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Clubtorque

Official Publication of

MG CAR CLUB NEWCASTLE (MGCCN)

Founded 1955

PO Box 3062, Hamilton DC NSW 2303 Website address: www.mgcarclub.com.au

Club rooms

Northcott Park, Cobby Street, Birmingham Gardens

Monthly Meetings

2nd Friday of the month, 7.30pm

RINGWOOD PARK®

Cnr Pacific Hwy & Italia Rd, Balickera (12km north of Raymond Terrace)

Membership Inquiries

The Membership Secretary – Joy Bower, 11 Nathan Close, Metford 2323. Phone 4933 2346

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The Secretary – Andy Peters PO Box 3062, Hamilton DC NSW 2303 Phone 4963 5380

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NO PHONE CALLS AFTER 9.00PM. THANK YOU.

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MEMBER'S JACKPOT \$500!

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CLUB NIGHT FRIDAY 10 OCTOBER 2008 – 7.30PM

OCTOBER 2008 EVENTS DIARY

DATE	EVENT	TIME	POINTS
7/10 TUE	MAGAZINE ASSEMBLY – Club rooms, Cobby Street, Birmingham Gardens	7.00pm	M
8/10 WED	SPEED EVENTS PANEL MEETING – Club rooms, Cobby Street, Birmingham Gardens	8.00pm	М
10/10 FRI	CLUB NIGHT – Club rooms, Cobby Street, Birmingham Gardens	7.30pm	М
11/10 SAT	K.E.P. WORKING BEE – Removal of sandbags	8.00am	М
15/10 WED	COMMITTEE MEETING – MGCCN – Club rooms, Cobby Street, Birmingham Gardens	7.30pm	М
18/10 SAT	K.E.P. WORKING BEE – Armco removal	8.00am	М
26/10 SUN	MGCC(HR) – MG REG. MG CHALLENGE – Presentation run (see page 14)		M
29/10 WED	DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES TO THE EDITOR – For November Magazine		

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NOVEMBER 2008 EVENTS DIARY

DATE	EVENT	TIME	POINTS
1/11 SAT	NATTER NIGHT – Andy and Shirley Peter's home 38 Edward St, Merewether for a BBQ and Pool Party	6.30pm	M
2/11 SUN	MGCCN – MOTORKHANA AND KHANACROSS – Ringwood (Contact Bryn Baverstock 4965 7137)	8.00am	C/C, M/K7 MG Reg, M
9/11 SUN	MGCCN – TOURING ASSEMBLY Scrutineering – Gregor's Run (see page 13)	8.15am	C/C, R/E5, MG Reg, M
10/11 MON	MAGAZINE ASSEMBLY – Club rooms, Cobby Street, Birmingham Gardens	7.00pm	М
12/11 WED	SPEED EVENTS PANEL MEETING – Club rooms, Cobby Street, Birmingham Gardens	8.00pm	М
10/10 FRI	MGCCN – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – Club rooms, Cobby Street, Birmingham Gardens	7.30pm	М
15/11 SAT	WORKING BEE – RINGWOOD (Contact Doug Ray 0434 141 501)	8.00am	М
15/11 SAT	YOUNG DRIVER DEVELOPMENT COURSE (Contact Greg Hunter 0412 493 711)	11.00am	М
16/11 SUN	MGCCN – HILLCLIMB RINGWOOD (Contact Gregor Dickinson 0413 595 755)	9.30am	C/C T/S8, M
19/11 WED	COMMITTEE MEETING – MGCCN – Club rooms, Cobby Street, Birmingham Gardens	7.30pm	М
23/11 SAT	MGCCN – ANNUAL CONCOURS (Contact Darren and Fran Hodgson for details 4946 9989)	TBA	C/C, MG Reg, M
26/11 WED	DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES TO THE EDITOR – For December Magazine		

Please contact the respective Panel Representative or Peter Robinson to confirm that an event is still being conducted.

LEGEND				
С	Club Championship	M/K	Motorkhana	
M	Club Member	K/C	Khanacross	
R	Register pointscore	RT	Road Touring Series	
N	NAMS	N I/C	NAMS Interclub	
T/S	Tar Speed Series	MG I/CMG	Interclub	
D/E	Dirt Event Series	TC	Tri-Challenge	
Please contact the respective Panel Representative or Peter Robinson to confirm that an event is still being conducted.				

INVITATION EVENTS OCT/NOV 2008

DAY	DATE	EVENT
SAT	18/10	TSOA – WAKEFIELD PARK (CSCA) TRAINING DAY
SUN	19/10	TSOA – WAKEFIELD PARK (CSCA) SUPERSPRINT
FRI–SUN	7–9/11	AUSTRALIAN HILLCLIMB CHAMPIONSHIPS – BATHURST
SAT-SUN	15–16/11	ARDC – 6 HOUR RACE – MULTI-CLUB EVENT – EASTERN CREEK
SAT–SUN	22–23/11	ARDC – NATIONAL SUPERSPRINT CHAMPIONSHIP – EASTERN CREEK
SAT–SUN	22–23/11	FOSC – FESTIVAL OF SPORTS CARS RACES – WAKEFIELD PARK
FRI	28/11	HSRCA – TASMAN REVIVAL HISTORICS – MULTI-CLUB EVENT – EASTERN CREEK
SAT-SUN	29–30/11	ARDC – HISTORIC RACES – MULTI-CLUB EVENT – EASTERN CREEK

There are many events that you can run in that are not listed above, If you have access to the internet, simply go to the CAMS web site (www.cams.com.au) then scroll down to the section where each of the states appear and click on "New South Wales", there you will find the most recent version of the NSW Events listings. You may have to then contact the organising club for further details. This can be achieved by phone or in many cases by email. There is no excuse for not competing if you really want to!

