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JAN / FEB 2026 - ISSUE 295

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	Neale Batchelor	Phone: 09 435 2323
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	Derek Tutill	Phone: 0274 463 643

MEMBER SPECIFIC ROLES 2025 - 2026		
Club Sheriff	Vacant position	Phone:
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Website Admin & Facebook	Derek Tutill	Phone: 0274 463 643

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Website <http://www.csc.org.nz/>

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LOOKING AHEAD

SATURDAY 11th April 2026 - Ruakaka Classic & Custom Car Show

TUESDAY 21st April 2026 - Club Coffee Night at the Men's Shed - every 3rd Tuesday of the month, bring a plate and cash for the raffle

SUNDAY 26th April 2026 - Scenic Drive to Rawene

ODDS AND ENDS

Many thanks to all contributors, especially Pete who provided the photo pages for the Ngatea run as well as the cover, other event photos from Denis and articles from other members as credited.

Again there are events which I couldn't fit in which will be in the next issue - Rest Home visits from December and January, the Waipu Car Show, the Mangakahia Summer Festival on 22nd February and a couple of Breakfast With The Cars - which has now been renamed Coffee and Cars and is held at Tutukaka on 4th Saturday of the month 8.30-10.

Our President Phil is very good at sending email reminders for upcoming events, thanks Phil.





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GRAHAM GALLAND'S FAREWELL

Sadly our club member G.G. Graham Galland passed away on Monday 12th January 2026 and the Club was invited to attend his farewell at the Men's Shed, Railway Road, Whangarei on Thursday 15th January at 3.00 pm.

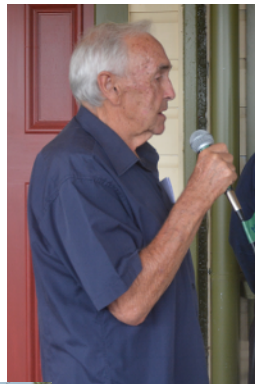
Graham and Margie invited us to join them and requested we wear our Car Club shirts and drive our Classic Cars in the convoy to the Crematorium at Maunu. Following that at 4.00 pm there was a small function at the Whangarei Club, Rust Avenue, for nibbles and drinks.

As well as family the event was well attended by our club, the Whangarei Rod and Custom Club and the Men's Shed both of which Graham was also a member of (he did some wood carving for the latter which was on display).

It was an upbeat farewell with short reminiscences from Phil for our club and officials from the Rod and Custom Club and Men's Shed. Vince Cocurullo (our previous Mayor) was the M.C. and kept things on track, and we had a few nibbles and drinks at the Men's Shed. A good send off for a well liked member.

Report by Phil and Judy





WINGS & WHEELS ONERAHI AIRPORT - 11TH JANUARY

This wasn't a club event in the end but we went in our Triumph and met another member there in his bright yellow Ferrari so parked together. Several club members came to the event and popped over to see us, it was a very well attended event by the general public and the weather was perfect. Many people took up the chance to fly in one or other of the beautiful old Warbirds planes - not a cheap trip but then again not something you can do very often. (Report by Judy)



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MEMBER PROFILE - RON AND KAY DIXON

Thank you for accepting us into the Classic and Sports Car Club.

Just to introduce ourselves, Kay and I are now both retired and recently moved from Waipu after 50 years to take up residence in Kamo.

Cars have always been in the blood. My first memory of car repairs was holding the torch for my accountant father while he dismantled the carb to clear a blockage in a 1937 Chev, on our way home from Auckland to Kaikohe, I was aged about 8.

At 15, you guessed it, I started work as an apprentice mechanic for a Ford dealer.

Over the years we have had a lot of cars, one or two quite rare, a Fiat Multipla, a 1949 VW split windscreen Ute, others being a 1935 Vauxhall ASX 12 and a 1969 Ford Cortina Mk 2 Station Wagon.

Our oldest car is a 1928 Chev soft top Tourer. We have a couple of Austin A30's, a Triumph TR4A and an Austin Healey 3000 Replica along with a modern classic a 1982 MKV Cortina Ghia. We are currently working on another rare 1957 A35 factory made Pickup , one of only 450 ever built. Our modern classic as featured being a 3 owner 1982 Ford Cortina MK5.

