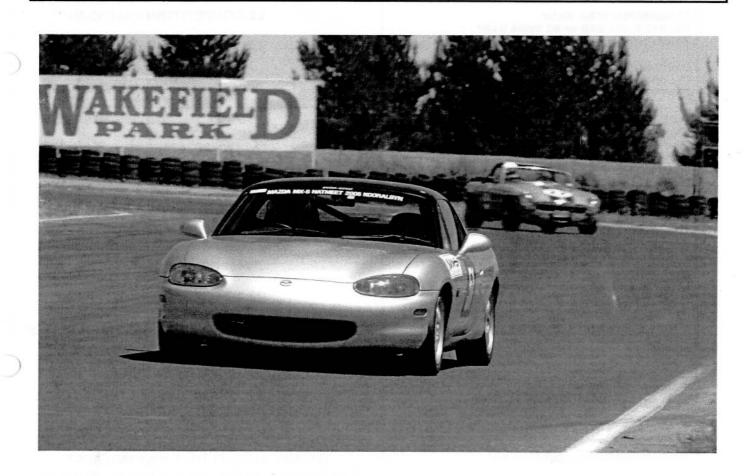
MX-5



NEW SOUTH WALES



PROUD SPONSORS OF THE MAZDA MX-5 CAR CLUB OF N.S.W



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WELCOME TO THE NEW LOOK CLUB TALK- NOW ON THE WEBSITE

IT WILL BE COMING BI-MONTHLY WITH UP TO DATE STORIES AND NEWS.

FOR THOSE WHO DON'T HAVE ACCESS TO THE WEBSITE THIS WILL STILL REACH YOU BY MAIL. HOPE YOU ENJOY AND WILL FEEL COMPELLED TO CONTRIBUTE, POEMS, TALES (TALL AND TRUE), TECHINCAL INFO THAT MAY INTEREST.

THE ANNUAL WAKEFIELD CALENDAR IS INSIDE, YOU MIGHT WANT TO TRY YOUR HAND AT A BIT OF TRACK DRIVING, OR JUST GO ALONG AND HELP WITH THE TIMING OR HAVE A WEEKEND AWAY WITH LIKE MINDED ENTHUSIASTS.

**MX-5 CAR CLUB MAGAZINE** 

Paul & Sandra Williams

# President's Report Jan 2007

Yet another year has gone by, filled with exciting runs, events, weekends away and even overseas trips for some of us. Special thanks go to all the members who have participated in all these events, but special thanks go to those who have organized them. It takes a bit of preparation to make sure it all goes well, but the real fun part is getting to preview the actual runs! Any excuse to take the car out, top down on a sunny day on great roads of your own choice!

A very warm Welcome to the new Hunter Chapter, which was formed in November a special thanks to Sean Thompson for picking up the reins and putting in a lot of hard work to form the Chapter. It is hoped that this will provide some activities for members who live in New England & the North Coast.

The highlight of my year has to be my trip to the US & Canada. I went on a cruise to Alaska which was spectacular, followed by a visit to my brother in interior BC. A friend & I drove around the Rockies for a few days, driving through the snow (at the beginning of September) from Lake Louise to Jasper along the Icefields Parkway. This was described as the most picturesque highway in the world. It certainly was beautiful and in the snow made it even more spectacular. Not sure that it would beat the Great Ocean Road though, but you would not get to see that in the snow! We ended up in Whistler & Vancouver, and then Ronnie flew back to Melbourne. I was privileged enough to be allowed to drive one of John Hewitt's Miatas and drove back to my family in BC. John let me drive the one he calls Backroads, his first one, a red 1990 NA model. It was a pleasure to drive! My first MX5 was a blue NA. I had forgotten just how great it was to drive the early ones. I did miss the power steering, but only when I was parking. I did not even notice any less power or acceleration with the 1.6L engine. I had promised John I would return a day or so before the Aussie contingent was expected to help with final details. Little did I know those details included picking them up from

Seattle-Tacoma Airport. Most of the people arriving I already knew, but I had not seen Ashley Price & Sandra Pullman since the second Natmeet in Canberra. John & I spent the previous evening making large signs with the names printed to hold up in the air! How I longed for an Australian Flag to attach to the roof of the car. At this point it was a nondescript Mazda Tribute, not a Miata, which was great for the people & luggage, but not really recognizable! In the 2 days I made 4 trips in to the airport, an hour's journey each way, enlisting the help of a local club member for the Friday. BTW they have a great thing over there that I think should spread to Australian airports, especially Sydney, it is a cell phone parking lot, complete with portaloo & Coke machine! You just sit in the car and wait until your party has picked up their luggage, they phone you and then you proceed to the pick up point. Great idea! I have to say at first I was a bit intimidated by the 4 or 5 lane freeway, especially at peak hour with the Friday evening traffic heading out of the city, but I survived unscathed but more importantly so did John's Tribute! You will read about the rest of the trip from others in the rest of this edition, it certainly was a lot of fun! At the farewell dinner John asked me to talk to the group, (200 odd people) about the differences in the clubs. There are minor differences in the structure of the Committee, but basically everything else is the same. Same friendly people, same smiles, same kind of roads, same camaraderie when out washing the cars after the journey and the same friendly conversations and sharing of experiences over a few drinks in the evenings after the runs are over. I won't be surprised to see a few from there attend the next Natmeet in Victoria. If you get the chance to attend an event overseas, then go out of your way to get there. It will be well worth it.

Happy Motoring in 2007, and I look forward to meeting you on one of the runs.

Jean Cook, President.

# Canberra Chapter Roundup

It seems like it was only yesterday I was writing for Club Talk, finishing with our August run to Bundanoon to catch up with members from Sydney.

