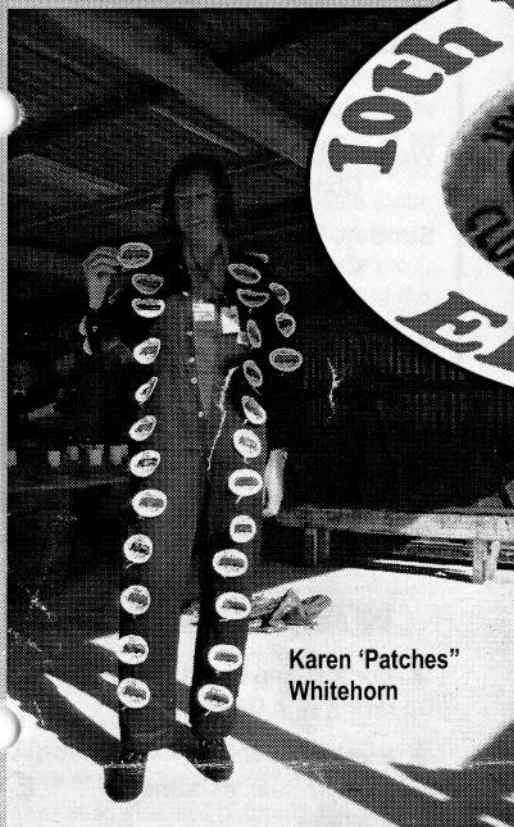




# Club Talk

Winter 2000 : Volume 10, No 3



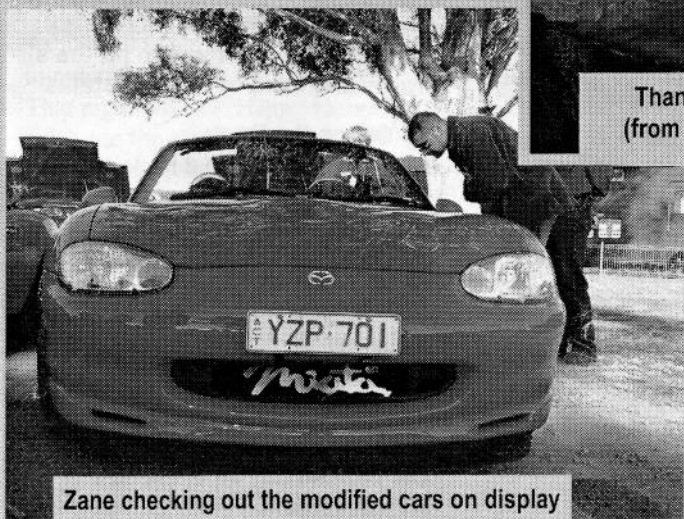
Karen 'Patches' Whitehorn



Bob Hall preaching to the converted



Thanks to the 10th Anniversary organisers (from L to R) Elaine Caldwell and Zan Menzel



Zane checking out the modified cars on display

*lots more inside ...*

**10th Anniversary  
photos and report  
Report on the  
Mt Wilson drive  
First time track  
experience**

**Club Talk is a Quarterly Publication of the MX5 Club of NSW Inc**

# Club Sporting Talk

by David Raddatz

## Hi "Hoons"

The next two months are going to be busy in the motor racing scene, with CAMS NSW Supersprints, MX-5 Club days & Motorkhanas. This year we have not participated in any NSW Motorkhana Championships, I would like to know if any one is interested. The next Motorkhana is at Quakers Hill, Nirimba Tafe/Uni on the 16 July.

The day Consist of 8 Motorkhana tracks which you will drive twice each. All tracks are in 1<sup>st</sup> & reverse gear. The day costs \$25.00 all you need is a helmet, non-synthetic clothing ankle to wrist and a CAMS level 2 license. This event is very good car control practice, a must for beginners.

This is the best tyre screeching fun you could possibly have for 25 bucks.

If anybody is interested please contact me.

This brings us to the CAMS NSW Supersprint Championship. The last Supersprint was held at Wakefield Park, we had 11 drivers attend, all placed well and contributed to our over all point score. The next 3 are as follows, 9 July at Eastern Creek and two in August, 13 at Wakefield Park, 26 at Oran Park GP.

Our next Club Open Day is at Wakefield Park, 14 August. Bring your partner, bring you mate for a non-stop fun filled day of action. Another make of car beating your MX-5, I'd like to see that.

To book, ring Zan or myself.

See you all there.

David Raddatz

*Tip of the month: Don't drive fast through fixed-point speed cameras.*

## Coming Events

Update your organisers and diaries !!

