

TOPDOWN

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

MARCH / APRIL 2016

MAGAZINE





MAZDA REVEALS MX-5 RF WITH RETRACTABLE HARDTOP

Mazda Motor Corporation has revealed the Mazda MX-5 RF (retractable fastback). The latest addition to the MX-5 family fully embodies the model's 26-year-old tradition of "lots of fun". While staying true to the original MX-5 Retractable Hardtop's goal of making open-top driving more accessible, Mazda has broken the bounds of conventional thinking to create something entirely new.

The MX-5 RF features fastback styling with a smooth roofline that slopes down to the rear end, and its unique rear roof and retractable back window offer a new open-air feeling. The power roof can be opened or closed at speeds of up to 10 km/h with the press of a button, and the roof is stowed compactly and efficiently in a limited space. Despite its fastback styling and hardtop roof, the MX-5 RF offers the same amount of trunk space as the soft-top model.

The MX-5 RF is expected to make it into production in the first quarter of 2017. 🌀



"The MX-5 has been tremendously popular with car enthusiasts around the world and will soon reach the 1 million mark in global production volume. While the fourth-generation soft-top model honed the pure driving pleasure of a lightweight sports car, the hardtop model, with its exquisite fastback styling and a new open-top feel, has a personality all its own. I hope the launch of the MX-5 RF will awaken hidden emotions and dormant sensibilities among our customers. And with these two MX-5 models, I hope we can help introduce the joy of driving a convertible sports car to a wider audience and help even more people live rich, fun-filled lives. In order to achieve this, now and into the future, we will continue our efforts to "innovate in order to preserve."

Nobuhiro Yamamoto
Mazda MX-5 Program Manager

Source: Mazda Motor Corporation

CONTENTS

MAGAZINE



6 MX-5 PROFILES...

Check out the profiles for this issue; Gaylene St John & Caryl and Grant Simpson.

8 DRIVER TRAINING DAY...

Coming Soon...Save this date on your calendar.

9 TIPS FOR TAKING MX-5 PHOTOS

Whether you're taking photos for Facebook or the Magazine, here are some tips for you.

10 GYMKHANA DAY

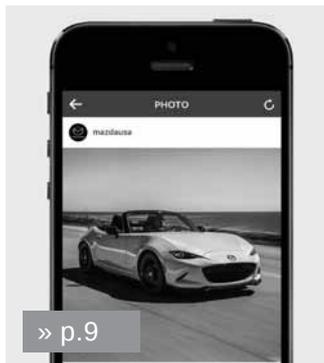
Northern hosts the first Gymkhana Day at Hampton Downs.

12 MANAWATU REPORT

A report from the recent Poker Run.

14 MORE TRIP REPORTS...

Front & Back Cover Photos: Gymkhana Day, Hampton Downs
Photos: Brenda White
Editor: Vicky Powell: 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.**

EMAIL: topdown@mx5club.org.nz

Disclaimer: This magazine does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Editor or the Committee of the MX5 Club of New Zealand. It is intended to provide general articles and information only. While every care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of the information it contains, neither the Editor, Committee or the authors can be held liable for inaccuracies, errors or omissions. Copyright is reserved throughout. No part of this magazine can be reproduced or reprinted without the express permission of the Editor. All information is current at the time of printing and the Editor takes no responsibility for any factors that may change thereafter.

COMMITTEE

» PRESIDENT - BRENDA WHITE

Phone: (09) 267 5628 Mob: (027) 322 8818

Email: martinandbrenda@slingshot.co.nz

» VICE PRESIDENT - FRANK WILLETT

Phone: (09) 834 9348 Mob: 0275 316 884

Email: fwillett@macrocom.net.nz

» SECRETARY - MARILYN HARP

Mob: (021) 617 729

Email: marilynharper@ihug.co.nz

» TREASURER - ANNE WILLIAMSON

Phone: (09) 817 3327 Mob: (021) 782 663

Email: anne@mx5club.org.nz

Kevin Scrimgeour Email: k_scrimgeour@hotmail.com

John Wakefield Email: jwake@xtra.co.nz

Keith Jones Email: keith.jones1@xtra.co.nz

Lee Keighley Email: lkeighley@xtra.co.nz

Ray McKirdy Email: mckirdy@xtra.co.nz

Trish Wiseman Email: padj.wiseman@xtra.co.nz

Scott Cleland Email: scott.g.cleland@gmail.com

Taylor Attwood Email: taylorjattwood@gmail.com



2015 COMMITTEE

Back from Left: Scott Cleland, Frank Willett (Vice President), Kevin Scrimgeour, Keith Jones, Taylor Attwood, Ray McKirdy, John Wakefield

Seated: Marilyn Harp (Secretary), Patricia Wiseman, Brenda White (President), Lee Keighley

Absent: Anne Williamson (Treasurer)

Mazda MX5 Club of New Zealand Inc,

PO Box 15551, New Lynn, Auckland

Email: admin@mx5club.org.nz

Membership subscriptions 2015/2016 - \$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

www.mx5club.org.nz

REGIONAL CO-ORDINATORS

» WHANGAREI/TWIN COASTS

Terry Conaghan

Phone: (09) 437 0898

Mobile: (027) 237 0084

Email: terelene@ultracom.co.nz

» NORTHERN (INCLUDING AUCKLAND)

Martin and Liz Whenmouth

Phone: (09) 815 0637 (Bus)

Mobile: 0274 578 813

Email: emanee@ihug.co.nz

» WAIKATO (INCLUDING HAMILTON)

Denis Crossman

Phone: (07) 846 4599

Mobile: (027) 693 3773

Email: denisc@xtra.co.nz

» BAY OF PLENTY (INC. TAURANGA)

Karen Struiksma

Phone: (07) 542 2615

Mobile: (027) 3427189

Email: bayofplenty@mx5club.org.nz

» CENTRAL PLATEAU

To be advised

» HAWKES BAY (INC. NAPIER/HASTINGS)

Allan Whiting and Debbie Gordine

Phone: 06 844 5014

Mobile: 0274 538 905

Email: allanwhiting4@gmail.com

» TARANAKI

Kaz Bruce

Phone: (06) 7566996

Mobile: 027 2169725

Email: bluekaz@xtra.co.nz

» MANAWATU

Glyn and Cathy Clements

Phone: (06) 328 9873

Mobile: 027 432 1356

Email: cbz1@xtra.co.nz

» KAPITI COAST

Wendy Thomas and Tony Fullerton-Smith

Phone: (04) 568 3951

Mobile: 027 289 1632

Email: wendant@xtra.co.nz

» UPPER HUTT & WELLINGTON

To be advised

» NELSON/TASMAN

Kevin and Gaylene St John

Phone: 03 542 3838

Mobile: 021 542 3838

Email: kgstjohn@xtra.co.nz

» MARLBOROUGH

Grant and Caryl Simpson

Mob: 027 446 5137

Email: caryl@simtronics.co.nz

» CANTERBURY

To be advised

» DUNEDIN/OTAGO

Clint Trewin

Phone: (03) 455 3246 (Work)

Mobile: (027) 435 8510 (A/Hours)

Email: clintsmotors@xtra.co.nz

» SOUTHLAND/INVERCARGILL

Peter Glover

Phone: (03) 217 7187

Mobile: 027 634 3900

Email: verglo@xtra.co.nz

HI EVERYONE

I am so glad to see so many local regional facebook pages up and running.....we now have the National page, Northern, Taranaki, Manawatu and also MX5 Central – a great way to share photos with each other and keep up to date with what the crazies are up to! This is proving to be a casual, photo sharing opportunity and another way to keep in touch with friends that we don't get to see quite so often.

