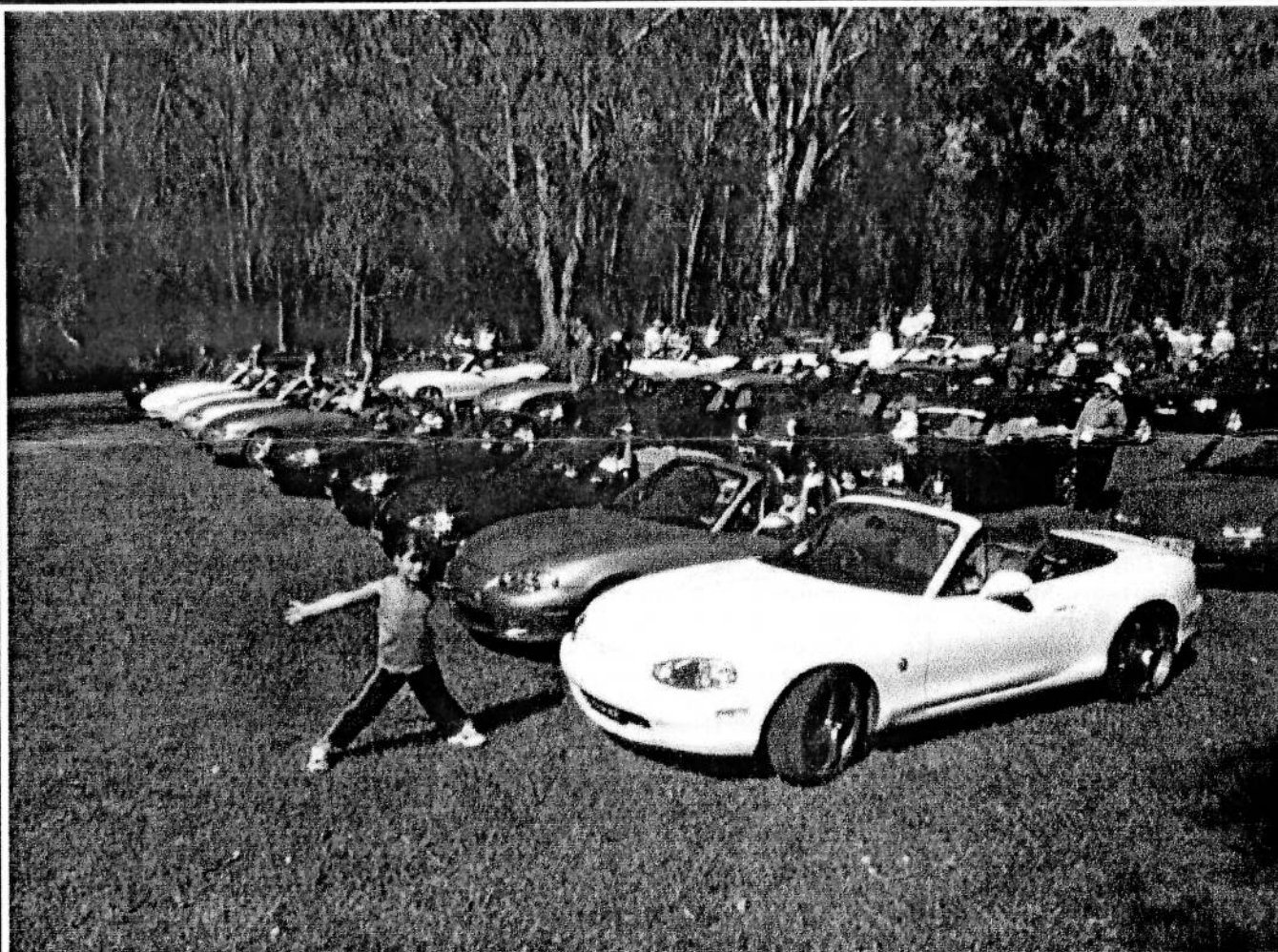


Club Talk

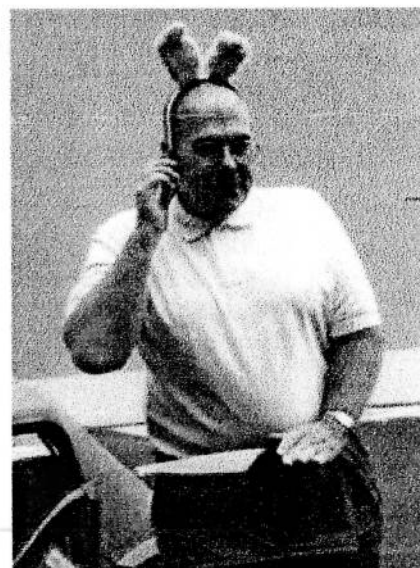
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Club Talk is a Quarterly Publication of the MX-5 Club of NSW Inc

President's Report: Arno Boge

It seems only yesterday that we were in the midst of a hot and dry summer. Now autumn is upon us and it's time to take advantage of the milder temperatures – turn off the air conditioner and zoom along topless. At least in between the much needed rain showers.

The highlight event in recent months was undoubtedly the Camp Quality run (see the article later in this issue). It was unfortunate there weren't more children at the Camp but there was certainly no lack of enthusiasm for going on an MX-5 drive on the part of the children, plus we also took parents and carers for a drive.

The Camp Quality run has become an annual event. I'm sure once the story spreads around Camp Quality of the number of cars available and how much fun the kids had, that next year's run will be even better. Many thanks to the members, and even some non-members, who came along to make this run very special. Thanks also to Dennis and his staff at the Grose Vale Conference Centre for the morning tea and lunch.

On a sadder note, we bid 'bon voyage' to a long term Club member and

Committee member – Jeff Gehrig. (See the story later in this issue.) However, due to some devious thinking by the Committee we have ensured he will not be lost to the 'banana-benders'. (The Queensland Club has been warned to hide their port.) Jeff's presence at runs will be missed, but thanks to email we will certainly keep in touch.

I am happy to report that the premier event in the MX-5 Club's calendar – Natmeet 2004 – is now well advanced. In the next month an outline of the event will be circulated to all Club members in Australia. The Natmeet sub-committee will also be promoting Natmeet to overseas Clubs. If you know any overseas Club members, please let me know.

A promotional pack, including an excellent video produced by Laurie Tesoriero, is being prepared for circulation to national and international clubs. The venue for Natmeet is the Mercure Resort at Leura in the Blue Mountains. The curtain-raiser is the Track Day at Wakefield Park, Goulburn on Thursday 8th April.

Block out your diaries for 8th-12th April, 2004 so you can attend this fun-filled MX-5 holiday. This is an event,

like the Sydney Olympics, not to be missed.

Planning events takes time and effort. I encourage all members to pass on their ideas for events, runs and social outings to myself or any Committee member. We also welcome your input and assistance during events. We are always looking for people to lead runs. I also encourage members to consider serving on the Committee. If you have any spare time or wish to 'give something back' to the Club, then please talk to me during the next few months before the Annual General Meeting when the committee elections take place.

*Best wishes and Zoom-Zoom,
Arno Boge*





Welcome New Members

A Very Warm Welcome to our Latest Members

Steven Mottram	Douglas Ayles	Debbie Hutchins
Ian Leyton-Grant	Barbara Leyton-Grant	David Hunter
Alan Reeve	Kay Reeve	Brett Houlton
Davis Colvin	Graham Murdoch	Paul Coroneos
Pauline Coroneos	Diane Mikosch	Martin Mikosch
Vimal Govind	Brian Jones	Lorraine Grima
Greg Sutton	Tom Wilde	Brionie Dayton
Christopher Duff	Maisie Howe	Algy Howe
Peter Willing	Lesley Willing	David Rigby
Sue Rigby	Richard Ambrose	Gary Connors
Tim Lesina		

See you all at the next run...

Captain's Report

Hi all! Firstly I'd like to thank Steve Lamont for all his efforts as Club Captain. His efforts alone have really brought in a lot of valuable information, in the form of the Tech Talks, and have resulted in a lot more members actively participating in club activities as a direct result! As "interim" Club Captain I'll be trying to keep the ball rolling along with the same enthusiasm as Steve has showed us.

Moving right along I'd like to say hi to all the new members who have joined the club in the last 3 months since our last publication. HELLO AND WELCOME TO YOU ALL!!!

As a new member myself some 23 years ago I was a bit reserved and shy to start with (yes it IS possible) but soon got into the swing of things and was part of the club in no time. You will come to realise we're all a bunch of nutters who have all copped a bit to much sun in our time, no doubt from driving around in our cars a bit too much!



That said you won't find a more welcoming, friendly and helpful bunch of individuals...unless you happen to visit the other states clubs in your travels! Just remember...join in, have fun, and make suggestions and all importantly...come to our runs!

Well it's certainly been a busy and hectic few months we've had since the last Club Talk was mailed/emailed out to you lot of rag toppers!!! There's been the usual 1st Sunday of the month

informal runs, 3rd Sunday of the month formal runs with a few social engagements and tech talks thrown in for good measure!



In January we had 2 great events! The infamous Wiseman's Ferry Run...one of my favourites as you get to view some lovely scenery, experience lots of nice corners and get a really great feed and beer at the pub for lunch, and the drive home via the Old Pacific Hwy is to die for!

