

# mxtra

6/2016

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

**700  
up!**

# Freedom!

**Inside:**

**Another vibrant month in the Club  
A double-dose of motor sport  
Try your hand at Targa**



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MX-5 Club  
of Victoria

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6/2016

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**Cover image:** *On the road to Jamieson during the North-Eastern Victoria Chapter's "Eildon Loop" run in May.*  
(Photo: Karen Bradshaw)



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**MX-5 Club of  
Victoria**

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• or post: **mxtra**, Mazda MX-5 Club of Victoria & Tasmania, PO Box 7438, Beaumaris VIC 3193

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# Pete's Perspective...

■ Peter Dannock – President [president@mx5vic.org.au](mailto:president@mx5vic.org.au)

**A car is only worth as much as someone is prepared to pay for it and, over the recent years, I have been keeping an eager eye on [carsales.com.au](http://carsales.com.au) and what people are asking for their MX-5.**

If you look hard enough you will see some trends appear. I had noticed that with the anticipated release of the ND last year, many NCs dropped in value as much as \$4,000-\$5,000. Not surprising really as buyers waited for the new model to arrive.

At the other end, we seem to be seeing a different story. The value of NAs appears to be stabilising at or above \$5,000 and I suspect there is a number of reasons for this. In Victoria at least, NAs from 1989 to 1991 are now eligible for Club Permit registration. With the reduced cost of registration, this makes these cars ideal as an affordable weekend roadster. Though you are limited to a maximum of 90 days on the road each year, Club Permit registration has helped maintain if not increase the value of these early MX-5 models.

**Nostalgia is another reason why the early MX-5s are holding their value.** Ever since I sold my white NA almost three years ago, I have had a hankering to get another NA back in the garage. (If you're wondering why I sold the NA, it was sold to make room for my 2001 NB, acquired for motor sport duties.) With their pop-up lights and daisy style wheels, I now look back fondly and wish I had kept it. So browsing the internet for a clean, original NA, eligible for Club Registration, has become a pastime. Expecting now to pay a bit more than what I sold mine for, I was surprised to see a recent ad for a 1991 Mazda MX-5

manual with an asking price of \$13,850. With over 143,000km on the clock and in pristine condition, the ad said:

"One lady owner from new - that's right, 25 years. This is one for the collectors; utterly original, unmodified and completely rust-free. This car could well be a concours winner in years to come as originality is increasingly valued."

We now appear to be at a turning point, where the early NAs are starting to be recognised as a classic car and increasing in value. \$13,850 will stretch my budget, but I am sure there is a good value car out there for me. All I need to do now is convince the family that a third MX-5 is not one too many.

## *700 and Going Strong*

You would have seen in last month's **mxtra** that we were tantalisingly close to 700 members for the year. Pleasing to say that we have now exceeded that milestone for the first time and are looking to continued growth for the Club in the future. A welcome to all the new members who have joined us in the past year and a thank you to those members who have been with us over many years. The Club is only as strong as its members.

The new membership year starts on 1 July. You should expect an email soon indicating that it is time to renew. As you renew, you will see a slight increase in the membership fees for 2016-2017. The Committee always considers any membership fee increase seriously and feels this increase is modest, justified and, even with this increase, believe that

*For your diary ...*

**See the full calendar for details**

## June

- 19 NTas *Trudi Does Targa*
- 19 STas *Ausmas run*
- 21 NEV: *Koetung run*
- 26 EV: *Gippsland run*

## July

- 10 CEN *Highlands run*
- 12 EV: *Lunch 'n' Lies, Port Albert*
- 17 EV: *Tarra Valley run*
- 17 NEV *Tintaldra run*
- 17 WV *Sunday Roast run*
- 26 NEV *Glenrowan run*
- 31 EV *Khanacross, Bryant Park*

membership of the Club is good value.

We are looking to have a New Members' Night in mid-July. Keep your eye on the social calendar for more details. It is a great opportunity for new members to meet like-minded people and ask questions of members of the committee. Worth coming out for on a cold winter's night.

Until next month.

**And remember ... leave sooner, drive slower, live longer.**

*Pete*

**Mazda ROADSTER**



**Thanks a Million!!**

累計生産100万台達成

# Scene about

Photos: Karen Bradshaw, Bronwyn Roche, Marg Gillick, John Waldock, Rob Tanner, Bruce Harvey



# Guidelines for the use of social media

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*As members of a CAMS-affiliated car club, we are all subject to the CAMS guidelines for the use of social media.*

We have not had any significant issues within the Club to-date, but it's worth being familiar with the CAMS guidelines to make sure we all know the boundaries. These should be referred to in conjunction with the CAMS Social Media Policy, which be found at <https://www.cams.com.au/about/administration/policies>

**1. Mobile devices and social media should not be used while officials are on duty.**

Your attention should always be to your officiating duties. Save the internet for on your break or the end of the day.

**2. Put yourself in the other person's shoes.**

**Take a moment to think before you post.** If it were you someone was posting a picture or comment about, how would you feel?

**3. Once it's out there, it's out there.**

**Never assume that something you post online is private.**

Comments, photos, statuses can all be copied, shown to friends, screen captured and saved or sent on by others. Always assume the person you are posting about will see your post.

**4. If in doubt, leave it out.**

**If you have to stop and think about it, it probably means you should not be posting it!** Remember, your online presence is part of your personal brand. What you say and do online

affects how people perceive you.

**5. Social media should not be used to make disparaging or negative remarks about competitors, officials, volunteers, event organisers, promoters or CAMS [or the Mazda MX-5 Club, or your fellow Club members].**

