Pony Express

March - April 2021





Gold Card Runs, RaceLab visit, Mustang Alley at Rev Up, All Ford Day 2021 and more...



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AUCKLAND MUSTANG OWNERS CLUB

PO Box 44-062 Pt Chevalier AUCKI AND 1246

March - April 2021

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Cover photo: One of only 37 special "full race spec" GT350R's ever built by Shelby, this is an ultra-rare and genuine example of the 1965 Shelby Mustang GT350R. Pictured at the Taupo Classic Car meeting in January, this actual car featured as the hero car for the famous BF Goodridge tyre advertising campaign. The car was sold originally by Hi Performance Motors in Los Angeles is now privately owned in New Zealand.

Contents

A word from the President and Editor	3
Sold Card Run – 20th April 2021	5
Club Events Calendar	7
RaceLab Visit	9
Rev Up 2021 – Tribute Occasion	13
New members	16
Ford Cammer	20
Saying goodbye to an old friend	24
Club run from Birkenhead to Clevedon Pub	25
All Ford Day 2021	28
Mustang Run to Waihi RSA for Yearly TriClub Day – 2 May 2021	30

Life Members

Ross Walker (Founding Member) Sam Shackleton (Deceased) Neville Barton (Club Historian)

Wayne Lack

Ken Smith

Shaun Jackson

Mike Adams

Ian Waters

Craig Borland & Dianna Bang



Honorary Life Members Len and Ruth Walker

A word from the President and Editor...

Hi everyone and welcome to our March/April edition of the Pony Express.

Like me you will have noticed the weather is starting to cool down which unfortunately signals the end of summer, so I trust everyone has maximised the great summer and the freedom that we have enjoyed as country, by getting out and about in your Mustangs and putting plenty of smiles and miles on them. There certainly has been lots of opportunities provided by the club with a variety of events and there are still more to come.

Our club is in great health with 389 members, this past 12 months has seen the largest growth in the history of the club and the neat thing is there is a good mix of both old and new Mustangs. Since the beginning of 2021 we have had 48 new members join the club – let me say welcome and I hope that you get to meet lots of new friends and lots of enjoyment from participating in club events. As a point of interest, it would be great to organise a spreadsheet of all the various Mustang models and the numbers that we have in the club. A task for a retired committee member maybe!

Early May sees the arrival of the new Mach 1 model from the US and from what I am advised it looks as if we have at least 4 members who have purchased one of these iconic branded Mustangs. I hope each one of you get plenty of enjoyment from your purchase, the photos on the web look fantastic and they are getting rave reviews from the motoring journalists.

By the time you get to read this edition we will be in early May which means we are only two full months away from our Annual General Meeting on the 7th July, 2021. You will receive a separate note on this via Friendly Manager. At this point both Craig as Vice President and myself as President are in close consideration of our future in our present roles. Neither of us can be expected to continue to hold the reins indefinitely. Since the last AGM the membership has been well aware that we both respected the need for us to maintain our President and Vice President roles for another term. Question: is it fair that we should be considering doing such again – as much as we both love the club? That is not to say that we would be walking away from

committee duties for the 2021/2022 period. The reality is as a club committed to leadership development AMOC really needs to identify a member (or members) who are interested to step up into these roles in 2022. Are you interested? If so, please do not hesitate to call myself or Craig for a friendly, informative chat. So, there is the challenge!

It is also a timely reminder that if any club member has a remit and/or would like a possible change within the club rules they will need to get their suggestion into the committee before the end of May for consideration.

With the club membership (389) reaching such high levels the committee is seriously considering increasing the number of committee members by one other. This will allow the spread of responsibilities to be extended and hopefully reduce the workload. A remit will be required to action this addition.

As the caretaker editor of the Pony Express, it is my intention to bring back the member profiles to the magazine. With so many new members joining us in recent times it would be great to meet them informally. I will start this process off in the next edition by having three of us from the committee participating so the new members will get to know a little about us who sit at the top table. For the following edition it will be the new members turn. It is my intention to randomly select new members and I will e-mail out a simple form to fill in, remember this is not compulsory so if you are not happy to participate, it will be easy to say no.

There is some excellent reading in this edition, so I won't go over any of the past events rather than just say a huge thanks to our events team of Craig and Dianna who just keep on, keeping on, by rolling out event after event, thanks guys your dedication to the task is very much appreciate by all the participants.

