

# TOPDOWN

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE  
MX-5 CLUB OF NEW ZEALAND

JULY / AUGUST 2016

MAGAZINE

## ROUND THE MOUNTAIN

MX-5 MEMBERS TACKLE THE  
MOUNTAIN TERRAIN



[WWW.MX5CLUB.ORG.NZ](http://WWW.MX5CLUB.ORG.NZ)



## MX-5 RAISES THE ROOF AS MOST RELIABLE USED CONVERTIBLE

The Mazda MX-5 (05-15) has been named the most reliable used convertible for summer driving, in a new study of 3-8 year old cars by the UK industry's leading provider of direct consumer warranties, Warranty Direct.

The company analysed its database of 50,000 live policies to reveal that Mazda's classic and recently-revived roadster is the least likely of all convertibles on Warranty Direct books to leave you stranded with pricey, undesirable repairs.

Positions were sorted on a 'Reliability Index' score given to each car. This was calculated based on a car's frequency of failure, cost of repair, duration of repairs, average age and mileage.

The Mazda MX-5 and Vauxhall Tigra were found to be significantly less expensive to repair in comparison to other convertibles, with a maximum repair cost of £501 (NZ\$920) and £663 (NZ\$1217) respectively.

Electrical faults were by far the most common repair for convertibles, likely caused by complex folding roofs. Thirty-seven per cent of BMW Z4 garage visits were caused by electrical issues - more than in any other car.

Warranty Direct's Chief Operating Officer, Philip Ward, said: "The Mazda MX-5 is head and shoulders above its competition. It's fun to drive, has long-proven reliability and is surprisingly affordable in terms of convertible ownership.

"Manual folding roofs have fewer parts to go wrong, whereas modern electric roofs include motors and hydraulic pumps, which can cause expensive repairs. This explains why some high-end convertibles appear lower on the list."

The study also revealed the most unreliable convertibles. The 2004-2012 Porsche Boxster was found to have the worst Reliability Index score, while the Audi S5 Cabriolet was the most expensive to repair. 🌀

Visit the MX-5 Blog to find links to the full list of Top 10 Most Reliable Convertibles.

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Source: <http://www.blog.warrantydirect.co.uk>

## THE NEXT-GEN MIATA MIGHT BE MADE OF CARBON FIBRE

The fourth-generation Miata isn't exactly a heavy-weight, but Mazda is planning a significant weight reduction for the next-generation of the roadster, due out sometime after 2021.

In order to achieve that goal of less weight, Mazda won't shrink the Miata's footprint but rather rely on lighter materials, such as carbon fibre.

"The size is right," Nobuhiro Yamamoto, program manager for the MX-5 Miata, told Autocar. "But in the future lightweight materials will be very important and will be used in this car. Now carbon fibre is very expensive,

but we have in development affordable carbon fibre, so the MX-5 will be lighter in the future."

And because there will be less weight to haul around, the next-generation Miata will be able to use smaller engines. It's been reported that a three-cylinder engine could be used in the next Miata, although there has been no word if that mill would use turbocharging technology.

"It's a simple concept," Yamamoto said. "The vehicle weight gets lower, there's a smaller engine, smaller tire. It's a lightweight sports car."

The current Miata launched just



last year, so don't expect to see a carbon fibre version for quite some time. Autocar reports the next Miata won't launch until 2021, but some suspect it will be 2023 or later until a new version of the popular roadster arrives. 🌀

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Source: <http://www.mazda-motors.com>

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Back Cover: Photo by Caryl Simpson at Okaramio, not far from Renwick heading towards Nelson.

Editor: Vicky Powell: [topdown@mx5club.org.nz](mailto:topdown@mx5club.org.nz)  
Printer: Advocate Print, Rotorua

### Article Guidelines:

- » Feel free to submit articles via email.
- » Articles should be no longer than 900 words.
- » Include your name (and the article author's name if different), contact details and use full names in your text.
- » If you submit an article, you agree to have it edited as the Editor sees fit.
- » The NZ MX5 Club does not pay for submissions.
- » If the article has been published before in any form, please indicate this.
- » TopDown is read by all ages, so please take this into account when considering subject material and language.
- » No article which the Editor or the NZ MX5 Club deems to encourage breaking the law, either directly or by inference will be printed.

### Picture Guidelines:

- » High resolution JPEGs are preferred. (300 dpi)
- » The preferred method for submission of images is by email.
- » No single image should exceed 8 MB.
- » All photographs must be submitted with the permission of the photographer.
- » Vehicle registration numbers will be shown unless removal is requested.

Please Note: The Editor cannot guarantee a date for publication. The above are guidelines only, and may be varied in exceptional circumstances. **THE EDITOR'S DECISION IS FINAL.**

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Membership subscriptions 2016/2017 - \$50.00 per car, per year for full membership, including Topdown magazine. For membership application forms, visit our website or phone the Membership Co ordinator - Willie Williamson on (09) 817 3327

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HI EVERYONE

The 2016 AGM is over and the National Committee fully staffed once more. Welcome to our new committee members, Sandra Jones, Morrin Layton (welcome back!) and Martin Whenmouth, the Northern regional co-ordinator, and also congratulations to Trish Wiseman who is our new Treasurer. I am pleased to remain as your Club President this year.

The recent Round the Mountain run for the National club was a huge success – despite the weather, a rather large earthquake, and some dubious costumes on Saturday night; later in the magazine you will find some of the photographic evidence!

On our way to the Round the Mountain run, Martin and I took a few extra days and travelled the East Cape of the north island. I would like to share with you the reason that Martin should just always drive.....

Leaving Gisborne (to Napier) he decided it was time I drove. I was more than happy to do this, after all, it is my car.....

Isn't it funny how, when the male is in the passenger seat, all the stuff which won't fit anywhere else but at your feet suddenly

disappears into thin air to allow the male legs and feet to stretch out at will. Then, within minutes he decided that he would 'help' by manning the wipers for me from this point forward .....really?

I was notified at approximately 5 min intervals, what our elevation above sea level was.....very important whilst driving through mountains, you never know – there may have been a tsunami warning any moment.

He rummaged through the glove box, found the remote to the stereo, which still had its plastic wrapping on and proceeded to re-programme the whole stereo including sorting all the flashing lights. Very helpful. So was him emptying the glove box, cleaning it out and asking me what all the stuff in there was for.....I considered myself reprimanded....

His advice on the changes to the gears was thorough, lengthy and well received.....well I didn't stop and push him out over a cliff!

Suddenly he had a revelation..... he would take a photo of me driving (for a change) with my new phone which he couldn't operate.....but 15 minutes later, yes he had a photo of his beloved



driving, and proceeded to get me to teach him how to get it onto facebook (which he had no prior knowledge of).....all I can say is that you guys are lucky that the women in your lives (and cars) have eternal patience, and are good at multi tasking.....

He also fiddled with my proper camera and took multiple photos of .....well .....not much at all.....

