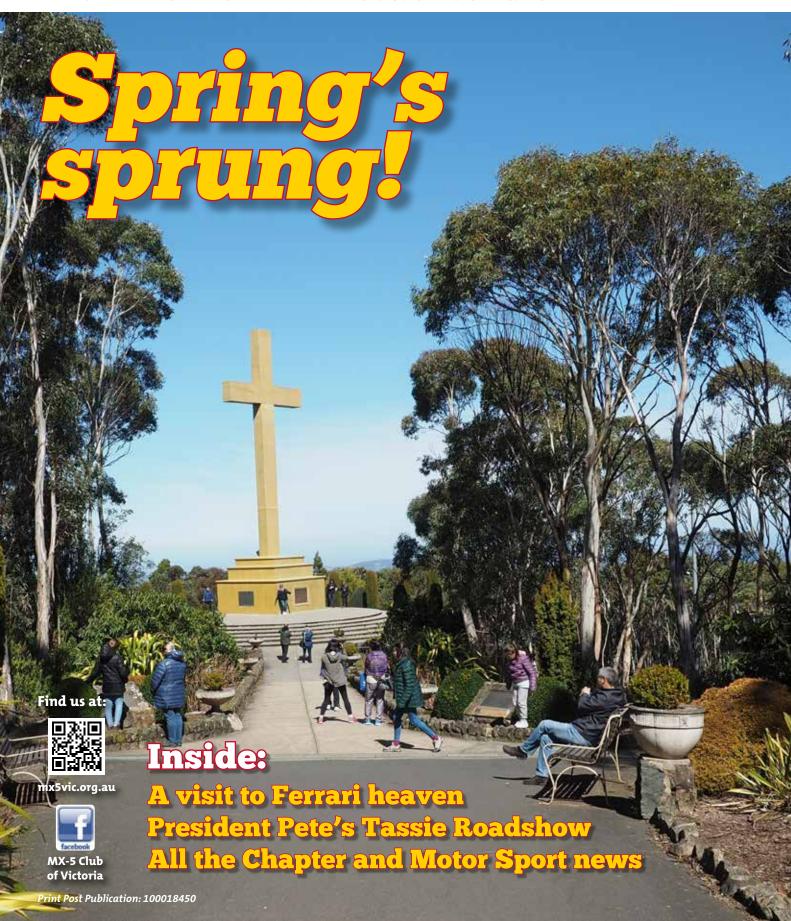


**10/2017** mx5vic.org.au



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





#### GREAT RENTAL RATES FOR MX-5 MATES —

Whether you live in Melbourne or are travelling to Melbourne, Open Road Roadsters can enhance the joy and excitement you get from driving your MX-5, with an opportunity to rent a late model MX-5 at great rates.

> As a member of the Mazda MX-5 Club of Victoria and Tasmania, you will enjoy a discount of up to 30% on all rentals.

Don't miss this opportunity to drive the latest model MX-5 in Melbourne. To book your rental or to find out more information, visit our website

### openroadroadsters.com.au

or call Peter Dannock on 0408 522 093



### "NO ONE KNOWS YOUR PASSION LIKE SHANNONS."



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.

SHARE THE PASSION

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.



#### **Your Committee: 2017-2018**

#### President

> Peter Dannock | 0408 522 093 (ah) e: president@mx5vic.org.au

#### Vice President / Treasurer

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

#### Secretary

> Bruce Gray | 0478 219 856 (ah) e: secretary@mx5vic.org.au

#### Club Captain - Motor Sport

> Randy Stagno Navarra | 0409 210 872 e: captain@mx5vic.org.au

#### Assistant Club Captain – Motor Sport

> Gavin Newman | 0403 809 515(ah) e: captain2@mx5vic.org.au

#### Club Captain - Social

> Richard Acfield | 0488 747 755 (ah) e: social@mx5vic.org.au

#### Assistant Club Captain - Social

> Steve Reid | 0418 124 461 (ah) e: social2@mx5vic.org.au

#### Membership

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

#### Points

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

#### Social Media

> Randy Stagno Navarra | 0409 210 872

> Cary Warren | 0418 368 246 (ah) e: facebook@mx5vic.org.au

#### Merchandise

> Cary Warren | 0418 368 246 (ah) e: merchandise@mx5vic.org.au

#### **Chapter Captains - Central (Melbourne)**

> John & Katrina Palmer | 0428 306 392 (ah) e: central@mx5vic.org.au

#### Chapter Captain - Eastern Victoria

> Peter Ferguson | 0419 108 128 e: eastern@mx5vic.org.au

### Chapter Captain - North-Eastern Victoria

> Loz Thomas | 0409 639 718 e: north-eastern@mx5vic.org.au

#### Chapter Captains - Western Victoria

> Ian & Karen Bradshaw | 0407 556 135 e: western@mx5vic.org.au

#### Chapter Captain - Northern Tasmania

> Bruce Harvey | 0427 656 074 (ah) e: northtas@mx5vic.org.au

#### Chapter Captain - Southern Tasmania

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

### 10/2017

### contents



### **Reports and thoughts**

4 Pete's Perspective

**5** Scene About

6 Randy's Rant

7 Membership

**8** Small world ... maybe too small?

**9** Meet the Chapter Captains

28 A trip to Italy ... and Ferrari heaven

### **Chapter chatter**

**10** President's Pete's South and North Tassie roadshow

**12** Central: A Valiant effort!

**14 Central/Eastern Victoria:** *Khanacross at Bryant Park* 

**16** Eastern Victoria: Alan's Something Different run

**18** Western Victoria: Run to the Cross and Back

**20** Northern Tasmania: The Tuck Shop run

**22** Eastern Victoria: Lunch'n'Lies at Port Albert

**24 Southern Tasmania:** Chapter Captain's Mystery run

### **Motor sport**

**25** Essendon Mazda Sprints Championship – Rd 8: Sandown

**Cover** Perfect weather (for a change!) for the view from image: the Cross at Mt Macedon. Photo: Karen Bradshaw



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 8173, Croydon VIC 3136. Registered for Print Post: 100018450

All contributions are welcome. Please send articles and photos (as attachments) to the editor, Murray Finlay: > email: editor@mx5vic.org.au

> or post: mxtra, Mazda MX-5 Club of Victoria & Tasmania, PO Box 8173, Croydon VIC 3136

Note: Images 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*.



### Pete's Perspective ...

■ Peter Dannock - President president@mx5vic.org.au

#### Limited Edition

When Mazda released the MX-5 RF early this year in the USA and UK markets, they released a Limited Edition model that included 17-inch BBS wheels, Bilstein shock absorbers, Brembo brakes, Recaro seats and lots more. I was disappointed that the Limited Edition was not available in Australia when I placed an order for the RF, just after its release in January this year.

Fast forward nine months and Mazda Australia have announced that they will be releasing a Limited Edition model of the RF in January 2018. Not only will it be equipped with all the goodies from the overseas Limited Edition model, you will also receive a special gift pack containing a bespoke Mazda MX-5 wristwatch and a letter signed by the MX-5 program manager.

Priced from \$55,790, on the road, you will need to be quick as they will only be releasing 110 of them, with a choice of six colours, Soul Red Crystal Metallic, Eternal Blue Mica (both of which are new), Snowflake White Pearl Mica, Machine Grey Metallic, Titanium Flash Mica and Ceramic Metallic.

#### Travel to the Apple Isle

In the last weekend of August, I had the pleasure of travelling to Tasmania to meet and greet with the members in our two Tassie Chapters. This year I started with the Southern Tasmanian Chapter in Hobart on the Saturday. John Waldock, our Southern Tasmanian Chapter Captain was showing off his new RF GT and he was very kind to lend me his SE to drive for the day. We had a great drive from Hobart, up the east coast, through Orford and Swansea, having lunch at Devils Corner. Though it was very windy, it was a great view of the Freycinet National Park.

