

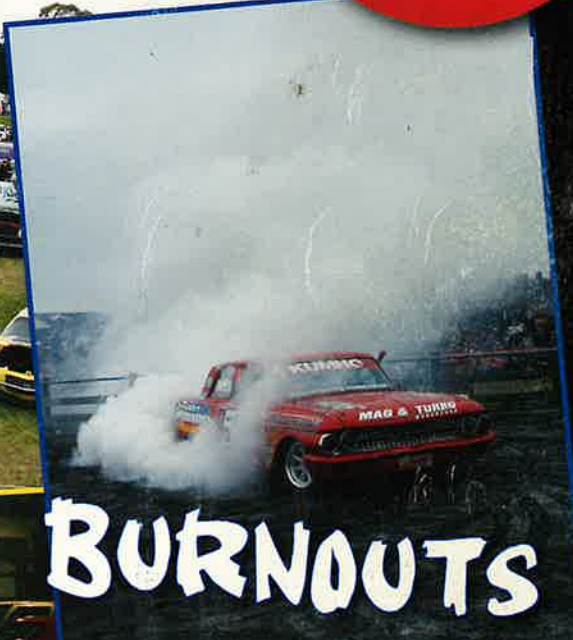
# MUSCLE CAR MADNESS

## AND OTHER DUMB IDEAS

20 YEARS



THE SHOW



BURNOUTS



CRUISING



KOOL RETRO CARS

Plus THE HISTORY OF STOTTLE PROMOTIONS AND ITS CREATOR



# How it all began - or not?

## I suppose we have to start with how did Muscle Car Madness come about?

I DON'T exactly know. It certainly wasn't organised as such. In the late 60s Rod Benders had held displays at the Showgrounds in conjunction with Rangiora's Annual A&P Show. One Sunday I was out at Rangiora and called into the showgrounds and thought it looked like a good venue for a campout weekend.

As I had no money I convinced a friend of mine Brent Wiley to lend me some money and maybe cook a Barbeque for dinner. The first 3 years were sanctioned by NZHRA but due to the fact they frowned upon buses and tow trucks (large ones) being in the driving events, it became the first breakaway event. Originally it was to be named "Street Machine Nationals" but this too was not allowed. The word "Nationals" was a no-no....

The first event had about 52 cars from memory which entered for the weekend.

My next door neighbour just happened to own the Rangiora Farmers Department store; this in itself wasn't that interesting, however attached to this was a very large tarseal car



park. Didn't take long to figure out a use for that, you could hear the burnouts from the showgrounds  $\frac{3}{4}$ -mile away. Wasn't long before the long arm of the law turned up to see what the hell was going on and after saying I had permission they let it continue. The only permission I had was the use of the car park.

The Football clubrooms on site were just a shack about  $\frac{1}{3}$  of its present size. A very small handful of keen competitors have been to every event.

After a couple of years I made enquires about an on-site burnout pad. The main man behind the A&P association was John Spark, a

**"The only permission I had was the use of the car park."**

great gentlemen who's hobby was collecting old tractors, not just one or two but near to 100 of them. I remember having to go to an A&P meeting and trying to convince them they needed this large area of concrete. John said that the cattle wash area would end up being 6 times the present size; they were all very happy about that but didn't really understand how the cars were going to race around this block of concrete. This became very clear to them all at the next show. Then there was the caretaker Ray Upston, who looked after us like kings up until show no.17 when he retired, but he still always comes over to see us every year, still helping in an unofficial capacity with all sorts of ideas. He has every event shirt still unopened in their bags!

The event went from strength to strength, with the general public supporting it like no tomorrow. In the early days there were only a couple of bands, then 4 and today normally



has 10-12 bands with at least 2 from overseas.

By No.6 the event was the largest in North Canterbury, larger than their own A&P show!

The show has been extremely lucky over the years with the weather.

90% of the time it's hot but the other 10% has been rain, when it rains it does it with a vengeance.

One year we were lucky enough to have it on Waitangi weekend with the Monday as a holiday. Well Sunday we were rained out big time. We simply moved the bands inside. "Good Tokin Whiskey" (pictured above) by memory was one of them and became a competitor's party and re-ran the show on the Monday - a hot day.