**Saturday, 8 July**  
10 Pin Bowling

**Wednesday, 12 July**  
Committee Meeting

**Sunday, 16 July**  
Christmas in July, Katoomba

**Wednesday, 26 July**  
Annual General Meeting

**Monday, 14 August**  
Wakefield Park Track  
Open Day

**Wednesday, 16 August**  
Committee Meeting

**Sunday, 20 August**  
Concours and Show and  
Shine, Kangaroo Valley

**Saturday, 9 September**  
Surprise social event  
(stay tuned!!)

**Sunday, 17 September**  
Club run (to be advised)

## Welcome New Members

The club is expanding!! There are now 335 club members compared with 151 five years ago!

Eddie Lee  
June Copeman  
Ed Cory  
Brian Hollis  
Trudi-Ann Yip  
John Wills  
Roy Milford  
Cherie Martin  
Marilyn Nalder  
Wayne Taylor  
Aree Hagopian  
Huy Hguyen  
James Sammut  
David Williamson  
Margaret Williamson  
Dawn Devaney  
Graham Devaney  
David Lendrum  
Steve Hinton  
Kevin Lee  
Warren White  
Andrew Wong

Lisa Chalmers  
Suzanne Munro  
Richard Jenkins  
Derek Plante  
Lyn Plante  
Peter Morgan  
Barbara Morgan  
Beti Dimovski  
Harry Sprintz  
Julie Smith  
Lea Turner  
Ann Leather  
Jeremy Leather  
Patricia Beckett  
Graham Beckett  
Anthony Stonehouse  
Julian Beville-Anderson  
Dianne Beville-Anderson  
Frank Belshaw  
Brian Anderson  
Donna Anderson  
Dennis Cheng

## What's Inside..

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Go racing with David

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Treasurer Matilda and Nick go racing with unexpected results!

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The Captain has an important announcement !!

# President's



## Report

**Another successful Natmeet** has come and gone. Each one seems bigger and better than the one before! This one started at Pheasant's Nest on the Hume Highway at 8am on Thursday, when a small group from Sydney decided to go over the Mountains! We met up with Rick and the Canberra contingent, lunched at Cooma and then off we went. The route took us through Cabramurra and Khancoban with the occasional mandatory photo stop. At one stop we met up with a couple of motorcyclists from Tasmania, who were talked into attempting to collect and then photograph our unruly group! Unfortunately the weather was not the greatest, so we had tops up most of the way. We arrived over the border into Victoria late afternoon and then along the Hume to our overnight stop in Benalla. We then walked along the road to a lovely restaurant, Top of the Town, where in the usual Natmeet fashion, we had a *small celebration*!

Friday morning was clear but cool, so it was tops down as we went the final leg to Ballarat. We checked in, registered and then to our horror we discovered they were in a drought situation, there were no hoses available! This the day before Concours! At that point there was a mad dash to the nearest CarLovers where we promptly took over the entire area. It was like old home week where we caught up with friends from the other states. The owner must have been rubbing his hands in glee and planning his retirement!

As always when MX-5 owners get together, it became a social occasion. That night we had 'Happy Hour' to celebrate the start of Natmeet 2000 and to renew old acquaintances over drinks. Dinner was followed by a quiz to get things going, and of course the usual *small celebration*.

An early morning start to wipe the night's dust and dew off the cars. Those of us lucky enough to be alone had room for car covers, which proved invaluable for me especially. Colin Caldwell was outside in the dark and fog at 5am putting on the final touches.

It paid off in the end, winning his class, Standard 1600.

After concours there was a drive to Castlemaine Gaol where we had lunch. Our return to Blytheswood Grange took the form of a clue rally. I am quite sure there must still be few stray

**'Imagine driving a turbo MX5 on the Great Ocean Road'**

MX-5's touring around country Victoria! That evening we went to Sovereign Hill for dinner, followed by the show 'Blood on the Southern Cross'.

Some of us still have not recovered from the cold! Easter Sunday saw us driving the Great Ocean Road to Melbourne. The day was fairly mild, but with frequent heavy showers. The view was spectacular, of course. Even Easter Sunday traffic seemed to disappear when we arrived! Lunch was at Wayne's Bistro in Apollo Bay where, (thanks to Kelly) the Easter Bunny, complete with pink ears, arrived to deliver our eggs! We were accompanied by the prototype turbo MX-5 on that part of the run, and a representative from each state got to drive it for a short distance. I was the lucky one from NSW, but if I had wanted I could have sold my place for a fair bit of money! Imagine driving a turbo MX-5 on the Great Ocean Road. I did manage to extract a promise from both Mike Quist and Allan Horsley, whose baby it is, to allow some members to drive it some time soon. Details to follow! The convoy had broken up into 4 smaller groups by then, and we all left Wayne's at different times, but somehow we all arrived at the petrol station outside Melbourne at the same time!

It must have been quite a sight! We had an evening off to recover our strength, but some of the group went on to try out the range of cocktails at the Crown Casino! In spite of that she made it to breakfast the next morning.