The National committee is constantly striving to make your club experience better and easier. We are currently looking at online registration forms for events and are hoping that this will make things easier for all concerned. I am also happy to see that the events page on the National website is also getting up to speed, don't forget to check out the upcoming events for your area. The website is also a great source of photos

and current events, with Vicky's blog – make sure to check it out, not forgetting that this is also the place to peruse and purchase any new MX5 merchandise for those colder days ahead.

We were pleased to see that the ND has just been voted World Car of the Year - no surprises there I hear you say, and also on social media recently has been the sneak peek at the latest 'fastback' version of our beloved car.....a very nice little piece of machinery.....

Kapiti have all planning well underway for our National Rally in March 2017 and over the next little while you will see some more details about this event. I am so looking forward to it, it's always a great weekend, with new friendships made, and old ones rekindled. We will also have the details for Round the Mountain in July out to you shortly - keep an eye out for

MRS PREZ SEZ



details coming soon.

I hope you are all getting out and about even though daylight saving is upon us, and the cooler temperatures are looming, dig out those hats and scarves and Topdown it anyway !!!!

Happy travels.

BRENDA WHITE, PRESIDENT

NEW MEMBERS

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS...

BAY OF PLENTY

Richard and Robyn Glass,
KATIKATI

Julian and Vanda Jones,
AUCKLAND

Muriel Osborne, AUCKLAND

KAPITI COAST

John Heap and Delphine Gore,
LOWER HUTT

Wyn and Steve Hoadley,
AUCKLAND

Bill and Monica Wallis,
AUCKLAND

MANAWATU

Elizabeth Laskey,
PALMERSTON NORTH

TARANAKI

Stuart and Beryl Gibbons, NEW
PLYMOUTH

NORTHERN

Gary and Lisa Dalbeth,
AUCKLAND

Bruce McLellan and Bia Cooper,
NEW PLYMOUTH

Pamela Mitchell Lawton,
AUCKLAND

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.

AGM

The Annual General Meeting of
the MX5 Club of NZ Inc
will be held on

SUNDAY
26TH JUNE 2016

at Mazda NZ Headquarters in
Westfield Place, Mt Wellington,
Auckland.

All current members are invited
(and encouraged) to attend.

We will meet from 10am with
the meeting beginning at
10.30am.

Coffee & tea will be provided
courtesy of Mazda NZ.

FROM THE EDITOR

HI EVERYONE

As I'm finishing this issue, the skies are getting greyer and darker and it's not boding well for our BOP run tomorrow... meantime, it's been great to see how many clubs have been taking advantage of the autumn weather - this issue is packed full of amazing trip reports. A special thanks to the contributors.



The photo's we receive are wonderful, and it is sometimes really tough choosing just one or two to feature in the magazine to accompany the reports. But if you're yet to contribute, we've included some tips on taking car photos on page 9.

There are lots of events happening around the country so be sure to check in with your co-ordinators, the MX5 website and Facebook pages. Two calendar highlights to watch out for are coming up; the Round the Mountain run in July and the Taupo Track Day in October 2016.

Happy driving...

VICKY POWELL, EDITOR

NEXT DEADLINE:

FOR TOPDOWN MAY/JUNE ISSUE: **1 JUNE 2016**

Editorial contributions or photographs can be sent direct to the Editor by email to topdown@mx5club.org.nz



THE BEST AD FOR AN 'UNFINISHED PROJECT CAR' COMES FROM AUSTRALIA...

An ad seen on an Australian on-line marketplace made us smile. If you are in the market for a car project this could be the deal of the century.

Here's the highlights of the ad which accompanied the above photo –

- » This is my unfinished project car
- » I've stripped it for weight reduction
- » Low kms
- » Happy to negotiate price.
- » I just don't have the time and the money to finish it so I'm hoping a very, very enthusiastic car enthusiast will take over the project.
- » Needs wheel alignment.

Checkout the MX5 Blog (www.mx5club.org.nz/blog/) for a link to the full text.

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

www.mx5club.org.nz
www.facebook.com/MX5ClubofNZ

Does your MX5 hood need replacing or repairing? Then contact us... your convertible hood specialists

Canvas MX5 hood with HEATED GLASS REAR window
Supplied & fitted. Blank or Trim **£1350 plus GST**

Vinyl MX5 hood with HEATED GLASS REAR window
Supplied & fitted. Blank or Trim **£1150 plus GST**

Vinyl MX5 hood with ZIP-OUT REAR window
Supplied & fitted. Blank or Trim **£1050 plus GST**

TROTSKIES
AUTO UPHOLSTERY LTD

Ph: 09 263 9486

Mobile: 021 346 114

224 Redburn Rd, Manukau, Auckland

Email: trotskies@trotskies.co.nz

www.trotskies.co.nz

With over 30 years experience, we do all make and models of cars, vans, trucks, boats and caravans. We do everything, from repairing dipped seats, stripped roof or door linings, carpet replacement, up to complete car re-trims. For more information, contact Colin Trotter today!

ALL-NEW MAZDA MX-5 2016 WORLD CAR DESIGN OF THE YEAR

The Mazda MX-5 (known as Mazda Roadster in Japan) has won the 2016 World Car Design of the Year award. It is the first time a Japanese model has won the award.

World Car Design of the Year was established by World Car Awards in 2006 to recognise excellence and innovation in car design. This year's winner was chosen by a panel of design experts and 73 automotive journalists from 23 different countries. The MX-5 was announced victorious over other finalists Jaguar XE and Mazda CX-3 at the New York International Auto Show on March 24. In addition, the MX-5 was the finalist for the title of World Car of the Year 2016 and competed for the honor against the Audi A4 and Mercedes-Benz GLC. 🌀



“What a wonderful honor, to have the Mazda MX-5 named World Car Design of the Year,” said Masahiro Moro, President and CEO, Mazda North American Operations, and Managing Executive Officer, Mazda Motor Corporation. “As our iconic MX-5 roadster approaches one-million units of production, this award is proof that it is as young, vibrant, fun and relevant as ever. Our design team has pushed the boundaries of what people thought possible with our KODO—Soul of Motion language. While I accept this award on behalf of the company, I do so representing every Mazda employee, retail partner and customer around the world who has ever felt the joy of driving a pure roadster.”

The Awards keep rolling in for our favourite little car...

- » 2016 Mazda MX-5 Miata Named an AUTOMOBILE Magazine All-Star
- » The 2016 Mazda MX-5 selected as the Fun Car Winner in the recent New York Daily News Auto Awards.

» Consumer Reports Calls 2016 Mazda Miata Best Sports Car Under \$40K

» The 2016 Mazda MX-5 Miata took home top honors as Autobytel Convertible of the Year and Autobytel Sports Car of the Year.

Autoway SERVICES



For all your

Mechanical Work : Tune ups : Lubes : Brakes

WOFS : Wheel Align : MAZDA MX5 SPECIALIST



Stockists of
Castrol Oil &
Toyo Tyres

Don McLean

123 Colombo Street, Hamilton Ph/Fax 07 847 5484 Mob: 027 475 7590

THE MX-5 FILES

Each issue we'll be interviewing members of the MX-5 club, so you can get to know and perhaps recognise them at the next club run.

This month in the spotlight are our South Island stars.... Gaylene St John, the Nelson & Tasman Regional co-ordinator and Marlborough co-ordinators, Caryl & Grant Simpson.



NAME: Gaylene St John

MX-5 REGION: Nelson & Tasman

24HR JOB:

Enjoying retirement with Kevin, and achievements of 2 daughters, son-in-law and grandchild. Juggling my interests in genealogy, Book Club, walking, community involvement, SeniorNet, Probus events, alongside Kevin's busy Probus commitments, tramping, biking and gardening.

