

THE MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF THE MAZDA MX-5 CLUB OF VICTORIA & TASMANIA



## Our 15 minutes

**In this edition:**

**New online shop on the way  
Vic/Tas-SA biennial get-together  
Driver education: are we doing enough?**



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of Victoria & Tasmania

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Cover image: A place in the sun ... 21 gleaming MX-5s enjoy pride-of-place at the Australian Grand Prix at Albert Park. Photo: Murray Finlay



Find us at:  
MX-5 Club of  
Victoria

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## Don's Drive(l) ...

■ Don Nicoll – President [president@mx5vic.org.au](mailto:president@mx5vic.org.au)



*Hi everyone!*

Hello and welcome to the April edition of *mxtra*.

Once again we have had a busy month, a personal highlight being the Club's participation in the Australian Grand Prix. At the eleventh hour Dave Collins noticed that the AGP had 21 celebrities participating and we had been asked to supply 20 cars for the parade lap. Some quick calls between Murray Finlay and Mazda Australia's loyalty manager, Ben Rounsfell established that there had been a slight oversight. Ben had not quite anticipated the ease with which we would fill the 21st spot on the same day that we were due to leave our cars at Albert Park.

As many will know, we didn't quite manage to do the parade lap thanks to a heavy fall of rain on Saturday afternoon which delayed the F1 qualifying to Sunday morning, just when we and a few other events were due to be held. Despite the disappointment, there was general agreement that free entry to the circuit for four days plus free lunch and drinks with Mazda, plus the opportunity to talk to Mazda mechanics and the celebrities was an excellent return for our contribution of parking our cars at the circuit.

I must thank Murray for doing a great job organising us all and for handling communications with Ben and the Mazda team. I would also like to thank Daniel White and all the City Mazda folk for allowing us to use their service area as a gathering place, and also for ferrying us back from the circuit after we dropped our cars off on Wednesday night. Also, a big vote of thanks to all of you who donated a car for the four days. I think the Club gained a lot of exposure from the event. Mazda were really impressed by our enthusiasm and understanding of things beyond their control (eg, the weather!). I think we can safely assume that, if Mazda decide to sponsor the celebrity race next year (they have to do their sums) then we will receive an invite to do the celebrity parade. Hopefully Mazda can find some replacements for those celebrities who seemed to have confused the F1 circuit with a dodgem car stand.

Again our membership numbers are increasing over this time last year. The

level of interest in the Club is quite staggering. We have said many times that we are not sure what attracts people to the Club and what encourages you to stay or leave. We have talked about a second survey to find out what you like and dislike about the Club. I had hoped to announce that we will be conducting our second survey this month but we are not quite ready with the questionnaire. However, in May we will be sending out the questionnaire both as an email link and as hard copy for those without access to the web. This time we will concentrate on you and what you expect from membership. Your answers will help to provide the Committee with a guide to what we should be concentrating on over the coming years.

After my rant in last month's Drive(l) about the poor driver education system we have for young Victorian and Tasmanian drivers, it was pleasing to receive an article from Lockie Story which we have published this month. At least I'm not alone in my despair at the way we teach our young adults to learn to drive. I'm also heartened to know that at least one person reads my monthly mumbblings – thanks Lockie!

Finally a comment on the Club's face to the electronic world. We are very close to having a new website to launch. At our March Committee meeting Alyssa Finlay demonstrated the appearance and functionality of the new site. We think you will be impressed by the ease with which you can navigate the site and the content. Rather than wait for a totally completed site with all the bells and whistles, we will launch the site in stages adding to it as time goes on and Club finances allow. Talking of finances, we have started our search for Club sponsors. This will not be something we expect to happen overnight but a gradual process which we need to pursue. The new website will certainly provide some opportunities to offer our current and potential advertisers.

I hope you all had a great Easter. Best wishes for a safe trip to those embarking on the Tassie tour this month and good luck to the Motor Sport Team as they take on Phillip Island.

*Must go ... the driver's seat is getting cold.*

**Remember ... Safety first!**

*Don*

*For your diary ...*

See the full calendar for details

### April

- 16-24 Club: Tassie Tour
- 20 South Tas: Twilight run
- 20 Motor Sport: Rd 7 – Phillip Island
- 21 South Tas: Swansea run
- 27-28 Autocross/Motorkhana – Deniliquin, NSW
- 28 Western Vic: 4th anniversary run

### May

- 3 Annual Motor Sport meeting
- 5 Central: Anzac Tour
- 5 N-E Vic: Scavenger hunt
- 12 Motor Sport: Rd 8 – Sandown
- 12 Motorkhana – Sandown
- 16 Central: new members' night
- 19 South Tas: Ross picnic
- 26 Eastern Vic: Moe/Rawson run

### June

- 2 Eastern Vic: Technical day (TBC)
- 14 Eastern Vic: Social night (TBC)
- 16 South Tas: Ausmas in Tassie
- 16 Motor Sport: Rd 9 – Broadford
- 23 Motorkhana – DECA, Shepparton

### July

- 6 Motor Sport: Rd 1 – Phillip Island
- 20 Motorkhana – Bendigo
- 21 Motor Sport: Rd 2 – Broadford
- 28 Central: Run to the awards lunch
- 28 Club: Annual awards lunch, Mazda Australia, Mt Waverley

### August

- 4 Motor Sport: Rd 3 – Winton
- 11 Motor Sport: Sandown
- 17 Motor Sport: Sandown

### September

- 21 Motor Sport: Rd 4 – Calder

### October

- 5-6 Australian Motorkhana Championship, Mt Gambier



# Membership

Will Campbell – Membership Officer [membership@mx5vic.org.au](mailto:membership@mx5vic.org.au)

Hello everyone ...

Membership numbers continue to climb.

I would like to welcome eight new members to the fold:

Current membership count:

523

### Central Chapter

Darryl Andrew	1998 Classic Red NB
Carlo Defina	1993 Classic Red NA
Neville Peterson	2000 Silver NB
Kerry Power	2002 Silver NB

### Northern Tasmania Chapter

Scott Park	1990 Classic Red NA
Garry Ridge	1999 White NB

### Southern Tasmania Chapter

Robert Humphries	2005 Black NB
Jillian Tilley	2000 Black NB

On behalf of all members, I wish you a long and fruitful association with our Club.

See you out and about ...

Will

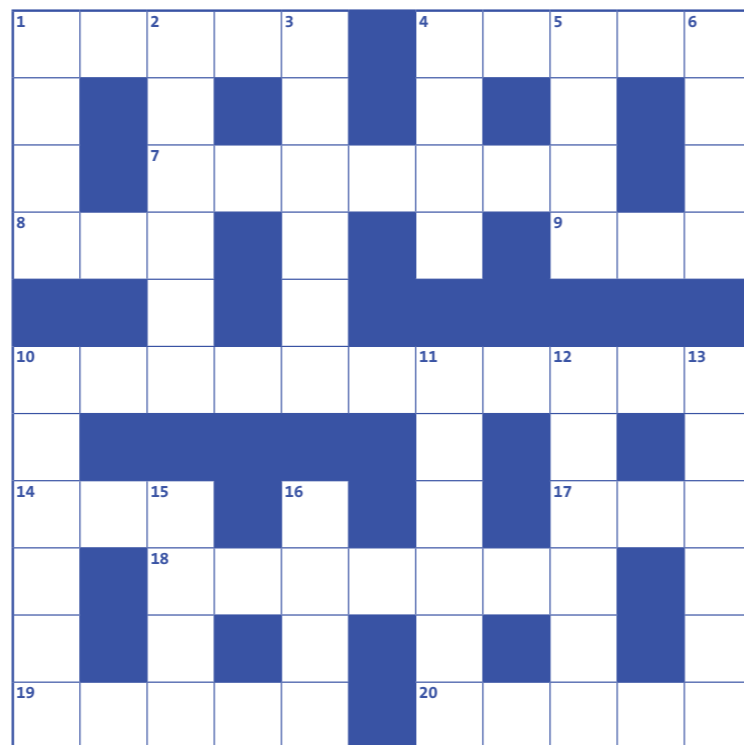
## Alan Bennett's MX-5 crossword #7

March 2013 – answers  
(theme: Vic/Tas postcodes)

