

# mxtra

6/2015  
mx5vic.org.au



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

# Cheeeese!



**In this edition:**  
**The Red & White run - returning to our roots**  
**It's raining - clean those drainage holes!**  
**Meet Steve Maciver, Mazda Australia**

Find us at:



MX-5 Club  
of Victoria



mx5vic.org.au

Print Post Publication: 100018450



# LEGENDARY.



THE WORLD'S BEST-SELLING TWO-SEATER SPORTS CAR  
MEETS VICTORIA'S NO.1 SELLING MAZDA DEALER.

GET YOURSELF A LEGENDARY DEAL.

## MAX KIRWAN MAZDA

MAZDA MASTER  
DEALER SEVEN  
YEARS RUNNING

### Genuine discounts for genuine members.

Discount applies on presentation of membership card, conditions apply. See in dealership for details.

With decades of experience and a 100% commitment to customer satisfaction, Max Kirwan Mazda is the only choice for MX-5. As a Mazda Master Dealer we strive for excellence. Our technicians are factory trained and use the best and latest diagnostic technology, M-MDS. To help make sure your Mazda runs its best, visit Max Kirwan Mazda.

GOOD ONE MAX!



www.maxkirwan.com.au

120 Bell Street **PRESTON**  
**9480 3555**

After Hours: **Pierre Caruana 0411 117 038**

# MX-5

Mazda MX-5 Club  
of Victoria & Tasmania

### Your Committee: 2014-2015

#### President

> Don Nicoll | (03) 9437 2787 (ah)  
e: [president@mx5vic.org.au](mailto:president@mx5vic.org.au)

#### Vice President / Communications

> Murray Finlay | 0416 247 677  
e: [editor@mx5vic.org.au](mailto:editor@mx5vic.org.au)

#### Secretary / Public Officer

> Peter Dannock | 0408 522 093 (ah)  
e: [secretary@mx5vic.org.au](mailto:secretary@mx5vic.org.au)

#### Treasurer / NatMeet 2016 Chair

> Dave Collins | (03) 9755 2167 (ah)  
e: [treasurer@mx5vic.org.au](mailto:treasurer@mx5vic.org.au)

#### Club Captain – Motor Sport

> Tim Emery | 0424 091 167 (ah)  
e: [captain@mx5vic.org.au](mailto:captain@mx5vic.org.au)

#### Assistant Club Captain – Motor Sport

> Randy Stagno Navarra | 0409 210 872  
e: [captain2@mx5vic.org.au](mailto:captain2@mx5vic.org.au)

#### Club Captain – Social

> Cary Warren | 0418 368 246 (ah)  
e: [social@mx5vic.org.au](mailto:social@mx5vic.org.au)

#### Assistant Club Captain – Social

> Alex Hailstone | 0414 155 383  
e: [social2@mx5vic.org.au](mailto:social2@mx5vic.org.au)

#### Social Media

> Ben Sale | 0434 906 673 (ah)  
e: [facebook@mx5vic.org.au](mailto:facebook@mx5vic.org.au)

#### Membership

> Will Campbell | (03) 5261 4816 (ah)  
e: [membership@mx5vic.org.au](mailto:membership@mx5vic.org.au)

#### Merchandise / NatMeet 2016

> Bruce Gray | 0478 219 856 (ah)  
e: [merchandise@mx5vic.org.au](mailto:merchandise@mx5vic.org.au)

#### Points

> Coral Campbell | (03) 5261 4816 (ah)  
e: [points@mx5vic.org.au](mailto:points@mx5vic.org.au)

#### Chapter Captain - Central

> Geoff Roche | 0409 039 867 (ah)  
e: [central@mx5vic.org.au](mailto:central@mx5vic.org.au)

#### Chapter Captain - Eastern Victoria

> Peter Ferguson | 0419 108 128  
e: [eastern@mx5vic.org.au](mailto:eastern@mx5vic.org.au)

#### Chapter Captain - North-Eastern Victoria

> Ron Gillick | (02) 6033 0253 (ah)  
e: [north-eastern@mx5vic.org.au](mailto:north-eastern@mx5vic.org.au)

#### Chapter Captain - Western Victoria

> Ian Bradshaw | 0407 556 135  
e: [western@mx5vic.org.au](mailto:western@mx5vic.org.au)

#### Chapter Captain - Northern Tasmania

> Bruce Harvey | 0438 562 224 (ah)  
e: [northtas@mx5vic.org.au](mailto:northtas@mx5vic.org.au)

#### Chapter Captain - Southern Tasmania

> John Waldock | 0409 658 716 (ah)  
e: [southtas@mx5vic.org.au](mailto:southtas@mx5vic.org.au)

6/2015



## contents



### Reports and thoughts

- 4 President's page: *Don's Drive(l)*
- 5 Scene About
- 6 Membership
- 7 Track Torque
- 8 ND updates ... *and news from Mazda*
- 10 MX-5 Club Grill ... *meet Steve Maciver, Mazda Australia*
- 24 Favourite Road ... *the Great Alpine Road*
- 24 CX-5 global production tops 1 million
- 30 Tech Talk ... *clean those drainage holes*

### Chapter chatter

- 12 Central: *Gymkhana / Show & Shine*
- 14 North-eastern Victoria: *The Jamieson Loop*
- 16 Central: *The Red and White run*
- 18 Southern Tasmania: *Picnic at Ross*
- 19 Eastern Victoria: *Khanacross*
- 20 Northern Tasmania: *Picnic at Ross*
- 22 Western Victoria: *We are going somewhere!*

### Motor sport

- 26 City Mazda Sprint Championship – Rd 2 ... *Sandown*

Cover  
image:

Returning to our roots ... Club members visited the Old Cheese Factory in Berwick last month to mark 25 years since the first-ever mass gathering of MX-5s in Australia back in May, 1990. Photo: Alan Bennett



Find us at:  
MX-5 Club of  
Victoria

*mxtra* is the monthly newsletter of the Mazda MX-5 Club of Victoria & Tasmania Inc (#A0021659A). PO Box 7438, Beaumaris VIC 3193. Registered for Print Post: 100018450

All contributions are welcome: please send articles and photos to the editor, **Murray Finlay**:  
• email: [editor@mx5vic.org.au](mailto:editor@mx5vic.org.au)  
• post: *mxtra*, Mazda MX-5 Club of Victoria & Tasmania, PO Box 7438, Beaumaris VIC 3193

Photos supplied for *mxtra* will also be uploaded to the Club's online gallery. Copyright will remain with the photographer, and the Club undertakes not to use them for any other purpose without express permission.

#### DISCLAIMER

The Mazda MX-5 Club of Victoria & Tasmania Inc., its Officers and Committee cannot be held liable for any errors and/or omissions in articles, reports, notices, advertisements, comment and advice of events that are published in *mxtra* in good faith. It should be noted that the publication of an advertisement, or expression of views in articles and reports, does not necessarily imply endorsement by the Club of the advertised product or service or the views expressed in any articles or reports published in *mxtra*.





# Don's Drive(l) ...

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

Welcome to the June edition of *mxtra*. Once again there is plenty on offer for your interest.

I'm pleased to report that my plea for feedback on my monthly drive(l) did generate some responses from Club members. This means I lost the bet with myself as the cynic within had predicted no takers. So firstly, thanks to those who did take the time to respond with comments and suggestions. I probably have enough to keep me going for several editions of the magazine.

One of the common suggestions was for more information on what happens in Committee meetings and for that to be a regular part of this report. It is fair to say that the Committee hides (maybe a bit harsh) behind the oft quoted line that any Club member is welcome to attend Committee meetings. Given the number of members in the Chapters outside Melbourne and in Tasmania, such an invitation no longer carries any credence.

So, I've set myself the task of trying to cover off issues from the last Committee meeting(s) which may find your interest. Let me say from the outset that much of the Committee meeting's activities do end up on these pages, however, how they appear is not always obviously connected to these activities.

The meetings follow a long-established format going back to the early days of this Club. This month I'll concentrate on the agenda which comprises reports from the principal areas of Club activity namely:

**Corporate:** across-Club issues are covered here, such as liaison with Mazda Australia, other MX-5 Clubs in Australia and occasionally overseas, governance in compliance with the Incorporations Act administered by the Department of Justice, and our duty of care responsibilities. Corporate also encompasses our Business Plan; the last one set in 2012 is about to expire, which means a new one is on my mental agenda for the 2015-16 Club year starting next month. This plan is not a Committee-only function of the Club; it requires input from all interested parties. We need your

wishes and aspirations for the Club to be included to ensure we continue to run a Club that is as inclusive as possible.

