

Our Mission Statement:

To provide safe, economical motoring in assisting members in their pastoral mission



Diocesan Car Fund Trust Administration

General Manager:
Ray Lindsay

Secretary/Accounts:
Margaret Lavery

General Services:
John Shone

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Christmas and New Year Blessings



Our new Northern Centre for vehicle changes.

The Car Fund is pleased to announce that Tony's Panel Shop at 54 Sunshine Avenue, Te Rapa, Hamilton is our new Northern Centre for vehicle changes. The expectation is that this "partnership" will benefit Car Fund members by facilitating a quicker and smoother turnaround/movement of vehicles between member accounts. Importantly, it will also offer a convenient base within the greater Auckland and Waikato/Bay of Plenty area for the refurbishing of vehicles in instances when it is intended they be reallocated within the same region. This will remove the need to return vehicle/s to Wellington for the completion of such work. The overall outcome should be a significant saving on transportation, time, and labour costs.

Christmas and New Year Office Hours

The Diocesan Car Fund Trust office will close for the Festive Season on:-

- **Wednesday 23rd December 2009 at 5 p.m.**
- **Re-opening Tuesday 5th January 2010 at 8.30 a.m.**

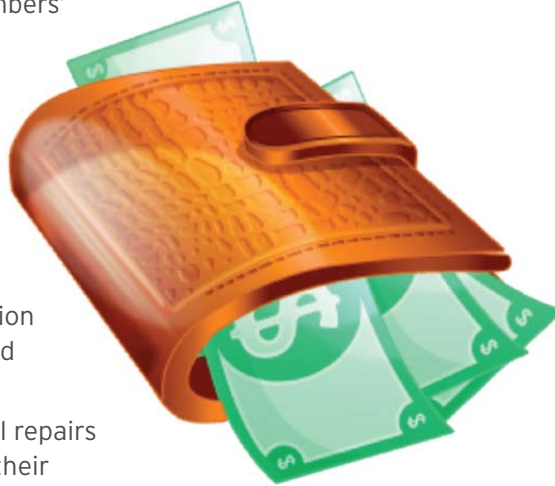
The General Manager, Ray Lindsay, on behalf of the Trustees and Office Staff, takes this opportunity to wish all members a Happy and Holy Christmas and a Peaceful and Prosperous New Year.

Remember, if you are travelling this holiday period, please drive with all care and attention to prevailing road and traffic conditions and keep your speed down. In emergencies only, the General Manager can be contacted on ph. (027) 442 1902.



The Cost of Poorly Maintained Vehicles

Refurbishment costs on Car Fund members' motor vehicles at time of vehicle change-over and vehicle re-issue is often a thorny issue. Consequently, it is useful to inform members of the sort of 'problems' we encounter in this regard as the expense involved is not insignificant. Of course the old adage applies: when it comes to the cost of vehicle refurbishment, prevention will always be better than the cure. And kinder on your pocket-book!



In our experience, non-insurance panel repairs undertaken by Car Fund members on their vehicles is poor - 85% having to be re-done or remedied in some way. For example, one should NEVER attempt to retouch stone-chipped paintwork or panel scratches. Paintwork repair is always a task for qualified professionals. It is far better to apply a good-quality wax polish to affected body-work as a protection against further damage from rust and water.

Regrettably, 90% of Car Fund vehicles returned require some degree of unscheduled repairs. Common problems: -

- **Interior staining and grease marks** on seat fabric and head-rests.
- **Uneven tyre wear and under-inflation** resulting in the early replacement of tyres. Correctly inflated and balanced tyres should last at least 50,000kms.
- **Lack of regular exterior washing and waxing** of vehicle causing a deterioration in the paintwork.
- **Failure to complete recommended vehicle servicing when due - either by date or kms - whichever comes first** (refer vehicle handbook).
- **Blackened wheels and hubcaps indicates heavy breaking and stop-start driving habits.** Apart from increased wear on brake-pads and "flat-spotting" tyres, the strong possibility is that the vehicle is being driven too fast for the road and traffic conditions including following too close to the vehicle in front. This "style" of driving adds considerably to servicing costs and increases the chances of a nose-to-tail accident. Increasing following distances between vehicles allows for the brakes to be softly and evenly applied.

The point of this information is simply to offer Car Fund members constructive and simple suggestions as a way of preventing future unnecessary expenditure.

Remember too, a **well-maintained and tidy vehicle is also a safer vehicle to drive.**



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