This was all achieved while supervising the music choice as well and alphabetising the cds in the container which was allowed to remain on the passenger floor.

I do love you dearly Martin, but next time I think I'll let you drive.....honey.

BRENDA WHITE, PRESIDENT

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## FROM THE EDITOR

HI EVERYONE

It's great to see that the weather doesn't seem to have stopped MX-5 club members from getting out and enjoying their favourite little car.

The AGM was held recently up in Auckland with reports on page 5. A big thanks to all the wonderful committee members that dedicate time and energy into making the MX-5 Club such a great community for MX-5 enthusiasts throughout the country.

Lots of trip reports this issue with the 'Round the Mountain' looking like lots of laughs; and numerous club runs in the regions. Thanks to all the contributors!

We've got some extra stories that we couldn't fit in the magazine on the Editors Blog at the MX-5 website; you can see a two-tone Miata with a **denim interior** (yes, you did read that right); download a detailed article by two of the key Engineers who designed the original NA MX-5; Mazda NZ joins forces with the TrackTime Driving Academy to offer driver trainer; and someone has finally shoved a V8 into the little MX-5 and you can check out the results on the blog. (<http://mx5club.org.nz/blog/>)

If you haven't done so already, be sure to renew your club membership so you continue to receive the magazine and enjoy the benefits membership offers.

Happy driving...

VICKY POWELL, EDITOR

Email: [topdown@mx5club.org.nz](mailto:topdown@mx5club.org.nz)



## NEW MEMBERS

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS...

### NORTHERN

Mike Eadie and John Eadie, AUCKLAND

Mike Hedges, AUCKLAND

Leila Thomas, AUCKLAND

### WAIKATO

John and Florence Prangnell, HAMILTON

### BOP

Charles Haywood, TAURANGA

### TARANAKI

Peter and Glenys Terry, NEW PLYMOUTH

### KAPITI COAST

Ron Mitchell and Shirley Kelly, PARAPARAUMU

Donna Eden, LEVIN

New members should start receiving emails from their regional co-ordinator regarding details of upcoming trips. If you are new to the club and coming along for the first time, please make yourself known to the event organiser.

### MANAWATU

Brian and Sue Rowe, PALMERSTON NORTH

Robin and Liz Feck, DANNEVIRKE

Terry and Fleur Kreegher, FOXTON BEACH

Trevor and Colleen Weir, PALMERSTON NORTH

Jill and Graham Mair, PALMERSTON NORTH

Helena and Robert Adamson, CARTERTON

Allen and Margaret Castleton, PALMERSTON NORTH

**DEADLINE: FOR TOPDOWN SEPT/OCT  
ISSUE - 1 OCTOBER 2016**

Keep up to date with the latest MX-5 news at:

[www.mx5club.org.nz](http://www.mx5club.org.nz)  
[www.facebook.com/MX5ClubofNZ](https://www.facebook.com/MX5ClubofNZ)

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# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2016

MX5 members from around NZ gathered at Mazda NZ HQ in Auckland recently for the club's Annual General Meeting.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

2016 has been an exciting year with many new improvements to the club as a whole. There are facebook pages for the National club, Manawatu, Taranaki, MX5 Central, Kapiti and Northern all running with great success as another tool for us to all keep in touch. We have initiated the colour centre pages in Topdown, at no extra cost to members and it continues to be our crowning glory as it remains on time, informative and interesting, and that's every time. I would like to send out a heartfelt thank you to Vicky Powell who continues to produce our amazing magazine at a very high standard.

At this point I would also like to acknowledge the members of the committee who are standing down this year, Ray McKirdy, Kevin Scrimgeour and our treasurer Anne Williamson (15 years, life members).

I would also like to thank all the committee for their dedication this year to improving things for all members, especially Frank my VP,

Marilyn - Secretary and of course Anne our Treasurer, with an extra special thank you to Willie who is our membership/database guru.

The theme for this year has definitely been for the national committee to embark on a continual curve of improvement for you, or as Lee would put it, to drag us screaming and kicking into the age of technology... instigating the online registration for the last two events on the website, the newsletter that comes out by email, and generally bossing us around until we understand all that techo stuff. This has ensured that organisers are getting up to date, current information and hopefully also making it easier for you our members. The days of ringing someone up or posting something in are fading into the background.

These changes will continue to evolve and we hope to be able to roll out this registration system for all regions to use to have their members register for their own

hometown events, and also in the future the new registration and renewal of your membership will be done in this way, along with many other uses. So again I stress to you – make sure your email address /and details are up to date, use the website and facebook pages to find out information for yourself. Unfortunately in this busy lifestyle we all lead, these tools are a necessary evil. We are also looking at upgrading the website in the very near future to make it much more user friendly particularly for our regional co-ordinators so that information for you is readily available and up to date, this has been a goal for some time. We have seen the club remain stable in number at just over 400 cars. This is all the serious stuff. The club joined the FOMC last year, you may remember our speaker from 2015. The association with the FOMC is continuing and we have tapped into their knowledge base regarding the recent changes to Health and Safety. ▶



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT (CONT.):

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mazda NZ for the continued support of our club as a whole. Not only hosting the AGM and for our committee meetings monthly; for their unfaltering financial support of the club, allowing us to host Driver Training in Taupo every year, but also supporting our National get togethers (biannually) allowing us to keep the price that members have to pay to come and play as low as possible, hopefully encouraging as many of us as possible to come out and enjoy our little cars in the company of good friends and likeminded individuals from around the country. I would especially like to express my thanks to Glenn Harris. Always on hand, always with a smile, advice, or a cheeky comment, it's a pleasure to work with the only man who has ever called me 'boss'.

What is the key to a successful club? At the Classic Car show charity run in Auckland this summer, I was approached by the president of another club, he quizzed me about our success, commenting "how do you get this kind of support, and look at everyone, all friends and everyone smiling." My only explanation to him was that nobody gives a stuff if you drive a 19 year old very ordinary car (like mine)

or whether you have spent your last dollar on the details of a brand new ND. I think we are actually a social club who just happen to like driving MX5's. In a similar vein, I was approached by the Exocet club president. They are a small club but wanted to amalgamate with us, but after lots of discussion the committee decided that the bottom line is MX5, that's why we are here – no questions asked. So I had to advise him that no, unfortunately we just couldn't open the floodgates to all and sundry. Our magic is our magic, and its all due to the love of our little cars.

Ok onto some lighter stuff –

I don't need to rave on about the events that we are lucky enough to be involved in, we all read our Topdown. But one highlight which cannot go unmentioned would have to be the launch of the ND in August last year. With five of our regions represented through 64 cars we were party to the Mazda dream and I know that several of our members were on the waiting list that day to purchase the new beauty. Alan Hutchinson must have sold about 13 NDs just by his enthusiasm and pride in his new red baby at the Intermarque gathering at Ellerslie earlier this year.

