



The American Classic Car Club

Canterbury Inc

February 2026 Newsletter

President's Report

Dear Members

Firstly, Compliments of the season to everyone. I trust you all had a busy and productive festive season, even though the weather has been average of late. I would like to start by touching on the Xmas dinner at the Methven Resort. A great day was had and many thanks to everyone who attended. I am sure you will all agree, we were well catered for by the establishment, and there were definitely a few laughs to be had. Not the least at the expense of our indomitable Father Christmas, who once again excelled in the role.

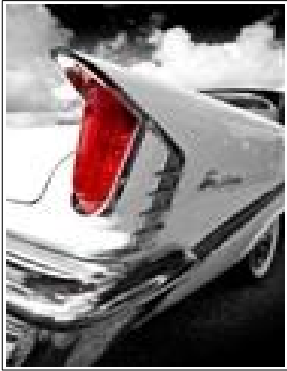
Now - the Annual President's Picnic remains an enduring tradition of the American Classic Car Club. I have been wondering how it got started. It seems that the exact origins of it have faded over time, but long-standing members recall that it began as a simple custom: a day for the President to set the theme and host an event that allows our hardworking committee who dedicate countless hours to organising events, managing club affairs, and keeping everything running smoothly to take a well-earned break from their usual organising duties.

I have only attended one President's Picnic in the past. I am sure many of you will recall a memorable gathering at Bill Stanley's place which gave members a rare opportunity to view and appreciate his extraordinary model train layout—a massive and meticulously crafted setup that many of us still talk about. And more recently, the event at the Ashburton Aviation Museum which is another one well talked about. It is a reminder that sometimes, members have interests other than classic cars and these events showcase the unique passions and talents within our club.

As President, I am pleased to continue this tradition, and while I can't match the uniqueness of the Bill Stanley event, or the inherent interest of the aviation museum, I invite you to join Cathie and I in the pleasant surroundings of Orton Bradley Park where

we will present a catered picnic. I am advised that another car club will also be hosting a picnic in the park on the same day, which may add an extra touch of mystique to the occasion.

Best Regards
Graeme Martin
President
The American Classic Car Club



Craig's Conundrum's - January Comments

Hi all, well not a lot to report at this time of year unfortunately however I guess it's a positive thing to be more immersed in our personal lives before we swing into another club year!

I never made it to the New Years day picnic at Little River due to once again pretty suss weather and other personal commitments so

I'm not in a position to report however I believe Glenn & Ann toughed it out and had some fun with a slightly depleted turnout over all..... Well done guys.

We have the first committee meeting of the year on Feb 4th so this will herald how we start to move forward further into 2026. In the meantime the following events are in the blocks with more to be set at committee level.....

Inaugural "Club Night": You'll recall at the Christmas function we eluded to having regular club night meetings as is pretty standard for most clubs and provides the opportunity for members to engage with the committee on all sorts of levels, and get to partake more directly in the running of the club - opportunities, discussion points, guest speakers, member welfare, camaraderie and the airing of any concerns or problems- Not that we have any of the latter of course!

There will be some structure to the evening otherwise it just turns into a talk-fest among groups and it'll be finished off with a supper if we can coerce a banana cake, pikelets or scones out of some willing members!

At present the date for this first of the quarterly planned meeting will be a Tuesday evening later in February - More details and venue confirmation in the first couple of weeks of February.

Peter Craig - Club Captain.



Christmas Lunch at the Methven Resort

7th December 2025

What an amazing day!

The day started off with everyone meeting at the Yaldhurst Hotel for the run via the picturest Inland Scenic Route 73 to Methven lead by our club captain Peter.

Our Club's Christmas Lunch at the Methven Resort turned out to be one of the standout events of the year. From the moment we arrived, the atmosphere was buzzing - helped along by perfect weather that made Sunday feel like a postcard come to life.

Set on the top floor of the resort, our dining room offered fantastic views overlooking our vehicles displayed proudly on the grass below. It was a stunning backdrop and a real highlight for many who attended.

