



# QUALITAT

## EUROPEAN MOTORS LTD

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### IN BRIEF

**Qualitat** is located at  
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**Workshop** hours  
Mon-Fri 7.30am to 5pm

**Spares** hours  
Mon-Fri 7.30 to 5.15pm  
Sat morning 8.30am to 12.30

Check out our website  
[www.qualitat.co.nz](http://www.qualitat.co.nz)

Some other websites you may like to  
check out -  
[www.vwownersclub.co.nz](http://www.vwownersclub.co.nz)  
[www.audi.com](http://www.audi.com)  
[www.volkswagen.com](http://www.volkswagen.com)



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**QUALITAT**  
EUROPEAN MOTORS LTD

- ◆ Importers of Audi / VW parts
- ◆ Repairers of all vehicles
- ◆ Technicians trained in - VW... Audi ... Mercedes ... BMW

### Reminder from Vagn :



**Preventative Maintenance:** With our present economic climate, do not be put off attending to problems with your vehicle. Often what seems like a minor problem will lead to more expensive repairs if left.

Christmas is 'done and dusted', and now Easter is approaching. Don't leave servicing to the last minute.

I still see vehicles coming in for Full Servicing with WOF inspections done elsewhere. Take advantage of our **FREE WOF INSPECTION** when you have a **FULL Service**. (see page 3)

*Have a Happy and safe Easter !!!*



10th - 13th April

2009

This year , the *Volkswagen Nationals*, hosted by the *Hawkes Bay Volkswagen Owners Club*, and will take place in Napier.

If you are interested in taking part in this fun event, you can download the registration form from the following website ... [www.vwnationals2009.co.nz](http://www.vwnationals2009.co.nz)

This is a great way to spend some time out with like -minded people, and also see a very interesting part of our great country.



### EASTER HOLIDAY HOURS

**Qualitat** will be closed from 5pm on Thursday 9th April, and resuming normal hours on Tuesday 14th April.

**HAPPY EASTER !!!**



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## Dakar Rally 2009

*The Volkswagen teams finished with a spectacular first and second victory*, in a time of 48h 10m 57s for first, plus 8m 59s later for second. Sixth place also went to Volkswagen. Carlos Sainz, took six of Volkswagen's ten special stage victories before crashing out of the rally while leading. Volkswagen also achieved a first and second victory in the Dakar Rally 29 years ago in Africa.

**Volkswagen** made history as the **first** manufacturer to win the world's toughest rally with a **diesel-powered vehicle**.

The Dakar Rally is one of the toughest tests in motorsport - for drivers and their equipment. Exposed to temperatures ranging from freezing to over 40 degrees Celsius and landscapes to match, four Volkswagen teams tackled the marathon adventure in January this year.

The 280-hp cross-country rally prototype has proven itself against the ultimate in temperatures and terrain. Being diesel driven the overall weight of the vehicles was less (up to 200kg) than petrol powered vehicles, as less fuel was required.

The driving teams also completed an intensive fitness course which included running, mountain biking, and rock climbing.



**Race Touareg 2** in action - powered by a 280 hp 2.5-litre TDI turbo-diesel engine.



The route comprised 14 stages covering a total of 9,500 kms between the starting and finishing line in Buenos Aires.

It included two crossings of the Andes at extreme altitude as well as a section through the Atacama Desert - the driest desert with the highest dune fields on the planet.

**Note:** The 2008 Dakar Rally was cancelled at the last minute due to security concerns in Africa, therefore, for the first time in its 30 year history, the 2009 Dakar Rally took place in Argentina and Chile, South America.



## Warrant of Fitness reminders by email:

For customers who would like to receive their *warrant of fitness reminders* by email instead of by post - please contact us on

[office@qualitat.co.nz](mailto:office@qualitat.co.nz)

Please ensure you supply your - **full name**  
**car registration number**  
**email address.**

**A different approach to - car power !!**

In early 2009 New Zealand will be one of the first countries in the world to test-drive the new Mitsubishi Innovative Electric Vehicle for its suitability for use on New Zealand roads. However.....

