

# SUZUKI **now**

**Summer  
Lovin' Safari**



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**SWIFT STROKE OF LUCK  
WITH ONEROOF**

**GO JIMNY RACING  
ON PLAYSTATION**

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# Good things come in threes

Pop culture is full of famous trios – the Three Musketeers, Charlie’s Angels, the Jonas Brothers. And here’s another, the New Zealand home-grown Dixons.

From oldest, James, to younger brother, Mitchell, and youngest, Olivia, this trio are the embodiment of getting out there and getting it done. What began as a gateway to adventure, soon became an exciting, and never-ending competition of owning the best and boldest Jimny.

It all started with James, when an off-roading trip with friends quickly turned into a phone call home. “These things are invincible... I can drive sideways on a 45-degree slope, plough through streams, and blast through mud!” he recalls saying to Mitchell. The bug was caught. James soon purchased a Jimny, which he fittingly named ‘Samurai’ as tribute to its predecessor. When Christmas rolled around, Mitchell took James’ Jimny for a spin. And the rest, as they say, is history.

“I was impressed by its simplicity. To me, it was a retro-looking 4WD that wasn’t

obnoxiously big and had plenty of capability,” Mitchell says.

It wasn’t long before Mitchell weighed in on the action. Soon after test driving his brother’s Jimny, he bought one for himself. Proudly nicknamed the “Mini Mog,” after the Unimog trucks he drives in his role with the New Zealand Defence Force, along with the colour to match the theme entirely. He jokes that each time the siblings catch-up, “it’s a competition on who can accessorise their Jimny the best.”

When asked about his best Jimny memory, Mitchell highlighted a trip to Port Waikato as an all-time favourite. “It was all about the setting. Sunset, BBQ, tight fishing lines, and good times with my siblings.” What more could you ask for?

Adding fuel to the fire, Olivia couldn’t wait to join the club. Her Chiffon Ivory Metallic pride and joy, dubbed the ‘Lunch Box’ by her

friends for its boxier shape, has certainly earned Olivia her stripes when it comes to Jimny adventures. “My favourite adventure would have to be my 5-day solo camping trip,” she says.

“Pukekohe to Palmerston North, the trip ended at North Range Road, next to windmills and stuck in a rut with my diff on the ground, and wheels off the ground. A word of advice... always have an extra vehicle when off-roading!”

With summer right around the corner, the siblings are gearing up for another season of memory-making. From barbecues to fishing trips, the Dixons have it all mapped when it comes to their Suzuki summer.

“At some point, we’d love for us to make our way to the South Island. There’s plenty to explore. Whether its off-roading or sightseeing, we’re all here for it,” they say.

And that’s what the Jimny is made for.

[suzuki.co.nz/jimny](http://suzuki.co.nz/jimny)



# Summer lovin' adventure chasin'



The warm weather is here and the road is calling... What better way to kick-back on Bay of Plenty beaches, or trail-chase through the Tasman than loading up the Vitara Safari, and getting out there and doing it!

Adventure has been Vitara's middle name since way back, and something that Suzuki does in bootloads with its range of versatile SUVs. And the limited edition Suzuki Vitara Safari is no exception.

What makes this one stand out from the pack, is its two-tone colour – a deep Sphere Blue with Galactic Grey roof and a whole lot of really handy extras.

There's its slick-looking side body moulds to prevent dings and dents and a bonnet protector to keep the nose chip-free when making your way through the inevitable roadworks. On top, the roof racks are installed ready to go for the surfboards, holiday gear, or DIY for those last-minute odd jobs around home before heading away.

Inside the roomy boot just waiting to be filled up, you'll find a non-slip rear cargo tray, perfect for your furry friend and whatever you

and your crew can throw at it – wet togs, sandy towels, picnic baskets, muddy shoes, the list goes on.

Under the hood, you'll find a surprisingly efficient BoosterJet Turbo engine with self-charging 48V Smart Hybrid capability. Zipping through windy Wellington city streets to cruising the open roads of the Deep South, the Vitara Safari's 6-stage auto has got plenty of performance for whatever driving style you have.

Its hybrid technology does its thing without you having to think about it. There's no plugging it in to recharge or having to pay for road user charges. You just get in, get going and lower your emissions.

What journey isn't complete without fully connecting your smartphone through Bluetooth, Apple CarPlay or Android Auto to play those favourite tunes and use the map

display on the touchscreen to find your way home again.

Amongst the way too many safety features to mention, you'll discover the reversing camera for 'easier said than done' manoeuvres and adaptive cruise control with 'stop & go' for fuel-saving and stress-free journeys. The blind spot monitoring keeps an eye out for other vehicles when changing lanes or overtaking on a passing lane. Even the simple keyless entry and push-button start means no more looking for the keys to hold you up.

Once you are ready to cruise up the coast or down the back roads, let the Vitara Safari loose and you'll find the answer to the never-ending "where to next?"