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As I write we are in the middle of preparation for the King Edward Park events, with little over a week to go

before the events things are by nature very busy, putting the final pieces of the jigsaw together for our big event of the year.

This month our club hosted the Aston Martin National Hillclimb which was the competition event for their National Meeting which was based in the wine district of the Hunter Valley.

The event is quite significant for our club as it was the first time that we have completed a total hire package of the Ringwood Park venue. The club supplied all officials, day membership of our club and CAMS licenses to the majority of the Aston Martin drivers. Our members completed all the CAMS permits and documentation.

Originally 35 competitors entered, although there were 5 withdrawals, due to the weather conditions and mechanical problems.

As the day commenced with a wet track, it was decided to give the inexperienced field a

reconnaissance run before starting competition. The field was split into 3 for the "rece" which was a duplication of our normal double runs, but behind a course car. At this point a few decided to withdraw due to the slippery conditions.

The competition started with most drivers very careful in the difficult conditions. However, as the track dried, the weather cleared and times started to tumble, driver's faces changed from one of stress to one of glee as they enjoyed driving their expensive sports cars in the manner for which they are designed.

One competitor withdrew due to a mechanical problem and another due to damage to the front end after an off on turn 2 – both had to be floated back to Sydney.

It was without doubt a very enjoyable day being so close to such beautiful motor cars.

Two notable cars were Les Johnson's DBR2 which is a "real" racing car, and although a replica, the car was presented in exceptional condition. I remembered back to my adolescent days when my favourite toy was a



Les Johnson lining up for a run in his "real racer" DBR2



The fantastic and beautiful DBSV12 with owner Warren Brown. Warren was successful in taking out FTD.

similar Aston Martin. On the other extreme there was the Warren Brown driven DBS, just a mind shattering piece of design and engineering, a magnificent motor car.

I wandered around the pits all day with a face longer than a giraffe's neck, sitting in any AM with the door unlocked, but nobody offered me a drive!! Finally Lester Gough, CAMS Steward and the Aston Martin officiardo, invited me to have a ride in a new AM V8 model, a demo car provided by the event sponsors Trivitt's Classic Cars from Sydney.

The day came to an end with a parade lap of Ringwood, with all 7 late model cars with head lights on driven slowly up and down the hill.

These cars are real sports cars, not a playboy, female attracting device, the brakes are massive, the power huge, with an exhaust note somewhere between a rumbling V8 and the high pitch scream of a V10 F1 engine, and the ride, stiffness and handling just blow me away, one could feel every slight imperfection in the road, every camber change in the surface, whilst this car has so much grip, I can now understand the Aston Martin addiction.

During the last 2 months and after the disappointing Motorplex decision from the Land & Environment Court result, the club has decided to proceed with, shall we say Plan B.

At an extraordinary committee meeting the decision was taken to instruct the Ringwood Park Development Panel to proceed with the preparation of a justification proposal for a 1.2 km sprint track with an option of a 2.5 to 3 km race circuit

I am happy to advise that this task has now commenced. I will keep you up-to-date as the matter progresses. But be assured, successful or unsuccessful, it will not be without blood, sweat and tears.

At this time we must not forget the efforts of Motorplex over the last 8 years. I also acknowledge the contribution of Peter Lee, although unsuccessful, Peter and his wife Wendy have displayed a degree of determination and tenacity not often seen.

Kind regards,

Greg Hunter



WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS



Alex Duggan Junior

Craig Kavanagh Assoc

MEMBERSHIP

Application and renewal forms and fees can be found on the MG Car Club Newcastle website www.mgcarclub.com.au or can be obtained from Judith Rae 4944 7356.





Top right: Gregor Dickinson, school teacher and member of the "LABOUR" party! Above: The band of merry armco men – thanks quys (Pics courtesy Greg Hunter)



SECRETARY'S REPORT

Well it's September, and it's nice to feel the warmer weather, as I am not one for all the cold weather that

was around. I was talking with Bryn at the sandbag day, I mentioned to him that the MGF are about to come off the production line at Longbridge, and he said "yeh, I saw a truck load of "Fs" when I was in London and it was big news on the radio at the time". Its really happening. (See pic right.)

The September MG magazine we receive from England each month "The MG Car Club" from Kimber House has quite a bit to say. The editor Andy Knott said that the MGCC were lucky enough to travel to Longbridge to try the new NAC MG TF LE500.

It looks like we are up with the times, because Gregor has launched our new web site last month and MGCC has just launched their new website www.mgcc.co.uk – maybe worth a look to see what happens in England.