CURRENT MX-5:

NA -1992 Special Edition Roadster Eunost Black, automatic with tan leather seats, wooden steering wheel and gear lever. It's just like its owners, a few wrinkles but polishes up well!

EVERYDAY DRIVE:

Toyota Corolla that's practical for supermarket carparks

ANY IMPROVEMENTS TO YOUR MX-5?

No – standard as built

WHY AN MX-5?

It was a surprise gift from daughter and son-in-law as a new interest and encouragement to "see the sights". It has

certainly done that and extended the range of cars we continue to follow – vintage or classic, Porsche, MX-5s, 1935 Ford 4 door touring sedan was under construction but sold before completion when we moved to Nelson.

WHAT WOULD YOUR PERSONALISED PLATE BE?

Not included in our 'car budget'

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN IN THE CLUB?

Kevin and I have been involved for 4 years. 1 year ago I took on the Co-ordinator role as a "nudger", sending out info and planning the calendar. That's easy as the Club Members are enthusiastic MX-5ers and great at volunteering to set up events.

FAVOURITE CLUB RUN?

Every run. There is always a variety offered by Club members as they meet the challenge of finding something different to do each month. This region has an amazing range of activities, sights and people.

FAVOURITE DRIVE ON NZ ROADS?

Personally it is going down to Dunedin to see the extended family, although around the bays in Nelson is hard to beat

– Mapua, Ruby Bay, Kaiteriteri, Mahana, Golden Bay or across the Rai Valley, Havelock, Blenheim.

FIRST CAR OWNED?

1960 Morris Minor. Over 49yrs of marriage, our family cars involved me in chauffeur duties. It's now fun being chauffeured in the MX-5 with the important role of acknowledging considerate drivers with a "royal wave"

DREAM CAR?

Like life, this changes, often. The present interest is an "electric" car for everyday practicality and a sporty "MX-5" for enjoyment.

WHAT DID YOUR PARENTS DRIVE WHEN YOU WERE A CHILD?

It started with a green Austin 10. Mum, Dad, 4 kids, plus cat, dog and bantams, squeezed into this for the annual trip to the bach at Harington Pt, Dunedin, as soon as Xmas school holidays started.

WHAT IS THE BEST CAR MAINTENANCE ADVICE YOU EVER RECEIVED?

I worked out quickly who was an expert and how to ask for help! 🌟

THE MX-5 FILES

NAMES: Caryl (& Grant) Simpson

AGES: 57 (and 65)

MX-5 REGION: Marlborough

DAY JOB:

Kept woman (and technician for Downer Technology Solutions - about to retire)

CURRENT MX-5: 2006 NC

EVERYDAY DRIVE:

I usually walk, bike or 50cc scooter. Otherwise Mazda MPV, although we also have a 1968 Volvo 122S (Amazon) and 1928 vintage Chrysler 52. Grant has a Kia 4WD for work.

WHY AN MX-5?

Grant wanted one (he used to have a Jensen Healey) and I didn't mind as I thought they looked like fun vehicles.

WHAT IS YOUR PERSONALISED PLATE?

FIX A PC (we also run a computer company on the side so the 4WD has F1XAPC. For that, I call myself the Credit Manager as Grant does the work and I manage to take the credit)

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN IN THE CLUB?

Joined about 2003

FAVOURITE CLUB RUN?

We enjoy them all but the SITT, NITT and TOSITT tours were excellent fun. Looking forward to BONITT!

FAVOURITE DRIVE ON NZ ROADS?

We are lucky to have so many great roads it is hard to single one out but our own Queen

Charlotte Drive in the Marlborough Sounds has spectacular scenery and good, tight, corners. You just have to watch out for overseas drivers coming at you on the wrong side of the road!

FIRST CAR OWNED?

Honda City for me, although my first vehicle was a Honda Nifty 50 (and Grant had a Vauxhall HB Viva)

DREAM CAR?

We don't have one but a dream road trip is to participate in the Shanghai to London Classic Rally, which is why we bought the Volvo as it has already done that particular rally twice with previous owners.

WHAT DID YOUR PARENTS DRIVE WHEN YOU WERE A CHILD?

Ford V8 and a Vauxhall while I remember dad's work vehicle at one time was a Trekka. Grant's dad changed cars like some people change underwear. He was still relocating cars for a local car company when he was 90 years old!

WHAT IS THE BEST CAR MAINTENANCE ADVICE YOU EVER RECEIVED?

Keep them regularly serviced.

Grant and I enjoy our outings with the MX5 Club. We have met a lot of great people and seen most of NZ in our MX5 travels.



MX-5 CLUB PIRATE PARTY

Now Grant is retiring he hopes to spend more time, and participation, with the local Vintage Car Club of which he is also a member.

We recently attended the Vero International Festival of Historic Motoring in Dunedin, driving down in the Chrysler. A lot slower than the MX5! Another event we hope to take the Chrysler to is the Art Deco weekend in Napier.

Our next trip to look forward to is the BONITT being organised by Manawatu MX5 members Glyn and Cathy Clements.

We will be home from that one day before flying out to tour Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos in open topped Jeeps and on Ural motorbikes. ❄️

DRIVER TRAINING DAY 2016



The Mazda MX5 Club's Driver Training Day will be held at Bruce McLaren Motorsport Park, Taupo on 8 October 2016.

Registration will be on-line through the Club web site only. If you do not have Internet access please let me know and I will try and put you in touch with a club member in your area who has, and can register you.

Registration this year will be split into two groups. The first group, registration for which will open on the website on **1 June**, is for members who have either never been to a Training Day before or not in the past five years.

Registration for everyone else will open on 22 June. If you are in the second group, do not register before the 22nd as the registration will not be logged.

As in previous years the number of drivers will be limited to 50, so to avoid disappointment get your registration in early.

Details of the day and of the accommodation and dinner arrangements will be on the web site with the registration, but if

you would like any information in advance please contact me.

We look forward to seeing as many new members at the Driver Training Day as possible. ☺

Keith Jones

MX5 Club Driver Training Day
Co-ordinator/Instructor

0274362568 or
keith.jones1@xtra.co.nz

REGISTRATIONS OPEN 1 JUNE 2016 & 22 JUNE 2016

www.mx5club.org.nz

BONITT TOUR – 2016

BOTTOM OF THE NORTH ISLAND TIKI TOUR 2016

The Bottom of the North Island Tiki Tour (BONITT) is scheduled to take place at the end September this year.

We'd like to thank everyone for their interest and advise that this popular event is now fully subscribed.

TopDown will feature a trip report in the Nov/Dec issue.

**ENTRIES NOW CLOSED
FULLY SUBSCRIBED!**



PICTURE THIS...

An online community where you can meet like-minded Mazda fans, see their cars, and show them yours

If you're not already addicted to Instagram, you might think that it's only used to share pictures of pop-up burger joints or poolside selfies. However, the photo-sharing cell-phone app is actually a pretty handy way of staying social with the Mazda community and snapping some super-cool pictures of your beloved Mazda.

To get involved, all you need to do is download the Instagram app onto your smartphone, pick a username, and start populating your profile with pictures of your MX-5. Check out our handy guide (see right) to taking the very best pictures to post.

There's a range of filters and editing options available to make your pictures look (almost) professional. Plus, you can tag up your images using the hashtag symbol (#) to ensure as many people as possible see your snaps. And with over 300 million active users on the app alone, that's a lot of eyes.