In summary, your club is in great situation, is in strong financial position has lots of events planned in the calendar and therefore nicely placed to welcome a further increase of new members.

Keep those Mustang wheels spinning!

All the very best,







Gold Card Run – 20th April 2021

Article - Ashley Sim

The weather forecast was not good for our planned April Gold Card Run. 8 Cars left our starting point at Cornwall park in doubtful skies hoping for a fine run out to our hosts Will and Pat Neale's property at Kawakawa Bay.

Will had mentioned a while ago that we were welcome to pay a visit and gosh we were not disappointed. On passing through Clevedon we picked up another 3 cars that had come from southern locations.

The rain held off although some roads were wet which did result in dirty spray off the numerous trucks.

The drive into Kawakawa Bay is picturesque even on a dull day Arriving at our hosts place all the cars were parked up with room for more. Wayne and Barb Lack and Wayne's parents were there to help out. What a wonderful collection of various cars Will has, and along with an impressive model collection, a lot of memorabilia, we were all suitably impressed. Did I mention the views out to sea?

My first discussion with Will was for a simple (sausage and bread) BBQ but WOW did that get an upgrade. The ladies had done a fantastic job of turning a simple barbie into a lovely lunch. Thankyou Pat and helpers. We have said it before, but again, these Gold Card runs invariably present a great opportunity to engage in enjoyable conversation around food – perhaps the smaller numbers contribute.

I can say that everyone set off for home with a feeling of satisfaction from a most enjoyable day. Our thanks again to Will and Pat Neale.

















Events Calendar

MONTH	EVENT		
MAY	30th — Charlies Pinstriping, full details to follow		
JUNE	13th — Fish and Chip Run		
SEPTEMBER	26th — AMOC Annual Car Show		
OCTOBER	9th — Annual Dinner and Trophy Presentation		
	22nd–25th — Annual Mustang Convention – Tauranga		
NOVEMBER	5th-7th — SuperCars at Pukekohe		



Thanks to our amazing supporters

Our club is indebted to the following groups for their invaluable support.

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BRONZE

South Auckland Motors

Car Colors North Shore Ltd (Club Member Ken Smith)

The Gold Card Group (contribution from 28 odd members

who support the gold card runs)

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Steamheads (Bar and Restaurant) – Hauraki (Club Member Jacqui Williams)

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RaceLab visit

Article - Steve Hawkins

What a beautiful autumn day for a run to RaceLab in Mairangi Bay. Dianna and Craig struck again with a super well organised "shed" raid for us and what a shed it was! We were drooling over not only the premises but the collection of Shane Helms, owner of RaceLab and the Zackspeed racing cars Capri and Escort) of old, so tightly packed into his space that we had to take turns to get down the back and around the corner where there lived a 67 Shelby Fastback among some pretty cool stablemates.

RaceLab's CEO, Neil Garner met us there and while I was wandering around, Michele got chatting to his wife. What an interesting life they have led, following race car teams around the world and transferring to NZ two years ago to raise their two kids. She was saying what a great team the RaceLab crew were and how they worked so well together and enjoyed their Thursday night gatherings at the RaceLab bar – a hard act to follow after working at Renault and Arrows Formula 1 teams in the past.









Driving a RaceLab car means being small and very flexible as evidenced by Rob Scott (see photo) who found getting out of the Audi easier than getting in!

I counted over 20 cars in "Shane's Shed" including the Escorts and Capris, an AC Cobra, Nissan Skyline (one of only two in the world), numerous Aston Martins, a Volvo P1800, Audi and even a Toyota next to the Zackspeed Capri - mouth Watering!

After the visit, most of us went to Altura in Rosedale for a very nice lunch and then headed off to enjoy the rest of our Sundays

It was great to meet old friends and the three new members who attended and welcome them to our club. We even had two Corvettes on the run!

Many thanks to Dianna and Craig for another very well organised, informative and relaxing run.













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Rev Up 2021 – Tribute Occasion

Article - Craig Borland

As it turned out this occasion was pretty special. David Seymour was a founding organiser but due to health challenges – he is battling with motor neuron disease – he was only an attendee this year. The team behind the event chose to make this a special tribute occasion celebrating his efforts in the past. Hence, in excess of 50 mustangs attended – some 24 from our club. Absolutely wonderful.