[suzuki.co.nz/vitara-safari](https://www.suzuki.co.nz/vitara-safari)

# New Swifts all round

In a stroke of luck, a couple of Kiwis have found themselves as winners of OneRoof's *You Win a Car* competition, each driving away in a brand new 2024 Suzuki Swift. We caught up with the lucky people who can't wait to get the show on the road behind the wheel of their new rides!



John Sperry with his new Swift.



Megan Savill with Aaron Irwin, Tauranga Motor Company

New Plymouth resident, John Sperry, really couldn't believe it until he reached out to a New Zealand real estate digital platform, OneRoof to confirm the good news. Since then, he's been loving his new car. "My first thoughts driving the Swift were how roomy and nice riding it was. It's a fun, easy car to drive and the fuel economy is amazing."

Speaking on what sets the Suzuki Swift apart from the rest, he says, "I love the control screen. It's a great size and the additional features in the Swift are amazing."

John and his partner plan to celebrate their good fortune exploring the scenic beauty of the Taranaki region.

Megan Savill was equally ecstatic about her surprise win. The Tauranga local had been eagerly following the OneRoof competition, hoping for a chance at a new Suzuki Swift. When her name was announced, she couldn't contain her elation. Selecting the colour of her new Swift was "such a hard decision". She said, "I went from black, to red, to blue, and even white, but then finally settled on

burnt orange which has a lovely sparkle".

As someone who is known for her love of coastal adventures, Megan is looking forward to using her new wheels for more beach excursions up and down the country. She says, "it doesn't feel like a small car and has all the bells and whistles. It also has a larger boot space than I originally thought!"

Suzuki New Zealand were wrapped to be part of such a successful competition and extend their congratulations and welcome the winners to the Suzuki family.

# Cookies for a good cause

Jugs were boiled, Arnott's Tim Tams and Monte Carlos were laid out, and coffee mugs were at the ready. It was finally time to Dunk it for Plunket!

Dunk it for Plunket is a celebrated fundraising initiative that helps keep Whānau Āwhina Plunket's services going strong across Aotearoa New Zealand.

Throughout September, individuals, schools and workplaces up and down the country hosted their own 'Dunk it for Plunket' morning teas and initiatives to raise money for this amazing cause.

Suzuki New Zealand didn't have to be asked twice to be involved. "Who doesn't love an opportunity to have a morning tea at work and support this amazing organisation at the same time," says Fiona Bridgford, Automobile Marketing Manager at Suzuki New Zealand.



Suzuki New Zealand is the official vehicle partner of Plunket - providing reliable, safe and economical cars for its nurses and community staff. "We are so privileged to support the important work they do for families around New Zealand. Thank you to everyone who donated and the Suzuki dealerships who jumped on board to support with their own 'Dunk It' morning teas.

Although the biscuits may have been dunked, you can still donate and help Plunket continue their work and support for our tamariki at [plunket.org.nz](http://plunket.org.nz)!

# Taking the chequered flag

With over 90 million gamers worldwide, Gran Turismo is a global phenomenon offering the thrills of simulated driving in stunning virtual environments.

A PlayStation™ exclusive, you can even push your favourite Suzuki to the limit from the comfort of your own couch.

Gran Turismo 7, the latest instalment in the world-leading racing simulation series features a range of Suzuki favourites, including the racy Swift Sport, retro Cappuccino, turbo-kickin' Escudo, and now the legendary Jimny. Each vehicle is meticulously recreated, mirroring the performance and handling characteristics of its real-life counterpart. With the game's customisation capabilities, you can change wheels, tyres, engine and body parts to pimp out your favourite Suzuki and tune its performance capabilities for when you go head-to-head on the track.

This year, the Jimny racing series is an exciting addition – the Jimny Cup takes you on a journey showcasing the versatile 4x4's capabilities across snow, dirt, and tarmac. Suzuki's rich motorsport heritage shines through in the game, with the V6 Escudo Pikes Peak Edition paying homage to the brand's hill climb legacy.

So, if you haven't already,

design, tune and race your way to Gran Turismo and Suzuki glory.



# Locals supporting locals

The arts, education, health, environment, animal welfare, sports – the Sunrise Foundation (Sunrise) has a helping hand in it all. Based in Gisborne Tairāwhiti, this community-focused foundation is dedicated to giving that keeps on giving. They facilitate local donations for local needs by connecting donors with causes they care about and providing charities with long-term, sustainable income.

Their unique point of difference is that all donations, no matter the size, are invested and protected with the original donation retained in full, then grown to be an ongoing source of funding, forever. Since establishing in 2014, Sunrise has grown funds invested to \$8.2 million and have distributed 99 percent of these through grants to local causes throughout the Gisborne area and community.

If you're in Gisborne, keep an eye out for the new Sunrise Foundation Suzuki Swift supported by the local Suzuki dealership, Alan Berry Motors. It's often seen zipping around for donor and grant recipient visits.

You'll notice the artwork tells its own story – highlighting the variety of causes they proudly support within their community.