We had a short drive to Mordialloc on the Mornington Peninsula, where we had lunch and then a drive to Calder Park Thunderdome for an evening of

supersprints. We collected for a photoshoot and then had a few laps around the track. That was quite an experience! Stopping on the banked track was more intimidating than driving it at speed. Then we moved over to the main track for the supersprints. Night racing is quite a different experience, and those of us who go to Wakefield Park regularly lost our comfort zone! That was not reflected in the results, NSW had some winners. Ed Chivers won the modified 1600, Phil Roberts won the standard 1600! After all that was over, we retired to the hotel bar for another *small celebration*! We were all quite cold and needed a nightcap to warm us up again, especially those volunteers who spent the evening attending the flag points on the track!

Anzac Day was sunny and mild and we drove to the Yarra Valley for a picnic lunch. It was a long drive along some beautiful country roads with no traffic on them! A visit to a local winery followed and then we returned to

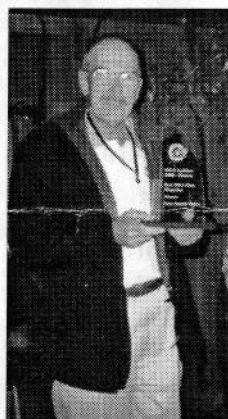
Melbourne to get ready for the Awards Dinner, held at a restaurant in Albert Park. We were taken by bus so no one had to worry about driving. In spite of having more participants there, NSW did not win the overall trophy, but we did win big! Thanks to Jeff we won the award for the Best Magazine. In the time that Jeff has been in charge it has gone from strength to strength.

### Thank You Jeff!

A meeting was held to discuss the next Natmeet. After some discussion it was decided that

it would be held again in SA, and hosted by a combined committee from WA and SA. Already they have come up with some good ideas, so mark **Easter 2002** in your calendar!

Jean

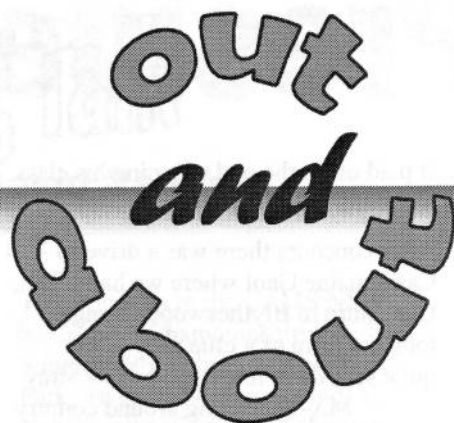


Jeff Gehrig collecting the award for the Best Club Magazine

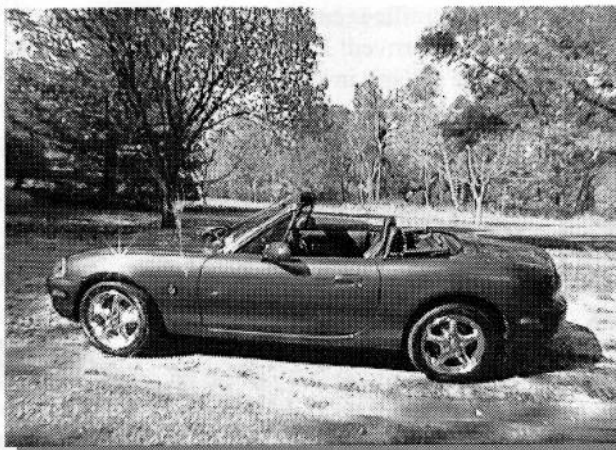
**T**he forecast was for rain, however no one told the Weather Bureau that an MX-5 Club Drive was scheduled for the day. So the clouds cleared on cue to reveal a clear blue sky as nearly thirty cars headed off for a refreshing late Autumn drive to the Mountains. It was good to see that some new members had made the effort to join the run.

This was my opportunity to use the CB radio for the first time. What a blast!! Everyone seems to be a radio star waiting to be discovered. You get the latest gossip, good humour, up to the date traffic reports that you see instantly, a bit of stray music, and in between a brilliant clear narration of directions from social secretary Karen Whitehorn. There is also a regular guest spot from the ever popular Helga who is constantly available for any question put to her. And to add to the entertainment the deep sexy voice of Committee Member, Mark Stasinowsky gives you the latest on where the lost cars have gone, together with a reassuring calm that we are all traveling in the right direction. Before we had the CB I had to put up with the local FM radio stations for driving entertainment.... What a drag! This was a great investment and you don't have to say a word.

The driving route was expertly planned by Karen & Bill Whitehorn and Mark Stasinowsky. It started from the McDonalds car park, McGraths Hill and headed over the Hawkesbury River then up the back roads to Kurrajong. I've finally got the message that McDonalds car parks are the best starting points for runs. However after three McDonalds starts this year, I can understand why one member turned up



## The Sun Shines for the MX-5 Mt Wilson drive



at the Western Freeway McDonalds at Prospect. Big Macstake!