Over the 50 years of car ownership we have travelled a lot of New Zealand, a lot of trips being with car clubs and others including the ALL BRITISH RALLY in 1997 from Auckland to Christchurch in an MGBGT and

15 years later we did the GREAT BRITISH RALLY in our 1955 A30 Van. Phil and Marg were on the same rally.

The Vauxhall which has since been sold



Another trip was to the VCC Rally to Invercargill in 2006. We signed up and got the A30 Van sorted, and because it was such a long way from home wondered what problems we may have, a broken windscreen maybe or possible burnt valve or blown head gasket. In went these spares the last being a complete spare cylinder head and gaskets which fitted nicely under the driver's seat.

Away we went, Waipu to Taupo - Wellington to Picton - Blenheim. Just out of Blenheim we noticed the van was missing!!! Then started to overheat - bugger. We struggled on through Christchurch, a bit of a task having to use the handbrake with one hand to stop at roundabouts etc. whilst steering and changing gears, keeping the other foot on the accelerator to stop the engine stalling, just not enough hands and feet, you should try it. Arrived at Waimate, had tea and let the car cool down and removed the cylinder head. And yes as thought a blown head gasket. Cleaned everything up and replaced the head gasket and in bed by 11 o'clock. Next morning a quick road test only to find the little motor starting to miss again!!! We removed No 4 spark plug and spun it over to find water vapours spitting out.

Double bugger, off came the head again. Working under a 40 watt trouble light late the previous night I had only seen the blown gasket, but what does water do when it vapourises? It expands. The compression ratio must have gone to about 15:1 which had blown the gasket. I did not see the cracked head in the dark. But wait, under the driver's seat a replacement spare head soon went on and back on the road again no more problems.



The VCC rally coincided with the Austin 100 year celebration and rally from the Bluff to the North Cape. The rally route north had an option of travel through the Molesworth Station, from Hamner Springs to Blenheim, which we undertook, great sights but 6 hours on rough gravel roads was a test for any vehicle as you would know if you have travelled the route. Onwards North over the next few days to the top of NZ.

Our A30 Van is rated at 30 Hp and weighs about 750 KGs by contrast to our Healey 3000 Replica weighing 780 KGs and around 220 Hp. So have had lots in between and just sold our BMW Z4 Coupe. So yes vehicles have always been our passion..



Top photo our Triumph TR4A. Next down our Austin Healey Replica.



Bottom right is our Austin J40 Pedal Car with a couple of budding motoring enthusiasts, our Grandsons, taken a few years ago.



NGATEA TRIP - FRIDAY 26TH TO TUESDAY 30TH DECEMBER

DAY 3 - CAMBRIDGE TO OTOROHANGA

Another adventure awaits!

We stayed in Cambridge at the motel Cambrian at the end of Day 2 and after settling in all met up for a happy hour where we had lots of laughs, drinks and nibbles, getting to know each other a bit more. Then off out to a Thai restaurant with really yummy food, highly recommended by Selwyn and I and I'm sure the others. Back to the motel where the bed was comfy for a good night's sleep.

We met in the morning for another briefing on the day's activities, and another corny joke from Phil Schultz. Then we hit the road.

Our first destination was the NZ Timber Museum where we saw loads of old memorabilia, a huge old timber saw, some old 1920 - 1930 cars, and an amazing working model railway that is huge and a sight to see! We had lunch at the Cafe at the Museum - good coffee and food.

Then back on the road heading to Otorohanga where we visited The Kiwi House where we didn't see any Kiwi but did spot Kaka and Kea, some geckos and big lizards, and other birds in a really roomy high roofed aviary. The Arapuni bridge was on the road we took.

After that we headed to the Otorohanga and Waitomo Motel where we had a well-deserved rest before dinner at The Thirsty Weka Bar & Eatery, where the food was fabulous and I had the most delicious steak I've ever eaten! Back to the motel for a rest before another day's adventure.