As they look to the future, Sunrise aims to grow funds invested to become self-sustainable. The more the invested funds grow, the more they're able to do what they really love – give back to their community.

To celebrate the organisation's 10th birthday, Gisborne will play host to the inaugural 'Sunrise Week' over 2-8 November. There will be a lot going on, from orange mufti-days, orange-themed dinner parties, and orange golf and bowling club tournaments. Even the town clock is being

lit up orange for the first half of the week! All donations, no matter how big or small, will bring them closer to achieving their dream of giving \$10 million in 10 years. And with the community's support, we know they can get there!

To support this generous charity, head to their website and make a donation. Or, if you are a community organisation in the Tairāwhiti Gisborne who is making a difference, grant applications open June 2025.

Here's to the next 10 years!

[sunrisefoundation.org.nz](http://sunrisefoundation.org.nz)



# Leading with legacy

Nicholson Autos, a proud family-owned business, has been a trusted name in the automotive industry since its founding in 1980. What began as a local dealership has evolved into a community cornerstone, now spanning multiple generations of the Nicholson family.

Originally established by the Paine family in Morrinsville, the business has expanded throughout the Bay of Plenty with dealerships also in Whakatāne and Rotorua. They're currently led by Dean and Ross Nicholson, who have upheld the family values that define the company's direction. Many employees have been with the company for years, moving between departments and building diverse expertise. That kind of loyalty speaks volumes about how Nicholson's value their staff. Bringing a fresh perspective to an enduring legacy is Brad McKenzie, who after having worked in every department, has recently taken the reins as CEO.

Suzuki has gladly been part of the dealership and the communities they serve since 2013. When asked about what's in store for Suzuki and the future at Nicholson Autos, Community and Promotions Lead, Alan Kerby had nothing but praises to sing:

"The best thing about Suzuki is that we barely need to advertise them – they sell themselves," he says.

"They're a no-fuss franchise. Offering reliability and easy maintenance, time and again we see Suzuki customers returning to trade-in, upgrade, and stay part of the Suzuki community."

Beyond the business, Nicholson's proudly

supports their wider community. They're thrilled to partner with the Whakatāne Disability Resource Centre (DRC); sponsoring their Suzuki S-Cross to positively impact the lives of elderly and people with disabilities. Connecting and creating opportunities for their community is a huge part of Nicholson's philosophy. When talking about their involvement, Kerby simply stated:

"We always want to be supporting the community around us. It's what we're all about. Otherwise, what's the point?"

Pretty well put, don't you think?

[niccars.co.nz](http://niccars.co.nz)



From left to right, Francois Du Toit and Mario Brunetti outside the Nicholson Autos dealership in Whakatāne.

# Driving at night

As the day ends and the moon takes charge of the sky, New Zealand roads can bring a new set of challenges. Mastering the art of night-time driving is essential for keeping you and other road users safe. Here are a few practical tips for driving at night:

## SEE CLEARLY

Clear sight of your surroundings is key to a safer and better drive. Simple steps like adjusting your mirror, keeping your windows clean, and turning off any lights inside the cabin, are easy precautions that help you focus on the road ahead.

## BE SEEN

Being seen by others is critical when it comes to road safety. One way to avoid dazzling other drivers is to use dipped headlights, especially when driving in poor weather conditions, during twilight hours and in built-up areas.

If the road is unlit and there is no oncoming traffic, turn your headlights to high or full beam. You'll see further and give yourself more time to react. Most dashboards have a bright blue light to show your high beams are on.

## CONTROL YOUR SPEED

As visibility reduces, it can become harder

to react quickly to hazards. Travel at a speed where you can stop safely within the distance lit up by your headlights, or half that distance if the road doesn't have a centreline. Always reduce your speed when approaching corners, intersections, and areas with limited lighting.

On some roads, the centreline is lit up with white cat's eyes (or yellow ones) when no passing or overtaking is allowed. On the left hand side you may see red cat's eyes to show the edge of the road.

Roadside edge marker posts indicate turns in the road and how tight they are.

On the left-hand side of the road, the white posts with white reflectors indicate a right-hand bend in the road. On the right-hand side of the road, the posts with red reflectors let you know a left-hand bend is ahead.

## SELF-CARE ON THE ROAD

Fatigue is a major contributor to many NZ road accidents, especially at night. Taking time to rest, refuel, and recharge is key to

keeping alert on the road. A 15–20-minute power nap is a great place to start. Just make sure you've safely pulled off the road completely. You could also try listening to the radio, a podcast or playlist, or share the driving with a buddy. These simple measures can hugely improve your driving experience and keep you and your whānau safe.

## STAY ALERT

Driving at night can be challenging, so scan the road ahead and check your mirrors frequently. Pay close attention to pedestrians and cyclists, especially in poorly lit areas and around intersections. Be wary when driving through farmland or bush areas as animals can be more active at night and a dangerous hazard when they appear suddenly.

With new challenges to face as the sun sets, it's important to prioritise safety for all road users. No matter the destination, be sure to remember these steps so you, and those around you, get safely from A to B.

