

THE



WORD

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WOLSELEY CAR CLUB NEW ZEALAND INC

April 2026



**Matthew Hey drove the family Wolseley Hornet Special on the Malvern
ANZAC Day Rally in Canterbury**

Report on Page 8

OUR CLUB OBJECTIVES:

- To promote interest in and use of Wolseley vehicles.
- To arrange social functions for the purpose of promoting the objectives of the club.
- To promote and encourage the efficient maintenance of members' vehicles.
- To render technical assistance to members.
- To produce a newsletter regularly as a vehicle for the exchange of owners experience, technical information, the sale and exchange of cars and spare parts, or any other matters of interest to members.
- To maintain a library of information on the history, maintenance, repair and modification of Wolseley cars, to be available to members.
- To maintain a central register and stock of spares which may be established to assist members.



Club website (new one): www.wolseleycarclub.co.nz & Facebook

HOW TO CONTACT US:

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Spare Parts Enquiries:

If unable to be handled by your local
Branch, contact: Colin Hey (Jenny)
Email: wolseley.spares.nz@gmail.com
Phone 021 883 807

All Newsletter Enquiries:

Send to: Gaye Dixon (Derek)
In 'Word' format please
Email: thedixons@xtra.co.nz
Phone 021 147 3509

Disclaimer: The views and opinions in this publication are personal to the authors, and not necessarily the official views of the Wolseley Car Club of NZ Inc.

EDITOR'S REPORT

Greetings Wolseley Enthusiasts,

Well, as we move into April's edition of *The Wolseley Word*, things are certainly starting to feel a bit exciting around the club! With the 50th Anniversary National Rally just around the corner you can almost hear the collective tinkering in sheds up and down the country – and perhaps the occasional “why didn't I fix that earlier?” moment as well.

This month's newsletter has a really nice mix of stories and updates. Gordon's report gave me a chuckle – especially the packing advice (I suspect a few of us will double-check we've got the essentials now!) And Michael's reflections on past rallies were a lovely reminder of just how welcoming and enjoyable these events can be, whether it's your first or your fiftieth.

Colin's updates, as always, make you feel like you've been right there along for the ride – dust, gravel and all. It's great to see so many cars getting out and about again, and making the most of the fine weather when it behaves itself.

One of the real highlights for me this month was Annette's story, “*Why I love Wolseleys*”. It's one of those pieces that takes you right back – full of memories, little life lessons, and the simple joy of being in and around these wonderful cars. I'm sure many of you will see a bit of yourselves in there too.

There's also plenty happening around the branches, even if some areas have been a bit quieter lately. It all adds to the sense that we're building towards something special with the Anniversary Rally – not long to go now!

As always, a big thank you to everyone who has sent in contributions. The newsletter really is a team effort, and it's your stories, photos, and updates that bring it to life. Do keep them coming – there's always room for more.

Until next time, enjoy the read, safe motoring, and I look forward to hearing all about the 50th celebrations in the next issue (no doubt with a few good stories to share!).

Warm regards,

Gaye Dixon,

Editor, *Wolseley Word*



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi Members

This is just a short report. We are looking forward to the National Rally and celebrating 50 years of the Wolseley Club.

I have changed the oils in both the gear box and diff which has made quite a difference in sounds and smoother gear changes. The old oils were quite discoloured so pleased to have it done. These are areas you think will be fine because you may not think you use the car that often but when you do service them you wished you had done it earlier.



Don't forget to pack your tooth brush and undies, heart pills, Panadol for pains and head aches, lipstick and powder. We want you to look tidy so wear your best tops and bottoms. Leave your gumboots at home because the weather is going to be good ----- I think!

See you there,

Gordon Duthie



THIS MONTH'S WEBSITE

This month's website – just Control Click the link below:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wolseley_Motors#/media/File:1923%20Wolseley%20Fifteen%20tourer%20RF.jpg

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Hi All,

I hope you all enjoy the 2026 Wolseley Car Club Inc National Rally Celebrating 50 Years of the Wolseley Car Club. We have family commitments at the same time, so will not be able to make it.

Raewynn and I attended our first National Rally in 2004 in Blenheim. We used our Blue 1969 Wolseley Hornet.



**Raewynn & Michael Kruse's
Wolseley Hornet**

Crossing Cook
Straight we met

Dolphy and Jo Mathis – their Wolseley was a 1928 Messenger. They were very welcoming and we had a very quick crossing involved in conversion with them.

We arrived at the rally to discover that we had the only Hornet there. I did strike up a conversion with Bill and Sandra Slattery and found that Sandra had a Hornet back home in New South Wales Australia!!! She went for a drive in our Hornet and was impressed on how well it went.