**Social / Chapters:** this is Cary's gig. He has the role of ensuring that all Chapter events have CAMS permits and that we have as even a spread of events as possible across the Chapters. Trying to avoid more than one event on one day is becoming increasingly difficult, if not impossible, as the Club grows in both size and activities offered. If we do end up with an event in the Western Chapter and the Central Chapter on the same day, you can be sure that [a] the Committee was aware of it and [b] it went ahead in the absence of an alternative. We also discuss future events which may need co-ordination with Mazda Australia or have an appeal across the Chapters. We call these, for simplicity, "Club" events as opposed to "Chapter" events, a good example being the 25th anniversary event planned for 8 August at City Mazda in South Melbourne.

**Motor sport:** Tim Emery and Randy Stagno Navarra look after this area and report on what has and will be happening. The Committee has a co-ordinating role and a duty of care to ensure that the needs of the motor sport group are understood and supported. It is a great credit to this Club that we have very few "issues" in either the Chapters or the Motor Sport group, but if and when we do the Committee is the place where any unresolved problems have to be dealt with in as fair and equitable manner as possible.

**Finance:** this is Dave Collins' territory and, as the name suggests, we discuss how we are going financially against budget as well as determining what Club funds can and cannot be allocated towards activities in the future. As you can imagine there is currently a lot of discussion around **NatMeet 2016**, as this is a major revenue stream, both in and out for our Club, at the moment.

**Membership:** this is the domain of Will Campbell, Coral Campbell and Bruce Gray. Will looks after all the membership activities, Coral keeps the points tally (to



## Mazda MX-5 Club of Victoria & Tasmania

determine Club and Chapter Champions) while Bruce looks after merchandise. From the Committee meetings we learn how the Club membership is going against previous years and we discuss what we should be doing to welcome new members for example, or how we should recognise anniversaries with our membership badges etc. Merchandise is always a lively discussion, as competing views on what looks good are distilled to decisions on what we should be offering members. Coral is very secretive about the points situation for obvious reasons (one of the Committee could be in the running for an award) so that is usually a short discussion.

**Communications:** one of THE most important roles on the Committee. It's how we all stay informed and in touch via this magazine, emails, the website and increasingly through *Facebook*. Murray takes the lead here and, as I think most in the Club would know, devotes an amazing amount of time to handling it all. Ben Sale and Alex Hailstone look after the Facebook site with Cary and Murray keeping an eye as well. This may sound a lot of input but, for *Facebook* to be meaningful, it needs constant attention.

Once the Committee has tendered its reports, it is then down to the other activities which, at the moment include **NatMeet 2016** and the **25th anniversary**. In the case of the latter we have a sub-committee, under Cary's leadership, looking after arrangements.

Peter Dannock as Club Secretary looks after the minutes and also the Club Permit Scheme (which we review each month).

I've taken up more than my allotted space so next month I'll start to include a short section on items of interest which are being discussed.

*Must go* – the driver's seat is getting cold!

**Remember ... Safety first!**

Don

# Scene about ...

■ Photos: Bronwyn Roche, Marg Gillick, Alan Bennett, Karen Bradshaw, Rob Tanner





# Membership

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

Current membership count:

616

and growing!

G'day again!

The membership year is nearly over and it will soon be time to renew! We are again in record territory and in excellent shape as we enter our 25th year of existence.

The record membership numbers for the year has been reached with the help of the following newcomers that we welcome to our ranks:

### Central Chapter

Ryan Allen	2002 Titanium Silver NB
Gary and Anna Redlich	1993 Red NA
Michael Redlich	2000 Blue NB
Craig and Susan Wootton	1999 Black NB

### Northern Tasmania Chapter

Jann and Peter Bush	1994 Silver NA
---------------------	----------------

### Southern Tasmania Chapter

Paul Waldock	2000 Silver NB
--------------	----------------

For your diary ...

See the full calendar for details

### June

- 14 Eastern: Meeniyah-Wilsons Prom
- 14 Sprints 2015 Rd 3: Broadford
- 21 Central: Arthur's run to Yarragon
- 21 STas: Ausmas run
- 28 Eastern: Khanacross @ Bryant Park

### July

- 4 Sprints 2015 Rd 4: Phillip Island
- 5 NE Vic: Tintaldra run
- 12 Central: "Too Old for This Stuff" run
- 19 Western: Sunday lunch at Berringa
- 26 Eastern: Gippsland run

### August

- 2 Sprints 2015 Rd 5: Winton
- 8 Club: 25th birthday and awards
- 9 NTas/STas: 25th birthday lunch
- 16 Eastern: Tarra Valley run
- 22-23 Western: Glenda's Lake Eildon run
- 23 Central: Great Ocean Rd dawn run
- 23 NE Vic: Scavenger hunt
- 29 Sprints 2015 Rd 6 + NSW/Vic-Tas Interstate Challenge: Sydney

### Membership renewals

All members will soon receive either an email or a letter concerning the process for membership renewal. The rates for the new membership year are as follows:

Membership type	Printed <i>mxtra</i> magazine (one per household)	PDF <i>mxtra</i> magazine
Full member	\$112.00	\$62.00
Family Member	\$145.00	\$95.00
Friend Member	\$37.00 (No <i>mxtra</i> magazine)	

As in the past, you have the choice of paying by cheque or money order, although we encourage you to use our secure online payment system where you have the option of paying by Visa or MasterCard. The process is relatively simple and will only take you a minute or so. Of course, if you have any difficulties in navigating the system, please call me or Vice President Murray. Our numbers are listed on page 3.

New and renewing members for 2015-2016 will receive a special key ring, membership card and membership year window sticker to commemorate the Club's 25th anniversary.



\* Whilst preparing for the new membership year, I noticed that a number of Online members have elected not to receive emailed information from the Club. This may have happened accidentally by hitting the "unsubscribe" button on a previous Club email or it may be a glitch in our system. If at any stage you are not receiving emails from the Club and this is something you did not elect to do, please let me know immediately and I'll remedy the situation.

On that note, that's it for another month, indeed, for another year!

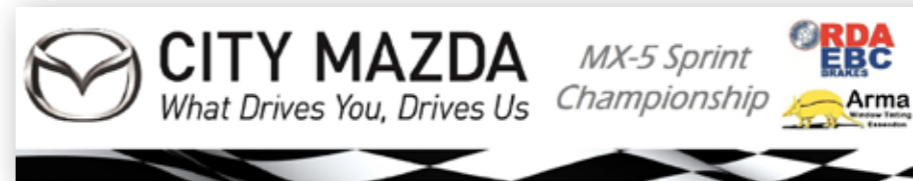
Enjoy your MX-5 and I'll see you out and about ...

Will



# Track Torque

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



New season, new classes, new rules, new competitor forms!

As we are now already two rounds into the new 2015 City Mazda MX-5 Sprint Championship season, just a quick reminder to everyone to have a read over the new rules and make sure your car complies. Again a few people have asked if a new declaration is required as this season is in the same year as the last season ended. Short answer is yes – **New Season, New Class and Competitor Declaration.**

While I am on a *reminder* theme, the correct process to lodge these forms is via the website and the 'competitorforms@mx5vic.org.au' email address. This process was set up to ensure all forms are received and dated so there are no issues. *If forms are sent to me, Russell or Randy individually, they can be missed.*

Round Two, Sandown – 9/5/15

Another relatively quick turnaround saw the Motor Sport Team back for Round 2 of the Sprint Championship at Sandown. Being the day before Mother's Day, we were concerned that we might be down on numbers, but clearly motor sport takes precedence over Mother's Day celebrations with 20 MX-5 entered for the Saturday. It was again great to see a good turnout and also great to welcome back Ralph Thomson from the NSW MX-5 Club, who made the journey for a chance to try Sandown.

Being the start of a new Championship year and an event close to Melbourne it was also great to catch up with two or three newcomers to our Club, all with plans to join the Motor Sport Team. As always, our friendly team welcomed them and all of them commented to me on what a great atmosphere and bunch of people our MX-5 Motor Sport Team is!! I look forward to seeing them out on track in the near future, and to give you an idea of their backgrounds ... they include an ex-Superkart racer with over 15 years' experience on the track, and an Alfa Club member 'defecting' to the *Dark Side*.