Back to the report on the new MGTF and a little trivia that I didn't know, the MGF when it appeared in 1995 quickly became the best selling sports car in the UK.



Bryn's pic of the transporter through his car window

When Shanghai Automotive – SAIC acquired NAC last December the start of production came sharply into focus. SAIC is China's largest car maker turning out some 2.6m cars last year. SAIC had already bought the MG Rover R&D group and so some 270 engineers to throw at improvements of the TF.

A limited production run of 500 cars to mark the relaunch of the MGTF, saw 70% preordered by mid August.

The MG Car Club was the first that was given the opportunity to test drive the new LE500.



First impressions of the Crystal White MG TF LE500 sporting an 08 registration were very positive. Considering the subtlety of the exterior aesthetic tweaks, the car looked contemporary and with white being the new black it is sure to turn heads on the road. While walking around the car it was good to see that all the panel gaps were even,

something the MG Rover sometimes struggled with in the past. Opening the boot with the key (unfortunately there is still no boot pull inside the cabin) reveals the 135bhp N Series engine, now EU IV emissions compliant with 185 q/km of CO2.

This puts the car in category E in current UK banding which currently equates to 170 English Pounds per annum. Externally the engine looks similar to he previous 1.8i K, although it was interesting to note a lot of Chinese manufactured parts. Internally it benefits from a serious makeover, with a new head casting giving improved combustion chamber shape and bigger waterways. The multi-layer steel head gasket is already well proven as a retrofit item and here is matched with the uprated oil rail for extra stiffness. Head gasket failure was a major failing of the K-Series engine and SAIC knows that the success of this car rides on having cured this issue. Knowing what we do about the mods and with what MG UK tells us about the extensive testing of prototype cars in harsh conditions, we feel confident the car is right this time round. MG UK boasts that confidence by offering a three-year warranty including roadside service assistance.

Opening the bonnet reveals a full-size spare wheel and a decent tool kit. Interestingly the



tyres were the Goodyear D2s, the preferred item for the TF. The under bonnet light has made a welcome return as with the twin horns.

The LE500 suspension is a multi-link affair mounted on solid subframe with softer springs and shock absorbers giving it an excellent ride on narrow twisty roads, thanks to the near-perfect mid–engined balance. The rigidity of the bodyshell helps as well as creating one of the safest cars in the class. The steering is direct and positive with the feedback you could want whilst the up-rated AP four-pot brakes at the front with improved ABS are really impressive. The whole deal has been to create something sharper, more agile and more responsive and it all comes together in the LE500.

The lively 1.8-litre 135bhp engine zips along powering the car to 60mph in 8.5 seconds and returning 35 mpg on the combined cycle. All the free revving pleasure of the old K series unit is still there, thankfully, matched perfectly to well chosen gear ratios. The gearbox operation is precise, if a little stiff on our brand new test car. F drivers would notice a distinctive difference.

Keep the heart beating fast,

Andy Peters





SOCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

Monthly Club Night
The Lucky Draw now
stands at \$500 with no
winner at the
September Club night.

There was a great deal of discussion about King Edward Park State and the Tri Club Challenge to be held over the October Long Weekend.

The next available Club Night for a guest speaker is February 2009. If you can arrange an interesting guest speaker, as has been the case during this year who isn't really motorsport orientated, please let me know.

Natter Night

The next Natter Night will be held at Shirley and Andy Peters home at 38 Edward Street, Merewether. Bring your swimmers along for

the pool party (it will be heated if the weather is inclement). Also bring along your barbeque food, deserts and drinks.

If you would like to have a Natter Night please let me know. A lot of "Natter" takes place during these evenings and an interesting array of food is always provided by members.

Malcolm and June Bailey have celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary – what a wonderful achievement to make and what interesting life stores they must have to tell. Our congratulations to Malcolm and June

Rose Cogger

Social Secretary Phone: 0413 222 828



PRESENTATION NIGHT 2008

Don't forget to mark in your Diary for **Friday 12th December** 2008 for the annual

Christmas Presentation Night.

ast year's Presentation Night was well attende

Last year's Presentation Night was well attended and it's a night of celebration following the year's competition series.

Further details in November magazine.



EDITOR'S REPORT

Hi everyone,

Another month gone!

During the past month Grant and I went to

Tamworth for round 6 of the NSW Hillclimb Championship (see article page 24). There was a very unusual incident happen there which I would like to share with you. After Stuart Inwood's run he opened his bonnet (to cool the engine bay down) when out jumped a kitten!!! It had gone on a wild ride around the track. It immediately ran under Tim Edmondson's open wheeler where I found it hiding just under the "7" of the car number. Grabbing it by the scruff of the neck (it was wild, and a boy!) I took it over to the canteen area where there were 3 brothers and sisters. You can imagine the story it had to tell!!!



Here kitty, kitty....

Thanks to the usual suspects for their contribution to this magazine.



Regards, **Penny Creighton**

Reports and articles for NOVEMBER
Magazine to be received by the Editor
NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY
29 OCTOBER 2008

TOURING ASSEMBLY

9 NOVEMBER

Event will start and finish at Freemans Waterholes and travel through Western Lake Macquarie through to the Central Coast and return.