The President's BBQ at Kurnell with Arno at the helm and his band of merry followers assisting in the cooking and distribution to hungry members was simply fantastic! It was a really great event with a big attendance by our starving members! It's amazing what free food will do to encourage people to attend...me included! Also the highly competitive volleyball game we had was lots of fun too!



In February we had the Blue Mountains Run and as usual this was well attended by the club, and remains one of my personal favorites...this will be repeated again in due course! The

(Continued on page 4)

Coming Events

Update your organisers and diaries !!

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**Sunday, 1st June**

Southern Run to Bulli

**Saturday, 7th June**

Ice Skating @ Macquarie Centre

**Wednesday, 11th June**

Committee Meeting

**Sunday, 15th June**

Hunter Valley Weekend

**Sunday, 22nd June**

Kumho Tyres Supersprint - Round 4

**Sunday, 6th July**

Christmas In July - Yulefest

**Monday, 14th July**

Wakefield Park Trackday

**Wednesday, 16th July**

Committee Meeting

**Saturday, 19th July**

Eastern Creek Motorkhana

**Saturday, 26th July**

Terminator 3 @ the Drive In

**Wednesday, 13th August**

Committee Meeting

**Sunday, 17th August**

Club Run

**Wednesday, 27th August**

AGM

**Sunday, 7th September**

Wakefield Park Trackday

**Wednesday, 17th September**

Committee Meeting

**Sunday, 21st September**

Club Run

**Wednesday, 15th October**

Committee Meeting

**Sunday, 19th October**

Concours at Fox Studios

**Monday, 3rd November**

Wakefield Park Trackday

**Wednesday, 12th November**

Committee Meeting

**Wednesday, 26th November**

Quarterly Members Meeting

**Monday, 8th December**

Wakefield Park Trackday

**Wednesday, 10 December**

Committee Meeting

**Sunday, 14th December**

Christmas Party



(Continued from page 3)

Pittwater run, hosted by Ed and Patsy Chivers, was its usual success story and has been one of the clubs longer lasting yearly rituals...the beer, food and view is simply a knockout! Not to mention Ed and Patsy's wonderful company!

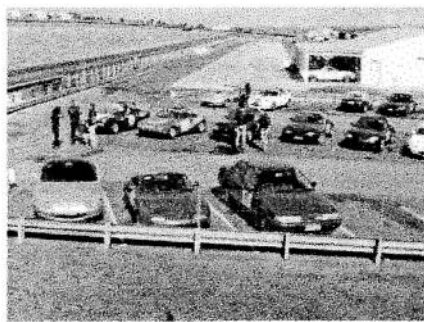


March was also a busy one with Simone from MX5 Mania organizing a corker up and around the lovely Hawkesbury region with some little known roads thrown in to spice things up!

If that wasn't enough for you there were the Wednesday night Drag Races at Eastern Creek to attend...if you've never been you're really missing out 'big time' as they rock! The SP

Motorsports Dyno Day was well attended by the power frenzied crew with some very interesting results to say the least. A great day and very informative...and as "Tim the Toolman" says..."More power...UGH UGH UGH"

One of the Club's best attended outings was the Camp Quality run to the Uniting Church Conference Centre at Grose Wold. We had a total of around 65 cars show up which was great as we could take the kids, carers and family out at the same time! Well done to all who attended! The NSW Mazda MX-5 Club continues to support Camp Quality and we're sure our members will help us to assist this worthy charity. Of note we donated a cheque to them for around \$2700... cool eh!



Last but not least was Jan and John Burgess' legendary Coff's Harbour Run over the Easter Break! What a top event is all I can say...these two can really put together an event! What was even better was that I drove both Liam and Jean's cars all weekend and left mine sitting nice and clean in the motel! We also stole and ransomed off the Queenslander's Club banner too... suckers!



If you have a favourite run or have a suggestion for a social event please don't hesitate to contact me at all. I'm always on the hunt for suggestions ok!

See you on the road

*Craig Berthold,  
Social Secretary*

# NATMEET 2004

Preparations for Natmeet are moving along, and picking up speed. A lot of you probably are aware that the Committee has decided on a location. Arno and I announced this at the last General Meeting in March. It will be held at the Mercure Resort in Leura in the Blue Mountains, west of Sydney. It is a spectacular location, and the scenery is among the best in the world.

The event starts on Thursday April 8 with the Track Day at Wakefield Park. There will be various accommodation packages to choose from in Goulburn. On Good Friday the first run will take all of us to the Mercure in Leura, through the Southern Highlands and the Lower Blue Mountains. After arrival we will all be able to wash and polish the cars for the Concours d'Elegance and Show & Shine the following day. Sunday takes us to the home of the V8 Supercars and (hopefully) a run around the picturesque Mount Panorama circuit. We don't want to give away too much, we want there to be a few surprises for you over the weekend.

Suffice to say, the committee has lots of entertainment planned for you over the weekend. On the Monday night there will be a formal presentation dinner where all the trophies and prizes will be awarded along with the state trophy.

In the very near future we will be sending out expression of interest forms asking for the first of 3 payments. That way it won't hurt quite as much! To quote Rod and Zan, "At Easter 2004 there will be 2 kinds of MX-5 Club Members, those who are at Natmeet and those who wish they were!"

*Jean Cook,  
Chairperson, Natmeet 2004 Committee*

# The Jeff Gehrig Tribute

## Position Vacant

Due to the relocation of incumbent to sunnier climates, the following role(s) are immediately available.  
Warning – this will likely require more than one person.

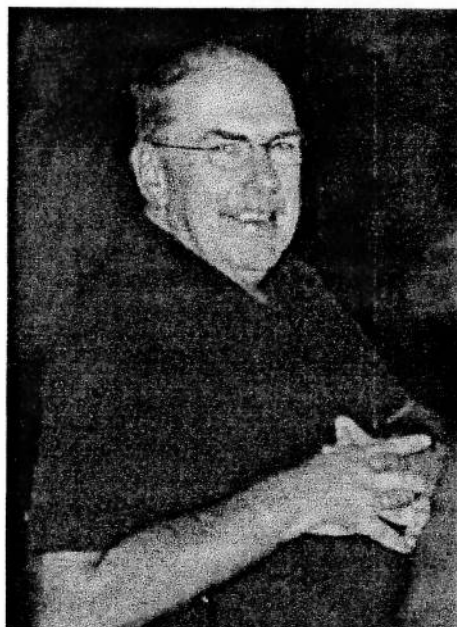
- Multi-talented committee member – committee experience including Club Captain (extraordinaire) and awarding winning Editor.
- Incurable volunteer – including Wakefield Park Lap Scorer (no extra laps with Jeff on the job), web site maintenance man.
- Club humorist with a huge store of stories and anecdotes.
- Gourmet chef – signature dishes include Greek Salad (with and without olives)
- Fountain of knowledge – all things MX-5/Miata
- Bon vivant and party animal
- Essential food supplier at weekends away – brings the port.

After many years active involvement with the club, both in committee and volunteer roles, Jeff Gehrig is moving north of the border to join the 'maroons' in Brisbane.

Jeff joined the club in 1992 (member number 169) and has been active in helping to grow the club membership numbers over the years since then. He has served on the club committee for several years and has been a committed volunteer initiating and supporting club events for even longer.

I remember the first club event Linda and I attended – the President's BBQ in January 2000. Jeff was the second person to greet us (the first was Jean Cook). He immediately made us feel very welcome and introduced us to other members. His enthusiasm for the MX-5 and the club was obvious as was his delightful (wicked) sense of humour.

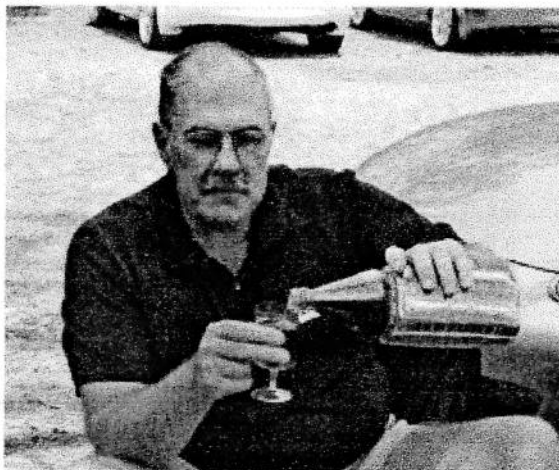
Jeff's humour and sense of fun has been a highlight at club events, particularly during weekends away. This was very evident during the monster run to Natmeet in Adelaide last year. Who needs radio or CD's when Jeff is on channel 22! And who can forget the sight of



Jeff with the pink bunny ears early morning at Mt Gambier (see photo).

We will miss Jeff's regular presence at club events. However to ensure contact will not be lost, but more importantly in recognition of the long term contribution made to the club, Jeff has been awarded Life Membership.

This award was wholeheartedly supported by the committee and the members who know the many contributions Jeff has made to the club. The award was presented to Jeff at one of the (many) farewell events, and it was one of the rare occasions when Jeff was speechless (in his words 'gob-smacked') as the award was able to be kept a secret from him.