On the road you had the best of both worlds. Magnificent mountain scenery and the magic of the MX 5. The air was fresh and the pleasure of country driving was highlighted by the excellent handling characteristics of our cars. These roadsters were designed to give the full feeling of an open car.

That statement may seem a little obvious but Mazda went to extraordinary lengths to get the movement of air in the cockpit right.

The MX 5 is a forgiving vehicle that rewards the drivers whatever their level of skill.

This feeling came to life when we hit the curves leading up the steep twisting climb to Kurrajong Heights. The only thing to watch here was the fixed speed camera which was noted on the run sheet by our tour leaders. I've been up this hill many times and never has it felt safer. And never have I ever had such fun getting to the top.

At the top of the Hill we regrouped as scheduled on the run sheet. In doing so the colour and sheer sight of a tight group of MX 5s sent some of the locals wild as they cheered us on. Local mountain life must get a little boring heading into the winter months. I'm pleased we added a little excitement to their weekend.

We turned right onto Mt Wilson Road and arrived to see Mt Wilson at its best....bathed in the colours that make Autumn so spectacular up here. The end of the road was celebrated with smiles all round (a familiar trade mark of MX 5 owners) and a fine picnic lunch with great company. While enjoying our feast, two buses pulled up and out popped a few tourists armed with cameras who thought it worth getting a scenic shot of our group. Of course our cars had to be in shot.

Many thanks to Karen, Bill and Mark for organising the unscheduled sunshine and such a great day. From the big turnout on the day your efforts are much appreciated. Looking forward to the next run.

*Laurie & Janeen Tesoriero*

<b>Baseball Caps</b> <i>Suede Trim – one size</i>	\$15 ea
Navy Blue, Bottle Green or Black	
<b>Baseball Caps</b> <i>Brush Cotton – one size</i>	\$13 ea
Red, Yellow, Navy, Bottle Green or Black	
<b>Patches in Car Colours</b>	\$6 ea
<b>Polo Shirts</b> <i>Standard design</i>	\$30 ea
Small, Medium, Large, XL & XXL	
Red, Navy, Bottle Green, Black, Shite, Grey, Yellow, Blue	
<b>Anorak Spray Jacket</b>	\$70 ea
Small, Medium, Large, XL & XXL	
Red, Navy Blue or Bottle Green.	

**Club  
Regalia**

**Postage** (if required or you may collect) \$8

**GST** Existing stock as priced. New stock prices to be confirmed. We are still awaiting updated prices from the suppliers for *CB Radios* and *Badges*.

For enquiries please contact any committee member

Send Orders, payment and contact details to:

**The Treasurer**  
PO Box 267  
North Sydney NSW 2059



**Nick Mravjic**

#### NICK'S STORY:

Well..... It all started about 2 years ago when Matilda purchased her green machine, her new MX-5. Every weekend before the club's Wakefield day

I would pester her to take her MX-5 (and me) to the track to see what the little beast could really do. Each time I would give her 24 good reasons why we should go. Statements like "Other members have been going for years and their MX-5's still purr like new" would not budge her. The response was always that we had not chalked up enough kilometres and that we were still running "Him" in. (How much is enough kilometres ?? - Him ???)

Finally after about 18 months and some 15,001 kilometres later, I was able to pour a few extra glasses of red wine than normal into her, she said YES !!!!!. But, we had to agree that we would take it easy on the track. My response was - "Sure".

We turned up for our first day at Wakefield very excited, anxious, nervous, cautious (I felt like I could have done with a scotch to calm the nerves). Our concerns were quickly put at ease. The club's Competition Committee and their helpers who orchestrate the day were well organised. The Competition Committee takes great care to ensure that first timers were made welcome and felt comfortable about driving on the track. From the driver's briefing, which went into detailed tips, to a more comforting beginner's orientation - a few laps around the track with an experienced driver. Well.... This was enough for Matilda, there was no holding her back now. I was now no longer required to test drive "Him" first - she could wait no longer.

The briefing was excellent and covered tips on cornering and things to remember -

braking, (squeeze but don't jump on the brakes), gear change smoothly (blip the motor) and ESPECIALLY not to feel that you had to drive fast, but to drive at a pace you are comfortable with.

Matilda absorbed the tips and did take it easy on the track - for about the first 2 laps. She also felt that the above advice might not all be applicable to "Him". Like - do you really have to squeeze the brakes really hard and wear them out? Matilda got to the corners fast but then kept going, screaming straight out into the dirt and grassy paddock. This experience took her to the opposite extreme - she got to the corners and then jumped on the brakes (stuff not wearing the brakes out!!!) this gave her excellent practice on doing 360's off the track and back into the grass and dirt again. The list went on and on and on.