The event is route charted and quite simple to follow – the main tests will be in the observation elements. There are quite a few route boards, control passages and questions to be answered on the journey.

Scrutineering will open 8:15 am. Drivers briefing at 9:00am. First car will leave at 9:30.

Lunch break will be at Wyong and there is the opportunity to enjoy the serenity of the local creek with your own lunch or purchase food in Wyong.

We expect the last car to have finished by 4 pm. Distance is a little over 100 km for each of the two legs. With the exception of 500 m of dirt road, it is all on quality bitumen. This event is being run in conjunction with AHRG.

CONTACT GREGOR DICKINSON FOR DETAILS: 0413 595 755



REGISTER NEWS

This months report is being done by Clayton. You know, the report you get when there's nothing to report.

The venue for the concours is still being finalised. I am working on the Newcastle Foreshore Park, directly behind the Bond Store (the area facing the harbour). The access is the one that goes past Paymasters Cafe. With Darren, Fran and family on holidays overseas, final details will be in next month's magazine.

I received a short note from Steve Jones, MGCCHR, about a possible tar motorkhana venue at Honeysuckle (following up information supplied by Courtney Pearson). With the club year closing fast it may be difficult to fit a motorkhana in.

Register points on 26 Oct for MGCCHR Presentation Run and Touring Assembly on Sun Nov 9.

The last competition event is the concours. Sunday 23 November.

'B' seeing you,

David Walker





CAMS RECOGNISING OFFICIALS OF THE YEAR

The Confederation of Australian Motor Sport Ltd (CAMS) is calling for nominations for the 2008 CAMS Australian Motor Sport Official of the Year and the 2008 CAMS State Motor Sport Official of the Year.

The awards are widely recognised by accredited officials as the highest acknowledgement of the dedication and commitment of motor sport officials in all disciplines of CAMS authorised motor sport.

Nominees must meet selection criteria based on dedication, skill, attitude, knowledge and recognition.

Nominations close on 31 October 2008 for the Australian Motor Sport Official of the Year, and on 26 October 2008 for the State Motor Sport Official of the Year.

To view the selection criteria and download a nomination form, please visit www.cams.com.au and click on Officials, then Nomination forms for CAMS Officials of the Year.



PUBLICITY REPORT

Here's hoping that everybody received their copy of the Herald 24th September and the

enclosed supplement of "Festivals of Newcastle". Our article on Page 6 highlights the 51st King Edward Park hillclimb weekend publicity like this will greatly enhance this great event.

I'm grateful for an article received from Peter Robinson detailing the background of some of the entrants in the final round of the hill climb championships at King Edward Park. This article will be published in the Drive column in the Herald next week. Thanks Pete. I'm still waiting to hear from members who would like to enter their soft top cars in the Mattara Grand Parade to be held on the foreshore on the 12th October from 8.30am to 11.30 am please contact me.

Again members who could assist their club with the promotion of the KEP hillclimb by leaving their race cars near Nobbys at a static display while attending a working bee on Saturday the 4th October please contact me. We need well presented cars to highlight our major event.

Keep your tyres hot.

Regards,

Rick Vincent





MG Car Club Newcastle in last year's Mattara Grand Parade



EVENT COORDINATOR REPORT

The 34 MG Members who made the trek up to Kempsey for the Tri-challenge Round would have realised

that they needed ALL of their racing experience and skills to compete on the slippery, wet track on the Sunday. With a surface of round polished river pebbles (yes, like Pebblecrete!) it was dangerous in the extreme.

However, there were some standout performances from (to pick just a few) – the winner, Kevin Edwards (EVO8) 32.92, Grant Cook (VW) 34.26, Dave Morrow on slicks! (34.91), newcomer Ed McCane also on slicks (35.96).

But, an almost standard road car (admittedly a 4WD) led the whole day until the last run – driven by ex Junior Club Champion Adam Ford – in his Celica (33.07). I think Adam was surprised by his 2nd place effort – but congratulations Adam – well driven under very trying conditions.

On Sunday, 21st September, the foreshore park at Newcastle was host to the National Meeting of the Torana Clubs of Australia. Approximately 250 quite rare models were on display. 90 year-old Harry Firth was the Guest of Honour, looking very fit and spry for his age. These days, we tend to dismiss past achievements, but Harry's record is amazing. Appropriately enough, he started competing just after WWII with a P-Type MG and then developed a supercharged



Peter rubbing shoulders with legendary Harry Firth

lightweight MG TC in which he set a national record for the guarter mile.

As a driver, he won an Australian Rally Championship, 4 "Armstrong 500's" (2 Phillip Island, 2 Bathurst), as a Team Manager, he won 5 Bathursts, 5 Australian Manufacturers Championships and 4 Australian Rally Championships – plus many State Championships in Racing, Rallying and Rallycross. He is also credited with codesigning and race developing some of Australia's greatest racing sedans, the Cortina GT500, Falcon GT and GTHO, Torana XU-1, L34 and A9X

Having owned one of his creations since 1975 (a 1972 LJ XU-1) I was pleased to have a chat and have him autograph my glovebox lid! It was my car's longest trip since 1983. It was always in very good nick but has had a bit of TLC required with brakes, tyres and a flushing of all fluids – it still goes well!