On behalf of the members and friends in the club I would like to thank Jeff for his contributions to the club and for adding to the enjoyment and fun at so many events. We wish him well in the move to Brisbane and look forward to hearing the news and gossip from our 'Jeffrey of the North'.

*Arno Boge,  
President*

# MIKE'S COMPETITION REPORT

It has been a relatively quiet competition period during the summer months, with the exception of the club's practice day held on Monday the 10<sup>th</sup> of February. However in March all that changed with three different forms of competition occurring on three consecutive weekends.

On the 15/16 March the Prod Sports guys and gals, yes there are two gals currently racing, hit the track at Eastern Creek for round 1 of the State and Prod Sports Race Championships. Club members competing were Val Stewart, Matilda Mravicic, Ed Chivers, Brian Anderson and David Raddatz. Val running in class A in her single turbo Mark 6 RX 7, Brian in his class B MX-5 whilst the others competed for class C honours in their MX-5's. Prod Sports "star" from last year, Zane Al-said, was unfortunately a non-starter in the formula vee category as his new car was not ready for this meeting. Hopefully Zane will have his Jacer "Formula First" (1600cc formula vee) ready in time for the next meeting at Wakefield Park over Easter.

Private practice on Friday and qualifying early on Saturday were relatively uneventful, with the exception that Ed had to replace his brand new rear disc rotors after one cracked during practice. Val was suffering from a wayward handling car during qualifying whilst Matilda and David were extremely happy with their new wheels and Dunlop tyres, the extra rubber on the track giving much more grip. Their cars also looked great with their new MX5Mania signage. Brian qualified well recording a time of 1min 48secs.

There were three races over the weekend, a five lapper on Saturday afternoon and two seven lappers on Sunday. Unfortunately in race 1 David had a big loose coming out of turn 1 and was collected by another MX-5 being driven by Bob Van Zeggeren. Fortunately David is OK but his MX-5

looked very secondhand after the incident. The race was red flagged as David's car was sitting in the middle of the track. David has purchased a second hand MX-5 shell and has already started the process of transferring all the parts from the damaged racecar with the aim of being

on the Wakefield Park grid at Easter. Ed's weekend also came to a premature end when two broken valve springs were discovered in the engine of his car after race 1.

Brian, Val and Matilda were left to fly the Teamx5 flag in races 2 and 3. They all acquitted themselves well, Brian running about the middle of the field and recording his best race lap of 1.48.22 in race 2. Val who suffered from a lack of grip in race 1 fitted new tyres on wider wheels for race 2 and improved four places compared to race 1. She then improved a further four places in the final race. Val's best race lap was 1.50.87 in race 2. Matilda was very consistent all weekend and had no difficulty in securing another signature on her L3 licence. Driving her 1600 cc MX-5 she managed to lap within a second or two of the more powerful class c 1800's, her best race lap was 1.53.85, also in race 2. Class results for the three races were not available at the time of writing this report.

Incidentally Tattersall's are sponsoring the Prod Sports races this year. This sponsorship includes a one or two week delayed telecast of all races on SBS's Speedweek. So if you can't make it out to the circuits to see the racing live don't forget to tune into Speedweek.

The following Sunday, March the 23<sup>rd</sup>,

was the first round of the 2003 State Supersprint Championship. MG Car Club in Newcastle conducted this round on the Oran Park South Circuit. Defending the "Southern Sporting Car Club Shield" won last year was Nick Martinenko, Matilda Mravicic, Lindsay Burke, Bill Dougall, Robin Thomson and Mike Hicks. This year they are joined by Jason Hay, Allan Bugh, both driving "turbo" MX-5's in class SVA and 4 D respectively, Chris Tonna and Ken Thomas. Peter Cooper's entry was received after the maximum number of entries had been accepted and was unfortunately a non-starter. Hopefully Peter will be an early entrant for round 2. This year the club is strongly represented in the Class 3's but have to-date only 4 entries in classes 1 and 2. So if there are any club members, who have a standard car, class 1, or a mildly modified road car, class 2 and would like to join in the fun of Supersprinting then contact me for more details. This years Championship consist of 8 rounds with round 2 not scheduled until the 25<sup>th</sup> May, so it's not too late to register.

The day turned out to be a very successful one for the club. Jason Hay led the way recording a time of 49.72 seconds for third outright and first in class. Other class winners were Matilda Mravicic class 3a in 52.27, Robin Thomson class 3b 52.29, Chris Tonna class 2b 54.03, Mike Hicks class 1b 55.22, Mike was also quickest of all the class 1 cars (standard) irrespective of engine capacity and Ken Thomas class 1a 67.46. In class 3a Nick Martinenko was 2<sup>nd</sup> in 53.00, Bill Dougall third in 53.42 and Lindsay Burke was 6<sup>th</sup> in his trusty Mazda 808 in 56.85. Allan Bugh recorded a time of 51.67 for 9<sup>th</sup> outright and 4<sup>th</sup> in a very competitive class 4d.

In the club point score Teamx5 came away with 21 points provisionally, our nearest rivals were our co-hosts Club on 6 points.





# Wakefield Park Practice Days—Progressive Point Score 2002/2003

| Class | Dr. Cat | Driver           | 13-Aug | 14-Oct | 10-Nov | 9-Dec | 10-Feb | 30-Mar | Total |
|-------|---------|------------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|-------|
| 1     | M / N   | Warwick Pitt     | 6      |        | 6      | 10    | 10     |        | 32    |
|       | M       | John Thomas      |        | 10     |        | 6     |        |        | 16    |
|       | M       | Geoff Hemsall    | 10     |        |        |       |        |        | 10    |
|       | M       | Stephen Sewell   |        |        | 10     |       |        |        | 10    |
|       | M / N   | Matt Townsing    |        |        | 3      | 4     |        |        | 7     |
|       | M / N   | Michael Bowden   |        | 6      |        |       |        |        | 6     |
|       | M / N   | Ben Pomroy       |        |        | 4      |       |        |        | 4     |
|       | M / N   | Ken Horspool     |        | 4      |        |       |        |        | 4     |
|       | F / N   | Jan Horspool     |        | 3      |        |       |        |        | 3     |
|       | M / N   | Chris Akmakjian  |        |        |        | 3     |        |        | 3     |
| 2     | M / N   | Peter McAulay    | 10     | 10     |        | 10    | 10     | 10     | 50    |
|       | M / N   | Chris Fondum     | 4      | 3      | 6      | 6     | 4      |        | 23    |
|       | F       | Jean Cook        | 6      | 1      |        | 4     |        | 3      | 14    |
|       | M       | Arno Boge        |        |        | 10     |       |        | 6      | 16    |
|       |         | Phillip Youl     |        |        |        |       | 6      | 4      | 10    |
|       | M / N   | Peter McBey      |        | 6      |        |       |        |        | 6     |
|       | M / N   | Mark Bocchi      |        | 4      |        |       |        |        | 4     |
|       | F / N   | Kate Shacklady   |        | 2      |        |       |        |        | 2     |
| 3     | M       | Mal Bernhardt    |        | 2      |        | 10    |        |        | 12    |
|       | M / N   | Vernon Rodriguez |        |        | 10     |       |        |        | 10    |
|       | M / N   | James Yu         | 10     |        |        |       |        |        | 10    |
|       | M / N   | Rodd Clarke      |        | 10     |        |       |        | 10     | 20    |
|       | M / N   | Daniel Lau       |        | 3      | 6      |       |        | 6      | 15    |
|       | M / N   | Carl Lee         |        |        |        | 6     | 10     | 4      | 20    |
|       | M / N   | Clarencio Mak    |        | 6      |        |       |        |        | 6     |
|       | M/N     | Vincent Lau      |        |        |        |       | 6      |        | 6     |
|       | M/N     | Roger O'Grady    |        |        |        |       |        | 2      | 2     |
|       | M       | Brian Anderson   |        | 4      |        |       |        |        | 4     |
|       | M / N   | Sanjeev Israni   |        |        | 4      |       |        | 3      | 7     |
| 4     | M       | Steve Lamont     | 10     | 10     | 10     |       |        |        | 30    |
|       | M       | David Lendrum    | 6      | 6      |        |       |        |        | 12    |
|       | M       | John Penfold     |        | 2      | 10     | 10    | 10     |        | 32    |
|       | M       | Michael Bowden   |        |        | 3      | 4     | 6      | 6      | 19    |
|       | M       | John Burgess     |        |        | 6      |       |        | 4      | 10    |
|       | M       | Rob Erskine      |        |        |        | 6     | 4      |        | 10    |
|       | M       | Jim Crawford     | 4      |        |        |       |        |        | 4     |
|       | M       | Luis Ramalhosa   |        |        | 4      |       |        |        | 4     |
|       | M       | Phil Roberts     |        | 4      |        |       |        |        | 4     |
|       | M       | Chris Kyriakou   | 3      |        |        |       |        |        | 3     |
|       | M       | Ken Horspool     |        |        | 1      | 3     |        | 2      | 5     |
|       | M       | William Su       |        |        |        |       | 3      | 3      | 6     |
|       | F       | Jan Horspool     |        |        |        | 2     |        | 1      | 3     |

