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2024



21-24 February

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WELCOME TO *Americarna* 2024



TONY EWENS
TVET CHAIRMAN

Welcome to Warner Construction Americana 2024 from the Taranaki Vehicle Events Trust (TVET)! We extend a warm welcome to all attendees and express sincere thanks to our new naming right sponsor, Warner Construction, as well as our supportive partners and funders including Toi Foundation and Venture Taranaki Trust. Special appreciation goes to our regional partners, including South Taranaki District Council, Waitara Alive, Inglewood First, Stratford Business Association, and New Plymouth District Council, for their unwavering commitment to Americana.

The community, visitors, and spectators can enjoy numerous free displays and activities throughout the event, with the main highlight being the impressive display of cars touring the roads of Taranaki. The passion for American

car culture is the essence of this special week, featuring a high standard of vehicles for everyone's preference, from traditional to award-winning customisations.

Being part of Americana is a great opportunity to connect with friends, family, and fellow enthusiasts. The Rest Home Runs bring joy to senior residents, and the excitement of children along the streets adds to the experience. The smiles and stories shared during this time are the most rewarding.

The TVET team, including Marilyn Davies, Mark Robson, Yvette Preston, Toni Fabish-Benton, Ricky Malcolm, JR, and Caitlin, invite you to enjoy your time in Taranaki for Warner Construction Americana 2024. Bring the good times and create great memories.



ALAN WARNER
WARNER CONSTRUCTION



Welcome to the Warner Construction Americana for 2024.

Myself, my family and many of my colleagues at Warner Construction have been avid participants and supporters of Americana since its beginnings and are delighted to be able to support the event as naming rights sponsor for 2024.

Americana has long been a great highlight of the year for the Taranaki region and this year's event looks set to be one of the best ever. There is something so special about bringing together people of all different ages and backgrounds from across New Zealand who all share in the love of American vehicles. Whether you are a first time entrant, returning participant or a community member visiting the event, you can be assured you will have a fantastic time at any and all of the events across the week -

the hardest part will be picking your favourite at the end!

Our thanks goes out to John and the team for the exceptional work they have put into getting the event organised, its history is of great credit to you all. A big thank you to all of the other sponsors, volunteers, local businesses and the Taranaki community for your ongoing support, the event would not be possible without each one of you.

Please do come and say hello to myself and the Warner Construction team when you see us across the events, it would be great to meet as many of you as possible, hear about your time at the event and find out about your vehicles!

Thank you again for your participation and I wish you a safe and enjoyable visit to Taranaki and Warner Construction Americana 2024



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Keep an eye out for this QR code throughout this publication.

Scan it for extra info by opening your phone's camera, pointing it at the code, and tapping the link when it pops up.

Easy-peasy!



Welcome



NEIL HOLDOM
MAYOR OF NEW PLYMOUTH

Kia ora koutou. It's great to see Americarna return to the New Plymouth District and Taranaki.

Our residents always lay out a warm welcome for the annual celebration of American muscle cars and you'll find no shortage of admirers coming to check out your wheels.

Since Americarna was last here, New Plymouth has been named New Zealand's Most Beautiful Small City and we're keen to share what our district has to offer.

If you've visited before you'll be familiar with the stunning views of our Taranaki Maunga and ever-changing coastline that greet you as you motor through Taranaki.

While you are here, make sure you park up occasionally and check under New Plymouth's hood to see what drives our Sustainable Lifestyle Capital.

Ditch the wheels for a bit and cruise through our award-winning Pukekura Park, taking in the spectacular view across the Main Lake and our free family-friendly Brooklands Zoo.

After checking out your car in its iconic mirrored façade, explore the artwork on display at the internationally acclaimed Govett-Brewster Art Gallery / Len Lye Centre.

Change down a gear with a walk or cycle along our awesome Coastal Walkway or visit our free Puke Ariki Museum.

And make sure you refuel at our wide range of cafes, restaurants, and bars around the district.

I trust you enjoy your time here and thank you for visiting our Sustainable Lifestyle Capital.



KELVIN WRIGHT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE
VENTURE TARANAKI TRUST

Nau mai haere mai, welcome to Taranaki.

As you cruise around the region, you'll find passionate and creative communities, award-winning museums and galleries, rich history, and stunning landscapes with the iconic Taranaki Maunga, a tupuna of our region standing at the heart of it all.

Taranaki has something for everyone, with beautiful gardens, hiking trails, and endless black-sand beaches waiting to be discovered. Take time to indulge in decadent dining and immerse yourself in rich local culture at one of our unique attractions.

Discover the spell-binding kinetic displays at Govett Brewster Art Gallery and Len Lye Centre, take an exhilarating boat ride with Chaddy's Charters, or step back in time at Tawhiti Museum.

Te Puna Umanga Venture Taranaki works toward a thriving and prosperous Taranaki, as we focus on advancing high-tech innovation and energy transition in the region, and we are branching out into new food and fibre opportunities. Venture Taranaki, also strives to position the region as an attractive destination for investment, living, working, playing, creating, learning, and visiting.

We're proud to support vibrant and diverse festivals like Americarna which bring visitors to discover the magic of Taranaki, a region like no other. I hope you take the time to enjoy in all there is to see, do, eat, and experience.

See you again soon, mā te wā.





SARAH BENTLEY-KORFF
CHAIRPERSON, WAITARA ALIVE

On behalf of Waitara Alive and the Waitara community we would like to welcome back Americarna once again to our beautiful town and Taranaki as a whole. Americarna is such a fantastic event to be a part of each year and the joy it brings to the faces of the community is second to none.

We often have buses from the rural schools come in to Waitara for the short stop as well as the other local schools coming to enjoy the cars.

The kids absolutely love watching all the cars enter the main street. Coupled with plenty of fantastic food and entertainment, the lunch stop on Thursday in Waitara is one that we as a community thoroughly enjoy being apart of.

Waitara is a beautiful small town with a bustling main street that offers plenty of fantastic shops and food outlets. The river and

beach are fantastic and with recently opened BBQ's at the Waitara Marine Park beach it is a great place to stop and enjoy a bit of r&r on your Americarna journey.