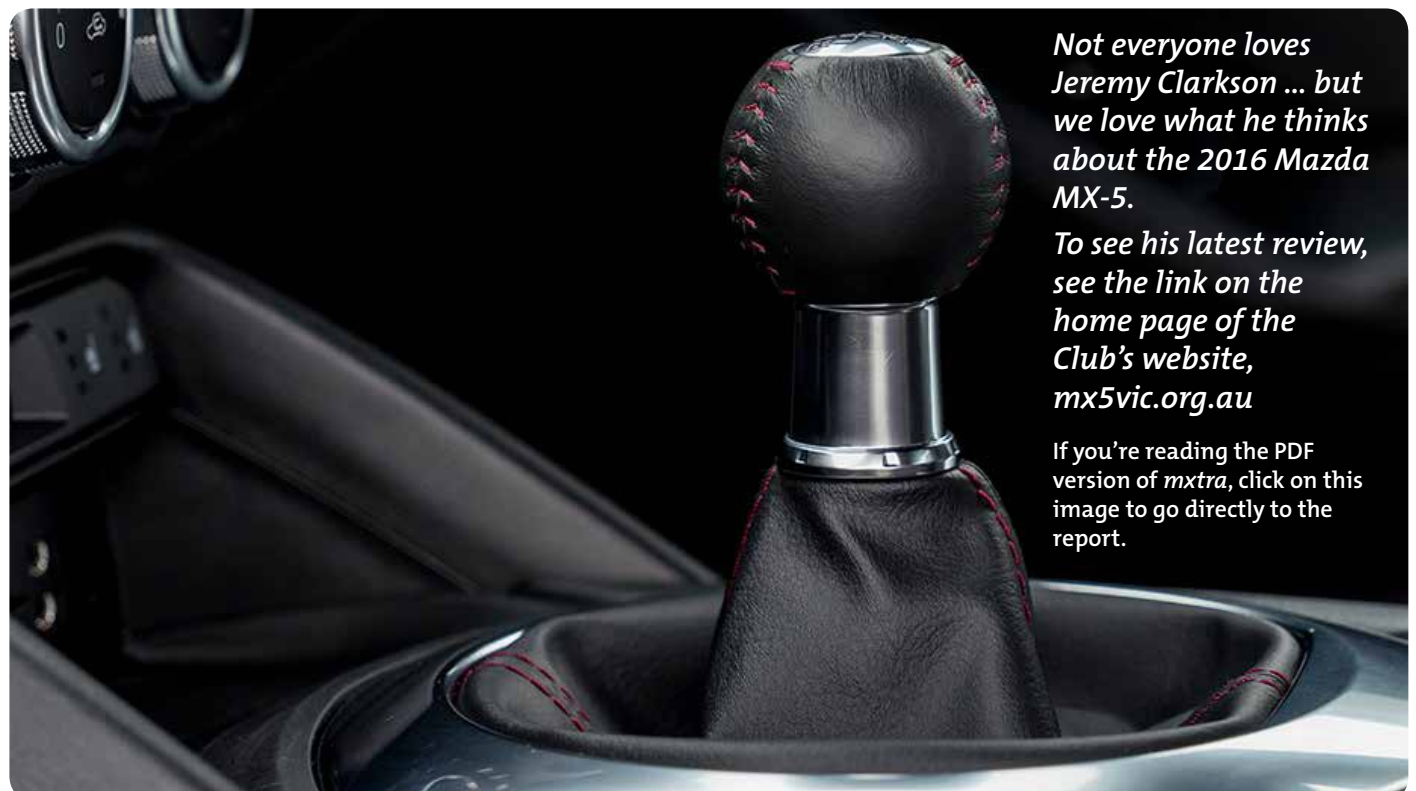
**There can be serious consequences for misuse of social media.** If you have an issue that needs resolving, there are appropriate channels to do this through. The CAMS Member Protection Policy and OHS Policy are available on the CAMS website. If you need advice on how to resolve an issue, call CAMS on 1300 883 959.

**6. Never post photos or comments about a motor sport incident.**

**It is vitally important that we all respect the privacy of individuals** involved in accidents or incidents, whether on- or off-track. Never, ever post photos, comments or information on social media or other online forum about an accident or incident. *Remember point 2: Put yourself in their shoes.*

**7. Use social media as a tool to promote and encourage the development of our sport.**

**Social media is an amazing platform if used responsibly and for a positive purpose.** Use it to promote events, the Club, activities and membership. Use it to spread the word about our great sport, and keep it positive!



*Not everyone loves Jeremy Clarkson ... but we love what he thinks about the 2016 Mazda MX-5.*

*To see his latest review, see the link on the home page of the Club's website, [mx5vic.org.au](http://mx5vic.org.au)*

*If you're reading the PDF version of *mxtra*, click on this image to go directly to the report.*



# Membership

Current membership count:

**708**

and growing!

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

*G'day again!*

The Club is now in new territory with a membership count above the magical 700 – the first time ever! – and we still have a couple of weeks to go! At this time last year, the count was 616.

The record number has been reached with the help of the following newcomers to our ranks:

### Central Chapter

Bradley Coles	2004 Grey NB
Tim Edwards	2016 Soul Red ND
Frances Johnson and Sam Medzic	2004 Razor Blue NB

### Western Victoria Chapter

David May	1993 Classic Red NA
Ian Whan	1989 Silver NA

### Northern Tasmania Chapter

Cherie and Glenn Gardener	2007 Sapphire Blue NC
Tony and Julia Jupp	2016 Soul Red ND

### Southern Tasmania Chapter

Judi Lee-Collinson	1990 Classic Red NA
--------------------	---------------------

I extend a hearty welcome to all the new members.

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:

	Printed <i>mxtra</i> magazine <i>(one per household)</i>	PDF <i>mxtra</i> magazine
Full member	\$115.00	\$65.00
Family member	\$150.00	\$98.00
Friend member	\$38.00 <i>Note: Friend members do not receive <b>mxtra</b> magazine</i>	

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, MasterCard or PayPal. 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.

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*

*In a chance meeting while visiting a small local town memorial commemorating the battle of Ditmarschen in Hemmingstedt in Germany on 7 May, Doris and I met up with a group from the Köln (Cologne) MX-5 group.*

I just happened to have a photo of my NA on my phone; they were just as thrilled and astounded to meet up with an Aussie group as we were with them.

After exchanging details and handshaking/backslapping, off they continued on their country run.

Maybe our Club will get a similar mention in their news or website ([www.mx-5clubbluesky.de](http://www.mx-5clubbluesky.de)).

Yours (on holiday!),

*Tony Muir (Club member)*



^ Hans across the globe? Tony Muir (right) with the Köln Konvoy ...

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# Nic Bodey

### Eastern Victoria Chapter

**Name?** Nic Bodey

**Age?** 18

**Born?** Edenhope, Victoria

**Current abode?** Parkdale, Melbourne

**Profession?** Customer service at Super Cheap Auto in Mentone

**Partner?** Currently in a relationship

**Pets?** None

**Fave food?** Can't go past a home-cooked parma, and chocolate sauce pudding with ice cream for dessert

**Can you cook?** Toasted sandwiches and two-minute noodles are my forté

**Favourite tippie?** Non-alcohol drinker, so a can of coke suits me

**First drive?** VL Commodore wagon to the bus stop and back when I was in prep.

**First car?** 1989 Mazda MX-5

**First fender bender?** None so far, thankfully

**Everyday driver?** Mazda6 2003 wagon

**How many MX-5s have you owned?** One

**Current MX-5?** 1989 NA in Classic Red

**MX-5 improvements?** Windblocker, sound system and roll bar

**MX-5 dislikes?** Still can't afford an ND

**Why an MX-5?** Recommended by a family friend who is a car collector

**Fluffy dice?** Absolutely not

**Passions besides the MX-5?** Longboarding



**Favourite TV show / movie / book?**

*The Walking Dead, Law Abiding Citizen*

**Dream wheels (money no object)?**

*Lotus Exige or a Purvis Eureka*

**Would you drive a Daewoo or**

**SsangYong?** *To the wreckers, yes, or one of those places they turn hoon drivers' cars into cubes*

**Favourite other Mazda?** *The new Mazda6 wagon or the new Mazda3 hatch on coilovers*

**How long in the club?** *Two years and a few months*

**How many MX-5 Club runs or track events?** *Around 20*

**Favourite Club run/track?**

*Eastern Victoria's "Three Peaks" run*

**Funniest thing seen at a Club event?**

*Mel's ghost face after her partner Rob has been driving for a while*

**Have you been to NatMeet?** *Negative*

**Ford vs Holden?** *Holden*

**What's playing in your MX-5?** *Years & Years*

**Favourite holiday destination?** *The Great Ocean Road*

**Footy team (AFL / NRL / A-League)?** *None*

**Final comments?** *caradvice.com.au recently featured my vehicle in a comparison with the new ND. It's up on their website and well worth the read ... some great photos too.*



➤ Top: Nic (centre) with Rob Krygsman and four of his favourite cars at Bryant Park, Gippsland. Above: at the wheel of his beloved 1989 NA on the Bryant Park track.