Our journey started from the BP Dairy Flat. Armed with our picnic hampers Gordon led a convoy of some 20 cars through Warkworth, Matakana, Mangawhai until we reached our lunch destination – the residence of Harvie and Gaylene at Waipu. A magnificent fine weather drive along stunning roads with little traffic. Very relaxing.

Our lunch venue was truly remarkable. Nestled on the Waipu estuary it was a joy to dine under sunny skies with spectacular views and surrounded by beautiful trees. We were indeed privileged to experience such a break from our journey.

Upon arrival in Whangarei (about 2.30pm) we checked in and groomed our cars for the next day. At 6pm we met in the hotel lobby (about 30 of us) and walked into the city to dine at the Pure Bar and Grill. We had our own private area upstairs and with the generosity of the owner (our mains discounted 25%) we all enjoyed a wonderful meal.

At 7.30am the next morning we convoyed into the town centre. A pretty organised registration process with all our cars parked in what was deemed to be "Mustang Alley". They looked fantastic. With 300 odd cars in attendance one can always debate what cars are the star attraction – there are many varieties, and they all have their place in a show like this. That said those

running the event were thrilled to have three Hursts on display – representing three different brands. This was reportedly a first for NZ. For the record – a 2009 Hurst Dodge Challenger (Whangarei), a 2011 Hurst Chevrolet Camaro (New Plymouth) and a 2017 Hurst Mustang (Auckland).







Club member Brian Fairchild was entering the town centre when his car experienced a unique event – clocking up on the speedo 00000.00 miles

The variety on the day catered for all tastes. Peter Brock was present – okay, two replica models (a Commodore and a Torana). There were a handful of very impressive 70's Falcons (plus modern ones). A Nissan GTR was observed. A number of rods fronted – many extremely eye catching. Modern cars were prevalent with a gaggle of Dodge Challenges. But as is often the case the dominant car appeared to be the mustang. But we should not forget the classic bikes either – some 30 appearing on the day.

It is wonderful how an event like this gains such incredible support from the local council. Hats off to them. The charity of the day was Kind Hands Respite Care Cottage – this is a Whangarei based respite service for children under six years, with a disability or medically fragile. What a wonderful cause – and the impression gained that with free entry to the show people reached for their pockets and gave generously. Some astute guesswork suggested some 5000 people were in attendance on the day.

Other attractions included a vehicle-themed wearable arts show (very impressive attire chosen by the contestants), a rock and roll pin-up girl competition and a top rockabilly band.

An enjoyable event run very well with our club indebted to David Muir for his great support.

New members

Clive & Christine North

Mark Smith

Michelle & Brendan Woolley

Brian Craig

Maria & Peter Sargant

Andrew Kingstone & Kathleen Jensen

Brian & Vanessa Andrew

Clayton & Bernice Cumming

Michael & Laura Hulbert

Brendon Armitt

Derek & Angela Cowley

Sabrina Wang

Weike Li

Darren & CJ Mogg

Mubashir Shah

Mark & Lianne Hinge

Alan Rowe & Elizabeth Bennett

Chris Mackey

Garry Agent & Donna Townsend

Fred Corner

Brett Walker & Kirsty Wereta-Walker

Daniel & Alex Hefford

Frank Wang & Winky Wu

Laura Noblejas

Brian & Bernadine Fairchild

Stephan & Helene Deschamps

Garry & Claire Waterman

Todd & Rochelle Ansell

Sue & Kevin Nicol

Keith & Melanie Hall

1969 Fastback (competition car)

1966 Notchback

2020 GT Fastback

2016 GT Fastback

2019 GT Fastback

2013 302 Boss

2019 RTR

2008 Bullitt

2021 Mach 1

2018 Mustang GT

1997 GT Converible

2021 Mach 1

2021 Mustang GT

1965 Notchback

2021 Mustang GT

2016 GT

1965 Mustang Coupe

2000 Mustang

2007 Shelby GT California

2009 Mustang GT

1969 Mustang 427 Sportsroof

2018 Mustang GT

2018 Shelby GT350

1966 Convertible

1966 Mustang Convertible

2021 Mustang GT

2008 Mustang GT

2013 GT California Special

2020 Mustang GT

2004 Mach 1 manual



AMOC Apparel



The official club shirt is the light blue and white flash polos and the black soft shell jackets. If you wish to purchase items in other colours please speak with Darryl-Anne about what you wish to purchase. Please contact Darryl-Anne via email Darryl.lynn@hotmail.com to place your orders.