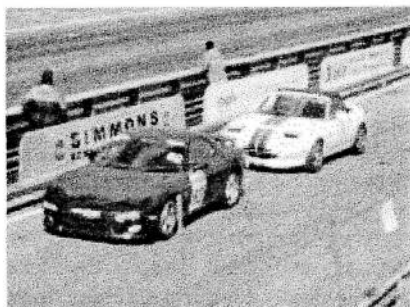
**Wakefield Park Practice Days—Progressive Point Score 2002/2003**

| Class | Dr. Cat | Driver           | 13-Aug | 14-Oct | 10-Nov | 9-Dec | 10-Feb | 30-Mar | Total |
|-------|---------|------------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|-------|
| 5     | M       | Craig Berthold   | 10     | 4      | 6      | 10    |        |        | 30    |
|       | M       | Carlos Albornoz  |        | 6      | 10     |       |        |        | 16    |
|       | M       | Chris Tonna      | 1      | 3      | 3      | 6     | 10     | 6      | 29    |
|       | M       | David Raddatz    |        | 10     |        |       |        | 10     | 20    |
|       | M       | Liam O'Hagan     | 4      | 2      | 4      |       |        |        | 10    |
|       | M       | Ed Cory          | 2      |        | 2      | 3     | 2      |        | 9     |
|       | M       | Kyle Alberts     | 6      |        |        |       |        |        | 6     |
|       | M       | Kevin San        |        |        |        | 4     |        | 4      | 8     |
|       | M       | John Newcomb     |        |        |        |       | 4      |        | 4     |
|       | M       | Kym Lange        |        |        |        |       | 3      |        | 3     |
|       | M       | Robert McBey     |        |        |        |       |        | 1      | 1     |
|       | M       | Mike Hicks       | 3      |        |        |       | 6      |        | 9     |
|       | M       | Leigh Addison    |        | 1      |        | 2     |        | 3      | 6     |
| 6     | F       | Matilda Mravicic | 10     |        |        | 10    | 10     | 6      | 36    |
|       | M       | Bill Dougall     |        | 4      | 10     | 4     | 4      | 3      | 25    |
|       | M       | Mike Hicks       |        | 10     |        | 3     |        | 4      | 17    |
|       | M       | Nick Martinenko  | 6      |        |        | 6     | 6      | 10     | 28    |
|       | F       | Val Stewart      |        | 6      |        |       |        |        | 6     |
|       | M       | Zane Al-Said     | 4      |        |        |       |        |        | 4     |
|       | M       | Joe Knight       |        | 3      |        |       | 3      | 2      | 8     |
| 7     | M       | Jason Hay        | 4      | 6      |        | 10    | 6      |        | 26    |
|       | M       | Barry Faux       |        |        | 10     | 3     |        | 10     | 23    |
|       | M       | Gerard McCarthy  |        | 3      | 4      | 4     | 3      |        | 14    |
|       | M       | Ed Chivers       | 10     |        |        |       |        |        | 10    |
|       | F       | Matilda Mravicic |        | 10     |        |       |        |        | 10    |
|       | M       | Zane Al-Said     |        |        |        |       | 10     |        | 10    |
|       | M       | Lou Iezzi        | 3      |        |        | 6     |        |        | 9     |
|       | F       | Val Stewart      | 1      |        | 6      |       | 4      |        | 11    |
|       | M       | Brian Anderson   | 6      |        |        |       |        | 4      | 10    |
|       | M       | Nick Martinenko  |        | 4      |        |       |        |        | 4     |
|       | M       | Alex Gillies     |        |        |        |       | 2      | 6      | 8     |
|       | M       | George Benedek   |        | 2      |        | 2     |        |        | 4     |
|       | M       | Rico Rubin       |        |        | 3      |       |        |        | 3     |
|       | M       | Robin Thomson    | 2      |        |        |       |        |        | 2     |
|       | M       | Ross Hutcherson  |        |        |        |       |        | 3      | 3     |
|       | M       | Darren Wood      |        |        |        |       |        | 2      | 2     |
|       | M       | Kevin Addison    |        | 1      |        | 1     | 1      | 1      | 4     |



(Continued from page 6)

Our first club practice day for 2003 was held at Wakefield Park on Monday the 10<sup>th</sup> of February. A strong field of 38 entrants, 26 members and 12 visitors enjoyed a minimum of six sets of four timed laps plus the 8-lap regularity, great value for money. It



was great to have three members of the MX-5 Club of Victoria (James Sanderson, Steve Woolmer and Ric Lamont) join us for the day. They all recorded good times, indicating that the November meeting when we expect a larger number of Victorian entries, to be a very competitive day.

Fastest time of the day was set by Zane Al-said in a borrowed Lotus Elise, Zane's time of 1.05.72 was excellent and made up for the electrical gremlins that seemed to attack the Lotus early in the day. Second fastest was the ever-improving Jason Hay in his Turbo MX-5 with a time of 1.09.44. Miles Sandy a North Shore Sporting Car Club visitor was third quickest with a time of 1.09.86 in his Subaru Impreza "rally car". Miles was doing some last minute suspension tuning on his way to Rally Tasmania the following weekend.

Fastest lady was Val Stewart in her Turbo RX 7 with a time of 1.10.63. Matilda Mravivic kept Val honest recording her best Class 6 time of 1.11.98. Others to record good times were John Penfold who broke into the 1.19's, Chris Tonna who recorded a 1.15.50, Gerard McCarthy who recorded a 1.11.90 in the Silver Turbo 242GT Volvo (Affectionately known as the "block of flats") and Alex Gilles who recorded a 1.15.03 in his Volvo 740 Turbo.

Regularity winner was visitor Geoff Calvert in his Alfa Romeo 156 with a total time variation of 1.79 seconds. Matilda was second and the best placed member with a time variation of 2.49 seconds. ACT member Chris Fondum was third with a time of 2.57

seconds.

On Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March we had a field of 44 starters at the Wakefield Park Practice Day, 37 club members and 7 visitors. The weather was perfect allowing all competitors to complete 6 runs of 4 timed lap plus the 8 lap regularity. Nick Martinenko and Matilda Mravivic spent the day fighting out the fastest time of the day with Nick finally winning out with a time of 1.11.01. Matilda settled for second and fastest lady on this occasion with a time of 1.11.26. Third was Barry Faux in his supercharged 1800, even though he was limiting the revs to 6000 he still recorded a 1.11.76. Barry's car is for sale if anybody is interested in this very quick road registered MX-5.

Four Silver "SP's" fronted for this meeting with former PRB now MX-5 racer Brian Anderson winning the battle of the production turbos from Ross Hutcherson and Darren Wood. It was great to welcome Ross back to Wakefield Park after a long absence. Rodd Clarke in his standard NB8B, John Penfold in class 4, this time wearing some DO1J Dunlops, David Raddatz and Chris Tonna in their class

5 cars, were others to record good times.

In the regularity Kevin Addison topped the time sheets in his S2000 Honda with a time variation of 3.16 seconds, followed by the "SPs" of Darren Wood in second, 3.66 seconds and Brian Anderson third in 3.69 seconds. Thanks to all the volunteers who have assisted in the smooth running of the last two track days.

The next Club Practice Day at Wakefield Park is scheduled for Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May. Get your entries in before the "early bird" closing date of the 12<sup>th</sup> May and save yourself \$20.00

Progressive Point Scores and Fastest Lap Times by class for the Wakefield Park's competition year 2002/03 up to the March meeting are listed on the



#### Wakefield Park Practice Days - Best Laps by Class 2002/2003

| Class        | Dr. Cat | Driver           | Time       | Date Recorded |
|--------------|---------|------------------|------------|---------------|
| 1            | M       | Warwick Pitt     | 1.21.31    | 09.12.02      |
|              | M / N   | Michael Bowden   | 1.21.86    | 14.10.02      |
|              | F / N   | Jan Horspool     | 1.27.91    | 14.10.02      |
| 2            | M       | Peter McAulay    | 1.19.37    | 10.02.03      |
|              | M / N   | Peter McAulay    | 1.18.42    | 09.12.02      |
|              | F / N   | Kate Shacklady   | 1.22.90    | 14.10.02      |
|              | F       | Jean Cook        | 1.22.57    | 09.12.02      |
| 3            | M       | Brian Anderson   | 1.18.89    | 14.10.02      |
|              | M / N   | Rodd Clarke      | 1.17.79    | 14.10.02      |
| 4            | M       | Steve Lamont     | 1.14.71    | 14.10.02      |
|              | F       | Jan Horspool     | 1.25.21    | 09.12.02      |
| 5            | M       | David Raddatz    | 1.14.22    | 30.03.03      |
|              | F       | Melissa Pryke    | 1.27.09    | 14.10.02      |
| 6            | F       | Matilda Mravivic | 1.11.26    | 30.03.03      |
|              | M       | Nick Martinenko  | 1.11.01    | 30.03.03      |
| 7            | F       | Val Stewart      | 1.10.63    | 10.02.03      |
|              | M       | Ed Chivers       | 1.04.98    | 12.08.02      |
| Last Updated |         |                  | 04.04.2003 |               |

# President's BBQ

MX-5 Presidents Club Run – 19/01/03  
by Geoff Nixon

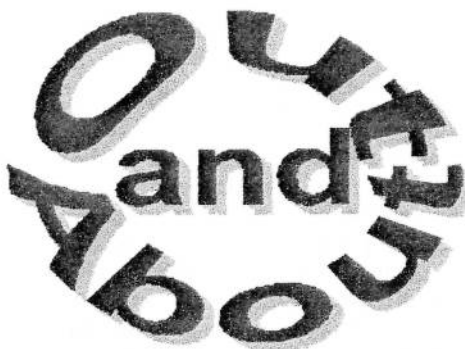
Having purchased our first MX-5, a standard white 1990, just the Tuesday previous it was in hindsight an excellent decision (or was that the persuasive influences of MX-5 club member Zane) to accept the invitation to attend the MX-5's President Club Run, our first, on the following Sunday. Although arriving at the pre-run gathering at the Sydney Park car park in St Peters we had a feeling that we should have maybe spent a bit more time preparing the car to look that little bit nicer. We could already tell that this club and its members took their cars seriously with some excellent examples of the breed turning up.