After lunch, we travelled on the Lake Leake road to Campbell Town to meet with Alana McDougall from the Northern Tasmania Chapter to complete my trip to Launceston.

On Sunday I enjoyed a great round trip from Deloraine, in a borrowed RF from Launceston Mazda. I was more than happy to share the car around and be the passenger most of the day. It was a great chance for members to get a drive of the RF and those that drove it enjoyed the experience. We came back to Deloraine for a great lunch at the Bush Inn. The day was rounded off by heading back to Launceston after lunch.

The great thing about getting to Tasmania is the opportunity to chat with members and to hand out the annual awards. Thanks to John Waldock, Don Nicoll, Bruce Harvey and Alana McDougall for their hospitality and support over the weekend. I enjoyed driving on great roads, in a great car, with great people. The weekend went far too quickly.

#### Vacancies on the Committee

In my last report I made mention of the Annual General Meeting and how it is the opportunity for members to elect the Committee and have a say in how the club is run. I also mentioned that we had two vacancies on the Committee and that we are looking for members to step up and join the Committee.

Joining the Committee is a great way to give back to the club and the most regular commitment is the monthly Committee meetings on the second Wednesday of every month. I encourage you to consider joining the Committee and feel free to contact me if you want more information on the what joining the Committee is all about.

### For your diary ...

### See the full calendar for details

### October

- 24 NEV Tuesday run Mt Buffalo
- 27 WV Friday Great Ocean Road
- 29 CEN Great Ocean Road dawn run

### **November**

- 12 EV Khanacross, Bryant Park
- 18 NEV Mt Buller run
- 19 EV Shed to Shed run
- 19 WV Winery/Produce run
- 26 CEN Brisbane Ranges run

### **December**

- 3 EV Christmas break-up BBQ
- 10 CEN Christmas run
- 10 STas Christmas run
- 17 NEV Christmas run
- 17 WV Christmas run

### Mark those corners!

Please remember, on social convoy runs, to mark the corners for those following.

It's very simple: when you get to an intersection or a point where the route of the convoy might be unclear to the car behind you, please wait at the corner until you're sure the following vehicle has seen you.

If it's unsafe to wait <u>at</u> the corner, please wait in a visible position nearby.

You won't get lost because, if everyone complies, the car you're following will be waiting for you at the next turn!



### Scene about ...

■ Photos: Peter Ferguson, John Waldock, June Teeuw, Janine Boyce, Karen Bradshaw, Trevor Simm







### Randy's Rant ...



■ Randy Stagno Navarra – Club Captain - Motor Sport captain@mx5vic.org.au

Father's Day weekend started off really well for a few of us who were competing at Round 8 of the Essendon Mazda Sprint Championship at Sandown. Twenty-two of us braved the cold start of spring to have an enjoyable and relatively dry event. It was great to see new competitors coming out and having a go. They might start the day cautious, but once their times start coming down the competitive spirt gets them too. Suddenly times are being checked after each session to make sure that improvements are being made.

It was also the farewell of little red NA #26 that has been terrorising race tracks around Victoria, NSW and Tasmania for quite a few years. She has now been retired and I can't wait to see Rob Downes in his new race car.

### AROCA 12 Hour Winton ~ 14-15 October

We are all go for the 12 Hour. Fifteen drivers and a small team of volunteers are set to give this event their all.

As always we could do with more people to help out. Whether for one day or the whole weekend, it's a great opportunity for all of you to see how large this event is so your support is always welcome.

I'd like to thank our Club for their support of all three teams as well as *Essendon Mazda*, *Open Road Roadsters* and *Barwon Tyre* & *Auto* for their sponsorship. We are still looking for additional sponsors, if any of you would like your business logo on our cars feel free to contact me.

Essendon Mazda MX-5 Sprint Championship ~ Rd 9 / Interstate Challenge at Sydney Motorsport Park, 18 November.

Entries should be out by now. Hope we can get a large crew to head north and defend our title. SMSP is a great circuit so I strongly encourage those of you who have never been to come up. The NSW Club always put on an awesome event and it will be great to catch up with them all. As you can imagine, the banter will be as strong as the competition.

#### Tasmania 2018

We will be having two track events at Symmons Plains and Baskerville over the Melbourne Cup weekend. The plan is to do Baskerville on Saturday 3 November and Symmons Plains on Monday 5 November. Those of you who took part in the NatMeet event will know what a great time we had, so let's get as many of us as possible over to Tassie.

#### Save the date!!

Our 2017 Motor Sport Awards presentation will be held on Sunday, 17 December. This will be a luncheon held at the Kent Hotel. I know it's close to Christmas but I'm hoping to see all of you there.

Stay safe and see you all at a track soon.

"If you have everything under control, you're not moving fast enough!"

Randy





Current membership count:



■ Will Campbell – Membership Officer membership@mx5vic.org.au

### G'day again ...

This month sees a significant increase in the membership count with 26 new members and some renewals. Quite a healthy jump on the count of 573 recorded for the same period last year.

#### **Central Chapter**

Sebastian Buscemi	1998 Evolution Gold NB
Ronald Chong	1989 Grey NA
Jamie, Cindy & Andrew Ganly	2008 Silver NC
Jeremy Edwards	1998 Classic Red NB
Brendan George	2016 Ceramic White ND
Michael Johnson	1989 Classic Red NA
Zaida & Ernest Kiss	1990 Mariner Blue NA
Brooke Lloyd	2017 Machine Grey RF
Michael & Anne Metherell	2001 Grace Green NB
Ross Mundy	1998 Classic Red NB
Wayne Styles	2009 Sunset Yellow NC
Jordan Thompson	1990 Classic Red NA
Antony Thow	1993 Classic Red NA
Simon Woodbridge	1991 White NA

#### Northern Tasmania Chapter

David Stevens & Jenni Watts	1998 Grace Green NB			
Southern Tasmania Chapter				
Shelley Oakden & Keir Harrex	1989 Mariner Blue NA			
North-Eastern Victoria Chapter				
Mark Hartley	2017 Soul Red ND			
Western Victoria Chapter				
Robert Darley	2015 Crystal White ND			
Tony & Beryl Ffrench	1992 Classic Red NA			

It's the end of our first quarter for the current membership year and I was recently prompted to send new membership lists to each of our Chapter Captains. This allows them to send targeted emails for events occurring in their region.

However, it's worth reiterating that, whilst you are allocated to a Chapter, you are welcome to attend **any** Club or Chapter event, regardless of the Chapter hosting it.

Indeed, a member living close to the boundary of a particular Chapter might prefer to attend events organised by a neighbouring group. For example, whilst in the Central Chapter, many Geelong members identify more closely with the Western Victoria group. If you are in a similar situation and would like to be included in a Chapter other than your own, please let me know.

Enjoy your MX-5, love the ride and be safe ...

Will

### Chib event photos

Have you taken some good photos on a Club run?

Are you willing to share them with the rest of the club?

You can!

The Mazda MX-5 Club of Victoria & Tasmania has a SmugMug Gallery at mx5vic.smugmug.com

Email them to your Chapter Captain, or centrally to smugmug@mx5vic.org.au (Bob de Bont), so they can be added to the event gallery.

Please remember to include your full name for credits.

## Visit the Club merchandise online shop ...



... for a great range of Club- and Mazdabranded merchandise: mx5vic.org.au/

mx5vic.org.au/ clubroom/merchandise



It was in March and it was Ron and Marg Gillick's last run before their caravanning holiday around Australia ...

In passing conversation I asked Ron about their plans and where they were heading first. "To the Flinders Ranges" he answered.