If that's not enough, you can search and follow like-minded Instagrammers to see pictures of their cars, and search existing hashtags to get involved in the community. So, get snapping and sharing. 📷

HASHTAGS: A BEGINNER'S GUIDE

- ✓ #DrivingMatters
- ✓ #MyMazda
- ✓ #LongLiveTheRoadster (for all you Miata owners)
- ✓ #MX5

TIPS FOR TAKING GREAT PHOTOS:

Whether you're taking photos for Instagram, Facebook or the MX-5 TopDown magazine - here are some great tips for you:

CHECK THE BACKGROUND

When taking pictures and/or selfies with your Mazda, keep an eye on the background. You don't want a tree or any other object sprouting out of your sunroof.

FRAME YOUR SUBJECT

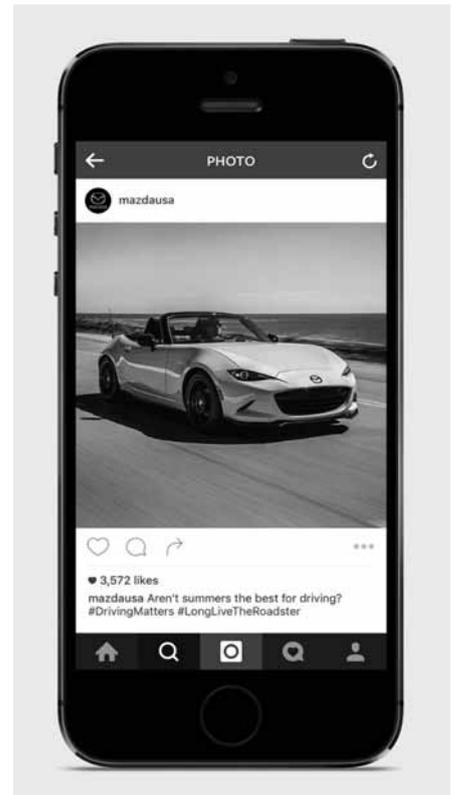
Take time to square things up. Getting your horizon level really makes a difference and adds to a sense of balance. If you're struggling to keep things straight, either edit your picture after it's been taken using the free leveling tool in Instagram before uploading it or use your camera's grid setting.

EXPOSURE

A camera can't see light as well as your eyes can. Using an iPhone makes it easier to adjust to the focal point of your picture. Just tap on the screen as you're about to take your shot. If you're taking a picture of a dark or light car this helps the smartphone camera to adjust. This may mean other parts of the image are too bright or too dark, but your pride and joy will always be perfectly exposed.

LIGHT

Try to avoid shooting in the middle of the day as the sun can cast hard shadows on your image. The best time to photograph your car is the so-called "Golden Hour," those precious 60 minutes before sundown. After that, the artificial light on streets and in parking lots can be used to great effect.



APPS

There are hundreds of apps you can use before you upload images to your Instagram gallery. You can combine or stitch two or more photos together, add pretty frames, add colors and filters, sharpen, and even add words to your favorite shots.

CREATIVITY

Keep it fun and try a different take on the same theme. When you're shooting your car, try a close-up of a certain design feature. Or totally change the look and feel of the photo by converting it to black and white. And don't forget to tag the image! 📷



GYMKHANA

NORTHERN: 22 FEBRUARY 2016
// REPORT BY FRANK WILLETT
// PHOTOS BY BRENDA WHITE

Hosted by the Northern region, this was the first all comers tarmac gymkhana to be held at Hampton Downs raceway on the skid pan. The entrance fee was \$50 per driver, which was necessary to cover the hire fee for the skid pan.

The skid pan offered a large flat area of smooth concrete which proved to be mild on the cars whether entrants were chasing serious times or just out for some side-ways fun.

There were 39 entrants on the day from multiple regions, some sharing the same car. It was great to see some members that aren't often seen compete.

I provided the circuits – it seems now that the highlight of the day was for drivers not to get lost! While the tracks looked rather simple on paper, it was a different story when you got out on the course.

The event flowed very smoothly, and having a course entry and exit along with two time keepers kept the cars roaring through back to back with little or no



delay, hence we managed to get everyone through the first three circuits three times each with the fourth twice.

Prizes for the best score on each circuit, over all, "dick of the day" and best entertainment were awarded at the events conclusion.

Grant Keighley in his NC RS took out Course 1 with a 28.75 second run, the only one in the 28 second bracket.

Larry Young in his blue NA rocket took out Course 2 with a 23.40, just pipping Marcus Little with a 23.44

Once again, Grant Keighley took out Course 3 with a 44.25 with no one else achieving a time in the 44's.

Best entertainment prize went to Donovan Brook with his V8 powered NA. I am sure the car was always sideways, even when going in a straight line.

Larry Young also scored the dick of the day prize with an untimely pirouette ending with a stall....

The day was enjoyed by all – due to its nature, it was very social and entertaining and it looks like it's well worth considering adding to the Northern Calendar again. 🌟

STINGRAYS, RERE FALLS AND SPECTACULAR VIEWS

KAITI HILL IN GISBORNE

HAWKES BAY RUN: FEBRUARY 2016 //
REPORT & PHOTO'S BY DEB & AL

Well what can I say, another action packed and fun weekend in Gisborne arranged by Murray and Sonia.

Saturday morning bright and early saw four cars meet at Westshore at 8.30 to start our adventure to Gisborne. We headed off in convoy for a quiet jaunt stopping at Raupunga for a cuppa. Next stop Anzac Park Gisborne for a picnic lunch where we met up with Murray and Sonia who had a lovely spot all set up. Nice relaxing lunch topped off with Sonia's freshly baked blueberry muffins.

Our stingray adventure was booked for 2.15 so once lunch done and dusted a leisurely trip up the coast via spectacular views of Kaiti hill.

Arrived at Tatapouri to be tested on the limits of our comfort zones. Donning waders, wielding walking canes we trekked single file 100 metres on to the reef, for shorties like me at times waist deep, to await the stingrays. WOW what an

experience, it was just great. We were able to see, tickle and feed them. Just great. Out of the 10 of us I don't think anyone came away disappointed. Headed to our accommodation for a bit of R and R before dinner. Great reflection on our fab day.

Sunday not so early start and off on another adventure. Out past Patutahi, to Rere rock slide, (one of Gisborne's best kept secrets). Better than wet'n'wild. Had morning tea at this great natural wonder then back up the road to the Rere waterfall. SPECTACULAR.

Some really great sights, great company and again big thanks to Murray and Sonia for a really well organised weekend. We do plan to head back up hopefully in Autumn to see the Eastwoodhill Arboretum for another weekend adventure. Watch this space.

Us Hawkes Bay-ites headed home having a leisurely lunch at Wairoa. Then peeled off on our merry way home. 🌞





MANAWATU MX5/CORVETTE POKER RUN THROUGH FIELDS TRACK, KAKATAHI

MANAWATU RUN: 20 MARCH 2016 // REPORT & PHOTO'S BY PETER & DENISE GRIFFITHS

I have for many years wanted to drive through Fields Track but never seemed to have enough spare time when passing to make the effort. So when Glyn and Cath wanted the annual run with the Corvette guys and it was our turn to run it, I thought here's my chance. As far as I knew the road was still gravel so it was essential that we did a trial run to make sure it was passable by at least MX5s and Corvettes for those that wanted to. We would arrange an alternate sealed route for those that preferred the black stuff. Glyn and Cath volunteered to come with us to check it out, so off we went. Surprise, surprise Fields Track had been sealed sometime in the last decade, so no need for an alternate route and what a magnificent drive it is.

What a wonderful turnout of cars which arrived for the start at Farmlands carpark in Fielding, five x Corvettes and 17 x MX5s. Happily the weather

was great so those that could had tops down for the day. This set the scene for some excellent driving conditions with everyone thoroughly enjoying these roads and the scenery. We set off from Farmlands meandering through the Rangitikei towards Fordell and then up State Highway 4 turning onto Fields Track a couple of Kms before the Raukawa Falls lookout. We went ahead and stopped to take a few photos and the sound of MX5s and the odd Corvette winding up the hills was awesome.