A quick round of introductions and it also became apparent that being serious about your car didn't preclude you from being a welcoming and friendly person, a definite plus for those of us new to the world of MX-5's.

Next was the quick briefing and then we were on our way. We headed off in the first group, to experience a new activity to me – synchronised traffic manoeuvring. I found the novelty of seeing the reactions on peoples faces in other cars being suddenly surrounded by eight or so MX-5's worth the trip by itself.

Heading South along the Princes Highway we arrived at the southern end of the Royal National Park for what I would call the real run. About 20Km of National Park road which was of a quality you would expect, narrow, winding and sometimes a bit uneven. With Zane closely monitoring my every manoeuvre from the car behind I had a crash (excuse the pun) course in "driving" an MX-5. Having driven only front wheel drive cars for the past 12 years I had a few bad habits to get rid of, but even when I did something I shouldn't have, our MX-5 still behaved itself. And when I did get it right the car obliged accordingly with great execution. My respect of the ability of these cars grew very quickly.

The end of the National Park came (too) quickly and so it was off to our final destination, Botany Bay National Park near Kurnell for the social side of the day. Arriving to the park a bit later than



the rest due to a slight variation in following the directions meant we arrived to a park full of MX-5's. Our estimation was forty or so cars, appearing to cover the whole gamut – early, new, stock, modified, rare and all looking the part.

Time for a quick chat and more introductions before the superb BBQ was ready, and it was delicious. It is hungry and thirsty work driving a car without a top, especially on such a glorious summer's day. During the BBQ it gave me a chance to survey the members and it was with pleasant surprise that I couldn't stereotype MX-5 owners, which I think is a unique situation having been a member of a car club years ago where you definitely could.

The meal over and it gave us a chance to have a closer look at some of the cars on show and get to talk to their owners. Within minutes people were keenly checking out our new acquisition and instantly forthcoming with tips and tricks. Again this was an appreciated situation to be in.

A quick meeting followed, including a speech and presentation by Club President, Arno Boge, which brought what sounded like sad news to the club, that long time member Jeff Gehrig, is heading to Queensland shortly to live.

To show that the day wasn't all about cars the volleyball and boules sets were brought out to highlight that this was a car club gathering and not a sports club one. Any case another chance to get to know more club members.

A full day of fun was had by my wife and I and I would like to thank the club members at the event for being so inviting and friendly. The club may be about the MX-5 but the club is its members.

PRESIDENTS BBQ 19<sup>th</sup> JANUARY  
by Jan Burgess, Membership Secretary

Our first outing for 2003 was a great one.

We were all concerned when the mercury soared to 47degrees the day before our annual President's BBQ. However, in typical MX-5 fashion, Mother Nature shined upon us once again for a magnificent 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday with a cool ocean breeze at Kurnell.

Linda Boge (the first Lady) staked out the site before most of us were out of bed, putting deck chairs around to secure our spot for the day! Mark Bocchi and John Burgess arrived early to set up the salad, tarp and begin cooking the BBQ for 70 people. In the meantime, their partners, Evie and Jan were enjoying a mini run with another 9 cars from the west of Sydney. Sorry you missed it guys, we had a ball, maybe next time!!

Although a little disjointed, all on the run finally arrived and many more just rolled on in to our Mega BBQ. Including William Su, who popped in to meet us and join the Club, welcome William!! The food was superb, thanks to Arno & Linda's butcher and our great cooks - Mark & John.

Also thanks to Jeff Gehrig for his Greek Salad, complete with olives this time! and Kerry Benedek for her delicious garden salad.

After all the eating was done some of us found the energy to enjoy a few games, including boules and volleyball, while others just opened another bottle, giggled a bit more and waited for their husbands to drive them home - we know who you are!!!!

The one sad event of the day was Arno presenting Jeff Gehrig with a going away gift!

No, the gift wasn't sad, it was an MX-5 T-shirt etc! The sad part was for those saying goodbye to someone who has not only been a great friend to many of us but also a great asset to the MX-5 Club of NSW.

However, our farewell to Jeff will be another story - one that you will see in a future publication.

Thanks to all who attended the President's BBQ and we look forward to many more MX-5 runs with you.

# Benny's SP

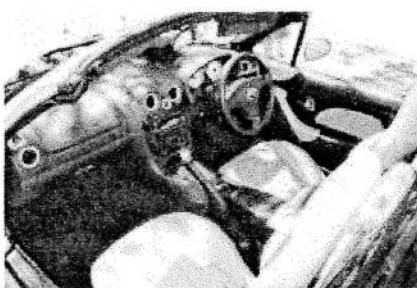


I am not a purist, but I guess you can tell that by looking at my car.

Before we start, I am very aware of what those big, heavy wheels and tyres do to my performance (or rather how they affect the car), but for me, my car is more about show than it is about go. However, being an SP, a slight loss in straight line performance is hardly a worrisome issue.

I've made a few modifications to the car since I got her in February 2002 and again, they are mainly either for style or comfort. Not that the standard SP is lacking in either respect, but I have always liked to individualise my cars. I have never owned a car that hasn't been modified in some way (except for my current OTM).

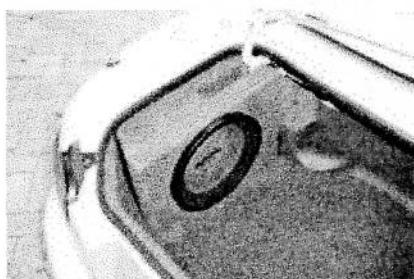
Starting with the wheels, as they are the most obvious change, they are 17"X7" Vault wheels in a chrome finish. Made in Taiwan for the US market. It's funny, but you can buy wheels here for a lot less than you can in the US. I've experienced this a few times in the past, where certain wheels may have been advertised for say US \$350.00 and you can buy exactly the same wheel here for about Aus\$400.00 each. The tyres are currently 215's on the front and 235 size Yokohamas on the back.



The interior was reupholstered in silver grey leather with matching perforated

inserts in the seats and I've added some extra metal to the interior. You may not notice it in the pictures, but I've also added carbon fibre trim around the gearshift and centre stack of the console. I don't know about you, but I find the standard, all-black interior very dull and even just the metal trims around the air vents really liven up the interior. Naturally enough, I also have a set of Benny's boots.

As you can also see, I have a set of Racing Beat style bars, supplied and fitted by MX5 Mania. While they may not be CAMS approved, I think they look good and they certainly make the rear of the car much tighter. Even my wife commented on that the first time she rode in it after I had them fitted. Because they lean back slightly, they allow full movement of the seats, and are less likely to be folded forward in a roll over. In fact, I saw a photo of a 5 that was rolled with one of these bars fitted to it. The windscreen was crushed, as was the front of the car, but the rear of the car was virtually unmarked because the bars held it up. The 2 occupants walked away with hardly a scratch.



Suspension is stock, except that the springs have been re-set 30mm lower to give the car a meaner look. I don't really want the car to ride like a rock, and prefer it to be a bit supple for my aged back. 5's handle so well anyway, that in many ways I think it's a waste to make them uncomfortable to ride in, mind you, everyone's idea of a good ride is somewhat different.

One thing I have done some work on is the hi-fi. I've replaced the front speakers with a set of Focal splits, and have had sound deadening put in the doors. This makes a big difference. The speakers are also sealed in. I have an 8"

sub in the boot, mounted in a custom made cabinet. It hardly takes any room in the boot, and is easily removed, if need be. The difference these speakers and the sub makes is stupendous. It is now such a joy to listen to virtually any sort of music in the car. If you like a bit of doof doof (as I do), the bass just knocks you out, although at high speed with the roof down, a lot of the bass disappears. This is common with convertibles of all types.

It took a while for the SP's to catch on in the club. When I joined there was only mine, but there are at least another 4 that I know of in the NSW club now. From what I've heard, the owners are ecstatic about them, although like most of the NBB's, there are some issues with the clutch and gearbox.