"Oh really!" I replied. "We're heading to the Flinders too!"

Turns out we were not only going to be in the Flinders Ranges at the same time but also staying at the same campground!

We arrived at Rawnsley Station in early May a day apart and spent the next six days crossing paths and catching up every afternoon for drinks and nibbles around the campfire and enjoying amazing views of the ranges.

So on the second to last day I asked Ron what his itinerary was going forward. Ron explained that, over the next couple of months, He and Marg were heading up the middle before heading west to Broome and then down the WA coast.

"When will you be in Broome?" I asked.

"Probably around mid-July" replied Ron.

"Seriously?! We're going on a cruise and we've got a day in Broome on 19 July!"

Turns out we were there at the same time, too!

On arriving in Broome, Shane and I met up with Ron and Marg for coffee and then they chauffeured us around to all the tourist attractions. We enjoyed lunch together and then bade each other farewell.



Shane, Ron, Marg and Loz in the Flinders Ranges

I don't know why, but when I asked them when they were going to be in Esperance, they declined to answer ...!

It's a small world!



## GET THE ROADSIDE COVER THAT COVERS THE MOST





PREMIUM ROADSIDE COVER

To find out more visit racv.com.au, an RACV shop or call 13 RACV

### **Meet our Chapter Captains ...**



### Katrina & John Palmer

Central
2015 Soul Red ND



Lorelei (Loz)
Thomas
North-Eastern Victoria
2007 True Red NC



Ian & Karen Bradshaw Western Victoria 2000 Black NB



We ordered our MX-5 in September 2015 and it arrived in November. Having being members of another car club for 30 years, the time felt right to try something just for the two of us.

try something just for the two of us. Something about a mid-life crisis! We went on a run as guests and were

welcomed by Geoff and Bronwyn and all attending. We joined the Club in January 2016 and enjoy as many runs as possible.

We have always enjoyed organising trips and being involved in clubs, so early on we got more involved.

When Geoff and Bronwyn decided to have a break, it was a privilege to be asked if we would consider the role. *Big shoes!* 

We like to explore some of the lesstravelled sealed roads around our fabulous state and we're always looking for new ideas.

The Club has provided us with many great friendships with like-minded people. We look forward to many more enjoyable years behind the wheel of our MX-5.

A lmost six years ago Shane and I made a tree change and moved from hot Rockhampton to beautiful Bright. The roads around Rocky are straight in every direction so when we moved to Bright where the roads are twisty in every direction we bought a little sports car. We bought our first (and still current) MX-5 in 2013. We joined the Club in 2014 and I became Chapter Captain in 2015. The NE Chapter is small, so we're all close friends and enjoy each other's company.

Between working five-six shifts a fortnight as a Registered Nurse at the Bright hospital (Shane says I'm semi-retired), regular trips to family in Queensland, and the MX-5 Club, I'm pretty busy.

I love being part of this Club and value the experiences and friendships. I love that members from other Chapters come up to join us and I love showcasing our beautiful region which has some terrific roads. I hope that the Chapter continues to grow and hope to partake in other Chapter's activities in the future. •

We had always dreamed of having a sports car, so after the kids had grown up and more or less left home, we started to look and decided on an MX-5 NB. We ended up buying "The Beast", our black NB series 2.

We have added a spoiler kit, hot dog, sway bars and of course some chrome. At that time Ian thought it was the pick of the bunch and he still does! We joined the Club soon after in early 2010 and it was one of the best decisions we have ever made

Each run we do, we try to make it a little different. It is bit difficult in the Western District to find curvey roads as they are mostly straight and full of pot holes! But we make the most of it and have a great time on every run.

We have made many firm friends across the Chapters of the Club over the years so we try to do as many runs as we can (and find some great roads) – the more the merrier! •

### **Peter Ferguson**

Eastern Victoria 1989 Classic Red NA & 2010 Crystal Pearl White NC



went to join the Club in 2001 when I bought my first MX-5 (an '89 NA, red with 300K on the clock) and there was a foul up in the process – I didn't get around to sorting it out until 2011! That's 10 years of membership of this wonderful Club that I missed out on!

I joined as the Eastern Victoria Chapter was being formed and watched it grow quickly under first Grant Butler and then under Alan Laine. I had a few illnesses including prostate cancer in 2013-14, decided life was too short and bought another MX-5 – a 2010 NC2, white with BBS wheels and Recaro seats (I dream of having one of each basic model so I'm halfway there).

The Club has provided friendships, common interests and the opportunity to share some of our great Gippsland curves. •

### **Bruce Harvey**

Northern Tasmania 2009 Sunset ("Competition") Yellow (Google it!) NC



After 10 years' membership I still get excited every time I get behind wheel of my MX-5.

I am privileged to be a member of this car club and lucky to have Tasmania as a playground. A club is nothing without its members and I am surrounded by the best people you could ever hope to meet.

Over the last 12 months the frequency, diversity and number of different organisers for our runs has been amazing, with many great ideas coming to fruition. Probably the best part for me has been the countless inquiries and being able to meet and help new members join our wonderful club.

Thank you to all the North Tas chapter members for the support, to assistant Alana and the committee for having the vision to make changes.

I am eager to see what the 2017-18 year will hold.  $\ensuremath{ \diamondsuit }$ 

### **John Waldock**

Southern Tasmania 1990 Classic Red NA, 2004 Velocity Red NB SE & 2017 Machine Grey ND RF



Joined the Club after purchasing my beloved NA and the family has grown since to include three MX-5s and two Austin Healey Sprites.

The feeling of the car growling as it accelerates and its balance and poise around corners are the great enjoyments of being a MX-5 owner. I love having the top down and the rush of air, smelling the countryside and hearing the exhaust note as I motor along.

I love being a member of this Club. Getting together with other owners and chatting about their cars and interests is what keeps me coming back month after month. Highlights of my time here include meeting others in the Chapter, and more widely across the Club.

I've made many new friends and learned so much about the mechanicals and history of the MX-5. •

26.8.17 | Southern Tasmania ■ Words: Don Nicoll ■ Photos: John Waldock ■ Organiser: John Waldock

### Taking the President to see the Devill

Twelve cars and 21 people gathered at Cambridge Park to welcome President Peter to a weekend in Tasmania with the Southern and Northern Chapters.

We had also expected to welcome Richard Acfield, the Club's Social Captain, but unfortunately he had been forced to make a hasty return to Melbourne following a family emergency.

In John Waldock's briefing we had the great pleasure of welcoming new members, Anthony and Rebecca Strong in their very tidy NA, as well as potential new member, Shelley Oakden in her equally tidy NA. Their cars will assist greatly in ensuring we don't have a disproportionate bias towards the ND, of which there were three today. In fairness, only two were Club members's cars (John W's brand new RF and John H's Easter present). The third was another RF which actually belonged to Mazda Australia and was being test driven by David Pitt. Thanks Mazda; many of us down here have benefited from a loan of this car via DI Motors

The President was loaned the SE from John's stable of three MX-5s and two Sprites. Watch out ,Will Campbell – you are in John's headlights. The SE was never far from the rear of John's RF, keeping him honest no doubt and proving that the earlier models can still keep up.

To the run. Rain had been forecast but never arrived, meaning those who were well wrapped could enjoy having the roof down ... or the sunroof open, in the case of the RF! The route was north from Hobart along the east coast for a lunch stop at Devil's Corner. One thing we are not short of down here is great roads with spectacular views, and this route is no exception. The President was heard to confirm this observation at a potty stop in the seaside town of Triabunna, where the ferry leaves for Maria Island.









Continuing along the road north we found plenty more corners, until a series of tight twists signalled our arrival at Devil's Corner.