R	Y	E	A	L	M	A	L	O	N	G	E	R		
U	L	V	O	E								Y		
B	W	O	O	T	O	N	G	V	A	L	E	A		
Y	E	O	N	N	V					B		N		
	O	D	I	O	V	E	N	S						
B	A	D	D	A	G	I	N	N	I	E				
U		L	O	Y					B	R	I	M		
L	O	R	N	E	N	E	L	S	E	A		I		
L	O	H	A				E	I	L	D	O	N		
A	P	S	L	E	Y				T	A		I		
	E	I	E				A	C	H	E	R	O	N	
N	E	D	G	U	C							E		
A	A	M	H	E	R	S	T		R	I	A	R		
R	L	T	A									A		
C	H	E	L	S	E	A			N	E	W	H	A	M

## Alan Bennett's MX-5 crossword #8

Theme: car makes & models



### Across

- 1 Bayerische Motoren Werke Aktiengesellschaft (abbrev) (5)
- 4 See 8 across
- 7 Gill Tin sings along in the car without music (7)
- 8 And 4 across. Time tripping car with drug links (8)
- 9 I can see one either side of 6 down (3)
- 10 Rolls over at the Casino Royale with no air bags evident (5, 6)
- 14 A little daft Dutch truck maker? (3)
- 17 Radial tuned suspension (abbrev) (3)
- 18 Rice off could be arresting if you are going too fast (7)
- 19 Yoda wants a Model T before tomorrow (5)
- 20 Built fast to win either in streamlined or clubman form (5)

### Down

- 1 James' car to stick together? (4)
- 2 We tall drivers have one in the back pocket? (6)
- 3 4.5 litres (6)
- 4 Chromite leaves something out (4)
- 5 Where two planes meet (4)
- 6 Out in front of you when driving as well as on your face (4)
- 10 Well built German sports car with a stutter? (4,2)
- 11 The Indians at British Leyland produced this Triumph 2000 lookalike in S. Africa (6)
- 12 Sounds like a short guitar rif could be a tax on the freeway? (6)
- 13 It is nans car and it often pulsates (6)
- 15 For door brand (4)
- 16 Q. When are we going to get there? A. In a jiffy! Sounds dubious? (4)

Answers next month ...



# Full Throttle!

Daniel White – Club Captain - Motor Sport [captain@mx5vic.org.au](mailto:captain@mx5vic.org.au)



## Upcoming Annual Motorsport Meeting – Friday 3 May

Our Club's annual Motor Sport Meeting is just around the corner – Friday, 3 May at City Mazda, 14-28 Montague St, South Melbourne, from 7pm.

At this time I would like to invite any competitors with agenda items to please forward them on to me via email to [captain@mx5vic.org.au](mailto:captain@mx5vic.org.au).

Agenda items and RSVP for attendance numbers will close on Monday, 22 April, after which I will email out a copy of the agenda to everyone.

For your information, so far we have three agenda items to consider for next season. Brief descriptions are below:

- » **Assistant Captain succession planning** – Tim Emery has made himself available to become our next Assistant Captain and join the Club Committee when Robert Downes steps down.
- » **Proposed Tyre Classification change** – Include Yokohama Advan AD08 as a road tyre eligible for use in Clubman and Standard Class. Delisting from R-Spec to give a competitive alternative, performance and price, to the Dunlop Direzza option.
- » **Classification change – Super Modified and Restricted Open:**
  - (i) Proposed introduction of a new class called "Super Modified" which is as per the current Restricted Open Class, just re-named.
  - (ii) "Restricted Open" rules to change to allow full open modifications as per Open Class with a limit of 120 rkw. It is being proposed to enable Club members competing in VSSC or hillclimbs requiring significant weight reductions with limited kW's also to be competitive in our Club Championship rounds without having to go up against "Open Class" high-kilowatt cars.

Next Championship round  
**Round 7 is at Phillip Island** on 20 April. I'm looking forward to seeing you all there. Remember it's on a Saturday.

Daniel #146  
"Racing – converting money into noise!"



Club cars steal the limelight at the F1 Australian Grand Prix last month. Several of the Club's motor sport team took part in the display.

# NatMeet 2014 - put it in your diary now!



Every two years, the Mazda MX-5 clubs of Australia get together for "NatMeet" - our national gathering.

The next one, the eleventh to be held since the inaugural event in South

Australia in 1994, will be in Caloundra on the Sunshine Coast in Queensland in 2014.

It's planned for 12-15 April - which means that, for the first time it, will not be held over the Easter weekend. And that means less-congested

roads, better access to accommodation and venues and a more cost-effective event.

NatMeet is five days of fun and frivolity, and a perfect chance to spend time with like-minded enthusiasts who share your love of the wonderful



Mazda MX-5. Being involved is an experience you will never forget.

If you have been to a NatMeet before, you'll know how much fun it is and will be keen to get along to this one.

And if you haven't, please consider this one. There's the full gamut of favourite MX-5 activities, from social to motor sport. You should get to at least one NatMeet in your life ... it's a great chance to get together with MX-5 friends, old and new.

More details can be found via the host Queensland Club's website at [http://www.mx5clubqld.com.au/?page\\_id=1915](http://www.mx5clubqld.com.au/?page_id=1915)

**Registration, accommodation booking and other details will be available soon.**



# New online shop coming ...



Steve Dunlop, Merchandise [merchandise@mx5vic.org.au](mailto:merchandise@mx5vic.org.au)

**Zoom Zoom style at your fingertips!**

If you've been reading *mxtra* over the past couple of months, you will have noted some commentary about developments taking place with the Club's merchandise.

We have struggled for years with the challenge of providing fresh, interesting and seasonal merchandise readily accessible to members without tying up vast sums of the Club's funds in order to do so.

Now we've engaged the same professional merchandise marketing and distribution company appointed by Mazda Australia and many other high-profile businesses (maybe even your favourite AFL team!) to support our Club's merchandise distribution arrangements.

The new arrangement has resulted in a fresh, new merchandise web-based shop offering an exciting and entirely new range of MX-5 Club merchandise, greater convenience, easier access, smoother transactions plus provides:

- » ready access 24 hours per day, seven days a week online via the Club website
- » an exciting, fresh new range of MX-5 Club and Motor Sport merchandise, many co-branded with the Mazda logo
- » a much broader range of items to choose from, including picnic sets, picnic rugs, coffee mugs, water bottles, mouse mats, cooler bags and much more
- » a detailed item description and image for every item, complete with dynamic inventory counter

- » a streamlined order placement and processing experience
- » two weeks for delivery to your door (under normal circumstances)
- » secure credit card or PayPal payment facilities
- » full-time customer support
- » access for the Club to a huge range of constantly-updated merchandise to enable us to select and incorporate new items into our range for seasonal or special occasions.

Well, the new merchandise "virtual shop", complete with the new range of Club merchandise and secure payment facilities is now in place.

**It will kickoff on Tuesday, 16 April, via the "merchandise" page on the Club's website, [www.mx-5vic.org.au](http://www.mx-5vic.org.au).**

Meantime, if you've been meaning to order that shirt or rugby top from our current range but haven't gotten around to it, you're in luck because we still have stocks of some of the old merchandise range available. However, we are unable to replenish supply so please contact me urgently by e-mail if you are wanting any of these superseded items before they disappear

*Happy zoom zoom shopping!*



## New Club website - sneak preview

The Club's new website is taking shape and is almost ready to present its new face to the world.

The Club's Committee and Chapter Captains are reviewing the site now.

Depending on their feedback, it's hoped to have the new site "go live" by the end of April.

The site will be just as extensive as the current pages, but will have a much fresher look and will be much easier to navigate.

It will give a comprehensive overview of the entire range of the Club's activities,

with each of the six Chapters, the Motor Sport Team and the Motorkhana devotees all having their own separate sections, with plenty of stories and photos to show what they get up to.