Product number	Name	Description	Price
P3010	Flash polo mens	Std embroidery (club emblem on left pony on rear)	\$43.50
P3025	Flash polo ladies	Std embroidery (club emblem on left pony on rear)	\$43.50
SJM	Auroa mens PRO2 shell jacket	Std embroidery (club emblem on left pony on rear)	\$93.00
SJW	Auroa ladies PRO2 shell jacket	Std embroidery (club emblem on left pony on rear)	\$93.00







Club shirt - Flash polo mens and ladies



Black soft shell jacket front and back



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Ford Cammer

Article - Garry Biggelaar. Photos - James Biggelaar

At the recent Nostalgia Drag Racing event held at Meremere, South of Auckland in New Zealand, we had the opportunity to see a legendary Ford Cammer in the flesh. The engine was in a front-engine dragster which is owned and raced by Alex and Jocelyn Hogg from Levin. As you would expect with a Cammer, there is also a legendary story of its history.

The Cammer was sourced brand new from America by a New Zealand power boat race team in 1967 – at the time this would have been a very difficult exercise. The story is the engine was obtained through a friend of a friend who had a contact at one of the Ford backed race teams that had access to the Cammers – possibly Holman Moody. The engine was transported back to New Zealand as personal luggage by a Cruise Boat passenger (the Parts Mule predates the Drug Mule by many years). The race power boat and the Cammer parted company when a 429 Boss Hemi was installed.







The engine ended up in a salon stockcar (in New Zealand this a is dirt track circuit class of racing), however it proved to be problematic - possibly that 6 foot plus long timing chain and limited availability of parts was the problem. This is where Alex enters the story – in 1974, as a 19-year-old he purchased the engine from a Hot Rod magazine listing. Costing every last penny he had had at the time, some would say madness, others would say great foresight - the later proving to be correct! The Cammer was rebuilt, with Alex remembering the extreme difficulty in sourcing parts from our remote New Zealand location, in an era well before the luxury of the Internet, with one parts buying phone call costing \$75 dollars for the phone call alone (more than a week's wages in the mid 1970's). The engine was raced by Alex and Jocelyn for many years on local dragstrips.

After a career of farming and nearing retirement around 2008, the Cammer was given a new lease of life in a new FED. Jocelyn recalls her only stipulation was that there was no 'number 8 wire' fixes to be used in the build (this refers to well know Kiwi history and ingenuity to make or fix anything with what



limited resources were available at the time, including down on the farm using heavy gauge 'number 8' fencing wire to make good any breakdowns or overcome problems that may be encountered). The end result has the Cammer installed in an awesome looking time capsule drag racer, appearing to be straight out of the 1960's / 70's era.

The car makes regular appearances and is actively raced at events such as the annual Nostalgia drag meet. The FED was also part of the NZ team that travelled to the 2013 Cruisin Nostalgia Trans-Tasman Challenge which was at Willowbank Raceway in Brisbane, Australia. In our opinion the Cammer was the most historically significant engine there on the day (with some admitted bias for FE engines), followed by the Centurion Tank engine powered Toy Shed hot-rod – a 1650 cubic inch petrol V12 Rolls-Royce Meteor monster. As Alex was getting ready for the next run, he commented that despite the rarity of the Cammer he didn't like to see such things in museums - the drag strip was a much more appropriate place to see such history. Long may it continue!

Thanks again to Alex, Jocelyn and the race team for taking time out of their busy race day to share their story and allowing us to take some great photos of the Down-under Cammer - it was the highlight of the day for James and I.