This is a winery with a difference. There is a series of small buildings, each with their own purpose: a tower with a viewing platform, the wine tasting room, a pizza kitchen, a seafood kitchen as well as indoor and outdoor seating areas. Unfortunately our group was too big for the interior seating area which meant a desperate search for tables sheltered from a bitterly cold wind.

At first this meant splitting into two groups while we ate, but the departure of other visitors meant that we could come together for a short presentation by Peter. There was an appreciation award for the writer's better half for her efforts at the last NatMeet (accepted earlier in the morning in her sick bed – Linda had a heavy cold). There were two lots of fiveyear service badges for Team Tanner (Rob and Di) as well as Team Whittle (Gary and Maureen). Taking the writer completely off quard was the Chapter Champion

award. I'm certain our Chapter Captain earned way more points last membership year, but the award was much appreciated none the less.

Reflecting the flexibility of the Chapter, we again separated into two groups, this time one heading back to Hobart for a second go at the views and twists, while the second group headed up and then down the sweepers of the Lake Leake road to deliver Peter to Campbell Town. Here we handed the President over to the safe hands of Alana McDougall from the Northern Tassie Chapter.

Thanks for coming over Peter; we hope you enjoyed the run as much as we enjoyed your visit. Sorry it wasn't a bit warmer this time around.

**∢** From the top: President Peter provides a few warm words for the chilled Chapter faithful; with Chapter Champion Don Nicoll, Team Tanner and Team Whittle.

Club President Peter Dannock made a weekend visit to the two Tassie Chapters in August. Club Captain - Social, Richard Acfield, also made the trip but had to cut his time very short to return to Melbourne on a family matter.

27.8.17 | Northern Tasmania ■ Words: Peter Dannock ■ Photos: Alana McDougall, Bruce Harvey

Organiser: Bruce Harvey

### President Petes Roadshow ...

The President's Roadshow made its way again to Tasmania in late August for my annual visit to the Tasmania Chapters of the Club.

Starting in Hobart with the Southern Tasmania Chapter, I enjoyed a terrific run up from Hobart on the Saturday with John Waldock and the members, driving up through Orford, Swansea and across the Lake Leake road to meet up with Alana McDougall at Campbell Town. Members from the Southern Tasmania Chapter then travelled back south to home, whilst Alana and I headed up to Launceston.

On arrival in Launceston, I was pleasantly surprised to learn that Launceston Mazda had loaned the Club a new MX-5 GT RF for the weekend, allowing Club members an opportunity to test drive this great car. It was a nice Soul Red GT, with a black roof and the Brown Nappa leather interior. Even though I have an RF myself, I was more than happy to borrow and drive the car overnight.

It was great to have a small gathering of Club members at Tandy's Alehouse, which is a new drinking establishment in Launceston, set up by Club member Trevor Simm and his son. If you are looking for a great place to meet someone for a drink in Launceston, then you can't go past Trevor's Tandy Alehouse.

The next day we met at Deloraine, just west of Launceston, where the Launceston Mazda RF was the centre of attention. For some Club members, it was their first close up look at the RF. Many were interested in how the roof went up and down; others were interested in what was under the bonnet. Even though the RF was the highlight, looking for that first coffee of the day was also a priority before we headed off on our run.

Heading out to the west, driving the RF was shared amongst members









and I was quite happy to be the passenger for the day. Even though it was a sunny day, we could see that there was snow on the hills in the distance – a reminder that we were still in the winter months. The roads in this area of Tasmania can change very quickly from open roads to windy roads amongst the trees. No wonder so many of these roads feature in Targa Tasmania. At one point the road was blocked by a tree, forcing us to turn back. But if you can't get through on one road, there is always another great road in Tassie to travel. Our tour

leader, Bruce Harvey, knows these roads like the back of his hands, so there was no chance of us getting lost.

Coming full circle, we arrived back at the Bush Inn at Deloraine for lunch. As well as enjoying a great lunch, it was a great opportunity to chat with members and to hand out the Club awards for the Northern Tasmania Chapter, I think

Trevor Simm was pleasantly surprised to be the Chapter Champion and New Member Champion Glenn Gardener was also on hand to receive his award. Congratulations to all of the members who received awards and recognition on the day.

After lunch, we travelled back to Launceston. Though the day was a little cool, the weather was sunny and there was no real threat of rain. Thanks to Alana McDougall for hosting me on the day and making sure I got back to the airport in time for my flight.

I thoroughly enjoyed my weekend, on great roads, in a great car, with great people.

₹ Top down:

Bees around the RF honeypot; President Peter with New Member Champion Glenn Gardener, Chapter Champion Trevor Simm and "mxtra" award winner Bruce Harvey.

**20.8.17** | Central

■ Words: Ron Diprose ■ Photos: Geoff & Bronwyn Roche, Ron Diprose, June Teeuw, Karen Bradshaw Organisers: Geoff & Bronwyn Roche

What a brilliant day for those of us with OCD (Obsessive Car Disorder) ... an excellent run to Kyneton followed by a visit to an outstanding automotive collection.

Twenty-five cars assembled on a chilly Saturday morning at the Bunker Hill Coles express service station. The only way to get into it is by approaching on the Hume highway from the south. As John and Cheryl Paul discovered, there is no access from Donnybrook Road, so they had a 15km diversion to get to 200 metres from where they started their detour. Not so good after driving from Ballarat.

Following Geoff Roche's briefing we split into two groups; Geoff and Bronwyn Roche leading one (with President Peter Dannock as Tail-end Charlie) and Bob de Bont and Marg Cusack leading the other.

For sooth we valiantly sallied forth on the Hume Highway, ignoring the perils of the overcast sky, through Wallan then Romsey and on to our first stop at Lancefield, where five more cars joined the crowd.

From Lancefield we enjoyed a great drive on the Burke and Wills Track past Royal Lancefield Golf Course – not actually Royal, but it is a golf course – to Baynton.

The sun appeared shortly after we left Baynton and it seemed to me that an application of Mazda's excellent SPF50 sun screen was in order; a great idea but perhaps it would have been smarter to prepare earlier at the Lancefield stop and so avoid having the steering wheel, my trousers and the car mat impervious to

The groups continued enjoying the country roads and some RT chatter, then made our way into Kyneton, past the airfield and a large area full of portable school buildings waiting to be reassigned, to what we found was once the VDO instrument factory.

There we were greeted by Greq Smith and his parents Ivan and June. June had laid out an excellent morning tea for us all. Theirs is a private museum which they open to select groups, only asking for a donation to their charity work in East Timor where they support a number of children.

Following morning tea we seated ourselves in what was once a workshop to hear from Greg Smith about the museum, Ivan and June's history and the family's charity work.

Peter Dannock then presented the Smiths with a generous donation from our Club;











A lasting tribute from the workers who built the last Valiant

## AValiant to quote the run notes)



Karen Bradshaw with a fine old specimen ... and a Ford!



Peter Dannock presents Karen with the 2016-17 Mike Quist Award

then, as a surprise to most of us, he asked Karen and Ian Bradshaw to join him and presented them with their well-deserved Club awards.

We then moved into the first display area, full of a huge collection of memorabilia, vintage motorcycles, tractors and cars. Pride of place was of course a grey Fergie. Following that was great display of International Harvester tractors and vehicles including an International Scout with not a speck of rust to be seen.

There was so much to see that we needed a pacer. Greg filled this role nicely, moving us together to look at two vehicles that looked like a horse-drawn buggies adapted to motor power: beautiful things.

He explained his love of vehicles from around the 1900s because of the different and innovative ways of making them.

Hiding in that area was a charity rally car that Ivan and June had donated to the competitors. Hopefully there will be more to that story next year.

Following this we charged through the green door from Ivan's old family home to the next hall which held the first and last Valiants built in Australia, with a model from each year in between.