I have personally always appreciated what the Americarna team put together each year and the work that goes in to it. I love both the community events and the large events in New Plymouth.

The ability to bring the cars to the smaller towns is a real treat and something I know the communities embrace.

So please, when you are visiting stop in to the local shops as well. These businesses kindly allow us to close the road for the day making the event in Waitara possible. If you are visiting from out of town. Thank you for coming & enjoy your stay here in Taranaki.



PHIL NIXON
MAYOR, SOUTH TARANAKI

Welcome to South Taranaki. We are very pleased to have our Americarna visitors back in our District.

We hope you enjoy your time here cruising the coast and taking in the sights with the backdrop of the ever-present Taranaki Maunga.

Stop and enjoy our small towns and visit the best private museum in New Zealand – Tawhiti Museum or, if you're a lover of all things 'the king', you can't miss KD's Elvis Presley Museum.

Take the time to cruise out from Eltham to visit the real jewel in our crown – the Rotokare Scenic Reserve.

We hope you enjoy stopping at one of our popular surf beaches along Surf Highway 45 on the coast, the buzz of the market day in Hāwera and one of our many great cafes throughout the district.

Thanks for coming to South Taranaki, enjoy your stay and come back again soon!



NEIL VOLZKE
MAYOR, STRATFORD DISTRICT

On behalf of our community, welcome back to the Stratford District; we are thrilled to host Americarna participants again.

Nothing beats that rumble of a muscle car V8, and I am sure large numbers of people will turn out to view the spectacle of these fantastic cars in convoy and while parked in our main street.

For the participants who cruise the regions roads, we know as locals, that the dominating presence of our magnificent Mt Taranaki and the beauty of the region will make great scenic cruising for you.

I encourage visitors to the region to find the time to explore what's on offer in Taranaki and stay on for a few days to enjoy the hospitality and many attractions of the region.

Whether you are returning, or this is your first visit here, I am sure you will have great time.

My best wishes to all the participants for a successful event in 2024. Thanks for coming to Stratford.

Keep cruising, stay safe and we will see you again soon.



MARIE PEARCE
CHAIRPERSON, INGLEWOOD FIRST TRUST

Welcome to Inglewood. It's fantastic to be hosting Americarna 2024 and celebrating 16 years of this fabulous event.

Inglewood extends its warmest welcome to all Americarna visitors.

With the fantastic support from Taranaki Electricity Trust, New Plymouth District Council and the Inglewood Community, Inglewood First Trust is planning another

fantastic Inglewood Street Party on Thursday 22nd February 4pm with the fabulous Hamilton based Che Orton Band to entertain us ... fabulous cars... fantastic food, wonderful Inglewood hospitality, and our very popular 'Free Kids Zone' - the scene is set for another outstanding event.

We hope all our visitors have a truly memorable day and will return to Inglewood again soon. Happy Cruising.



Registration Day

TUESDAY 21 FEBRUARY



Warner Construction Americarna week kicks off with registration day taking place on Tuesday, 20th February at the TSB Stadium, located at 1 Rogan Street, New Plymouth.

While there are no organised cruises on this day, it serves as an excellent opportunity for participants to collect their registration packs, visit the official Americarna merchandise trailer and browse the stalls and vendors.

The TSB Stadium will serve as the central hub throughout the week, where we will gather each morning before embarking on our cruises on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

Registration Centre and Merchandise Trailer Dates/Times

Tuesday 20 Feb 2024: 1:00pm – 7:30pm

Wednesday 21 Feb 2024: 8:30am – 6:30pm

Thursday 22 Feb 2024: 8:30am – 2:30pm

Friday 23 Feb 2024: 7:30am – 12:00pm



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Opunakē Beach

WEDNESDAY 22 FEBRUARY



Join us today for the first official cruise of Warner Construction Americarna 2024!

The adventure begins at TSB Stadium with a departure at 10:30am. Buckle up as we cruise along the mesmerizing Surf Highway 45, making our way to the stunning Opunakē Beach.

By 11:30 am, we'll reach Opunakē Beach, unveiling an incredible showcase of vehicles. While our entrants enjoy a delectable

lunch in this breathtaking setting, we invite the public to join us and get up close with the impressive cars. The departure from the beach is at 2:30 pm.

Important to note: A road closure will be implemented on Beach Road, Opunakē, exclusively for Americarna vehicles. Public parking will be available at the top of Beach Road and on adjacent side roads. Kindly adhere to instructions provided by our marshals to ensure proper parking in designated areas.



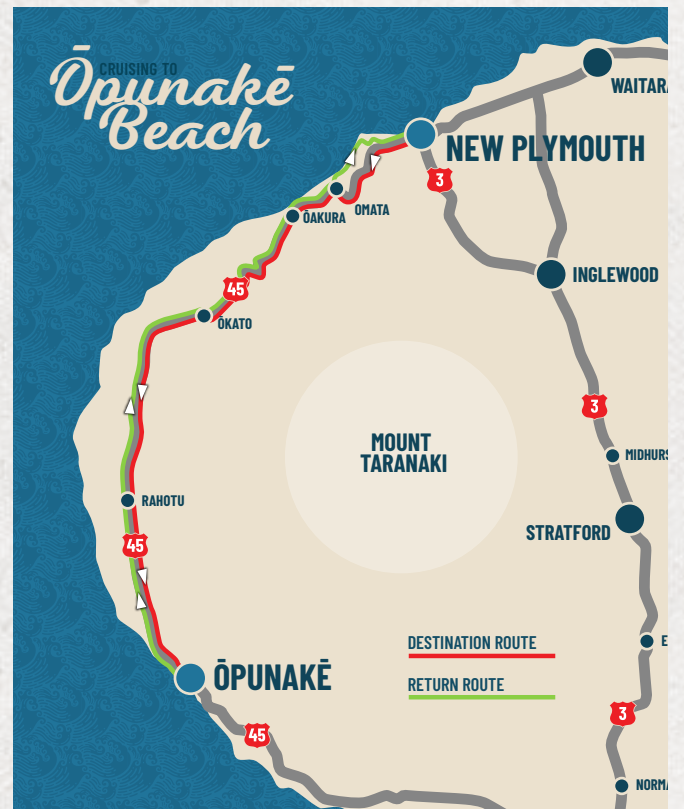
Destination: Opunakē Beach **Time:** 10.30am – 2:30pm