Importantly, the site will adjust so it works on your smartphone, iPad or computer screen, so you'll have complete access no matter where you are.

A later development will be the addition of a password-protected "sealed section" available only to current financial Club members, where you'll be able to access your current *mxtra* and other "Club-only" information. ■



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# The MX-5 Club Grill



## Introducing ... Cary Warren

Assistant Club Captain – Social



**Name?** Cary Warren  
**Age?** 39  
**Born?** Melbourne  
**Current abode?** West Preston  
**Profession?** Manger of Hospitality, Cookery and Tourism programs within a training institute  
**Partner?** No – but I am a high contender for the mxtra most eligible bachelor ... keep a look out for the centrefold edition  
**Pets?** Yes – a cranky Shetland pony (Buttons), a cat (Meow) and two crazy galahs ...

**Fave food?** A great European anti pasto platter with a cracking selection of cured meats and cheeses ... mmmmm

**Can you cook?** Quite well

**Favourite tippie?** Three actually: '06 Brown Magpie Pinot Noir, any Katnook Estate Cab Sav and a good strong G'n'T with cucumber shavings

**First drive?** As kids we would sit on Dad's lap, whilst we steered cruising in the lime green Hillman station wagon at whatever opportunity we could get

**First car?** "Ernie" the 1982 Ford escort – decked out with a white vinyl roof and back window louver

**First fender bender?** Luckily no big ones to boast about!

**Everyday driver?** ML 350 Mercedes

**How many MX-5s have you owned?** Just the one so far ... 😊

**Current MX-5?** 1990 Classic Red NA

**MX-5 improvements?** I have thought long and hard to answer this question and I still find myself answering with a bunch of nothing words ... so I guess, in short, nothing really!

**MX-5 dislikes?** People who make comments before even driving one!

**Why an MX-5?** I remember when the first NA hit the market, back then I was a young pup and thinking ... wow, I just want one! And thanks to the good folk at Mazda, the world's most popular sports car is accessible to make anyone's sports car dream come true

**Fluffy dice?** Only if in a Moomba parade, but then I think I would swap it to a sleek fox tail

**Passions besides the MX-5?** Snow skiing, photography, horses, equestrian sport and now my new-found passion, my little car and the Club! Thank god this one doesn't cost too much to feed or have big vet bills

**Favourite TV show / movie / book?** Grand Designs, Dukes of Hazard and Classic Restos - Channel 31 ... get on to it, folks!

**Dream wheels (money no object)?** The new Aston Martin DB9 – very, very sexy but still holds all the grandeur of a classic Aston Martin



**Would you drive a Daewoo or SsangYong?** I have to flip a coin on that one!

**Favourite other Mazda?** The 1967 Cosmo Sport – a classic!

**If not a Mazda (gasp!) what?** Porsche Cayenne turbo

**How long in the Club?** 18 months

**How many MX-5 Club runs?** Majority in that time

**Favourite Club run?** Hard to pinpoint as we love them all really ... GOR and my first run, Todds' twilight tour and Lovegrove winery are up there ...

**Funniest thing seen on a Club run?** Everyone screaming on their brakes as we were descending a steep hill in the Dandenongs, heading straight towards the booze bus waiting at the bottom ... Thank goodness the love just waved us all through ...

**Done DECA?** Yes, when I was 16 for five days through Scouting; we thought it was pretty cool being allowed to drop burnouts and race through witches' hats on the skid pan, not long having our L plates ... They taught us good tricks which I still use today

**Ford vs Holden?** Holden – love those V8 utes

**What's playing in your MX-5?** Nothing – just the purring of her voice ... ha ha!

**Footy team (AFL/NRL/Soccer)?** Go "Dees"..... maybe this year, Melbourne?

**Final comments?** Not long after buying the car, Dad and I joined the MX-5 Club. The Club has definitely given my family and me a new-found interest, sharing the thrill of exploring new roads and meeting other Club members who equally love their MX-5.

Recently joining the Committee I have discovered it's more than a car club – it's a passion shared by many on various levels.

For me, I love that sense of excitement before a Club run ... or just cruising with the roof down – LTD ... *Living The Dream!*

## Scene about ...

Photos: Kelly Berggren, Wendy Clark, Marg Gillick, Ron Macdonald, John Waldo



# Driver training: aptitude and attitude ...

■ Words: Lockie Story, Mockinya ... owns three Mazda MX-5s and travels a lot of country miles



## Are we giving our children the best chance to remain alive and unhurt while driving?

*I wrote this article prior to the release of last month's mxtra. It is quite spooky that both Don Nicoll, in his President's column last month, and I have been thinking along the same lines and have put pen to paper at the same time. Perhaps I am not a lonely voice after all ...*

Some *mxtra* readers will know me from previous articles in this publication. Most, however, will not know that, for 15 years, I was a member of the Victoria Police. In that time I attended and investigated an uncountable number of motor vehicle collisions. I graduated from the Victoria Police Accident Investigation School and studied Collision Reconstruction. Whilst not an expert in the strictest sense, I feel that, because of my experience, I can speak with some authority.

I wish to address two subjects in relation to driving: **aptitude and attitude**. These thoughts are mine alone and are not the subject of any particular inquiry. I have discussed this subject with a good friend, who is a professional collision investigator, and I am incorporating some of his experience here.



### Aptitude

It has long been my belief that we teach our children to obey the basic road laws and, if they can do that for about 15 minutes, they are granted a driving licence.

They gain no professional training in the dynamics of a car and how it will react under certain circumstances. As a testament to this, I have seen many drivers, who consider themselves to be good drivers, go through an advanced driving course and come away amazed at how little they knew.

Many licensed drivers have never lost control of a car, been in a slide or had to react to a dangerous situation. *Sometimes, unfortunately, the first time they do is their last.* I believe that prior to getting a licence, every driver should have to pass at least a skills test on a skid pan and another in defensive driving. We require motorcycle riders to pass such skills tests prior to getting even a learner's permit, and another prior to getting a licence. **Why not drivers of cars?**

There are schools in existence that teach these skills and, I am sure, there would be many more if it became a pre-requisite to obtaining a licence. Two of my children have spent time belting around the paddocks in a paddock bomb and also spent time

on race circuits being instructed by more proficient drivers. I am absolutely certain that these experiences have held them in good stead on the roads. I can think of at least two instances when their training has caused them to make the right choice in a difficult situation on the road that a less experienced driver would not have made. On one of these occasions any other choice would have ended in a disastrous high-speed collision.

That being said, not all kids have the advantage of living in the bush and owning a paddock bomb or having access to a car club where they can sharpen their skills on a race track. This brings us back to structured training courses. The Government would need to outlay almost no money because, in my experience, people will spend whatever it takes to get, and keep, a licence. Over the years I found that people will often contest a case involving their licence more heavily than one of say, assault or theft. This being the case the schools would need to be certified, but the cost of the course would fall on the prospective licence holder.

^ Bitter experience ... Lockie's Peugeot 205GTi after hitting a deer. Fortunately Lockie walked away from that one ...

### Attitude

Firstly we should deal with the word **accident**. Most "accidents" are not accidents at all, but avoidable collisions.

In discussing this with my aforementioned friend, we both agree that, almost without exception, all fatal or serious injury collisions invariably have an element where there has been an infraction of the law. We can teach our kids to drive like Stirling Moss but, if their attitude toward driving within the law is not right, they are invariably headed for trouble and tears. *You can lead a horse to water, show him the water, show him how to drink the water, but it is up to him to do the actual drinking.*

**Road laws are there for a reason.** Often we are annoyed by them and sometimes cannot see the sense in them. Nonetheless, they are there for a specific purpose: to control the traffic in order to avoid collisions. Everybody hates speed cameras – they are known in Victoria as "flash for cash" and, indeed, they raise a huge amount of revenue for the Government. In order to stop this revenue stream we simply need to comply with the stated speed laws. *It is not rocket science.* I am sure the Government can invent other ways of extorting money from us.