In late August, the Chapter held its annual general meeting. As an incentive to attend, members were informed that office bearers would be selected from absent members. It worked! A great turn out, and Paul Beerworth was unanimously re elected as Convenor. That will teach him to miss the meeting!

September went with a blur. Not the least because Margaret and Paul spent all of it in Europe. A pleasant five weeks in Italy, France and the UK. In his absence Greg Rooke kept an eye on things and as Murphy's Law would have it, if something is going to fall over, it will occur while the convenor is away.

The first activity in September was our regular Coffee and Lies, scheduled to be held at the Bohemian Café, Red Hill. The early birds arrived to find a bailiffs notice on the door. No coffee was being served there that day. A quick ring around and a note on a scrap of paper and an alternate venue was organised. Without a drop of latte being spilt!

The September monthly run was to be to the delightful burg of Captain's Flat for lunch. The usual phone call to confirm numbers elicited a recorded message – "Gone Fishin' " or words to that effect. Luckily the Canberra Chapter always has a Plan B. John Brown and Mal Bernhardt dusted off their individual plans for a tour of the New Parliament House – to areas normally off limits to the casual visitor, followed by lunch and tour at the Old Parliament House.

Just to ensure that Greg did not have it all delivered on a plate, the Canberra Chapter hosted Sydney members for a visit to the National Capital to enjoy Floriade, our annual flower festival. One of the activities was to be a dinner at Mitzi's Restaurant, located above the aforementioned Bohemian Café, Red Hill. The October Long Weekend is not a good time to organise a restaurant booking at late notice, let alone for 30 odd people. But once again Greg came through.

The long weekend included two organised runs, one a condensed version of our (now) famous "Five Hills for 5s in Canberra Run", and then a longer run out in the Brindabella Ranges, culminating with a fast, uninterrupted drive along Paddy's River Road and the 'NASA' road to the Tidbinbilla Deep Space Communications Station for coffee at the Moon Rock Café.

Our October event was the long awaited "Whale Watch Run", a 570 km, two day drive across the Monaro Plain to the coast for lunch at the Tathra Hotel and, following an overnight stay at Bermagui, a cruise out to Montague Island to observe whales on their migration to the Southern Ocean. 35 members in 18 cars attended, enjoying a great drive through a snow storm between Bombala and Cathcart to the sun of the coastal strip. And we saw some whales!! Bonus.



November was a more settled month, just two activities for a change (!). First up was the Chapter's participation in the annual *Marques in the Park*, the Council of ACT Motor Clubs spring time motoring event hosted by the Canberra Region Morris Minor Club. Hundreds of vehicles were displayed, including 17 MX-5s, 19 if you include two Victorian registered cars that parked next to us.

The second event was a BBQ lunch at the Binalong Motor Museum. 34 members in 21 cars enjoyed a fast if slightly confusing run along the Barton and Hume Highways to Bookham, and then on a pleasant country lane to the Burley Griffin Way and then to Binalong. We enjoyed a tasty BBQ and were able to wander freely around the displays and workshop.

December is usually a quiet month, providing you do not attend the Annual Chapter Christmas party and the now well established Christmas Lights Cruise.

The Christmas party was held at the Madew Winery on the Federal Highway at Lake George. 35 people in 21 cars met outside Government House, ever hopeful of an invite for a cuppa, and then took an 80 km short cut to the winery including a run on the 'old' Barton Highway. Funny how those dreadful old roads are much more fun in an MX-5!!



Wine tasting ahead of dinner made for a great start to the festivities, which included certificate presentations to members who had contributed to the Chapter's success during 2006.

The Christmas Lights Cruise is an informal drive through Canberra's northern suburbs checking out the magnificent light displays, both on an individual house basis and complete streets. 23 cars started, and we think all 23 ended up at Dave Battisson's house for pudding and refreshments.

The Canberra Region Chapter continues to grow enjoying the enthusiastic support of many members driving cars from across the range of MX-5s from 1989 to the present. The Chapter is well supported by its sponsors, particularly Mark Wilson, Dealer Principal of Rolfe Mazda, and Dave and Russ Battisson, of Carco Exhaust and Automotive, both of Belconnen, all of whom are regular participants in social and motor sport activities.

The Canberra Chapter welcomes visitors to our fine city; be assured that you will receive a warm welcome at any time, but in particular at our famous Coffee and Lies, held on the first Saturday of each month at 10:00 am. You will find us at the Tulip Café, Beltana Road, Pialligo.

# **History in the Making –**

# The Hunter Chapter off to a great start!

First of all, welcome to the first column form of the newly formed Hunter Chapter of the Mazda MX-5 club of NSW.

When the Committee approached me with the idea of organising a new Hunter Chapter towards the end of 2006, I wasn't quite sure what to expect, but with the hope of bringing more MX-5 enthusiasts together for more events in the local area, how could I refuse?

On a personal level it did seem a bit daunting – But the great guidance from longstanding committee members has kept things mostly

trouble free. All we need now is someone who can change the weather - More on that later...



Our first gathering was held in Newcastle at the Juicy Beans Café during October and was well attended by almost 30 people. There was a mix of new members and old coming from as far as Tamworth and Sydney. Ex President George gave an explanation of the Hunter Chapter and the philosophy behind the Club in general – George's run down was well received with the club picking up a couple of new members as a direct result of this first meeting.

With the formalities over we continued to discuss some of the things we love; coffee and MX-5s. From talking to everyone on the day it became obvious that it didn't really matter what you had, everyone wanted to hear about your car and your experiences with it. There were some great stories shared and cars ranging from concourse standard stock NAs, right through to a couple of brand new NC models and turbocharged MX-5s with a mix of just about everything in between.

