

Horsepower



Newsletter of South West Touring Car Club Issue 4 July 2015



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**Chris Reynolds sponsors the Club. Please
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SPONSOR ROUND 4

Daniel Wallace
Photo by Rex Rattenbury

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ROUND 3

Well well! Round 3 has come and gone. We are now half way through the Autocross season!!!!

With only 49 drivers entered, we progressed through the runs quickly and the lunch break was held between Runs 3 & 4.

A decision was made to offer drivers an additional non competitive run. Most drivers took advantage of the offer and made a gold coin donation for the Brunswick St John Ambulance. A total of \$125 was raised. Well done to everyone. St John Brunswick offer their ambulance at a discount rate and the officers in attendance are volunteers.

Thanks very much to the volunteers that stay at the track all day for our safety.

So remember to switch on the brains and to keep your seat belt tight when you go out onto the track. Or a visit to the ambulance will cost you a box of chocolates.

So has Bunbury's best kept secret become more secret? Where are all the drivers and cars we had in previous years? I asked around in the pits and a common answer emerged. The economy's very tight; FIFO workers are not the only workers who have lost jobs. People are keeping their hands in their pockets.

Tony Gilfuis, owner of Battery All Types and sponsor to our Club drives a Capri V6 on blacktop circuit racing in the east said that fields in the east only 60% of that in previous years. A sign of the times. If you have spare money, spend it, the economy needs it!



Why is Anthony Phillip Jones parked by himself in the pits with his girlfriend?



Rocky also had a few moments of attention. He did a dummy spit about being left all month in a cold dark container and refused to go any further on the track.

I saw his wheels shaking when Ben Lathwell was walking around him with a pair of side nippers but Rod

Barrett applied a bit of his car whispering skills on Rocky. Rocky settled down and Ben applied a few nip & tucks and Rocky ran OK for the rest of the day.

TRIMVIEW
CERAMICS

ROUND 3 ON THE TRACK

The track? Yes it had not rained the night before and the top layer was damp and looked firm enough, but it wasn't. After the warm up laps, it became hard going but the older gravel underneath was hard as rock.

The early cars out had a tricky drive with good traction areas difficult to pick.

Towards the end of round 1, significant improvements could be seen in the traction, giving later drivers an advantage. The wet slippery gravel "balled" up and and better traction was gained on the underlying hard gravel.

Rear wheel drive cars gained more traction than the front wheel drive "crabs" that had to claw their way through the wet conditions.

As the track dried, the surface held a few wetter patches that made driving challenging.



A LOT of drivers had minor skirmishes with tyres. Pit marshals were kept busy returning car bits to the drivers, letting them know, yes you did clip it.



Even junior driver Daniel Wallace who drives an immaculate Subaru had skirmish marks on his RH front mudguard.

Rebecca Lathwell put her car up onto 2 wheels exposing her underside. Needs a wash Rebecca.

The Gerdeis

Jenny Gerdei is very attached to her Corolla. It has been a family car since the kids went to university and it now cops a hammering from her and daughter Kelsey at autocross.



Jenny with her Corolla

Jenny drove autocross in the last season at the Sandalwood track but has only returned this season. Her husband has been doing FIFO work for 25 years, so he misses many events.

The boys drive a Laser. Jenny has a bad start to the day when they left the Corolla keys home, but the

keys were delivered in person. At one stage it looked like the Corolla would not start at the pre start, but at a family post mortem, it decided a little comforting would make it go.



Family post mortem on Gerdei Corolla

SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS

New member Jordan Hamer presented with his Nissan 200SX which he drives at Kwinana Autocross. His car is the fastest RWD. He found the tight Bunbury track difficult with the current car set up and plans to lighten the suspension to handle the track. This is a big car with a turbo, so watch his progress.

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Les George had a “off” on run 2 at the bottom of the hill behind the F Troop Tower! He landed on top of a big tyre and tried to back off. He could only be seen from the water tank area. Les tried to back off but his attempts were unsuccessful.



Rocky knew his mate Les was in trouble, again!!! and had his engine waiting for a driver. Rocky raced out there to rescue Les and had him off in seconds. Les could have finished his lap and the timers would have been none the wiser.

Les thought his escapade was unseen but when he found out Rex Rattenbury had a photo he said Rats!

David Laing put some new shiny mags onto his Celica and with lesser unsprung weight his handling would have improved by milliseconds. Hardly worth it I think David but his overall time was equal second with John Marshall.



David’s new shiny wheels. Has he cleaned them?

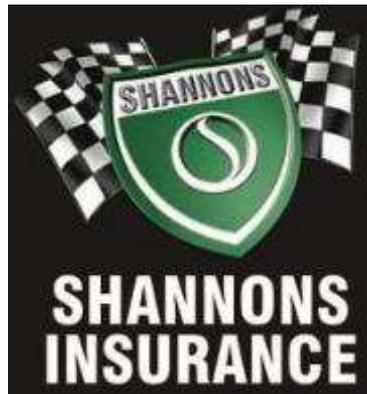
Brendan Quartermaine kept spectators and drivers entertained with his stylish starter antics.



Stylish starts by Brendan Quartermaine
Photo by Rex



ChrisSzewczuk



Chris Szewczuk is constantly improving his times driving his purple ant eater Excel. Chris loves his autocross and will continue to do it, irrespective of his times.

Chris also races a Torana XU1 at Collie but autocross is his favourite.

Your articles are welcome.
Just E Mail it to me at
barter2@bigpond.co

SWTCC AUTOCROSS DATES 2015

- | | |
|---------------|----------------------|
| Round 1 | 24th May |
| Round 2 | 7th June |
| Round 3 | 5th July |
| Round 4 | 2nd Aug |
| Round 5 | 6th Sept |
| Round 6 (Sat) | 17 th Oct |

Round 6 will NOT be held on 3rd Oct due to Australian Motorcross Championships being held on the same date.

At presentations Ron Ferguson was awarded 1st place in Experts grade. Ron said this was the only 1st he has won since the Club has moved to the Bunbury Motorplex. Well done Ron.



Ron was suffering a bad dose of the flu and Kyle Grant said that whatever he took for the Flu, should take more as he drove like a demon.

US CAR AUCTION

A massive car collection that included some rare vehicles was auctioned by Sothebys in Texas in May.

RM Sotheby's is calling the Andrews fleet arguably the most significant car collection ever presented at a single-vendor auction."

Search under RM Sothebys to view the entire auction results

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