CONVOY ROUTE & TIMING

- 10.30am**
- ★ Depart New Plymouth Racecourse onto Gover Street
 - ★ Left turn onto Leach Street
 - ★ Follow the one way until Morely Steet
 - ★ Right turn onto Morley Street
 - ★ Left turn at traffic lights onto Devon Street West
 - ★ Follow State Highway 45 through Ōakura
 - ★ Turn right at the roundabout in Ōkato
 - ★ Continue on SH45 to Opunakē
 - ★ Turn right onto Havelock Street

- 11:30am**
- ★ Follow Beach Road down to camp ground area

- 2:30pm**
- ★ Depart Opunakē
 - ★ Return to New Plymouth via SH45
 - ★ Left turn onto Beach Road at Omata
 - ★ Veer right onto Centennial Drive
 - ★ Left onto Ngāmotu Road
 - ★ Right onto Breakwater Road, 4.6km to Eliot Street
 - ★ Proceed to TSB Stadium





Waitara & Inglewood

THURSDAY 22 FEBRUARY

Join us for an extraordinary adventure as we set off at 12:00 noon to discover the vibrant community of Waitara.

From 12:30 pm, the heart of Waitara CBD will come alive with an impressive display of parked vehicles. Immerse yourself in the experience, getting up close with remarkable cars, savoring local cuisine, and embracing the town's unique cultural charm.

At 3:00 pm, our thrilling journey continues as we head towards Inglewood. Traverse the scenic countryside along the captivating Waitara Road, setting the stage for an epic evening in Inglewood.

Prepare for an unforgettable evening as the Inglewood community hosts an astounding street party. From live entertainment to a delightful array of food, refreshing beverages, craft stalls, and fantastic kids' activities, the Inglewood street party promises something for everyone.

Please be aware that road closures will be implemented in Waitara and Inglewood. Access to certain areas will be restricted. We appreciate your patience and kindly ask you to exercise caution while following marshal instructions. Your cooperation ensures a smooth and safe experience for everyone. Thank you.



Destination 1: Waitara Time: 12:30pm – 3:00pm

CONVOY ROUTE & TIMING

- 12:00pm** ★ Depart New Plymouth Racecourse via Rogan Street
- 12:10pm**
 - ★ Turn right onto Coronation Avenue
 - ★ Left onto Mangorei Road
 - ★ Right onto Rimu Street
 - ★ Left onto Chilman Street
 - ★ Right onto Waiwaka Terrace
 - ★ Left onto Paynters Ave
 - ★ Right onto the heavy traffic overbridge
 - ★ Merge onto State Highway 3 – heading north
 - ★ Pass by Bell Block on State Highway 3
- 12:30pm**
 - ★ Turn left on to Nelson Street, arriving in Waitara
 - ★ Veer right onto McLean Street where entrant vehicles will be parked

Destination 2: Inglewood Time: 4:00pm – 8:00pm

CONVOY ROUTE & TIMING

- 3:00pm**
 - ★ Depart Waitara for Inglewood
 - ★ Exit Waitara CBD
 - ★ Right onto West Quay/Parris Street
 - ★ Left onto Nelson Street
 - ★ Right at SH3 - CAUTION
 - ★ Left onto Waitara Road
 - ★ Left onto Everett Road
 - ★ Left onto Bristol Road
 - ★ Right onto Kaimata Road
 - ★ Right onto Tarata Road follow through to Inglewood
- 4:00pm**
 - ★ Arrive in Inglewood
 - ★ Entrant cars will be parked in the CBD on display
- 8:00pm** ★ Entrant's head back to New Plymouth via State Highway 3



Stratford & Hāwera



FRIDAY 23 FEBRUARY

Join us as we kick off our journey from TSB Stadium at 10:00 am, heading first to the delightful town of Stratford. Arriving at 10:30 am, our impressive vehicles will be showcased on Broadway for public viewing.

At 12:30 pm, our adventure continues as we cruise through the scenic route to South Taranaki, with Hāwera as our next exciting destination. The route will take us through Kaponga and Manaia, offering a delightful experience for children as they enjoy the passing convoy.

Arriving in Hāwera at 1:30 pm, our vehicles will be on display on High Street for public viewing. Be sure not to miss the thrilling Acceleration Event on Albion Street at 2:30 pm.

At 5:15 pm, our vehicles will depart from Hāwera for the Friday Night Cruise in the bustling New Plymouth CBD.

Please be aware that road closures will be implemented in Stratford and Hāwera. Access to certain areas will be restricted. We appreciate your patience and kindly ask you to exercise caution while following marshal instructions. Your cooperation ensures a smooth and safe experience for everyone. Thank you.



Destination: Stratford Time: 10.30am – 12:30pm

CONVOY ROUTE & TIMING

- 10.00am**
- ★ Depart New Plymouth Racecourse via Rogan Street
 - ★ Right onto Coronation Avenue
 - ★ Follow State Highway 3
 - ★ Pass through Egmont Village
 - ★ Pass through Inglewood
 - ★ Pass through Midhurst

- 10.30am**
- ★ Arrive Stratford
 - ★ Entrant cars will be parked on Broadway on display

Destination: Hāwera Time: 1:15pm – 5:15pm

CONVOY ROUTE & TIMING

- 12:30pm**
- ★ Depart Stratford on State Highway 3
 - ★ Exit the roundabout onto State Hwy 3 heading to Eltham
 - ★ Turn right onto Bridge St
 - ★ Continue onto Eltham Rd then onto Victoria Street
 - ★ Turn left onto Egmont Street
 - ★ Continue onto Manaia Road
 - ★ At Manaia turn left at the roundabout onto State Highway 45 / South Road
 - ★ Left onto Collins Street
 - ★ Left onto High Street

- 1:15pm**
- ★ Entrant cars will be parked in the CBD on display

- 5:15pm**
- ★ Exit High Street, right onto Argyle Street
 - ★ Left at Glover Road
 - ★ Take the 3rd exit at the roundabout onto State Highway 3
 - ★ Continue on SH3 to New Plymouth
 - ★ Turn right at State Highway 3 / Mangorei Road intersection



'54 Ford F100

Car Profile



Steve Wilcock's first few trips to Taranaki were originally high speed trips around country roads in his Targa rally car.