Here we also saw an amazing collection of other vehicles, including the first-frontwheel drive car ever made. Listening to Ivan's tale of his and June's adventures in that car, it was easy to understand why the idea took a while to catch on.

We formed a Hemi-circle as Ivan told us the story of the first Valiant which was rescued from ignominy near Waikerie in South Australia, where it was used by a professional roo and fox shooter, cut down as a ute, the guards removed and large tyres fitted for rough country. Ivan and Greg have done the majority of the exquisite restorations in the museum, but not this one; even so, the restoration was beautifully done.

Thanks to Geoff and Bronwyn for organising the day and huge thanks to Ivan and June for allowing us to see their wonderful collection.

**10.9.17** | Central ■ Words: Arthur Howie ■ Photos: Peter Ferguson, David Salter ■ Organiser: Bob de Bont

As the Yarra Valley slept under a blanket of fog on a very chilly Sunday morning, 10 MX-55 met up at Yarra Junction.

After coffee and a pep talk from Bob, 10 MX-5s left for morning tea at Neerim South. By Three Bridges we had regrouped behind a very slow Subaru. What a good idea this bloke had ... buy an all-wheel-drive turbo-charged car and drive slowly along some of the state's best windy roads! (They should give the car to someone who can drive.)

By Powelltown most of us had passed the incompetent Subaru driver and it was up and over the hill to the Neerim South turn off. Due to VicRoads' very poor maintenance it was like a conga line of MX-5s dodging potholes as we entered Nayook.

After a short break at Neerim South – and some of Katrina's nowfamous chocolate chip cookies – it was time to hit the road and head for Bryant Park.

The sweeping bends out of Neerim South and down Old Sale Road made the kilometres fly by ... that is, until we caught up with a motor cycle club and had another forced regroup. Thankfully they turned off and left us to continue driving in the manner that MX-5s should be driven.

watch the fun. Katrina did a hot lap, driven round by Janine – I think she could still be on her adrenalin rush. After lunch we said our goodbyes to the Eastern Chapter and left them to continue knocking over the traffic cones.

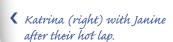
grassroots motor sport event; then it was time for lunch and

Run to the

From there it was on to Mirboo North along some of Gippsland's finest roads, with more sweeping bends and rolling hills. After a quick break at Mirboo North, Bob lead us along the Grand Ridge Road, with twists and turns all the way to Warragul.

A big thanks to Bob for an excellent run.





> Janine with Lori, having no fun at all!







### **10.9.17** | **Eastern Victoria** ■ Words, photos & organiser: **Peter Ferguson**

As usual, the weather report was not too flash and, on first arrival at the Bryant Park track at the rear of Moe, it was rather cold, but at least not too windy (it can be freezing when the wind is up as the car park sits on top of the hill).

By the end of the day, however, the sun had crept out many times, making it a very pleasant day and drying out the track well - it had started off a bit damp.

We had five competitors turn up from the MX-5 Club, who swelled the numbers from GCC (Gippsland Car Club) to a still fairly small 24 cars. This meant we'd each get seven runs in and still finish the day fairly early – great for Ron Diprose who then had to drive home to Sunbury

From the Club, we had Ron Diprose (NB), Ajith Perera (NC1), Janine Boyce (NC1), Andrew Boyce (NB) and Peter Ferguson (NA) competing,

In addition, Rob Krygsman, Peter Ilijash, Lori Mercieca, Mark Warr and David Salter came along for a look and to offer support ... and, at times, laughter!

As you can see opposite, Bob De Bont organised a Central Chapter run to come down to visit and have a look at the competition – they arrived with 10 cars, so the Club was very well represented. Fortunately, the canteen was open and a lot of hamburgers, coffee and donuts were consumed.

We did seven runs in all – both clockwise and anti-clockwise on the main loop

(though not at the same time!). Then it was the main loop with the small loop added, as well as three runs in the car park where LOTS of tyre smoke was created – the Falcon ute with the "cig locker" diff is always spectacular – the entire run is done sideways ... Finally, there was another short run on one leg of the main loop.

There were a few incidents from Club members – Ron Diprose came back with mud on his tyres (points are lost for going off the black stuff). Peter Ferguson (with Rob Krygsman passenger-ing) on his first run nearly speared off on the first tight corner, then spun a few corners later, before getting "lost" on one of the carpark runs and trying to go down the wrong exit. Janine Boyce (in her flash new driving shoes!) had a sideways incident but managed to stay on the black stuff (she is going very well, steadily improving and starting to push boundaries). Andrew Boyce is getting more serious in his NB and starting to put in some good consistent times, and Ajith Perera In his "new" NC1 on R-spec tyres put in a good overall performance.

A number of our visitors went for rides in the competing cars – ask Lori about

his three runs and Katrina about her run with Janine – too much giggling girls!

Andrew Boyce, who has only fairly recently become involved in the khanacrosses and hillclimbs in his NB, did very well on the day, coming fourth outright and first amongst the MX-5s. He's definitely starting to get his eye in!

The next khanacross is on at Bryant Park on Sunday, 12 November. Why not come along and compete – all you need is a helmet, a fire extinguisher and a CAMS LS2 licence. Entry fee is only \$20.

On a side note, one of our soon-to-be new members, Mark Warr, had an accident on his way home from spectating at the event, when an uninsured lady ran a red light and wrote-off his neat NA! He has been dealing with his insurer, Shannons Insurance, and found them to be more than fair and helpful and has been promised a pay out within a fortnight of the accident. They have also valued the car VERY fairly – good service! BUT, that's one less NA in existence!

Have a look at the photos from the day on the Club's Smugmug gallery (address below).









**17.9.17** | **Eastern Victoria** ■ Words: James Lang ■ Photos: June Teeuw, Janine Boyce ■ Organiser: Alan Laine

### ... And now for something (completely) different! (with apologies to Monty Python's Flying Circus)

Well – that's the title that Alan Laine (aka the "Parma King") gave to this Gippsland run which was held in perfect spring weather (for a change!). [Oh ye of little faith! ... as I am sure Peter "Ferg" Ferguson, our Chapter "Grand Poobah", would say. Maybe Peter has a direct line to the weather gods?]

So, we met at Drouin Maccas for coffee, a chat and a prerun briefing. Anyone who arrived with their roof up on such a glorious morning was to be frowned upon and threatened with being put in the stocks in the town square and having rotten fruit thrown at them – well maybe not, but a least a withering stare and a furrowed brow.

As mentioned at the start of this report, this was Alan's run, but where was Alan? He was on happy holidays in Italy (God's own racetrack, according to Jeremy Clarkson) and some of the group

thought it might be fun to call him and wake him from his slumber since it was about 3am in the Eternal City!

Off we went in the direction of Korumburra and were set upon by a group of motorcyclists on sport bikes, who many in our group thought may have had a death wish because of the

- but the only unpleasant odour came from what was assumed to be an effluent pond just out of the town. Oh well, one cannot have cows without cow poo.

The run into Warragul and on to the Duck Inn at Willow Grove was without incident and there were enough tight corners and bends to



manner they were leap-

frogging our convoy when they could not see what was coming towards them. After all that excitement, our group stopped for a comfort/ prostate/potty break in Poowong, which in the local aboriginal language means the smell of dead animals

keep everybody entertained, with the highlights for your humble scribe being the Neerim North-Noojee road which was very narrow and winding and not particularly fast, but the MX-5, as I am sure you all know, is a car that is still heaps of fun at low speed. Also, the Mount

Baw Baw tourist road out of Noojee and then on to Willow Grove Road to Fumina South is pretty darn good as well.

