



The American Classic Car Club

Canterbury Inc

April 2026 Newsletter

President's Report

Dear Members,

I trust my message finds all members well.

How much can happen in a month. Over recent weeks, we have seen fuel prices rise faster than the speedometer on a Shelby Mustang - a matter that is keeping our attention and a factor that understandably may affect our motoring activities and forward planning.

At the same time, the summer weather has been generally average, except I am informed that the weather for the run to Motunau Beach was one out of the box and that while the turnout was low, everyone who participated took full advantage of the calm balmy weather and enjoyed some wonderful fellowship. This was one run that Cathie and I were unable to join due to circumstances beyond our control.

We can only look forward with optimism and enthusiasm and hope that some of you, despite the fuel prices will be motivated to get the classic out of the garage and join us on the next run.

It is as important now, as much as it has ever been that we keep the spirit of the club alive and in times such as these, it is worth recalling the words of Henry Ford, who observed, *"Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success."*

This sentiment aptly reflects the enduring strength and unity of our club.

Graeme Martin
President
The American Classic Car Club



Craig's Conundrum's - March Comment

Hi all,

Pretty short comment from me this month - some would say fortunately!

Due to a family bereavement I missed the March run to Motunau Beach community which was an awesome day by all accounts if a little light on numbers and Sam has reported separately.

Caroline Bay Rock & Hop was also attended by a handful of our stalwarts and was reported to be the usual great event. What I am picking up on is that there are simply endless car related events occurring at this time of year so attendance can be pretty scattered! - *C'est La Vie*.

Our main event is looming in the form of the AGM in May and this is the time now to sound the "Reveille" in relation to new committee members stepping up and into what can be incredibly rewarding roles - it's likely we will have several vacancies on the committee heading into our new year so don't be afraid to put your hand up.

Peter Craig - Club Captain.



Notice of Annual General Meeting

Sunday 17th May 2026, 1.00pm

Armadillo's Lyttelton
23 Dublin Street, Lyttelton

Please arrive by 1.00pm to sign the register.

AGM details to be emailed mid April

There will be a run beforehand.
To be advised

Annual subscriptions need to be paid before or at
the AGM as only financial members may vote or
have a say at the AGM

Tea & coffee available after the meeting.

The American Classic Car Club (Canterbury) Inc

*****Stepping Up for the Future of Our Club*****

Our club has always been driven by passion - for the cars, the community, and the great experiences we create together. From events and cruises to shows and social catch-ups, none of it happens by accident. It's all made possible by a small group of members who volunteer their time behind the scenes: your committee.



We're facing a challenge, as several Committee members will be stepping down this year. We've been struggling to find members willing to step into committee roles, and it's starting to put pressure on the same few people who have been carrying the load for some time. Like many clubs, we rely entirely on volunteers - and without enough support, it becomes difficult to maintain the quality and number of events we all enjoy.

Being on the committee might sound like a big commitment, but it doesn't have to be overwhelming. Roles can be shared, responsibilities can be spread out, and fresh ideas are always welcome. Whether you can offer a little time or a lot, every contribution makes a real difference.

More importantly, it's a chance to:

- **Help shape the direction of the club**
- **Bring new ideas and energy to events**
- **Give back to a community you're already part of**
- **Ensure the club continues to thrive for years to come**

You don't need prior experience — just a willingness to get involved and be part of the team. Support is always there, and no one is expected to do it alone.

If you've ever enjoyed one of our events, connected with fellow members, or simply appreciated being part of the club, now is a great time to consider giving a little back.

We encourage everyone to have a think about stepping up, or even just having a chat with a current committee member to learn more about what's involved. A strong club needs a strong team — and that team starts with you.

Let's work together to keep The American Classic Car Club running strong.

*****Stepping Up for the Future of Our Club*****

As the AGM draws closer and we are aware that some members will be standing down from the Committee this year, we have decided to provide job descriptions for the office bearer roles on the Committee.

If anyone is contemplating joining the Committee and requires more information about the positions available, please don't hesitate to contact one of our Committee members with your questions.

President:

- The President presides over all Committee meetings, Annual General Meetings and Special General Meetings. Gives a summary of current activities to Members via the newsletter and presents a written report on the year's activities to the Annual General Meeting. Co-ordinates all matters pertaining to the Club.

Vice President:

- Shall substitute for President in his/her absence and adopt all rights of the President.

Secretary:

- The Secretary shall keep correct minutes of all meetings.
- Conduct all correspondence relating to Committee business. Prepare and file reports/or returns where necessary. Give notice and/or agendas for Annual General Meetings or Special General Meetings. Maintain a register of all Members.