Tassie 'Two Tracks in Two Days'

Plans are coming together for our **Two Tracks** event in Tasmania in February as part of **NatMeet 2016**.

We have decided that neither of the two track days (Symmons Plains/Baskerville) will be part of the Championship for 2016, so it will be just a great once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to drive these two tracks over one weekend.

In the next few weeks we will be announcing final details on entry fees etc so, to ensure I get the information out to everyone, can anyone who is interested in coming down to Tassie for the event please let me know by email ([captain@mx5vic.org.au](mailto:captain@mx5vic.org.au)).

I will then start sending information out. You will need to start to make plans for travel and accommodation and we will put some options together for this.

As mentioned, please let me know ASAP if you are considering competing in the **'Tassie Two Tracks in Two Days'**.



Tim

"The older I get, the better I was!"



Breathe life into your convertible top

Renovo offers all Mazda MX-5 Club members a 10% discount on all their products.

For more information, call 0430 164 123 or e-mail [renovo@bigpond.com](mailto:renovo@bigpond.com)



Brakes - member discounts

Need a brake upgrade?

RDA EBC Brakes offer all members discounted pricing on a range of rotors and performance / race pads for your MX-5.

For more information, e-mail: [rdaebcoffer@mx5vic.org.au](mailto:rdaebcoffer@mx5vic.org.au)



Words & photos: Mazda Australia and Mazda Corporation

## All-new Mazda MX-5 priced for fun

### They're coming ...

Mazda MX-5s for Australia are in production



Production of the first 2015 Mazda MX-5s built for sale in Australia in August started at Mazda's Hiroshima plant on 19 May.

Mazda has worked hard to return the fourth-generation MX-5 to its original NA roots, shaving millimetres off its size – this model is the shortest ever (shorter than a Mazda2) – and kilograms off its weight.

The base model will have a Mazda2-based 1.5-litre four-cylinder petrol engine and a six-speed manual transmission. The major weight savings came from the white body (down 20kg), engine (17kg), suspension (13kg), differential (10kg), and transmission (7kg).

The top local model will be the 2.0-litre four-cylinder version. The 1.5-litre engine is said to produce 96kW and 150Nm, and the 2.0 litre engine is likely to be a 116kW/200Nm unit. Both versions will be available with six-speed manual and automatic transmissions.

There's no news yet from Mazda Australia about the weight or price of the more powerful variant, but industry pundits predict the range's top-priced 2.0-litre automatic model will come in at about \$50,000 – much cheaper than the NC models they replace.

"Confirmation that Australian production has kicked off today is great news for our national dealer network and all of us at Mazda Australia," Mazda Australia managing director Martin Benders said.

"We have 16,000 registrations of interest for this fourth generation of the world's top-selling roadster.

"The fact that this level of interest has been generated in just a few weeks since commencing our pre-launch communications shows the level of passion and excitement that the all-new MX-5 generates." ●

The next-generation ND Mazda MX-5 will go on sale in Australia in mid-August, priced from \$31,990 plus on-road costs.

With the 1989 first-generation model priced from \$29,990<sup>1</sup>, which is the equivalent of \$59,433<sup>2</sup> in today's money, it makes the ND the best-value MX-5 ever considering the NA lacked Bluetooth, power steering, air conditioning, Anti-Lock Braking System, Traction Control, Cruise Control and SBS airbags – all of which are now standard features.

Mazda Australia managing director Martin Benders said: "For those that know, love or own an MX-5, the arrival of an all-new model is always cause for excitement.

"We believe that the sharp entry pricing for the new ND will inspire a new generation of younger MX-5 buyers to experience the freedom and enjoyment of open-top motoring.

"The All-New Mazda MX-5 is in many ways the rebirth of an icon."

In production now, the entry-level Roadster (as it's known in Japan) and top-spec Roadster GT will be available in Australia with a specially tuned 1.5 litre SKYACTIV-G petrol engine and with a choice of either a SKYACTIV-Drive six-speed automatic or SKYACTIV-MT six-speed manual transmission.

With 96kW of power and 150Nm of torque, the new edition MX-5 weighs from 1009kg, a reduction of 91kg over the outgoing 2.0 litre NC and close to the original NA's 950kg.

The ND is the shortest MX-5 ever built, measuring 3915mm long, 1730mm wide, 1235mm high, with a wheelbase of 2315mm, and front and rear overhang reduced to 760mm and 840mm respectively.

In 1989, the aim was to produce a timeless, open-top roadster that offered good, clean driving fun. More than 25 years later this philosophy is still very relevant.

A 2.0 litre-powered model will join the all-new MX-5 range late this year.

- » To register interest or to win an all-new Mazda MX-5, including an ultimate driver's getaway, go to [allnewmazdamx5.com.au](http://allnewmazdamx5.com.au).
- » Connect with all-new Mazda MX-5 via Facebook, Twitter and Instagram with [#lookupmx5](https://www.instagram.com/lookupmx5) ●

<sup>1</sup> 1989 Manufacturer's list price

<sup>2</sup> Calculated via the Reserve Bank of Australia inflation calculator. \$29,990 in 1989 would in the year 2014 cost \$59,433.71. Total change in cost is 98.2 per cent over 25 years at an average annual inflation rate of 2.8 per cent

### Meanwhile ...

... the ND has already gone on sale in Japan.

Featuring Mazda's latest technologies and embodying the essential value of the Mazda brand – "fun-to-drive" driving pleasure – the car went on sale on Thursday, 21 May.

All the technical stuff has been reported ad nauseum in the motoring media, so let's take a look at Mazda's sales pitch ...

#### A design to set the heart racing

- » Beautiful proportions make the occupants look good, from the car's low, short front overhang to its compact cabin that positions the occupants in the centre.
- » A low and wide trapezoidal form makes the vehicle appear it is firmly gripping the road, and conveys an image of stability and agility.
- » Body panels wrap around to extend right into the door trim, dissolving the visual boundaries between the vehicle's interior and exterior and creating an open-feeling interior design.

#### Driving pleasure that will captivate any driver

- » Excellent visibility enables the driver to accurately perceive the car's behaviour and quickly confirm conditions surrounding the vehicle.
- » Seats feature a new S-fit construction that combines urethane pads with a newly-developed net material. They fit snugly from the outset and provide greatly enhanced hold while driving.
- » In addition to 50:50 front-rear weight distribution, a lowered yaw inertia moment achieved by moving the engine rearward and adopting aluminium parts at the front and rear ends of the body, as well as a lower centre of gravity achieved by lowering the engine's mounting position and seating position, combine to realise a light driving feel.
- » The SKYACTIV-G 1.5-litre direct injection petrol engine responds faithfully to the driver's will, delivering a pleasing sound and feeling of acceleration that extends continuously from low to high engine speeds.
- » The newly-developed SKYACTIV-MT manual transmission for front-engine-rear-wheel drive adopts a direct-drive sixth gear and was designed to be simple, compact and lightweight. It features a light and crisp shift feel with the shifter being drawn into gear from mid-shift.
- » The six-speed automatic transmission features wider slip control and lockup ranges for a more direct feel and adds a blipping function\*3 and Drive Selection\*4 for sporty and powerful driving performance.
- » In a first for Mazda, the steering employs dual pinion electric power steering assist. It delivers highly-rigid steering characteristics and provides direct feedback from the road surface.

#### A pleasant feeling that all will find open and refreshing

- » The soft-top canopy can be opened and closed easily with one hand while remaining seated and the cabin is quieter when the top is up.
- » The flow of wind into the cabin is controlled to ensure pleasant and comfortable open-top driving.
- » A nine-speaker sound system (Bose® AudioPilot®2) was developed jointly with Bose to deliver high-quality sound even when the top is down. It is available as a factory-installed option for the S Special Package and is standard equipment with the S Leather Package. ●

### Toyota and Mazda team up to make cars better



Signed, sealed: Mazda president and CEO Masamichi Kogai (right) and Toyota president Akio Toyoda (left) sign an agreement to form a "mutually beneficial" partnership.

On 13 May, Mazda and Toyota signed an agreement to "create a whole new set of values for cars" through wide-ranging medium- to long-term collaboration.

The partnership is designed to result in "more appealing cars that meet the diverse needs and tastes of customers all over the world".

A joint committee will evaluate how best to utilise each company's respective strengths and resources, and to encourage broad and meaningful collaboration across a range of fields, including environmental and advanced safety technologies.