I was amazed that there were eight couples from Australia. It made for a very interesting week with the banter going back and forth and I found out Aussies aren't all that bad. At the rally we visited the Broughton's to find that they

were restoring TWO 6/90's at the same time and the same colour. The Rally was great introduction to the Wolseley brand and the people that own them.

At the rally Raewynn and I were lucky enough to win second Place in the "Concourse" and "The Most Enthusiastic Entrant's Award", so I encourage you if you haven't been to one, save that money and come and you will definitely enjoy it.

Cheers Michael



Technical Advisors to help members with their Wolseley

The following list is a group of Wolseley Enthusiasts willing to help with any technical issues you may have.

<i>Veteran and Vintage</i>	<i>Post vintage (1930-35)</i>	<i>4/50, 6/80, 4/44, 15/50</i>
Colin Hey	Series II & III (1936-1948)	Ivan McCutcheon
021 883 807	Mike Driscoll	022 374 6326
	027 290 6755	
<i>15/60 and 16/60</i>	<i>6/90, 6/99, 6/110</i>	<i>1500, FWD Hornet, 1300, 18/85</i>
	C-Series engines	A & B Series engines
	Colin Hey	Michael Kruse
	021 883 807	027 6600 203

18/85, SIX, 18-22 (Wedge) and E-Series engines

Deadline for next Wolseley Word:
Sunday 24 May 2026

Spares Co-ordinator

A request from the Spares Coordinator.

If you require spare parts, the best way to do it is by emailing the spares address:

Wolseley.spares.nz@gmail.com

Please try to avoid emailing my personal email address, as your order may get lost.

Please let me know exactly what part you need. If there is any doubt in what it may be (particularly if its steering parts, bushes etc.) then take a photo of the part or send a scanned copy of a parts diagram with the parts you need circled.

In the email, please include your full name and full postal address (including the post code) and your phone number – this saves me having to look it up when I address the parcel.

An invoice for the parts will be sent out after the parcel is posted – this is to ensure you pay the correct price for postage, as for all but small items it varies so much nowadays.

I'm usually at the parts shed on Wednesday and Saturday mornings, so make sure you order before those times if you need anything urgently. I will dispatch urgent parts by courier if necessary. If you want the parts sent straight to a garage or workshop where you are having the work completed, just let me know. You will be invoiced directly for the parts though, not the garage.

Thanks

Colin Hey, Parts Coordinator

Colin's Column

April's activities got underway with a rather relaxed veteran car display over the weekend of 11th and 12th April at the annual Steam Extravaganza, cooling my tyres somewhat after the rather hectic February and March period, especially including the Vero Rally. I took the 1909 Wolseley along as it's a bit easier to manage for that type of display, especially if it starts raining as it's easy to cover up. Held right next to the VCC home grounds at Cutler Park, a total of seven cars were put on display, with the weather just holding out over the whole weekend whilst the cyclone swept across the North Island. I was certainly thinking of our members up there taking yet another hammering.

It was a very good weekend there – the crowds numbered well into the thousands, and there was a continuous stream of activities happening in the grounds to keep everyone happy and entertained. Thirty traction engines turned up, and all had a turn either driving various bits of machinery or just doing a display circuit around their central track at different times. There was always something moving and/or belching black smoke to look at, including a few slow rides on our car on request for anyone who asked. I was very happy to oblige! A good mate of mine and his wife are very involved in



A few of the veterans on display at the Steam Extravaganza

Steam Scene, and I have to say I was impressed with the enthusiasm and work they put into this event. They had 2 full size traction engines, a Foden steam truck, their Stanley steam car, a steam boat, and a working miniature traction engine all there for the weekend, and all operational. On top of that they were looking after their two young grandchildren, and were helping run the event as well! The Stanley was used both days for the children's lolly scramble, and there were literally hundreds of children running behind it both days trying to collect the lollies.



690 Series 2 belonging to member Dennis Sloan at the last VCC Coffee Morning

A couple of days later, after brushing the soot and dust off the 1909 car, we had our monthly coffee meeting at Thirsty Acres in Kirwee. A good turnout this month, including a first time appearance for a 1910 REO single cylinder car. I think this was his first run in this car from his home 25km away in his ownership, and apart from the speedometer gear on a front wheel coming loose, it made it there and back without a problem.

Included in the discussions at Kirwee was where and when our next Veteran Random Run would be, and with the weather forecast looking very good for the following Friday (17th), it was decided to aim for that.