The Ford FE 427 was the high-performance race engine that powered NASCAR and other race cars in the early to mid-1960's. When Henry Ford II threw down the gauntlet to win Le Mans, the 427 was further refined to the 427 Side Oiler. The 427 Side Oiler engine made upward of 475 horsepower, was tough and could rev higher for sustained periods, which was necessary for the gruelling Le Mans event and provided Ford with many victories on the NASCAR circuit. However, Chrysler didn't take the 427 Side Oiler lying down, with new powerful Hemi engines soon outperforming the Ford 427 engine. To combat this, the Ford 427 SOHC Cammer was developed in short order (a matter of months), with its distinctive features of huge rocker covers, a timing chain almost 7 feet long and capable of an immense 657 horsepower with a twin carburettor setup. The engine was initially banned by NASCAR, but later was allowed with a single carburettor set-up, provided it was fitted in a full-size Ford Galaxie car with a 4400-pound weight handicap. Ford rejected the offer and as such the 427 Cammer never raced in NASCAR and with no homologation required, never made it into a Ford production car, only being fitted to a small number of prototype and demonstration Ford Galaxie models. However, all was not lost – with a number of engines already built, Ford soon made the engine available to the drag racing fraternity. The 427 Cammer promoted the Ford motto of win on Sunday, sell on Monday - getting the blue oval across the finish line first on the drag strip helped Ford in the high horsepower muscle car era race against other manufacturers. Today the Ford Cammer engine has iconic and legendary status, being very rare and rated as in the top 10 engines of all time. The Ford FE engine including the 390, were also

Mustang engine options. A number of very interesting articles can be found on various web sites – Google Ford 427 Side Oiler and Ford Cammer as a start.



Saying goodbye to an old friend

Certain vehicles in your life can become almost like family especially when your relationship goes beyond just a few years.

Our 66 coupe had attained that status, so after 11 years it was a big call to offer it to another – hopefully – caring owner.

How do you arrive at a fair price to both parties in the deal?



A recent search on Trade Me showed a reduction in good cars available and a marked rise in prices being asked.

Covid related issues maybe – certainly talking with people with connections – clean cars (and trucks) in the US are getting harder to find at a reasonable price.

Our Mustang had come to us with good documented history and proved to be a very sweet, reliable car. The thought of passing it on to a new owner came with no trepidation.

Having been a Tradie before retirement, trucks always had great appeal to me so finally the decision was made to make the change.

Listed on Friday, sold on Sunday – unbelievable – but when you are a buyer who has been looking for a long time for the right car then you can't muck around.

A lovely lady from Wellington phoned early Saturday morning, seemed really keen so she and her partner flew up early Sunday and drove it back to Wellington – deal done.

She was so thrilled she texted me several times on the way back home saying it was going like a dream. She also sent me photos of her 90 year old Dad giving his approval.

Yes it has gone to a very good home which makes the deal sweeter for us. Bring on that truck.



The day dawned warm, humid and very misty. From our place up on the hill the airport looked like someone had thrown a huge white duvet over it. The drive to Birkenhead saw us looking at just the lower half of the Sky Tower.

We arrived at Performance Autos, Enterprise Street in Birkenhead. These folks are great sponsors of our club so please use them if you possibly can.

We were, as usual greeted with hot tea, coffee and chocolates. How great are these guys??

Our club members enjoyed looking around the cars especially the orange Lamborghini Aventador. Sorry I never got a photo of this one.

After our muster call up, Craig and Dianna set off a few minutes before us to check our lunch venue was on track.

A very nice scenic drive from Birkenhead along the Southern motorway to Clevedon. Taking in Whitby and Brookby along the way. It was made more interesting by having road directions along with questions about the surroundings and also a general knowledge quiz as well.

Some very interesting questions too I might add, I mean who on earth is going to know all about the sex life of a ladybug??? She's rather naughty, by the sounds of things.







We all ended up at the Hallertau Hotel previously known as the Clevedon Pub. Our members filled the place with bodies and conversation and drinks started arriving. Olives and flatbreads were served to stave off the hunger and soak up the beer and wine before lunch was served. From what I saw the pork, pizzas and burgers were the most popular.

As I write this, Craig and Dianna are sitting at the end of the table marking our quiz sheets. I hope we all pass! Well I didn't do too well in the quiz but managed to score a prize that my grandson will find rather cool.

The meals were nice and served by a lovely team of people who did really well considering we all arrived en masse.

Lovely to see some new members enjoying their 1st club run with us. A very warm welcome to you all, hope to see you at the next one.

The sun finally burned through the fog and we had beautiful weather for the rest of the trip.

Once again Craig and Dianna....thank you for another great club run. If anything ever goes wrong then we never hear about it. Great at sorting things is our Craig. An awesome day out, for The National Mustang Club Run. Hope you all enjoyed yourselves.







