



# The American Classic Car Club

Canterbury Inc

May 2026 Newsletter

## President's Report

Dear Members,

As we reach the end of another car clubbing season and with our annual general meeting just around the corner, it is hard to believe how quickly the year has passed. It has been a busy and rewarding season, marked by a number of highlights - memorable shed raids, BBQs, fascinating cars, and just as importantly, interesting and passionate people. This is what defines the club.

To everyone who has played a part in the clubs continuing success this year, whether through organising events, lending a hand or simply turning up and supporting one another, thank you. With such a strong group of members and volunteers on board, we can look forward with confidence to another busy and enjoyable year ahead.

As we move into this time of year, it is also when we look forward to receiving membership renewals. The continued support of our members is vital to the health and general well being of the club and it is always encouraging to see familiar names re-join for another year, along with a trickle of new ones.

Your membership ensures that the club can continue to organise events, produce this newsletter and keep the shared passion for classic cars alive.

As someone once said, A modern car will get you from A to B, a classic car will get you there with a smile. (how true)

I look forward to seeing you all at the AGM.

Graeme Martin

President

The American Classic Car Club



## Craig's Conundrum's - May Comment

Hi again all! - so good to see such magnificently settled weather even if the wood-burner is getting a bit of a workout on some of these very crisp evenings!

Our latest run in April was predictably a winner with a visit to Craig Stares property in Rolleston. Perfect weather again and a very good turnout of 33 people on paper but that number swelled pretty with unaccounted heads attending. We met at Yaldhurst pub - no surprises there however with a shortened car park and a flock of VWs the pressure was well and truly on - turns out Sue & Janvier had crossed to the dark side for the day and had organised a VW run headed by both of them in the "Thing" -- well done guys and perfectly timed as you all vacated the car park as we were settling in - we missed you on the run but understand we need to cross over into alternate lives sometimes.

We ran the Old West Coast Road up to Weedon's Ross Rd, through West Melton and over the motorway overbridge into Rolleston - parking was a breeze and after a group intro from Craig we were treated to a pretty incredible gathering of in some cases very rare low volume cars and that was just outside. Craig's indoor garage also held some very very nice examples not the least of which were a couple of rare and beautiful MOPAR finnies from the late 50's.

As for the rest of the house - a bigger or better "Man Cave" you would be hard pressed to find anywhere - too much and too varied to try and explain!

To finish at Craig's Graeme thanked Craig and recounted some pretty colourful recollections of Craig's presence and impact on the scene since the 70's non doubt. Craig is moving out and on to very green pastures locally with a very interesting property in the wings and we wish him well.

Exiting Craig's we headed off to Robbie's bar & grill for a very nice lunch in a dedicated area of the establishment - there endeth a pretty good day overall - Huge thanks to Craig for opening up and welcoming us. We look forward to your renewed membership!

In closing - our main event is looming in the form of the AGM on the 17th 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 12.30pm 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

Afternoon Tea to follow.

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.

## 2026 Craig's Shed Raid

19th April 2026

Sunday 19th of April delivered one of those outings that reminds you exactly why being part of a car club is as much about people as it is about machines. Members gathered for a special visit to local hot rodder Craig's shed - an absolute treasure trove of craftsmanship, ingenuity, and good old-fashioned automotive passion.

From the moment we arrived, it was clear we were in for something special. Craig generously opened his doors and shared not just his impressive collection of builds and projects, but also the stories behind them. From finely detailed hot rods to works - in-progress that sparked plenty of conversation, there, was something to capture everyone's interest. It was a relaxed, welcoming atmosphere, with members taking their time to admire the work, swap ideas, and, of course, talk cars.

Craig is a long-time member of the Garden City Rodders Inc and is well known throughout Christchurch and across New Zealand for his contributions to the hot rodding scene. He is also a contributor to 'NZ Hot Rod Magazine' and is the driving



force behind the well-known Muscle Car Madness, which celebrated its 36th year - an incredible milestone and a testament to his passion and dedication.

A big thank you goes to Craig for his hospitality and willingness to share his space - it's not every day you get such a personal look into a true enthusiast's workshop.