Toyota president Akio Toyoda said: "As evidenced by their SKYACTIV technologies and KODO—Soul of Motion design, Mazda has proven that it always thinks of what is coming next for vehicles and technology, while still managing to stay true to its basic car making roots.

"Mazda very much practices what Toyota holds dear: making ever-better cars. I can think of nothing more wonderful than showing the world—together—that the next 100 years of cars will be just as fun as the first."

There is considerable overlap between Mazda's corporate philosophy of bringing joy to people through vehicles and Toyota's commitment to making ever-better cars, as well as its dedication to company-wide structural reforms to realise true competitiveness and sustainable growth. ●

### Mazda contributes to Nepal earthquake relief

Mazda Motor Corporation has donated three million yen (A\$31,275) to support earthquake relief and recovery efforts in the Nepal region through the Japanese Red Cross Society.

Mazda conveyed its heartfelt sympathy and concern for everyone affected by the earthquakes. ●

# Steve Maciver

## The MX-5 Club Grill

Senior Manager - Digital & Loyalty, Mazda Australia

**Name?** Steve Maciver

**Age?** 41

**Born?** Inverness, Scotland

**Current abode?** Mt Eliza

**Profession?** Senior Manager of Digital & Loyalty at Mazda Australia

**Partner?** My wife, Sandra

**Children?** My son, Mylo and daughter, Ella

**Pets?** A chocolate Labrador, Bailey

**Fave food?** I'll eat pretty much anything but if I had to choose a favourite it'd have to be Indian

**Can you cook?** I sure can but I don't get the time to do it enough

**Favourite tippie?** Red wine

**First drive?** In Scotland you're allowed to drive when you turn 17. I was a pretty keen learner driver and was out on the road with my L-plates by 10am on the morning of my 17th birthday

**First car?** A 10-year old Toyota Starlet with huge front fog lamps and oversized alloy wheels

**First fender bender?** I managed to reverse into a lamp post just a few short weeks after passing my driving test

**Everyday driver?** A Mazda6 diesel wagon ... I love the SKYACTIV-D engine and the wagon is the ideal car for family, pets and for transporting the bike and kayak

**How many MX-5s have you owned?** Unfortunately none – but I've been lucky to drive many through my work at Mazda

**MX-5 dislikes?** None

**Why an MX-5?** There's no better way to enjoy open-top driving. And 25 years after being first introduced, it remains one of the most enjoyable cars to drive

**Fluffy dice?** No fluffy dice for me. Aside from a few poor styling decisions on my first car, I generally like keeping my cars true to their original form

**Passions besides the MX-5?** I'm a keen cyclist and try to get out on the bike as often as possible. I've actually got a keen interest in most sports and as a former DJ, music is still an important part of my life

**Favourite TV show / movie / book?** TV show – Suits / Movie – Gran Torino / Book – autobiographies or anything Ian Banks or Irvine Welsh

**Dream wheels (money no object)?** It's a tough choice with so many great cars out there, but it'd have to be a Ferrari F12 Berlinetta

**Would you drive a Daewoo or SsangYong?** Not as a choice but I think it's important to have the experience of driving many different cars. It certainly helps to highlight just how great Mazdas are!

**Favourite other Mazda?** I'm a big fan of the new CX-3. If I didn't need a larger car, I'd be happy with a CX-3 Akari in the driveway. Aside from the great technology, I think the designers have done an amazing job. It's easily the best looking baby SUV out there.

**If not a Mazda (gasp!), then what?** I guess it would depend on



the bank balance but I think Mercedes Benz are doing some great things at the moment. The A45 AMG is an amazing little car and combines performance and practicality

**Favourite Club run/track?** While not a Club run, I was lucky enough to be part of the Australian team that drove in the "MX-5 Ice Race" in Siberia. Racing an MX-5 with the roof down, on a frozen lake and at 10 below is something I'll never forget!

**Have you been to DECA or NatMeet?** Not yet but I hope to have the opportunity some time

**Ford vs Holden?** I didn't grow up in Australia so the Ford vs Holden rivalry doesn't really get me going

**What's playing in your MX-5?** Courtney Barnett or Disclosure

**Footy team (AFL / NRL / A-League)?** Carlton (although I'm keeping that quiet at the moment!) ●

# Zoom-Zoom with confidence!

... with **iTPMS 8886**  
tyre pressure monitoring system for iPhone

Driving on a flat or rapidly-deflating tyre can severely damage your expensive tyre, your car ... or worse.

Even under-inflated tyres can place up to 10% strain on a vehicle's drive, and use 10% more fuel.

The Davies, Craig iTPMS 8886 is a unique DIY electronic safety system which monitors tyre pressure and temperature, instantly warning of any problems.

Simple screw-on sensors monitor the pressure and temperature inside each tyre. This vital information is transmitted wirelessly to the in-car sensor plugged into your cigarette lighter and to the app on your iPhone or iPad.

With any marked variation in tyre pressure and/or temperature, an audible alarm sounds, the in-car sensor flashes red and the iPhone display tells you which tyre has the problem.



Member price: **\$199.00**  
inc. GST + freight

\*RRP = \$328.90

Compare that to the cost of replacing a destroyed tyre!

**\$129 off\***  
for MX-5 Club members  
Contact John Benson\* to order.  
\*RRP

\*John Benson – Davies, Craig:  
(03) 9369 1234, ext 204

**DAVIES, CRAIG**  
PTY LTD.  
INNOVATION - QUALITY - RANGE

Each purchase earns money for the Club.

For full details, see the Davies, Craig website:  
[www.daviescraig.com.au](http://www.daviescraig.com.au)



“NO ONE KNOWS YOUR PASSION LIKE SHANNONS.”



SHARE THE PASSION

The passion, the pride of ownership, the sheer emotional attachment – no one understands it better than Shannons. So when it comes to insurance for your special car, daily drive, bike or even your home, there's only one person you should talk to – a fellow enthusiast at Shannons. And remember, you can pay your premium by the month at no extra cost.

So call Shannons for a quote on 13 46 46.

INSURANCE FOR MOTORING ENTHUSIASTS | CALL 13 46 46 FOR A QUOTE | SHANNONS.COM.AU

Shannons Pty Limited ABN 91 099 692 636 is an authorised representative of AAI Limited ABN 48 005 297 807, the product issuer. Read the Product Disclosure Statement before buying this insurance. Contact us for a copy.

# Chapter chatter ...

2.5.15 | Central ■ Words: Murray Finlay ■ Photos: Alan Bennett



■ Organisers: Ben Sale, Alex Hailstone, Bob de Bont, Murray Finlay



**gymkhana** | *dʒɪm 'ka:nə*

noun

- 1 an equestrian day event comprising races and other competitions on horseback, typically for children.
- 2 what they said, but in MX-5s ... and still for children!

*On Saturday, 2 May, about 30 cars and drivers gathered to practise their car handling skills – and learn some new ones – in safe surroundings at Foresite Training in Truganina.*

There were grins all round, lots of squealing (including some from the tyres), handbrake turns, impressive car handling and a fair bit of making-it-up-as-you-go-along.

Going out one at a time (*not* like in Alan Bennett's clever montage shot above!), it was driver vs skidpan in a series of exercises, navigating (by memory!) around ever-more complex arrangements of witches hats.

Another 10 cars took part in a show and shine and, together with the gymkhana participants, raised \$250 for the Assist A Sista volunteers who are working to help break the cycle of family violence.

**For the record, in the show and shine Geoff Cooney, John Hayhurst and Peter Lawson-Gillies took the gongs for best-presented NA, NB and NC respectively.** ●



# Chapter chatter ...

**2-3.5.15 | North-Eastern Victoria** ■ Words: Roger Cowie ■ Photos: Marg Gillick & Karen Bradshaw  
 ■ Organisers: Loz & Shane Thomas

## Day one

*Meeting point for the day was at the Milawa bakery at 9am for a 9.30 start.*

Ten MX-5s and one Barina made the start line – the Barina would be alternately driven by Loz and Shane Thomas to accommodate Shane’s father Wal and sister Kathy visiting from somewhere in Queensland! Ian and Karen Bradshaw, Brian and Mary Carroll from the Western Victoria Chapter, and new members Geoff and Jarrah Pitt on their first run, helped make up the numbers.