Regards, Peter Robinson



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PART ONE IN A SERIES

NORM BEECHEY

Before Brock there was Beechey. Norm retired 3 years after Brocky ran his first Bathurst. He was adored by fans because he was one of the most aggressive and flamboyant racing drivers in Australian Motor racing history. Renowned for his spectacular car control and crowd pleasing style, he was affectionately christened "Stormin Norman" by legions of enthusiastic fans across the country.

In a relatively brief but spectacular sixteen year career, Norm Beechey claimed two Australian Touring Car titles plus countless other race wins and lap records. He came to public attention in 1956 after claiming a surprise win against the top touring car racers at Albert Park. The crowds loved his trademark "pedal to the metal" driving style. Today you'd call it "drifting". Rubbing panels with English Jaguars that had been the dominant cars in 1960's tin tops and beating them caused the first mobs of Holden fans to flock trackside. Bob Jane would lean all over Norm's EH, but once passed Beechey



Norm's Z28 Camaro with radiator steam warning of an engine about to overheat in the ATCC at Warwick Farm



would get on the Jag's tail and keep banging it in the boot under brakes until they swapped paint side by side, both wheel spinning out of the next corner. Hundreds of excited spectators would then start jumping in the air, which would be abuzz with loud conversation until the pair's next approach caused an anticipatory hush. Amazed conservative race organisers suddenly couldn't get enough of them.

This created the Australian motor racing phenomenon "Beechey Mania", where crowds, whipped up by car magazines that finally had a charismatic Ozzie hero to rave about, would storm the pits and maroon Norm on the top of his race car just for the chance to get close to their hero for an autograph. Hell, I was one of them right in



The mighty Mustang - Hume Straight Warwick Farm 1965

the middle of it! Left is a cherished pic I took of Norm (on my Kodak Box Brownie!), which he signed after I snuck into his Mustang after racing at Warwick Farm. I then got stuck inside the car for about twenty minutes when the crowd surged, stealing a few race stickers while I was in there. Young petrol heads were going out at night and graffiting "Beechey" all over town. Don't ask me how I know this

In total Norm Beechey competed in 27 different touring cars in over 16 years. These included a Ford Customline, FJ Holden 48-215, EH S4 Holden, Chev Impala, Ford Galaxie, Ford Mustang, Chevy Nova and a Z28 Chev Camaro. He claimed his last Touring Car victory in 1970 in the years when it was decided over a single race. His classic track "enemies" were Bob Jane (Jag MkII), Brian Muir (S4 EH), and Pete Geoghegan (Mustang). Norm's team mates



The compact but powerful Chevo Nova II

for many years in Neptune Petroleum's "Trident Racing Team" were Jim McKeown (Lotus Cortina), and Peter Manton (Mini Cooper S), all racing against a rival Shell Team.

Every V8 Supercar and US muscle car fan

down under today owes big time Norm for being the first to look to the States and the bent eight in importing his first Mustang to literally over-power Ozzie and British six cylinders. You never knew what Norm was going to turn up and race in. He was always working on a new car. There was always something better, more innovative and radical in the pipeline that no-one else had thought to try. That attitude plus his successes in the Mustang eventually caused Norm to look to the Australian Monaro V8 which he painstakingly developed into a competitive race car. It became an icon in which he won our national tin top title.

Norm still races occasionally today in historic and classic races in his Z28 Camaro. He's the quiet guy in the pits most people wouldn't even notice, the one with nothing to prove. Want to know more? Just Google him.

Next in the series: Bob Jane

Bill Pearson





CLUBTORQUE OCTOBER 2008

MGCCN MEMBERS ROUND 6 NSW HILLCLIMB CHAMPIONSHIP - TAMWORTH





Ben Durie – 36.82

Grant Liddell – 40.71





Christine Campbell, Ben Durie and Grant Cook – in the battle of the VWs

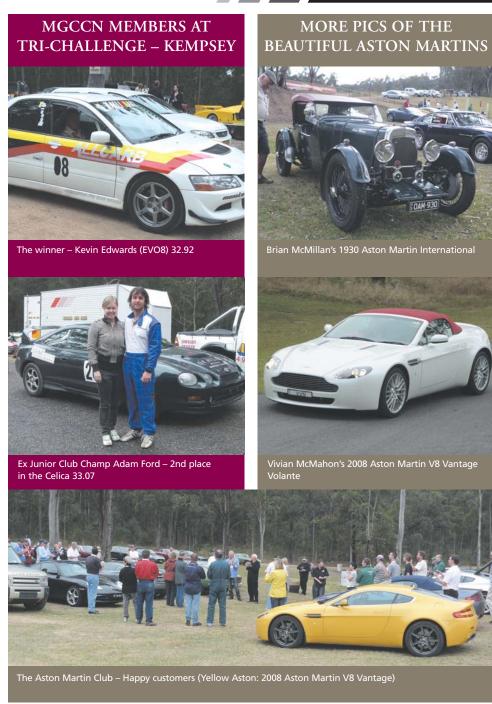
Nathan Abbott – 36.62





Christine Campbell – 36.91

Steve Brydie – 37.96



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Round 6 NSW Hillclimb Championship Tamworth – 14 September



Grant on the last corner before the finish line.