Treasurer:

- They shall keep proper Treasurer records of all receipts and disbursements.
- Maintain any investments that the Club enters into.
- At the end of each financial year, have all accounts independently audited prior to preparing the income and expenditure account and balance sheet of the Club for presentation and acceptance at the next Annual General Meeting.
- Shall file annual accounts by the end of the month that follows the AGM.

Club Captain:

- Shall contact all new Members to welcome them, after application has been approved.
- Shall make welcome any new Members at any events and oversee all motoring activities of the Club.
- Take a lead in any Club events where necessary.

General Committee Members:

- Shall attend meetings, support the executive committee, votes on decisions, assists with sub-committee tasks, and helps with day-to-day operations.

Picnic Run to Motunau Beach – A Perfect Day Out

15th March 2026

What a fantastic day for a club run! With clear skies and beautiful weather, it turned out to be one of those classic Canterbury days that make getting the cars out on the road even more enjoyable.

A big thanks goes to Dave, who organised an excellent route that took us away from the busy highways and along some of the quieter and very scenic North Canterbury back roads.



Members were to meet at Ravenswood, in the Harvey Norman car park opposite McDonald's, with cars beginning to arrive from around 10am. After a good catch-up and plenty of admiring of the vehicles lined up together, the group departed at 10:30am, heading toward the Pegasus roundabout to begin the run.

From there the convoy travelled north enjoying the relaxed drive through the countryside via Sefton, Balcairn and exiting left at the Waipara Winehouse. Just past Greta Valley we turned right and followed the road out toward Motunau Beach, taking in the rolling farmland and coastal scenery along the way.

Motunau Beach provided the perfect spot for a relaxed BYO picnic lunch. Members unpacked chairs, tables, food and drinks, settling in to enjoy the sunshine, great company and plenty of car talk. It was a wonderful opportunity to unwind and enjoy the setting by the coast.

After lunch the group headed home, making a well-deserved stop at the Greta Valley Tavern where many enjoyed a refreshing drink in the sun before beginning the trip home.

The run covered around 76 km (47 miles) one way, making it roughly 150 km round trip from the start point. It was the ideal distance for a relaxed day's cruising.

All in all, it was a brilliant run with great roads, great weather and even better company.

Thanks again to Dave for putting together such a well planned route, and to everyone who came along and made it such an enjoyable day.

A great day was had by all.

Picnic Run to Motunau Beach - A Perfect Day Out

15th March 2026



2026 Caroline Bay Rock & Hop - 10th Anniversary

19th - 22nd March

A number of members from The American Classic Car Club made the trip to the 10th anniversary of the Caroline Bay Rock & Hop, enjoying a fantastic day out. With sunny weather and clear skies, conditions were perfect for showcasing our vehicles alongside a great range of classics from around the country. The event drew a record number of vehicles, with a strong public attendance and plenty of interest in the cars. A well run event with a great atmosphere - definitely one to attend again next year!



2026 Caroline bay Rock and Hop – 10th Anniversary

19th - 22nd March



Welcome to new Members

Paul and Rachel Welbeloved - 1967 Chev Corvette, 1962 Chev Impala

Allan and Jocelyn Martin - 1994 Chevrolet Silverado 1500

Renewal of Membership

The following page is the invoice for your subscription renewal.
This is for the year 1st May 2026 to 30th April 2027.

A reminder that if you have joined the club in the last three months, (from 1 Feb 2026) then you don't need to renew your membership as we have a policy that new members carry over to the following year.

Subs need to be paid before the AGM as only financial members may vote at the AGM or have a say at the meeting.

If anyone would like another copy of the club rules, please let me know.
There may be a delay in getting your new membership cards to you.

Once the data base is completed early May, they will be printed.

Please pay your subscription promptly.

PLEASE NOTE:
The club has a new bank account.
Details are on the invoice next page

Thank you.

Maria Van Nus
Treasurer



The American Classic Car Club (Canterbury) Inc

Email: accccanty@gmail.com

Invoice to: All Financial Members

**Membership Subscription from
1st May 2026 - 30th April 2027 financial year.**

Membership	50.00
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Total to pay	\$50.00
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Please pay subs via internet banking.

Your Name in "Particulars" and the word "Subs" in "Reference" to:

The American Classic Car Club (Canterbury) Incorpo

02-1268-0216501-00

**If you do not use internet banking then call or text Maria the club treasurer
on 022 385 4001 for alternative arrangements.**

Terms: Payment is due on or before

30th April 2026 thankyou.

