes... PLEASE, carefully complete this form so you are contactable more easily and quickly!]

* Please take care if you are asked to pass on someone else's information. You may be breaking the **Privacy Act** if you provide this information without their permission.

* We have a lot of very good **ADVERTISES supporting us to produce the CRANK CASE** for you. Now that copies are digital it is easy to forget who these advertises are...! Please make a list of them and their services and support them as they support us! Thank you!

REMINDER of SUMMER HAPPENINGS we could be supporting..

18th January, GOLDEN BAY Show... join us and make a weekend of it staying at the RIVER INN.

15th February, MURCHISON's A n P Show... if you are not at the MOUTERE HOP, please come down and support your Murch members, Rex, Geof and myself as we display our vehicles and promote your Club!

22nd February, TOP of the SOUTH MOTOR SHOW. Once again Peter Glue is organizing his charity fund raiser at the Richmond Show Grounds. It's great if we can support our fellow Club's in their activities.

I was sorry that other commitments took myself and others away from this years Biennial hosted by Marlborough. If we expect our neighbouring Branches to support us we must do our best to support them, as we can!

In conclusion, our new **Branch VCC WINGS**, window stickers have arrived. These are \$5 each and can be a fixed to your vehicles to help promote both the VCC and our Branch. Available at the Morning Teas.

**Meantime, SAFE and HAPPY SUMMER MOTORING.
MIKE B, Your Chairman.**

NEED A VCC NAME BADGE?

A order is about to be place for name badges shortly

**Give Wayne Price a call on 03 542 3033 or catch up
with Wayne at Wednesday morning teaa ¹²**



Club Run / Come Camping Weekend

Come and enjoy a back to basics Mystery weekend away or if camping is not you a day trip/ trips only half an hour from Richmond but a lovely out of the way destination which is highly unlikely you have been to and it's on our door step.

Plenty of parking for bikes, cars, caravans or motorhomes.

The building has a couple of bunkrooms, plenty of covered deck areas, kitchen area with only sinks, no range or cooking facilities inside. A day room with large firebox. Outside cooking over a fire and Bar-B-Q plate. Outside toilets and river.

This is a BYO almost everything weekend e.g. food, portable cookers, all drinking water needs to be boiled, sleeping bags, camp chairs etc etc \$10 a day per person, which goes to Scouting Nelson, who own the facilities.

Acting Club Captains Report



September 28 working bee / spring clean

Thank you to all who came and helped at the working bee. A heap of work was carried out, gardening, spraying of weeds, cleaning all the red and black chairs; Dianne had a sore back to prove the job was well done. The roof was cleaned of speedway dust and clay, and gutters cleaned. Water blasting the fence both sides and the kitchen got another sort out. A wonderful Bar-B Q lunch along with many other jobs being ticked off. Thankyou.

October 2 morning tea and mystery lunch run

The numbers of members at morning tea continues to grow 50 plus this week boosted by 3 under 12yr old grandchildren, school holidays. Thankyou grand parents for bringing them along. Great to see some kids. I asked the 3 kids to stand up, some of our members think they still feel like kids, a few stood up with the kids. All standing got a round of applause. Thankyou to John and Carolyn for organising the mystery lunch run with 20 cars taking part. Sorry Ray and I had to leave a little early but he had to get back to his office to carry on with 2026 organisation.

October 5 Grasskhana driving skills

Well what a great day, 18 cars competing, including 5 young members and three women. Plenty of safe space to play/compete, wet grass, with the grass getting wetter during lunchtime, which equalled less grass than when we started and mud starting to appear. No doubt the cars that took part all had a decent clean, we all found grass and mud in places that you would think would be impossible to get to. Many thanks to Lloyd and Kevin for your organisation and the use of Lloyds land and building, everyone wet home with huge smiles. I think we have 18 plus cars ready and waiting for the next one. A trophy is to be awarded in the near future to the overall winner.

October 5 and 6 Transport event at Higgins Park. Well done to the organisers and the weather played ball, thank goodness. This was an excellent event and great to see a number of our VCC members roaming around. For anyone from out of town reading this, Higgins Park is a wonderful place to visit with heaps of varied and interesting displays.

October 12 Clubrooms fence painting working bee.

Thank you to the 4 members who painted the fence under our master painters guidance Brent C. I understand there is still a small amount to do to finish the job.

October 16 morning tea

Another good morning tea numbers down slightly compared to what we have been had attending. I know we have a few members traveling to country. Thanks Mike and Murray for kitchen and tea making jobs.

October 18 19 Biennial Rally

Extra bits

Speedway parking. Thankyou to all who have added their names on the clipboard and thankyou to Paul L who put his hand up to be the organiser of Nov 2.