The future looks bright .....Driver Training in October, the BONNITT and of course the Kapiti Nationals next March.

So I will leave you with this thought. What kind of club member are you?

Do you open your Topdown and think – why has that woman always got something to say? Or do you think wow look at all of us out there with a smile on our face?

Do you sit in the pouring rain with your picnic and thermos and umbrella staunchly denying that you're getting wet or do you not come out if it looks like drizzle?

Do you drive the desert road topdown in the snow and sleet?

Maybe you spend your hard earned money on a onesie for your beloved in the garage?

I don't mind who you are, what you drive or how obsessed you are with tail light surrounds, I think to myself some days, wow I have never had so many friends.

I would consider it my pleasure and privilege to serve you again as president this coming year.

BRENDA WHITE, PRESIDENT 🌀

# AGM MINUTES:

## Mazda MX5 Club of New Zealand

Minutes of the 2016 Annual General Meeting  
 Sunday 26 June 2016, 1030hrs, at Mazda Head Office, Mt Wellington



**Present :** 71 (individuals)

**Apologies :** 87 (individuals)

**Minutes from 2015 AGM :** Accepted as true and correct record Frank Willett / Mark Brinsbury

Glenn Harris, General Manager of Sales and Marketing at Mazda New Zealand spoke of the close relationship Mazda New Zealand has with the Mazda MX5 Club. This is quite an excellent and unique relationship, in fact he said, one of the best in the world.

Tim Nalden, Mazda New Zealand Product Planning Manager gave an overview of the new MX5, and the most impressive titles of 2016 World Car of the Year and 2016 World Car Design Award. The RF model (retractable fastback) will be available in New Zealand before Christmas 2016.

**Presidents Welcome and Report:** Brenda White, the President, welcomed all attendees of the 2016 Annual Meeting, especially the out of town members, for taking the time to come to Auckland. *Accepted Trish Wiseman / Seconded Lee Keighley*

**Treasurers Report :** The Treasurers Report was presented by Anne Williamson, the Treasurer. Current account deficit \$10,092.00. A copy and explanation is attached. *Accepted Brenda White / Seconded Shona Bol*

### Election of Officers

President – Brenda White	Nominated Trish Wiseman / Seconded Ron Bol
Vice President – Frank Willett	Nominated Trish Wiseman / Seconded Murray Shaw
Secretary – Marilyn Harp	Nominated Trish Wiseman / Seconded Brenda White
Treasurer – Trish Wiseman	Nominated Marilyn Harp / Seconded Anne Williamson
Committee – Scott Cleland	Nominated Bob Cleland / Seconded Ron Bol
Lee Keighley	Nominated Taylor Attwood / Seconded Glenn Campbell
Keith Jones	Nominated Sandra Jones / Seconded Ron Bol
Taylor Attwood	Nominated Allan Hutchison / Seconded Jeff Griffin
John Wakefield	Nominated Frank Willett / Seconded Marilyn Harp
Morrin Layton	Nominated Frank Willett / Seconded Trish Wiseman
Martin Whenmouth	Nominated Frank Willett / Seconded Willie Williamson
Sandra Jones	Nominated Keith Jones / Seconded Frank Willett

### NATIONAL EVENTS

#### Taupo Track Day 2016

Following the discussion last year at the Annual Meeting regarding the limited number of participants at Track Day, this year, registrations were initially called from members who had never been, or who had not been for the last five years. This has yielded 36 registrations. The remainder of the 50 driver places have now been filled. Track Day will be held on Saturday 8 October 2016 in Taupo.

#### National Rally 2017

This will be officially launched in the August Topdown. Kapiti Region is hosting the event from 10 to 12 March 2017. Because of the new Health and Safety Rules, the Committee had decided on a change of name, taking out the word 'Rally'.

### GENERAL BUSINESS

1. The National Committee has sent out packs to all Regional Co-Ordinators containing a safety message to be read at the start of each run and also four high vis vests for the Run Officials.
2. It has been brought to the Committee's attention that several regions have regular Run participants who are not financial members. General discussion ensued and the decision was that this is fine for one or two initial runs, but then participants are expected to join, or leave. Regional Co-Ordinators should keep this in mind. Annual membership is only \$50 per year.
3. The question was asked about members joining other Regions for runs. This is to be encouraged as we are a National organisation.
4. Every financial car is issued with an annual car sticker. These should be placed on the car and removed if the car is sold.
5. A huge vote of thanks was expressed for Anne Williamson, our retiring Treasurer, for her tireless work for the Club over the past 15 years. She has been a source of immense information and will be missed on the Committee, but we look forward to seeing her and Willie at events in the future, as a participant, rather than an organiser. Once again thanks Anne! There being no further business, the meeting closed at 1120 hrs. Run and lunch to follow at Homai Bowling Club.

# TREASURERS REPORT:

## MAZDA MX5 CLUB NZ INC AGM HELD 26 JUNE 2016

You have in front of you the Statement of Financial Performance & Position for the financial year ended 31 May 2016.

This year the club is carrying forward a deficit of \$10,092.

Points of mention are:

### TAUPO – OCTOBER 2015:

Funding and income for this event were received in the last financial year with the majority of the expenditure being taken up in this financial year –Income received = \$5,010 + Mazda contribution of \$5,000 = Total Income of \$10,010 Expenses = \$8,853 giving a net income over expenditure of \$1,157 for this event.

### NATIONAL RALLY 2017:

To secure a booking for accommodation for this event we were required to pay a deposit of \$3,500 to Silverstream Estate along with a deposit of \$500 to Pencarrow Lodge – This was paid on the understanding that when they had received registrations from our members they would then refund the monies directly back to the club no later than 20 January 2017.

### ROUND THE MOUNTAIN EVENT :

Income for this event of \$4,440 has been taken up in the accounts this financial year with the expenditure coming out of the next financial year.

### NATIONAL/REGIONAL SPONSORSHIP:

We sponsored merchandise for the Bonnitt Tour 2016 to the value of \$189.00.

### POSTAGE:

Postage is always a big expense for the club and is one of the main components of your membership fee. We purchased envelopes in March to the value of \$3,842 to carry us through the next few months which will have pushed this figure up along with the ever increasing price of postage. I don't feel that there is any way around this expense if we wish to receive our beautiful club magazine by post instead of it just being available on line.

Postage is due to increase again on the 1st July so I would recommend that the committee get in before this date and secure more envelopes to see them through the next year.

### RAFFLES:

Through continued hard work by the committee we raised \$1340.00 in raffles with expenses totalling \$200.00 leaving a net surplus of \$1140.00.

### INTEREST RECEIVED:

Our savings account has a balance of \$28,706 having earned interest of \$574 for the year.

### FOMC:

We are continuing with our membership of the Federation of Motoring Clubs and paid an annual levy of \$200.