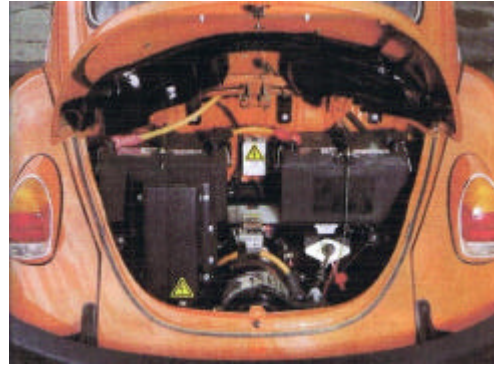
An article in a recent *AA Directions magazine* featured *The Voltswagen*. It was a story about a Nelson VW lover who has a history of restoring Beetles, however, his latest project was a little different in that he not only restored the bodywork but also made a full conversion from petrol to battery power to a classic 1971 Volkswagen Beetle. His background is from power generation and armed with this knowledge he was obviously up for the challenge. He gleaned much of his information from books, websites and chat rooms. It is a reasonably common practice in the States.

Although the battery conversion can obtain speeds in excess of 100 km/h, the object of the exercise was to produce a commuter vehicle which optimally operates at around 50km/h.

As a pioneer of this type of power in N.Z., obviously roadworthiness also proved to be another challenge as safety issues had to be proven to the authorities. This has not deterred him from embarking on another conversion. His next project is to be a Hilux Ute.

A 4 hour charge, is sufficient to provide enough power for a day's motoring around town, and the cost is about \$2. However the special lead acid batteries are rather expensive at around \$3,000 to replace, however over a year this still works out considerably cheaper than petrol running. It is predicted that the motor will outlast the car.

What is of course missing (sadly) is the familiar Beetle sound. It makes as much sound as an electric golf-cart.



The 'power station' end of the converted 1971 Volkswagen Beetle.

\*\*\*\*\*

**On the subject of batteries -  
Keep your battery healthy.**

Remember your vehicle also struggles to get going during cold damp mornings.

Here are some tips for keeping your battery healthy, which may help for trouble-free motoring next winter.



- ◆ If possible keep your car in a garage.
- ◆ Ensure that the battery is not loose, as vibration can cause damage to battery plates.
- ◆ Ensure the battery water level is always topped up. Even 'low maintenance' batteries should have their water levels checked and topped up. Topped up is - just enough water to cover the battery plates. Wipe up any water spillage after topping up.
- ◆ Keep the battery terminals clean and free from battery acid. Watch out for the battery acid - it is harmful to anything it comes in contact with - including you!!



**Pre-Purchase Vehicle Inspections**

*Qualitat* offers a comprehensive pre-purchase inspection service so you can be informed about your next purchase.

Pre -purchase inspection is priced at \$180.00 incl. g.s.t.

**Free W.O.F check**

If you have a **FULL** service when you have a Warrant of Fitness check done you will receive a free WOF check worth \$45.00 including g.s.t.

Phone (09) 579 3710 now, for an appointment.



**Audi AG** has achieved its objective by selling one million cars worldwide in 2008, an increase in sales of 4.1 per cent globally, and retains number one luxury brand status for the 2nd consecutive year in New Zealand.

Audi's new general manager in New Zealand, aged 29, is the youngest general manager in the N.Z. car industry.

The Audi A4 has also dethroned the BMW 3-series as the best-selling luxury mid-range model in Germany.

In a magazine reader poll an impressive three Audi models emerged triumphant in the face of high-calibre completion from all over the world. Wins for the A3, A4 and Audi Q5 made Audi the most successful car-maker in this year's poll.



**Audi A4**

The **Audi A4** - voted the most beautiful car of the year. Readers of the German automotive magazine *Auto Bild* voted the Audi A4 as "the most beautiful car of the year."

## Trivia !!!

1. In its first year in the Unites States, how many VW Beetles were sold?  
a: 110, b: 220, c: 330, d: 440
2. Windshield wipers were invented by a man or a woman?  
a: a man b: a woman
3. In 1885 who introduced the first petrol engine?  
a: Karl Benz b: Gottlieb Daimler c: Henry Ford
4. What city has the most Rolls Royce's per capita?  
a: Los Angeles b: Zurich c: Hong Kong d: London
5. What performance car company first built tractors?  
a: Ferrari b: Porsche c: Lamborghini c: Aston Marton

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