Whilst we are talking money, I cannot imagine how many millions of dollars are paid out every year by the Transport Accident Commission (TAC) to collision victims who are quadriplegic, paraplegic or totally and permanently incapacitated (TPI). I can assure you the "butcher's bill" is extraordinary and would shock us all.

Again, road laws and regulations, whilst often tedious, have a very good reason for being there. Stop signs are placed instead of Give Way signs for a reason. Speed limits are set for a reason. Seat belt laws are there for a reason. And so on ...

I can remember when seat belt legislation was first introduced here in Victoria; people were outraged. *"How dare they?"* Everyone 'knew' of someone who had died because he had been wearing a seat belt. Today we all know that seat belts do save lives and the vast majority of drivers are, in fact, uncomfortable in a car without them. I cannot count the number of collisions I attended where someone was killed or seriously injured simply because they were not wearing a seat belt. Fortunately most people have now got that particular message.

The same cannot be said for other laws. Speed and alcohol/drugs are by far and away the major cause of death and serious injury on the roads. The facts are indisputable. But we still speed and people still drink and drive. Our **ATTITUDE** is what the problem is here.

I recall a famous race car driver giving a talk to a car club, expounding that *speed laws should not apply to him due to his skills as a driver*. Where he missed the point is that not everybody has his skills, and his skills are on a track where everybody is going in the same direction. His attitude was his problem and he

ended up with a number of traffic convictions, including one for drink driving where, in a major collision, he was the offending driver. People with an attitude like that are not discouraged by high penalties; their attitude must be changed at a much more basic level, and from an early age.

We are all guilty of pushing our luck with speed – just a few km/h over the limit we can get usually away with. *Come on – admit it.* I do. Even seeing what I have seen, it has taken me years to get my attitude right.

**Attitude can be helped by aptitude.** The advanced driving schools show you, among other things, what you *cannot* do (although you thought you could). They show you how a few kilometres per hour can make a big difference in stopping distance and how far you go in your "reaction time". Many people come away from them with a greatly improved attitude and a realisation of their own failings and limitations. *The rest must come down to the individual to simply wake up.*

Here in Victoria the Transport Accident Commission (TAC) advertisements have, I think, made some impression. There is one instance when filming of an ad got out of control as passers-by tried to get to the 'offending' driver because it looked so real.

**But there is only so much that can be done in this way. We need to have an attitude change at a basic level.**

It is **NOT** all right to speed.

It is **NOT** all right to drink and drive.

It is **NOT** all right to crash a red light ...

Our Governments need to institute a required skill level for all drivers. The drivers need to approach driving with an attitude of respect for the laws and the rights of other road users.

I do not have all the answers. I wish to stimulate thought and debate.

If one person reading this article avoids a serious collision because of it, I have succeeded.

I must say that driving within the law is much less stressful than trying to stretch the said law. You are not always looking for the hiding "Jack Trooper".

**Please, think about it ... and happy motoring. ■**

✓ Lockie's daughter Lauren competed at Winton as a 15-year-old in Lockie's Jag, and had stints at DECA before obtaining her licence.



# My favourite MX-5 road ...

■ Words & photo: Ron Gillick, North-Eastern Victoria Chapter Captain

## Alpine Way, Thredbo to Khanacoban ...

Most members of the Club will have more than one favourite road, and I'm no exception. I have several favourites, but the one that stands well above the rest is the 80km between Thredbo and Khanacoban through the Kosciuszko National Park in the Snowy Mountains of New South Wales.

Starting in Thredbo with Mt Kosciuszko on your right, you climb to Dead Horse Gap which is the highest point on this road, the Alpine Way, where it crosses the Great Dividing Range. From there it is endless corners until you reach Khanacoban some 75km later. There is everything from sweeping bends to tight corners and hairpins and the thing which I think makes a road such as this *great*, rather than just good, is the constant elevation changes.

If the drive itself isn't enough, you can stop at the scenic spot at Geehi, and Scamells Lookout for spectacular views.

Unfortunately the Fun Police have been in the area lately and erected 80km/h signs in some of the good bits and 60km/h signs in some of the best bits, but they only apply if you actually see the signs ...

If you are going to do the run, make sure you do it in good weather. ■



If you have a favourite MX-5 road, you're welcome to submit a short description (150 words) and a photo to <editor@mx5vic.org.au> and share it around!

Of course, you can discover the Club's favourite MX-5 roads with your own copy of our book, "20 Roads for 20 years" ... just \$20 + postage from merchandise man Steve Dunlop, merchandise@mx5vic.org.au. Perfect for a glove box near you!

# Smoked Trout, Prawn & Potato Salad

■ Recipe: Janette Todd

## Ingredients:

- » A few chat potatoes – thickly sliced
- » 1 tbls olive oil
- » Rocket leaves
- » Dill sprigs
- » 1 red onion – finely sliced
- » Smoked trout – skin and bones removed, flaked
- » Cooked prawns – peeled and de-veined

## Dressing:

- » 2 tbls capers – drained and roughly chopped
- » 1 tbls horseradish
- » Zest of 1 lemon
- » Juice of 1 lemon
- » 1 tbls olive oil

## Method:

Cook potatoes in boiled salted water until just tender. Drain well and cool under cold running water.

Pre-heat a char-grill plate on high. Place potatoes in a bowl with olive oil and season to taste, tossing well. Char-grill the potatoes until browned and cooked through.

Whisk all the dressing ingredients together, adjusting taste as necessary.

On a serving platter toss the rocket, dill and onion together. Add the flaked trout and potatoes. Drizzle with the dressing and mix through. Top with the prawns. ■



# Chapter chatter ...



## Following the Pugin Trail 24.3.13 | Southern Tasmania

■ Words: Michelle Waldock ■ Photos: John Waldock ■ Run organisers: Michelle & John Waldock

### From Big Ben to the Back of Beyond ...

Earlier in March, members of the Chapter took advantage of Wine South's Open Winery Weekend to travel to various wineries and indulge a communal love of fine food and wine.

This run gave the members a chance to atone for their sins, so to speak. The run was planned to follow the newly-formed Pugin Trail from Oatlands to Richmond via Colebrook. "But who was Pugin anyway?" I hear you ask.

Well, Augustus Welby Northmore Pugin was a British designer whose biggest claim to fame is the design for the Palace of Westminster. He also designed churches in Australia and Ireland, although he never visited either place. Pugin's church designs are at Parramatta, Balmain and Ryde in NSW and at Oatlands, Colebrook and Richmond in Tasmania. As our Chapter run was scheduled for Palm Sunday, what could be more appropriate?

So on a showery morning, eight cars converged at the meeting point ready

for a bit of history mixed with hooning ... oops, of course I mean humming along! The drive took us past the airport to Sorell, then a left turn on to the East Coast Highway, through Black Charlie's Opening (gotta love these Tassie place names!) to Runnymede, where we made the most of every twist and turn on Woodsdale Road to arrive at Oatlands in time to tour the first church, St Paul's, as well as grab a quick snack and take a turn about the town during its annual festival.

The weather was still looking fairly iffy and a heavy shower sent members scurrying back to their cars to make sure the soft tops were safely in the upright position. All being found secure, the convoy set off for our next stop, St Patrick's at Colebrook.

Our route took us down the (in)famous Mud Walls Road, recently resurfaced and generally fixed up after years of neglect had made some sections nearly impassable for MX-5s, especially those with non-standard tyres. Our speedier members again made the most of the road by tear-arsing ... oops again, I mean traversing through the many curves before our arrival at Colebrook. A kind

local had agreed to open up the church especially for us and as she drove up in her veteran Mercedes, John Hadrill recognised the car as once belonging to one of his relatives (a very Tasmanian occurrence). The interior of St Patrick's has been restored to Pugin's original designs and it is a unique building, both in Australia and internationally. We spent a very interesting half-hour looking around before heading down the road to Richmond in what was now a brightly sunny day – of course, all tops were quickly folded down as we set off.