We arranged to meet at near Darfield at 11am, and three of us did a run from there to Glentunnel for lunch at the Golf Course café, and then carried on to Whitecliffs. From there we took the road over the hill to join Malvern Hills Road, then came out onto the Inland Route 72,

Colin's Column cont'd

before heading back to Darfield. A lot of gravel in the 60km we drove, but most of it was in great condition, so just a bit of dust to contend with and clean off the cars later. The weather was great and it was certainly nice being out in the cars again.

The events for the month were rounded off with the Malvern Anzac Day Run on Anzac Day. There were 10 veteran vehicles on the run including Jenny and I in the 12/16. This year we were missing Colin and Judy Winter in Grandma the 1900 Wolseley, but a 1902 Rambler recently recommissioned by its owner which did the full distance of the run sort of made up for it. We were also joined by a mixture of 35 other vintage and PV cars for the run around the Malvern War Memorials, including Blue and Tara Gallagher in their Wolseley 1300, and Matthew in our Wolseley Hornet Special. The weather was picture perfect, and it was absolutely great being out to enjoy it again and take in the significance of the day as we stopped at the several memorial sites on the way, finishing at the Glentunnel memorial and Community Centre for lunch. It was pointed out that next year will be the 10th running of this event, so we'll have to have a think about what we can include to make it just that little bit more special.



The rest of the month has been burned up getting details finalised for our 50th Anniversary Rally, as it's all coming together now. We have 36 confirmed entries (cars attending) and at the moment everything seems to be falling into place well, so hopefully everyone who comes will enjoy it. If anyone hasn't yet registered, it's too late to join us for the activities requiring numbers, but you're still very welcome to join in on the re-enactment of the very first Wolseley Car Club run, which will be to Ashley Gorge and will be happening on Saturday 16th April. If you want to take part, be at Bishopdale Mall Car Park on the corner of Farrington Ave and Harewood Road by 10am. For any other enquiries about the rally just give me a call.

Regards

Colin Hey

BRANCH NEWS and EVENTS – North Island

North Island Club Captain's Report

No doubt some of our members in the North Island have been busy these last few weeks preparing their Wolseleys for the long trek to Christchurch. As I have only briefly visited this city, I am really looking forward to discovering all the delights the city holds. Let's hope that the weather and the ferries behave themselves, and our rally will be stress-free and enjoyable.



Pieter & Johanna Deutz-Ebling are getting their 6/90 ready to drive to the 50th Anniversary Rally

The North Island AGM and the National AGM have been discussed in Committee. Many thanks to Rod Mason and Committee for organising the National AGM in Hamilton in October. Being central to Auckland and the Island, it is hoped that those members who have not been able to attend a rally or meeting in the past, may join us and experience a short rally, and get to know the workings of the Club. I can assure you it is a lot of fun, with interesting places to visit, a chance to swap information about Wolseleys, and enjoy Hamilton hospitality with like-minded people.

BRANCH NEWS and EVENTS – North Island cont'd

The North Island AGM will be held in late August. Details will be in the next Wolseley Word. At this stage the venue will probably be Matamata. Maybe we can take our cars to the races.

Keep the first weekend of November free, as Raewynn is organising a tour of the Taranaki Gardens. Some spectacular gardens are open to visit, and members who have previously visited say this is not to be missed.

Happy Wolseleying

Annette McKnight

North Island Branch Article

“Why I love Wolseleys” by Annette McKnight

My love affair with Wolseleys began in 1952. I was just three years old.

The first car I remember was a Prefect. My very pregnant mother and I set off from Mungindi, a tiny town on the New South Wales/Queensland border, bound for Moree in western New South Wales to pick up my father. It was my grandfather's Prefect, tan in colour. We hit a kangaroo. My mother cried: I am not sure whether it was out of sympathy for the kangaroo, or because she had damaged her father's car. I felt quite protective towards her. Strange what we remember.

On May 29 my brother was born. To celebrate his first grandson, my grandfather immediately went out and bought a Wolseley – a big, shiny, black Wolseley, with lots of chrome and woodwork. From Day One my position was in the back seat, left hand side behind the front passenger seat. I could not see out the window. I could not roll down the window. My feet did not touch the floor, so I did the only thing I could do. I listened to and felt my grandfather drive the car.

I got to know the sound of the engine when it was time to change gear, either up or down. I got to know how the engine smelt if it was too hot or too oily or leaking fuel. I got to listen for the sound of gravel and rocks on untarred roads, and how to correct the centre of the vehicle so that the wheels ran along the smooth bits and not the less travelled shingle. I got to know how to drive through mud without getting bogged, and what to do if we did get bogged. I got to know how fast to take corners, and what line to take. I got to know how far to travel behind vehicles, how to overtake a slower vehicle, what road signs meant.