As the conversation continued it headed in the natural direction of an afternoon drive. A select few braved the blistering sun and followed a short drive to Kurri Kurri for lunch. Here the conversation continued and a good feed was had by all, unless that is you ordered the battered fish (so Matt tells us).

Fast Forward to December: We've met a few times and we're ready for our Christmas Run – I should have know the day would pop out a few surprises when I found out my car would still be in the paint shop, but instead I soldiered on in the "sporty" Toyota Corolla – At least it was red!

A smaller than expected number of members joined me at the meeting place ready for our First Christmas Event – A treasure hunt for 40 items with prizes up for grabs to the highest point scorers, as well as the best dressed "Christmas themed" cars and drivers. (Before I forget; thanks to Dave from the WA club for his help compiling the list and to Autoglym for supplying some great prizes!). The treasure hunt was to end at a Top Secret location for a pleasant BBQ lunch... At least that was the plan...

Mother Nature decided this wasn't the way she wanted it and the rain was starting to drizzle on us already. Not the ideal conditions for top-down

motoring and certainly not looking positive for our B.B.Q. With our planned destination having little protection from the elements we needed to resort to a Plan B, now to quickly come up with a Plan B.

All attendees were still keen on running the treasure hunt and members Tom and Annette Wilde jumped in with the offer to move the BBQ to their place. I can't thank Tom and Annette enough things worked out perfectly with their lovely new home having a great covered outdoor entertaining area for us to host the Chapter Christmas BBQ.

The treasure hunt ran smoothly with central coast members Derek and Lyn Plante taking out the honours and Bob Pimm's sparkling NC taking the best Christmas theme – Complete with Christmas carols playing from reindeer antlers! As usual we shared stories and laughs amongst a great group of people and everyone went home smiling – Except the Wildes, they were already home, but our great hosts were also smiling, having taken out equal second in the treasure hunt!

As always a great day was had by all involved. I look forward to seeing more and more people from Newcastle, the Hunter and surrounds on some of our upcoming runs or at our regular coffee days – Check out Club Events for more details!

Until then, drive safe and enjoy.

Cheers Sean.

#### NEW MEMBERS WELCOME TO THE CLUB



Maggie Liston
Alan Wong
Alexander Hall
Russell Lindfield
Noel John La Rose
Howard Thompson
Gwen Osborne & John Brandt
Trevor Rix
Steve & Linda Wood
Alan & Juliah Lymbery
Rodney O'Rourke & Tracy Carter

James Clode
Claire Maher
Damon Muller
Talia Morgan
Lynne Thompson
Robert Pimm
Peter McLean & Paula Dark
John O'Byrne & Penny King
Jack Heapy
Russell Luland
Rosemary Smith

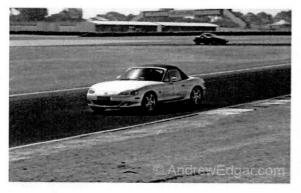
Peter Dempsey
Brian Cherry
Lynn Dowling
Andrew Macarthur
Ronald Frank Willey
Raymond Horne
Dians K Mandys
Mark A Virgon
Andres J Edsor
Robert Guder
Kristian Zadro

# **Committee News**

## 2006 -2007 Membership Renewals are now overdue!

MX-5 Club of NSW Membership expired at the end of October 2006. By now you should have received your renewal form and returned with your payment. If you have not received your renewal form please email Peter Howe at membership@mx5.com.au.

# **COMPETITION REPORT**



## MIKE HICKS - 2007

Welcome to another new year that will be full of many varied and interesting events that hopefully will satisfy the needs of most of our club members. At the end of this article is a calendar of all the competition events that will be available to club members whether they be Club Track Days at Wakefield Park, New South Wales Supersprint Championship Rounds or race meetings that include the six round State Championship, the five round one-hour race series or the three MG Racing Festival of Sports Cars race

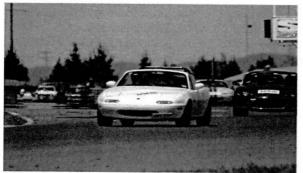
meetings.

At Club level our first event for 2007 will be our "Triple Treat" Track Day on Sunday the 4<sup>th</sup> March at Wakefield Park. This meeting has proved to be very popular over the last few years. It consists of three separate events on the same day they are a hill climb, the short circuit and the main circuit. Newcomers are always welcome at our track days. You can have as much fun in a standard road car as those with out and out race MX-5s. There is always a session for first timers where experienced drivers will train you. Go to the motor sport page of the club website for entry forms and regulations.

Although we are now in 2007 it would be remiss of me not to cover activities that occurred in the last few months of 2006.

On the racing scene the six round CAMS State Championship concluded at Eastern Creek on the 24<sup>th</sup> September. Outright Prod Sports Champion and winner of class C was club member Brad Douglass in his MX-5. Brad taking over from last years Champion Brian Anderson who also drove an MX-5. Congratulations Brad. Nick Martinenko, Matilda Mravicic and Chris Tonna finished fourth, fifth and sixth respectively in class C, whilst Tyrone Gautier was third in class D. Brian Anderson had a year he would prefer to forget in his new Class B 'SP' and will be better positioned for the 2007 Championship.

In the one-hour series Brian Anderson and his co-driver Bruce McCabe finished in the top ten in all



three events and in class B picked up two seconds and a third to be the best of the MX-5s. At Eastern Creek in August Brian and Bruce were sixth outright and second in class B, Brad Douglass was fourteenth overall and third in class C followed one place behind by Nick and Matilda. Val Stewart co-drove a Porsche 944 S2 to win class D. Tyrone was sixth in class F with Chris Gough and Joe Macare seventh.