### MEMBERSHIP:

Membership Fee for the next financial year will remain at \$50



# FINANCIAL REPORTS:



## MAZDA MX5 CLUB OF NEW ZEALAND INC STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2016

2014/15	<i>Income</i>	2015/16	
\$		\$	\$
4,680	Activities (Taupo)	330	
4,260	Activities (Hampton Downs)	1,400	
	Activities (Round The Mountain)	4,440	
27,881	Activities (National Rally )	-	
5,000	Sponsorship Mazda NZ Ltd	-	
4,330	Clothing	2,187	
885	Interest Received	574	
900	Newsletter Advertising / Sponsorship	1,100	
19,949	Subscriptions	18,954	
1,247	Raffles/Donations etc.,	1,340	
2,128	A Plus Rally	-	
<u>71,260</u>		<u>30,325</u>	
	<b><i>Expenditure</i></b>		
442	Internet Expenses	419	
1,120	Bank Charges	854	
4,079	Clothing	3,058	
846	General	884	
1,825	Activities (Taupo)	7,028	
	Activities (Hampton Downs)	1,809	
26,969	Activities (National Rally)	4,000	
8,230	Topdown Printing	8,256	
5,515	Postage	10,334	
346	Printing & Stationery	816	
1,114	Printing of Stickers/Membership Cards	1,646	
544	Northern Region Prizes & Sponsorship	200	
510	Regional/National Prizes & Sponsorship	189	
4,100	Charitable Donation - A Plus Trust	-	
926	Insurance - Public Liability	926	
<u>56,565</u>		<u>40,417</u>	
<u>14,694</u>	-Deficit / Surplus of Income over Expenditure	<u>(10,092)</u>	

# 2017 MX-5 NATIONALS



## 2017 MX5 KAPITI NATIONAL RALLY

IN THE COOLEST LITTLE CAPITAL IN THE WORLD. COME AND ENJOY THE WELLINGTON EXPERIENCE. FROM DRIVING IN THE CITY, THEN ALONG THE COASTLINE TAKING IN THE SALT AIR.

FRIDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> MARCH – MONDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2017

We have set the price at \$245.00 per person. This will need to be paid to the club bank account, BNZ 02-0280-0307057-00 by 1 October 2016.

*This is your registration fee only, your accommodation payment is separate (details following page)*

*This includes all your meals and activities for the weekend,  
(drinks and accommodation at your own expense)*

**All activities will be based at Silverstream Retreat with excellent parking available.**

### **Friday 3.30pm Registration:**

Meet and Greet with drinks and nibbles kindly sponsored by Stevens Motors and Capital City Mazda, followed by a light dinner.

### **Saturday: 3 Runs to choose from**

Beaches and Relics Kapiti Coast

Visit World Famous Southwards Museum

Wairarapa mystery tour

Dinner Saturday night: we take a bus to our Mystery Banquet at an exotic location, with breath taking views of the Cook Strait.

### **Sunday : Amalgamated drive**

A mass drive around the glorious South Coast of Wellington then onto Ohariu Valley farm for a barbeque lunch. Participate in axe throwing, clay bird shooting, gumboot throwing, golf, Petanque, giant Jenga on the deck. Sunday after Lunch is free time, you can enjoy some of Wellington attractions such as Te Papa, stroll along the waterfront, or maybe shopping, or back for a rest!

Dinner at Silverstream retreat with a concert featuring The Rag Poets, well known Wellington Band.

**Monday:** Breakfast and Farewells.

ANY ENQUIRIES PLEASE DON'T HESITATE TO CONTACT

TONY FULLERTON SMITH  
OR SHARON EWING

wendant@xtra.co.nz or  
ks.ewing@xtra.co.nz

04 5683951/ 0272891632  
0272744443



WELLINGTON'S WIND  
TURBINES AT MAKARA  
PHOTO BY ANNE THORNLEY

# ACCOMMODATION



PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CHECK  
OUT THE SILVERSTREAM  
WEBSITE

<http://www.staywithus.co.nz/>

Bookings are now open, but you cannot book  
directly to Silverstream.

to book accommodation you need to contact

Sharon Ewing with your option and details on

[accomodationkapitinat@mx5club.org.nz](mailto:accomodationkapitinat@mx5club.org.nz)

(IF YOU ARE JOINING IN WITH OTHER COUPLES PLEASE  
HAVE ONE PERSON BOOK THE MULTIPLE  
ACCOMODATION FOR YOU WITH YOUR NAMES IE :  
Number 1 or 2)

There is a variety of accommodation available at differing  
prices as below:

1. One three bedroom cottage for 4 to 6 people  
\$293.25 for 4 per night. (\$48.85 pp per  
night)
2. Several Two bedroom Apartments for 4 people from  
\$161.00 per night. (\$40.25 pp per night)
3. Several one bedroom studio units king/twins with  
own bathroom \$115.00 per night total.
4. Several Studios Double with bathroom  
\$126.50 per night total.
5. Several Studios units Twin with shared bathroom  
\$99 per night total.
6. Several Bunk rooms, for 2, shared bathroom (more  
than one bunk in room so you do not have to have a  
top bunk) \$99 per night total.

All rooms come with linen

50% deposit required to confirm booking

Prices include GST.

Sharon will email you back with a confirmation of your choice and  
the total price and bank account details

First payment (50%) due on 1 November 2016

Final payment (50%) due 17<sup>th</sup> February 2017

NO REFUNDS WILL BE GIVEN AFTER 1 OCTOBER 2016



# ROUND THE MOUNTAIN 2016



23 JULY 2016 // REPORT BY MARGARET SPILLANE // PHOTO'S BY BRENDA WHITE, TAYLOR ATTWOOD & LEE KEIGHLEY

On Friday 23th July, 15 Northern MX5 Club cars met at Drury at 10am to begin our Round the Mountain weekend. Those with work and other commitments would leave at varying times during the day, and along with MX5'ers from Kapiti and Central we would all meet up at the Wairakei Resort.

The weather, dismal as it was, did not dampen our enthusiasm, (pardon the pun) as we set off in pouring rain with tops up. We stopped at Tirau for lunch and by around 4pm we had arrived at the resort. Once sorted and settled we assembled at an informal gathering outside Brenda and Martin's room. It was time to catch

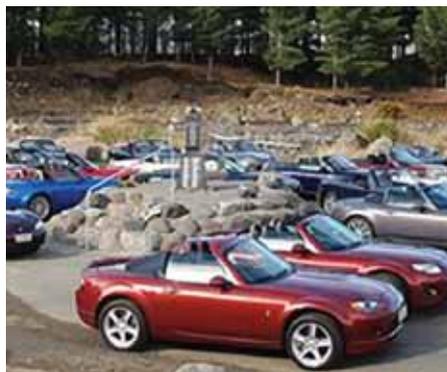
up, reacquaint and talk about the weather and our cars of course. We eventually headed indoors and continued to socialise and catch up in the warmth of the bar before dining and retiring. (Some of us earlier than others).