By the end of the day Matilda did virtually everything that Ed and the guys said not to do, and in fact, I think she created additional items that were to be added to the "Not to Do" list. Surprisingly, after

interior looked like it sprouted grass and needed trimming and the tyres (which were fortunately already close to replacement), now had flat spots all over them. With encouragement from everyone (thanks Ed), Matilda decided that we were coming back to Wakefield.

My **orders**: "Get something for next time that will make us stick better to the track" (I took this to mean new tyres).

2 months later, we were back at Wakefield with track tyres. The new tyres were excellent compared to our previous set and stuck to the track extremely well. This boosted Matilda's confidence and dramatically improved her lap times (she was now rapidly closing the gap on my times. No more tips from me girl, you are on your own!). She still managed to entertain the spectators though, by leaving the track at non-designated exit points (even during cool down laps), but it was nowhere near as dramatic as on our first trip to the track.

Matilda's improved lap times earned her the

## Out on the TRACK

**We asked Matilda (our current Treasurer) and her husband Nick for an account of their first Wakefield experience and first round with the MX5 Team in this year's Super Sprint Series.**

staying on the track for a full few laps, she started to get it all together and managed to get reasonably good times. Later she agreed that in fact, all the advice given at the start of the day was actually pretty well spot on.

During the post mortems of the day, Matilda felt that she was probably a little bit hard on "Him". He was now a little hard to recognise - a dusty mission brown, the

normal warm hugs and congratulatory pats on the back, and in the heat of day, the smell of petrol fume and melted rubber, someone (I think it was Ed) suggested that we should join the MX-5 Super Sprint team. I thought Matilda didn't even register this comment like when I speak to her - I was wrong. On the way home Matilda decided that as well as coming back to Wakefield that we were now also going to try the Super Sprints!

My new **orders**: "Get something that will make us stick better to the new tyres - without any modifications to Him" (this riddle puzzled me for weeks. The penny dropped.....we bought "Mini Him").

After one trip to Wakefield in Mini Him, we were off to Oran Park on the 18<sup>th</sup> March for the 1<sup>st</sup> round of the Super Sprint series with 85 entrants (Matilda being 1 of only 3 female entrants). The adrenalin started to

*(Continued on page 10)*



# 10th

# Anniversary

# Thank You

The 10th Anniversary celebrations would not have been the success that it was without the mammoth effort from organiser **Elaine Caldwell**.

The Committee thank you on behalf of members for all your time and energy that you devoted to organising such a great day.

# Thank You

The Committee would also like to thank the following for their efforts both before and during the big day:

- ⇒ MC - Robert Barr
- ⇒ Guest Speakers - Bob Hall, Peiter Versluis, Peter Simpson
- ⇒ Car Display - Ed Chivers
- ⇒ Artist - Mick Joffe
- ⇒ Foundation Members - who without your initiative the club would not be what it is today
- ⇒ 10 year members - those that have supported the club for 10 years or more
- ⇒ Our sponsors

## 10th ANNIVERSARY PARTY MEMBER'S REPORT

I have been a member of the club for nearly 2 years. I joined up the day I bought my 1989 Classic Red from JUSTMX-5 at Caringbah. The owner convinced me that it was a good idea, just for the deals on servicing.

For nearly 2 years I sat and looked at the Events newsletters and never made a plan to attend anything. The 10th Anniversary lunch changed my mind.

I had recently upgraded my car to a shiny RED 99 model as well, and my thoughts were 'at last, I have a car I can be proud of!'

Heading out along the Northern Road on that beautiful Sunday morning, my heart started to race a little, when I looked in my rear view mirror and saw a line of 5 other MX-5's sitting behind me.

Zan greeted us at the gate, gave us our mementos of the day, and guided us towards Ed Chivers, who was marshalling cars into some sort of formation. Already I was impressed by the professionalism of the whole thing.

100 cars lined up according to colour, age and model was a sight to behold.

I spent a lot of the time chatting to other 'first-timers' and then to older club members. I was made to feel welcome straight off, and I could see that most of the committee was extremely busy making sure the day ran well.

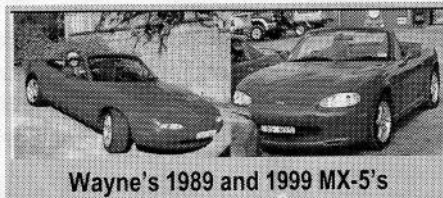
I was also pleasantly surprised to see Sue Forrest, '10 year club member' arrive in her 1990 Blue MX-5. Sue doesn't know this, but her car is the very reason I have owned 2 MX-5's. I fell in love with

the car the day she picked it up from the Mazda dealership and she invited me along for a drive.

The lunch, the talks, the presentations were all run like a well-oiled machine.

The informal professionalism of the club is what really stood out on the day for me. The committee must be congratulated on making the 10th Anniversary a grand event. I am sure that all who attended will remember it, if not for just the sight of 100 MX-5's lined up.