It's that time of year again – the Australian Hillclimb Championships are looming. I've dusted down the Datsun and in an effort to remind myself of its little quirks, I've begun putting in some drive time.

Following a dabble at port matching and subsequently finding it was running like a steam train, I missed Saturday's dry practice. Running out of petrol followed by a flat battery while putting the car on the trailer didn't help! Reversing four convex/concave washers helping to hold the manifolds in place fixed the leaks.

Sunday dawned wet and, quite uncharacteristically, the Dato decided that, after two corners of my first run, it didn't want to play. After being pushed back to the dummy grid and followed by questions from the likes of Steve Brydie, along the line of "have you done an Aaron?", I assured him that, no, it has fuel – I ran out yesterday. To Steve's credit he spotted a loose wire left over after some underbonnet tidying up. It had shorted against the distributor – I must remove it.

Three dry runs before lunch followed by one after was the total of my fun for the day. Still, have sorted out a few minor issues and it can only get better.

This would have been a very much undersubscribed event without the Newcastle contingent.

Looking forward to King Edward Park and Bathurst.

Grant Liddell



The Norris boys having a great day. Tim having a moment (actually going backwards over the finish line)

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Head South of the Border

It's been a bit quiet on the Nat meet organising front. Haven't heard from too many people. Seems that each year it gets later and later before people can commit to such an excursion.

But, with a gentle reminder from the Geelong Club re the pre-booked accommodation going fast, I have taken the plunge and booked some cabins at the Riverglen Holiday Park (75 Barabool Rd Belmont).

Lyall Clarke was wandering around that way earlier this year and checked out the options and gave this one the

thumbs up. The deluxe cabins have 2 bedrooms and sleep up to 6 with their own bathroom facilities – so no wandering outside in the middle of the night.

Darren and I stayed in lots of cabins around Tasmania when we were down there in 2006 and found them very convenient – and bigger than your standard motel room.

If you are interested in reserving a cabin and your name isn't Redhead, Semken, Collins, Peters, Hodgson or Walker then you should give me a call.

I'd like to encourage couples to think about sharing a cabin – given they have 2 rooms. Not only will it keep the costs down but there weren't many cabins left to book.

I now need a \$50 deposit to secure the cabin in your name (not if you've already given me money). If you plan to write out a cheque then make it out to Riverglen Holiday Park and send it to me so that I can send on all the details to the Park

The Hodgson family are heading off to America mid September for 5 weeks and by the time of reading this in the October mag, it'll only be 2 weeks before we are back, so that's when I'll send the deposits. If you would rather leave a deposit by paying on your credit card, you'll need to ring the Park direct, but I ask that you contact me first so that I can add your name to the list.

You can check out some details of the Park at www.riverglenhp.com.au. (The details on the 1st bulletin distributed at Tamworth aren't quite correct.)

Fran Hodgson

Nat Meet Coordinator



AIMSS ACHIEVES A MAJOR BENEFIT FOR CAMS COMPETITORS

A JOINT CAMS / AIMSS MEDIA RELEASE

The Australian Institute for Motor Sport Safety (AIMSS) has succeeded in achieving a major cost-cutting benefit while maintaining optimum safety levels in the area of safety harness life in Australian motor sport.

Following a recommendation by AIMSS, the Confederation of Australian Motor Sport Ltd (CAMS) Board has approved an extension of the validity of FIA racing harnesses in non-international events from five to ten years.

The amendment to CAMS regulations is effective immediately, and will ease a substantial cost burden for most CAMS competitors. Competitors in FIA international competition will still be required to comply with the five-year restriction.

At the suggestion of its National Technical Committee, earlier this year CAMS requested that AIMSS undertake a scientific study of this issue. Previous studies known to AIMSS had raised the possibility that the validity period for non-international CAMS-sanctioned competition might be extended, if justified by its new research.

AIMSS contracted Autoliv, a major FIA-approved crash and equipment test laboratory, to examine and test a wide variety of competition harnesses that could no longer be used as their validity had expired. The ages of harnesses tested ranged from six to approximately thirty years.

The results demonstrated that there was no measurable deterioration in webbing or harness component strength for many years after the end of the five-year validity period, and none within a ten-year period.

AIMSS will now arrange for the testing of harnesses complying with the American SFI specification, which are very popular among off-road competitors. Currently, the webbing for these harnesses must be renewed every two years and it is possible, although as yet unproven, that this period might also be safely extended.

AIMSS Chairman Dr Michael Henderson welcomed the approval by CAMS of the Institute's recommendation.

"AIMSS is a research and educational organisation and we totally understand the cost pressures on competitors, especially at national and club level," said Dr Henderson.

"Safety must be affordable, and we are joining with the FIA in further international studies of cost-benefit issues facing motor sport safety."

CAMS CEO Graham Fountain agreed that the outcome for most Australian competitors will be greatly welcomed.

"This is a great outcome and cost saving for competitors across all areas of motor sport in Australia, particularly at the club level of the sport," said Fountain.