The church of St John the Evangelist at Richmond was our last stop. The oldest Catholic church in Australia and famous on postcards everywhere, it is a little known fact that the iconic spire is a Pugin design, part of a refurbishment of the original church during the 1850s. Members spotted the same details on the pews as the other two churches, as well as some other interior features. By this time, we all decided we had been suitably reverential and we finished the run at an eatery called Wicked Cheese, where we indulged in the sin of gluttony – and enjoyed every mouthful! ■



▲ Main photo: St Patrick's, Colebrook. Inset (left) St John's, Richmond and (right) inside St Patrick's.



# Grampians Discovery weekend 8-10.3.13 | Club



This was the biennial get-together of the Victorian and South Australian clubs. This time it was Victoria's turn to organise the weekend. We had 14 from Victoria in eight cars, 10 from SA in five cars, and on Sunday 12 from the Western Victoria Chapter with six cars ... and not forgetting Lockie on Saturday.

■ Photos: Wendy Clark, Ron Macdonald <gracies-place.net> & Alan Laine ■ Run organisers: Will & Coral Campbell & Dave & Gail Collins



## Friday, 8/3 (pm)

Arriving throughout the afternoon the 26 from the SA and Victorian clubs came together for a BBQ to start our biennial get-together – the ideal chance to mingle, renew old acquaintances, welcome new folk and discuss recent and upcoming events, the Canberra and Qld NatMeets.

A fantastic weekend was planned and Will welcomed us all and presented us with an eco-bag of goodies, maps and details of activities for the weekend. That started the buzz again.

The motel was set on a few acres of lawns, in a stunning valley between the majestic Serra and Victoria mountain ranges. An early night was required after a long drive and to prepare for fun-filled days ahead.



Gail & David

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Victoria & Tasmania  
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Beaumaris  
VIC 3193



## Sunday, 10/3 (am)

On Sunday morning we went to the Grampians Adventure Golf for breakfast and a game of mini golf. We were able to sit on the terrace overlooking the course and beautiful gardens. After breakfast the challenge was on.

We divided up into teams and set off starting at different tees. You certainly get to see other sides of people on a golf course – even mini golf! We had a ball and it was one of the most challenging and beautiful courses I have played on.

At the end Coral announced the lowest-scoring Victorian was Rob Eastwood (86), and Roger Trethewey took out the SA prize.

Judy & Jeff



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## Saturday, 9/3 (am)

Started the day at Brambuk Cultural Centre where we watched two informative videos, the first on aboriginal legends about the creation of the Grampians (Geriwerd) and the second, the geological explanation. We then walked with a centre's guide to see some native foods growing, including bush tomatoes and native mint. Our visit ended with a tasting of emu, kangaroo, crocodile and wattle seed damper.

Lockie, in "Molly", led us on a run to Wartook, stopping at Reed's lookout for spectacular views. On the way Molly nearly added another kangaroo to her score sheet of five kangaroos and one sheep! The morning ended at Wartook Tearooms for a delicious lunch and a chance to check out the local handicrafts. Must go, we are off to practise our knitting to see if we can emulate the knitted grass tree!

Ros & Rob



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## Sunday, 10/3 (pm)

The Western Chapter members joined us for an enjoyable picnic lunch in the motel's extensive grounds. A photo shoot followed. MX-5s first, of course, then people.

Around 1:30pm we started a northbound circuit run – straight forest roads and twisty mountain bits. The view from Boroka lookout was worth the drive. (We nearly ran out of petrol and missed the lookout, quietly coasting back down to town to refuel!!)

After farewelling the day trippers we drove to the hotel for a quick dinner. We had to vacate our table by 7:30pm so a "final night" party got underway at the motel. Talking, laughing and drinking until late. Because the South Australians needed to leave early the next morning we had to say good night and wish them a safe drive until next time.

Grant & Saeko



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## Saturday, 9/3 (pm)

After a lovely lunch at the "Wander Inn", Lockie lead us back to town via Roses Gap, along some magnificent winding MX-5 roads. Our progress was only impeded by one car which quickly pulled over to let our convoy through. The views of the many rocky outcrops along this route were sensational.

The run finished with a stop off in Halls Gap for a bit of free time, an ice cream and a wander through town. The day concluded with the biennial Vic/SA dinner at the Grampians Motel restaurant, which offered a good chance for members of both clubs to mingle and exchange ideas.

Ron & Wendy



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## Monday, 11/3 (am)

Great venue, great roads (apart for the occasional campervan and 4WD) great weather (perhaps a little too hot for some), great company, and the best ice cream around! What more could you want?

Then the Ballarat clan turn up – they're a mobile fun machine that really put the icing on the cake!

We also saw a real touch of Australiana with a pair of boxing kangaroos having an argument on the front lawn ... reminds me of that song, "We come from a land Down Under ...!"

Alan



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# Chapter chatter ...

## Todds' Tour de Fish 3.3.13 | Central

Words & photos: Ron Macdonald & Wendy Clark ■ Run organisers: Janette & John Todd



*Brilliant sunshine, top down (the car's that is) and the day of Todds' Tour, what more could you want!*

With two new members and a couple who were 'checking us out' in tow, John and Janette led the line of 10 daughters of Mazda out of the car park and towards Kinglake.

After a quick regroup in St Andrews we were soon into the serious stuff playing dodge-the-cyclist on the Kinglake road but all seemed to come through unscathed.

On down through Toolangi to one of my favourite roads, Myers Creek Road. It was not a perfect run through there but the ute we were following did not hold us up a great deal so still far better than sitting at home 😊. We had the obligatory stop at the Beechworth Bakery in Healesville for morning tea and a good old-fashioned chin wag, with some of the members who had not driven Myers Creek before extolling its virtues.

Leaving the bakery we headed up towards the Black Spur; although there was a bit of traffic we did get the chance to have a bit of a fang around many of the corners. Just before Narbethong we were joined by Ron and Marg Gillick of the North-Eastern Victoria Chapter. It is always great to catch up with members from the country Chapters, although it was only two weeks ago that they hosted us on the Snowy Mountains run.

It was great to see Marysville getting back on its feet and the scars of that terrible day in 2009 slowly becoming less obvious. A left turn towards Buxton and we were soon at our destination, the Buxton Trout and Salmon Farm.

On entering the trout farm we were most pleased to find the management had decided to offer our members free entry, a great gesture by them and much appreciated by us. Many of our members took the opportunity to try their luck in the ponds and I think it fair to say that none left empty-handed. The Todds organised themselves a fish lunch and a keeper, then "Rex" Todd posed for the required fish kissing photos with his two rainbows.

Another very successful "Todds' Tour" – thanks to John and Janette for organising a fantastic day that was enjoyed by all. ■



Top: 'Rex' Todd ... kissing but not releasing. Pam and Tyrone (above) and Marg and Ron (right) try their luck.

# Missed it by *that* much!

■ Words: Murray Finlay ■ Photos: Ron Macdonald, Daniel White, Murray Finlay

■ Event co-ordinator: Murray Finlay

*Australian F1 Australian Grand Prix – 14-17/3/13*



*It was to be our 15 minutes of fame ... but Melbourne's weather had other plans.*

It was the 2013 Formula 1® Rolex Australian Grand Prix, and the Mazda6 Celebrity Challenge was one of the highlight events.

And the highlight for 21 lucky Club members was to be a lap of the circuit on race day, ferrying the celebrity drivers in their pre-race parade.

There had been weeks of planning ... calling for volunteers (and breaking the news to the unlucky losers), arranging driver and guest credentials, co-ordinating our involvement with Mazda, organising the pre-event "bump in" ...

In return for leaving our cars on display for the four days of the AGP, Mazda provided us with "race credentials" that allowed us great access to many parts of the circuit, as well as lunch each day, commemorative T-shirts and caps, and our own special area away from the madding crowds next to the Mazda pavilion.

There was much lobbying for preferred "celebrities", with different drivers angling for their choice of super model, actor, top chef or whatever.

I'm assured it was random selection, but I can't help thinking there might have been some, er, "inside help" when I – a dyed in the wool Melbourne supporter – ended up with former Collingwood footballer, Chris Tarrant (looking at you, DW!) as my passenger.