Saturday morning, we gathered to receive our run sheets and a Safety briefing from President Brenda. We learned that, as we had in excess of 40 cars we would be split into two groups with a 10 minute gap between them. There was an awesome display of hats, all of them worn to keep ears and heads warm. They were almost competition for the cars!!

The day varied between heavy rain and sunshine, which allowed

for Tops Down some of the time. I have to mention Sharon and Keith Ewing from Kapiti who had their top down the whole time. Hardy souls.

We left the resort and followed State Highway 1 through Turangi onto St Highway 4 to Highway 47, with a very shy Mt Ngaruahoe on our left and made our way to the Station Cafe at the end of Findlay Street. There we enjoyed a fantastic pre arranged morning tea of ultra fresh club sandwiches, sausage rolls, and homemade scones with jam and whipped cream. Yum. The cafe staff did a great job of tending to our coffee and tea orders and the food was outstanding.



Back on the road we headed to Highway 4 and after about 20k we turned into Horopito Motors on Matapuna Road. This place was a revelation. The movie "Smash Palace" garage scenes were shot here. Fifteen acres of vehicles and parts accumulated over a period of 60 years. A wreckers yard with a difference. Totally fascinating.

We left Horopito Motors, turned left onto Highway 4, left at Tohunga Junction toward Oakune. After lunching in Oakune we regrouped at the Tangiwai Disaster Memorial and took group photos of the cars and the people. When leaving the Memorial we had the choice to drive St Highway 1 to Wairakei or drive the western

side of Lake Taupo.

It was an awesome day of spectacular scenery, with the changing vistas from misty to sunny; to lush green country side; and the weird and wonderful landscape of the Desert Road.

All safely arrived back at the resort to freshen up and prepare for our dinner and dance. A "dress-up" occasion with the theme being "winter." There were snow queens, icequeens, snowmen, a couple of swiss alpiners, and even a Santa, and a young man wandering around in the president's pyjamas.! There was a prize for best dressed man and woman. It would have been very difficult to choose.

After a late night with much mirth and lots of dancing it was up early Sunday morning for a substantial breakfast, and time to farewell those that we would not see for a while. Some headed straight home, others joined Pres. Brenda and went to Rotorua and did the Hamurana walk. This place looks stunning.

All in all, a fantastic weekend, Wairakei is a warm and comfortable place to stay, with awesome staff. Lots of laughs of course, great company and the best little cars in the world. Thanks to our National Committee. ❄️

More photo's on the Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/MX5ClubofNZ/](http://www.facebook.com/MX5ClubofNZ/)



# AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

KAPITI RUN: 23 JULY 2016 // REPORT & PHOTO'S BY SHARON EWING

Tony, Wendy, Keith and I joined in the around the mountain which was a National event put on by the Northern club. We headed to Taupo on Friday had a good drive with the tops down all the way.

We stayed at Wairakei Resort, north of Taupo. Friday we had drinks and nibbles and met other MX5er's.

Saturday morning we woke to rain, we had an early start with a briefing at 8am. With forty cars we split into two groups, with the first group going at 8.30am and the second at 8.45am. By this time the rain was just a drizzle so we put our tops down, only about three of us I think.

So we headed out to State Highway 1 down the east side of Taupo down to Rangipo, where we crossed over and headed to National Park. But we could not see the mountains. At National Park we went to Station Café for morning tea, yummy scones, sandwiches and sausage rolls.

At about 11am we headed off towards Smash Palace, where we stopped, some braved it in the wet and mud to check out the wrecker's yards. What an amazing place, well worth the visit.

After Smash Palace we headed to Ohakune for lunch, had free time for lunch and sightseeing, because our next meeting was

Tangiwai Disaster Memorial at 1.45pm for a group photo. But we did not leave Ohakune without buying a world famous Choc Éclair.

After our group photo we headed back to Turangi along the Desert Road catching a quick look at the mountain before the clouds rolled in again.

At Turangi some took highway 41 around the west side of the Lake completing a figure eight back to Wairakei Resort, where we had some time to relax before dinner.

Thanks to the Northern club for putting on a memorable weekend. 🌀



# WAIKITE HOT SPRINGS RUN

BAY OF PLENTY RUN: 12 JUNE 2016 // REPORT BY  
KAREN STRUIKSMA & PHOTO'S BY YVONNE MCKENZIE

Sunday 12 June. A bleak, cold day. What could be better than a soak in Waikite Hot springs Thermal Pools.

The BOP MX5 members met at Palmers Gardenworld in Rotorua at 9.45 for morning tea and a natter.

Peter lead the way to Waikite Valley via SH30 and a few back roads.

On arriving at Waikite we choose the "sit and soak passive bathing

pool" with a temperature of 35°-38° Celsius, soaking away stress and worries whilst taking in the fresh country air amongst native shrubbery and overlooking the steamy Waikite Valley.

We had lunch from the Cafe there and some brought a picnic lunch.

After lunch we walked to the Te Manaroa Spring Walkway and Eco-Trail to the largest single source of boiling water in New



Zealand. The 'Living Waters' of Waikite Valley and violently magnificent Te Manaroa Spring.

Thanks Peter for organising a great day out. 🌞

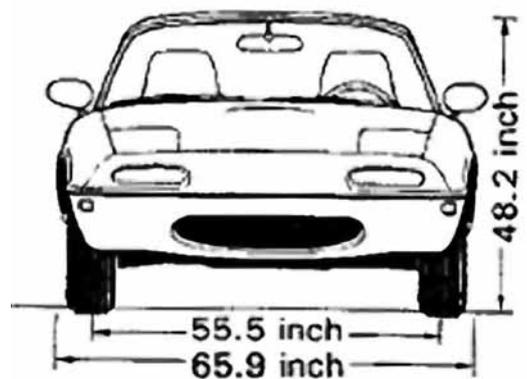
## MX-5 TECHNICAL INFORMATION

A Club Member has found a detailed article by two of the key Engineers who designed the original NA MX-5. Toshihiko Hirai and Shinzo Kubo were the Product and Project Managers. They prepared a presentation to the Japanese JSAE (Japan Society of Automotive Engineers), in October 1989.

It explains while many design decisions were made and amongst other detail gives graphs of lateral acceleration / camber change and compares yaw inertia with FWD competitors.

This is unique information directly from the horse's mouth, as it were and not fileted by journalists or passed on third hand.

To download and view a copy of this document, please visit: [www.mx5club.org.nz/blog/](http://www.mx5club.org.nz/blog/)



# MIKES MYSTERY MEANDER

HAWKES BAY RUN: JULY 2016 // REPORT BY MIKE AND ROSEMARY

The weather forecast for the 17th wasn't looking too flash, so Mike put together a short(ish) mystery tour.

The basic route was plotted, then broken down into segments with a running sheet for each segment. The idea being that everyone gets a turn at being "leader".

The morning of the 17th arrived, reasonably fine looking with rain to come later. We meet at the usual place, Gull Hastings, and lo and behold we have six cars with one texted apology. Not bad for us!