Under that sheet on the clipboard we have 3 more sheets that need names and an organiser/s. These nights have been offered to us first and we the club, stand to make \$1500 per night with 6 nights available this adds up to be close to what the swap meet makes.

Thank you to all the work going on behind the scenes for running the club and working towards the 2026 international rally. Believe us, there are many many challenges that keep coming along and many late nights and early mornings taking place. As we see it, this is going to continue for quite a long while, with only 500plus days until the huge event. As with any event it has to be right and all come together on the day/days. So please make our club proud and help us. Consider this, if you attended our Daffodil event this year, double that number of cars and you're close to the number of cars that have responded and are proposing to attend the 2026 International, for over a week. With Ray's huge workload, how about an article or two for the Crank Case, to help him out. He would love any and many articles of your choice from any member e.g. Motoring of any description, your restoration/s, travel, funny stories, photos etc. everyone has a story or two. N.B. all Crank Case info needs to be to Ray by the 20th of the month. Please do not be late with CC info as it puts huge pressure on Ray.

We enjoy having a variety of events; the goal is to have something for everyone. We have around 4 events a month; these are a club night and club run, mystery car and mystery lunch run. (Around 48 events for the year) Also we have the growing and popular morning teas. Also on the calendar are the Speedway parking, our Daffodil event and Swap meet for the year.

But, the bottom line is we need a hand.

We are short-staffed running club events. Our committee meetings are at the clubrooms on the first Tuesday of the month 7.30pm, come along. Please consider joining the committee or have a go at organising a club night or run. Where have you been that you can get us into for an interesting club night or run, please think outside the square?? A huge thankyou to the members who have offered and are organising November, December and Feb 2025 mystery lunch runs.

All the best Maureen, Dianne and Rob



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Membership



Sadly, we let you know of the passing of Sharon Kennedy, on Sunday 13th October in Wellington with her daughter at her side, after a battle with cancer.

We really got to know Sharon in 2013, at a National Model T rally in Motueka, being on the committee together.

You might recall seeing Sharon arriving in the red and white Hillman Imp.

She produced the Crankcase in the early 2000's and did a great job of it.

Sharon was an amazing Quilter and craftswoman, with many of the women in the club admiring her handiwork and learning skills from her. A lovely lady. Rest in Peace.



Karen and Rob and her many friends at VCC.

Marlborough Biennial Rally



Brayshaw Park







Above Pre- Rally Brayshaw park Below - A spring had sprung on The T exhaust at the Pinoli Orchard





Great to see the girls n guys out on their bikes





We headed out through the orchard which is over 500 hectares and on to the beach only to find 20 cars had missed the turn off and gone in the wrong direction

Next came the tricky process of turn everyone around



Ahoy the Cape Campbell Light house



Awaiting turns to tackle the very steep and loose gravelled climb which challenged a few drivers



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Above: Looking back to Lake Grassmere Salt works



Above & Right: the after match function at Brayshaw Park VCC Clubrooms

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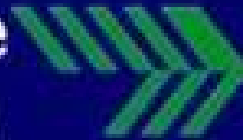
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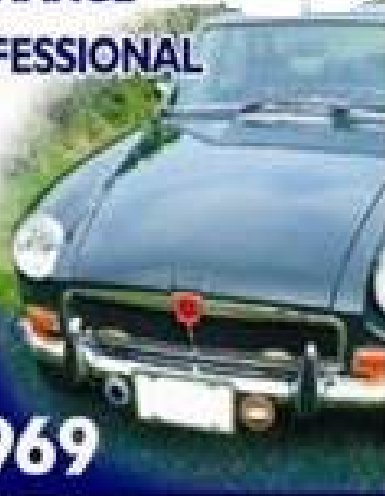


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Grasskhana at Quail Valley Eggs - Organised By Kevin Mercer and Lloyd Ewing

Kevin and Lloyd had put together a number of interesting Grasskhana configurations to test us all. The paddocks were damp following rain but with a good foundation, made for a real fun and thoroughly entertaining day for the 19 cars entered.

With the oldest being Dave & Yvonne Bells Model T and the youngest a Nissan or maybe it ws the little Peugeot.

It was especially good to have five young men out having some fun with us.

Thanks Kevin and Lloyd every one enjoyed themselves, I feel sure this event will happen again.

The cars however did take quite a lot of cleaning with my Merc carrying several bails of silage into the car wash.







1915 Model T, Model A Pickup, 26 Model T, Mini, Alvis, 2 x MX5 Roadsters, Daimler Dart, 78 Mercedes W123, 31 Morris, Top-liss Trial Car, , Nissan , Puegeot - many with multiple drivers





Above: the youngest driver with a licence only 1 week old had a ball driving & sliding Grandads (Ross Sice) Model A around the paddock



Mowsworth Rampage by Yvonne Bell

One day a discussion over a cuppa at the VCC Clubrooms between Rex Smith and David Bell turned into a plan to enter the Mowsworth Rampage.