This was one of the many forms of Motorsport he has ventured into over the years with a long history of street rods, circuit racing, classic motorbikes, and jet boats under his belt. A trip to Americarna in 2015 ignited a desire to again own another mid 50's American pick-up.

This started the search for another F100, as the shape had always appealed to him. An Internet search turned up a potential candidate, this '54 panel in Florida. "Kiwi" Steve Davies in Los Angeles was duly contracted to fly out to Florida and check it out on Steve's behalf. He sent Steve a bunch of photos and a report on the good, the bad, and the ugly, negotiated a price accordingly, and arranged the shipping back to L.A, then onwards to New Zealand.

Picking the truck up from Tauranga was followed by a harrowing drive back to Cambridge, with marginal brakes, terrible bump steer and sloppy steering. Things finally took a turn for the worst (if that was possible) at the top of the Kaimai Ranges with a completely blocked fuel system. The remaining maiden voyage was on the back of a flatbed truck.

Obviously the old F100 needed some serious help. The next two years were spent gathering and assembling parts to complete a rebuild, without destroying the trucks appearance too much.

A 351 Cleveland and automatic overdrive now supply the power, backed by a 9" Ford rear holding an LSD centre section. Disc brakes did away with the previous perilous braking situations, and a new Flaming River steering column moves a new power steering unit now.

Using his previous racing background experience, some new leaf springs up front (which also moves the front axle forward in to the middle of the wheel arch) provide a smooth, accurate ride now, supported with some decent shocks and sway bars front and rear. A new stainless steel gas tank will hopefully prevent another episode like the one on the Kaimais.

With all the new upgrades, the truck is super drivable, and seems to be and a bit of an attention getter where ever he goes. It's just as capable doing household trips to the dump, or cruising the streets at a Rod Run. The Budweiser signwriting gives it a bit of "character" too I guess.

Steve wishes to thank Ivan at Udy Autos for his fantastic mechanical work over the years on his different rodding & racing projects, and Paul from Bodymods for his tidy fabrication skills on additional parts of the build.

Steve and his F100 are obviously a well-liked addition to many events and we hope Steve will keep enjoying his hard work on his truck for a long time , before he veers off to another automotive adventure.



THE LEGENDARY JOURNEY Mangorei Road



FRIDAY 23 FEBRUARY

In the heart of Americarna's spirited celebration, there's a stretch of road that stands out like a beacon of community camaraderie – Mangorei Road. Rain, hail, or shine, the locals come out in style, setting the stage for a memorable evening.

The magic begins around 6.00pm as entrants make their way down Mangorei Road, greeted by a kaleidoscope of creativity. Front lawns transform into lively spectacles adorned with BBQs, gazebos, and even scaffolding. It's a visual feast that captures the essence of the event – a fusion of automotive passion and community pride.

What makes Mangorei Road truly exceptional is the unwavering enthusiasm of the community that lines its edges, infusing the atmosphere with an infectious feel-good vibe. Becoming an unmissable part of the festivities.

Special thanks are due to Merrilands New World and Stumble Inn, whose generous donations towards Warner Construction Americarna 2024 add an extra layer of excitement, acknowledging the hard work and creativity that the Mangorei Road community invests in making this stretch a highlight of Americarna.



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NEW PLYMOUTH CBD

Night Cruise



Experience the excitement as vehicles glide down Mangorei Road at 6:00 pm, followed by a captivating parade through the city center from 6:00 pm to 9:30 pm.

Get ready for a direct and unforgettable journey, fully immersed in the excitement at the core of Americarna's energy.

We kindly request the public to adhere to the liquor ban and stay on the designated footpaths. It is crucial to avoid gathering along the road for a better view, as this poses a significant safety risk.

In past years, we've observed children sitting on the roadside, prompting us to urge parents to ensure their children maintain a safe distance from the vehicles.

The entire cruise route offers ample space for optimal viewing without compromising safety.

We urge the public to please show respect and comply with the instructions provided by the marshals, as these measures are implemented with your safety in mind.