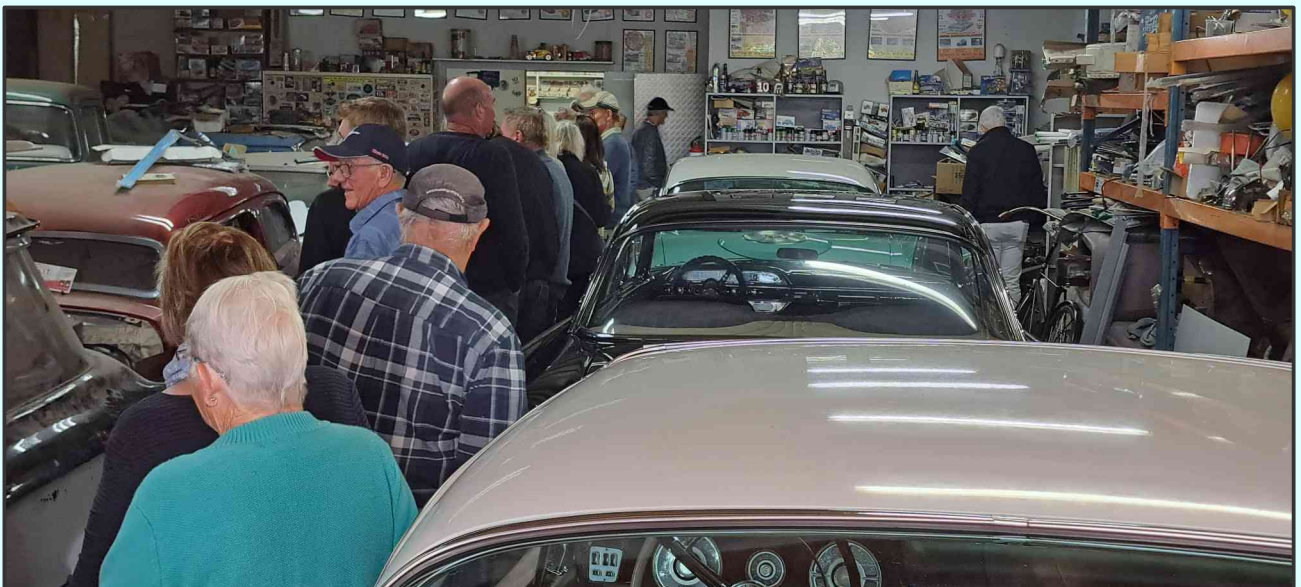
Following the shed raid, the group made their way to Robbie's on Jones Road, in Rolleston.

The change of pace from workshop to dinner table was seamless, and the afternoon continued in great spirits. With plenty of laughs, good food, and even better company, it was the perfect way to round out the day.

Events like this highlight what the club is all about - sharing experiences, building connections, and enjoying the journey together. A great turnout and a thoroughly enjoyable day had by all.

# 2026 Craig's Shed Raid

19th April 2026



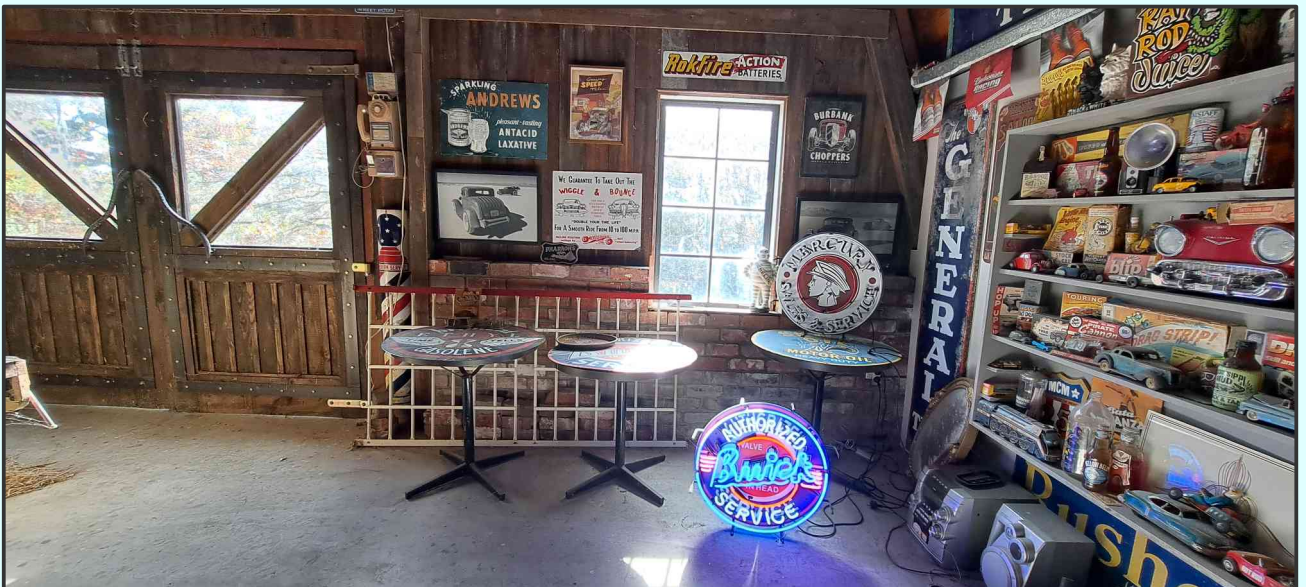
# 2026 Craig's Shed Raid

19th April 2026



# 2026 Craig's Shed Raid

19th April 2026



## Welcome to new Members

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

Allan and Jocelyn Martin - 1994 Chevrolet Silverado 1500

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## 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](mailto:accccanty@gmail.com)**