**If this invoice remains unpaid the club reserves it's right
to cancel membership.**



For Sale

Iconic 1956 Ford Thunderbird in rare Sage Green



The first generation Thunderbird was unveiled in 1954 at the Detroit Auto Show and produced for the 1955 - 1957 model years. The 1956 Thunderbird shared the same body as the 1955 vehicle but a few changes made the 1956 model unique.

- ▶ The spare wheel was moved to a Continental-style external mount freeing up trunk space
- ▶ The addition of the Continental kit increased the car's length by almost 10 inches
- ▶ Wind wings were added on the windshield for improved air circulation
- ▶ Cowl vents were added on each fender to enhance interior ventilation
- ▶ Circular "porthole" windows were added to the hardtop as a no-cost option, improving rear visibility
- ▶ The electrical system transitioned from a 6-volt to a 12-volt electrical system
- ▶ Air vents were added behind the front wheels to enhance cabin ventilation
- ▶ The exhaust tips were relocated to the ends of the bumper to accommodate the new rear-mounted spare tire

This car was built 28 March 1956 at Ford's Dearborn, Michigan plant, and first sold out of a dealer in San Jose.

Only 15631 T-Birds were produced in 1956. Its estimated that fewer than 700 of these were finished in the rare colour of Sage Green - a colour that Ford offered for 3 months only in 1956, making this car a rare specification for its year.



This car arrived in New Zealand as a rare rust free example with 93951 miles on the clock in 2020 after which it underwent a significant restoration that included:

- ▶ Engine reconditioning
- ▶ Transmission reconditioning
- ▶ A repaint in the period correct colour of Sage Green
- ▶ A new interior in the period correct colours of green and white
- ▶ A new white soft-top
- ▶ New tyres
- ▶ New windscreen
- ▶ New rubbers

Now with 94208 miles on the clock it has added only 257 miles since restoration in the 5-6 years since 2020.

- ▶ **Engine code P:** 312 cu.i V8, 4 BBL, 3-speed manual with overdrive
- ▶ **Body colour Z:** period correct rare Sage Green
- ▶ **Interior colour:** period correct green / white
- ▶ Green porthole hard-top
- ▶ White folding soft-top
- ▶ Leather steering-wheel cover
- ▶ Rear wheel spats
- ▶ Electrically adjustable seat
- ▶ Continental kit
- ▶ Registered and warranted



Contact: Kevin Giles-Pain. 03 376 4686 or 0274 520 414





Club Events 2026

Save The Dates

- ▶ **Sunday 19th April - “STOP PRESS”** - we’ve had a change of venue for April – Craig Stare has offered to host our club for a look through his pretty eclectic collection of Hot Rods and classic cars so this promises to be a really interesting garage raid put together by a Hot Rodder with immense grass roots presence and experience in the “Hobby”
We will meet at the Yaldhurst pub carpark around 10:45 and after a run to Rolleston will arrive around 11:30 We’ll spend about an hour at Craig’s then move on to Robbie’s restaurant and bar in Rolleston for a lunch of your choosing at your cost - Full details re meeting times etc to be fine tuned and published separately closer to the time, In the meantime be sure to diary this date.
- ▶ **AGM – Sunday 17th May:** Mark it in your calendars – The venue and timing for the AGM is being finalised at present however it appears to be taking the format of being held at Armadillo’s Top Club Lyttelton in the early afternoon. Full details to be published further along with any any critical information you need to be appraised of prior to the meeting however again please diary this important meeting.
- ▶ **June Event: Sunday 21st June:** This is the club’s 55th year - discussions are to be had at committee level with regard to how we celebrate this milestone and what format it will take. Further details TBA however mark the date in your calendar in the meantime.

Non-Club Events 2026

See Event Posters Last Page

- ▶ **Easter Saturday, April, 4th**
2026 Pre '49 Hot Rod Nationals
Te Pae Ch-Ch Convention Center. Open 10am – 4pm
Presented by Rodbenders Inc
See Poster Last Page for Details

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 Japs 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, McLeans Island Rd

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.

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

Hosted by VCC

Third Sunday of the Month

Countrywide Cruisers Breakfast - Drift Inn Rangitata

Starts 9.30am

We are all go for our breakfast runs for the new year, we have changed our location to Drift Inn
(the old Chequered Flag in Rangitata) and we would love to see you there, please let anyone
you know within range know that we have these catch ups every third Sunday of the month
kicking off at 9:30 am.

Hosted by Countrywide Cruisers

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

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.

2025/2026 Committee

President	Graeme Martin	021 312561	
Vice President	Murray Marshall	027 2001350	
Secretary	Cathie Martin	027 4350255	acccanty@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	

FOR SALE

Members... can advertise your vehicle or parts in the clubs newsletter.
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



HOT ROD SHOW

2026 PRE 49
HOT ROD NATIONALS

PRESENTED BY ROD BENDERS INC.