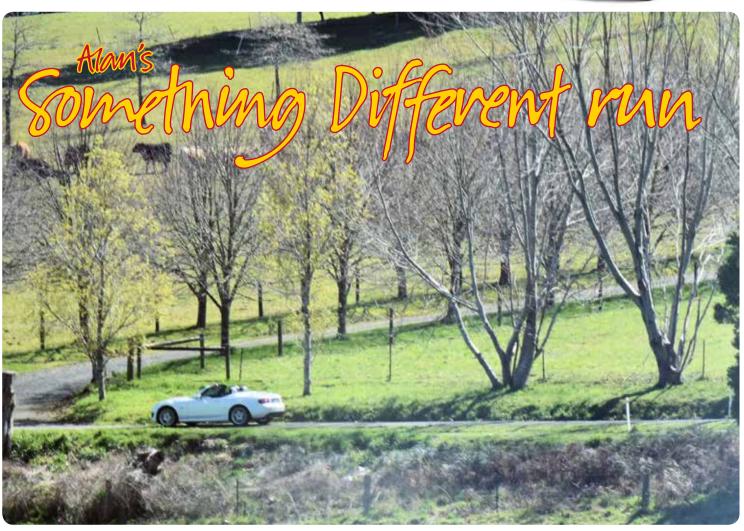
We arrived at the Duck Inn a little earlier than the staff anticipated – never mind. that gave plenty of time for refreshments and reflection on the morning's events. Everybody enjoyed their lunch; some chose to have a smaller lunch so they could have a generous dessert at the end of the run. Must try that next time ...

After lunch it was a relaxed cruise to the Gippy Goat at Yarragon to sit back with coffee and cake and, if you wanted to, to check out the lady goats chewing on their snacks as they rode on the rotating turntable at the afternoon milking in the dairy.

Great weather, great roads and a great big thank you to Bob Collins for stepping in while Alan Laine was somewhere different!









**17.9.17** | **Western Victoria** ■ Words & organisers: Pam & Tony Stoffels ■ Photos: Karen Bradshaw



Fifteen cars lined up at the Crown Hotel car park in Buningong on a perfect spring morning.

We welcomed new members and members who had travelled to join us. Coffees were bought from local cafés before a brief report from Ian on the recent Club awards.

Congratulations to Karen who was awarded the Club Championship for an unprecedented third year in a row; we also received our five-year membership badges.

Two of our members must have expected a boring day, as one brought a book and the other her knitting. Neither had time to do either.

At 9.30am we started our run with our tops off, travelling up Mount Buninyong following the Australian road bike course around the mount, then on to the farming roads around Yendon, Dunnstown, Gordon, Ballan, Greendale, a drive through the pretty hamlet of Blackwood and then to Trentham for morning tea and our first loo stop, where another two cars joined our group.

Onwards to Woodend via the back roads where the tradition of the "U"-turn was performed. To cheers and laughter from all, one blue NA having to do two "U"-turns! We arrived in the outskirts of Woodend where we joined the main roads again to Macedon.

Then we headed up Mount Macedon on our way to the Memorial Cross. Our timing was spot on, as the car parks were predominately full but a group of American muscle cars left just as we arrived. Most headed off to the café for lunch, while some had brought their own picnic lunches.

All eyes turned to the one direction as a magnificent Lamborghini arrived and was strategically parked where few could park next to it. A very young guy and his passenger hopped out, ensuring all eyes were on them ... mind you, he didn't venture far from the car. We all made assumptions to the story behind one so young driving this expensive machine.

It was good to get out to the lookout and see the city skyline this year.





pace determined by the learner driver in their little hatchback up front. Through Woodend, along more back roads, past Woodside Park horse stud with its impressive mansion, stables and white farm fences. Along the Spring Hill-Kenton Road past the upper Cooliban Reservoir (where we were hoping for another photo shoot but the car park wouldn't hold our convoy). Continuing on to more country roads through Spring Hill, Little Hampton, bypassing Daylesford and into Hepburn Springs for a final regroup.

Discussions were had on options to get to our final destination, with the majority deciding to continue via the most direct route through Daylesford and on to the Swiss Mountain hotel at Blampied. I think some were getting thirsty after all the sunshine.

Lots of laughs again with a wonderful way to finish off another enjoyable day out with good friends in our great cars.

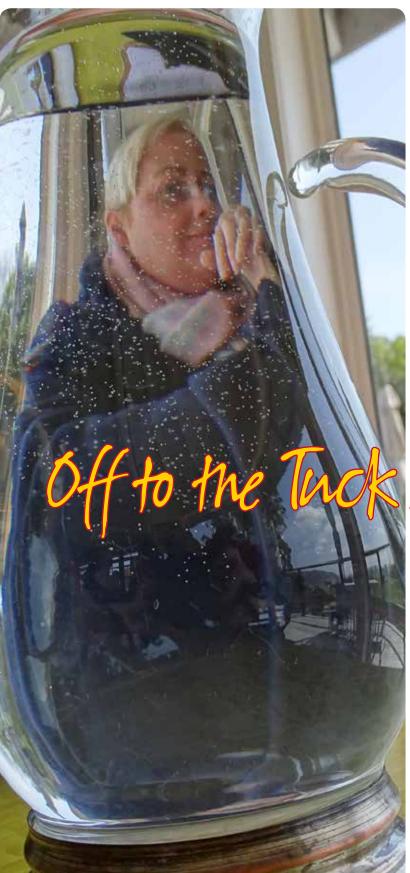








**20.9.17** | Northern Tasmania ■ Words & organiser: Bruce Harvey ■ Photos: Trevor Simm, Bruce Harvey



This is a magical story where, if you were not careful, you could find yourself inside a water jug looking out at the world ...

Maybe not... Or it could be a story that takes you back to your childhood with the eager anticipation that a trip to the school, or to the local corner tuck shop, would bring.

The tuck shop in this story is hidden away on the top of one of the rolling foothills under the care of the imposing Mt Roland near Sheffield in Northern Tasmxnia.

The story starts proper with a gathering of the cast outside the *golden arches* at the Devonport homemaker centre. A warm welcome was extended to new members Dave and Jenni Stevens, as well as to potential member David Blencowe. The last of 20 cars arrived used all the available close car parks ... we are going to have to find a bigger space to congregate for Club events.

There was some magic on show as the parade of cars exited the centre and made its way through numerous intersections and roundabouts on the way to the less used part of Tasmxnia. Special thanks to Lynn and Peter at the tail, and to the maturity and experience of those in between, to keep the group informed and intact.



Today's roads were used regularly when the Chapter was formed, so were well known to members with a few more rings under their bark, but still stimulating no matter your history.

The first and only stop before lunch was Wilmott to scratch the sandbox, stretch and snap a few frames to show the grandkids. The *Wizard of Great Drives* had indeed heard our incantation for clear pathways, as the next 100km were free from any impediments. "The promised land, Nowhere-else and Devils Gate" were soon only memories in the rear view mirror as the Tuck Shop rendezvous neared.

The last spell cast for the morning involved an invocation that the final enthral was clear and safe. Nook is home to one of the best 15km that an MX-5 "broomstick" can have, with continuous direction and elevation changes over the full length. Everyone now having an appetite demanding attention, a five-minute glide had us landed in the car park, eager to sample the delights of the Tuck Shop ...

Needless to say it did not disappoint – MX-5 ownership is truly magical! ●











▲ Lunch inside the Genie's lamp at the "Tuck Shop" at Barringwood

**20.9.17** | **Eastern Victoria** ■ Words: **Leeanne Evans** ■ Photos: **June Teeuw, Karen Bradshaw** ■ Organisers: **David &** 

### It was a great turnout, particularly for a mid-week run!

There were six hardy souls from Melbourne and eight Gippsland locals, most meeting at Trafalgar for a start at the civilised time of 10.30am. It's as if it was arranged by some of the retired members?