Some are going top down, the chickens aren't!!!

Pre-run briefing completed, we drew lots for starting order and all the sealed envelopes given to the lead car. Nobody knows where they are going!

Set out following the leader only to have it go wrong at the first round-a-bout less than 100 metres down the road with three cars going off in the wrong direction. Failing to keep an eye on those in front!

The leaders pulled over and waited for them to realise the mistake and return to us. Once again all together and off for a meander through Flaxmere and out into the country.

Left at Bridge Pa saw us caught up in a cycle race, but we survived.

First stop and change of leader at Raukawa then on up the hill to meander our way up hill and

down dale to end up on the main road outside Te Aute College for another change of leader.

Back onto the side roads to head towards Tikokino on Highway 50, the leader missed a turn but we were able to get back on track at the next intersection.

Another change of leader and we are heading south towards Onga Onga and a trundle through the historic village and onto the road heading to Waipukurau. Haven't lost anyone yet, but the black clouds sure are threatening.

On through the country to re-join the main road near Waipukurau and a stop for lunch at Hatuma café. Just in time, tops hastily up, as the heavens opened up in an awesome display of heavy rainfall. Felt sorry for the bikers and the Harleys outside.

Good (and) cheap meal then on the road again behind a new leader, this time a bit of a meander through Waipuk to complete a circle route and re-join the main road in the middle of the village. No one lost yet! We haven't even done our normal (compulsory?) u-turn yet. Great.

Just over the town bridge heading

“ Arrived just in time, tops hastily up, as the heavens opened up in an awesome display of heavy rainfall. Felt sorry for the bikers and the Harleys outside.

north, we hang a left onto another country road which eventually brings us to Waipawa and a change of leader.

Through the village, up the hill and do another circle route to cross our tail again. Over the main road and heading East we head towards Patangata and a change of leader, then onto Middle Road heading back to Havelock North.

Stop a few k's out of Havelock to take a photo while it's not raining, change of leader and a very circuitous route brings us up to the village shopping centre.

De-brief time, a quick natter and off home. A good drive on a not so flash day in Winter. 🌧️

## JOKE

Someone at the auto repair shop locked the owner's keys inside his car. While the locksmith was working on the driver's-side door lock, the anxious owner walked up and tried the passenger's-side door. It opened.

The locksmith looked up. "Yeah, I already got that one."



## BURMA HILL ROAD RUN (WHANGAEHU VALLEY)

MANAWATU RUN: JUNE 2016 // REPORT AND PHOTOS BY PETER & DENISE GRIFFITHS

We had been watching the weather after all the recent rain and were hoping for a few hours of fine weather. The advantage of the rain was that there would be no dust as we planned to cover about 25kms of gravel roads. However we did not want to exclude anyone so offered a sealed option that added about 30 kms to the run but was a similar travel time.

11 cars were due to start from Feilding Square at 10am 12th June. A phone call to Glyn meant that only ten would make the start due to a flat battery (happily Brian joined us at Taihape for Brunch after a quick battery charge).

We had checked the route a month ago to be sure the NC would not turn into a grader for the local council and being an RS NC it is fairly low. Yes its gravel road and yes some don't want to take their cars on these roads and of course we appreciate that, however by driving according to the conditions we did not expect any problems and boy was it great fun.

We left Taihape after Brunch at 12.30pm and headed north towards Waiouru before turning west into the upper Whangaehu Valley. The road follows the Whangaehu River closely from its source on Mt Ruapehu and always seems to be a dirty river. It is the one that caused the Tangiwai disaster in 1953.

There were a number of sections of the road that the recent rain had caused slips so care was required. One slip was fairly fresh on Burma Hill as Greg and Sue found out, they were lead car and were forced to stop to remove some large chunks of papa-rock off the road to allow us to pass, well done guys putting the body on the line.

Of the 11 cars only one chose the sealed option and then almost regretted it as a wild goat liked the look of their awesome new paint job,.....nearly collecting.....phew that was close.

Once thru the gravel bits the sealed sections are real Zoom Zoom roads. We continued down onto the Mangamahu Road then the Turakina Valley Road making our way a little north of Marton and onto the Halcombe Tavern. They opened for us providing welcome refreshments and hot chips around a roaring fire.

It's funny how some of us get in the groove when following others ..... So easily make the same navigation mistakes as them. They went left instead of right .....but at least did get to enjoy another 25kms of gravel.

So all in all a great run with no dust and just a little dirt on the car but finishing with 20 minute car wash. 🌀



Denise canvassed some comments/ excuses from the drivers about the run at the Tavern as follows.

- » Need a points man on every corner.....(or a navigator)
- » Awesome gravel roads
- » No more on your own rally's.....(need a navigator)
- » Beautiful flat country for farming sheep.....must learn not to follow the leader!
- » Co-driver snoozing, driver in front going too fast, lost him.....and didn't know where we were in the instructions.....(need a navigator that's alert)
- » There are two ways home ....I took the other one
- » I think I will trade in the MX5 for a Rally car.....(why just get some gravel tyres)
- » Loved the gravel
- » Was that road legal? (yes)
- » Fantastic run metal road part great once Greg cleared the boulders
- » I was an MX5 virgin.....no longer!

## TARANAKI REPORT:



WAIPAPA DAM



KAWHIA



KIRITEHERE, ON COAST ROAD  
SOUTH OF MARAKOPA

# QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY WEEKEND 2016 RAGLAN RAMBLE

An MX 5 drive for those of slightly unsound mind!

TARANAKI RUN: 4TH/5TH JUNE // RUN  
LEADER'S (REPORT & PHOTO'S) JOCK &  
LESLEY SUTHERLAND

The recce for this run was undertaken two weeks earlier in pretty wet, miserable and cold conditions so to get to the meet point at the 3/3A junction in fine clear conditions with the newly snow-coated Mount Taranaki as a backdrop, was a good sign.

After a quick greet and instruction session, we handed out each car its dozen questions to answer and then on the road on time at 9.00am, with a nice line of 11 cars heading for the first coffee stop at Mokau. Well the south cars had already been on the road an hour.

From there, it was on to Awakino, turning off there and heading to Marakopa. A quick photo op stop with a 'rustic' woolshed as a backdrop. The 10 km gravel section here is smooth and fast, and no one spun out! The only real traffic encountered was the mandatory mob of cattle. Quick comfort stop at the local water tank toilet at Marakopa before heading on to Kawhia. This section is all sealed and a great MX5 road with a lot of it having nice views out across this expansive harbour. Lunch stop here. Not enough time to try the local hot water beach today, before heading off again to Raglan. A long gravel section and although not as good as the earlier bit, recent grading meant it was okay.

Arrived in Raglan close to schedule. Time for a quick bit of shopping, or happy hour. Took a few moments to dish out some prizes for the questions. The best results barely passed half right. Still, a few laughs, before heading off to dinner at the Harbour View Hotel. Pretty nice meal all round.