Destination: New Plymouth CBD **Time:** 6.00pm – 9:30pm

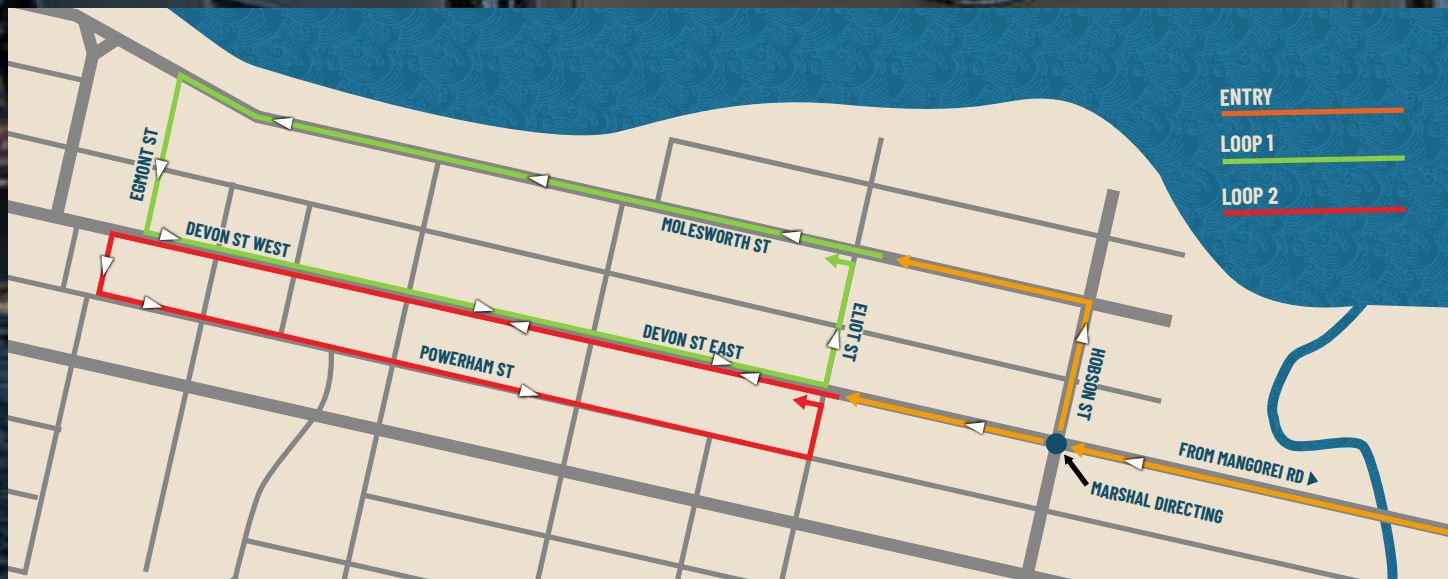
NIGHT CRUISE ROUTE & TIMING

- 6:00pm**
- ★ On return from Hāwera, turn right at SH3/Mangorei Road intersection
 - ★ Cruise Mangorei Road
 - ★ Turn left at Devon Street East
 - ★ Enter night cruise route

- Loop 1**
- ★ Turn right onto Hobson
 - ★ Left onto Molesworth Street
 - ★ Left onto Egmont Street
 - ★ Left onto Devon to enter the road closure

- Loop 2**
- ★ Straight onto Devon Street into the road closure
 - ★ Left onto Robe Street
 - ★ Left onto Powderham Street / Courtenay Street
 - ★ Left onto Eliot Street and then left again to continue in the loop

- 9:30pm**
- ★ Cruising ends and roads re-open



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FRIDAY 23RD FEBRUARY

RIDE THE BULL!

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3:30PM - HAWERA TOWN SQUARE
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Ameri-Carnival

NEW PLYMOUTH'S MAIN STREET CAR DISPLAY

Saturday 24 February ★ 10:00am - 3:00pm



NEW PLYMOUTH CBD

Get ready for an unforgettable day! From 10:00am to 3:00pm, join us for the 2024 Americarnival and witness a captivating display of entrant vehicles, a spectacle that is free for all to enjoy. The event promises a visual spectacle as a variety of vehicles take centre stage, showcasing the passion and craftsmanship of their owners. From classic cars to customised rides, this display is sure to ignite the automotive enthusiast in everyone.

Make your way to Puke Ariki Landing for a day of family fun with free activities for the kids, including a rock wall, inflatables, and face painting. And who can resist the quack-tastic excitement of the Waimanako Duck Race? Over 3,000 hopeful bath ducks will race down the Huatoki Stream at 2 pm.

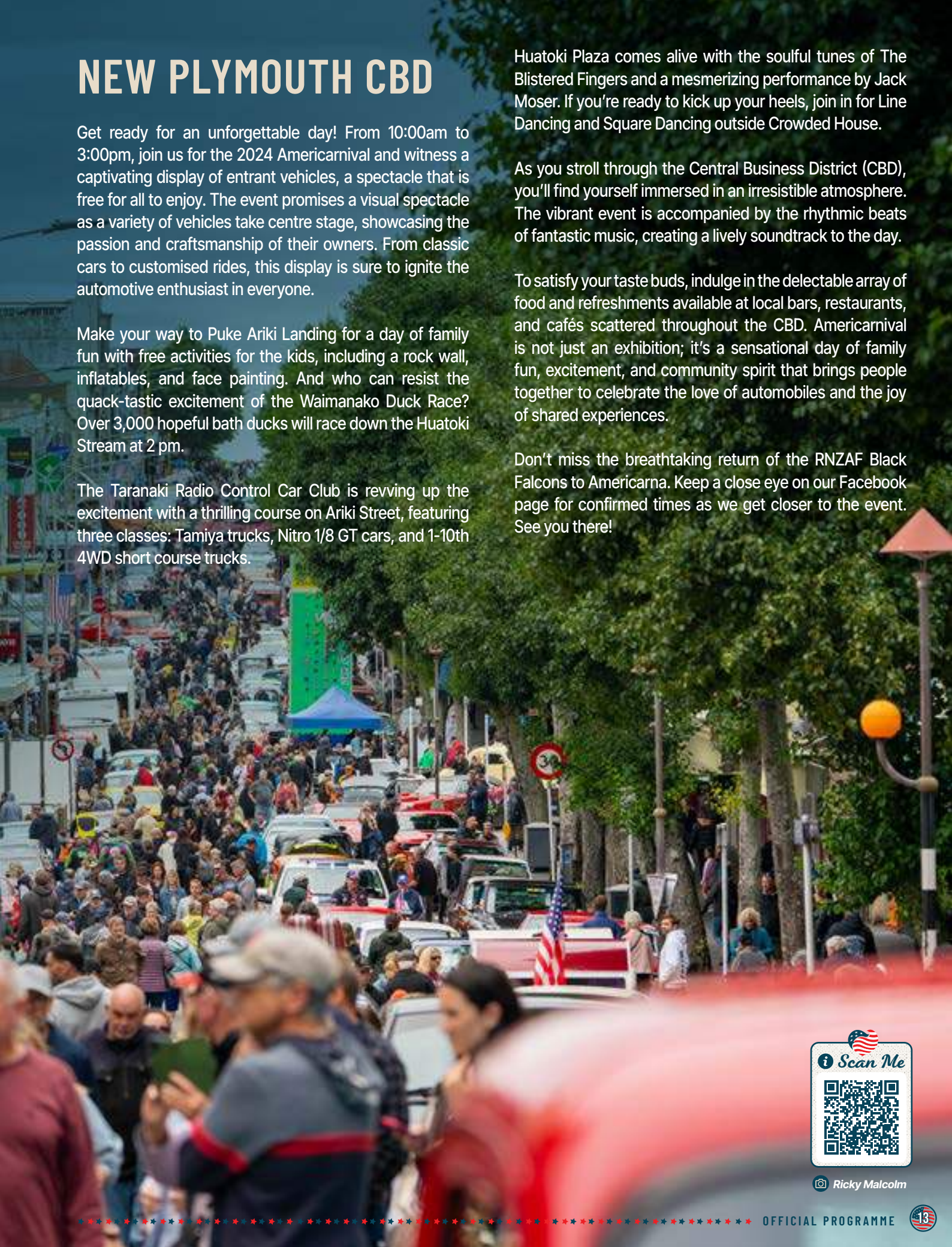
The Taranaki Radio Control Car Club is revving up the excitement with a thrilling course on Ariki Street, featuring three classes: Tamiya trucks, Nitro 1/8 GT cars, and 1-10th 4WD short course trucks.