Leaving Milawa we head towards Whitfield and it’s not long before we turn right on to that beautiful twisting Whitfield-Mansfield road that takes you up to the town of Tolmie then on to Mansfield for morning tea. I have stopped many times in Mansfield for a quick coffee or sandwich – never long enough to see anything – but this time our leader gave us a bit over an hour for the morning break, which gave my partner Anne Marie and me time to stroll the main street, shopping, etc ... most enjoyable.

Leaving Mansfield it’s on to beautiful Jamieson for lunch. It was Jamieson’s “Autumn Festival” weekend and the place was rocking, with all sorts going on! Classic cars, steam engines, whip cracking, stage coach rides and a black smith showing off how to bend metal into strange shapes.

Leaving Jamieson for the final stage of the day’s drive we head to Eildon, taking in the beautiful scenery; it’s an absolute pleasure being out in an MX-5. We enjoyed a quick tour of Eildon before heading to the motel for pre-dinner nibbly and drinks.

Not sure if you would call it lucky or unlucky, but Ian and Karen’s car broke down with a ruptured clutch fluid hose just two kilometres from the motel. On calling the RACV they were able to get towed home to Ballarat; the car was picked up Sunday morning right on 8am and many photos were taken!

Dinner was at the Eildon pub, and a merry time was had by all! Nighty-night time was around 10pm.



**Day two:** *It was a cold, foggy start for day two.*

After watching Ian and Karen’s car being towed away it was time to head to Marysville for breakfast. About 5km from Marysville the fog cleared to reveal a beautiful sunny day. When we arrived in Marysville there were not many people about, but on leaving after a hearty breakfast the place had filled with bicycle riders, motorcyclists and other drivers. After those terrible bushfires in 2009 it has once again become a great place to visit for coffee, breakfast or lunch.

Leaving Marysville we are now heading to Warburton via the Reefton Spur. I believe this section of the loop is the Jewel in the Jamieson Loop run. The road is in great condition, twisting and turning through the hills; it was great sitting behind the steering wheel of the MX-5.

Through Warburton it’s a right turn to Launching Place and a pleasant drive along the Don River road towards Healesville. After missing the left turn for

the wildlife sanctuary by our leader – I won’t mention his name (Shane Thomas) – the convoy executed a perfect *John Gleeson reversal-Cartright manoeuvre*. (For those who don’t know what that means, we had to do a U-turn!)

Morning tea is at the sanctuary. Regrouping just out of Healesville for the next leg to Bonnie Doon for lunch, we are now running behind schedule and our lunch time reservation at Bonnie Doon has to be cancelled.

We press on ... next stop is Mansfield for a quick coffee and sandwich. After a late lunch it’s on to Whitfield then to the Winery at Oxley for a glass of wine and to say our goodbyes.

**A great weekend was had by all – good weather, good roads, very good company. Hope we all catch up again soon. ●**



^ A real mix of terrain and road surfaces on this run

# The Jamieson Loop



^ The Jamieson Loopers, L to R: Stuart, Shane, Wal, Loz, Kathy, Roger, Anne-Marie, Ron, Ellie, Gerry, Mary, Brian, Elaine, Karen, Ian, Jarrah, Geoff and Bill.



Brian shows off his power slide



Where is that bloody battery?



^ Not quite how Ian & Karen planned their weekend!



# Chapter chatter ...



17.5.15 | Club ■ Words: Ron Gillick ■ Photos: Bronwyn Roche, Marg Gillick ■ Organiser: Murray Finlay



*On a beautiful autumn morning, around 30 cars gathered in Berwick for a run to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the first mass-gathering of MX-5s in the Southern Hemisphere in May 1990. More than 130 cars met at the Old Cheese Factory in Berwick that day – a figure which has never been bettered since.*

The official 25th anniversary of the forming of the Club itself will be in August.

Fittingly, we had one of the participants of the original gathering to lead us on the run. Murray Finlay was there all those years ago and has been a stalwart of the Club ever since, and to complete the cycle we had some new members – Anna and Gary Redlich and Craig and Susan Wooton – on their very first run.

Following a briefing from Murray we travelled a short distance to the site of

the Old Cheese Factory where the group photo on this month's cover was taken, and the red and white NAs were lined up for their own photo, the significance being that red and white were the only colours available back in 1990.

After that it was off on our drive through the Dandenongs. After clearing the majority of the traffic, and traffic lights, through Berwick we headed up through Beaconsfield Upper towards Launching Place before turning back to our lunch spot near Gembrook. The Dandenongs must surely be one of the most beautiful

areas of Victoria.

Following a lunch of tasty wood-fired pizzas and a glass of wine overlooking the glorious views from the Forest Edge Restaurant we did what this Club has been doing so well for the past 25 years: enjoying the company of like-minded people brought together by the love of our great little cars.

**Our thanks go to Murray, not only for organising this run, but for the enormous amount of work you do to make this Club what it is. ●**



*All ears for the pre-run briefing ...*



*Grant & Saeko (right) honour the red & white theme*



*On the road to Gembrook*



*Gary, Anna, Murray, Steve and Barbara at "Forest Edge"*



# Chapter chatter ...

**17.5.15 | Southern Tasmania** ■ Words: John Waldock ■ Photos: Rob Tanner, John Waldock ■ Organiser: John Waldock

Again it was time to get together with all the other car obsessives at the biggest car show in the state, the Picnic at Ross.

The Southern Tasmania Chapter gathered a little earlier than usual (except for a certain SE that stopped to pick up picnic food and had to catch up) and once we had everyone aboard (including Allan Pryer in CW the Sprite) we headed off north with much anticipation.

We had a large group, as is normal for this event, including a couple of Commodores (or HSVs if you prefer) as well as CW and DJ, two Sprites which were braving the weather to come along for the drive.

The drive north starts out being lots of fun, before ending up on the Midlands Hwy which is a boring but cruisy drive the rest of the way.

We managed to arrive on time, and found a nice place to settle, pull out the picnic chairs and have a break. We set up the Chapter banner – now with fancy poles thanks to Rob Tanner – and then walked around, car perusing and generally making a nuisance of ourselves.

The mothers (oops, I mean wives) soon tired of this and some were able to drag their errant husbands away for a walk into town and some shopping. After the obligatory looks around, it was time for food and another look around, maybe pop the bonnet for a particularly sociable and interested onlooker or just talk some more. We managed to wander over to say hi to the Northern Tassie Chapter and compare notes and cars too. Sooner than we expected it was getting towards time to pack up, wave goodbye and trundle back to Hobart.

Thanks to everyone who made it such an enjoyable day; it's one of the highlights of the year. ●



# Chapter chatter ...

**31.5.15 | Eastern Victoria** ■ Words & organiser: Peter Ferguson ■ Photos: Ed Laine



Seven brave (mad?) souls turned up for the first of three Khanacross events the Eastern Victoria Chapter is attending this year as invitees from the Gippsland Car Club at their superb hillclimb track, Bryant Park.

The weather was, well, *crap!* It was raining everywhere ... but not at the track, until late afternoon. But the wind seemed like it was off an iceflow!

Fortunately the rain held off until the start of the last event, then promptly came bucketing down the moment the event finished!

**So what is a khanacross?** In the case of this track, it is run over various parts of the track, BUT with witches' hats placed at various points where competitors must weave in and out. The witches' hats are designed to slow the car down so that incidents don't happen at high speed. Rest assured though, incidents still happen.

We saw a BMW on two wheels after a spin and several of our cars had spins or near spins – lots of good fun!

There were three runs on the track itself, then two runs using part of the track and part of the car park – one of these in the rain – with the traction control turned off this was a hoot!

The seven in attendance were Ron Diprose, Alan Laine, Nic and John Bodey sharing Nic's NA, Rob Krygsman, Jenna Perks and Peter Ferguson. Also in attendance were Alan's son and his dad Ed whose car became the repository for all our stuff.

We quickly learnt that part of the skill in khanacross is remembering which way to go around the witches hats – does not matter how fast you go, if you get a wrong direction (WD), your time is going to be very bad! We managed to get a lot of WDs so perhaps this says something about MX-5 drivers – *all go but no brains, maybe?*

At the time of writing, we don't have the results, but they don't matter that much. This was a chance to do something different and have a lot of fun and explore the limits and see how good the tyres are – several comments indicated a few were not very happy with their tyres and it's likely some will be replaced before the next khanacross – *one or two will be coming back far more seriously!*

One unique feature of the event is that the people in the timing box can't see the entire course, so someone chases the cars on a *postie bike* to make certain they go the correct way – as the bike does not have to weave in and out of the witches' hats, he has little problem keeping up. There is nothing weirder than being all crossed up, sideways and with lots of wheelspin and tyre squeal, knowing you have a guy on a postie bike right up your bum – very demoralising!