Sunday morning dawned an absolute stunner. The Waikato fog had burnt off by our 10am departure and a gorgeous clear calm sunny day stayed with us all the way. Fair reward for clean living.

Two cars left us for other commitments, but the remaining nine left Raglan and skirted past the southern parts of Hamilton, and crossed the Waikato by the Karapiro Dam. A short stretch of Highway 1 madness, which we have to do now and again to remind us why we don't, before turning off and heading down the eastern side of Lake Karapiro to Arapuni. Mandatory swing bridge walk was quite challenging to some, before crossing the Arapuni Dam (it's only 90 years old so should hold together for

a while yet), and heading on down to Mangakino. En route we crossed the Waipapa Dam (Dam to Nowhere) and lined up for a photo opportunity on the dam with glassy water and bush surrounds for the back-drop. Lunch at the Bus Stop Café on the shores of Lake Maretai. Warm sun and not a breath of wind. It was a bit hard to get mounted up and on the road again.

From Mangakino, it was Highway 30 through Benneydale before cutting across to Highway 4. A short section towards Taumarunui before turning off and heading through, Aria emerging on Highway 3 at Mahoenui. Some of these little back country valleys are stunningly idyllic and the roads are great fun!

Back down Highway 3 for a final stop at Mokau. Some opting for coffee and others heading directly back to Taranaki.

A great drive, excellent company and a great way for us to celebrate Queenie's birthday, even if she wasn't. Well she did have a 'big do' on the actual day in April. 🚗



LAKE MARETAI AT MANGAKINO



## LAKE FERRY FOR LUNCH

KAPITI RUN: 19 JUNE 2016 // REPORT & PHOTO'S BY SHARON EWING

We had twelve cars, the day started off as a nice winter's day. The cars met in Upper Hutt and then met Keith and I in Featherston. We took them out Western Lake Road which goes along the Lake then across East West Access road, which comes around back of the lake, then along the river.

We had a stop at Pirinoa for the craft shop but it was closed for winter so kept going to Lake Ferry, arriving at Lake Ferry the southerly came in, got very cold and wet. But we were inside in the warm enjoying a nice lunch and company.

Thanks everyone for coming on the drive, hope you enjoyed the Wairarapa scenery. 🌞



## KAPITI REPORT



## FIRST NATIONALS 'TRIAL' DRIVE

KAPITI RUN: 17 JULY 2016 // REPORT BY TONY FULLERTON-SMITH // PHOTO BY ANNE THORNLEY

The day dawned fine and saw the assembly of 16 cars at Silverstream Retreat setting off in two groups at 10am. This was thought to be a little late as we did not arrive at our destination until after 1.30pm.

We travelled into the city and followed the road along the quay, past Te Papa – around Oriental Bay – Cobham Drive – into Shelly Bay Rd; stopping for coffee at the Chocolate Fish Café – not suitable for a larger group because of congestion. The alternative stop will be the ASB Sports Centre with good toilet facilities and coffee and or snacks.

The run through the city was OK

but a larger group will have traffic light issues so will need careful shepherding. We left Choc Fish and proceeded without problems until the end of the road at Red Rocks – this will be eliminated for our actual drive because of congestion so will drive up Happy Valley Road, through Brooklyn and onto Karori (this route yet to be finalised as the road onto Aro St is just too narrow and dangerous). We drove through Karori, and onto Makara Rd turning left at the junction and moved up to the Recreational Wind farm – fantastic views of the turbines at close quarters and the rugged Makara Beach. We descended back down to the junction of Takarau Gorge Rd and proceeded onto

Ohariu Valley Farm where we were welcomed by the hostess and helper, but were dismayed by the small and poor selection of food. Our complaint has been relayed to the owners who are at present in the UK and we expect remedial action to be forthcoming. I apologise for this but did keep everyone in the loop as to numbers etc right up to the day in question. The venue is fine with great views, parking and comfort and should be well suited to our Sunday activity on March 12, 2017. Home again at 2.30 up to Gorge Road through J'Ville and back into the city.

A good day out all things considered. 🌞

## SPOONER'S TUNNEL

Grant and I joined Tasman for their run, which took us through the Spooner's Tunnel. This is an old railway tunnel, disused for 60 years, which is now part of the Tasman's Great Taste Cycle Trail. At 1.35km, it is the southern hemisphere's longest tunnel used exclusively by cyclists and walkers.

Spooner's Tunnel is in Belgrove, south-west of Nelson. Opened in 1893, the tunnel was dug by hand with two groups of men working to meet in the middle (at which point they were only out by 8cm). It was originally intended to connect Nelson to the West Coast but the Government of the time pulled the

MARLBOROUGH RUN: JUNE 2016 // REPORT SUPPLIED BY CARYL SIMPSON

pin. The tracks were then removed and the tunnel boarded up.

We enjoyed walking the length of the tunnel then back again. There is a point where you can see both ends of the tunnel at the same time but the rest is dark so you need a good torch to shine off the reflective strips on either side. The weather going over was atrocious and we had the wipers on double speed for a considerable distance, slowing to 60kph in places as we could not see through the downpour. Luckily we were not top down!

We met up with Nelson members at WOW then followed them through interesting back roads. Some of the

group had gone straight to the pub, thinking it was too cold and wet to do the walk. Wussies!

At least it was dry in the tunnel, not too cold at all, and it had stopped raining by the time we arrived at the Belgrove Pub for a lovely lunch by the fire. Our hostess, Jackie, was a lovely lady with a great sense of humour. There were interesting books about the history of the railway and surrounding area. We enjoyed our lunch (best chips I have ever tasted) with the Tasman group who, of course, were very friendly and welcoming, and we all had a good chat before heading home again. ❄️

## TAKAKA

What a great time we had at Takaka! Many thanks to Simon for all the work he did in organising this. It went well, with a good turnout, and the weather could not have been better - although, in the evening, it could have been a little warmer.

I think there were 10 cars in the end. There was heavy fog, as is often usual, on the way through Okaramio but it soon lifted. The autumn colours along the way were lovely.

We pulled into WOW to meet and greet a few Nelson members then continued through the old route past Mapua to have lunch at Jester House. Jester House has a garden full of quirky items and plenty of outdoor eating areas so we were able to sit in glorious sunshine and chat while waiting for our delicious

MARLBOROUGH RUN: JUNE 2016 // REPORT SUPPLIED BY CARYL SIMPSON

lunches to be served.

After lunch, we set off again over the Takaka Hill. Some took the opportunity to stop at a couple of the lookouts to admire the view.

From there we split up. Grant and I ended up doing the PuPu Hydro walk. It was quite steep in places so we had a good work-out but the views were spectacular and we got to play Pooh Sticks! We miscalculated how quickly it got dark so the last part, and the roughest, of the track was done in almost total darkness but we made it out and back to the motel in time to fire up the BBQs.