The team at the Methven Resort truly went above and beyond. A huge thank-you to Richard, Sarah and the staff who welcomed us with genuine hospitality and ensured everything ran seamlessly. The food was plentiful, beautifully prepared, and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

A big thanks also to Kevin and Michael for transporting Santa Claus in the Buick all the way from the North Pole - a great touch that brought plenty of smiles.

And of course, a big thank-you to our members. Your enthusiasm, camaraderie, and support are what make days like this so special.







2025/2026 Committee

President	Graeme Martin	027 4350255	
Vice President	Murray Marshall	027 2001350	
Secretary	Cathie Martin	027 4350255	accccanty@gmail.com
Treasurer	Maria Van Nus	022 3854001	
Club Captain	Peter Craig	021 898396	
Committee	Dave Busch	021 1465668	
Committee	Gary Court	021 437488	
Committee	Wendy Marshall	027 2001350	
Committee	Sam Ng	027 4793736	

Club Events 2026

Save The Dates

Rolleston Run – Sunday Feb 1st.

By the time you read this the run may well be history however if not - here are the details again as published earlier.....

This event will be another unforgettable one starting with a run from Yaldhurst to Rolleston and a BBQ lunch venue at John & Justine Akroyd's block in which we have a full sized Boeing 737 fuselage kitted out with an amazing executive interior as a show piece for Air New Zealand back in the day, truly a sight to behold – along with a shed full of Hot Rods and gear, a DC3 Trailer/Caravan set up another sight to behold for one of his Hot Rods and more incredible stuff – finishing with a run out to Kirwee and Thirsty Acres for a quiet Shandee to round the day off.

We'll meet at the Yaldhurst Pub car park at 10:15, be gone by 10:30 and arrive at the Rolleston venue around 11:00 running some quieter side roads. A further breakdown of the days roll out will be announced at the meeting point.

It's bring your own chairs and your own special picnic needs. The club will supply sausages, bread and condiments for a lunchtime BBQ along with tea and coffee.

Numbers are required please so our hosts know what they are dealing with - please text me (Peter C) on cell number 021 898 396 to confirm your attendance.

President's Picnic: Sunday 15th February

Plans are well under way for our President's Picnic to be held in a beautiful park setting - Orton Bradley Park over in Diamond Harbour, with a run being planned to kick the event off.

Graeme and Cathie intend to organise an upmarket catered lunch along with some other fantastic surprises – So keep the date free, yes it's hot on the heels of the Feb 1st run but it'll be truly worth it and at this time of year spacing events can be a little challenging.

We've since learned that the Holden Club will be having their picnic in the park on the 15th also so there will be plenty to see, do and talk about with all this classic iron on display – It'll be a great day

Again more final details to be issued separately early in February.

**ATTENDANCE NUMBERS/CONFIRMATIONS WILL BE VERY IMPORTANT
PLEASE – TXT PETER CRAIG ON 021 898 396**

March Event: Likely to be set for Sunday 22nd March – details to be confirmed.

Participation by Members and/or associates at any Club event is entered at their own risk. The Club accepts no responsibility for actions or damage in respect of liability for injury or property damage caused by or to any person while attending a Club event.

Non-Club Events 2026

See Event Posters Last Page

Sunday, Feb 22nd - All Ford Day - 8:30am - 2:30pm

The 'All Ford Day' organised by The Canterbury Mustang Owners Club on behalf of all Ford clubs and enthusiasts will be held at the Vintage Car Club Grounds, Cutler Park, McLeans Island.

Huge range of Ford vehicles on display, food and drink and raffles with great prizes.

Friday - Sunday 20th - 22nd Feb – Ayrburn Classic 2026

Ayrburn Estate, Queenstown. Ayrburn Classic 2026 is a major automotive festival in Queenstown, New Zealand

Saturday, Feb 28th - Hanmer Motorfest - 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Hanmer Springs Domain, Jacks Pass Road

Saturday, Mar, 13 - 15th - Twizel Show N Shine - Ohau Rd Twizel

First Sunday of the month

Kustoms Car Club - Breakfast and Meet, McLeans Island Rd

Starts 8am.

Great social occasion. Always many Fords, Chevs, Chryslers, Hotrods and Classics etc
All welcome. No Charge. Public can attend to view cars.