"This clearly demonstrates the value of AIMSS and the commitment of CAMS to pursue improvements which result in the maintenance of a safety-first environment while providing real savings for competitors.

"We are committed to continuing this approach and AIMSS is already working on protocols to extend these harness studies and use similar methodology to examine

other safety regulations."

Other projects recently undertaken by AIMSS, with some soon to be reported, include the effects of carbon monoxide and heat stress, mass data processing of CAMS incident and injury reports, and a review of rollover protection requirements.

AIMSS has also recently presented several workshops on the use of head and neck restraint devices, and last year held Australia's first motor sport safety seminar.

ABOUT AIMSS

The Confederation of Australian Motor Sport (CAMS) has founded the Australian Institute

for Motor Sport Safety (AIMSS) to promote improvements in the safety of motor sport and the relationship between motor sport and road safety in Australia.

The Institute, which is a non-regulatory body, aims to encourage excellence across all aspects of motor sport safety through research, education, and the co-ordination of safety-related programs. Its formation provides an important step in the evolving history of safety in motor sport.

AIMSS was launched by Sir Jackie Stewart at the 2007 Australian Grand Prix, and is now accredited as a Research Partner Organisation for the FIA Institute for Motor Sport Safety.

BRIDGESTONE TYRE CENTRES

As a service to MGCCN Newcastle, Bridgestone are offering members a Registration Inspection/Pink Slip for Club/Historic Registration for the discount price of \$20 inc GST.

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Don't hesitate to ring or give some ideas.

Annuaree: 4938 7715



INFORMATION EVENING FOR OFFICIALS

Date: Monday, October 13, 2008

Time: 1900 hrs (7.00pm)

Venue: Christ Church, Community Precinct,

9 Chippendall St, Milton

Purpose: To provide general information on Repco Rally Australia 2009 and to seek expressions of interest from officials in filling various roles at the event.

Registration: In order to ensure the venue suitability, please register by sending an email to: qld@cams.com.au with the subject heading "Register for RRA Meeting".

You may also wish to register as an event official at the same time by going to: http://rallyaustralia.com/officials/expression-of-interest-form/

For your information, the various areas of sporting responsibility are listed below:

- Results and scoring
- Field Results Service
- Field Media
- Commentary
- Rally Radio
- Service Park
- Remote Service Park
- Refuels
- Regroups and Parcs Ferme
- Controls (part of Stage Team)
- Spectator Points
- Spectator Marshals
- Mobile Security
- Road Closures
- Communications

- ISC-T Liaison (Technology)
- SOS 5 Km
- SOS Tracking HQ
- Reconnaissance (Tuesday and Wednesday prior to event)
- Courtesy Cars
- HQ Reception
- Officials Recruitment, Data Base, HR and Uniforms
- Officials Training
- Compliance, OH&S, Risk Management
- Course Cars preparation and servicing
- Course Car Crews
- Scrutineering
- Tyre Marking team
- Route Coordination, Road Book and Checking
- Competitor Relations Officer
- Aviation and Helicopter coordination
- Fire and Rescue
- Medical/First Intervention Vehicles
- Spectator First Aid Posts
- Service Park Hospital
- Signage Teams
- Eye in The Sky
- Media Centre (Reception and Assistance)
- Media Supervision and Assistance (Field)
- Command Centre
- VIP Liaison (Foreign ASNs, information for VIPs etc)
- Minute Secretary for Sporting Committee
- Minute Secretary for Organising Committee
- Assistant to the Secretary of the Stewards

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION GO TO THE RALLY AUSTRALIA WEBSITE



LAND PANEL REPORT

Not much work being done over the last month, as the working bees at Ringwood have been halted on

account of the preparation required for the 2-day King Edward Park Hillclimb.

However, there is some good news with Lindsay Chaff turning up to repair the Grader. This does not mean we can relax in our endeavours to secure a more reliable unit.

Once fixed (many thanks to Lindsay for his contribution), 5 hours were spent grading and rolling the access road, which had been badly damaged through storms the previous week.

Whilst this was going on Lyall Clarke swept and cleaned the track and Canteen area,

flags and bunting were put up in preparation for the hiring of the track and facilities for the Aston Martin Owners Club National Hillclimb which was organised by our club on their behalf. I am sure a report on the event will appear elsewhere in the magazine hopefully with some photos of some of these spectacular cars.

Ringwood Park development has not been forgotten, with the Sub Committee preparing a proposal to be put before the committee in the coming weeks, more information should be forthcoming after we have completed King Edward Park Hillclimb.

See you, **Doug Rae**



NO OFFICIAL WORKING BEE AT RINGWOOD FOR A WHILE AS KING EDWARD PARK WORKING BEES COME INTO FORCE.



NSW Officials Training Calendar

Please use this Calendar to find out what Officials Training is happening in NSW. To enrol in any of these courses please use the response section below and return to the NSW State Office, PO Box 4025, Parramatta NSW 2124. For any information regarding these courses please contact Rachelle in the NSW State Office on 9635 1366. PLEASE NOTE: All training dates are preliminary and may change due to availability of Course Presenters and Venues. Courses will also depend on numbers, should a Course need to be cancelled the State Office will notify interested parties.