(Report by Sue)

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DAY 3 - TIMBER MUSEUM AND TRAINWORLD



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DAY 4 - HAMILTON CLASSICS MUSEUM



Well I'm glad I only have to report on Day 4 as it not only has it been full days with great company but the visits have been incredible. After the usual morning briefing at 8.15, with Phil and his President's jokes, choc/muesli bar prizes for various infringements or highlights of yesterday and then singing Happy Birthday to Phil Scot it was off west, following well presented, interesting routes by Marg (a superb job) to visit the Classics Museum in Hamilton. After a good trip, unfortunately at the last roundabout before the museum Dave's Mazda 626 fell in love with a Honda in the centre lane (right hand indicator on) that decided to exit into a service station on the left suddenly crossing in front of Dave and their bumpers kissed. With only minor damage and RH indicator lens broken we made it to the museum, where our president demonstrated the use of a rubber mallet to remove the ignition key from his Fairmont!

We entered the museum via the retro 50's Rock'n'Roll jukebox diner (where Hamilton car clubs gather for breakfast on Sundays). What a display, so many glass top vintage petrol bowsers in excellent condition, with old oil cans (tin and glass), emblems, signs and models (too much to fully describe). Also unusual old classic cars and motorbikes, and one of Scott Dixon's race cars was also on display. After coffee and food and looking outside at the rain it was decided to skip the Zoo visit so off to our motel in Waiuku via the western side of the Waikato River, after having crossed the Huntly Bridge.

That night Phil our president had organised a coach trip up the south head side of the Manakau, with winding roads and steep paddocks on both sides of the road, to his son's place where Wayne, a chef, and Tash

served a wonderful meal in great surroundings and good company. Of course, Phil Scot had to blow out a candle and cut the cake. Before leaving we obviously had to inspect the man cave, boarded the bus for the return trip with Pete Romer deciding we needed a sing along on the way home with various levels of musical success. Again, many thanks to Phil and Marg, our club would be much less interesting and successful without them.

(Report by Brian Winger)



HAMILTON CLASSICS MUSEUM 2





HAMILTON CLASSICS MUSEUM 1



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NGATEA TRIP - DAY 5 - REPORT BY DAVID AND LIN

We gathered outside Phil's room, ready for his joke of the day to begin with an even bigger smile than usual, and he didn't have one! Lin cheered everyone up however by dispensing chocolate fish to everyone, for deeds and crimes best kept quiet, as what happens on tour stays on tour.

We set off for the short journey to Glenbrook and were there in time to see the engine arrive and connect up to the carriages, we had a group photo and everyone was smiling, they were so excited about the journey to come.

The train set off at a brisk pace but soon had to stop as there was a branch hanging across the track. Never fear, out got a volunteer with a very sharp train saw and proceeded to make short work of the offending tree. All too soon we were at Waiuku, where we meandered past ducks in a pond to a cafe, where copious amounts of food and drink were consumed, as it was nearly two hours since we had last eaten.

Back to the train, off we went, with a stop where you could get off and film the train coming up the gradient, very impressive. The train buildings and infrastructure are a credit to the many volunteers who keep the amazing complex running and looking so smart and tidy.

Off we went to see a man who had approached Phil at Ngatea who offered to show us his collection of Fords. It was at Waiau Pa, which was almost opposite Pollok where we had been for dinner the night before. What a show, in the first shed were some mint Cortinas and a Capri, some as-new with very low mileages.

In the second was a collection of Escorts, again some mint low Km vehicles, plus a Falcon Ute, over 20 years old with a very special interior, and less than 20 Km's on the speedo. It was delivered new and has never even been washed. His tractor was a Ford 4000 in mint condition which he had bought because it had a mulcher on the back. An amazing collection and a very interesting man with some great stories about how he had acquired many of his cars.

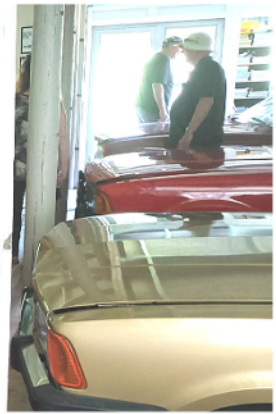
Back on the road and a loose convoy home, many stopping at BP Silverdale as many were showing signs of acute hunger and thirst.

A great trip, with the usual very high standard of daily running sheets with everything you needed very clearly displayed. Many thanks to Phil and Margaret for an amazing trip, with roads and settlements we didn't know existed, or had only read about, which made for great touring. A great group of members made it all the more enjoyable.

DAY 5 - GLENBROOK RAILWAY

Chainsaw tree branch!