I'm very happy with mine, even though I have had some minor problems. The performance of the SP is so much above that of the standard car, that it almost feels as though it is a different car altogether. The power is very smooth and torquey, and not at all peaky. People don't believe you when you say that, as everyone seems to have had some experience with turbo motors that either all on or all off. However, everyone who has driven my car is really surprised at how smooth the power delivery is and how well it lugs from low down in the rev range. At 60 k's in 4<sup>th</sup>, it will pull with authority. In second gear – hold onto your eyeballs! I've had a few hot V8 Comodes and Foulcans pull up at the lights and want a go, and the shocked look on their faces as I stay right beside them (up to the speed limit, of course) is priceless. When we pull up at the second set of lights, I normally just blow them away! They just can't believe it. The SP still has that lightness and direct feeling a normal 5 has, but now with added grunt. It's just what the 5 owner has always wanted. Indeed, as soon as I saw it at the Sydney Motor Show, I went and ordered one. I just couldn't resist. I had always loved my 5's, but as my OTM's were always more powerful, I really wanted some extra horsepower, and thanks to Allan Horesley, I got my wish.

(Continued on page 19)



# Camp Quality

We arrived early on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April, for the annual Camp Quality Run and found a small gathering of MX-5's already primed for what promised to be a great day!

Over the next 45 minutes the small gathering continued to swell. We ended up with 60 cars!

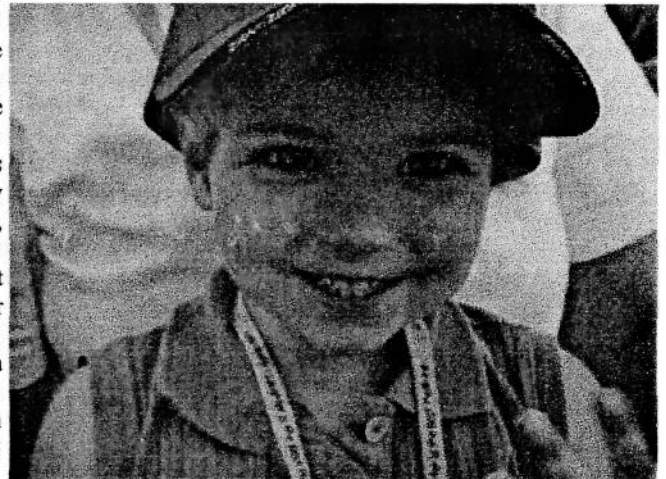
Arno led the way to the Uniting Church Conference Centre at Grose Wold. As the cavalcade snaked its way through Windsor, Richmond and North Richmond, the C.B.'s were buzzing with comments like "Doesn't this look fabulous", "I've never seen so many MX-5's in a row", and "I can't see the first car or the last, there's MX-5's everywhere." Yes, we were a sight to behold!

After devonshire tea we invited the kids, their carers, and families to jump

in a car and come for a run. We took Polaroid instant photos of the kids as they took off and they couldn't wait to show off their photo in a shiny sports car! (Thanks Daniella for the loan of the Polaroid Joycam.)

Some of the smaller kids were so comfortable in the cars they had a little snooze along the way! Obviously our sensitive members were driving very carefully. Although, Garry's little 3 year old girl was fast asleep when a car going past backfired! She woke with a terrible shock and as her bottom lip began to quiver, Garry did

smiling as the kids were comparing notes. "I was in a blue one and it went the fastest", "No - I was in a red one and it was the fastest". Sounded just like us on a run! One little boy said "That was great. Can we do it again!" They obviously had an experience to



some quick thinking and assured her that Mum was in the car behind. She soon settled back into the "Land of Nod". Well done Garry!

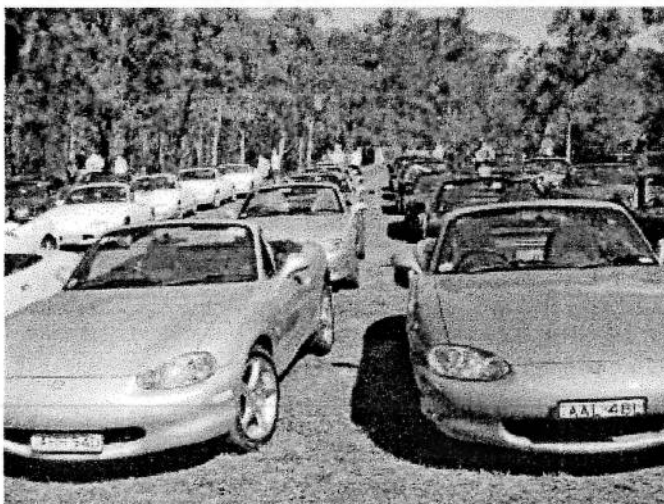
On our return, the cars were lined up according to colour, which made a tremendous photo opportunity. I couldn't stop

remember!

After enjoying a barbecue lunch we all gathered for the presentation. With pride Arno handed over a cheque from the MX-5 Club of NSW for \$2,700 and we all shared his feelings.

A beautiful little boy with little tufts of blonde hair growing back after his chemotherapy, then gave a thank you speech and presented the Club with a certificate from Camp Quality. It was very moving.

The kids were then given "Zoom



# Mega Run

Zoom" showbags filled with lots of Mazda goodies. There were caps, Frisbees, toy cars, keyrings, MX-5 brochures, etc. These were all donated by Mazda NSW and local Mazda dealers and we thank them for their generous donations.

• Zane Al-Said, who "begged, borrowed and stole" Lou's car just to be there, after his own car was rear-ended the week before.



• R o s s Hutchison, for bringing two MX-5's and offering his new Mazda 2 if we needed it.

struggle with each day.

Looking forward to seeing you at the next Camp Quality Run.

Jan Burgess

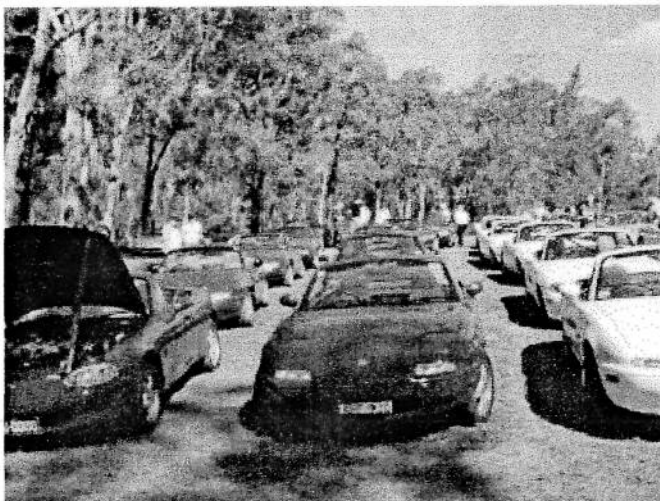
The day was a huge success for all involved and it was fantastic to see so many members coming along to support our Club's chosen charity.

Special mention should go to the members that really went out of their way to support this event:-

- Sean Thompson, driving from Newcastle, without getting lost. (Those who know Sean realise this is no mean feat.)
- John White, representing the Canberra Chapter. John drove up the day before and bunked in a motel, just to be involved.

I'm sure there are many other stories I did not hear about, but the message is loud and clear! The members of the MX-5 Club of NSW are a great bunch of people!

We are lucky to be able to experience our great little cars and it is so rewarding when we can give a smile to people who







## Big Hole Run 13 April 2003

Another great run with Canberra club members.



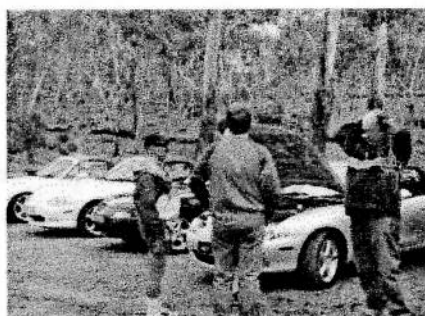
A good turn out with ten cars showing up for this short day run. Drivers and passengers include Steve Hinton and Dorothy, Harry and Sandy Wilcock, John and Connie Brown, Dave and Toni Battison, Kym, Malcolm Bernhardt, Sharon Johnson, Paul Beersworth, Chris Fondum and Bronwen, and Troy Stitchbury and Katherine.

The weather is a little overcast as we assemble at our usual south side meeting spot. And by the time we are ready to head out a slight misty rain has begun to fall. Undaunted most stay 'top down' for the cruise through Queanbeyan – and we are soon clear of any rain. Then down the Kings Highway to Braidwood and out along the Krawarree-Cooma Road to Deua National Park.

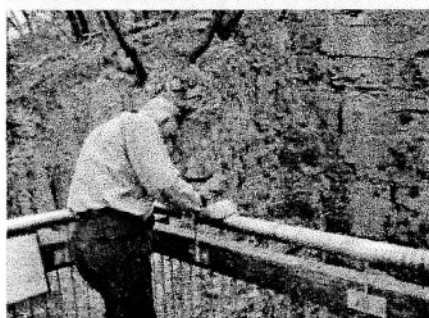


From Braidwood onwards it is real MX-5 country – smooth roads, gentle changes in elevation, lots of corners – from long sweepers to quite fast twisty bits – and some very interesting bridges.

Little other traffic and no blue lights. The final half kilometre or so into the Shoalhaven River is unsealed but well-graded.



Arriving at the picnic ground there is the usual animated discussion on our favourite subject. Then most of us 'bravely' ford the river and walk about 2 kilometres up a steady incline through lightly timbered woodland to sub-alpine heath – great views back along the Shoalhaven Valley – before reaching the Big Hole.



Steve whom it is rumoured haunted these parts as a bushranger in another life informed us that a plumed peacock had been living in the hole for years. Someone said they thought it was a lyrebird and Steve said yeah that was what he meant.