One thing I



Wayne's 1989 and 1999 MX-5's

should mention. For a long time, I thought that my old 89 MX-5 would not be worthy of attending a club function. That was a big mistake! There are cars just as old, with far more kilometres on them. Sure, a lot of the vehicles are pampered, but most seemed to be vehicles that like my own, get driven every day. I would recommend to anyone out there who is worried that their car is a bit 'tattered' to forget THAT as an excuse not to attend a club function.

I RSVP'd to the next event the moment the invite hit my email inbox.

I hope to see you in a large MX-5 convoy one day!

Cheers *Wayne Shelley*



# 10th Anniversary



Drove all the way from Mars to come to lunch



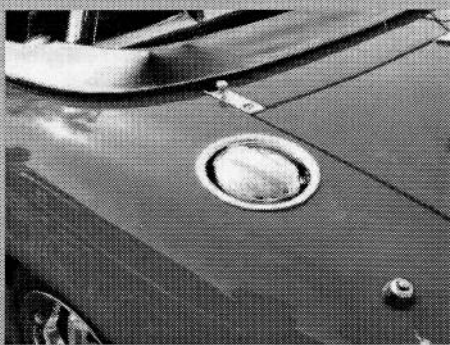
Past and present Presidents : Peiter Versluis (1990/91), Ron Lyons (1992), Lea Findley (1993), Peter Simpson (1994-95), George Russ (1996), Tony Buon (1997), Steve Remington (1998), Jean Cook (1999)



(From L to R) Model - Rick Fischer, Artist - Mick Joffe



Four eyed MX-5, sees better in the dark



Does this MX-5 run on AvGas?

Foundation Club Members (From L to R) : Steve Remington, Colin Caldwell, Frank Johnson, Mike McCarthy. Also attending the celebrations were Jim Hull and Richard Hooper



## 10th Anniversary Sponsors

We would not have been able to give away the fabulous prizes and have the great time that we did without the generosity of the following sponsors:

- ♦ Mazda Australia Pty Ltd
- ♦ John Newell Mazda
- ♦ Roman Autotek (Australia)
- ♦ Australian Consolidated Press
- ♦ McGrath Mazda
- ♦ Meguiars Australia Ltd
- ♦ Castrol Australia
- ♦ Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club, Newport
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- ♦ Brookvale Mazda
- ♦ Network Distribution Company
- ♦ Epping Sportscentre
- ♦ Mazda MX-5 Club of NSW Inc

# NEWELL'S NOTES

## MAZDA'S HOTTING UP INSIDE AND OUT

The latest in brains and looks from Mazda will give us something to warm our thoughts over these bleak winter weeks.

You're stuck in one of those grey morning traffic jams and you've got an urgent email to send. Or you want to check the cricket score – in Barbados? Well, here's the shot, right there on the dashboard.

Mazda Motor Corporation will be the first Japanese carmaker to provide a free Internet information service to drivers to operate in conjunction with car navigation systems.

The service will be linked to a server in what the company calls the "Mazda Telematics Centre," (MTC) and will be launched next month. It is being offered free of

charge or membership fee to any Mazda customer who has a vehicle equipped with a compatible car navigation system.

It will enable drivers in Japan to send and receive emails as well connect with over 10 million services, including news, weather, hotels, restaurants, shops and service stations.

Accessed by a mobile phone, users of the Mazda Telematics Centre will also be able to customize a home page of preferred information through the use of large display icons and a local memory bank designed to assist the speed of retrieval.

By adding a home PC to the system, drivers will also be able to map out a travel route, book travel arrangements and find a movie venue - before stepping into the car.

The MTC's direct-to-vehicle email link will also allow remote on-board diagnosis as well as scheduled maintenance requirements.

You want to know how to get more style out of Mazda style?

Enter 'Briza' limited model variants in the 121 Metro, 323 Astina, Premacy, 626 Wagon and Bongo Friendee, a big hit in Japan after their recent release.

Each 'Briza' (from the ancient Spanish word meaning 'gentle breeze') model offers a more stylish and sporty appearance through the use external aero body parts as well as interior equipment changes including white meter sets, revised trim and, in the Bongo Friendee, a large ottoman.

This is just the beginning of what Mazda in Japan calls its "MM" – More Mazda – project which will see the company continuously introduce new product variations in response to the 'voice of the customer'.

Mazda Australia is keenly watching developments but can't say when the Barbados results will be able to be e-mailed into an MX-5 at Bondi.

The good old fashioned radio will have to suffice for the time being, but then we have the sunshine – (too look forward too!)

## Sydney's MX-5 Specialist

Enquire now about special discounts for MX-5 Club members



**JOHN NEWELL**  **mazda**

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# Member of the Year

**Mark Stasinowsky**

Now half way through the year, and we are seeing some movement in the camp. Laurie Tesoriero has now taken the overall lead and Daniella Di Giovanni is still heading the New Members category. Apart from consistent attendance to club events, in both instances Laurie and Daniella received valuable bonus points by submitting articles and photographs for Club Talk.