# Chapter chatter ...

1.5.16 | Central ■ Words: John Palmer ■ Photos: Bronwyn Roche, Karen Bradshaw ■ Organisers: Bronwyn & Geoff Roche

*The day started with a little drizzle as I headed down the freeway to join up with the Peninsula Link and onto the BP servo.*

I was a tad early but it wasn't long before others arrived, rooves up, scarves around necks and heaters on.

Everyone found their way indoors into the spacious restaurant area of the complex for either breakfast, coffees or just a social chat. Geoff and Bronwyn Roche were the organisers of this run and we had a convoy of 12 cars in total.

It was going to be one of those days where most opted to keep the lid on and the heater running, but there were a few braves in the group who enjoyed the brisk wind in their hair between rain showers.

During the day we wound our way around the tight, twisty roads of the mountainous terrain behind Dromana and Arthurs Seat and before we

knew it we had gone up the infamous Arthurs Seat Rd, testing our little cars' traction limits in the wet, going around the block and back down Arthurs Seat Rd.

We then headed out around McCrae and along the coast back towards Arthurs Seat Rd for a second run up the hill. The scenery along the coast is impressive on a wild, wet and windy day with the waves breaking over the rock sea walls. Once up the top of the mountain we stopped to take in the views at the carpark and have a short morning tea and toilet break. Thankfully the skies had briefly cleared to allow a nice view over the surrounding coastline up towards Frankston.

The convoy of little convertibles then proceeded down towards Cape Schanck

and past the impressive RACV resort. It was then back up towards Mornington. Such great roads around this part of the world for the MX-5s, with plenty of curvy bits up hill and down.

We stopped at *Charlie's Car Museum* for a look inside. For those who haven't been there before, it is found on Purves Rd just out the back of Arthurs Seat. It is such a great little museum for car buffs and shows off Charlie's extensive collection of mostly '50s to '70s vintage cars from around the globe, as well as a huge amount of automotive memorabilia.

Most spent some considerable time absorbing the contents, whilst others enjoyed a coffee in the café out the front.

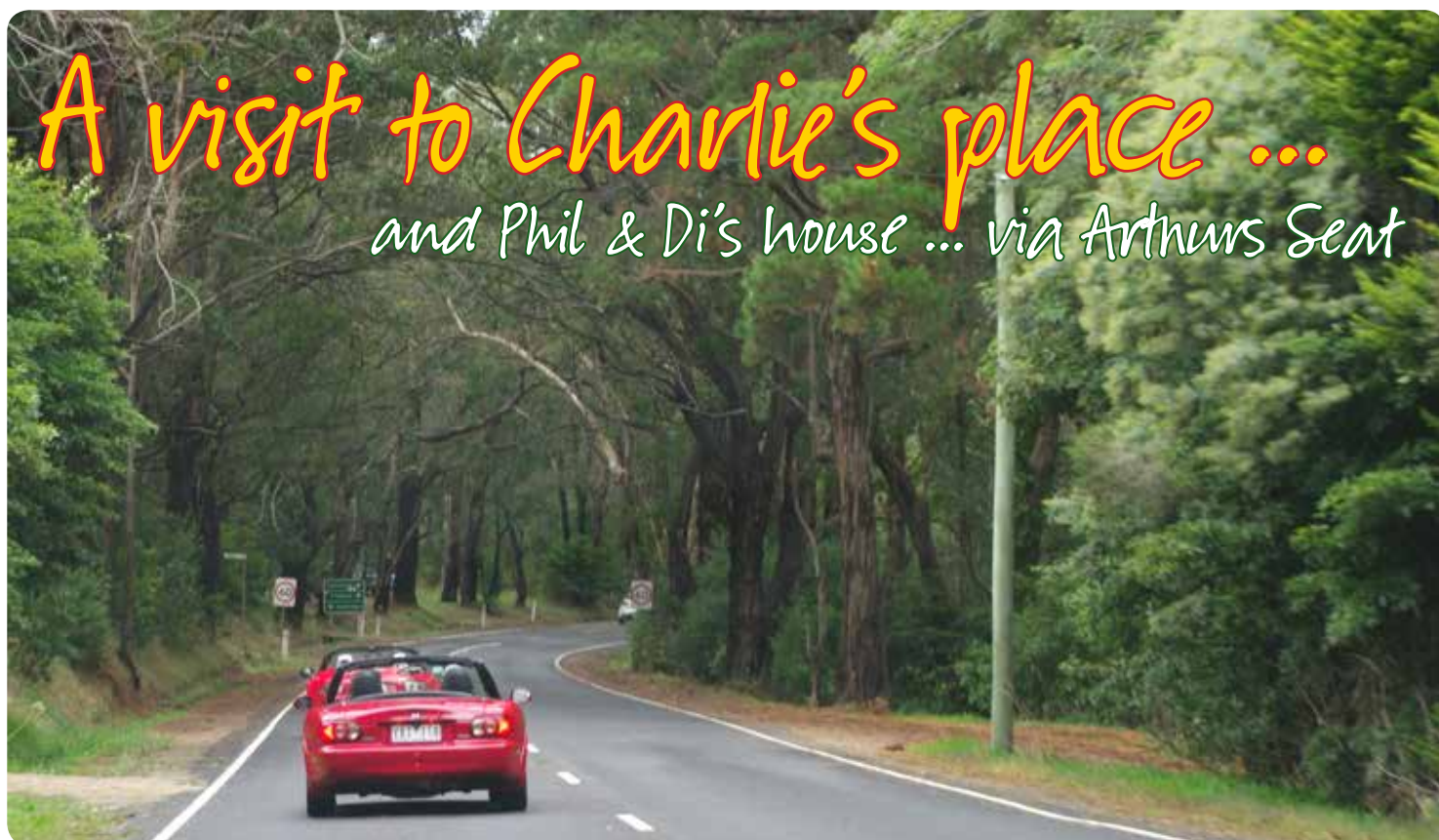
The rain gods weren't kind

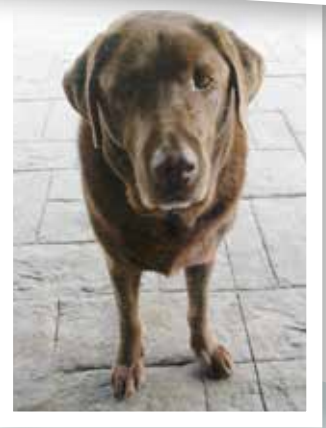
again and the now constant rain threatened to spoil our planned picnic lunch at a local park. Thanks to Phil and Di Savage for saving the afternoon, with a kind offer to return back down Arthurs Seat Rd (hard to take!) and follow them to their local holiday house for our picnic lunch in the comfort of their family/dining room.

It was a great lunch atmosphere with plenty of chatter amongst the group and some great discussions on a whole range of topics amongst new friends. *Thank you Phil and Di.*

Mid-afternoon came around too soon and we all said our goodbyes and headed our separate ways.

**A big thank you to Geoff and Bronwyn for a great day out. ●**





# Chapter chatter ...

7-8.5.16 | North-Eastern Victoria ■ Words: Roger Cowie ■ Photos: Marg Gillick, Karen Bradshaw ■ Organiser: Loz

*The meeting point for this year's Eildon Loop Run was at the Milawa Bakery.*

Running a little ahead of time I fully expected to be one of the first there. To my surprise, Ron, Marg, Ian and Karen were already there, sipping hot coffee. On leaving the bakery, we had a total of (appropriately!) five cars: Loz Thomas, our leader for the weekend, the Gillicks, Ian and Karen (Western Victoria Chapter), Tyrone and Pam (Central Chapter) and myself with Anne Marie Quinn making up the five.