Other features worth noting: providing they wear a helmet, passengers are welcome in competing cars. Kids over 12 are allowed to enter – there were a number of kids driving and it's a very good way to learn providing they can see over the dashboard and dad is prepared to provide the car – *anyone willing to let their kids have a drive of your MX-5 next event?*

**The next khanacross is on Sunday, 28 June, with a third on Sunday, 25 October. We urge you to come along – it's a great day out and a lot of fun plus a great chance to explore the limits of car – and driver – at relatively low speeds. ●**



^ Rob Krygsman  
Alan Laine  
Nic Bodey

^ L-plater Nic at the wheel  
> Peter Ferguson

# Chapter chatter ...

17.5.15 | Northern Tasmania ■ Words, photos & organiser: Bruce Harvey ■ Other photos: Cheryl Murray

The Northern Tassie Chapter also took part in the annual "Picnic at Ross" festival of everything automotive ...

A freezing lazy breeze greeted the occupants of the 17 MXs that lined up in the main street of Longford. The early arrivals were able to grab a coffee, and for a change getting everyone into the relative warmth of their cars was easy. The run to Ross was uneventful with the convoy staying tight, although a couple of American V8s drifted off the back when the road started to bend!

We arrived as a group, were able to park together, and made an imposing sight with two rows of gleaming multi-

coloured vehicles. The weather was still somewhat chilly so the thick jackets, scarves, gloves were dug out and donned before the walk up and down the rows of cars on show.

However, as the Southern Chapter's report on the same event (page 18) says all there is to say, let me tell you about ...

*The Tassie Shed full of interesting and classic cars for sale*

Recently I responded to an online advertisement for a classic car for sale. I was contacted soon after with the news that that car had been sold but there was a shed with around 15 other cars if I was interested. Needless to say I made the arrangements to view the contents of this mysterious shed.

The contents of this shed were amazing, with everything from a Mercedes 600 Grosser to a Honda S600 coupe and S800 convertible. There were also two Fiat 130s, a Lancia Beta, a Riley 2.5, a couple of 1970s Rolls Royces, a Lanchester LD10 (in my shed now) as well as jet skis and antique furniture.

**Everything is for sale and prices are both realistic and negotiable and if anyone is interested I can put you in touch. ●**

## The Tassie Shed



▲ Top, the The Lanchester LD10 for sale in the shed and, above, at home in Bruce's garage (next to MXCHEZ) ... the restoration process has started



Right: Honda S600 coupe (chain drive)  
Below: Lancia Beta coupe, Fiat 130 coupe and Honda S800 convertible



Below: 1970s Rolls Royce, Riley 2.5 and a 1937 Rolls Royce Sedan de Ville ... which was black but the owner's daughter wanted a white wedding car - so it was resprayed!



Left: the 6.2lt V8 Mercedes 600 Grosser ... former "Top Gear" host Jeremy Clarkson has a green one, which he calls ... "the Green Grocer"

# Chapter chatter ...



**24.5.15 | Western Victoria** ■ Words: Pam Stoffels ■ Photos: Karen Bradshaw ■ Organisers: Ian & Karen Bradshaw

*It was a sunny morning in Ballarat with a balmy 8 degrees.*

Eleven cars met in Ballarat East for a 10.30am start. As we were leaving we asked Ian, "Where are we going?" With a point up the road, "That way."

Heading north/east, over the two ways came the call, "Are we there yet?"

We went past the Gong reservoir and on to Springbank Road. Next it was on the brakes with bulls wandering down the road. Would have loved to know what the bulls were thinking looking down at the cars!

On to Old Corbetts Road and our first U-turn. Only took 15 minutes ... laughs and good times.

Back on the Ballan-Daylesford Road, over the freeway, through Ballan, along Old Melbourne Road, through Myrmiong and back on to the freeway. A few back roads in suburban Bacchus Marsh had us at our first toilet stop at Darily. Back on the road past Merrimu reservoir – amazed at how low the water level was – through Diggers Rest, Gisborne, Riddle Creek and into Romsey.

Ian then took us on a tour of the back streets of Romsey and everyone was bracing for another U-turn, but when he turned in to a driveway and asked us to all park our cars, we knew this was all part of his plan (this was *Plan C* for lunch).

Out walked John and Janette Todd, inviting us all to bring our lunch and chairs and join them in their backyard.

We heard about the Todds' latest endeavour being part of the support crew of a charity bike ride from Perth to Melbourne, raising money for athletes with injuries – magnificent effort!

On the road again at 2pm, all rooves down – including Gwenda's for the run to Lancefield! – and on to the Burke and Wills track and Watchbox Road.

Great to blow the cobwebs out and put some peddle to the metal or as Noellene would say, some "zoomy zoomy" roads.

If you had the time to enjoy the scenery, the paddocks were scattered with large boulders, weeping willows, green meadows and potato farms.

Then through road works and more on our way to Kyneton for our last toilet break. Say goodbye to some who were breaking from the convoy to head home.

The temperature was dropping but the rooves stayed down for the drive home via Glenlyon, Daylesford and Dean.

We noticed the ice signs were flashing just outside Daylesford but we just turned the heaters up.

I am sure the other traffic must have thought us odd but were still envious.

Back at the Gleesons', farewells were exchanged as some headed to the Ballarat Golf Club for tea.

**Thanks to Ian and Karen for another great run with good company and lots of laughs in our great cars. ●**



*Marg, Dawn, Mary & Virgie*



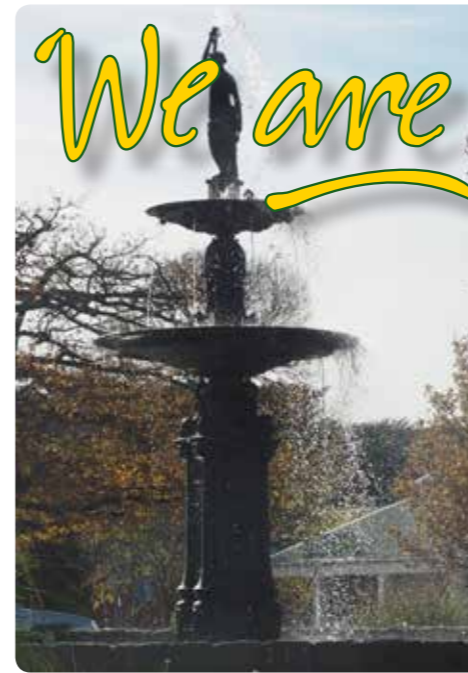
*Patrice, Chris & Brian*



*Janette & John*



*Lucas, Jeff & Dawn*



*The rocks near Lancefield*



*It's a long road to ... somewhere!*



*Merrimu Reservoir*



*L to R (standing): Janette Todd, Mary & Brian Carroll, Noellene Gleeson, Ian Bradshaw, John Gleeson, Patrice & Chris Van Velzen, John Todd, Lawrie & Virgie Hocking, Gwenda Parkinson, Pam & Tony Stoffels, Lucas Fitt, Jeff Woolf, Dawn & Alan Everett. Kneeling: Bob & Marg de Bont.*

# My favourite MX-5 road ...

Words: Geoff Roche, Central Chapter Captain

## The Great Alpine Road

A particularly exhilarating road in Victoria is the Great Alpine Road. It is Australia's highest year-round accessible sealed road. The road runs approximately 220km from Bairnsdale to Bright as it winds through mountains, valleys and forests, along rivers, beside vineyards and farms.

It is an excellent condition bitumen road with a variety of twisting and hairpin bends, sweeping corners and open plateau sections. For a time the road travels along the Tambo River.

The road passes through small towns of Bruthen, Swifts Creek and Omeo, the ski village of Dinner Plain and across the top of Mt Hotham, a ski resort at an altitude of 1,840 metres. From Mt Hotham there are views across to Mt Feathertop and Mt Bogong, Victoria's highest mountain (1,986 metres).

Coming down from Mt Hotham there are wide open sweeping corners which can easily and safely be taken at speed (legal, of course). As you head further down the mountain there are some slower, tighter corners before arriving at Harrietville. With this area's deciduous trees, autumn is a particularly pretty time to do this run.