DEC	13th (Sat)	Scrutiny	3	Sydney	Eastern Creek Raceway
	TBC	Club Chief	4	Taree	TBC
	TBC	Event Assessor	5	Taree	TBC
	TBC	Rally	3	Sydney	TBC

	RESPONSE FORM	
Name:	CAMS #:	
Email:	Phone:	
Course 1:	Date:	
Course 2:	Date:	



TASMAN REVIVAL MEETING EASTERN CREEK OB



CAR CLUB SOCIAL PICNIC DAY

SUNDAY 30 NOVEMBER

ABOUT THE REVIVAL

The Tasman Revival meeting is a nostalgic re-enactment of what transpired some 40 years ago. In the swinging sixties, Australia and New Zealand had their own mini Formula One type series of races for single seat racing cars called the TASMAN SERIES. Almost all the Formula One Teams and drivers came "downunder" to enjoy some fun in the sun during the northern hemisphere's winter. The cars were the Formula One cars of the era and the engines were limited to a maximum of 2.5 litres. For the years to 1965, this was 66% larger than the maximum capacity of Formula One cars.

Sunday will include each of the Historic categories racing for their annual trophies over race distances of around 8 laps. At midday there will a demonstration of significant cars followed by a parade of drivers and personnel from the 1960s Tasman races. They will be driven around the circuit in open Morgan sports cars. 1.00 pm will see the start of the actual Tasman Revival Race over a full 15 laps and the trophy presentation immediately afterwards. This will be followed by more racing through to around 4.00 pm.

Designated areas along pit straight will be allocated to the exclusive use of individual car clubs for a social day. They will have premium spectator locations to watch the main Sunday historic Repco Tasman Revival race day run by the Historic Sports and Racing Car Association and The Australian Racing Drivers Club.

Clubs are encouraged to schedule and organise a social day for their members and guests to get together and display their cars.

Phone Doug Rae on 4944 7356 for more information.

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YOUNG DRIVER DEVELOPMENT COURSE – SATURDAY 15 NOVEMBER

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STARTING TIME 11.00AM









Do you wish to become a competent driver?

This course is designed for junior drivers from the age of 12 to 18 years old. The course will consist of tutorial on car control, safety and car preparation.

Driving instruction is on a one-on-one basis, with instructors approved by the Confederation of Australian Motor Sport (CAMS). It is preferred that participants have some driving experience in sprint karts, motorkhanas, khanacross or RTA learners permit.

Pupils under 18 years of age will require a parent or guardian to sign the entry form to give permission.

- A scrutineering (safety check) will be carried out on all training vehicles 30 min before the advertised start. Please make sure your vehicle is in a road worthy and safe condition.
- Your car can be a road registered or

- unregistered vehicle, single seat competition vehicles are not allowed.
- Safety apparel required is neck to ankle cotton-based clothing with long sleeves.
 A helmet and flat thin sole shoes are preferred.
- Drivers of open top sports cars must wear gloves and goggles or a helmet with visor.
- Cars should also be equipped with a fire extinguisher, bonnet strap and seat belts in good condition.
- Entry for junior members of the MG Car Club Newcastle is Free.
- Entry for junior members of other car clubs is \$11 dollars. Why not join the MG Car Club Newcastle and gain the free entry.
- Minimum license requirement is a CAMS L1 (come and try) license at \$25 dollars.
- 12 month license will be available on the day.

For further information phone Greg Hunter 0412 493 711















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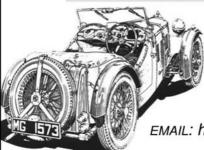
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MEMBER PROFILE

My name is: Graham Paterson

Occupation: Retired

Current race, classic, historic

car(s): Daimler SP250, Triumph TR4A, Triumph TR5

My current road car is: *BMW M3*

My preferred road car would be: *Honda Legend*

Favourite type of motorsport event: *Touring*

My most memorable motor racing experience: 3 day Advance Driving Course BMW

M3s Eastern Creek

Favourite sport (other than motor racing): Yachting

I like to talk about (other than cars): Yachting and travel

My favourite music: Light, classic - easy to listen to

I like reading: Travel, yachting, aircraft, business

My other interests/hobbies: *Travel*



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For further information please contact Greg Hunter on 0412 593 711 or Dennis Tvnan on 0408 683 517





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Please confirm your attendance and check details with the nominated person mentioned below. Arrangements can alter depending on weather and working conditions.

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SAT 11TH OCT STARTING 8.00 AM

Empty, remove and clean up sand bags. Contact Greg Hunter 0412 493 711

SAT 18TH OCT STARTING 8.00 AM

Dismantle and remove armco and return it to Ringwood Park Motor Sport Complex. Contact Greg Hunter 0412 493 711

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Sandown 20.12.71 (Tasman). Amaroo 21.8.71. King Edward Park 28.8.71.

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Ads will only be published in two successive magazines. If after this time the item has not sold you must notify the editor if you wish the ad to run for a further two magazines. Wording and accuracy of ads are the sole responsibility of the submitting members. NOTE: Classifieds will be posted monthly on the club website www.mgcarclub.com.au

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