**Invoice to: All Financial Members**

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

<b>Membership</b>	<b>50.00</b>
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<b>Total to pay</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>
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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**

**30<sup>th</sup> 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 .....



GO BEYOND

AIR NEW ZEALAND 

## CHRISTCHURCH ENGINE CENTRE

### ► Christchurch Engine Centre visit

Mark Rayner has confirmation that our club members may visit Air New Zealand's Christchurch Engine Centre in Orchard Road to view the maintenance and repair facilities for Pratt & Whitney jet aircraft engines. Clearly this will be an incredibly interesting tour to partake in and those who carried it out last year may wish to do so again.

The date is confirmed as Wednesday 17th June – an evening event with time to be confirmed and doubtless we can also work around an evening meal close by, again to be confirmed.

*Please contact Mark Rayner direct on 027 359 9242 or email [mark.rayner@xtra.co.nz](mailto:mark.rayner@xtra.co.nz) by May 20th to express interest and complete the list of requirements*

*See the list of requirements in the attachment emailed from Peter Craig on Thursday 23rd April for the Christchurch Engine Centre visit.*

- **AGM – Sunday 17th May:** Mark it in your calendars – The venue and timing for the AGM is Armadillo's Top Club Lyttelton with members being required to arrive by 12:30, register, and be prepared for the meeting to start at 1pm. An afternoon tea will follow supplied by the club – should you wish you could consider an early dinner and choose from the "Gold Card" \$15 menu -very good value!!  
There will be a run just prior to the meeting with full details regarding timing and gathering point to be published by May 4th.

# Club Events 2026

## Save The Dates .....

▶ **June Event: Wednesday 17th June:**

Visit to Air New Zealand's Pratt & Whitney engine workshops "Back by popular demand". This event will replace the normal 3rd Sunday of the month timing due to an Independence Day event being mooted for July 4th & 5th potentially. Basic details follow and is an excerpt from the separate notice sent out to members.

▶ **Saturday/Sunday 4th & 5th July – Independence Day event – South Canterbury USA Classic Car Club:**

The committee is considering members of our club partaking in an Independence weekend event with the SC USA CCC with a run to Phar Lap Raceway.

We are looking for expressions of interest from our members as there is a run in Timaru on the Saturday and a Show & Shine on Sunday. Following is a copy of the advice from the Southern Club.....

"Our annual fundraiser Independence Day Weekend is on the first weekend in July (4th & 5th) the posters are currently circulating.

There is a mystery run in the afternoon where we can stay for a drink or a coffee or dinner, or you can come back to Timaru for a dinner in town. The destination is an hour away.

The Sunday of the weekend is a classic show & shine car show. If your members are interested in making a weekend of it the Tornados Custom Car Club open their doors to car clubs on the first Friday of the month so they will be open on the Friday night prior"

***So – if you are interested in the possibility of a group forming to attend, please call Sam on 027 479 3736. You will need to make your own motel reservations if you choose to stay over.***

- ▶ **Sunday 26th July:** This is the club's 55th year – discussions are being held 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 – **NOTE** this date differs from the previous advice.

# **Non-Club Events 2026**

**See Event Posters Last Page**

### **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

<b>President</b>	Graeme Martin	021 312561	
<b>Vice President</b>	Murray Marshall	027 2001350	
<b>Secretary</b>	Cathie Martin	027 4350255	acccanty@gmail.com
<b>Treasurer</b>	Maria Van Nus	022 3854001	
<b>Club Captain</b>	Peter Craig	021 898396	
<b>Committee</b>	Dave Busch	021 1465668	
<b>Committee</b>	Gary Court	021 437488	
<b>Committee</b>	Wendy Marshall	027 2001350	
<b>Committee</b>	Sam Ng	027 4793736	

## FOR SALE

Members... can advertise your vehicle or parts in the clubs newsletter.  
Contact email: [acccanty@gmail.com](mailto: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**