Hosted by Kustoms Car Club

Second Sunday of the month

Rodders, Customs, Classics Breakfast - The Highway Inn, 527 Sawyers Rd Arms Rd
Starts 9am.

Reminder this event is for Hot Rods, Muscle Cars, Customs, Classic American and Australian Only, NO Japas and NO Euros.

All welcome. No Charge. Public can attend to view cars.

Third Sunday of the Month

VCC - OLD CARS, BIKES AND COFFEE - Cutler Park

On the third Sunday of the month we invite all members and any interested members of the public to join us at Cutler Park from 9am-12pm for coffee and a catch-up

Hosted by VCC

Last Friday of the Month

BellaRat's Gas & Gander Meet at the NPD, 740 Jones Road, Rolleston

Good food for sale. Show up in your rat rod, hotrod, classic or whatever.

All welcome. No Charge. Public can attend to view cars.

Hosted by BellaRat's Gas & Gander

FOR SALE

Members... you can advertise your vehicle or parts here.

Contact email: acccanty@gmail.com



Vehicle for Special Occasions

Looking to add a touch of classic style to your wedding or other special occasion?
Several of our members make their vehicles available.

Please note: The club does not arrange or manage the services.

If you are interested, we can put you in contact with the vehicle owner directly for further information.

FOR SALE: -----

CLASSIC MOPARS (Mostly) offered for sale by probably the most discerning follower of the MOPAR brand in New Zealand. These are very valuable and rare machines and are in varying presentations from "Project" to very good running condition.

Contact **Geoff Matthews** on **0274 399 817** for further details and or photos.

CARS FOR SALE

All these classic cars are available by contacting the advertiser

- 1955 Chrysler Windsor. 2-dr hard top. Project. \$11500
- 1956 Chrysler New Yorker 2-dr hard top. Loaded. \$17500
- 1957 Dodge Coronet 2-dr club sedan D500. Project. \$7750
- 1957 Chrysler Imperial 2-dr hard top (with 57 4-dr parts car). Project. \$14500
- 1960 Dodge Matador 4-dr hard top runs/drives. \$16000
- 1959 Desoto Fireflite 2-dr hard top. \$17000
- 1960 Cadillac convertible runs/drives. \$26500
- 1960 Dodge Polara 4-dr hard top. Black. reg/wof. \$58500
- 1961 Desoto 2-dr hard top factory black car with new SMS seat covers (\$USD2200).
In Christchurch. \$17500
- 1964 Pontiac Grand Prix coupe reg/wof. Very original. 8 lug wheels. On road. \$46500
- 1992 Corvette ZR1. Red, reg/wof. In Christchurch. \$47500

More information and photos available.

Contact seller: Geoff Matthews

Phone: 0274 399 817

ALL 2026



DAY



SUN, 22nd FEB 10am-2.30pm

**NEW VENUE VINTAGE CAR CLUB
McLEANS ISLAND CHRISTCHURCH**



Admission
\$10 per car including occupants
\$5 Walk in spectators per person
Under 12 free CASH ONLY
REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE, NO PETS PLEASE

Organised by
 Canterbury Mustang
 Owners Club
 on behalf of Ford Clubs and Enthusiasts

www.canterburymustang.org.nz www.facebook.com/CanterburyMustangOwnersClub

HOSTED BY: **FALCON FAIRLANE
CAR CLUB OF CHRISTCHURCH**

**HANMER
MOTORFEST
2026**



SATURDAY, 28TH FEBRUARY 2026

**HANMER SPRINGS
DOMAIN, JACKS PASS ROAD**



TWIZEL
HEART OF THE HACKENZIE

SHOW N SHINE



**Lake
Watanuiwha
Holiday Park**

**THE
CLUB**

MARCH 13TH - 15TH 2026, OHAU ROAD



FRANZ JOSEF GLACIER COUNTRY

Car Show

9TH MAY 2026
10AM - 1PM



MOTORBIKES AND ALL VEHICLES WELCOME



Register On-Line Via Facebook or Email to: glaciercountrycarshow@gmail.com
Located at Franz Josef TOP10 Holiday Park



PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY GLACIER COUNTRY

Gold Coin Entry with funds raised going to South Westland St Johns Ambulance