NOVEMBER 2026

PRESIDENT: **Clive Higgie** **027 345 5000**

SECRETARY: **Roscoe Lord** **028 400 1660**

TREASURER: **Andrew Kidd** andrew@abkidd.co.nz

CLUB CAPTAIN: **Lloyd** **wanganuiclassic@gmail.com**

CONTACT: **wanganuiclassic@gmail.com**

Meetings: First Tuesday of month, 7.30pm, Barracks Sport Bar, St Hill Street.

Monthly Ride: First Sunday after meeting, 10.00am, BP London St.

Kickstart Ride: Third Saturday after meeting, 2.00pm, BP London St.

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Clive's piece

At last month's club night, Doug brought along a valve from a ship's engine. "Big" doesn't really cover it. An engine valve to me was always something you could put in your shirt pocket; not the one Doug brought along! Thanks Doug.
So, if you have any old, weird, new, amazing thingies, bring it to a meeting and pass it around.
Last month's rides were great. Although it sure was a month for break-downs. Bryce, Lloyd and Trevor all had the big stops; then Colin, Melissa and myself had minor sort of stuff. For me, my Douglas Dragonfly clutch was slipping on our kickstart ride. Russell loosened off the cable; might be fixed, might not be. I read somewhere recently that the first thing to check, in the case of electrical issues, is the battery leads. Trevor did that and it solved his problem.
On our club's monthly Sunday ride, about seven of us met on a fairly stormy morning. Our ride today was to join up with the Manawatu classic club at their Bunnythorpe club rooms and head off on a combined club ride, with a shed visit in the middle. Then lunch in Bulls. There must have been at least 30 bikes of all descriptions and ages – Indians, Velocettes, Nortons to new Triumph 400s. The ride was very well organised, it had to be, for with us there were almost 40 bikes. The amount of subdivision building around Palmy and Feilding is amazing. The shed visit was inspiring. Mostly British bikes, also some interesting cars and such. It was a place of many interests and talents. It was great to meet up with our near neighbours and I hope we continue to share time together.

The following Sunday was our Memorial ride, which I imagine Lloyd will write up.
Our kickstart afternoon was great. A good number, twenty-ish, and the weather was okay. We rode to the Bason Botanic Gardens where we had a mini park-up, and then off to the Pukeko's Nest where we all sat around the large outdoor tables and had a good time.
You never know: John might have a calendar mock-up at our November meeting. In any case, it's not far away. He's done a lot of work on it this last month. Selecting and touching up the photos etc. If I'd thought harder about it, I would never have picked on this year's theme for the background, of past and present bike shops of Whanganui. So many of the "past" ones are now dumps, or boring as! It was tricky to get both the bike and the bike shop looking good. Anyway, it is what it is.
This comng Tuesday, 3 November, is the date for our next meeting. Philip is doing a power point on an event he took part in on the Waikato River. He was at the Invercargill Motorcycle Museum last weekend – hopefully a few words about that too.
See you at Tuesday's meeting!

Malteurop Barley plant visit

On Thursday 3rd September, we did a ride organised by Doug, to Malteurop Barley plant in Marton. This was really interesting and an eye opener into the process.
The plant has around 200 farmers growing and supplying the barley.
The photos are in order of operations, the barley goes into 6 very large Stainless vats with water, from here it is pumped through sprinklers (an amazing sight to see it rain barley) into the massive tank the size of an olympic swimming pool, it is held in there for four days, where it is turned every 4 hours with the augers shown at end of tank.
From that process, it is dried and turned to facilitate this process.
They make quite a few different flavour hops used to make craft beers, they also make a really tasty snack and go great sprinkled over cereal.
The plant employed 14 staff. Unfortunately the plant was closed down at the end of October, with most of the plant going to be demolished. They are trying to keep the silos.