All ran perfectly to plan for the first two and a half days ... until M. Nature decided to open Pandora's Floodgate of Worms on the Saturday afternoon.

Formula 1 qualifying was washed out after Q1, bumping Q2 and Q3 to Sunday morning ... and bumping our appearance right off the program. Thank you **so** much!

Still, our display was located right next to the track just after Turn 2, giving us ringside seats for all the action. Some braved the weather and stayed for the big race, but many departed mid-afternoon to watch the event in the comfort of our lounge rooms.

Special thanks go to Mazda's Loyalty Manager, Ben Rounsefell, for organising our part in this exciting event, and to City Mazda for providing our meeting point.

Mazda will be counting the cost of the sponsorship (and watching for increased Mazda6 sales resulting from the high-profile exposure), so hopefully we can get a reprise (without the bloody weather) next year... ■



## Chapter chatter ...

### A flying visit! 10.3.13 | Western Victoria

■ Words: Noellene Gleeson ■ Photo: Lockie Story ■ Run organiser: John Gleeson



The Western Victoria Chapter turns 4 this month. Everyone's welcome to join their birthday run on 28 April.



Lake Bellfield

*The Western Victoria Chapter decided it might be a good idea to drop in to Halls Gap to catch up with the participants in the SA-Vic/Tas Clubs' Labour Day Weekend meet-up.*

9.30am, four MX-5s left Ballarat heading to Beaufort for a coffee and to pick up another three cars and their occupants. These included prospective members, the Loipold brothers, in a nice Classic Red NB. Leaving Beaufort towards Amphitheatre

on a terrific twisty road we had to take care as a very large number of classic motorbikes approached ... they were all over the road at times.

On reaching the Pyrenees Highway we turned towards Ararat then on through Moyston and Pomonal before arriving at Halls Gap at about midday.

We found the Grampians Motel, which is in a lovely setting, and were greeted by Will Campbell and co.

After a picnic lunch in the motel grounds it was MX-5 group photo time, which took a bit of manoeuvring of cars and photographers.

Dave Collins then led us on a run through Halls Gap, on to the Grampians Road then to the Western Highway, turning off towards Roses Gap along great twisty curvy roads then up to Boroka Lookout.

It was here we had to say our goodbyes as we had to head home to Ballarat at 3.30pm.

Cars broke off at various points on the way home. We arrived home at about 5.30. I jumped in the shower, was picked up at 6pm and headed to Tullamarine, and boarded a plane to Sydney at 9.00pm.

Phew! What a day!  
Zoom Zoom! ■

## Chapter chatter ...

### Mt Buffalo run 17.3.13 | North-Eastern Victoria

■ Words: Marg Gillick ■ Photos: Marg & Ron Gillick ■ Run organiser: Ron Gillick



*Meet at Isaacs Park in Yackandandah, grab a coffee at Java Café on the way. Five minutes from 'Yak' the phone rings ...*

"There's no-one here; are we at the right place?" Pam asks – YES, half an hour early!

A select group gathers – six cars, six colours. We welcome Peter Doyle (Red NA) who is thinking of joining the Club, and Pam and Tyrone from Central Chapter.

Ron leads the convoy – "I've taken the wrong turn" ... stop and turn around are not in his vocabulary!

Thankfully Gerry sorts him out and we proceed to Dederang (a slightly different way) and on to Tawonga.

Nigel, who is itching for some hills and corners, probably because he comes from that FLAT place of Shepparton, leads the run over Tawonga Gap and down to Bright where we stop for morning tea and a chat. Peter has enjoyed himself but has to leave us at Bright, as do Ian and Val.

With Nigel still in the lead, the four remaining cars head up Mt Buffalo, plenty of twists and turns and not much other traffic. It is a bit cold and windy on top of the mountain but we enjoy our picnic lunch while looking out over the valley below – another beautiful day in the North-East. ■



▲ L-R: Peter, Gerry, Tyrone, Marg, Pam and Nigel at Tawonga Gap lookout

# Chapter chatter ...

## Strahan overnighter 23-24.3.13 | Northern Tasmania

■ Words & photos: Kelly Berggren ■ Run organiser: Michael Nolan

**Tassie has wonderful roads for driving, and some of the best are in places we can't get to on a day trip.**



*The hairpins literally back on to each other ...*

Having an overnighter to Strahan allows us access to the fantastic west coast roads, cutting in and around the edge of the central plateau's mountains.

We're also lucky to have Targa every year, as it means even the remotest roads are in good nick. The goal was to hit as many of them as possible, enjoying the curls, curves and hairpins, while taking in the stunning scenery of mountain cuttings, forested fern-verged sweeps and open wind-swept valleys.

Some of the towns we toured through have a strong colonial history, with beautiful old buildings and bridges to admire. *You appreciate the effort they made to even reach these remote places with only horses instead of horsepower!*

We started at Longford, then past Poatina up on to the plateau, Bothwell (first golf course built in Australia), Hamilton, and then Ouse for a lunch stop by the river. Then through Tarraleah (amazing gorge with pipes and power station), on to Derwent Bridge (visited 'The Wall' sculpture, which was a great stop) then the fantastic section cutting in front of Mt Arrowsmith, past Lake Burbury before dropping through endless hairpins into the back of Queenstown, and finally on down to Strahan.

**I'd forgotten how barren** the Queenstown hills still were on the eastern side of the mountains, as they have re-forested most of the west side. The hairpins literally back on to each other with a steep drop-off on the outside – *nerve-wracking!*

We stopped at Strahan's *Sharonlee Villas* and had a good night in together, with everyone bringing something to share for dinner.

Heading out the next day (after a quick tour of Strahan by some) we went through to Zeehan, where we got absolutely poured on with a sudden storm! Two of the group split off for the shorter drive to Tullah while the rest went on to the Reece Dam.

Excellent roads, with a couple of endless sweeping corners to test us. The dam itself is an amazing engineering feat. We all met up again at Warratah for burgers. Deciding we were all pretty tired, we cut off yet more curves to head home via Hellyer Gorge, and then the highway.

**Thanks Michael** – it was a memorable and fun trip! ■



← Reece Dam



^ Carl, Kieth, Robert, Michael Bruce and Rob



← Heading into Bothwell



← Yvonne, Robert, Keith, Sandra, Michael, Margaret and Anna



# Playing in the dust at Pakenham

Words & photos: Bob de Bont

The second round of the 2013 Victorian Motorkhana Championship on 24 March was hosted by the Pakenham Auto Club on their club grounds. The weather was warm and dry with a stiff breeze to manage the dust. The Pakenham Club put on a great BBQ to keep us fed and watered for the day.

Prior to the event there were some issues with CAMS authorising the Supp. Regs (something to do with the F1 GP) resulting in a number of people registering on the day which created some delay.

After a concise drivers' brief and trophy presentation from Round 1, competition numbers were allocated and it was down to business. In total there were 51 competitors. Class B consisted of 11 with a fairly diverse range of cars with two MX-5s, a Ford Escort, Holden Gemini, Toyota Corolla, a Honda-powered Westfield kit car and a mint Austin Healey. The Mazda MX-5 Club was represented by Bob de Bont in his NB8B and Mark Szutta debuting his Ford Escort. We also had one spectator who dropped in for a look and stayed for the day.

With the delayed start the organisers decided to rotate the timing officials and not have a defined lunch break. This caused a few issues when combined with a rotating running order resulting in some competitors sitting down to enjoy a freshly made burger to discover it was their turn to compete.

The first couple of tests were fairly straight forward providing a gentle warm-up for the day. The tests became progressively more complicated until the final pair – "Three Garage" and "Three Lane" – both of which required the driver to complete a

number of elements with no set method defined. This generated much discussion on the best way to complete the test taking into consideration direction changes, car positioning, a large dip in the ground and even the effect of dust.

With eight enjoyable tests completed it was decided to call it a day, we packed up, said our goodbyes and headed home by 4pm.

## Results

Bob won Class B, placed 10th outright and 2nd on handicap. Mark suffered from a poorly-timed lunch break prior to one of the more difficult tests and subsequently lost time, finishing down the field. The Club Championship is not looking healthy with only Bob and now Mark adding to the Club total.