(Continued on page 15)

CLUB Talk





But we did not see any lyrebird. Nor did we see the red-necked wallabies, echidnas, wombats and tiger quolls which live in the vicinity of the hole. We did see a lot of animal droppings and some very interesting fungi. Steve nostalgically recalled an old 'bush recipe' for mushroom tea.



Down the hill and once again across the river. Here your intrepid chronicler shows Bronwen the way to do it.

Back at the picnic area we tuck into some well deserved lunch and liquid refreshments.

At just about the right time a light shower persuades us back into our cars and we make the very enjoyable and spirited run back to Braidwood for coffee and cakes.



CLUB Talk



Back at Braidwood Harry and Sandy seem to have mislaid something. Does anyone remember what happened to the mushrooms? Would you like another cup of tea, Paul?

And then an easy cruise back to Canberra. Well, that's the way I remember it. Perhaps you had to be there.

Thanks to Steve Hinton, whom organised the run.

Chris Fondum

### What's coming up in Canberra??

Below is our local Calendar for the rest of the year. We did have a repeat of our Malacoota run last month (for my benefit cos I missed the November one) which was a real hoot.

We'll try to get some info together on the coming runs to The Big Hole, Batemans Bay fish 'n chips run and the Araluen pub run.

A late addition to the Calendar will be a "ladies day" sometime in October.

I can be contacted at canberra@mx5.com.au

Regards,  
Steve,  
Canberra Rep

### June

- Saturday, 7th - Monthly Meet at Fyshwick
- Sunday, 15th - Araluen/ Majors Creek Run with a Pub lunch. Organiser Chris Fondum
- Sunday, 22nd - Wakefield Championship Supersprint

### July

- Saturday, 6th - Monthly Meet at Fyshwick
- Sunday 7th - Car Detailing by Dave Battison, Carco Exhaust Centre
- Monday, 14th - Wakefield Track day
- Sunday, 20th - Tarago Pub for lunch. Organiser Paul

### August

- Saturday, 2nd - Monthly meet at Fyshwick
- Sat 16th/Sun 17th - Highlands Run. Organiser Steve H

### September

- Saturday, 6th - Monthly meet at Fyshwick
- Sunday, 7th - Wakefield Track day
- Sunday, 14th - Winton Track day
- Sunday, 21st N.A.S.A. run (Tidbinbilla T.S.)

### October

- Saturday, 4th - Monthly meet at Fyshwick
- Sat 18th/Sun 19th - Dubbo/ Plains Zoo. Organiser Sandie

### November

- Saturday, 1st - Monthly meet at Fyshwick
- Monday, 3rd - Wakefield NSW/VIC Challenge
- Sat 15th or Sun 16th - "The Big One" - Snowy Mountains. Organiser Rick
- Sunday, 30th - Phillip Island Track day

### December

- Saturday, 6th - Monthly meet at Fyshwick)
- Monday, 8th - Wakefield Track day
- Sunday, 14th - Christmas Party To confirm date, venue, etc.

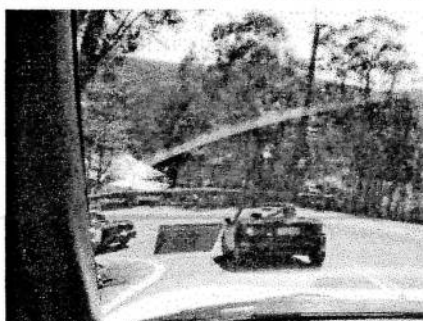
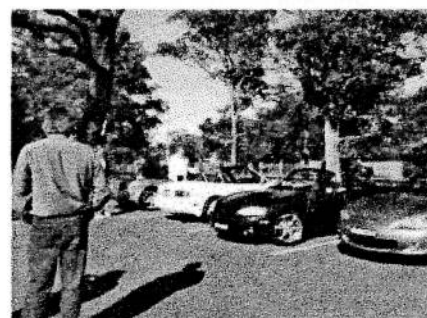
Any ideas or suggestions, please let us know.

# 2003 Competition Calendar

| Date            | Day         | Event             | Venue           | Host Club       |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 4th May         | Sunday      | Supersprint       | Sandown - Vic   | AROCA           |
| 16th May        | Friday      | Practice Day.     | Eastern Creek   | ARDC - L2S req. |
| 17-18 May       | Sat/Sunday. | Prod Sports Races | Oran Park       | NSWRRC          |
| 25th May        | Sunday      | NSW Supersprint 2 | Oran Park G P.  | NSWRRC          |
| 26th May        | Monday      | Practice Day.     | Wakefield Park. | Mazda MX-5      |
| 31st May        | Saturday.   | NSW Supersprint 3 | Eastern Creek   | ARDC            |
| 22nd June       | Sunday      | NSW Supersprint 4 | Wakefield Park  | MX-5 - Z Cars   |
| 27th June       | Friday      | Practice Day      | Eastern Creek   | ARDC - L2S req. |
| 14th July       | Monday      | Practice Day      | Wakefield Park  | Mazda MX-5      |
| 18th July       | Friday      | Practice Day      | Eastern Creek   | ARDC - L2S req  |
| 19-20 July      | Sat/Sunday  | Prod Sports Races | Oran Park       | NSWRRC          |
| 20th July       | Sunday      | NSW Supersprint 5 | Eastern Creek   | Mini Car Club   |
| 9-10 August     | Sat/Sunday  | Prod Sports Races | Wakefield Park. | W P.            |
| 22nd August     | Friday      | Practice Day.     | Eastern Creek   | ARDC - L2S req. |
| 23rd August     | Saturday    | NSW Supersprint 6 | Oran Park G P.  | NSWRRC          |
| 7th September   | Sunday      | Practice Day      | Wakefield Park  | Mazda MX-5      |
| 14th September  | Sunday      | Supersprint       | Winton - Vic    | AROCA           |
| 20th September  | Saturday    | NSW Supersprint 7 | Oran Park GP    | Mini Car Club   |
| 27-28 September | Sat/Sunday  | Prod Sports Races | Eastern Creek   | ARDC            |
| 18th October    | Saturday    | NSW Supersprint 8 | Oran Park South | NSSCC           |
| 3rd November    | Monday      | Practice Day      | Wakefield Park  | Mazda MX-5      |
| 5th December    | Friday      | Practice Day      | Eastern Creek   | ARDC - L2S req. |
| 8th December    | Monday      | Practice Day      | Wakefield Park  | Mazda MX-5      |

# Heritage of the Hawkesbury Run

Pictures courtesy Geoff Slender #898



## CAR KNOWLEDGE

*submitted by Jean...*

It's obvious that you have no clue of how to work on cars, when...

- You have more exhaust decibels than horsepower
- You have aftermarket front wheels but stock rear wheels
- Your engine makes twice as much horsepower than torque
- You put your car into neutral at every stop light in order to roll backwards and try to fool everyone into thinking you have a standard
- Your mod list includes stereo equip, exhaust, shifter knob, MOMO steering wheel, but no real engine parts
- A chameleon lizard goes through fewer colour changes than your car
- You bring an empty Maxwell coffee can with you when shopping for exhaust tips
- Your sum knowledge of sus. is the more neg camber the better
- You push your car through the staging lanes. That way, maybe you can break the 16s by keeping the engine cool between runs
- You add a super tall rear wing, a hundred pounds of ground effects, neon and stereo equip., but you gut the interior to 'save weight'
- The backlighting on the gauges on your A-pillar work long before the gauges actually work
- You cut four coils out and scrape the chassis on the ground, sparks are cool
- You have to find a way to drive around speed bumps
- You install clear corner AND brake lights
- You install coloured bulbs in your clear covers
- You put neon's under the car that scrape the ground, and they bust

- If your rear spoiler is taller than you
- Your fist can fit in your exhaust tip
- If your tailpipe extension is the most expensive mod you have done to your engine
- Your tailpipe fell off on the quatermile and you gained 3/10s due to weight savings
- You spend 5,000 bucks on mods so you can beat a stock 5,000 dollar mid 80s stang or camaro
- You think a NOS system on your Hyundai Sonata puts you in the same speed categories as a Vette
- The automatic version of your car runs 2 sec slower in the 1/4
- The 1970 Superbird spoiler is smaller than yours
- A torque converter does NOTHING for your car
- If you think HP is more important than torque
- If your 4 banger has true dual exhaust
- If your 4 banger has four exhaust tips
- If your ground effects create a plough effect when driving in snow
- If you think 180hp and 185 torque are impressive for a modified motor
- If you have stickers on your car for parts you could not point out, if you even have them
- You think pushrods are a bad thing
- If you think Hyundai and performance go hand in hand
- If you've ever removed more than half the coils in your springs by removing them yourself
- You have a front wing
- If you equate the sound of

performance with that of a weed eater

- If you think coloured headlights work better
- If you take your mum's 4 door Honda Accord and do ANY mod
- You claim you lost because your car is a passenger car
- You claim you woulda run if you went from a rolling start
- You claim you lost because you missed a shift, and your car is automatic
- Flying past the person ten car lengths in front of you after he put on his brakes, and claiming you won
- After losing you flip the bird, rev the motor, and fail to break tires around a corner
- Tell everyone how you lost the cop because of your 'driving skills'
- Drive around in a \$20,000 car, with \$10,000 in mods, and still live with the folks
- You can relate to every line of "Pretty fly for a white guy"

### It's all go for NATMEET 2004

*Starting on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> April at Wakefield Park in Goulburn with a track day for everyone. Our first run is on Good Friday heading to Leura in the Blue Mountains where we will spend the next 4 days. Full details will be posted soon with full details being available on the club's website shortly.*



### Do you get or do you want your Publications via Email??

If you wish to receive your Club Events & Club Talk via email, please notify [membership@mx5.com.au](mailto:membership@mx5.com.au) with a valid email address immediately.