New South Wales MX-5 entries were thin at Queensland Raceway in early November. Brian Anderson and Bruce McCabe were fifth outright and second in class B. Ed Chivers co-drove with Chris Stannard in a Porsche 993 RSCS to be a place behind Brian and Bruce whilst Val Stewart's co-drive in the 944 S2 netting her a respectable eighteenth outright.

At Phillip Island in late November a strong group of MX-5s headed south from New South Wales. David Raddatz with co-driver Daniel Deckers finished seventh outright, second in class B in David's new 'SP', Brian Anderson and Bruce McCabe were ninth outright and third in class B. Brad Douglass,

Steven Head, Adam Spencer and Val Stewart all turned in good performances. Lou Iezzi and Chris Tonna were unlucky to be non finishes when Lou's car ran out of fuel a few minutes before the end of the one-hour. Nick and Matilda were non-starters due to engine problems.

In late October eleven club members competed in MG Racing's final race meeting for 2006 at Wakefield Park. Kevin Addison, Bill Dougall, Dennis Brady and Mike Hicks ran in the Regularities whilst David Raddatz, Matilda Mravicic, Nick Martinenko, Lou Iezzi, Stephen Head, Chris Gough and JoeMacare competed in races.



Kevin Addison, Dennis Brady and Mike Hicks won regularities whilst Kevin Addison

was by far the most regular winner overall. David Raddatz debuted his new 'SP' taking three wins, a second and a fifth. Matilda ran her 'SP' at the pointy end in all her races, Lou Iezzi's new 'SE" running in Type F configuration performed well and Stephen Head recorded a win. Nick, Chris and Joe also had a strong weekend. The highlight being, Sunday's Wide World of Sports Cars race, that saw David first, Matilda second and Lou third. Altogether it was a very successful and enjoyable weekend for the MX-5s.

In the eighth round State Supersprint Championship the Club finished a respectable second in the Club Championship to the numerically stronger New South Wales Road Racing Club. Individual Trophy winners from the club were Ed Cory first in class 2b and second in Type 2. First year supersprinter Stewart Temesvary third in class 1b and Type 1, Bradley Cecil second in class 2b, Kevin Addison first in class 3b and Matilda Mravicic third in class 4d.

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December forty six starters competed at the final Wakefield Park Track day for 2006. On this occasion we used two different track configurations to add a little spice and variation. In the morning we ran the conventional main circuit but for the afternoon added the hillclimb loop between turns 2 and 3 plus another loop between the "fish hook" and turn 9 creating a longer and more MX-5 friendly circuit. Fastest time on each circuit was combined to determine the various class winners. Outright winner was Val Stewart in her 'new' Mark 8 RX 7. Val was kept honest by Peter Browning who had the ex Brian Anderson car 'Jaffa' running reliably with Russell Battisson third.



Final event for 2006 saw seven NSW club members travel to Phillip Island to compete in the annual New South Wales/Victoria Challenge on 17<sup>th</sup> December. The Victorian Branch of the Alfa Romeo Owners Club of Australia ran the event.

Renny Roden, Pat and Greg Rooke ran in the open class with their turbo cars. Ed Cory,

Phil Ashton and Mike Hicks ran in the modified class whilst Phil Roberts was our sole representative in the standard class. What a great day and great circuit, Phillip Island would have to be one of the best circuits in Australia. The New South Wales

team were not disgraced but the home circuit advantage saw the cup return to south of the Murray. We'll just have to win it back when the Victorians return to Wakefield Park in 2007.

I trust that everybody had a safe and healthy 2006 and look forward to seeing many of you at the 'Triple Treat' at Wakefield Park on the 4<sup>th</sup> March.

# WAKEFIELD TRACK DAYS

Our next track meeting is on Sunday, 4th March, 2007

Entries Close on 26th February, 2007

Earlybird entries close on Monday 19th February, 2007

Entry forms are available in the Motorsport Documents.

This section is dedicated to those with MX-5s that seek competition in their driving or occasionally drive a little harder than is allowed on the road or on social runs.

Motor sport or competitive events are organised by the Competition Secretary and we encourage you to contact us regarding events

that you would like to see the club host or in which you would like to participate.



In 2007 the club is arranging six track days at Wakefield Park near Goulburn in the Southern Highlands of New South Wales. One is Round 7 of the NSW Supersprint Championship on 16th September, two Monday events and four Sunday events for the "weekend racers". Refer to the Competition Calendar for the dates of each event.

For those who enjoy the track days but would like to try their hand at other circuits then we suggest obtaining a CAMS L2S licence and registering to compete in the CAMS NSW Supersprint Championship. The Mazda MX-5 Club of NSW has won the Club Championship five times in the last seven years at this event. The Championship has classes for standard road registered cars through to highly modified race-cars, so there is a class to suit every car. As indicated above the club will be joining with the Z Car Club to host a Round 7 of this Championship at Wakefield Park.

For further information on the Championship contact the Competition Secretary.

And for those who want to take the final step into racing you will need to upgrade your CAMS licence and join the Production Sports Car Racing Association of Australia and participate in their six round championships run at Eastern Creek, Oran Park and Wakefield Park.