CRC **MOUNT SHOP** **SILVESTER PERFORMANCE** **KATS**

CLASSIC COVER INSURANCE
BOWDEN'S
RODIN MOTORSPORT
EDWARDS CONSTRUCTION
CUSTOM made GARAGE DOORS
Hussey Paint & Panel
CATHEDRAL JOINERY

EASTER SATURDAY | APRIL 4TH
ONE DAY ONLY!

TE PAE CHCH CONVENTION CENTRE
\$10 Entry fee - Under 12 free | Eftpos available

OPEN 10.00am - 4.00pm

GO IN THE DRAW TO WIN!
Double passes to 'ITM Christchurch Super 440 2026' and 'Skoep Classic 2027' events.

*PAID ENTRANTS ONLY



FRANZ JOSEF GLACIER COUNTRY
Car Show
9TH MAY 2026
10AM - 1PM

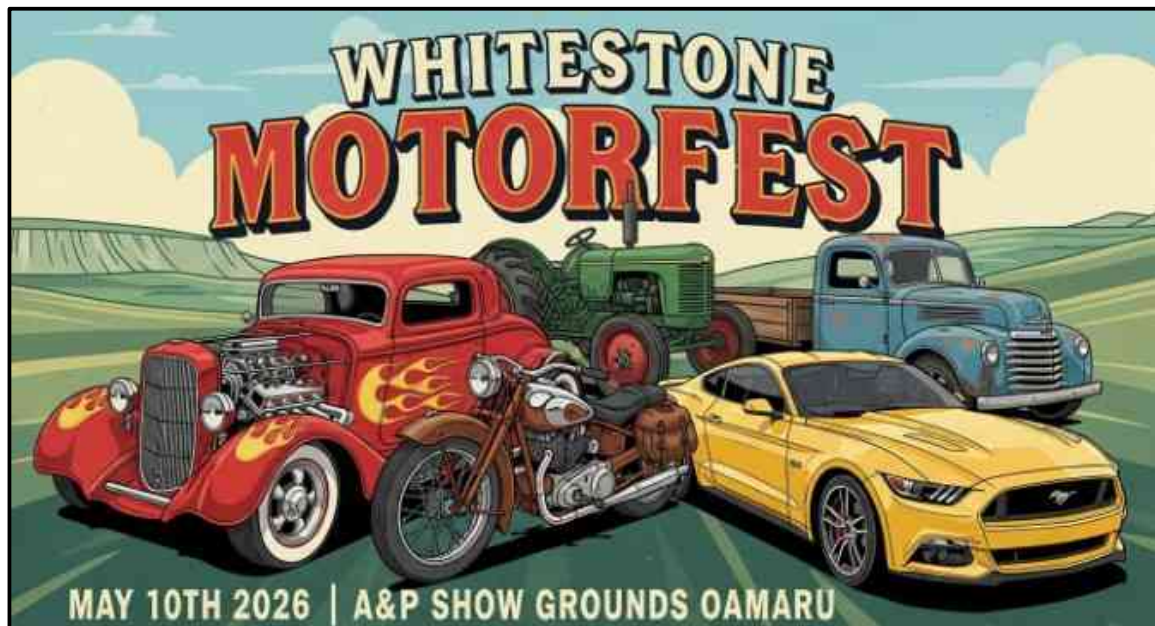
GLACIER COUNTRY CAR SHOW
Franz Josef

MOTORBIKES AND ALL VEHICLES WELCOME

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

TOP 10 **GLACIER COUNTRY**

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




WHITESTONE MOTORFEST

MAY 10TH 2026 | A&P SHOW GROUNDS OAMARU

GERALDINE

Matariki Motor Muster



Head to Geraldine Motor Muster FB page for information

<p>KENNEDY PARK</p> <p>Vintage cars, hot rods, motorcycles, trucks & all</p>	<p>Friday Rego & cruise</p> <p>Sat 10 am - 2 pm Public car show</p> <p>All proceeds to St John Ambulance</p>	<p>Entry by donation</p> <p>10-11 JULY 2026</p>
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Supported by



BAR & RESTAURANT
GERALDINE

REEFTON'S VEHICLE DISPLAY

ALL VEHICLES WELCOME.
CLASSIC CARS, HOT RODS, MUSCLE CARS, BIKES, UTES,
TRUCKS WHATEVER YOU HAVE BRING THEM DOWN!

SATURDAY JULY 11TH
REEFTON CAMP GROUND

10AM - 2PM

Donation entry fee, all proceeds go to our Local Reefton St John's service