The road becomes Whangaehu Valley Road after 13 kms, continuing north another 29 kms and you end up on SH 49 not far from Tangiwai where the train disaster was on Xmas Eve 1953.

It would have to be one of the best MX5 roads in New Zealand and even the Corvette drivers really enjoyed the road. The scenery is fabulous as you climb up thru the hills with views to Mt Ruapehu.



We enjoy a very nice lunch in Ohakune and then meet at the Ohakune Carrot for a photo shoot. Everyone got another card for their hand from Glyn then drove down the main road to Cheltenham Pub for refreshments and prize giving.

We so appreciated the great turnout and the help from Glyn and Cath in running this event. Next time we will run it in reverse and maybe go a little slower to enjoy the views along the way. There were one or two comments from navigators that they were too busy watching the road instead of the view.

As many have said we are so lucky in New Zealand to have such a beautiful country side and the right cars in which to appreciate them.



OTAGO REPORT:



BILL RICHARDSON TRANSPORT WORLD

OTAGO RUN: 28 FEBRUARY 2016 // REPORT BY CLINT TREWIM // PHOTOS BY FIONA

We had a great start to the day with good weather upon us, along with seven MX-5's with their tops down ready to venture out, it was great to see some fresh faces and after introductions we drove south. Neil joined us at Allanton in his Red MK1, then Bev and Stu also joined the group at Milton after dropping off their dog for the day, our next stop was in Clinton.

The local natives would be wondering what all the activity was in the deserted little hic-town when nine sporty convertibles turned up! Time to have a quick leg stretch and I was surprised by a few saying I was driving too slow!

Being the leader I turned off onto the Scenic route State Highway 93 which took us through to Mataura. Yes, it was a fast little sprint for a few of us, putting a few driving skills to the test...

I'm sure Fiona would've enjoyed being behind the wheel of my souped up MX for this part of the journey!

Upon reaching Mataura I stopped for a rest allowing the others to re-group ready for our final leg of the journey onwards to Invercargill arriving at the Bill Richardson Transport World, the largest museum of its type in the world. The newly opened museum takes up a whole block and was opened late last year.

Once parked in the rear carpark we made our way into the Café, after sorting out a table and a meeting time back in the café with the head waiter – an interesting local dude, dressed to suit in the 50's with his large extruding bushy side burns!

There are over 250 trucks in the Museum, more than 150 petrol bowsers, significant Henry Ford

collection, large exhibits and a Wearable Arts section.

All of us were very impressed with the displays, some had finished looking around by lunch time, others only just starting we met at our table around 1.30pm and sat down to a fantastic lunch which was enjoyed by all.

After lunch back into the Museum. Some left at different times and a group had left around 4pm while myself, Fiona and Jurgen stayed till close at 5pm. Fiona had come all the way back from Wanganui to visit the Museum and wasn't missing out on seeing anything!

The journey home was a nice leisurely cruise with a coffee stop in Balclutha for us then home.

Another great MX5 run enjoyed by all. 🚗

CAVORTING TO KAWHIA AND BEYOND



WAIKATO REPORT:

WAIKATO RUN: 28 FEBRUARY 2016 // REPORT & PHOTO BY KARIN MERRIFIELD

About 14 cars (including “Fangio’s Grandson” – I made the mistake of asking “... So who’s Fangio?”) met up at the Dinsdale Shopping Centre before setting off on our “Kawhian Adventure”. The day brought with it some clouds, some sun, and some mild temperatures making for a pleasant morning as we set out to meet up with other club members in Pirongia.

A quick 18 minutes/25 km dash later, we arrived at our first destination/meeting point at the “Explore Pirongia” sign/roadside picnic spot. Sorry Pirongia, to disappoint you, we weren’t there to explore you that day, maybe another time... The energising dash to Pirongia served as a small appetiser for the exciting drives and magnificent sights still coming our way.

And soon after arriving in Pirongia, all accounted for etc and we’re off... we’re on a road to Kawhia – come on and ride with us... if you can keep up, that is! Beautiful tree ferns and native bush whizz past as we winged our way along the windy roads. What’s become our MX5-run-theme-music played by “Rodrigo e Gabriela”, accompanied my and Peter’s journey as the two musicians pound their guitar strings to Metallica’s “Orion”.

Pity Rodrigo e Gabriela having competition not only from the summery sound of the Cicadas ringing out at intervals on the drive, but also from the MX5s

growl reverberating off the sides of the many glades found on this road. With our tops down (the cars, that is...) you could also hear birdsong quite clearly, really adding to the high speed enjoyment of fresh air and nature.

Just outside Kawhia we stopped at a hillside lookout over the valley and the coastline beyond. Quite a spectacular view, even though grey and sullen skies still abounded. Having had a suitable “leg stretch”, we re-entered the cockpits of our trusty steeds and zoomed off, heading Kawhia matey, tally-ho!

Arriving in the sleepy seaside town of Kawhia we picnicked in the park adjacent to the wharf while some members had their repast at a nearby cafe. By this time the temperature had risen, the sun was shining and we were pleased and thankful for the shady trees. Seagulls swooped and gathered nearby, ever hopeful of a scrap coming their way. We enjoyed the tranquillity and a good catch up of news and stories shared among the group.

Bidding farewell to Kawhia and then “hello” to the road to Marokopa, we drove almost entranced as the road winds and bends this way and that. At some parts you can see it curving around the golden hills to come, interspersed with native bush. There are quite a number of one-way bridges on this road and we also encountered some road works - these obstacles

did, unfortunately, slow our progress. However, the curves and bends in the road made for quite an awesome sight and the anticipation of the drive to come is surely enough to give the most hardened MX5 driving fan goose-bumps. I feel if this road isn’t in the MX5 Owner’s Manual under the heading of “The Top 20 NZ Roads for a drive in your MX5” then that’s a glaring oversight that needs to be corrected pronto!

Another stop saw me discovering a new sight in NZ (for me at least!) being the Mangapohue Natural Bridge. There’s a short, easy walk from the car park along the gorge to the 17m limestone arch. A slight bit of adrenalin involved in seeing the arch as you have to traverse a swing-bridge, although it’s just a short one and not very high. Still a bit scary for those who don’t like bridges that bounce and sway as you walk. However, if you survive that, you’re more than rewarded with a majestic sight and fascination while you ponder the time it took for nature to carve this gorge out of the rock and create that natural bridge.

The next stop was, unfortunately, our last at the Alexandria Hotel pub in Pirongia for some refreshment and saying cheerio (till next time) after a great day’s touring – many thanks to Denis for organising this fantastic day of exploring some of the environs of the Waikato! 🍷

SURF & TURF RUN

NORTHERN RUN: MARCH 2016 //
REPORT BY LES & JUDY (ND "KODO")
& PHOTO BY BRENDA WHITE

What an awesome autumn's day for our northern "Surf & Turf" run. Yes our message got through to the weather gods, with a great turnout from club members all meeting under the shadow of the harbour bridge at Westhaven.

We headed out from the car park of the Royal NZ Yacht Squadron on our first part of our nautical theme to the run. It was up through Ponsonby where all the cafe's along the strip were in full swing with the only interruption to the Auckland latte set was the sight of the convoy of our MX5's streaming past - a real head turner.

It was then over the bridge to head north exiting at Esmonde Rd and heading down toward Devonport. A run through some of Auckland's most desirable burbs had us drooling over some of the real estate (pity we're paupers!) and the Gulf looked absolutely magnificent with heaps of people out enjoying the water.

Some of us then headed up to Mt Vic to get some further spectacular views of the Hauraki Gulf, we believe some members made it to the top, however some of us were turned back half way up as there was no parking available - too many bloody tourists!