For we MX-5 enthusiasts, this road offers a great variety of winding, twisting and open sections along with spectacular views of Victoria's high country. ●

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!

# Mazda CX-5 global production reaches one million units

Cumulative production of the Mazda CX-5 surpassed one million units at the end of April 2015.

Taking only three years and five months since production commenced in November 2011, the CX-5 is the second fastest Mazda model to reach the milestone one-million-unit mark, following the Mazda3.

Production of the CX-5, which was the first of Mazda's new-generation models that feature SKYACTIV technology and KODO-Soul of Motion, began at Ujina Plant in Hiroshima, but has since been expanded to include manufacture at Changan Mazda Automobile Co Ltd in China and locally assembly at Mazda Sollers Manufacturing Rus in Russia, Mazda Malaysia Sdn Bhd in Malaysia and Vina Mazda Automobile Manufacturing Co Ltd in Vietnam.<sup>1</sup>

Mazda CX-5 was launched into the growing global crossover SUV market in February 2012 as a new core model for the Mazda brand. It has since won more than 60 different awards around the world<sup>2</sup>, including the prestigious Car of the Year Japan in 2012-2013. The CX-5 has grown into a key model in Mazda's global car lineup and was the top-selling SUV in Japan in 2012 and 2013<sup>3</sup>.

"I am delighted to see the CX-5 reach the one-million-unit mark in only three years and five months," said Masashi Otsuka, Program Manager of the CX-5. "I would like to express my gratitude to the people all over the world who have appreciated and supported the CX-5. We are committed to continuing to enhance this model into the future to ensure that it remains



a popular choice among people with active lifestyles, and will appeal to even more customers in the future."

Moving forward, Mazda will continue to develop products which offer all customers driving pleasure and outstanding environmental and safety performance, with an aim of enriching people's lives and becoming a brand that builds a special bond with its customers.

<sup>1</sup> Locally-assembled units are counted as Japanese domestic production volume  
<sup>2</sup> As of April 2015, based on Mazda data  
<sup>3</sup> As of January 2014, based on Mazda data

# For sale ...



## This is one with the lot!

A former Club Captain's 10AE, it's fair to say that anything the car has needed, it got – and we wouldn't mind betting it has had more oil and filter changes than any other MX-5 in our Club!

### 1999 10th Anniversary NB MX-5

- » 69,500 km
- » 4:3 diff ratio (Torsen diff)
- » lightweight flywheel (less than 12 months old)
- » Exedy Sports Tuff clutch (less than 12 months old)
- » X-Force headers
- » high-flow racing cat
- » high-flow sports exhaust system
- » Koni coil overs and springs
- » offset lower control arm bushes (for extra camber/caster adjustment)
- » cold air intake
- » aluminium radiator
- » silicone cooling system hoses
- » Brown Davis roll bar and FIA-approved padding
- » Sparco Sprint V seat
- » 3-inch 5-point harness
- » original hardtop painted flat black
- » 949 Racing 6UL 15x8 rims
- » 4 x Yokohama A050 R-Spec tyres (new – only done one round at Winton)
- » standard 10AE polished rims with Yokohama AD08R tyres (six months old and only done one round at Sandown)
- » six-disc CD stacker



Original equipment (removed but included):

- » complete exhaust system and manifold
- » intake and air box
- » Bilstein suspension
- » driver's seat
- » flywheel
- » clutch.



Asking price: \$16,750 Contact: Daniel – 0400 304 006

## Trading Post



### For Sale Crystal Blue NB – reluctant sale

For details of this and other items to buy, swap, sell or borrow, see the "Trading Post" section in the "Clubroom" section of the Club's website, [mx5vic.org.au](http://mx5vic.org.au)

## Burson automotive products at trade prices



Current financial Club members can purchase automotive parts, tools, accessories and car care products at trade prices from Burson Auto Parts stores.

Simply ask for your discount when you purchase, present your current membership card and quote account number 112558.

Burson Auto Parts have more than 100 outlets on the east coast. Check out the range at [www.burson.com.au](http://www.burson.com.au)

## AutObarn Eltham 9/256 Bolton St, Eltham



... are proud to offer all Club members a big discount (up to 15%) off their full range of merchandise.

For info or orders, please contact Peter Rutherford\* at [autobarn-enquiries@mx5vic.org.au](mailto:autobarn-enquiries@mx5vic.org.au) or phone 0414 630 024 or 9439 1466.

This offer is exclusive to AutObarn Eltham.

Please identify yourself as a Club member to obtain your discount. \*Note: only Peter Rutherford or Hayden Dally are authorised to offer Club discounts in-store.



## Repco VIP Club retail discount

Financial MX-5 Club members may join the Repco VIP Club for 10% off full retail at any time, and up to another 30% off full retail with advertised offers.

Enter your details at <http://vip.repco.com.au/registration/register/1160>.

You'll receive a temporary "VIP" card via e-mail, with a plastic barcoded card and key tag following within 14 days.

Repco will e-mail you online catalogues and offers.



## Car care products - member discounts

Waxit Car Care in Tullamarine is offering Club members 12.5% off all products (excluding already-discounted kits and the following brands/products: Polishangel, Vikan, Flex and Concours 900 Polisher).

Check out the Waxit range and order online at [www.waxit.com.au](http://www.waxit.com.au). Our Club coupon code is mx5club. Please add your Club membership number to the "comments" section of your order.

# High fives at Sandown!

## 2015 City Mazda MX-5 Sprint Championship | Round 2 - 9.5.15

Words: Gavin Newman Photos: Alan Bennett

*It's hard to believe that we are two rounds into the new championship season already.*

The 2015 competition has been compressed to align with the calendar year which means the breaks between events are short. I don't think anyone is complaining though.

May saw the Club return to Sandown and, being the day before Mother's Day, there would have been some high-level negotiations made by some to gain permission to go racing.

Nineteen MX-5s turned up to compete despite the Bureau, in the days prior to the event, predicting an 80% chance of rain. It was also great to see Ralph Thomson from the NSW Club there, no doubt keeping an eye on we Mexicans before the interstate challenge in NSW in August. He was also third-fastest overall. The conditions turned out to be great though, if not a little windy, and many of us opted for hiring garages just to be on the safe side.

... continued



## 2015 City Mazda MX-5 Sprint Championship - Round 2 | Sandown - 9.5.15

Results - Round 2	1st	2nd	3rd
Standard NA	Robert Downes » 1:37.5862	---	---
Standard NB	Simeon Ouzas » 1:37.8466	Peter Dannock » 1:38.0621	Ben Mott » 1:39.0862
Standard NC	Alan Conrad » 1:35.0221	---	---
NA Clubman	Tim Emery » 1:37.9619**	George Vellis » 1:42.0578	---
NB Clubman	Max Lloyd » 1:36.2553	Noel Heritage » 1:36.3722	---
Modified	Gavin Newman » 1:34.4217	Tim Meaden » 1:35.5548	Leon Bogers » 1:36.9555
Super Modified	Russell Garner » 1:30.7145	Robert Parr » 1:31.2933	---
Restricted Open	Paul Ledwith » 1:26.8836	---	---
Open	Dave Moore » 1:29.0874	---	---

\*\* New Club lap record



Ready to go! Peter Dannock, Robert Downes, Tim Emery, Saddique Fisher, Leon Bogers, Noel Heritage, Max Lloyd

# M E sentials

(03)9587 0079

6 Macbeth St,  
Braeside, Vic 3195

www.motorsportessentials.com.au

## Workshop & Storage Facility



### Workshop Services

- ▶ Brakes
- ▶ ECU Installations
- ▶ Fabrication
- ▶ Panel/Paint Work
- ▶ Seat Installations
- ▶ Cold Air Intakes
- ▶ Engines
- ▶ Gearboxes
- ▶ Race Car Building
- ▶ Suspension
- ▶ Diffs
- ▶ Exhaust Systems
- ▶ Modifications
- ▶ Roll Cages
- ▶ Weighting



### Storage

Cars: \$150/month

Trailers (up to 6m): \$210/month

5% discount if paying full-year. Local pickup/drop off available.

We regularly attend MX-5 Club track days and are always happy to help out. We often put on a sausage sizzle as well, so come say hello.