So if you haven't given competitive driving a go why not join us at our next track day. Experienced drivers from within the club will help you get

CAMINE ME OF AN OWN

started. Who knows you maybe joining the Production Sports Car guys in a short time or like many of our longer serving members just enjoying the fellowship and adrenalin rush of the club track days.

| Date              | 2007 Competition Calendar |                          | Date 16.11.2006     |                 |
|-------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
|                   | Day                       | Event                    | Venue               | Host Club       |
| 17 & 18 February. | Sat/Sunday                | Festival of Sports Cars. | Oran Park South     | MG Racing.      |
| 24 February.      | Saturday                  | Practice Day (L2S)       | Eastern Creek       | ARDC.           |
| 25 February.      | Sunday                    | Prod Sports 1 - hr.      | Eastern Creek       | ARDC.           |
| 4 March.          | Sunday                    | Track Day (Triple Treat) | Wakefield Park      | Mazda MX-5 Club |
| 4 March.          | Sunday                    | Supersprints Rd 1.       | Oran Park G P.      | NSWRRC.         |
| 30 March.         | Friday                    | Practice Day (L2S)       | Eastern Creek       | ARDC            |
| 13 April.         | Friday                    | Practice Day (L2S)       | Eastern Creek       | ARDC            |
| 14 & 15 April     | Sat/Sunday                | NSW Races Rd 1.          | Wakefield Park.     | Wakefield Park  |
| 22 April.         | Sunday                    | Supersprint Rd 2.        | Eastern Creek       | MG Newcastle.   |
| 7 May.            | Monday                    | Track Day                | Wakefield Park      | Mazda MX-5 Clu  |
| 18 May.           | Friday                    | Practice Day             | Eastern Creek       | ARDC            |
| 19 & 20 May.      | Sat/Sunday                | NSW Races Rd 2.          | Eastern Creek       | ARDC            |
| 20-May            | Sunday                    | Supersprint Rd 3.        | Wakefield Park      | Mini Car Club.  |
| 16 & 17 June.     | Sat/Sunday                | NSW Races Rd 3           | Oran Park GP        | NSWRRC          |
| 17 June.          | Sunday                    | Track Day                | Wakefield Park      | Mazda MX-5 Clu  |
| 30 June.          | Saturday                  | Supersprint Rd 4.        | Oran Park GP.       | NSWRRC          |
| 1 July.           | Sunday                    | Prod Sports 1-hr.        | Eastern Creek       | ARDC            |
| 7 & 8 July.       | Sat/Sunday                | Festival of Sports Cars. | Oran Park G P.      | MG Racing.      |
| 21 & 22 July.     | Sat/Sunday                | NSW Races Rd 4.          | Oran Park GP.       | NSWRRC.         |
| 28 July.          | Saturday                  | Supersprint - Rd 5       | Oran Park G P.      | Mini Car Club.  |
| 29-Jul            | Sunday                    | Ladies Day - Skidpan.    | Eastern Creek       | Mazda MX-5 Clu  |
| 5 August.         | Sunday                    | Supersprint - Rd 6       | Eastern Creek       | ARDC            |
| 25 & 26 August    | Sat/Sunday                | NSW Races Rd 5.          | Wakefield Park      | Wakefield Park  |
| 31 August.        | Friday                    | Practice Day (L2S)       | Eastern Creek       | ARDC            |
| 16 September.     | Sunday                    | Supersprint - Rd 7       | Wakefield Park      | MX-5/ ZCC.      |
| 17 September.     | Monday                    | Track Day                | Wakefield Park      | Mazda MX-5 Clu  |
| 21 September.     | Friday                    | Practice Day             | Eastern Creek       | ARDC            |
| 22 & 23 Sept.     | Sat/Sunday                | NSW Races Rd 6.          | Eastern Creek       | ARDC            |
| 29 & 30 Sept.     | Sat/Sunday                | Prod Sports 1-hr.        | Queensland Raceway. |                 |
| 12 October.       | Friday                    | Practice Day (L2S)       | Eastern Creek       | ARDC            |
| 14 October.       | Sunday                    | Supersprint Round 8      | Oran Park South.    | NSWRRC.         |
| 20 & 21 October.  | Sat/Sunday                | Festival of Sports Cars. | Wakefield Park      | MG Racing       |
| 27 & 28 October.  | Sat/Sunday                | AROCA 6 Hour Reg.        | Winton (Vic)        | AROCA (Vic)     |
| 27 & 28 Oct.      | Sat/Sunday.               | Prod Sports 1-hr.        | Oran Park.          | NSWRRC.         |
| 4 November.       | Sunday                    | Track Day NSW/Vic Ch.    | Wakefield Park      | Mazda MX-5 Clu  |
| 24 & 25 Nov.      | Sat/Sunday.               | Prod Sports 1-hr.        | Phillip Island.     | PIARC.          |
| 2 December.       | Sunday                    | Supersprint Pres Day.    | Eastern Creek       | SSAP.           |



# RESULTS OF CONCOURS-2006

#### **Trophy Winners:**

Best Overall- Colin and Elaine Caldwell Best in Class

NA6A - Colin and Elaine Caldwell

NB8A & modified NB8A - Jeff Swords

NB8B - Kim Ranger

NC & Limited Edition NC - Riko Rubin

Certificates awarded for the following:

**Best Standard:** 

NB8B- Kim Ranger

NC- Ian Miller

Best Modified

NA6A - Michael McLaren

NB8B - Jen and Anthony Slater

NC - Phil Ashton

Best LE:

NB8C - Stephen Cromer

NC - Riko Rubin

**Best SE:** 

Ray and Pamela Estreich

Best Show and Shine: - Karen Evans

1st runner up - Mike Hicks

2nd runner up - Howard Fleming

Peoples Choice- Jennifer and Anthony Slater





Mike Hicks

Ricko Rubin

Phil Ashton







Howard Fleming

Jennifer & Anthony Slater

Colin & Elaine Caldwell







Jeff Swords

Kim Ranger

Ray & Pam Estreich



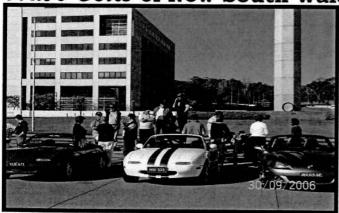




Karen Evans

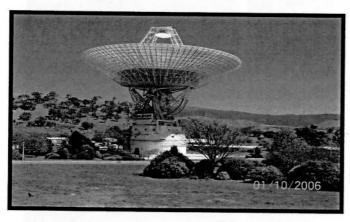
Michael McLaren

Ian Miller



## Canberra Long Weekend

We all arrived at Pheasants Nest for a 9.30am departure, Mark, Corrine, Darren, Nicole, Peter, Carolyn, Franck, Margaret, Peter, Kim, Phil (Cheryl was already in Canberra) and the organizers Pam, Ray, Sandra and Paul. We were all handed an envelope which contained information of things to do in Canberra but also a booklet of instructions on how to get there together with a fun question sheet to answer on the way.



Sandra and Paul left the starting point then followed by the remaining cars at one minute intervals. We followed instructions right and left at specified kilometres and answered questions along the way until we arrived at the golden arches (McDonalds) in Goulburn for lunch. We handed in our booklets and all received a chocolate for our efforts. We had lunch and then proceeded to Canberra following the car in front, we did have an instruction sheet if we became lost, but the run was so well organized we didn't need it.

We arrived in Canberra at the Heritage Hotel about 2.30pm. After checking in we met up with our Canberra hosts at 4p.m. at Blamey Square, Russell Hill for modified hills run. We took some twists and turns, saw a few sights namely Telstra Tower and a lot of excited Japanese tourists madly taking pictures of the stream of MX-5's passing by as well as a few wedding parties wanting to join in. We arrived back at our accommodation at about 6p.m. for a quick shower and then it was off to dinner.



We had dinner at Legends Restaurant in Manuka which was a set menu and the food just kept on coming. It was really very nice and we were all scattered amongst our Canberra counterparts whom we got to know very well. After a long day we headed home for a good nights sleep. On Sunday morning most of us headed for Manuka for breakfast, and then met up with the Canberra Club at our accommodation for a trip to Tidbinbilla tracking station. There were about 20 cars and I certainly enjoyed driving through the bends and keeping up with Pat & Greg's (from Canberra) race car. We had a look around the tracking station which was very interesting and according to their weight and age machine we should all live on Neptune where we would be lightweight and on Mars where we would never grow old. Time for a coffee and snack, the poor lady in the café nearly had a coronary with so many people. After this we said goodbye to our Canberra counterparts and went our separate ways, most of us went off to the markets and then onto Floriade.

Sunday evening some went out to dinner, some visited friends and a few of us stayed in and watched the footy grand final.

Monday morning most of us had breakfast at our accommodation after which we said our goodbyes and most headed home. Pam, Ray, Margaret, Franck, Kim and Peter headed off to the National Australia Museum where we spent hours, then Pam and Ray headed home whilst the remaining four went to Telstra Tower and the Australian War Memorial. We finally finished touring at 4.30 p.m. What a day. I can't believe how much there is to see and do in Canberra and its mostly free, guess the politicians do something right, might have to move them up to Sydney so we can enjoy a few more freehies.

Well that's it from Canberra it was a truly great weekend; we all got on so well.

Congratulations must go to Pam, Ray, Sandra and Paul for a truly fantastic and well organized weekend, you even put on the good weather.

Kim and Peter Ranger



# JANES TRIP TO WASHINGTON STATE

PART ONE Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> September 2006.

We were told to wait at gate 15-16 at Seattle Airport. I went through the normal customs etc and then worked out what the instruction meant – all the exits were numbered! I waited and waited and then I saw a woman with familiar legs and hair talking with a couple and another man – none

of whom I knew! Phew, at least there's one familiar person. I strolled up to say hello to Jean Cook, our vice president (at the time) and met Roger & Lynne Trethewey from Adelaide and our illustrious host, John Hewitt. (After all the emails backwards and forwards regarding the trip it was such a pleasure to meet John Hewitt – the man who had organised this total car fantasy!) They said they had paraded a placard with my name on it around the arrivals but I had not seen it (due to above instruction) so this was a happy reunion at about 8pm after much exhausting travel from the UK and Toronto. Jean drove us to our base for the "Before Backroads" trip about an hour north of Seattle to a Marysville motel. The billeting didn't



eventuate due to lack of interest which was a real shame but....I think they missed out on an outstanding opportunity to host some really interesting people visiting from Australia...23 of us actually.

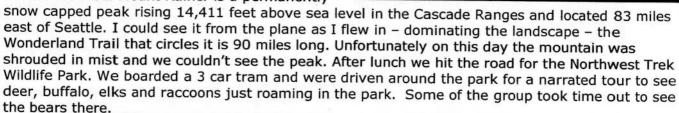
We were up for a whirligig of travel around Washington State in the following 9 days. John doesn't believe in wasting time because every minute counts. John is a teacher and takes groups of students to Europe or wherever on learning trips so he is second to none in organising our trip of MX-5'ers! He has 7 - 6 NA's (1990-1995) and a 2006 NC plus a Mazda Tribute and a borrowed Honda seating 4 each so we all had a seat and no buses were involved as had been intimated.