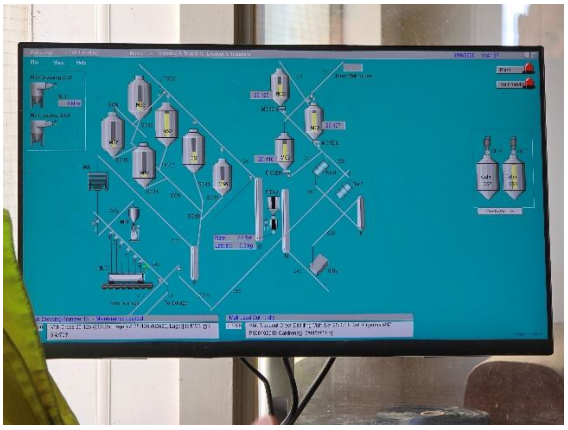





PREMIUM MALT
MALTEURO



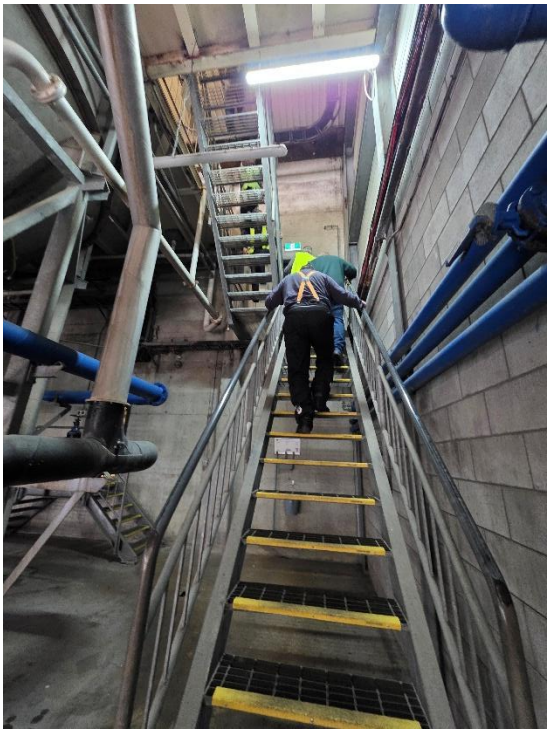












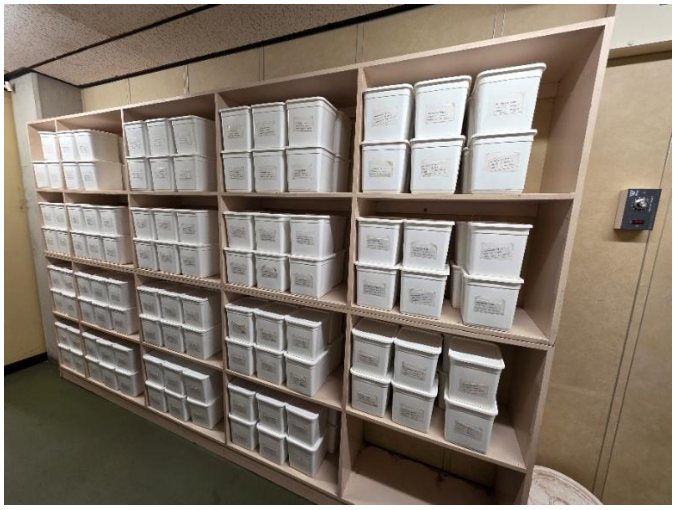












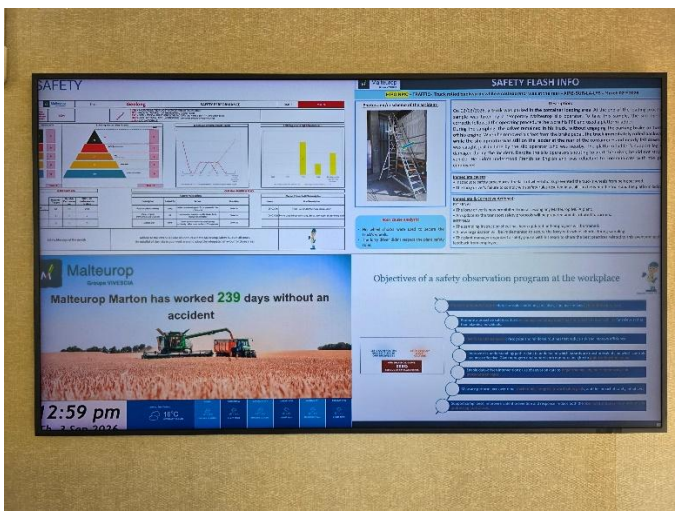











SAFETY
SAFETY FLASH INFO
Malteurop
Malteurop Marton has worked 239 days without an accident
Objectives of a safety observation program at the workplace
12:59 pm



