

Rare MG to star in Daffodil Rally

Seventy-year-old car painstakingly reconditioned

Chris Steel

Katikati's Peter Lawn says he's doing his bit for the Cancer Society and taking part in the Daffodil Rally driving his 1950 MG saloon.

The Bay of Plenty Vintage Car Club invites owners of all makes and models of cars to join in the 2021 Daffodil Rally for Cancer on Sunday, August 22. If this week's Covid-19 lockdown is lifted in time, the club is looking forward to having as many cars as possible join the rally to raise funds for the local Cancer Society.

MG is known for making sports cars but they did make some saloons, says Peter, who has owned his MG for 47 years.

"I like it because it's nice to drive.

"They only made 6000 odd of the saloons, so it's a rare one," he says.

Peter's MG, painted traditional Carmine red, was first registered in NZ in 1966. He bought it from a person at Stokes Valley in Wellington for \$250.

"The owner drove it from Auckland to Wellington, then decided it was too rusty so he parked it up in a carport."

He says it was rotten when he got it and the motor was tired. People told him it wasn't worth fixing, but he did.

"There's not much on it I haven't



Katikati vintage car enthusiast Peter Lawn with his rare 1950 MG saloon that he will drive in the Daffodil Rally. Left: The rear of the immaculately restored MG saloon.

reconditioned." Over the last 40 years, Peter's done over 100,000 miles in it. He takes it out for a drive every couple of weeks, including regular trips to Tuapiro.

The Daffodil Rally starts with a muster at the Vintage Car Club's clubrooms at Cliff Road in Tauranga,

where printed instructions will be handed out and any questions answered. A \$10 donation per car will be collected and \$5 per person for afternoon tea.

The club is aiming for a 1pm departure time for the two-hour rally run on sealed roads about 60km from the clubrooms. Part of the rally will

take drivers along a historic trail used by horse-drawn transport before the introduction of motorised transport, the Old Coach Road from Paengaroa to Otamarakau. The rally will end with afternoon tea at the clubrooms.

For information, contact Linda Downey on 021-0277-7931 or email ldowneynz@gmail.com

THE DETAILS:

- **WHAT:** 2021 Daffodil Rally for Cancer
- **WHEN:** Sunday, August 22 – 12.30pm muster, 1pm start
- **WHERE:** BOP Vintage Car Clubrooms, 29 Cliff Rd, Tauranga
- **COST:** \$10 per car donation to Cancer Society, \$5 afternoon tea