It was then on to the RNZN Naval Museum at Torpedo Bay. What a really interesting place to visit with the museum taking you

through the history of the NZ Navy from just before the first World War to modern times- some great audio/ visual exhibits, battle histories and personal renditions from the naval personell involved in some of NZ's great naval exploits.

A quick half hour refreshment/ comfort stop at the Museum cafe and we were off again - this time heading back through Devonport to head north on our "turf" part of the run. Back on to the northern motorway, not surprisingly busy as usual and we were yearning to take the exit which would take us into the country where we could experience the real MX5 driving experience.

It wasn't long before we were heading out toward Paremoremo - a familiar place to Ray who apparantly escaped some time ago and used an MX5 as a get away car!

Some of us decided to take a shortcut which confused the hell out of some of the drivers/ navigators in following cars - moral of the story is; don't follow the car in front - follow the run



sheet, if you want to avoid a domestic!

It was up through Whitehills Rd - this was a great 4-5 km stretch of windy road totally "on point" for an MX5 - I would have liked to have gone a little faster but didn't want to risk it.

Lots of great country roads and some urban driving up through the new subdivision of Millwater (wow, this development has really taken off) and on to our lunch stop at the Wade Hotel. Everyone was ready for a refreshment by the time we arrived and the venue was quite spectacular - built in the Victorian era and recently renovated it was a great place to continue our natter & nibbles.

What a day and what a run! A big thanks to Frank/Ray and committee members for organising the day...oh, and Ray you know you really, really want an ND..time to retire the NC!

Zoom Zoom! 🌀



CLASSIC CAR SHOW AND RUN – ELLERSLIE TOUR DE ELEGANCE

NORTHERN: 13 & 14 FEBRUARY 2016 // REPORT & PHOTOS BY BRENDA WHITE

This event is held every year, with a combined car club run on the Saturday and then the Classic Car Show on the Sunday is very popular with car enthusiasts and general public alike.

The car run starts from eight different points around the outskirts of Auckland, driving towards the city with a range of different cars surrounding you, so for instance you may be driving behind a Morris Minor and in front of a Lamborghini! It makes for interesting touring..... and then at the end a combined picnic is held and a park up.

This year we encouraged the Northern monthly run to join the participating cars and an MX5 picnic was the result, with approx. 17 cars in prime position with the added hilarity of the usual MX5 banter.

I was approached by the President of the Jag club who

commented “what’s the secret with the MX5 club, you guys have such good support, just look at you, and you always seem to be having fun” (pretty sure that’s what it’s all about Jag members) !!!!!!!.

The following day was the day of the Show at Ellerslie racecourse, where, thanks to Hutchy’s organisation the club was represented with 8 cars, 1 NA, 3 NBs, 3 NC’s and a sparkly new ND, which became the crowd pleaser of the day. Lots of our lovely club members came along to support us and say hi which we appreciated.

It’s a very long day with many hours of preparation put in by the owners in the display, with constant questions from the public and hardly time to grab some lunch or a sit down. But all worth it – we gave out joining forms and talked until we had lost our voices. Don’t mind saying either that we feel we



may have contributed to the rise in sales of the ND.....just quietly.

A very enjoyable day with lots of laughs, and several of our club ladies decked out in red dresses and hearts. My MX5 is my Valentine!!!!!!!!!!!!!! 🌀



BOP REPORT:

PICNIC AT MANGAKINO

BOP RUN: 8 FEBRUARY 2016 //
REPORT & PHOTOS BY VICKY POWELL

It was a great day for the annual drive to Mangakino and Lake Maraetai, which is one of several artificial lakes formed as part of a hydroelectricity scheme on the Waikato River. This is the second time we've been on this run (see last year's write-up) and I can highly recommend the drive. We met some of the Tauranga/Whakatane crew at Rotorua, and made our way across to Mangakino.

The remaining Tauranga cars turned up and we secured our favourite picnic spot beneath a huge tree. The day was a stunner, which made the scenic boating brilliant (thanks Theo!) and it was a really strong turnout from the club with lots of new faces.

Thanks to Karen for organising the trip – great MX5 day out. 🌟



PICNIC RUN TO ANIWHENUA

BOP RUN: 13 MARCH 2016 // REPORT BY
DOROTHY LOCKE // PHOTOS BY VICKY POWELL

The weather turned on a brilliant day for Sunday 13th March for our picnic run to Aniwhenua Lake.

Seven Tauranga cars met at Bay Park and headed off to Matata via Te Puke for Karen and Theo to tag along.

Arrived at Matata to meet up with new member Dave, and a little stop for a chat and coffee.

Then it was off to Te Teko to meet up with three Rotorua members, another chat stop and those that needed a pit stop.

Hit the toad to get to Aniwhenua for lunch, but needed another view and chat stop at the Matahina Dam.

Arrived at lake and we all enjoyed a water view for lunch.

We then headed down to the waterfall and powerhouse as this is a small hydro station owned by Nova.

Coffee time called, so we headed to Rotorua via Murupara.



Then it was home time.

I am sure fun was had by all on the scenic unknown roads. 🌟

OTAKI GORGE ROAD RUN

KAPITI RUN: 21 FEBRUARY 2016 // REPORT BY TONY FULLERTON-SMITH // PHOTOS BY MARK TREVEAN

On a supremely (what we are now used to) fine Sunday morning, 13 cars assembled at Waikanae where we welcomed new members Ashley Collins and his wife Jillian together with John and Christine Belworthy (friends of Peter and Heather) before setting off to the Te Horo Cafe for coffee and their famous "cheese gems". Despite that they were given plenty of warning that 26 MX 5's were to descend "en masse" - the service seemed a bit wobbly and pretty slow - however - refreshed we set off down the pretty country roads - past Ruth Pretty's catering school to the turn off into the Otaki Gorge Road.

This trip was planned for September 2015 but was washed out by torrential rain and a storm which closed the bottom end of the Gorge because of a massive slip which is still causing trouble. Some ventured to where the road stopped but most pulled up at a historical site which consists of masses of stone walls erected by those unemployed persons of the depression era - circa 1929.

This relief work simply gave those person something to do for a very small pittance.

We then travelled back through the Gorge road to meet up with the main highway just south of Otaki where the northbound traffic was absolutely "bonkers" - Three major events in Wellington. The Tattoo, Round the Bay's Fun run and a Wellington food festival caused a stop from Otaki to Paraparaumu - must have been very frustrating.

Bring on Transmission gully and the new motorway which is looking fairly impressive.

We wandered along the Peka Peka coast and into Waikanae again, turning again into the Paraparaumu coast which runs into Raumati village.

Arriving at our destination at 12.30 pm we were surprised by this hidden gem of motoring nostalgia - Clive Taylor (our host) has put together a wonderful collection of mostly old Ford vehicles from about 1939 vintage as well as a memory to

KAPITI REPORT



rock and roll complete with a "parlour" with a juke box, milk bar and other essentials to fit the era. A huge barbeque (mounted in the well of a front end of a Mack truck) completed the scene and we sat around munching our food and enjoying a really unique experience.