The Rampage is an event held on the 19th October for people to travel on ride-on mowers from the Cobb Cottage Molesworth through to Hamner Springs 86kms and in the process raise money for the Nelson Cancer Society and Nelson Hospice.

David , me and a friend drove into the Cobb Cottage the day before the event where we met Rex and Lynette to set up camp.



That night reinforced why we don't like camping - cold night and very little sleep with people coming into the camp at all hours. We were up at 5am to pull down the tents, have breakfast, pack up and listen to instruction for the start of the day.

The mowers headed off at 7am leaving the support crews to finish packing and follow behind.



All shapes, sizes and model of ride-on rumbled through the valley alongside the Awatere River at various speeds but as a support vehicle I was able to slowly pass them until I eventually found David and Rex thoroughly enjoying themselves amongst the dust.

With a thumbs up from both of them I drove off, stopping about every 5 kms or so, waiting to make sure they were both still OK.

Lynette was in the other support vehicle also doing the same to keep an eye on the boys.

After 23 kms, morning tea was set up for the riders and supporters by the Cancer Society and Hospice women at Red Gate.



The second pit stop was lunch at Pig Trough Bridge a further 22 kms along the road, where a BBG had been set up with lots of, food, fruit and drinks. Both David and Rex made it into the lunch stop looking bit weary and dusty but still in good spirits.



Another 23kms through the valley following the Acheron River to the final Pit stop at Ford Gravel Pit for afternoon tea.





Unfortunately somewhere between lunch and afternoon tea, Rex was unable to keep his mower going after having some fuel issues and had to accept it was time to load his mower back on to his ute.



The final leg of about 18kms following the Clarence River into Hanmer Springs was the roughest part of the whole trip with lots of potholes, some rather large which took a bit of manoeuvring around. 35





After leaving Cobb Cottage at 7.00am the last rider arrived in Hanmer at 7.30pm to a rapturous welcome from the rest of the group, a few spectators and three Police Officers.

The Police then escorted the whole mower group through town receiving lots of waving and cheering from locals and visitors before ending up at the Rugby Clubrooms for drinks and nibbles and prize-giving.

Out of the forty four mowers that started about six had to retire and one lost forward gears but was not going to give up and came downhill backwards for the last 18kms into Hanmer.

What an amazing journey for everyone involved and a fantastic group of people that as a group managed to raise \$55,000 (and still counting for Nelson Cancer Society and Hospice



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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 November 7th 2024 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.

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

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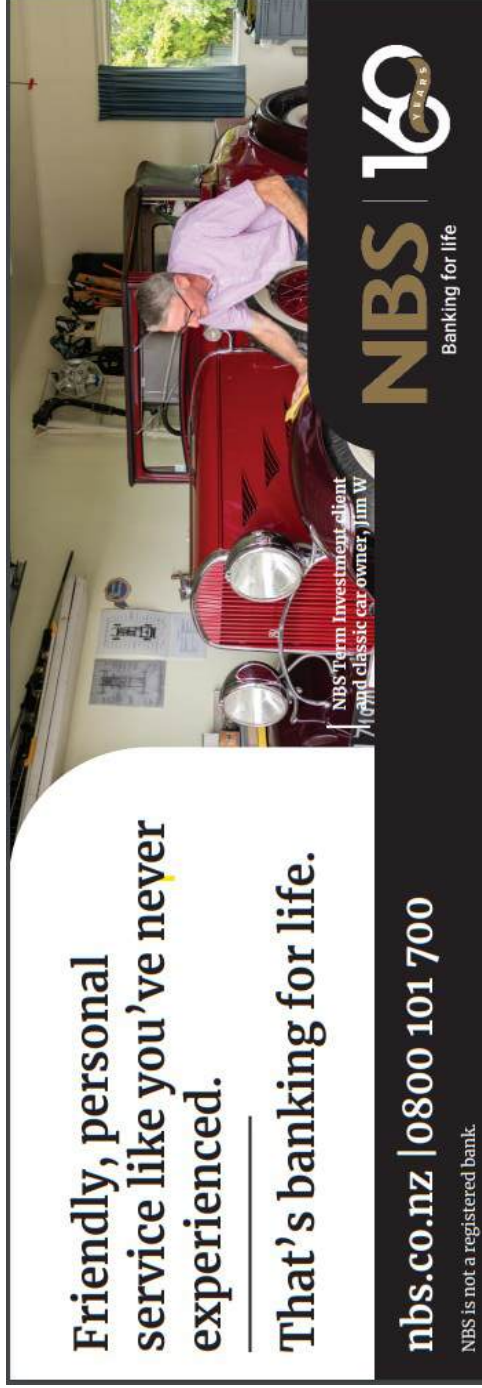


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