Our first stop would be Mansfield for morning tea, so we headed to Whitfield and on to that fabulous road that takes you up through the small town of Tolmie, then weaves its way down towards Mansfield. We had bright sunshine – a gorgeous day – and the road was in good condition. A coffee break on arrival at Mansfield was well-earned, as that piece of road demands your full attention.

New member Wayne from Eildon and his soon-to-be son-in-law Casey joined us for the rest of the drive to Eildon. Leaving Mansfield, and travelling through some great countryside, it was not long before we arrived at Jamieson where we more or less did our own thing. Annie and I decided on a walk around the area and

after a short time stumbled across a number of magic mushrooms – not sure of their correct name ... they are large, red with yellow spots; I haven't seen them for years! (If anybody can remember how to prepare them please let me know!)

On leaving Jamieson there was a short delay at the back of the group while Ian recovered from the shock of dragging a bit of doggy poo into his beautiful MX-5. Wayne took the lead for the last stretch of road to Eildon, stopping at a number of lookouts on the way; one in particular, Foggs Lookout, has great views, including the longest single span of power lines in the southern hemisphere! After visiting Jerusalem Creek's bar and grill for refreshments, our next stop was the *Eildon Lake Motel* where we said goodbye to Wayne and Casey.

After unpacking we gathered in the gazebo for more refreshments and some nibbles. Dinner was at the local pub – the food was good and a merry time was had by all!

Next morning we said goodbye to Ian and Karen before heading to Marysville for breakfast at *Fraga's Café*. During a short stroll around town before continuing our

journey, a number of female members were able to find something to buy from the many shops there. A route change took us from Marysville along the Black Spur which was painfully slow due to traffic. A right turn at Healesville up along the Myers Creek road brought us out at Toolangi, then on to Kinglake where we said goodbye to Pam and Tyrone. It is blowing a gale and pouring down when we made the right turn at Kinglake West, on through Flowerdale to Yea where we stopped for lunch at the bakery. The cakes and pastries on display were fabulous and it took all our inner strength to buy only one each.

Leaving Yea, we turned left at Merton and on to that great piece of twisting, turning road to Euroa, before we turned right on to the Hume Hwy. At the Benalla turnoff Annie and I waved our goodbyes.

**A great weekend, great roads, great company. Hope to see more members on next year's Eildon Loop run.**

*PS: Ron said he had a terrible time wrestling with the car all weekend after fitting new tyres. I've always believed cheap tyres that have fallen off the back of truck are never any good! ●*



▲ Roger Cowie, Anne Marie Quinn, Ron Gillick, Pam Bown, Casey Southurst, Ian Bradshaw, Wayne Murphy, Loz Thomas and Marg Gillick ...not sure where they are!



Thomas

# N-E Vic's Eildon Loop



# Chapter chatter ...

15.5.16 | Southern Tasmania ■ Words: Don Nicoll ■ Photos: Rob Tanner, John Waldock ■ Organiser: John Waldock



*The Southern Tasmanian Chapter gathered early at Rosny Bowls Club for the annual Picnic at Ross.*

The windy and cloudy weather provided an interesting collection of clothing from John Hadrill in a short sleeved shirt to the well rugged John Waldock. A quick departure was required to get to Ross on time, but time enough for a chat and a short briefing from our fearless leader.

Time enough in fact for a debate on how many MX-5s would be required to tow John Hadrill's 30-odd-year-old Mercedes, should it not make the entire trip (when last seen it was happily taking on St Peters Pass in a homeward direction so the debate was clearly spurious at best).

Of the 10 (I lost count at some point and forgot to check) MX-5s only one left the car park with the roof down: our fearless leader no less. The weather gods took a dim view of such bravery and provided a downpour, sufficient to force a brief stop for the roof to be raised when a farmer towing a fertiliser spreader refused to go fast enough to keep John and Michelle protected from the elements.

The route to Ross followed the Coal Valley through the historic towns of Jericho and Jerusalem, both renamed at some time in the past, possibly due to the lack of walls around either town. At Campania we met up with birthday boy, Allan Pryer who had magically metamorphosed his MX-5 into an Austin Healey Sprite (the famous CW, co-restored with John Waldock), complete with a full-width windscreen which was fortunate given the weather was not being kind.

By cancelling a comfort stop at Oatlands we arrived exactly as our leader had predicted at 9.40ish. The weather continued to threaten with winds from the west and the occasional shower which probably explained the absence of the Northern Tasmanian Chapter. Not quite true, there were two MX-5s in the main street of Ross which were suspected of being of northern origin. The Ross picnic has been a traditional meeting place for the two Tasmanian Chapters so it was disappointing that our northern friends didn't show. They were not alone however, I'm told that in the previous years the oval was filled to overflowing

^ Michael & Judy Collinson, Ian Long and friend Tim, David Pitt, Shane Bryant, Michelle Waldock, Di Tanner, Chapter Captain John Waldock and past-President Don Nicoll



^ Cassie Cole, Judy Collinson, birthday boy Allan Pryer, Di Tanner and Michelle Waldock



# .. The Picnic at Ross .....



with cars on show. Today we barely managed half the footy pitch, but some really interesting cars none the less.

Fortunately the weather improved enough to allow the Chapter banner to be unfurled, helped in no small part by a pole and guy system engineered by Rob Tanner, which would not have looked out of place at base camp Everest. Lunch was taken while the weather allowed, but most chose the car for comfort.

There was plenty of interest in the MX-5s, helped no doubt by a "for sale" sign on Ian Long's NC. Despite our best efforts to sell the car, particularly while Ian was looking at other vehicles on show, a buyer was not found on this occasion.

Come one o'clock the organisers announced an early draw of the raffle which, based on previous experience, Michelle confidently predicted we would never win. We had to wait a few minutes while some Pollie welcomed everyone and looked set to make a "vote for me" speech when, fortunately he caught sight of the approaching weather. Clearly he was one of the smarter Pollies because the speech never happened and the draw began. "We-never-win-Michelle" proceeded to clean up with a bucket of stuff which neatly fitted in the parcel shelf of the NA.

That just left Allan to be presented with a birthday cake together with a rousing chorus of Happy Birthday from the Club choir as we made a hurried retreat to the cars. A careful trip back to Hobart beckoned as we said our good byes.

**Thanks to John and Michelle for organising the day. Ausmas beckons next month so I guess we can expect snow. ●**



# Chapter chatter ...

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

*It was a gloomy start to the day weatherwise, when 14 cars lined up at Lucas shopping centre for a 9am start.*

We welcomed new members Ian Court and Sue Walpole who had travelled from Birregurra in their new ND 2.0L GT.

Members travelled from afar including one who arrived 24 hours early, as well as friends not seen for several years (including Gay Mathews).

Members fuelled up with caffeine, had our briefing and headed off in convoy for the back roads to Bendigo.

We took many roads up and down the hills along winding roads through roaming hillsides and rocky terrain.

## Bendigo Exploration run



◀ *The One Tree Hill lookout tower*



Three cars decided to take the rallycross route but soon decided to do a U- turn, much to the amusement of the local farmers watching.