We welcomed Karen and Ian Bradshaw from Western Victoria, who had spent a relaxing night with the Evanses. Peter Ferguson came and met up with us at the coffee shop to wish us a great day and, of course, it was a beautiful day!

Ian claims that he brought the weather to us from the west, but it's always nice weather in Gippsland. Hmm, it could be one of those Queensland stories? [You know: beautiful one day ... ] And we drove all day with our tops off!

As arranged, we met up with Lori and Mary in Meeniyan, as they were spending two nights at RACV Inverloch – well organised, guys! We then had a total of 11 cars and only one ND!

There were some great MX-5 roads along the way with some glorious views across the odd valley, but the focus of today's gathering was lunch in the Customs House Inn at Port Albert.

Port Albert, being a fishing village, it seemed like a good idea to try one of the fish options from the menu and we weren't disappointed.

Before we knew it though, lunch was over and it was time to head back. We said our farewells to John, Kira, Lori and Mary before we headed to Traralgon via Alberton, Yarram, Won Wron and Carrajung.

It was a great day out – if you are in the area I definitely recommend a trip to the Customs House Inn. The food was great, the service friendly and I thought the prices were very reasonable ... just check when they're open.

Thanks to everyone who organised the day. As you know, we can certainly recommend going to one of these relaxed mid-week lunches if you happen to be free.



L-R: Rob & Ros Eastwood, Ian & Karen Bradshaw, Peter & Anita Silva



L-R: Peter Ilijash, John Moore, Kira McRae, Glenn Northeast ... and Mary Mercieca



L-R: Keith Teeuw, Rob Krygsman, Neil Watson and David Evans



Leeanne Evans







17.9.17 | Southern Tasmania ■ Words: Robin Tanner ■ Photos & organiser: John Waldock



Sunday morning - clear blue skies, bright sunshine, no wind, and a beautiful forecast 17 degrees. Just what the Captain ordered for his "Mystery run".

Our usual meeting place near Rosny Bowls Club on Hobart's eastern shore produced a nice turnout of 11 vehicles and 17 very keen enthusiasts, ready for a great day in the beautiful early spring Tasmanian weather.

On the road at about 10.15am, we headed across the Tasman Bridge and out the Brooker Highway through Hobart's northern suburbs, crossing the Derwent River at Bridgewater, and heading up the Derwent Valley via Boyer, New Norfolk, Rosegarland and Gretna. On the way to our pitstop and coffee break at the beautiful historic town of Hamilton, we were rewarded with some spectacular distant views of Tasmania's glorious, snow-covered south-west mountains.

After enjoying the warm sunshine, and 45 minutes of catching up, we headed out on the Lyell Highway, turning left after about 10km and crossing Lake Meadowbank via the Dunrobin bridge, with a brilliant "MX-5 section" of sealed, winding road through Ellendale, Fentonbury, and on to Westerway, then continuing to Bushy Park, with a right turn towards Plenty and back in to New Norfolk.

Our "mystery" destination was the famous old *Bush Inn* on the banks of the Dewent River at New Norfolk (above).

The Bush Inn is one of the oldest hotels in Australia, and is the country's oldest continually operating hotel. It features a large dining room and deck right across the rear of the pub. Overlooking the Derwent River, it is famous for its haunted guest room 6, and a tunnel from the cellar to the river bank ... for clandestine events (which we will leave to your colonial imaginations!).

With a comprehensive menu, and prices that don't break the bank, we all enjoyed a superb meal and an enjoyable couple of hours of socialising.

Heading homeward about 3pm, with everyone more than satisfied with our Captain's "Mystery" run, we thanked JW for a very enjoyable day. ●



Around the table at the Bush Inn: from left, Rob Tanner, Duncan and Isabel Pyper, Liam Cole, David Pitt, Mitchell Rowe and Chris Marshall

### **Round 8 ... Back at Sandown**



### 2017 Essendon Mazda MX-5 Sprint Championship | Round 8 ~ 2.9.17

■ Words: Gareth Pedley ■ Photos: Gavin Newman

### Round 8 of the Essendon Mazda Sprint Championship saw a return to Sandown Raceway for the third time this year.

Driving into the pits in the early hours of the morning it was great to see a strong contingent of approximately 20 MX-5s from the Club ready and raring to go.

Luckily for us this was enough to fill our own running session, allowing everyone to position themselves in the dummy grid to avoid being held up on the track. This is an ideal outcome at Sandown, given the long front and back straights which can see a significant disparity in speed when more powerful cars are mixed in with the little Mazda battlers.

In typical Melbourne style the weather was a combination of icy cold winds and cloudy grey skies followed by sunny clear blue skies followed again by cloudy grey skies and the odd sprinkle of rain thrown in when we least expected it. This was all within an eight-hour period. Certainly enough to keep even the most relaxed driver on edge!

Despite the unnerving conditions the day didn't see any patches of rain heavy enough to lift your foot off the throttle which came as a relief to all, given Sandown's layout ... with solid concrete walls and steel barriers closely lining the perimeter of the track.

The first practice session for the day went without a hitch, with everyone keeping their cars on the black stuff. Things quickly changed however as, in the first timed session for the day, I was very late to see Robert Parr slowly making his way

back to the pits going into Turn 9 off the back straight. This resulted in my best impression of Elton John's *Rocket Man* as I created plumes of smoke by locking both fronts and proceeded to fly off the track into the gravel trap where I became firmly stuck.

Having got myself into this predicament only a few minutes into the session I got to spend the rest of it sitting on the hill behind Turn 9 as my fellow Club members drove past under yellow flags wondering why I was trying to play in the sand and gravel on such a cold day. After all, such shenanigans should be reserved for warmer summer days or the beautiful beaches further north around the Gold Coast.

The second timed session for the day saw my fellow class competitors (Simeon Ouzas and Steve Williamsz) put in some very good lap times as I tried to reacquaint myself with the track.

Unfortunately, the third timed session saw a return of my Turn 1 demons as I spun off hard. In all my track days to date with the Club, I've now spun off three times – all at Sandown, and all on Turn 1. This time was most definitely the hardest and one of my frame rails now looks like it's gone a few rounds with Mike Tyson and taken some decent uppercuts. Safe to say I'll likely be at Essendon Mazda in the near future getting another wheel alignment just to make sure everything is relatively straight.

Luckily the car appeared to sustain no major damage and, despite a slight bruise to my ego, I was able to get back on the black stuff and put in some solid laps. Unfortunately the same couldn't be said of Peter Bolton's spin at Turn 1 which saw him looking for a spare wheel to get home.

Results-wise, the day saw no new lap records, but the Standard NB class remained extremely close with myself, Simeon and Steve being separated by less than 0.4 seconds at the end of the timed sessions. Simeon defended his territory and took the class win, as he has done all year at Sandown.

It was also good to see some new faces amongst the Club members in attendance enjoying themselves and picking the brains of the more seasoned competitors.

In all, an enjoyable day with the Club and plenty of sessions and track time by all. For the Motor Sport Crew the next month will be spent in preparation for the AROCA Winton 12 Hour Relay which will see the Club field three teams. This will be a non-championship event which will see a change in pace as we compete in a team-based regularity-style event.

I understand the Club traditionally puts in a good showing at these events and after the success as the Phillip Island 6 Hour event it should be a good bit of fun!

Alan Conrad's NC heads an impressive sight on a dull day ...

### Round 8 - return to Sandown ...

✓ It's not all about the on-track stuff!

