As many members have shown, the "slow-and-steady" approach of regular participation at club events do add up, but "quick burst" bonus points really make a difference. Activities such as writing an article for Club Talk, submitting photos, signing up a new member, or assisting with the running of an event, may be just the shot in the arm that enables you to hit the lead.

So with 6 months to go, don't forget the bonus points - with a little extra effort, no one is out of the running for the prestigious MOTY award.

Want to know more about the Member of the Year award, or get the latest point score tally? It's all posted on the club website - Members Only section.

Have fun, and remember, be in it, to win it!

Member	Points
<b>Laurie Tesoriero</b>	<b>110</b>
Elaine Caldwell	100
Russell Ingels	100
<b>Daniella Di Giovanni</b>	<b>100</b>
Ed Chivers	80
Paula Wu	70
Nick Martinenko	70
Phillip Roberts	70
Judy Sant	70
Sylvia Tikellis	60
Patsy Chivers	60
David Fancourt	60
Meg Ingels	60
Stefan Mayer	60

Unfortunately this will be the last report that I will write as your Club Captain. I have really enjoyed being Club Captain. For those of you who do not know David & I are expecting our first baby in December, hence my decision to resign from the committee. Before you ask no we are not selling our MX5. We have already purchased the baby seat!

My memories of the past 12 months are enjoyable ones. And I am sure that all of you who attended the

# 10th Anniversary Prize Winners

The Organising Committee wish to give special thanks to Mark Stasinowsky for selling the raffle tickets and to members for enthusiastically purchasing them.

10th Anniversary Jacket & Cap (collected by Harry Spritz)	<b>Derek Plante</b>
In-dash CD player	<b>Frank Johnson</b>
Car Bra	<b>Ramon Singh</b>
Driving Jacket with logos	<b>Dave Perin</b>
'Wheels' magazine subscriptions	<b>Colleen Russ</b> <b>Vicki Woodhouse</b>
Meguiars Gold Class Pack	<b>Michael Kuhn</b>
Jackeroo Aluminum Foldaway Table	<b>Phil Roberts</b>
Castrol GTX Magnatek Oil	<b>Aron Boge, Jean Cook,</b> <b>Mark Stasinowsky, Ruth</b> <b>Simpson, Shayne Dum-</b> <b>brell, Karen Whitehorn</b>
6 Stack CD player	<b>Matilda Mravivic</b>
Eunos Gold Watch	<b>Greg Yu</b>
Gold Badging	<b>Jason Caruana</b>
2 tickets to Vicary's Winery bushdance	<b>Brian Wu</b>
Vehicle Detail	<b>Judy Sant</b>
Dinner for two at the Goulburn Heritage Motel	<b>Karen Whitehorn</b>
Rainbird Mazda Umbrella	<b>Dave Perin</b>
Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club, dinner for two	<b>Greg Yu</b>
'Motor' magazine subscription	<b>Louis Serret</b>
Official Rugby Union Soccer Ball	<b>Cherie Martin</b>

## Captain's Report

**Simone Raddatz**

clubs 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations would agree with me that this was definitely one of the most exciting events we have held.

Our next event will be Yulefest. This is always a fantastic day out, the cold mountain air and the beautiful surrounds just make this another event not to be missed.

Well as I say I have really enjoyed my position as Club Captain and I hope that I can catch up with you soon on a run.

(Continued from page 5)

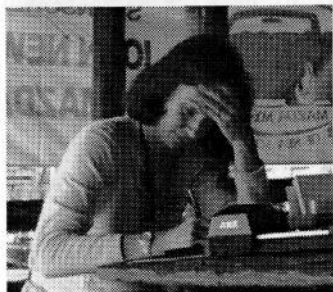
rush as soon as we drove into the car park. It was comforting to have veterans Bob, Ed and Roger give advice and tips but nothing could prepare us for the cheek puckering uphill bend onto the straight that was menacingly edged by a concrete wall. ("Just aim for the milk sign on the wall" was Ed's advice – yeah right!). After a few laps those walls still remained very unnerving. At the end of the day, our nerves were rewarded. The team did very well! At the end of this first round, the MX-5 club is 1<sup>st</sup> on 13 points, ahead of 2<sup>nd</sup> placegetters (NSW Road Racing Club) by 2 points. What a thrill! Well done TEAMX-5!

I would like to thank everyone who advised and encouraged Matilda. You have created a monster! Lately she has been feeding me extra. Anything for a weight advantage!

Are we having a good time?? - You

Betcha. -

Once again, a big thank you to everyone - Nick



**Matilda hard at work at the 10th Anniversary Lunch**

### MATILDA'S MUMBLINGS:

Monster? Excuse me!!! I really did not need that much encouragement to get out on the track. Well.....O.K., .....maybe a little. I must hasten to add that the story you have just gleaned all comes from a man who found 10,000 (I'm not exaggerating) excuses for not purchasing "Him" in the first place!!