Morning tea was at Vaughan Springs with *Woolfie* having his usual ride down the metal slide. More laughter and joking had by all.

We left Vaughan springs in convoy taking more back roads through Chewton, crossing the Calder Highway. Lucas led the way through Sutton Grange heading to Junortoun with hand signals being the preferred communication method as Lucas's radios had gone flat. We arrived at One Tree Hill lookout where the energetic climbed the lookout, some looked for the lemon tree and others remained firmly on the ground ... talking cars, of course!

Off again, detouring to a shopping centre in Bendigo for some to get lunch supplies. We met another new member who had travelled up the day before from Warrnambool – *that's commitment!* The shoppers must have been surprised to see 15 MX-5s cruising the car park.

Off to the lake – Lake Weeroona in the centre of town – for our picnic lunch where we sat on the foreshore enjoying the sunshine. More joking and laughter as we discussed the world's events.

A few members parted ways after lunch, leaving 10 cars to continue homeward bound.

The instructions were: Bob gave the sign, "*Let's get going*"; Ian asked if he was on a promise; Trish said "*mount up*" and Mary stated "*resume position*".

The back roads took us through Maldon, Carisbrook and on to Clunes, where some stopped for ice cream and others went their own way.

Once again a great day out in great cars with great friends.  
***Let's do it again next month!***

**Thanks again to Ian and Karen. ●**



^ L-R, standing: Ian Whan's daughter & her boyfriend, Ian Whan, Tony Stoffels, Sue Walpole, Chris Vanwelzen, Pam Stoffels, Brian Carroll, Bob de Bont, Mary Carroll, Alan Everett, Warrick Gibbon, Marg de Bont, Gwenda Parkinson, Mary Mercieca, John Gleeson, Jill Gibbon, Noellene Gleeson, Jan Janetzki, Lucas Fitt, Peter Bosanko. Front: Ian Bradshaw, Jeff Woolf, Lori Mercieca and Kevin Brown

# Chapter chatter ...

15.5.16 | Eastern Victoria ■ Words: Mel Krygsman ■ Photos & Organiser: Peter Ferguson

## The South of the Highway run!

*It was a windy grey day when we assembled at one of our regular meeting spots, the Trafalgar Holden Museum which was not as quiet as usual.*

The place was buzzing with the car park full of Holdens of all ages and models with more constantly arriving for an event. We decided to get on the road and out of their way and after a briefing from run leader and Chapter Captain Peter we left with a convoy of eight vehicles.

Joining us for their first run were new members David and Claire in their black NB and, there to “check things out”, father-and-son team Paul and Lachlan Clough (*Bruce Clough Mazda*) who came in a soul red ND.

We set off towards Thorpdale with Rob and me pulling in behind Lachlan driving on L-plates ... I suggested to Rob, as I often do, that he stay well back and on this occasion be mindful of the learner driver. It soon became quite obvious that Lachlan was a

very confident and competent driver who, we discovered later in the day, had been racing go-karts for some time and handled the twisty roads with ease.

We zigged and zagged along many twisty roads and I wish I could tell you about the beautiful scenery, which I know it is, but my eyes were firmly facing front to minimise the car sickness.

The rain held off but the higher in the hills we went the colder it got and beanies and heaters went on. We were then heading into Mirboo North and I was thinking it was a bit early for lunch but happy nonetheless as this is my favourite part of the run. But we headed left out of town and, on checking my run notes, realised there was another 30 to 40 minutes of more twists and turns in a

loop before coming back in to town – *yeah!*

We had a stop at Boolarra for those amongst us whose morning cuppa had caught up with them. Claire and I discussed our level of nausea; this was her first run and I don't think it was quite the usual Sunday drive she had imagined. We continued on again with many more twists and turns and looking at the smile on Rob's face it was obvious he was having a ball while enduring my *ooohhs* and *aaahhs* and other words I know Don would delete.

We headed back into Mirboo North to the *Inline 4 Café* which Peter had the foresight to book as it was full of motor bike riders who had not doubt been doing the same as us and enjoying the great roads in the area (according to drivers/riders).

A great lunch was had by all and the service, considering the numbers, was excellent. The drivers talked about the great drive and all things MX-5 and we women talked about anything. After lunch two of the cars headed for home via a more direct route while the rest of us headed back to Trafalgar.

For those thinking it does not sound like I enjoy the runs, I have met some great people through the Club and catching up with them always compensates for the car sickness and being scared to death! On occasion we do get behind a less “spirited” driver then Rob and I actually get to look at the scenery.

I look forward to the next catch up – you will note I say *catch up* and not *run*. ●



◀ Clockwise from the bottom: Ron & Mel Krygsman, Phil Harris, prospective members Mrs Moore and husband John, David & Chris Salter, and Paul Clough (of Clough Mazda Nar Nar Goon)

✓ From left, Tailend Trish, Peter Ilijash, and new members David & Claire Phelps





**17.5.16 | Eastern Victoria** ■ Words & photos: Leeanne Evans ■ Organiser: Peter Ferguson

*Tuesday 17 May saw a small group of those lucky enough not to have to be at work assemble at Obsessions Coffee shop in Trafalgar in readiness to head off to meet some of the Central Chapter members in Noojee for lunch. Seems like this is a repeat performance again, which it is!*

We had only three cars leave Trafalgar on this very cool day in the middle of May. Peter Ferguson braved the odds and drove with his roof down, whilst Peter and Tail End Trish, David and I drove with our tops up! The 50-minute drive to Noojee was only held up by roadworks, slowing down to 40kmh, which was hard to do!

The road after Fumina South is by far the best section as the drive heads through tall, straight timbered forest with beautiful ferns – beautiful surroundings, corners and some great stuff. Mel had a great time again sitting next to Peter ... she actually enjoyed the view. This sure beats being at work!

When we arrived at the Toolshed in Noojee, we were met by only one other car from the Central Chapter: Lori and Mary. This time we had more cars from Eastern than Central.

As we had agreed to meet at 11.30 for an early lunch, we were the first to be served our meals again. The Toolshed is so popular it's moderately busy, even during the week. No wonder: great roads from whichever direction you approach, top notch pub-style food and really nice surrounds. At one stage we were the only ones there – all eight of us!

We enjoyed a very leisurely lunch and it was great to see everyone, especially with this very cool day and of course the open fire was lit. After lunch we said our farewells to Lori and Mary who live in Essendon and our Chapter Captain Peter who had to make a dash back to home to collect his granddaughter from school. This just left two cars behind – Peter and Trish and David and me – so we decided to drive through Neerim South and head for coffee at Gippy Goat which is located near Yarragon.