### **Round 8 results / Championship standings**



### 2017 Essendon Mazda MX-5 Sprint Championship - Round 8 | Sandown ~ 2.9.17

	1st		2nd	3rd
Open	Dave Moore »	1:26.6046	Peter Bolton » 1:30.2	715
Super Modified	Robert Parr »	1:30.9355		
NC/ND Modified	Alan Conrad »	1:31.5569		
NA/NB Modified	Mike Graham »	1:47.5089		
NB Clubman	Noel Heritage »	1:35.9362	Max Lloyd » 1:37.6	514
NA Clubman	Robert Downes »	1:39.9363		
Standard ND	Randy Stagno Navarra »	1:32.3554		
Standard NC	Hung Do »	1:34.4806	lan Vague » 1:37.8	383 Malcolm Leigh » 1:41.2314
Standard NB	Simeon Ouzas »	1:35.7205	Steve Williamsz » 1:36.0	382 Gareth Pedley » 1:36.1133

### 2017 Essendon Mazda MX-5 Sprint Championship - standings after Round 8 | Sandown ~ 2.9.17

(corrected points)	1st		2nd		3rd				
Overall Champion	Dave Moore	<b>»</b>	655	Alan Conrad	»	620	Simeon Ouzas	»	615
Open	Dave Moore	<b>&gt;&gt;</b>	700	Peter Bolton	<b>»</b>	150			
Restricted Open	Paul Ledwith	<b>»</b>	300	Tim Meaden	»	275			
Super Modified	= Dean Watchorn / Robe	ert Pa	ırr ›	· 200					
NC/ND Modified	Alan Conrad	<b>&gt;&gt;</b>	600						
NA/NB Modified	Gavin Newman	<b>&gt;&gt;</b>	375	Daniel White	<b>»</b>	250	Mike Graham	<b>»</b>	160
NB Clubman	Noel Heritage	<b>&gt;&gt;</b>	600	Peter Dannock	»	350	Murray Seymour	»	345
NA Clubman	Robert Downes	<b>&gt;&gt;</b>	800	George Vellis	<b>»</b>	75			
Standard ND	Randy Stagno Navarra	»	400	Tim Edwards	»	100			
Standard NC	lan Vague	<b>&gt;&gt;</b>	350	Hung Do	<b>»</b>	200	Malcolm Leigh	»	195
Standard NB	Simeon Ouzas	»	600	Gareth Pedley	»	575	Steve Williamsz	<b>»</b>	565
Standard NA	Daryl Ervine	>>	100						



A Former Club Captain - Motor Sport, Robert Downes, campaigned his old faithful NA for the last time.



### A trip to Italy - and Ferrari heaven ...

■ Words & photos: **Dave Wilson** 

I must be the happiest man on the planet after a recent trip to Italy, the home of the Roman Empire, Pizza and Ferrari.

I'm also the luckiest to have a partner



who agreed that a trip to Italy must include not just the Ferrari Museum in Maranello but the Enzo Ferrari Museum in Modena.

I had pre-booked tickets to the Maranello museum and the shuttle bus from the station and timed it while we were staying in Florence. This meant a 1%-

museum and the shuttle bus from the station and timed it while we were staying in Florence. This meant a 1%-hour train ride north through some very picturesque countryside to Modena which is famous for balsamic vinegar and fast cars.

It didn't take long to see our first Ferrari on our way to the museum and, once there, it seemed that every second car was a Ferrari – *mostly red*. And this was before we even entered the actual museum!

After taking numerous photos outside of everyday cars we entered the museum and didn't quite know which way to look. The first room had displays on the different modelling techniques over the decades of design. And then it was rooms full of cars of different models and ages, as well as engines, on display spaced so access was not hindered ... until you reach the racing room which displays the actual cars that have won major races over the years and their corresponding trophies.

After taking photos of pretty much every car on display we headed for the exit – of course, via the gift shop. As with most tourist places they won't let you leave until you've bought something. I was expecting to buy something anyway, but what I didn't count on was the cost. I came out of it relatively unscathed having bought a t-shirt for 45 euros and a mug for 22 euros (I will let you do the conversion into Aussie dollars but sit down while you do it).

Now all this excitement left us a bit hungry so an eatery was found and another pizza eaten. We then had a look around the area which included a lot of tourist shops and car rentals. Yes, you can rent a Ferrari and drive it yourself ... but at 100 euros for 10 minutes, we quickly decided not to bother.

At this point my partner said, "As we have time, maybe we should also do the Enzo Ferrari Museum ..."

Well, who am I to complain?

So we jumped back on the shuttle bus and headed back to Modena and the second museum. The location of the Enzo Ferrari Museum has special significance as it was originally Enzo's home, which he sold to pay for his first racing car and hence the start of a legend.









The two buildings on the site are worlds apart in design, but house even more magnificent machines. The flashy new building is open plan with no obstructions and allows a close-up view of each car and an amazing overall view of the whole collection. Then, just when I thought the day couldn't get any better, the lights dimmed and a video display on a huge curved wall (left) celebrated Enzo and his creations.

Now I've done some travel in my time and been to some amazing places, and there is a small number of buildings where I have let my emotions get the better of me. The Enzo Ferrari Museum has now been added to that list. Sitting on the floor in the dark watching the video display I shed a tear in pure joy of experiencing such an amazing place, surrounded by beautiful cars.

Not just cars ... pieces of art.

If you're ever planning a trip to Italy, make sure you head to Modena and Maranello and have your soul moved in this "Mecca" for car enthusiasts.

# "Ask a child to draw a car certainly he will do it red" Enzo Ferrari



↑ Top: Money can't buy ... the main hall at the Modena museum. Centre: Nuff said ... confirmation that the red ones go faster! Lower: The "racing room" at Museo Ferrari in Maranello.

### Club Code of Conduct



v2: August 2014

Members of the Mazda MX-5 Club of Victoria & Tasmania Inc ("Club") are required, under this Code of Conduct, to behave at all times in a way which upholds the Club's values and complies with its Statement of Purposes and Rules. The Code of Conduct contained within the CAMS Member Protection Policy applies wherever the Mazda MX-5 Club of Victoria & Tasmania's Code of Conduct is deficient.

Honesty and integrity	A Club member must behave honestly and with integrity in the course of Club activities.
Care and diligence	A Club member must act with care and diligence in the course of Club activities.
Respect and courtesy	A Club member, when acting in the course of Club activities, must treat everyone with respect and courtesy, and without harassment.
Lawful compliance	A Club member, when acting in the course of Club activities, must comply with all applicable Australian laws.
Directive compliance	A Club member must comply with any lawful and reasonable direction given by someone in the Club's organisation who has authority to give the direction.

Confidentiality	A Club member must maintain appropriate confidentiality about dealings that the member has with any sensitive matter that relates to the Club.
Conflict of interest	A Club member must disclose, and take reasonable steps to avoid, any conflict of interest (real or apparent) in connection with Club activities.
Proper use of resources	A Club member must use the Club's resources in a proper manner.
Undue advantage	A Club member must not make improper use of:  – inside information, or  – the member's duties, status, power or authority, in order to gain, or seek to gain, a benefit or advantage for the member or for any other person.
Behaviour – general	A Club member must, at all times, behave in a way that upholds the Club's values, integrity and good reputation.





### 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@biqpond.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. Our Club coupon code is mx5club. Please add your Club membership number to the "comments" section of your order.

### **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



#### **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 <a href="http://vip.repco.com.au/">http://vip.repco.com.au/</a> 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.

### 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







### ESSENDON MAZDA SERVICE

### **FACILITIES**

Free WiFi, Work Stations, Café and lounge with a selection of fruit, TV, papers and magazines.

#### COMPLETE CARE

In addition to scheduled servicing, we are also able to supply and fit new tyres, wheel alignments and safety checks. Talk to one of our friendly service advisers if you have any questions.

Book your service now on 9374 2222 or at essendonmazda.com.au





### Essendon Mazda

LMCT11043 MCK40660