MCNZ hall of fame
BEN TOWNLEY



Born: 1984
Inducted into MNZ Hall of Fame: 2019
Ben Townley started racing an early age. His first championship win in New Zealand was the North Island 85cc class in the 8-11 year age group in the 1993-94 season. He repeated that achievement in the 1994-95 season and before the decade was out, several other titles came his way too.
Rather than hang around collecting trophies in New Zealand, the 16 year old Townley head for Europe, securing a ride with the German PHASE Suzuki Team in 2001. It was a tough introduction for the kiwi teenager. He left the team towards the end of the season after internal issues and joined forces with the respected Vangani team.
Townley's second year on the World Championship circuit couldn't have been more different, being part of a top team with top team mates. Beginning 2002 with his first World Championship podium, a second place at the GP of Valkenswaard in Holland, it was Sweden where he scored his first victory and a number of podiums followed.
Success continued through 2003 riding a KTM. He was now a true championship frontrunner after only three seasons in Europe.
In 2004, as a factory KTM rider on a factory machine, Townley won the MX2 World Championship from future champion Antonio Cairoli and his own team mates.

Armed with latest KTM450, he jumped up to the MX1 Championship in 2005 and would win several races, soon becoming a threat at each round. At the end of the season, he would finish third to Stefan Everts and fellow kiwi Josh Coppins.
Townley signed a deal with Mitch Payton to move to the USA in 2006 and ride for Monster Energy/Pro Circuit Kawasaki. But before the move, he had unfinished business representing New Zealand at the Motocross des Nations in France, where the team finished fifth. However it was Townley's individual performance that people remember. In the third moto, he finished a close second behind none other than American Ricky Carmichael, who was regarded as the fastest rider in the USA, if not the world, at the time.
Moving to the USA, he settled in Florida. However the success of previous years did not follow him. A serious knee injury while practicing for the East Coast Supercross Championship ruled him out for much of the season.
Returning in 2007, he won the 2007 Supercross Lites East Championship.
In 2008, he signed for American Honda to contest the US Supercross and Motocross Championship, but again suffered a season-ending injury during a training session.
While he continued to compete with some success, he was also dogged by injury and, after five years during which he failed to complete a full season, in 2013 Townley announced his retirement from full-time racing.
But his retirement was abandoned in 2015. He was once again selected to ride for New Zealand at the Motocross des Nations. Again in France, his individual performance stood out, just as it had done 10 years previously. Sixth and second place finishes delivered an opening to ride in the 2016 World Championship for the factory Suzuki team. Once again though, it was not to be. A serious crash ruled him out in June – suffering internal injuries, the 2004 World Champion was out, this time for the last time.
There is no doubt that Ben Townley is one of the fastest riders to come out of New Zealand, keeping company with the likes of Darryll and Shayne King, Darryl Atkins and Josh Coppins. His many wins and successes show that, without the injuries and plain bad luck, he may have even had more victories on the world stage.
These days Townley has business interests and family that keep him busy. In 2019, he was employed as Brand Ambassador for Yamaha in New Zealand and his sons, Levi and Jagger, look as though they may follow in their father's illustrious footsteps.
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Memorial Ride

This month was our annual October Memorial Ride. 10 bikes left the BP and headed to Feilding for quick stop at the "Boys and There Toys" show in the Coach House Museum car park. An interesting display of classic cars, stationary engines, model steam engines, and one bike, Dave's Norton International. We were booked for lunch at the Argyle Hotel in Hunterville about 50 kms away, so at mid-day we headed though Cheltenham and over Vinegar Hill to Hunterville. My old Ducati 900SS was misbehaving and had to be push started, but I thought to run would recharge things. We had a stop at the Vinegar hill Lookout to admire the view, and a Minute Silence to remember mates no longer with us.

I role started the bike and we carried on to the pub for lunch. I had a quick lunch then had a look at the bike, thinking it was an earth lead problem. The lead bolt was tight but not clamping the terminal. Sorted that, another push start and I decided to go home via Marton, just in case. About 10 ks from Marton the bike started missing, I tuned off the light, that helped but then it eventually ran out of battery. I tried phoning the rest of the group but they had left. So I called the AA, the tow truck arrived, we loaded the bike and back to Whanganui. The first time I've ever needed the AA gold, well worth it. A few days later I checked the charging, plenty of AC from the alternator, but melted wiring at the reg/rec. Fitted a new one from Ducati Spares in Invercargill and has never charged so

well be for. I had put a new one on 9 months ago, it had all the correct terminals and mount, but it was cheap, now I know why. Thanks for all the pushers, and the Manawatu Club member with the Jumper pack.