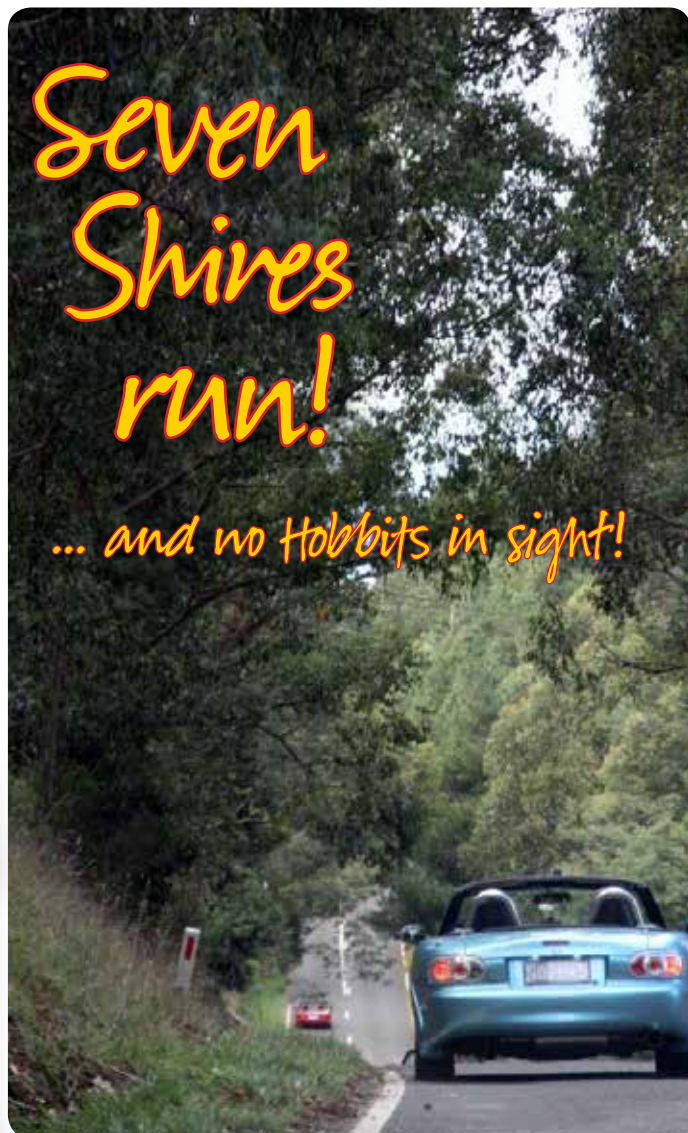
**Great weather, great company, nice roads and a top setting – this does beat being at work! Must do it again asap. ●**



↗ Clockwise from left: David Evans, Tailend Trish, Peter Ilijash, Lori & Mary Mercieca, Mel Krygsman and Chapter Captain Peter Ferguson

# Chapter chatter ...

15.5.16 | Central ■ Words: Dianne Lindner ■ Photos: Katrina & John Palmer, Bronwyn Roche ■ Organisers: Katrina & John





Palmer

*We met up as always about 30 minutes before our run started on Sunday morning, and it was then it struck me how lucky we are to be part of such a great club.*

We weren't just standing around waiting for the run to start, we were catching up with old friends and meeting new ones. The sun was out, which is always a bonus, and we were all eagerly awaiting what promised to be a great run led for the first time by John and Katrina.

At 9.30 we left Boronia and headed up Mountain Highway towards Sassafras, carefully navigating the road with its many lycra-clad men and women traversing the mountain on their bikes. Lucky we weren't in a hurry!

After passing through Monbulk and leaving the cyclists behind we headed out on to quieter roads with just enough slow moving local traffic to keep us from picking up the pace through the smaller towns of Macclesfield, Avonsleigh and Cockatoo on our way to Gembrook. Perhaps not a bad thing as we lost a few cars on the other side of Sassafras with a sneaky little intersection on Sherbrooke Road ... which left Geoff and Bronwyn the task of rounding them up and getting them back on track. Thankfully they did.

Gembrook was our morning tea stop, and we arrived around 10.30am. It was a little overcast and we questioned whether it might turn out to be a roof-up day!

Fuelled up on drinks and our snacks of choice, as well as some homemade fruit cake from Bronwyn, we started on stage two of our run – 25km of long and gentle curving roads through beautiful countryside with Bunyip State Forest on our right as we passed through Hoddles Creek and the stunning Yarra Ranges National Park on our horizon. Some of us were lucky enough to have no traffic and managed to get our cars up to speed while others were a little less fortunate to be caught behind more local traffic.

Coming into Launching Place and on to the Warburton Highway we started to share the road with more and more motorbikes who were doing as we were, taking advantage of the awesome roads to get out and play. We followed them as we passed the orchard town of Gladysdale, then the timber town of Powelltown where they pulled over giving us back the road. With the roads pretty much ours we upped the pace and cruised through the wide, well-maintained road with the area's wineries and timber yards until we reached our 12pm pit stop in Noojee.

Noojee, situated beside the Latrobe River should have been an uneventful rest stop, and so it was – until we went to leave and John's car wouldn't start. Uh oh – flat battery! Fourteen cars and no jumper leads! *OK ... time for a push start.* After two failed attempts and with a group of bush-bashing 4x4 drivers watching, one of them kindly offered us a set of jumper leads and with one turn of the key John was purring along again.

The turn off toward Moe that took us to our lunch stop at Blue Rock Lake at Willow Grove gave us about 20km of what I like to call MX-5 roads: tight little twisties and hairpin bends, small inclines and declines with no solid straights. Roads that have you really driving the car and working through the gears. The scenery is as stunning as the roads are winding, with forests of tall trees lining each side of the road before clearing into dairy farm landscape with rolling green hills either side of us.

We arrived for lunch at 1pm at Blue Rock Lake; a man-made dam built to provide cooling water for the thermal power stations of the Latrobe Valley and to

augment domestic water supplies. We set up our picnics and spent the hour sharing our enjoyment of the



drive so far and particularly of that last section and the fun drive that it was. A pleasant spot, not too windy and with the sun making brief appearances between the clouds. After lunch we did a small detour across the dam wall for a car photo shoot. A great idea but the weather on that side of the dam didn't match the other side. The wind was howling and more than a little cold; a few hats were almost claimed by the wind into the dam. Needless to say we didn't stay there too long.

With one last section of this run to complete we headed back through Willow Grove and turned off towards Trafalgar where the roads were no-one's but ours, and we let the cars make the most of the hills and many bends. The countryside as we passed through Neerim South was beautiful, very green and postcard perfect everywhere we looked, before we turned back into forest at Neerim Junction for one last stretch of road to play on before we arrived at our destination at Yarra Junction.

**The 280km drive was long, but organised and led well by John and Katrina. Thanks guys, a great day out. ●**



^ David Ralph and his dad Keith, at the wheel of David's new SE ...

# Chapter chatter ...

**22.5.16 | Northern Tasmxnia** ■ Words: Alana McDougall ■ Photos: Bruce Harvey ■ Organiser: Bruce Harvey

*We had 17 cars lined up at Deloraine on a lovely sunny Tassie autumn day for our run to Bothwell in the Central Highlands.*

But to get there, first we had to travel some of our wonderful Tassie roads with lots of twists and turns. This took us behind Westbury and Bracknell, eventually stopping at Poatina Village to regroup, before heading up Poatina Hill which is renowned for its corners and sharp hairpins.

### **Just right for MX-5s!**

Then it was a leisurely drive down the Highland Lakes Highway, which in itself is a great drive, to Bothwell – home to one of Australia’s oldest golf courses, *Nant Whiskey Distillery* and numerous heritage-listed convict built buildings – for lunch at the Bothwell Hotel which everyone declared delicious.

After lunch a few left early to head home via the Midland Highway; the rest of us retraced our steps and drove the Highland Lake Highway and down the Poatina Hill where, alas, we caught up to a few anglers who had been at Liawenee for the annual trout migration and egg stripping day.