The Victorian Motorkhana Championship is open to all sizes and shapes of cars. Being an MX-5 Club member does not restrict you to competing in your MX-5 and any points gained, regardless of car used, are gladly added to the Club total. ■

## Next scheduled events are:

- 12 May at Sandown Racecourse (outside turn 1) on bitumen and organised by the Nissan Car Club
- 23 June at DECA Shepparton on concrete (Peugeot Car Club)
- 20 July (Saturday) at Huntly Sale Yards, Bendigo on bitumen (Bendigo Car Club)
- Australian Motorkhana Championship, October 5th/6th at Mount Gambier on bitumen (South Eastern Auto Club).

Come along and check us out!



Bob de Bont in action (above) and (centre) in trouble ...

Far right: Mark Szutta after his day's work and (right) campaigning his motorkhana Escort



## Burson automotive products at trade prices

Current financial Club members can now purchase automotive parts and accessories at trade prices from Burson Auto Parts stores.

Burson Auto Parts have generously extended their Club discount offer to all financial MX-5 Club members around Australia.

Simply ask for your discount when you purchase, and present your current membership card.

Quote account number 112558.

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Please ensure that you identify yourself as a member of the Mazda MX-5 Club to get your discount. This offer is exclusive to Autobarn Eltham.

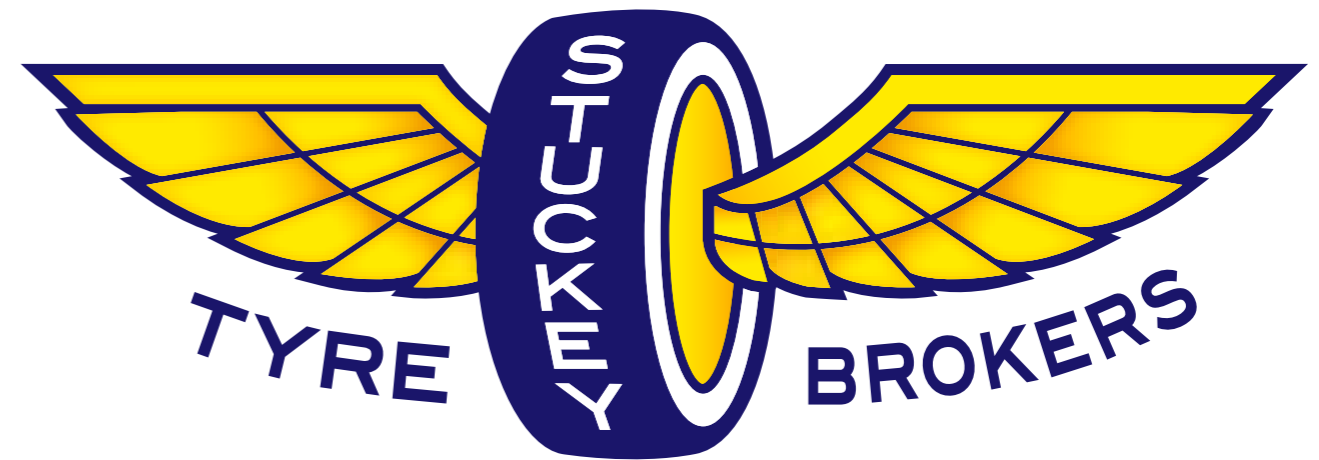


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# Giving way to Alfas, and other Tasmanian adventures ...

Words & photos: Alan Bennett ... "Keep calm and carry on driving your MX-5"

*The main predictability about rain is that it will fall in the downwards direction. Except if you are in Wellington, New Zealand, where it often goes sideways.*

It was in fact raining but we weren't in windy Wellington, though we did cross a street by that name, as well as Brisbane and Bathurst (*jumping ahead, but this street turned out to be prophetic as some of the cars we were about to see became famous at Bathurst*).

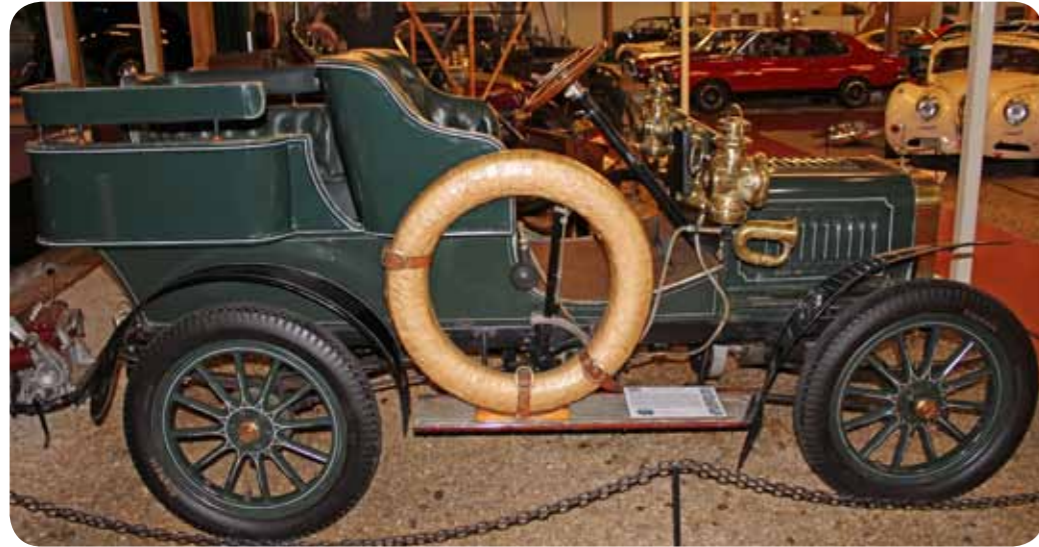
with a half-scale model replica alongside it. A fabulous red Torana XU1 was my favourite Aussie icon, glittering against the mirrored wall. There was also a '71 Ford Falcon XY GTHO, a 1972 RT E49 Charger and much more!

Alongside a diminutive yellow 1956 Messerschmitt was a very pretty white Ferrari Dino 246GT – and opposite this was a stunning red F40. An incredibly rusty Citroen 2CV stuck out like a sore thumb amongst the pristine car collection. Now approaching its 107th birthday was a British 1906 Swift 9/10HP.

Something on display for most if not all tastes.

There were also a significant collection of motorcycles dating from 1909 but my camera only worked on the four-wheelers (that's my excuse).

The rain having stopped, it was time for a well-deserved coffee at the *Queen Victoria Museum* at Inveresk. ■



1906 Swift

It was **Launceston in March** and we were looking for some *inside* sightseeing after dodging the aforementioned precipitation with as much success as two people can under one small umbrella and still remain friends.

Walking briskly, we were just about to cross the road to the *National Automobile Museum of Tasmania (NAMT)* when we hesitated just in time to let a breakdown truck carrying an Alfa Romeo pass in front of us ... this reminded me of two things – the reliability of said marque and also how rare it was to have to give way to an Alfa!

The museum changes its theme cars every quarter and we were lucky enough to see the Australian icon display before it concluded. The display is now called *Sleepers* and includes a 2011 Morgan Aero Supersports, a Ford Shelby Mustang, a rare Holden HSV W427 and a Ferrari 550 Maranello. From June 28 the theme moves to Rover and then French cars on September 20.

We were warmly greeted and our soaked umbrella and coats stored. We had a quick look around the extensive gift shop before heading into the museum. I remembered to ask for my free copy of *The Best of Wheel Nuts*, a locally-produced magazine based on articles from the local *Examiner* newspaper – see, it does pay to read the tourist brochures!

My favourite car on display had to be the impeccably-prepared 1949 MG TC in British Racing Green.