Huatoki Plaza comes alive with the soulful tunes of The Blistered Fingers and a mesmerizing performance by Jack Moser. If you're ready to kick up your heels, join in for Line Dancing and Square Dancing outside Crowded House.

As you stroll through the Central Business District (CBD), you'll find yourself immersed in an irresistible atmosphere. The vibrant event is accompanied by the rhythmic beats of fantastic music, creating a lively soundtrack to the day.

To satisfy your taste buds, indulge in the delectable array of food and refreshments available at local bars, restaurants, and cafés scattered throughout the CBD. Americarnival is not just an exhibition; it's a sensational day of family fun, excitement, and community spirit that brings people together to celebrate the love of automobiles and the joy of shared experiences.

Don't miss the breathtaking return of the RNZAF Black Falcons to Americarna. Keep a close eye on our Facebook page for confirmed times as we get closer to the event. See you there!



 Ricky Malcolm



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'82 Checker Motors

Car Profile



Colin and Debbie James have been car buffs for years and different cars and styles have come along through their lives.

But Debbie has always had a desire and soft spot for the famous yellow Checker cabs.

Long thought to be an offshoot division of GM they were actually a completely stand alone company called Checker Motors, that had been building cars specifically for the Taxi industry since 1922. Various body styles had evolved over the years, but the most famous ones are the Marathon models like this, probably seen in every photo of a New York avenue. They incorporated large rear doors for easy access with shopping etc and a couple of extra fold down seats in back for extra passengers when needed.

In 1962 the contract with their engine supplier Continental, suddenly expired so the decision was made to use GM power trains of various styles. Some 6 cylinder options were available plus a 283 V8. In later years 350's backed up with a Turbo 400 like this, were the most popular option.

The cars are a very "utilitarian", with no frills to speak of, possibly a heater if you're lucky.

Some may think their chubby body style may not be the most fashionable shape in a line-up of cars, but they have an enviable reputation for ruggedness and attaining some colossal mileages, before being retired .

Debbie's model was found in Australia after a long search for a clean rust free model on the Internet across the US. Turns out, her cab is one of the very last of 50 built in the Kalamazoo, Michigan factory before Checker Motors finally closed their doors.

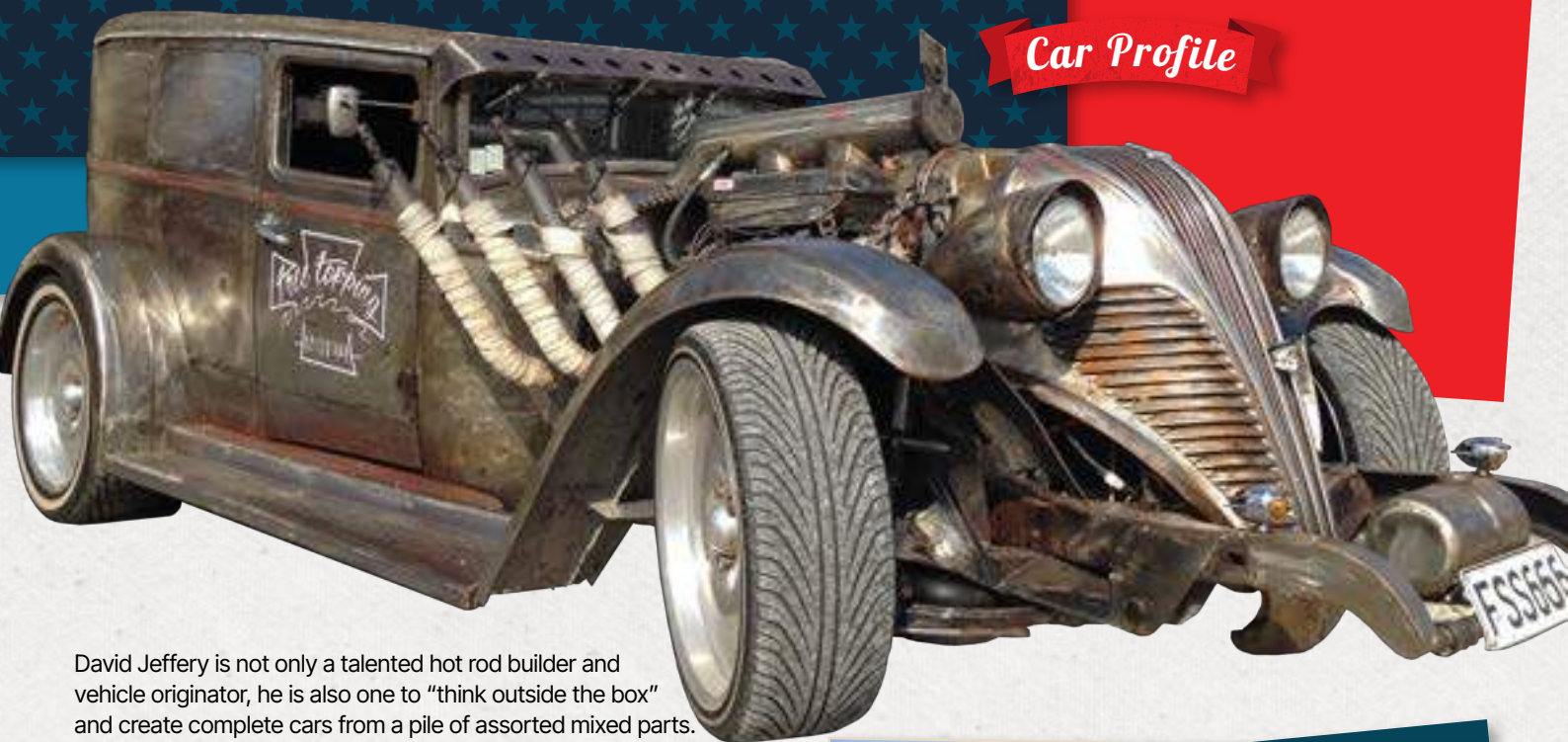
Number 50 is in a Museum in Michigan, with a mere 10 miles on the clock. I'm sure Colin and Debbie's model will soon be clocking up many more than that, starting at Americarna this year.