For the record the winners on the day were:

1st - Darren & Diana Michie

2nd - Barry McCrystal

3rd - Perry & Maree Carr

4th - Carl & Jaana Whitten

5th - Clive & Catherine Dennis

6th - Martin Crocker & Lyndsay Lawrence

7th - Tracy Morton & Richard Orsbourn

8th - Robin & Richard Goedhart

9th - Mike & Faye Berry

10th - Mike & Sonya Stopforth

11th - Jacqui Williams & Paul Bainbridge

12th - Paul & Shirley Metcalfe

13th - Graeme & Raewyn Townley

14th - Keith & Moran

15th - Dave & Vicky Templeman

16th - John & Sandra Hefford/Dan & Alex Hefford

17th - Mike Spray





















All Ford Day 2021 Smales Farm

Article - Ken Smith

This year's event was held later in April than in previous years and the weather was very kind to us with a fine day. The theme this year was BUILT FORD TOUGH celebrating FORD in commercial use. In fact, any Ford built over the past 118 years.





The Mustang Corral was once again a major feature of the event with some club members being the early birds parking up from around 7.30am. The Corral saw around 65 Mustangs parked up together and another 20 or more spread throughout the other areas, so Mustang was well represented. On display were models from most years from 1964.5 through to 2021 including a small number of very rare early model Shelby's, both in GT350 and GT500 models. A couple I had not seen before.

It was great to see and enjoy a huge turnout of all makes of FORD vehicles whether they be English, American, or Australian along with good support from the Hot Rod fraternity together with anything FORD powered. As seen at most car shows these days the standard of presentation of the cars is amazing.

Prizegiving was held a 1pm with lots of excellent prizes won by various deserving owners. The prestigious People's Choice award as voted by the public was won by AMOC member Chris Dwen with his superb '69 Mustang Fastback.

The coffee was good, and the hot dogs were welcome. My thanks go out to the club members who came along on the day and supported this key event for our club which was started by AMOC some 24 plus years ago, as several of us had attended the REV UP event in Whangarei on the Saturday.











Mustang Run to Waihi RSA for Yearly TriClub Day

Article - Raewyn Townley. Photos - Lyndsay Lawrence.

What a day it turned out to be. It started out with icicles on it and then did a complete 360° on us. We could all have gotten suntans in the afternoon, and this is early May!

After leaving from the top of the Bombays we headed off down the motorway until our turnoff for the countryside drive that would take us to Waihi Beach and the RSA club rooms who were hosting us.

The drive was postcard perfect and I hope everyone enjoyed the ever changing Autumnal colours of greens, browns, reds and burnished golds. It truly was a sight to behold.

The Bay of Plenty club were our hosts and club members Charles and Heather had organised some great ball games, a quiz and a car control event. Those all kept us busy and entertained for quite a while. A few people showing some long forgotten skills.

After some Olympic worthy winning scores (③) we all headed across from the community centre to the RSA for lunch. The only thing being that we all arrived too early and poor Bruce, BOPs president had to try and wrangle us back to our seats to sit and wait...yeah, nah!! Sorry Bruce that was never going to work!! Once those Mustangs owners had the smell of food in their nostrils there was just no stopping them.

As you can imagine there was a huge crowd with the tri clubs and Noddys Classic car crew and of course the regular RSA members. But, for all that

we all got fed and very nice it was too. A buffet of chicken, fish, meatballs, rice, veggies and assorted salad items. Everyone was more than satisfied.

Spot prizes and the presentation of that absolutely amazing wooden bragging rights trophy were the events that finished off the day, BOP took the trophy with AMOC 2nd and Waikato 3rd. This was BOPs first ever win so big congratulations to them.

It was nice to catch up with old and new friends and many thanks to all who were involved in the organising of this really special day.











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Why did I buy a mustang?
I could a Ford it!

I saw a horse driving a car the other day...
It was a mustang.

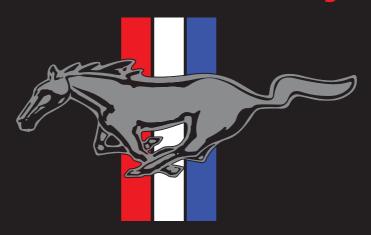
My neighbour traded in his KIA yesterday... Sold his Soul for a Mustang.

What did Ford say to GM?
I don't recall.



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