"We can't possibly fit a week's worth of groceries in the boot!" to "I'll need a shoe horn to get into the car". My responses were practical: from "Eat less" to "You'll have to become less cuddly". Truth be known, you can fit heaps into the car, and Nick fits into the car without too much effort (even if somewhat snugly).

By way of introduction, "Him's" name is "Sterling" and "Mini Him" is called George.

How these two carefully crafted cars obtained personalities and names remain a mystery. What causes adults (?) to christen inanimate objects and have inordinate amounts of affection for the coloured jellybean defies psychology. Don't seek help my friends! You are in good company! Everyone who owns one will tell you how

much they love their curved coloured creatures!

Both Sterling and George have been responsible for causing the affliction commonly known (in medical circles) as "perma-grin". There is no known cure, and quite frankly, it doesn't need one.

If someone told me that we would be the proud owners of a bouncing baby racecar in the New Year, my response would have been "are you playing with a full deck of cards?" However, the bug bit me hard (no amount of Aerogard would have saved me). After screaming around the track in Sterling, George was the natural progression. From his modified suspension (definitely a bone-shattering ride), racing seat and "CIG" locked diff, to his cute race stickers, the little red beastie earned my affection before we got him onto the race track. It was love at first sight! I only had eyes for him. Sorry to break it to you so publicly Nick!

Nick was spot on the money.....I couldn't wait for our first day on the track with George. He didn't disappoint. Hugged the corners like they were lonely and in dire need of affection. The only thing that limited his performance was the inexperienced peanut behind the wheel. With time I hope to get better at it. I didn't think I was as bad as Nick made out, but unfortunately some of my friends (?) in the club (thanks guys), have been able to provide incriminating photographic evidence. I am currently on a "seek and destroy all photographs" mission. Yes, I did perform most of the circus tricks mentioned in Nick's story. I kinda figured, every track needs its clown. Wakefield got more than it bargained for. I'm here to tell you, even though my 360's were far from intentional.....damn they were fun! Wakefield is the only place you can get away with doing alien wheat crop circles with some degree of relative safety.

## Out on the TRACK

I climbed out of the car after his inaugural scream around Wakefield, my legs were jelly and I needed a quick dash to the ablutions block to change soiled underwear. My feet did not touch terra firma and I could not wipe the lunatic grin from my face. It was such a thrill! They should bottle this euphoria and sell it. There's a fortune to be made in that there drug boy!

To those responsible for encouraging this addictive, euphoric state; the racing arm of the MX-5 club (both past and present members); you epitomise what life is all about.....good fun and good friends. Thank you all for truckloads of much needed advice and support. To those that attend our race days, it's such a thrill to see your happy smiling faces doing what we enjoy most.....hooning around the racetrack like teenagers.

To all those ladies who have raced before me, you are quite inspirational. Thank you for your encouragement! Many moons ago, I remember Jean Cook enticing more ladies to overcome their fear of helmet hair and get onto the track. Come on girls, it's a hoot!

As I eagerly await our next race day, I attempt to compose myself between adrenalin rushes (some may suggest, hot flushes!), wind burn and severe cases of helmet hair. Being an advocate of "girl power", I ponder on the absence of it in my abode. I now live in a house full of men: Sterling, George.....oh, and of course, my co-driver in crime, Nick! As Marika would say....."I no complain".

How sweet it is!



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10% discount on body kits, wheels, tyres, sports exhausts and suspension parts.

500 Glenmore Rd, Edgecliff

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Call Simon Stratford or Brian Connell.

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Service Manager - George Farrugia

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## Ammon Leather

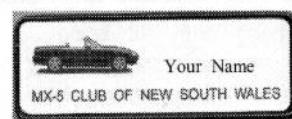
Special rates for MX-5 Club Members. 2 seats in full leather for your MX-5 (any colour) will cost only \$800. Price includes full installation and a three year warranty.

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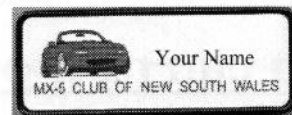
Ph: (02) 09746 9433

Contact: Frank Wang

(Previously Ammon International P/L)



To order a new/replacement name badge please contact the Secretary



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Size	Base Rate
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## Club Talk

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The Mazda MX-5 Club of NSW operates as a non-profit organisation and relies primarily on volunteer services. However, sponsorship of events, the publication and mailing of the newsletter, and operating supplies constitutes a financial burden that must be met by the membership. Make you MX-5 experience more enjoyable - join and participate. To keep the club meaningful, we need your support. To become a member send your name, address, and phone number to: [membership@mx5.com.au](mailto:membership@mx5.com.au) or The Secretary

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