So, next morning after breakfast we met at 8am in the car park (which became almost the norm for meeting times) for a Seattle sightseeing tour. It was decided that we would change cars 3 times a day so we would all get to drive all 7 MX-5s and a roster was drawn up for every day. We drove into Seattle on a very fast freeway. There's a speed limit of 60 MPH but no-one seems to notice! The residential areas are exceptionally pretty along the waterfronts with very interesting architecture, I kind of thought Cape Cod maybe 1930's. We did the Seattle Needle and an

underground Pioneer Tour which introduced us to the coming of flushing toilets in Seattle from France!

That night, Club Miata Northwest hosted us with a BBQ in a typical American home with lots of members to meet and a great BBQ. We had a really fun night there with great hospitality and so much food.

It's day 2 and we're off to Mount Rainer and the Northwest Trek. Mount Rainer is a permanently





Day 3 and we're headed for the San Juan Islands and the Historic Orcas Hotel. It's a big day so we meet in the car park at 7.30am. John has to go to work so we have our driving directions. We drove up the I5 north to Anacortes where we caught the 9.35am ferry to the historic village of Friday Harbor. The ferry was huge with two storeys for vehicles and 3 for passengers. The trip was very scenic and took just over an hour passing various islands. We did a tour of the island taking in Roche Harbor where we viewed the lime kilns and could see across the water to Vancouver Island. On a good day, one can also whale watch. After

lunch we took another ferry to Orcas Island which took about 40 minutes. This whole area is very picturesque and our hotel was a charming and rambling Edwardian heritage listed lodging right opposite the water. That night we dined in and enjoyed one of the best meals on the trip. Roger and Lynne Trethewey, from SA, celebrated their 35<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary so Amy Perin from NSW presents some appropriate gifts which provide much fun and a local lady decides to sing a song unaccompanied. A great night as we get to know one another better.

# **AMY PERIN'S SHOPPING TALE**

Shopping, my favorite past time! Well, until I met Dave, that was......

"Pack the suitcases honey, but only pack minimal. Remember, we are off to the States, plenty of shopping so save room for the trip home "

Yeah right!! Like I'm the one with the problem, anyway I did as told (don't worry girls, I only do so every now & then to keep the peace).

We arrived mid afternoon Friday in Seattle, great! Time to hit the shops.....need to do something to stay awake, NO, as Jean, John & Lissa were convoying all of us back to Marysville, no problem, great opportunity to meet the locals.

Day 2. Awesome! Drive into Seattle to the Space needle tower & free time, NO too much to see at the tower amazing, just like the view from Frazier's window! A quick lunch & race back to the cars for some more adventure.

We did get to the Famous "Pike place" (seafood shop as seen on "Getaway") Dave just had to see grown men throw fish around (fun!! NO).

So, remember we arrived on Friday & finally Wednesday comes around yes, FREE day!! Time to shop, not just any shop, the discount outlet shops! Not quite yet, it apparently seems the girls have to do the laundry!! So off we go me, Margaret McCaul, Lynne Trethewey & Rae Edwards as the other girls went with the guys to the Boeing Factory. Finally 1pm comes around the others are back & the car pool started, dropping the girls off at the shops!!

First we needed a plan; we all wanted something different so as a priority we

Is this from hot footing it around shops? The great shop wreck, floundering in the shallows. discussed it over a coffee. Every 2 hours we would re-group & do coffee again, 4pm came around & I still hadn't seen all the shops & Dave, Ed & Ken joined the group, so coffee again! We met up with several other mx-5 lovers, who were also enjoying the retail therapy. 7pm came & we were still going strong but the pull from the tummy was stronger, so Ken, Rae, Dave & I stopped in at the Casino but again priorities were discussed over a bottle or 2 of wine & dinner. Before leaving, yep more shops & heaps of laughing!!

Before finishing off, my best haul was the gifts for Roger & Lynne. It turned out that while we were away they celebrated their 35th Wedding Anniversary. Over a few wines the group decided that after all that time they might need some "assistance" so to speak! I found some delightful naughties in the local store (on the Orcas Island) after 35 years I wasn't sure, you know, if it all still works!

So just in case, I found some whipped cream, Condoms & string, it was presented to them at the dinner table in front of 23 Aussies, announced & very well humored by Ken Edwards (thanx Ken great job).

At the airport for the return flight home.....my suitcase was still under the limit at weigh in, but Dave's?... well, he had to ditch some items! He did try and tell me that ladies clothing is lighter than men's, but who would believe that?



# CHRISTMAS PARTY 2006

There were trophies awarded, live entertainment, prizes won, colourful cars and definitely some wonderfully decorated people. The Hills Lodge was a wonderful venue and the food was delicious and plentiful.

The concours trophies were handed out with Colin and Elaine Caldwell taking out the Best Overall and the Best in Class alongside Jeff Swords and Kim Ranger in their cars' class. Jennifer and Anthony Slater were awarded the peoples' choice, while the show and shine went to Karen Evans with the runners up Mick Hicks and Howard

Fleming. The Members of the Year award went to Marg and Frank Verheyen for their contribution to the club throughout the year, congratulations to you both.

The slide show entertained and gave some a chance to show off there pride and joys (Hi, Phil). Cheryl's splendid Gingerbread House was raffled off to benefit Camp Quality and our own personal Jokester Daniel who entertained us with humour and song. Maggie and Ken Lister won the best decorated car and they both looked the part with flashing earrings, reindeer ears and Santa hats.

Roger did a great job as MC and organizing another successful event. There was something for everyone, good food, good company and a few laughs, what more could you ask for, as a way of ending another great zoom, zoom year.





# **ABOUT CAMS - WHAT IS CAMS?**

The Confederation of Australian Motor Sport Limited (CAMS) has been the custodian of motor sport in Australia since 1953.