Bellarat Hot Rod Sedan



Car Profile



David Jeffery is not only a talented hot rod builder and vehicle originator, he is also one to “think outside the box” and create complete cars from a pile of assorted mixed parts.

Not only has he created vehicles that have never existed before, but also helps out his buddies with welding and fabrication on their hot rod projects as well.

It seems his eye for proportions and symmetry are spot on! A really handy guy to have around.

One of the first builds that got him noticed was in 2012 with the car he is bringing to Americarna this year, nicknamed “Bellarat” named after his daughter, Isabela.

In 2016 he debuted, his second trophy winning, full build, the 3 axle “semi-rat” which he later sold to a mate.

With a mix of rat rod, hot rod, with a strong influence of steampunk, his bare steel Bellarat is a combination of parts that David found and collected while tree felling in the bush.

Starting with some Dodge, Hudson, Willys, Chevy and Jaguar parts, this cartoon styled street rod will certainly stand out in a line of traffic.

Driving up from Rollerston (just out of Christchurch), it will turn some heads for sure. We hope he gets to enjoy the very extensive range of vehicles Americarna attracts from beautiful street rods to late model Muscle cars, and low and slow cruisers in between. Welcome David, and we’re sure you will enjoy Taranaki and maybe it will spawn the idea for another slightly unorthodox creation for us to look forward to in the future.





hillsboroughholdenmuseum.co.nz
Phone Steve 027 447 0708 or Joy 027 294 6385

Just ten minutes' drive from the centre of New Plymouth is a stunning purpose-built facility for the display of a private collection of Australian Holden cars and memorabilia. The only Holden Museum in New Zealand open to the public and the collection spans meticulously restored early Holden models from 1949 through to the late and last model 2019.

The collection grew from Steve Fabish's lifetime passion for the marque, which started with his first Holden purchase in 1972.

This passion has evolved even further with the development of the Mount Panorama Mini-putt golf course based on the layout of the famous Mount Panorama track at Bathurst, as well as the Hideaway Luge and train track. Enjoy the whole experience and refuel at the onsite Licensed Hideaway Café.

Find us at 683 Egmont Road, all facilities open 10am to 4pm Saturday and Sunday or by appointment for Americana enthusiasts. **This is a must see while visiting Taranaki.**

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Taranaki

VEHICLE EVENTS TRUST



Americarna brings positive benefits to Taranaki – in addition to showcasing our province, the event brings economic, wellbeing, social and recreational outcomes that benefit our communities. The event has grown significantly since its inception in 2007 and in 2014 the Taranaki Vehicle Events Trust (TVET) was formed to support the event.

The primary role of TVET is to secure funding, through grants and sponsorship, so that all the community activities and

components of Warner Construction Americarna are free to the public. The Trust also supports the planning of the event with a strong focus on ensuring that the Americarna “rumble” will continue for many years to come.

TVET works closely with council and community representatives throughout Taranaki to bring a family-friendly, inclusive and vibrant event that can be enjoyed by locals and visitors alike.