Next morning we met at the Anatoki Salmon Farm. Most of us went to The Labyrinth then The Grove, two areas of interesting

rock formations and bush walks. It was another gorgeous day and, once again, the view from the lookout was stunning.

Once at the salmon farm, those who wished to armed themselves with fishing tackle and bait while others made a beeline for the café and a coffee.

We had lunch here, some eating some of their freshly caught salmon, and enjoyed sitting in the sun before deciding it was time to hit the road.

Again, a big thank you to Simon for organising this weekend. We all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and the motel recommended was very comfortable. Thanks too for those who came with us and made it such fun. ❄️



## FROSTY DRIVE TO ST ARNAUD

NELSON/TASMAN RUN: 10 JULY 2016 // REPORT & PHOTO'S BY SANDRA LOUISE PRICE

A crisp frosty morning saw two Nelson/Tasman group cars turn their heaters full on and head south to join up with eight cars from the Marlborough group for lunch at the Clinker Cafe in St Arnaud. Under new ownership, the cafe impressed with a delicious range on the menu and very pleasant and efficient staff.

The wintery drive down to St Arnaud was worth it for the stunning clear views out over the lake, but gee it was VERY cold!

Obligingly one of the Blenheim members, Mike, had a birthday on Sunday and Caryl made one of her super delicious cakes for him (and the rest of us!) to enjoy.

After lunch most of us followed one of the shorter walk tracks by the lake, and variously gossiped, admired each other's cars, or

wandered by the water's edge marvelling at the enormous eels.

Thanks once again to our Marlborough cousins for sharing their events with us - double the opportunity for splendid MX-5 drives each month. 🌀



## AROUND, ABOUT AND BACK AGAIN

NELSON/TASMAN RUN: 26 JUNE 2016 // REPORT & PHOTO'S BY HUGH AND JULIE BRIGGS

Despite the heavy rain earlier in the morning, 4 cars turned up at WOW – 2 others had said they would meet us just at the pub at 1pm and 2 others pulled out completely – 1 for sickness and 1 because it was too wet and soggy!! Grant and Caryl came all the way from Blenheim because they wanted to do the tunnel (rain or shine!!) Nevertheless, we didn't encounter any heavy downpours, just some gentle showers and even some bits of sunshine.

A brief stop at Moutere pub (not for drink but to see if the others had changed their mind) and then another one at Tapawera (a well-timed (rest) stop as someone said!). It wasn't long until we got to the tunnel car park and all but Gaylene stepped out quite briskly through the well maintained tunnel and track.

It is the longest unused rail tunnel in the Southern Hemisphere at 1.36km and only took us about 20-25 minutes to walk in each direction. It has a gentle incline each way, where at a point about 450m from the southern (Kohatu) end you can see both ends of this very straight tunnel. When they built it from either end they were only 8 cms out of alignment! No GPS in those days. What was even more

amazing was that Grant had a family relative who had worked on the tunnel so another reason to see his handiwork.

There will be some large Information Boards put up at the Belgrove end and in the Norris Gully reserve at the Kohatu end with much information and photographs. (This is being done by the Cycle Trails Trust). There is also a short history brochure put out by the Tunnel Historical society which you can get from the Belgrove pub.

What an experience at the pub! After a very heavy shower over the top of the Spooners Road we got to the pub with no rain and even a bit of sun poking through. It was still too wet though to sit at the tables out in their fabulous gardens, so we sat around various tables with two lovely pot belly stoves going!! Jacqui, the pub owner, took our



orders (good but basic winter pub food) which when it came was superbly flavoured (lamb's fry, homemade soups, beef casseroles, etc). These went down like a treat, and then we were "entertained" by our very characterful hostess Jacqui! A very satisfying experience both outside and in!

Go along to do the tunnel and experience the pub after. They have books on the history of the railway and tunnel with many original photos on the walls. It is a very worthwhile experience. 🌀

# LOCAL COASTAL RUN TO THE BAY CAFÉ

OTAGO RUN: MARCH 2016 // REPORT  
SUPPLIED BY CLINT TREWIN

We met at the Chinese Gardens car park, our regular meeting spot.... The day was looking great with not a cloud in the heavens, it was good to see some new faces along with nine MX-5's with their tops down ready to take on some coastal roads.

Andrew our youngest driver amongst us had kindly put this run together and after filling him in on how to be tour leader we ventured off.

It was a little difficult keeping everyone together as the roads were busy with Sunday drivers and getting through the traffic lights whilst making our way of town this proved a little difficult and had a few of us separated where some decided to make their own way past the lead car! Luckily we all managed to re-group at Waitati.

From here Andrew once again re-gained his place as the front lead car and we travelled onto Blueskin Rd, into the back of Port Chalmers along the coast winding our way back into town and of to the other coast hills via Tomahawk, over Centre Rd making our way towards Larnach Castle.... one of the city's most popular attractions, turning left we headed down Castlewood Rd making our way to The Bay Café.

Always great roads for MX-5's and of course their two wheeled friends the Motorcycle!

Everyone was feeling the heat and a few hastily made their way to the café to order refreshments to quench their thirst. We had one of the hottest summers in history, Dunedin had reached a record high of 30 degrees over Saturday and Sunday where the history average was 19 degrees for this time of year.

The food was great at the café and as always nice for everyone to catch up with others and tell a few yarns.

It was great to see a good turnout, Jack and his wife had travelled from Alexandra that morning to join us and it was almost three years ago that they



GREAT DINING EXPERIENCE WITH A VIEW

last joined us and had lunch at the same Café, Jack is a retired builder... he wrote the poem "MX-5's Alive" which is below.

It's really all about the MX-5 and how much fun it is to drive topless! 🌀

## MX-5'S ALIVE

Start your motors running  
We're off now for a drive  
Pop the gear....on the gas  
It's great to be alive

Over hills along the flats  
Round the bends with glee  
Motors purring sweetly  
So many things to see

To feel the air so fresh  
Rushing past your face  
Along with friends mates and all  
As we drive from place to place

MX-5's we love you  
This is so our way  
Where else would you rather be  
On this....our chosen day.

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<b>MX5 MART</b> Ross & Melody Campbell Tauranga Ph (07) 543 4567	Mazda MX5 Parts and Accessories	Magazine Advertiser, Web Site Advertiser	
<b>WANGANUI MOTORS</b> 82 Ridgeway Street Wanganui Ph (06) 349 0930	The Mazda Dealer to see in Wanganui	Member Discount	10% discount on parts

## TRADE OFF

Do you have a trade, job or skill that you think others may want to use? The trade directory is exclusively for Club members, and it's free to list! Simply email your BRIEF ad to [topdown@mx5club.org.nz](mailto:topdown@mx5club.org.nz) and put Trade Off in the subject line.

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Your host Michaelle is an MX5 Club member.

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Phone: 0800 644 444 or Email: [karen.lawrence@bwrs.co.nz](mailto:karen.lawrence@bwrs.co.nz)

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