He also has a fully equipped bar which is used for parties, weddings and other such functions, I think it is known as the "Road Kill Safe" as one item on the menu was "anything dead in bread!!" A great day was had catching up with mates - and we joined the traffic mayhem again at about 3.30 pm and were home at about 5 pm. 🌟



KAPITI RUN: 20 MARCH 2016 // REPORT BY TONY FULLERTON-SMITH // PHOTO BY SHARON

Unfortunately, the Wanganui Car show was cancelled at the last minute, so instead of having no March run we quickly organised a very short run (3/4 hour) around the heights of the

Western Hills and those who participated - seven cars - thoroughly enjoyed the superb views over the Harbour and Lower Hutt - of course the weather was gloriously fine

which added to the enjoyment. As arranged, we finished up at the Butcher and Brewer in Petone and enjoyed a great lunch - they do a really good job of looking after us. 🌟

TARANAKI REPORT:

ED'S PLACE RUN

TARANAKI RUN: 16 JANUARY 2016 // REPORT AND PHOTOS BY KAZ BRUCE // RUN LEADER NEIL GOODWIN

Neil's challenge to the Taranaki Regional Club "he would like to see more MX-5's on the run than we have ever had before". MX-5's from North and South Taranaki met at the Black & White Cafe on the northern entrance to Hawera at 9.30 am and had a coffee and a catch-up.

Sure enough we had risen to the challenge and 16 MX-5's tops down, set off south.

Neil was keeping our first destination, Ed's Place close to his chest so it was a mystery stop for all of us. We have great roads heading south and we all enjoyed the beautiful day and magnificent scenery.

Ed's Place is a private collection of all things in the motoring world including a very early Government limousine, lots

of other cars, motor bikes, scooters and lots of memorabilia.

We spent about an hour there before departing for our lunch destination in Wanganui, The Boat Shed Bar & Eatery on Somme Parade. It was a lovely spot and the food was excellent.

We departed north and turned off the main road and did a cruise through the Bason Botanic Gardens before continuing on north. A few kilometres on Neil made another detour off the main road and led us through many interconnecting country roads. We all stopped just before the main road said our goodbyes



with north cars turning right and south cards turning left.

We thank you Neil, for providing us with an awesome drive and entertaining day. 🌟

TARANAKI WANDERING – WEST SOUTH NORTH AND EAST.

TARANAKI RUN: 28 FEBRUARY 2016 // REPORT AND PHOTOS BY KAZ BRUCE // RUN LEADER KAZ BRUCE

Given the beautiful summer we have had I decided that another Picnic Run was a good plan. Cars from the north set off at 9.30 am to Opunake, a small coastal town to meet cars from the South, have a coffee at the Sugar Juice Cafe and check out the street art at Opunake and the view of the Tasman Sea from a great vantage point.

We have a great choice of country Roads and enjoyed ducking and diving across the Countryside. I counted up the

cars before we departed Opunake and we had matched our previous record of 16 MX-5's. We arrived at our Picnic destination, Pukeiti Gardens (a rain forest property) up in the Mt/Taranaki/Egmont Ranges. We were able to check out the new aerial walkway and have a stroll around the Gardens. We then set off down the other side of the ranges to visit the Manutahi Natural History Museum. The owner is a local man who has had an interest in



taxidermy since he was a child. His collection incorporates other collections of different species that have been passed on to him. Many of these would not be obtainable in today's world. His enthusiasm and encyclopaedic knowledge was incredible. Late in the afternoon everyone headed home. It was a very enjoyable day, lots of great MX-5 roads, beautiful weather and good company. 🌟



TARANAKI REPORT



TARANAKI ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND — TRIP TO NAPIER

TARANAKI RUN: 12/14 MARCH 2016 // REPORT AND PHOTOS
BY KAZ BRUCE // RUN LEADER GRANT ROE

We are fortunate in Taranaki to celebrate our own Anniversary Weekend in early March which gives us a chance to travel further and have the luxury of an extra day.

Our northern cars set off from the outskirts of New Plymouth at 8am picking up others on the way and meeting up with the final group at Hawera. At 9.15 eight Mx-5's set off from Hawera and another car was leaving later in the day and meeting us in Napier.

We set off south down State Highway 3 and enjoyed the drive south, first Stop Windermere Farms just 5 minutes north of Wanganui; they sell berry fruit have a produce market and Cafe that overlooks the strawberry fields. Everyone had a lovely morning tea in the sun.

Our next stop was Taihape for our lunch stop via Marton. We were travelling on great roads and enjoyed the scenery through the Rangitikei District in the Manawatu/Wanganui Region. Following an enjoyable lunch some of the group took the opportunity to throw a famous Taihape "Gumboot". On our way again to join up the "Gentle Annie" Road from Taihape to Napier a 152 km road that has had a chequered history in days gone by but it now a wonderful experience on narrow but good roads, ideal for an

MX-5. You climb the Central Plateau, cross the Rangitikei River where we stopped and visited an old suspension bridge before taking a steep descent in to the Kaweka forest. I could not find enough superlatives to describe the incredible views and range of countryside that we went through. At times you would have thought that Grant had booked the road just for us as we came across very little oncoming traffic.

It was wonderful entering the "Art Deco" capital of New Zealand through Vineyards lush with grapes and orchards full of ripe apple trees. We were booked in to the Beach Front Motel on Napier's beachfront. We were all impressed with the accommodation and as it was in walking distance of the Napier RSA we all chose to eat there on both Saturday and Sunday night's.

Come Sunday we had a very full day, breakfast on Bridge Street Napier (a chance to check out Whale's Tale Antiques), a drive up to the top of Bluff Hill to check out the views of the waterfront, then out to Havelock North and an amazing drive up to Te Mata peak where we enjoyed 360 degree views of Napier, the Mahia Peninsula, Softrock hills and the Heretaunga Plains. It was a beautiful day and you could see forever. Then down to Havelock North for lunch before

calling in to see the British Car Museum at Te Awanga which houses the largest collection of British Cars anywhere in the world. Some 450 cars and a large collection of memorabilia. It was great to see so much of New Zealand's early car history in one place and bought back memories for us all. We headed back to Napier and a few finished the day visiting the "old" Napier Prison.

On Monday morning we headed home via State Highway 2 via Dannevirke and Woodville. Just north of Woodville we had to stop and put tops up before the rain became very heavy.

We continued on through the Manawatu Gorge, turning off to follow the scenic Route to Feilding where we stopped for lunch. Departing Feilding we joined up again with SH3 again and returned to Taranaki via Wanganui and a Berry ice-cream break at the Windermere Farm.

Thank you very much Grant for a very enjoyable weekend, on amazing roads, and with the exception of a few kilometres on Monday, exceptional weather. My Mx-5 had nearly another 1000 Km's on the clock by the time we returned home. ☼

NELSON/TASMAN REPORT

CLASSIC MOTORING SOCIETY, MARLBOROUGH

NELSON/TASMAN RUN: 13 MARCH 2016 //
REPORT SUPPLIED BY GAYLENE ST JOHN

The HOSPICE VEHICLE DISPLAY AND PICNIC DAY was held at the Waterlea Racecourse, McLauchlan Street in Blenheim.

Six cars set off from Nelson, including new member Mick Mason. Unfortunately Michael Gregory turned back at Havelock as his shattered windscreen made it risky to continue.

The road was busy with motor bikers and their supporting vehicles, and this made for interesting driving!

Ash and Sandra Louise Price missed the event for the first time since 2011! They had friends from Perth staying.

We joined the Marlborough MX-5ers, enjoyed viewing the wide range of classic cars, the Marlborough Pipe Band entertainment, and a very, hot day.

Caryl Simpson did a great job taking photos, names and sharing her strudal cakes. All proceeds from the event were donated to The Marlborough Hospice. 🌟

KOHATU AND HIDDEN SCULPTURE GARDENS

NELSON/TASMAN RUN: 23 MARCH 2016 // REPORT SUPPLIED BY GAYLENE ST JOHN

Our first mid-week run was rather wet but that didn't deter nine MX-5ers.

Over an enjoyable lunch at Kohatu, the talk ranged from 'diner envy, maintenance of tyres [including trims and decorations over the years – nostalgia a prominent theme], and models, sizes and advantages of various MX-5 models.'