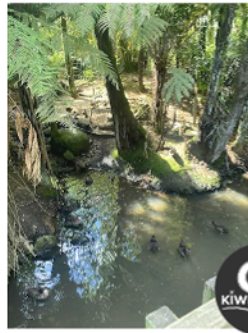


DAY 5 - FORD COLLECTION





NGATEA CARS



**DAY 3
OTOROHANGA KIWĪ HOUSE**



A few more photos from the Ngatea trip. First one is from Day 2 at the actual Ngatea Car Show. Second picture is from Day 3's visit to the Kiwi House. Below is from Day 4 at the Classics Museum in Hamilton.



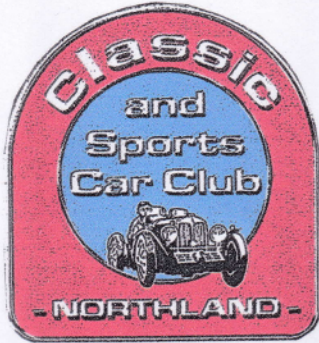
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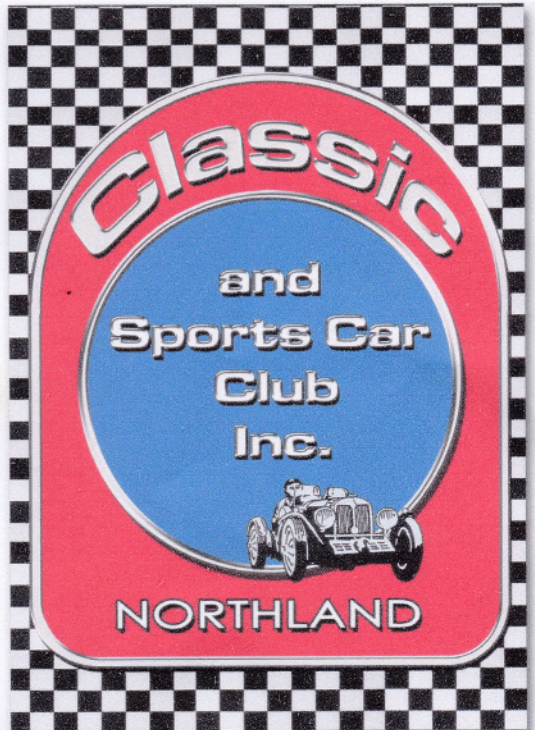
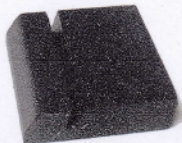
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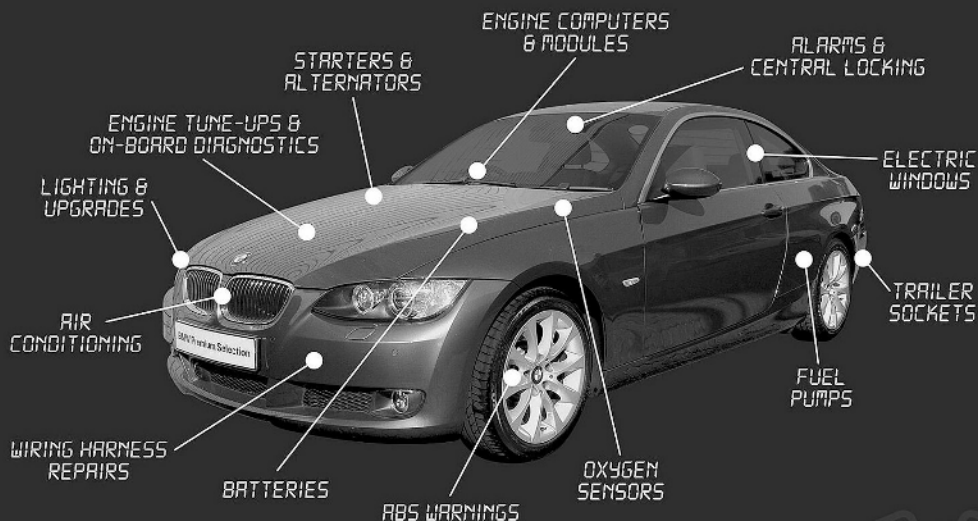
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