[www.motorsportessentials.com.au](http://www.motorsportessentials.com.au)

# High fives at Sandown! ... continued



Russell Garner



Ben Mott



Paul Ledwith



Alan Conrad



Tim Meaden



Ralph Thomson, NSW Club



Simeon Ouzas



Robert Parr

Although Sandown is pretty basic in layout – two long straights with a bit of twisty stuff at each end – it offers some positives. For many, it's the closest track to home, so the alarm on race day morning is a bit friendlier. The track is also one of the marquee tracks in Australian Touring Car Championship history and, rumour has it, it won't be around for too much longer, so great to use it while we still can.

After the normal scrutineering and drivers' briefing we headed out for our first practice. All the MX-5s were in one run group which was great, and it also made for some large speed differentials across the various classes. Once we got into the timed session it meant going out in the right order was important, and everyone seemed to be considerate of other drivers which made for a great day.

A couple of battles played out during the day with Russell Garner and Robert Parr closely contesting the Super Modified class. In the end Russell got the bragging rights by just over half a second. In NB Clubman, Max Lloyd ended up just 0.11s ahead of Noel Heritage after doing 44 and 45 laps respectively for the day.

In fact, many of the competitors completed over 40 laps, which is great value for money when you compare it to the entry cost of a higher level race meeting and the number of laps you get. Unfortunately for Dave Wilken, clutch problems ended his day (again) after just five laps. Paul Ledwith had the fastest overall time for the day ...

## 2015 City Mazda MX-5 Sprint Championship | Round 2 - 9.5.15



For me, it was my first day out with a new engine, and gearbox freshly transplanted from Noel Heritage's car that met its demise that last time we were at Sandown. I think I looked at the memorial marks to Noel's car on the concrete wall on the exit of Turn 4 nearly every lap. It took me a while to get used to driving a six-speed box with a five-speed brain, and I found the grass at Turn 1. OK ... I found it *three* times! But the car didn't miss a beat, so I was thankful for the work of Dean at *Motorsport Essentials*. I also had a close battle with Tim Meaden and Alan Conrad for quite a few laps, which ended with some big grins and high fives in the pits afterwards. Lots of fun!

Our hosts, the Alfa Club, also gave us the opportunity to do some parade laps at lunchtime which is a great chance to take family and friends out and give them a little taste of what gets us all revved up.

**The next round is at Broadford on 14 June, so for those in the Club that have an interest in pushing your cars and yourselves closer to the limit (or in my case over it a few times!) in a safe and supportive environment, come along and check it out. It is lot of fun with a great bunch of people. ●**



Derek Pickard



Max Lloyd



John Reid



Tim Emery



Siddique Fisher (121), Dave Moore



George Vellis (11), John Reid



Alan Bennett has an upmarket encounter at Sandown

### 2015 City Mazda MX-5 Sprint Championship standings after Round 2 | Sandown - 9.5.15

(corrected points)	1st	2nd	3rd
Overall Champion	Too early!		
Standard NA	Robert Downes » 20	---	---
Standard NB	= Peter Damrock, Simeon Ouzas » 17	---	Ben Mott » 12
Standard NC	Alan Conrad » 20	---	---
NA Clubman	Tim Emery » 10	George Vellis » 7	---
NB Clubman	Max Lloyd » 17	Noel Heritage » 13	Peter Phillips » 10
Modified	Gavin Newman » 20	Tim Meaden » 14	Leon Bogers » 12
Super Modified	Russell Garner » 20	Robert Parr » 7	---
Restricted Open	Paul Ledwith » 20	---	---
Open	Dave Moore » 20	---	---



Hi ho, hi ho ... it's off to play we go!

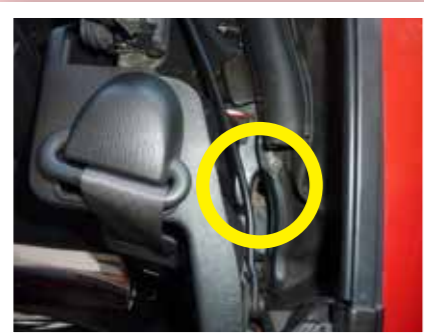
## Check those drainage holes!

Words: Murray Finlay Photos: Will Campbell

If you have a soft-top MX-5, now that it's actually raining it's time to check the drainage holes for the water that runs off the back of your roof.

In the MX-5, water from the roof makes its way down through two channels inside the car to get to the ground. It's essential to make sure that these channels are free from any blockages if you want to avoid getting wet or listening to the water slosh up and down the sills and causing them to rust. It's a very simple task – the whole procedure should take no more than a few minutes.

IN THE NA and NB, the top of the drainage tube is a circular hole about the diameter of a bloke's index finger, situated in the "nook" where the soft top roof hinges on the body. It's right between the seatbelt tower and the car's side bodywork.



However, it's hidden under a small flap of rear sill carpet. To access it easily, you need to fold back this carpet flap.

With the seats tilted forward, unclip the soft top and tilt it back slightly ... enough to allow you to get your hand in behind and around the seatbelt tower so you can lift and fold back this carpet flap.



Once this is done on both sides, fold the soft top down flat so that it will hold both carpet flaps back out of the way.

You should then be able to see the drainage holes.



IN THE NC, the arrangement is much more civilised, and the rectangular draining hole can be seen clearly behind the seatbelt tower, and accessed very easily.



Once I've found the drainage hole, how do I clean it? There are different opinions ... some suggest using a wire coathanger (straightened of course!), a length of that springy plastic-coated wire used for hanging light curtains, some 10mm poly garden irrigation pipe ... Some even claim that the original one-piece metal NA aerial with the knob at the top was designed for exactly this purpose! I used a thin (about 6mm diameter) piece of dowel.

Whatever you use, *be gentle!* The drainage tube has a flap towards the bottom which is designed to let water drain out beneath the car, but stop dirt (and noise?) getting back up into the car, and you don't want to damage that.

There may be quite a lot of resistance initially as dirt can really clog up the hole, but repeated prodding will break it up. Repeat the procedure on the other side.

Some owners also clean these drainage tubes from the bottom. The tubes can be

seen under the car, protruding from just in front of the rear wheels. Again, be wary of damaging that flap.

At the front of the car ... in my old NA I had to make sure I regularly cleared leaves and sludge from inside the panel at the rear of the front wheel arch. Leaves and debris washed down inside there from the front windscreen drainage channel collected between the metal of the front guard and the plastic lining. I discovered that all this vegetation, dust and dirt began to compost, and was concerned that the wet gunge sitting against the metal would rust the panel.

I admit I haven't yet addressed this in my NB; the plastic wheel arch lining is attached a bit more securely!

### Other leaks:

» **side windows:** if water is leaking in near the soft top weather-stripping, try closing the door *after* closing the window. This forces the window to contact the weather-strip differently from when the window is closed after the door is closed.

» **where the soft top meets the windshield frame:** usually caused by dirty or damaged moldings or the latches not being tight enough. Usually you will notice the top will squeak and rattle if it isn't latched down tight. The NA/NB latches may be adjusted: open the latch and examine the inside. There is a small plastic 'cover' that keeps the latch adjustment screw from moving. Pop the cover off and adjust the screw as needed to get the latches to close smoothly, yet tight enough to keep the top from rattling or leaking. If the latches become difficult to open or close, a small amount of oil on the moving parts should help. Don't over-tighten, as this will make the top difficult to close.

» **water in the boot:** can be caused by one of several factors – dried out weather-stripping around the boot, a cracked rain rail on the convertible top, or dried out weather-stripping around the tail lights (especially on older vehicles).

### Sources:

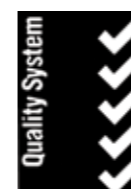
- » bitter experience!
- » [www.mx5ireland.com](http://www.mx5ireland.com)
- » [www.pistonheads.co.uk](http://www.pistonheads.co.uk)
- » [http://ox.mx5oc.co.uk/hints\\_tips.htm](http://ox.mx5oc.co.uk/hints_tips.htm)
- » [www.miata.net/faq/faq3.html](http://www.miata.net/faq/faq3.html)

Please note: All "Tech Talk" information is provided as a guide only. All work is carried out at the owner's risk.

## 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 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





**CITY MAZDA**

*What Drives You, Drives Us*

***MOVE  
LIKE NEVER  
BEFORE....***



***...FIRST EVER CX3***



**CITY MAZDA**

*What Drives You, Drives Us*

14-28 Montague Street, South Melbourne

**(03) 9329 2000**

[www.citymazda.com.au](http://www.citymazda.com.au)



mazda

***zoom-zoom  
zoom-zoom  
zoom-zoom***