“Why I love Wolseleys” by Annette McKnight cont’d

I loved the feel and smell of the leather seats as they wrapped around me when I was tired, and the comfy place to put my head so I could sleep. I learnt how to unstick myself from a hot seat without tearing my skin off. And how I wished I had one of those little push-out windows like my grandmother had, so the cool wind could blow on me. I learned that no matter how fast you drive, you can never out-run the moon.

I learnt, through bitter experience, a lot about minor running repairs, and some major ones. I learnt never to drive through long grass as you might tear the sump out of the car on a rock you can't see. I learnt that you always leave the car in gear, especially on a hill, and always make sure that you release the handbrake before you drive away. I learnt that you should always use hand signals, even though the Wolseley had those cute little semaphores to indicate turning. I learnt that you always take water with you, just in case. And that you make sure you screw down the radiator cap. And check the petrol gauge. And the tyres. And the windscreen wipers. And the oil. And most importantly, that the doors are firmly closed, so little girls don't get spilled out onto the road when the Wolseley round's a sharp corner.

As I grew, I was able to take more control of the Wolseley. I could roll down the window and stick my head out, sometimes even my arms. I learnt that you can't eat an ice cream fast enough with the window down. The wind wins. I learned how long to leave it till you had to roll the window up to keep the dust out from an on-coming vehicle, and how long to leave it till you could roll it down again. I could get in and out of the car myself when my feet reached the floor and if I got tired of sitting I could stand up and hold onto the back of my grandmother's seat and talk to her. I had to master the art of going around corners so that I did not squash anyone. The discovery of centrifugal force was quite an eye-opener for me.

As I grew older I enjoyed many trips in the Wolseley with my family, some long, some short. We all fitted in the Wolseley, my grandparents in the front, my parents, my brother and I in the back. We always took a picnic basket with soggy sandwiches, cakes, biscuits, fruit and a Thermos of tea. The milk always leaked from the bottle it was in, but who cared? After a long drive it was great to sit by the side of the road and enjoy our meal. We could stretch our legs and pee behind a tree. Learning to do that was an art in itself. Look out for ants, snakes and tickly long grass. You had to find the right spot. And make sure no one could see you.

There was so much to see and learn, especially on a long trip, and such a relief when we got to the “soft” tarred stretches of road. It was exciting to note the steady progress of bitumen from gravel, and the growth of towns. I used to feel sorry for the dust-covered trees along the roadside, and delighted when it rained and washed them clean.

“Why I love Wolseleys” by Annette McKnight cont’d

Little did I realise that worse things were in store for the trees, and for us. I was sad when my grandfather sold his Wolseley in 1963.

I put into practice all I had learned when I finally got a car of my own. And finally, a Wolseley, four years ago. I feel like I am where I should be. Cars have changed, roads have changed, laws have changed. But fundamental things don't- vehicle maintenance, how to drive a car to get the best out of it and do the best by it, how to enjoy the driving experience. I thank my wise grandfather for giving me the Wolseley experience, and allowing me to be part of something special. Most kids today will probably never know the pleasure of riding in a Wolseley, unless they are lucky enough to have grandparents who own one!

BRANCH NEWS and EVENTS – Christchurch Branch

Hello All People “WOLSELEY”,

The Christchurch Branch, other than attending to the grounds at Idlewood, has had no scheduled events.

We had no Anzac Day event, hence nothing to report on this score.

Not long now until the 50th Anniversary. In fact week after next. It would be great to think our long period of glorious weather might continue to cover the week of this event.

Kindest regards,

Stuart



Coming Events – Christchurch Branch

50th Anniversary National Rally - 11th to 16th May 2026

Colin's Column has included a few sentences about the preparation for the 50th Anniversary National Rally on Page 8

BRANCH NEWS and EVENTS – Southern

Happy Easter to you All,

As is the whole of NZ, we are all waiting curiously, apprehensively, expectantly and with some dread as to fuel cost and even availability, for the upcoming 50year rally in CHCH. Us Southerners are hunkering down at present not going anywhere!!!

Lighter historical note - the ultimate Wolseley accessory - CUFF LINKS, enamel on stainless steel, as was presented by Wolseley UK to valued NZ employees. This set to South Island Motors, Service Manager Mr. Bob Anderson in the mid 1950's. Shows how good staff were appreciated back then.



**Wolseley Cuff Links presented to
South Island Motors Service
Manager, Mr Bob Anderson in the mid
1950's**

I haven't seen anything like it from Toyota or Nissan to date!!