CAMS is the National Sporting Authority (ASN) for motor sport in Australia, delegated this responsibility by the Federation Internationale de'l Automobile (FIA) in 1970.

The FIA aims to ensure that motor sport is conducted in accordance with the highest standards of safety and fairness and CAMS, together with 163 other ASNs in 119 nations, are committed to carrying out the mission of the FIA.

What does CAMS do?

CAMS exists to promote, encourage, and advance motor sport in Australia through competition, ensuring that the sport is competitive and fair and is run in accordance with the spirit of the traditions of true competitive sport.

CAMS is responsible for all forms of four-wheeled motor sport which includes categories such as circuit racing, rallying, offroading, historic competition and other general motor sport activities (including motorkhana, speed, hillclimb, autocross and khanacross events).

In addition to this it is CAMS' responsibility to ensure that all motor sport in Australia is conducted in a manner that secures and enhances the safety of all those involved, including participants, officials, spectators and the public.

This work is carried out to benefit all CAMS members in Australia, approximately 52,000 in total, which includes the members of over 350 affiliated car clubs and over 9,000 accredited officials.

In administering these objectives, CAMS regulates some 1,800 motor sport events per year, ranging from club level right through to major international events. CAMS' responsibilities include:

- The coordination of the annual motor sport calendar
- · The licensing and inspection of circuits
- · The licensing of all competitors
- The permitting of events in accordance with National Competition Rules
- The training and licensing of officials
- The provision of a judicial system
- Ongoing development of the rules of competition and upholding driver and public safety standards
- Category Management
- Liaising with the FIA
- · Developing and maintaining standards of safety and fairness
- Planning and developing motor sport in Australia
- Provision of protection through detailed and comprehensive insurance cover for participants, event organizers and claims by members of the public for injuries.

CONFEDERATION OF AUSTRALIAN MOTOR SPORT

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# Life's good at any age

At 85 years of age, Morris married Lou Anne, a lovely 25 year old. Since her new husband was so old, Lou Anne decides that after their wedding she and Morris should have separate bedrooms, because she is concerned that her new but aged husband may over exert himself if they spend the entire night together.

After the wedding festivities Lou Anne prepares herself for bed and waits for the expected "knock" on the door. Sure enough the knock comes, the door opens and there is Morris, her 85 year old groom ready for action.

They unite as one...All goes well, Morris leaves his bride, and she prepares to go to sleep. After a few minutes, Lou Anne hears another knock on her bedroom door, and it's Morris. Again he is ready for more "action". Somewhat surprised, Lou Anne consents for more coupling. When the newlyweds are done, Morris kisses his bride, bids her a fond goodnight and leaves. She is set to go to sleep again, but, aha you guessed it - Morris is back again, rapping on the door, and is as fresh as a 25-year-old, ready for more "action." And, once again they enjoy each other.

But as Morris gets set to leave again, his young bride says to him, "I am thoroughly impressed that at your age you can perform so well and so often. I have been with guys less than a third of your age who were only good once. You are truly a great lover, Morris."

Morris, somewhat embarrassed, turns to Lou Anne and says: "You mean I was here already"?

The moral of the story: Don't be afraid of getting old, Alzheimer's has its advantages!!!!

Anonymous.

## **HOW TO SPEAK NEW ZEALANDER**

FOR BIST EFICT, RID THESE OUT ALOUD!!!

Milburn - capital of Victoria Peck - to fill a suitcase Pissed aside - chemical which kills insects Pigs - for hanging out washing with Pump - to act as agent for prostitute Pug - large animal with a curly tail Nin tin dough - computer game Munner stroney - soup Min - male of the species Mess Kara - eye makeup McKennock - person who fixes cars Mere - Mayor Leather - foam produced from soap Lift - departed Kiri Pecker - famous Australian businessman Kittle crusps - potato chips Ken's - Cairns Jumbo - pet name for someone called Jim Jungle Bills - Christmas carol

Fush - marine creatures Fitter cheney - type of pasta Ever cardeau - avocado Fear hear - blonde Ear - mix of nitrogen and oxygen Ear roebucks - exercise at the gym Duffy cult - not easy Amejen - visualise Day old chuck - very young poultry Bug hut - popular recording Bun button - been bitten by insect Beard - a place to sleep Chully Bun - Esky Sucks Peck - Half a dozen beers Ear New Zulland - an extinct airline Beers - large savage animals found in U.S. forests Veerjun - mythical New Zealand maiden One Doze - well known computer program Sex - one less than sivven Iggs Ecktly - Precisely Beggage Chucken - place to leave your suitcase at the earport

#### ARE YOU MY SON?

Inner me - enemy

Guess - vapour

An old man watched a teenager sitting next to him. The teenager had spiked hair in all different colours: green, red orange, and blue.

The old man kept staring at him.

The teenager would look and find the old man staring every time.

When the teenager had enough, he sarcastically asked, "What's the matter old man, never done anything wild in your life?" The old man did not bat an eye in his response. He replied, "Got drunk once and had sex with a peacock.

I was just wondering if you were my son".

If there is any New Zealanders in the club, you might have a good come back for this dreadful display of humour.

For everyone else please enjoy, I am hoping this might inspire some of our creative club members to contribute something for our next issue.

#### Brain exercise

"FINISHED FILES ARE THE RE-SULT OF YEARS OF SCIENTIF-IC STUDY COMBINED WITH THE EXPERIENCE OF MANY YEARS OF EXPERTS."

READ THE ABOVE SENTENCE AND COUNT THE NUMBER OF 'F'S THAT APPEAR THEREIN. (ANSWER NEXT ISSUE)