**A very enjoyable day cruising in our MX-5s organised by our fearless leader Bruce. ●**



▲ From left, (back): Michael, Glen, Cherie, Tony, Julia, Gerry, Ken, Cheryl, Carl, Roger, Andrew, Michael, Peter, Elliot, Alana, Robert and Cheryl, and (front) Kelly, Sven and Oliver (Carl's dad and brother) Bruce, Bruce, Lyn, Peter, Jill, Charlotte and Trevor ... at Poatina.



Top left: Peter Steer, Peter Mathews, Gerry Chivers  
Top right: Michael Nolan, Glen Gardner, Cherie Gardner, Elliot Freestone  
Lower left: Robert Humphries, Charlotte Lindsay, Michael Lindsay  
Lower right: Cheryl Murray & Alana McDougall

# Chapter chatter ...

28.5.16 | North-Eastern Victoria ■ Words: Warwick Gibbon ■ Photos: Ron Gillick ■ Organiser: Loz Thomas

*It was a cold but dry Saturday morning when two MX-5s and their occupants met at the Milawa Bakery with the intention of watching the 40th Anniversary of the Historic Winton Car Races.*

With no time to waste we headed to the Hume Freeway and after about 25 minutes arrived at the remains of the Winton Roadhouse where we met up with Peter Bosanko, who had driven from Colbinabbin, and Ian and Jenny from Shepparton. This exclusive group represented the first three versions of our sports car – NA, NB and NC, so we thought it appropriate that we should enter the special parking area and park in line to represent the Club.

Part of the attraction of this meeting is the diverse variety of vehicles that owners bring to display in the special car park and most spectators take the time to wander through and view the cars during the day. This year was no exception with cars as diverse as a Trojan Bubble Car to numerous classic sports and muscle cars.

Winton is unique in that the competition includes races for classic motorcycles as well as classes for a variety of historic cars from the early days of motoring with a cut off of December 1977.

Saturday is divided into qualifying during the morning, followed by racing for all categories for the rest of the day. The competitors are racing for trophies and for the enjoyment of competing and using their cars or bikes for what is their intended purpose.

We managed to check out the pits and also see most of the events including the last two categories for the Sports Cars and Group N Touring cars which, as always, had really close and spirited racing. Seeing Minis hounding Mustangs and Camaros at very close quarters was quite entertaining.

**Fortunately the weather held out and was sunny all day with none of the forecast showers, so we left after the last race, wondering if MX-5s will eventually become "Historic" race cars. ●**





# ..... Historic Winton .....



# Targa High Country 2016 ...

Words: David Salter



Have you ever looked at a windy road and thought ...

...“if only it was closed to the public so I could enjoy a good run through here”?

I certainly did ... and then I found out that all I needed was a neat and tidy roadworthy car, a basic CAMS licence and a few minor pieces of safety gear and no modifications to my car.

***This is all you need to be able to go for a spirited drive around some fantastic windy roads and it's all legal!***

This is the *Tour* category of an event called **Targa High Country** that takes place each November, based close by at Mt Buller.

There are, of course, more competitive options available if you want to race but you don't have to go that far if you just want to go for a spirited drive.

This year will be my third time back to Targa High Country and my first time in my MX-5!

Even in the basic category, the *Tour*, I can have plenty of fun following Porsches along some fantastic windy roads around Mt Buller and Eildon Reservoir – in fact, 300km of closed roads over three days including two runs up the Mt Buller Road ... *and it's all on bitumen!*

Everyone stays at Mt Buller and we all start from there each morning, meaning it's a great atmosphere around the mountain with the event practically taking it over.

**You can pick the category that suits you so that you only go as fast as you feel comfortable.**

Why not come along and meet some great people and have some fun.

**AND, if we get 10 MX-5 Club entries we even get a discount!**

There is more information on their web site: [https://targa.com.au/tc/page\\_standard.asp?asset\\_id=28490](https://targa.com.au/tc/page_standard.asp?asset_id=28490) ■

**If you're interested in signing on for this event and taking advantage of the Club discount, please contact David Salter on 0419 134 733.**



# Sandown double-header..



■ Words: Mr C. Rod ■ Photos: Vanessa Macaulay, [redbookphotography.com.au](http://redbookphotography.com.au)

*After what seemed like ages it was time the rev-head sub-section of respectable gentlemen and ladies got back on track and shredded some rubber.*

A Sandown double header with two meetings on consecutive Saturday's was surely going to do that.

## Round 3: Saturday, 30 April

Run by the WRX Club, the weather gods smiled and we were gifted with a classic, beautiful Melbourne autumn day. Smiles all around as most (but not all) of the usuals plus a couple of extras showed up (grand total of 17 MX-5s) and the good-natured sledging came out of hibernation and went into overdrive before even the first car hit the track.

A slightly smaller turn up than usual and some of the excuses were noteworthy. All the usual types – ie, busy, wives' birthday, went to help the mother-in-law etc etc. Will not mention names but the best was "going to a wine and cheese tasting at a vineyard!". Now, what could be more important than a track day! Brought back memories of a few years ago when a track day organised by AROCA fell on Mother's Day. The Clerk of Course opened the Drivers' briefing with words to the effect of "I am looking at a few very brave men".

Clearly there was a bit of rust in most people's systems and it took a while to get into the swing of things, with most people a second or two off their previous bests and more than one or two departures from the racing surface. It was particularly tricky as while the black stuff was dry, the kerbs and especially the green stuff was still wet from rain the previous days and made for an exciting ride if you went there.

In a typical case of Murphy's Law, Alan Conrad's recently repainted (for NatMeet, of course) NC fell afoul of the green stuff and gave one of the barriers a minor tap. Hopefully it will buff out all right and Alan will be back terrorising us soon. While nobody likes to see nice cars scratched, we are running out of corners and parts of the track at Sandown to name after Club members. There is even a rumour Turn 1 is going to be renamed

either Newman or Lloyd corner, depending upon which one of the two of them win the count back for the highest number of auto rotations and general departures from the racing surface at that location. More than a few people note that Car 62 seems to do a wee bit less on the limit at Turn 4 these days, plus there is even a rumour that an ex-rally driver in a black NB (possibly Clubman class) may carry a shovel around with him to help get out of the kitty litter (just occasionally) if required.

All in all a great day which was well run by the WRX Club. It was also very pleasing and great to note the steady performance improvement from some of our newer participants. A few meetings under the belt and steady development really shows with people getting quicker and quicker. Well done to all, with particular mention of number 77.

We were going to mention the "Presidential Power Nap" but decided against this rash move.

... so a photo will suffice:



^ Dave Moore (#89) prepares for the track

## Sandown double-header (continued) ...

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### Round 4: Saturday, 7 June

Seven sleeps and we were back at it with our mates from the Alfa Club (AROCA). Yet again another absolutely glorious Melbourne autumn day with the enthusiasm level on the rev limiter again. A few of the “missing” from the previous week appeared and we must unfortunately report that *Team Kyalami* again failed “bling” inspection with a spec of dirt being located in the engine bay.

Again, it was wise to stay on the black stuff and fortunately I’m not aware of any MX-5s having any scrapes with solid objects, though a few bits did fall off a few cars during the day (an air splitter and a few exhaust system bolts to name a couple) plus a few auto rotations etc. Rumour also has it that Mr M Lloyd really wants Turn 1 naming rights and added a couple more “departures” to the list!