Stay warm, keep your cars tuned.

Cheers George



Korny Korner

**Kids today will never know
what it was like to take a ton
of pictures**



**And have to wait a week to
find out they were useless**

Cars and Parts For Sale

Wolseley 18/85 Tow Bar

For sale a tow bar for a Wolseley 18/85.

Custom built and with all bits including nuts & bolts. Removed from a donor car in Gisborne.

I have decided not to put it on my 18/85.

I want \$100 plus any freight if not picked up from Kawerau.

Contact Gay Sutcliffe: Ph 0210 343 707

FOR SALE

Top quality full carpet set from the UK.

In Wedgewood blue with blue vinyl edging like originals for Wolseley 6/110 Mkl.

Suit floor change manual.

\$600 or near offer.

Phone Nicholas Scantlebury on 022 523 1901 for photos.

Happy to ship at buyer's expense.

WANTED TO BUY

If you have a mint Wolseley 6/110 or 16/60 to sell please contact Nicholas Scantlebury on 022 523 1901.

Korny Korner

Who does a foot call when his car breaks down?

A toe truck!

Cars and Parts For Sale cont'd

Wanted to Sell

Wolseley Eight, 1947 approx

No WOF, registration dead, but papers can possibly be found. Mechanical condition unknown, probably only suitable for parts. Needs to be sold and moved as soon as possible, and open to offers.

The car is in Christchurch. Contact the owner, Samantha on 022 653 3116.



Korner Korner





REGALIA

Many people have their own private collections of regalia on their subject of interest. The New Zealand Wolseley Car Club is no different. Some of the items we have for sale are related just to the New Zealand club, while others have been sourced from England, the home of the Wolseley marque.

From window stickers for your cars to lapel pins, coasters, key rings, and fridge magnets.

We can supply you from our own stocks. And now we can add shirts and caps to the mix. We order in lots of eight or more to make the embroidery run efficient and cost-effective. Our order can be a mixture of T-Shirts and Polo shirts or eight or more caps.

Wolseley Caps, Tees and Polo Shirts are made to order and must be an order of 8 garments or 8 caps at any given time.

So place an order now and when the magic number has been reached, we'll do a run and get your new clothing posted out to you as quickly as possible.

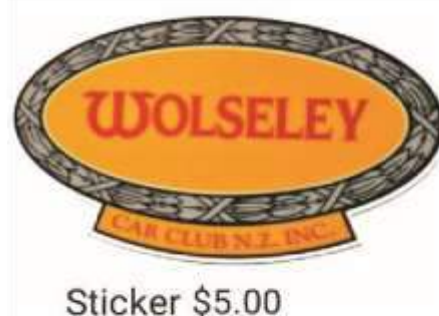
Caps are \$20 each, with T-Shirts \$25 and Polo Shirts \$35 all in a very serviceable green.

For any questions look on the website <https://www.wolseleycarclub.co.nz/>

or to order any of the regalia or clothing items are shown here, **please contact**

Sharon by phone or text on 021 498 162 or by email to dandsomalley@gmail.com

Wolseley Car Club Cooler Bag	\$55
Wolseley Car Club Ladies Blouse	\$65
Wolseley Ladies Blouse	\$65
Wolseley Lapel Badge	\$10
Wolseley Workman Overalls	\$95
Wolseley Number Plate Surrounds	\$10
Wolseley Embroidered Badge	\$10
Wolseley Car Club Window Sticker	\$5
Wolseley Car Club I Bought Wisely Sticker	\$5
Wolseley Car Club NZ Cap	\$20
Wolseley Car Club NZ Polo Shirt	\$35
Wolseley Car Club NZ Tee Shirt	\$25
Wolseley Car Club 125 Yrs Sticker	\$5
Wolseley Car Club Red Wolseley Lapel Pin 02	\$8
Wolseley Car Club Wolseley 680 Lapel Pin 04	
Wolseley Car Club Maroon Wolseley 690 Lapel Pin 01	
Wolseley Car Club Wolseley Lapel Pin 05	\$8
Wolseley Car Club Wolseley Lapel Pin 06	\$8
Wolseley Car Club Wolseley Lapel Pin 07	\$8
Wolseley Car Club Wolseley Lapel Pin 09	\$8
Wolseley Car Club Wolseley Car Club Stickers	\$3-\$5
Wolseley Car Club NZ Beanie Wool blend	\$25
Wolseley Car Club NZ Acrylic	\$15
Wolseley Car Club NZ Sweatshirts	\$50
Wolseley Car Club NZ Bucket Hat	\$25
Wolseley Car Club NZ Key Ring	\$15



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