No.9 we weren't so lucky with record car numbers and the Sunday at opening time it poured, looking like a financial disaster. The caretaker wandered by and casually suggested in a quiet voice, "Why don't you re-run it next week, I've checked, it's not booked" and walked off. I thought what a stupid idea, mentioned it to some of the competitors and got a "Hell Yeah!" So part one was Sat Jan 30 1999 and part two the following Sunday, Feb 7th - perfect day just as big as ever.

The show has always increased in size dramatically to finally break the 1000 car mark in 2006.

Today the Saturday shows (normally the small one) are frequently larger than the old Sunday shows and attract around 600-700 cars.

Over 100 bands have played at "Muscle Car Madness" and each year there is kind of a waiting list to play. The standard of cars has changed so much over the years and it's no unusual for new cars to wait for the show to be unveiled. Many only just get there as the run out of time.

**RANGIORA SHOWGROUNDS NTH CANTERBURY**

**SEE OVER 400 STREET MACHINES & HOT RODS**

BURNOUT PAD ON SITE (See Paper For Times)

**ADULTS \$6**  
**KIDS 5-15 \$1**  
**FAMILY CONCESSIONS \$12**

- Harley Davidson Rides
- Off Road Rides
- Grasskana
- Driving Events
- Live Music
- Side Shows
- Trade Displays
- Food Stalls
- Refreshments
- Craft Stalls
- Fun Fair

Put your Street Machine on display

**PUBLIC DAYS**  
**SAT JAN 27TH 12 NOON - 5 PM**  
**SUN JAN 28TH 10 AM - 5 PM**

CONTACT STOTTLE PROMOTIONS 08 947 2470

**RARE SPARES**

**SEE OVER 400 STREET MACHINES & HOT RODS**

BURNOUT PAD ON SITE (See Paper For Times)

**ADULTS \$6**  
**KIDS 5-15 \$1**  
**FAMILY CONCESSIONS \$12**

- Grasskana
- Driving Events
- Live Music
- Side Shows
- Trade Displays
- Food Stalls
- Refreshments
- Craft Stalls
- Fun Fair

Put your Street Machine on Display

**PUBLIC DAYS**  
**SAT JAN 26th 12noon - 5pm**  
**SUN JAN 27th 10am - 5pm**

CONTACT STOTTLE PROMOTIONS 08 947 2470



**SEE OVER 400 STREET MACHINES & HOT RODS**

**RANGIORA SHOWGROUNDS NTH CANTERBURY**

- TRADE DISPLAYS
- OFF ROAD DISPLAYS
- FOOD STALLS
- GRASSKANA
- SIDE SHOWS
- DRIVING EVENTS
- FUNFAIR
- REFRESHMENTS
- MODEL CAR SHOW (Sun)

**ADULTS \$6**  
**KIDS 5-15 \$1**  
**FAMILY CONCESSIONS \$14**

**Sat Jan 25 12noon - 5pm**  
**Sun Jan 26 10am - 5pm**

\*LIVE BANDS \*CRAFT STALLS \*BURNOUT PAD ACTION



**SEE OVER 400 STREET MACHINES & HOT RODS**

**RANGIORA SHOWGROUNDS NTH CANTERBURY**

- TRADE DISPLAYS
- OFF ROAD DISPLAYS
- FOOD STALLS
- GRASSKANA
- SIDE SHOWS
- DRIVING EVENTS
- FUNFAIR
- REFRESHMENTS
- MODEL CAR SHOW (Sun)

**ADULTS \$5**  
**KIDS 5-15 \$1**  
**FAMILY CONCESSIONS \$15**

**Sat Feb 7th 10AM - 5PM**  
**Sun Feb 8th 10AM - 5PM**

\*LIVE BANDS \*CRAFT STALLS \*BURNOUT PAD ACTION

**SEE OVER 400 STREET MACHINES & HOT RODS**

**RANGIORA SHOWGROUNDS NTH CANTERBURY**

- TRADE DISPLAYS
- OFF ROAD DISPLAYS
- FOOD STALLS
- GRASSKANA
- SIDE SHOWS
- DRIVING EVENTS
- FUNFAIR
- REFRESHMENTS
- MODEL CAR SHOW (Sun)

**ADULTS \$7**  
**KIDS 5-15 \$1**  
**FAMILY CONCESSIONS \$15**

**Sat Jan 22nd 11am - 5pm**  
**Sun Jan 23rd 10am - 5pm**

\*LIVE BANDS \*CRAFT STALLS \*BURNOUT PAD ACTION