I'm sure there would definitely have been a lively discussion about the future models if we had seen the website Ash Price sent to us later about the new retractable fastback.



The rain turned into a deluge but we drove 3.5kms up River Rd from the intersection of Highway 6 and Motueka River Rd to the Hidden Sculpture Gardens.

We changed our minds about exploring the garden walk and outdoor sculptures.

However, afternoon tea, the gallery and gift shop rounded off the run.

Thanks to Jan and Graeme Eade for introducing us to another "must go back" destination. 🌟



1992 SILVER MX5 EUNOS

Ex club member's car in good tidy condition now in need of a new home after 15 years.

Car has been well maintained and runs well. Speedo reading nearly 264,000 kms. Recently had new water pump and alternator belt.

Has Warrant of Fitness to August 2016 and registration to May 2016.

PRICE: \$4,500.00 ONO

► Enquires to coatie60@gmail.com

FOR SALE : 1992 SILVER MX5 EUNOS

COMES WITH:

- ✓ Hard top
- ✓ Luggage rack for bolting to boot
- ✓ Style bar
- ✓ Engine strut bar
- ✓ Nardi steering wheel
- ✓ Full size spare tyre and space saver
- ✓ Pod air filter with original air filter housing
- ✓ Personalised plates – MX5TOY

CURRENT CLUB SPONSORS

Sponsor	Product/Service	Sponsorship	Discounts
ALL CARE 20 Arklow Lane Whangaparaoa Ph (09) 4241711 Mobile: (027) 283 7533	Specialist roof, interior, zip and plastic window repair and replacements The best for MX5 cloth and leather repairs	Event Prizes	Discounts to Club Members
AUTOCLUTCH LTD 20 Morningside Drive Kingsland, Auckland 1025 Ph 09 849 3737 www.autoclutch.co.nz	NZs leading rebuilder and importer of clutches and new water pumps	Member Discount	20% discount for members on goods and services
AUTOWAY SERVICES LTD 123 Columbo St Frankton, Hamilton Ph (07) 847 5484	For all your Mechanical work, Tune-ups, Lubes, WOFs, Alignments and more!	Spotted Campaign Major Sponsor, Membership Card Sponsor 2001/2, Magazine Advertiser, Member Discount, Prizes	5% discount on Parts and Labour to members
CITY GARAGE 7 Marmion Street (off Queen Street) Auckland Ph (09) 379 5649 citygarageltd@xtra.co.nz	Full mechanical and auto electrical repairs; WOFs, tunes, lubes, brakes, clutches. Carried out by expert Mazda trained technicians	Magazine Advertiser 5% rebate to MX5 Club	10% discount to Club members
DENT MAGICIAN NZ Wide Ph 0800 No Dents Ph 0800 66 33 68	Dents removed with no painting. It's fixed or it's free! Mobile service, approx 30 minutes per dent	Member Discount	\$120 per panel. Discounts on multiple panels may be negotiated with the Technician at the time of receiving a quote
MAZDA DEALERS Nationwide NZ		Member discount	10% discount for club members on parts
MX5 MART Ross Campbell Tauranga Ph (07) 543 4567	Mazda MX5 Parts and Accessories	Magazine Advertiser, Web Site Advertiser	
WANGANUI MOTORS 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 and put Trade Off in the subject line.

ACCOMMODATION: TAUMARUNUI

TWIN RIVERS MOTEL "THE QUIETEST MOTEL IN TOWN!"

Taumarunui lies at the confluence of the Ongarue and Whanganui Rivers, and is perfectly positioned at the gateway to our awe inspiring region. Fully self contained and serviced daily. Remote controlled heating and cooling, great BBQ courtyard and breakfasts available. We also have plenty of off street secure parking. Opp RSA. 10% discount to MX5 members.

www.twinriversinfo.co.nz Email: twinriversmotel@xtra.co.nz
Phone: (07) 895 8063

Your host Michaelle is an MX5 Club member.

ACCOMMODATION: TAUPO

3 bedroom house with stunning lake and mountain views, one block from lake and off road parking! All linen supplied. 2 night minimum stay.

Normal rates \$120 - \$200.00 per night.

10% off to MX5 members.

Ph: (07) 378 7777 Email: tabowman@xtra.co.nz

FIRE & GENERAL INSURANCE BROKER

It makes sense to use a professional insurance broker to insure your MX5 and also your other valuable assets.

Please feel free to contact Karen Lawrence at BrokerWeb Risk Services for personalised insurance guidance and service and an obligation free quote for all of your insurance needs.

Phone: 0800 644 444 or Email: karen.lawrence@bwrs.co.nz

BrokerWeb Risk Services have branches nationwide so we have local people with local knowledge happy to assist.

POWER PROTECTION

For computers etc., Westcon NZ Ltd

Suppliers of APC by Schneider Electric UPS's,

(Uninterruptible Power Supplies), single and three phase, and Power Filters

Contact Willie Williamson on 021 WILLIE, 021 945 543

PEN AND PAPER LTD

Colour Printing/Photocopying and Stationery, Poster Printing, Booklets, Laminating, Binding. Discounts for MX5 club members NZ wide.

1A Rennie Drive, Mangere, Auckland.

Ph: (09) 256 0200, DD: (09) 917 4863,

Fax: (09) 256 0055

PET CARE SPECIALISTS

No room in your MX5 to take your pet and your partner on holiday? If you're leaving the family pet home alone get a Pet Angel to feed, walk or housesit while you're out enjoying your MX5. Call the pet care specialists on 0800 PETANGELS or book online www.petangels.co.nz

RUBBER STAMPS

Self inking or plain. common seals, daters etc. same day service if in by 10am.

3105 Great North Rd, New Lynn, Auckland.

15% discount to club members.

Ph Kelly (09) 827 7655

Email: info@speedyrubberstamps.co.nz

WELLINGTON REAL ESTATE

Got too many MX5s for your current garage? Need a bigger home to store car parts? Call me if you are thinking of selling in the Wellington Region. Professional advice, excellent service and free market appraisals available for Wellington Western, Eastern, Southern and Northern areas.

Call Katie Underwood on (027) 248 2061,

(04) 894 3717 or email on kunderwood@leaders.co.nz

Licensed Salesperson under the Real Estate Agents Act 2008

MX-5 CLUB MERCHANDISE

Check out our range of MX5 Club clothing. The apparel includes the MX5 logo embroidered on the left hand side.

Quality 100% merino Eco Gear make the perfect accompaniments to our new range of jackets.



To view the full range visit the MX5 website and order online.

[www.mx5club.org.nz/
clothing-and-merchandise/](http://www.mx5club.org.nz/clothing-and-merchandise/)

OR CONTACT LEE ON 021 675 095

CITY GARAGE

CITY

**Full mechanical & auto electrical repairs;
WOF's, tunes, lubes, brakes, clutches
Carried out by expert Mazda trained technicians**

GARAGE



10% discount to
club members

Supporting the MX5 Club with a 5% rebate

7 Marmion Street (off Queen Street), Central Auckland
Phone 09 379 5649 Email: citygarageld@xtra.co.nz

MX5 mart



www.mx5mart.co.nz

- The Southern Hemispheres largest range of MX5 parts and accessories.
- Dismantling cars from 1989 NA to 2008 NC.
- Full range of new genuine parts.
- Worldwide shipping available (17 countries so far.)
- Fitting service available for parts and accessories.

**Open weekdays and Saturdays by appointment
Closed Sundays**

Contact Ross Campbell • Ph (07) 543 4567

www.mx5mart.co.nz • mx5mart@xtra.co.nz

389 Joyce Road, Pyes Pa. Tauranga



February 2016 Gymkhana,
Hampton Downs