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Need For Speed

ACCELERATION DISPLAY

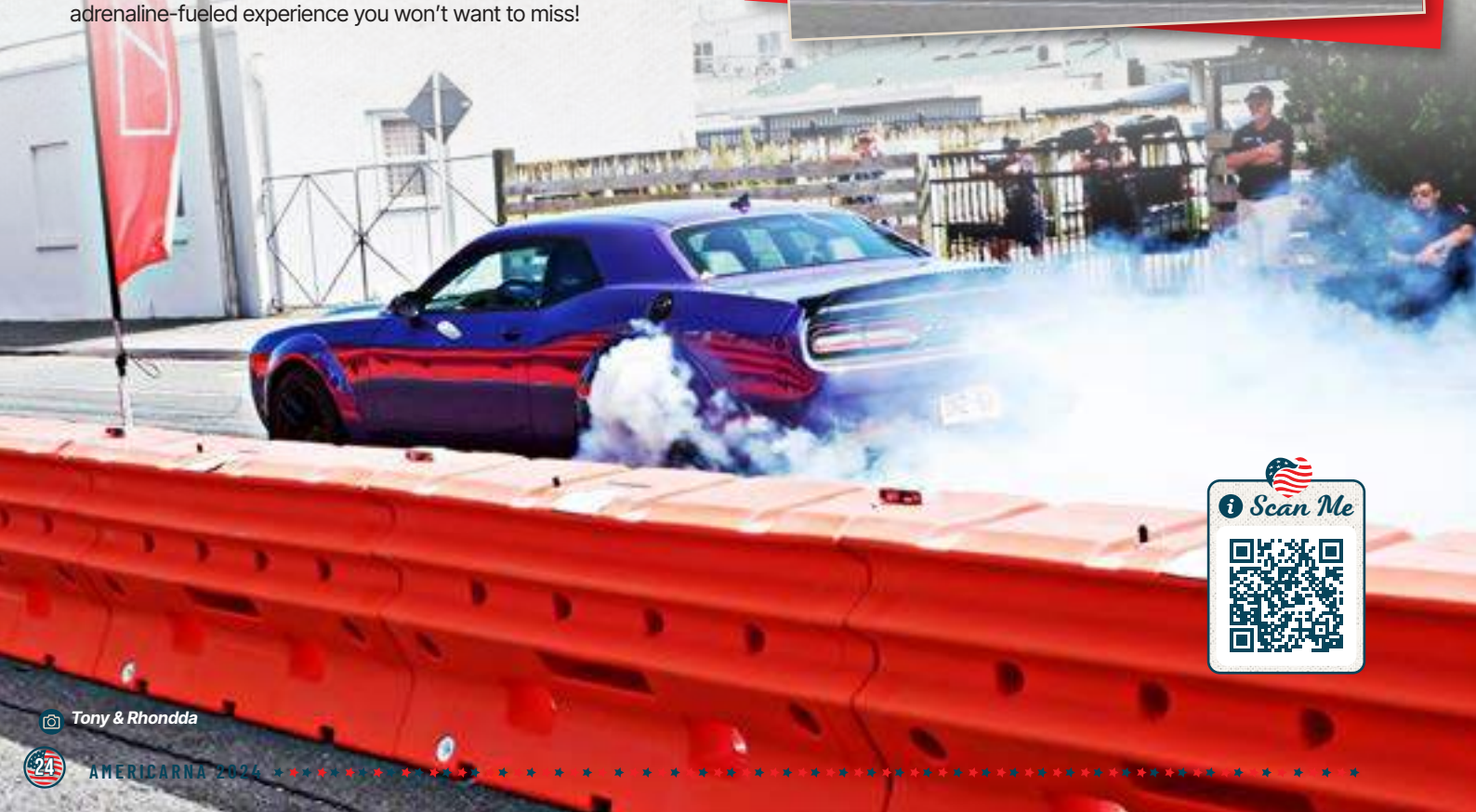
FRIDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2:30PM

Get ready to rev up your engines and witness a spectacular showcase of American automotive power from all eras at the Acceleration Display! This event is all about high-octane fun, where participants unleash their American vehicles with a competitive spirit that's more about having a blast than taking things too seriously.

As the enthusiastic competitors assemble at the start line, anticipation fills the air. The moment the flag descends, the engines roar to life, propelling the drivers towards a series of strategically positioned cones at the far end of the straight. It's an electrifying race against time as they push their machines to their limits, each aiming to achieve the fastest time in their respective categories.

But it's not just about raw speed. This discipline demands a delicate balance between impressive acceleration and precise braking capabilities. The straight stretch is long enough to add an extra layer of excitement. Participants will need to shift gears, maybe even a gear or two, as they push their vehicles to the edge of their performance capabilities.

The excitement starts at 2:30 pm! Come down and have a fun afternoon cheering on the participants as they showcase their skills and push their vehicles to the limit. It promises to be an adrenaline-fueled experience you won't want to miss!





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45-47 Cutfield Street, Inglewood

'74 AMC Javelin

Car Profile



The American Motors Corporation has always been the underdog of the US car manufacturers, and their Gremlins and Pacers built in the '70s are consistently voted as some of the ugliest cars ever made.

But despite this reputation they have also built some very cool vehicles which have been overlooked for many years.

AMC were the builders of the famous WW2 Willy's Jeep brand, which evolved in to the classis CJ series of models in later years. Different AMC automotive models managed to hold their own in many forms of racing too including drag racing, and road racing and achieving the unthought-of prize of winning the Trans Am Championship during its peak, in 1971 and '72.

After a long period of interest and study in the history of the brand, John Campbell of Auckland bought his first AMC at the age of 18. Welcoming a Cj5 powered 304 cu. in. V8. He still owns it to this day. But his real dream car was a Javelin, as the swoopy body style, performance, and racing heritage interested him.

After an internet purchase arrived in NZ, it didn't quite turnout to be "as good as described", so that was on-sold and the search for a better example resumed. John soon found a very well optioned '74 model in California for sale on E-Bay , but through a series of errors, he missed out on the sale.

As a last resort, John e-mailed the seller and soon struck up a friendship with him. Soon a deal was done and the Javelin was heading down under.

John's original factory black Javelin is nicely optioned with the 401 cu. in V8, (1 of 217 built) 3 speed 727 automatic, Rally Pac gauge package, tilt wheel, A/C, and factory 8 track stereo. As

mentioned, John and the previous owner Rick Fleischer have remained in contact for quite a while now, and John is thrilled that Rick is traveling down from California to meet John and see his old car again, in its new home, and enjoy a small piece of America here in Taranaki for a few days.



Americarna Online



BROWSE THROUGH OUR WEBSITE REVAMP

About Image, our dedicated design partners, have truly excelled in crafting our new website and accompanying magazine for the highly anticipated 2024 Americarna event.

The website, serving as a central hub, offers enthusiasts comprehensive information, including route maps, program details, and a captivating showcase of featured cars—all easily accessible through its user-friendly design.

The matching magazine, a collector's item, delves deeper into the event's essence with historical photos, in-depth articles, and exclusive interviews. We emphasize the importance of acknowledging and getting to know our sponsors, as they play a pivotal role in fostering a sense of community within the American car culture.

Anticipating the Warner Construction Americarna 2024 event, our revamped website and magazine stand as reflections of the dedication and creativity of About Image. Together, we are committed to providing an unparalleled experience, celebrating the rich tapestry of American car culture.



- ★ Detailed information
 - ★ Tonnes of photos
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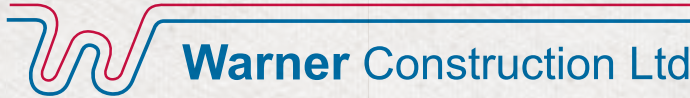


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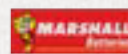
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