Again, more than a few struggled to repeat previous best times and it was interesting to note that in a couple of cases our normally super reliable 5s ran out of retardation. Sandown, when you are going for it, has a couple of hard-braking points and a few participants may be changing pad types in the near future.

It was also great to see Ian Vague back on the track with the NC looking pristine again after his recent foray into Rallycross at Broadford. The car looked great, with Ian now also the

proud holder of the Club’s altitude record (*previous holder Mr R Downes*).

Apart from those few minor issues and everybody having the usual great time, the evil-eyed correspondent was hard put to spy various misdemeanours worthy of report. Albeit a certain participant was told to “do as he was told” by a certain attractive photographer.

It is also interesting to note that we now have a trio of Dean’s regularly taking part in track days these days with all three of them quite (very) quick in their respective classes. One even has a “sponsored” drive. Also good to see the *Barmy Army* displaying great reliability after a bit of a horror run a while back while Leon continues to sneak under the radar screen (your day will come, Leon).

Quickest MX-5 lap for the day went to Mr R Garner and again, as usual, Russell and his mighty MX-5 showed a lot of far more expensive and exotic machinery the way home. Memories of a few years ago at Winton when a Porsche driver got the fright of his life when he was rounded up by Russell (to the cheers of the rest of us on the spectator mound).

**Round 5 (with AROCA) will be at Winton on Sunday, 19 June. See you there. ●**

✓ *Russell Garner returns to the pits*



### 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)



### Repro VIP Club retail discount

Financial MX-5 Club members may join the **Repro 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.repro.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.

Repro will e-mail you online catalogues and offers.

**2016 City Mazda MX-5 Sprint Championship | Rounds 3 & 4**



#021 ~ Gavin Newman



#26 ~ Robert Downes



#24 ~ Ray Monik



#62 ~ Noel Heritage



#77 ~ Simeon Ouzas



#79 ~ Dean Hasnat



#112 ~ Ian Vague



#119 ~ Peter Dannock



#141 ~ Max Lloyd



#191 ~ Mark Manns



#205 ~ John Reid



#242 ~ Leon Bogers



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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)



**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.

## 2016 City Mazda MX-5 Sprint Championship standings after Round 4 | Sandown - 7.5.16

(corrected points)	1st		2nd		3rd	
Overall Champion	Russell Garner	» 40	= Dean Hasnat / Noel Heritage / Simeon Ouzas	» 37		
Open	Dave Moore	» 27	Dave Wilken	» 10	---	
Restricted Open	Tim Meaden	» 17	Paul Ledwith	» 10	---	
Super Modified	Russell Garner	» 40	Dean Watchorn	» 19	Robert Parr	» 13
Modified	Dean Hasnat	» 37	Gavin Newman	» 21	Daniel Luong	» 18
NA Clubman	Robert Downes	» 40	George Vellis	» 7	---	
NB Clubman	Noel Heritage	» 40	Max Lloyd	» 27	Peter Dannock	» 25
Standard NC	Alan Conrad	» 30	Daniel Sadique	» 17	Ian Vague	» 14
Standard NB	Simeon Ouzas	» 37	Ben Mott	» 10	---	
Standard NA	---		---		---	

## 2016 City Mazda MX-5 Sprint Championship: Round 3 | Sandown - 30.4.16

Results - Round 3	1st		2nd		3rd	
Super Modified	Russell Garner	» 1:29.6312	Dean Watchorn	» 1:32.3033	---	
Modified	Dean Hasnat	» 1:32.4765	Gavin Newman	» 1:33.8475	Daniel Luong	» 1:34.9572
NA Clubman	Robert Downes	» 1:37.7383*	---		---	
NB Clubman	Noel Heritage	» 1:36.6266	Max Lloyd	» 1:36.6967	Peter Dannock	» 1:37.3562
Standard NC	Alan Conrad	» 1:33.7302	---		---	
Standard NB	Simeon Ouzas	» 1:37.1140	---		---	

## 2016 City Mazda MX-5 Sprint Championship: Round 4 | Sandown - 7.5.16

Results - Round 4	1st		2nd		3rd	
Open	Dave Moore	» 1:29.2903	---		---	
Super Modified	Russell Garner	» 1:29.2415*	---		---	
Modified	Dean Hasnat	» 1:31.9545	Gavin Newman	» 1:33.4349	Daniel Luong	» 1:33.9016
NA Clubman	Robert Downes	» 1:38.5206	---		---	
NB Clubman	Noel Heritage	» 1:36.0314	Max Lloyd	» 1:36.5217	Peter Dannock	» 1:37.1881
Standard NC	Daniel Sadique	» 1:35.4720	Ian Vague	» 1:38.5850	---	
Standard NB	Simeon Ouzas	» 1:38.0548	---		---	

\* New Club lap record

### Trading Post

#### For Sale

2004 Velocity Red NB SE  
62,126km  
Frankston South



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)



**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.

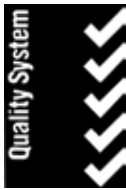
For more information, e-mail:  
[rdaebcoffer@mx5vic.org.au](mailto:rdaebcoffer@mx5vic.org.au)



## ***A new option for the MX-5 owner***

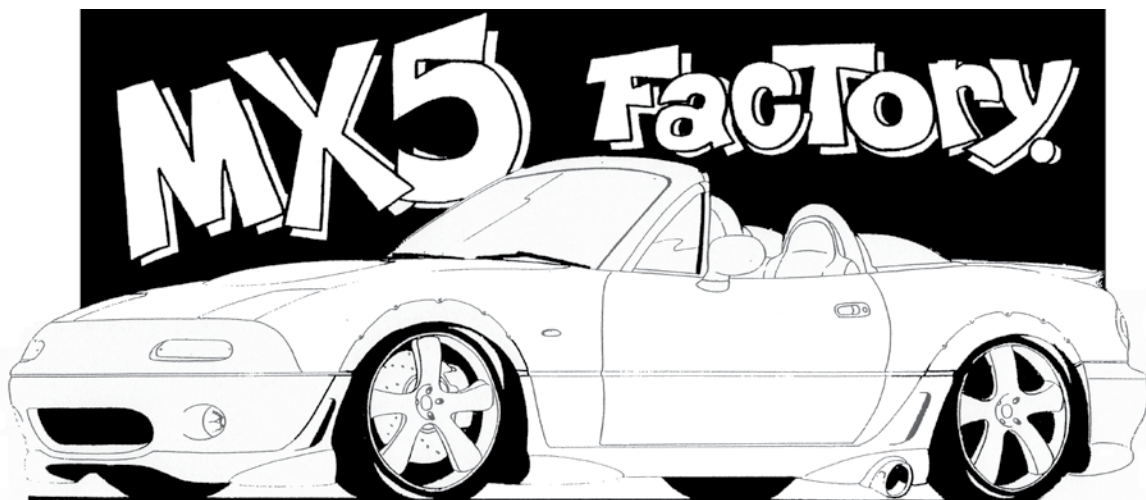
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- ◆ Special rates to Club Members - Free loan car available to Members
- ◆ Contact Dick to discuss your mechanical needs



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

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- ◆ Air conditioning and detailing
- ◆ Insurance claims, advice service
- ◆ Lifetime work guarantee
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**Tel 03 9870 0520 / Fax 03 9879 6545**



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