

Dotty Hearse

Informative Brochure



56 Onepu Road, Kilbirnie
Phone: 387 8301

665 High Street, Lower Hutt
Phone: 570 0111

Cnr Ward Street & Fergusson Drive, Upper Hutt
Phone: 528 8924

300 Kāpiti Road, Paraparaumu
Phone: 298 4888

www.harbourcityfunerals.co.nz 



Locally Owned Funeral Directors
Caring in our Community





Dotty started life in the workshop of Ohio coach builder AJ Miller, who built her on the original 120 Packard Chassis. In the early part of last century Ohio was home to America's most successful hearse and ambulance builders, and AJ Miller was a leader in the field.

Dotty remained with her first owner, a Funeral Director in Bellefontaine, Ohio, until she was sold in the 1960s, and in 1976, Dan Zoeller, from Zoeller Funeral Home, bought her. In 1990 he had her fully restored, using original parts. The linings were redone in keeping with the original styles and colours, and she arrived back as new. At that point she had 24,000 miles on the clock. He used her only about six times a year, for special occasions such as the funeral of his grandparents and parents. Simon Manning who had been looking for a vintage hearse then spotted her on eBay.

"It's something that is a little different. It's a passion of mine that I have always wanted to fulfil that has led me down this path."

Though most funeral homes have moved away from black cars, the design and tradition of Dotty were irresistible.

"When I reported the purchase to my parents, my mother announced that the car would have to be named after her because they shared the same year of birth – and

'Dotty' was born. She arrived from Houston via Australia on Christmas morning 2006, and while opening all the Christmas presents from under the Christmas tree, I could see the best present of all docking at the Port of Wellington. With help from Frank at the wharf, I was able to be there as she was unloaded. I guess you have many thoughts over the months it takes to get something like this out to New Zealand, but I can tell you she looked far more beautiful in real life than any photo could do justice."

Dotty sits in a glass garage at Harbour City Funeral Home Lower Hutt, however she is available for funerals through Harbour City Funeral Home, The Wilson Funeral Home and Guardian Funeral Home.

Dotty Specifications

Model: 1936 Packard 120

Engine Size: 282 cubic inches (4621 cubic cm)
inline 8 cylinder (straight 8)

Brake Horsepower: 120 @ 3850 RPM (89KW)

Top Speed: 85 mph (137 km/h)