FRANZ JOSEF GLACIER COUNTRY

# Car Show

**9<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2026**  
**10AM - 1PM**



**MOTORBIKES AND ALL VEHICLES WELCOME**

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

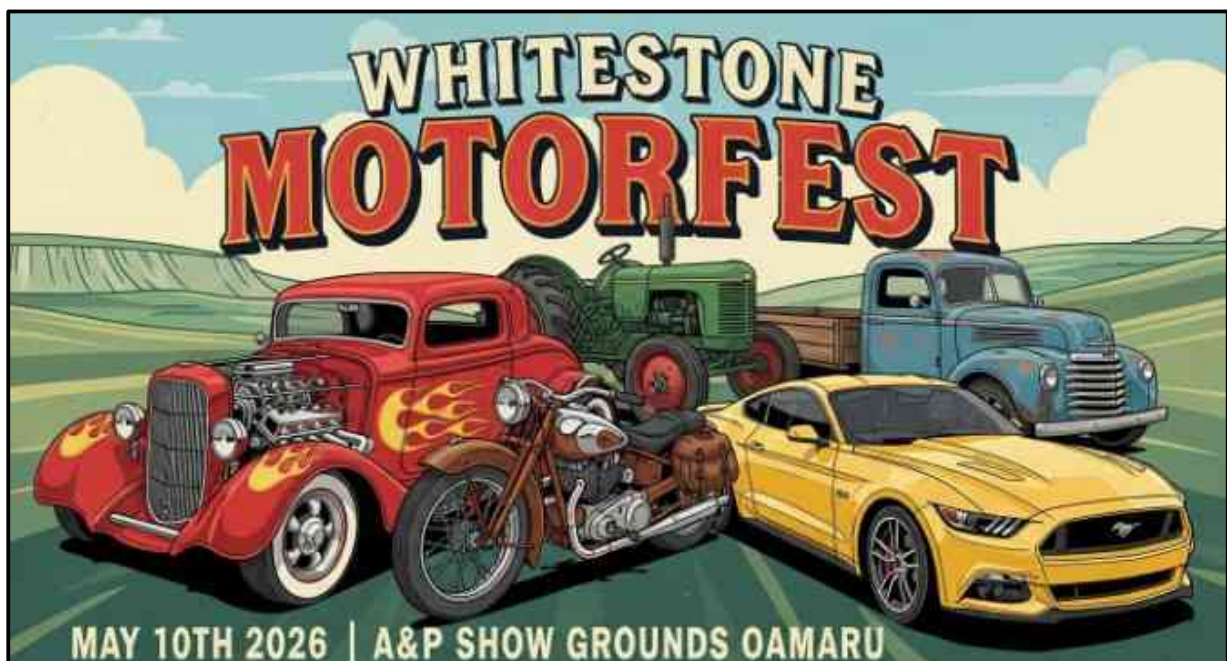
FRANZ JOSEF  
GLACIER COUNTRY  
CAR SHOW

TOP 10

PRODUCED AND HOSTED BY  
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**



# Independence Day WEEKEND 2026

**SATURDAY 4 JULY & SUNDAY 5 JULY**

**PHAR LAP RACEWAY**  
(OFF PLEASANT PT HIGHWAY, TIMARU)

*All American Vehicles Welcome*

PROCEEDS TO  CARDIAC KIDS CLUB MID AND SOUTH CANTERBURY



**SATURDAY 4 JULY**

**MYSTERY RUN \$10 PER CAR**

Meet at the Phar Lap Raceway, off Pleasant Point Highway from 2.30pm, leaving at 3.30pm for a mystery run.

Brought to you by


**SOUTH CANTERBURY USA CLASSIC CAR CLUB**  
Email: scusacc@gmail.com

**SUNDAY 5 JULY**

**SHOW AND SHINE \$10 PER CAR**

Meet at the Phar Lap Raceway, off Pleasant Point Highway. 10.00am-2.00pm  
Food and coffee on-site

# GERALDINE Matariki Motor Muster



Head to Geraldine Motor Muster FB page for information

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

Supported by



# 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



# FORD CLUB MARLBOROUGH

Henry Ford's Birthday

## SHOW & SHINE

FUNDRAISER MEET



**Sunday 26th July 2026**

Lansdowne Park Carpark  
Open to Public 10am - 2pm

**\$10 for Show Cars** including Passengers  
— (Vehicles parked by 9.30am) —

Gold Coin Donation Entry Per Person.

CASH REQUIRED for RAFFLES.

COFFEE — FOOD — RAFFLES



Fund raiser for Marlborough Four Paws.