There was also a stunning 1959 Austin Healey 3000 together



Fiat 500B

# adventures ...

27.3.13



- ^ Clockwise from top left:
  - » model 1959 Austin Healey 3000 ahead of the real thing
  - » the 1949 MG TC (my favourite!)
  - » 1956 Messerschmitt, with genuine dust
  - » a pair of Torana XU1s
  - » Ferrari Dino 246

**National Automobile Museum of Tasmania | Open 7 days (closed Christmas)**

**86 Cimitiere Street, Launceston | 03 6334 8888 | www.namt.com.au**

## Trading Post ...

**Please note:** notices in the Trading Post section are presented as a service to members only. The Mazda MX-5 Club of Victoria Inc. has not tested the products, equipment or services listed and makes no warranties or representations about any of the products or their purported uses.

### For sale 2002 Black NB SP

- » immaculate exterior and interior
- » mechanically A1 with service history
- » only 53,000km (approx)
- » no damage, accidents or rust
- » A/C, hard top with a stand for storage, and other visual enhancements
- » never raced
- » rego plates ("XSPMX-5") included



Those who have seen the car know its condition. Please refer to CarSales for more photos and further details.

**Asking price: \$28,000** Contact: Perry (Club member) – 0408 108 591

### For sale 2001 Silver NB

- » six-speed manual
- » 54,800km
- » two new rear tyres and battery with two-year warranty
- » One lady owner. Car as new.



**Asking price: \$16,500 neg. with rego to January 2014**

Contact: Marilyn (non-member) – 0413 282 691

### Wanted NC Series 1 Roadster Coupe

- » manual, ESC
- » low km's, good condition
- » white or red ideally, but not essential

Contact: Steve (Club member) – 0478 719 707 / 9842 9065

### For sale Victorian rego plates

- » custom black & white Victorian registration plates (one slimline, one large)
- » suit a black MX-5



**Asking price: \$200**

Contact: Pete (non-member), Lilydale – peterw1959@bigpond.com / 0425 732 340

### Wanted 1993 NA Limited Edition seats

I am searching for a set of nice LH side red leather seat upholstery. Since the LH side is your passenger side I feel that a RHD car from either the UK, New Zealand or Australia could still have a nice set even though the rest of the car may have been ravaged either by rust or accident damage.

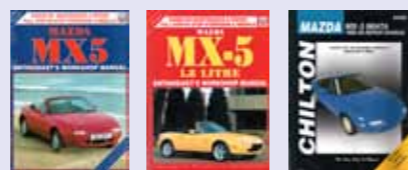
I happen to have a very nice set of tan leather seats out of a low-mileage 1991 BRG SE which I would like to trade for some 1993 LE seat covers.

Any help that you could provide would be greatly appreciated.

Contact: Richard, Chicago – viperrick@aol.com

### Yours to borrow ...

#### Workshop manuals



» 1.6 NA » 1.8 NA » 1990-2009



#### Books

**Miata Mazda MX-5**  
» original 1989  
2-book set

To arrange a short-term loan, please contact Murray – editor@mx5vic.org.au

#### Tools



**Random orbital polisher**, ideal for machine polishing your car. Consumables available (at your own cost) through the Club.

Contact Steve – merchandise@mx5vic.org.au

**Bushing tool**, for servicing or replacing your suspension bushes.



Contact Murray editor@mx5vic.org.au

### Club number plate frames



» 6-digit Slimline or Standard size  
» White text on black plastic

» Cost is \$10/pair (\$17.30 posted)

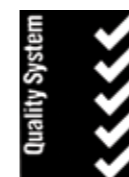
Ask at your next Club run or contact Steve – merchandise@mx5vic.org.au

# THE MX5 FACTORY

## A new option for the MX-5 owner

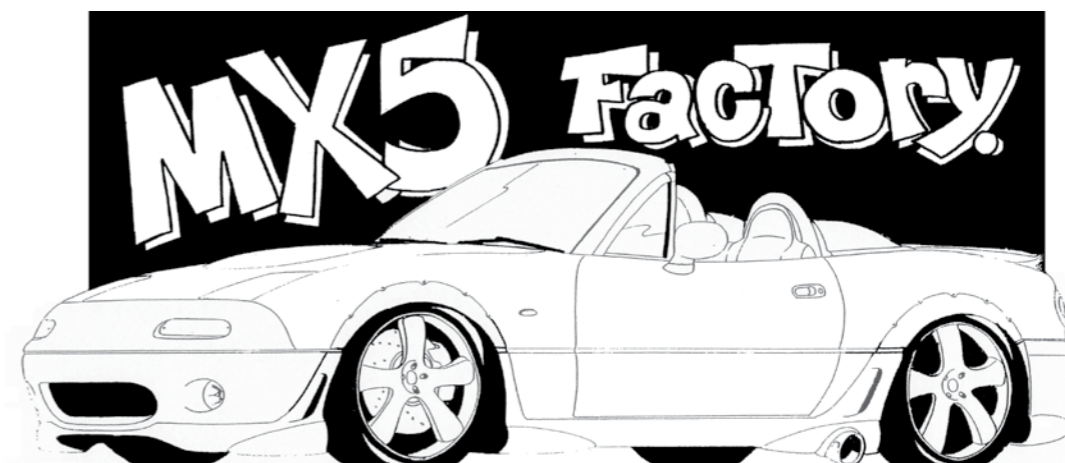
**Oven Baked Enamel Services** have taken the next step forward in service for MX-5 Owners, Lovers and Club Members.

We can offer a full mechanical and service department with specialist MX-5 mechanics and accident repairers working to factory specifications.



Quality System Endorsed Company

- ◆ Full range of second hand mechanical body and trim panels available
- ◆ Suspension, exhaust and performance kits
- ◆ Fully equipped workshop facility
- ◆ Competitive rates on all work
- ◆ **FREE** towing for mechanical breakdown and collision
- ◆ Special rates to Club Members - Free loan car available to Members
- ◆ Contact Dick to discuss your mechanical needs



**Oven Baked Enamel Services** are a factory approved repairer with 20 years of experience on Mazda, your smash repair specialist

- ◆ Chassis alignment specialists
- ◆ Air conditioning and detailing
- ◆ Insurance claims, advice service
- ◆ Lifetime work guarantee
- ◆ All spray work in Seetal Low Bake oven

Contact - Dick Richey  
FREE no obligation quote.

**34 Molan Street, Ringwood 3134**  
**Tel 03 9870 0520 / Fax 03 9879 6545**



# ZOOM IN FOR GENUINE Mazda SERVICE!



## MEET OUR FRIENDLY AND COURTEOUS SERVICE TEAM

L - R: Service Manager Daniel White, Service Advisor Rita Cimarelli, Service Advisor Adrian Secombe, Courtesy Bus Driver Alfio Bonnano, Assistant Service Manager Vickii Crawford and Service Advisor Jackie Li.

**WHEEL ALIGNMENT**  
REDUCE TYRE WEAR & IMPROVE YOUR VEHICLE'S HANDLING.  
> PUNCTURE REPAIRS  
> WHEEL BALANCE  
> NEW TYRES FITTED

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WHILE YOU WAIT\*

ONLY AVAILABLE  
AT CITY Mazda  
-YOUR LOCAL  
Mazda DEALER!

BOOK ONLINE

### My Schedule BOOKED

8am - 9am	In & out before work	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9am - 10am	You can pop in straight after you drop the kids off to school	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1030am - 1130pm	Catch up on the daily headlines while we work on your car	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1130am - 12.30pm	Book in now and have the car before lunch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1pm - 2pm	Beat the traffic rush, this could be your spot	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2pm - 3pm	Get the car serviced and pick up the kids in one go	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3pm - 4pm	Grab an afternoon coffee and relax in our lounge	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**FREE COURTESY BUS TO THE CBD AVAILABLE. BOOK ONLINE!**

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\* One hour turnaround time is calculated from the time the customer approves the maintenance at reception to delivery of the serviced vehicle to the customer. The dealership is not liable for delays in vehicle maintenance if the customer does not adhere to their booked appointment time. Priority is given to on-time customers. Available for selected cars and scheduled services only. ^ Limited to 1,000km, 10,000km, 20,000km, 30,000km Scheduled Mazda Book Services. Additional repairs required above service are limited to minor items such as wiper blades and globe replacement.