Lloyd W.

A couple of photos from the "Boys and their Toys"



Genuine Lotus Mk1 Cortina



A Hillman that still goes

A note to our members if you have pictures and\or a story from a ride you have been on if you Email me I can include it in our magazine

Thanks

Mike my Email is mikethebike.mjr@gmail.com



1 Meeting at the Manuatu club rooms



2 Manuatu



3 Shed visit



4 Shed



5 Shed



6 Shed



7 Shed



CAMERA ROUND

Above: Mechanics at Coleman & Co recently underwent a familiarisation course with the engine out of the classy B.S.A. Rocket 3 (a three-cylinder, 750c.c. engine). A feature of the engine is the ease in which it can be pulled down for repairs. From left are staffers Warwick Parr, Merv Ferguson, Peter Scott, Colin Hughes and Joe Lett.

Title: 🛠️ Pure Kiwi Ingenuity: The Making of the Legendary 1982 Suzuki GS1000R Aluminum Monocoque Racer! 🏍️💨

Caption: A rare look back into the workshop of master frame builder Steve Roberts. Captured here alongside his son Ralph and legendary racer Dave Hiscock, working on the radical, hand-beaten aluminum monocoque chassis. This groundbreaking New Zealand F1 creation went on to claim 3rd place at the Isle of Man TT and dominate the Swann Insurance International Series in 1982! True engineering genius built from the ground up. 🇳🇿🔧





Kickstart Ride





Park up at the Bason Botanic Gardens





Heros or Villians

The Boys Toys cars were Feilding 18/10/26. Then we carried on to Stormy Point Lookout where we had a quiet moment for departed riders before continuing with the Memorial Ride to Hunterville for lunch at the Argyle Hotel. Trevor's Intruder's motor stopped as he pulled into Pukeko's Nest on Saturday(24/10/26). Doug Smith went and got his ute to load it aboard.



Preparing the Intruder for the last stage



Stormy Point Lookout



Boy’s and their Toys,Feilding

Advertising







Coming up

November

8th BSA bantum big day out Feilding Coachouse museum 9.30am

New bantum's and other bikes welcome.

Charity Ride start at Levin Adventure centre Registration 9am depart 11am $20/person

15th WCC swap meet Karapiro

2027

MAY

16th Distinguished Gentleman's Ride

SEPTEMBER

17th -19th Hawkes bay CMCC's 50th anniversary National Rally

Stoney creek Ranch



Vehicle WOF changes coming up

Vehicle type and age	Current setting	From 1 Nov 2026	Eligibility / Phasing
New light vehicles	Second WoF at 3 years	**Second WoF at 4 years**	From 1 Nov 2026
Light vehicles (4–14 yrs) first phase	Annual WoF	**WoF every 2 years**	From 1 Nov 2026 for light vehicles registered on/after 1 Nov 2019
Light vehicles (4–14 yrs) second phase	Annual WoF	**WoF every 2 years**	From 1 Nov 2027 for light vehicles registered between 1 Nov 2013 – 31 Oct 2019
Light vehicles (14 to 26 yrs)	Annual WoF	Annual WoF (no change)	No change
Light vehicles (26 yrs+ registered before 1 January 2000)	WoF every 6 months	**Annual WoF**	From 1 Nov 2026
Motorcycles (registered before 1 January 2000)	WoF every 6 months	**Annual WoF**	From 1 Nov 2026
Motorcycles (registered from 1 January 2000)	Annual WoF	Annual WoF (no change)	No change
Light rental vehicles (CoF-A)	CoF A every 6 months	**Annual CoF A**	All light rental vehicles eligible from 1 Nov 2026


SAVE THE DATE
16 MAY 2027
TRIUMPH
MOVEMBER
"RIDING FOR MEN'S HEALTH"
www.gentlemansride.com
The Distinguished GENTLEMAN'S Ride


8TH NOVEMBER
RED KNIGHTS
NZ 12
MANAWATŪ
$20 PER RIDER
CHARITY RIDE DEBUT
START - LEVIN ADVENTURE PARK
FINISH - FEILDING FIRE STATION
9am - Registrations Open
11am - Riders depart
for mystery fire station tours
Raffles + Spotprizes + BBQ
Cash Only Please
PROUDLY FUNDRAISING FOR
TE KIWI MĀIA
THE COURAGEOUS KIWI
SUPPORTING THOSE WHO SUPPORT US