For those who once received the publications via email but now find the postie delivering it, the reason is your email address is bouncing—notify [membership@mx5.com.au](mailto:membership@mx5.com.au) immediately and we will update your address.

### Track Days - Want to GET INVOLVED???

We are looking for members to assist with the Track Days at Wakefield Park in the following areas:

- Timing - using the computer timing system. It's a simple job worked in shifts, and you will be in the air-conditioned comfort of the tower. Good company assured!!!
- Scrutineering - only takes an hour before proceeding start for the day, easy to follow check list and a great team to work with.
- Grid & Flag Marshalls - Yet another great team to join, again simple jobs worked in shifts, enjoy being part of the excitement of the track - controlling the flow.

Contact either Mike Hicks or Zan Menzel - see back page for contact numbers.



# A Word from the Editor...

I hope you have all enjoyed another edition of Club Talk, the first one out for 2004.

It takes a lot of time and effort to put this together, yet it would not be possible without the contribution from our Committee Members and our General Members who like to join in on our Monthly organised runs

So please continue to send in those articles (between 250-500 words is perfect) and photos so we can continue to share our fun with fellow Members.

And don't forget, everything submitted gains you points towards the 'Member of the Year Awards'.

*Until next tim, your Editor,  
Daniella  
Email - editor@mx5.com.au  
Member #692*

## Member of the Year Awards

For those of you who are not familiar with the Member of the Year MOTY Awards, I will explain how the Committee decides on the Member / New Member of the Year.

Each member of the club is awarded points for attending Club Runs, Meetings and Club Events. This is one of the reasons you sign the Run Book when joining us for any event.

Points are also given if you organise or assist with a run, write an article or submit photos for Club Talk.

In addition you can earn MOTY points by introducing a new advertiser to Club Talk, arranging a Guest Speaker for a General Meeting, donating prizes or arranging sponsorship for the Club, and of course, by introducing new members to the club.

The MOTY Awards are designed to reward the members who have contributed that bit of extra time and effort to the Club. We also like to encourage all members not only to attend runs, but to go that little bit further and participate in organising events and give much needed input to Club Publications.

Our Club is here for ALL the Members, so if you have an idea for a run, please come forward. We would be happy to help you with your run. Perhaps you have some special photos taken while out and about and a story to tell. Again we will assist with getting your story published. We would love to hear how you came to purchase your MX-5, why you joined the club and your comments after your first Club Run.

Why not add to your "2003 - TO DO LIST" - to become the MX-5 Club MOTY (existing Members) or MX-5 Club New MOTY (anyone joining from 1/01/03). All you need to do is have a great time on the Club runs, take some photos, write some stories and invite the other members to join you on your favorite drives.

How easy can it be? You get to have heaps of fun and get recognition for it!!! Looking forward to coming on your run or reading your story.

*Jan Burgess,  
Membership Secretary*

(Continued from page 11)

That feeling of breathlessness you get with a normal 5 at around 5,000 RPM just disappears in the SP to be replaced by an incredible urgency to get to the red line. I think they should put a shift light on the dash because the red line comes up so quickly. Thank goodness for the rev limiter. If it wasn't for that, I would have blown the engine many times over as it is so smooth at the top end, that if you don't have your eye on the tach, it is very easy to over rev without realising it.

Here's a few more assorted photos of the car. And I also run at Wakefield, as you can see.



## Kumho Tyres Round 4— CAMS Supersprint

Together with the Z Car Club we are hosting the 4<sup>th</sup> Round at Wakefield Park on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June. How about supporting your club by coming along to check out the scene or offering to help out on the day. Further information can be obtained from either Mike Hicks (competition@mx5.com.au) or Zan Menzel (eventsec@mx5.com.au) their phone numbers are also listed on the back page.

## WANTED Your Club Needs YOU!!!

Make Natmeet 2004 the best National Meeting of MX-5 Clubs ever.

Natmeet is in its 10<sup>th</sup> Year – so how about putting up you hand to make our NSW Event an  
*'Event to be Remembered'*

NOW – ring Jean Cook on 02 4736 7125 or email her at jncook@bigpond.com

## Stanley & Stewart Chartered Accountants

Honorary Auditors of the MX-5 Club of NSW, for all your business and financial needs including:

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- Business Advice, Planning, Budgeting & Costing
- Personal Wealth Creation Planning
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Present this ad and  
receive half an hour  
free on your first  
consultation.

383 Church Street, North Parramatta 2151

Phone 02 9630 6055 Fax 02 9683 6076

Email: stanleystewart@bigpond.com

## GOT VOODOO?

*Team Voodoo*

- Shift knobs
  - Brake Grips
  - T-Shirts
- Web - <http://www.miata.net.nz/>  
Email - teamvoodoo@xtra.co.nz  
Phone - +64-025-504-811

### Club Talk Advertising Rates

| Size              | Base Rate |
|-------------------|-----------|
| Maxi (1/2 Page)   | \$40.00   |
| Midi (1/4 Page)   | \$20.00   |
| Mini (1/8 Page)   | \$10.00   |
| Micro (1/16 Page) | \$5.00    |

The above Base Rates apply to commercial advertisements. Club Members Please note:- PRIVATE Sales for Club Members are free of charge.

# Members Only

Some of the friends of the club have kindly offered special discounts and value service to NSW Mazda MX-5 Club members. The following companies will provide these discounts and services provided you present your current Club Membership Card at the time of your purchase.

## Al Palmer Repairs Penrith Pty Ltd

Al is a MX-5 Club member, his company offers a wide range of services for your beloved MX-5, 20% discount to club members. Contact Al (02) 4721 5060

Lot 12 Robertson Place, South Penrith

## AMG

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

500 Glenmore Rd, Edgecliff  
Call Brian Connell (02) 9327 6508

## 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.

14 Teloopa Avenue, Homebush West  
Contact Frank Wang (02) 9746 9433

## A.M.R. Motors Mazda Service

Complimentary loan vehicle, 10% discount on labour, free exterior wash and interior clean.

370 Parramatta Road, Pet ersham  
Contact John Healey (02) 9569 2844

## Eurocars Northside Mazda

Trade prices on parts and accessories, monthly parts specials. 15% discount on labour for service, complimentary car wash and vacuum, courtesy transport to nearest transportation station. 43-45 Hotham Road Artarmon

Service: Patrick Campbell (02) 9439 2722  
Parts: Bruce Roberts (02) 9439 2733

## G H Mouldings

Woodgrain or trinomac black dash trim, installed on site \$395. 24K gold plating car emblems - whole car \$195, top \$100 extra.

Ph: (02) 9882 2156

## Ian Luff Motivation Australia

Discount packages available for Defensive Car Control, Skid Tuition and CAMS courses. Contact Ian Luff or his staff on (02) 9829 5399, or fax (02) 9829 5400 or [www.ianluff.com.au](http://www.ianluff.com.au)

## Hornsby Mazda

10% discount on genuine parts & labour. Mobile service van for on site servicing Monday to Friday. Hire vehicle for \$10/ day (plus GST) fuel & comprehensive insurance or reimbursement of rail travel ticket. Service also available on Saturday 7:30 to 12:00 Will tailor a service package to your needs. 64-72 Pacific Highway, Waitara

Sales (02) 9372 3000 Parts (02) 9372 3092

Service (02) 9372 3098

Service Manager. - Brian Sprouster

## John Newell Mazda Service

John Newell are a proud sponsor of the Mazda MX-5 Club of NSW, they are also Australia's largest Mazda Dealer. Club members receive a member discount on parts and accessories; you also receive use of a loan car and a free wash and vacuum with every service.

301 Botany Rd. Waterloo 2017

Ph: (02) 9319 0011 Fax: (02) 9319 0200

[www.johnnewell.com.au](http://www.johnnewell.com.au)

[waterloo@johnnewell.com.au](mailto:waterloo@johnnewell.com.au)

Contact Philip Adler

## MX5 Mania

We supply Roll Bars for Mk.1 & Mk 2's, Batteries, Racing Supplies, Rims, Tyres & a lot more. Contact Simone (02) 9482 3238 or [mx5mania@optusnet.com](mailto:mx5mania@optusnet.com)

## Paddington Phones

10% Discount, stores at: Neutral Bay Ph: 02 9904 1511, Surry Hills Ph: 02 9281 8044 or Menai Ph: 02 9541 2266

Product Sales & Marketing Manager - Peter Mason  
Ph: 02 9316 9999

## Penrith Car Care

Specialists in Paint & Fabric Protection, Swirl Mark Removal, Paint Scratches and Buff & Polish. Contact Sam Cilionio. Phone (02) 4732 5225

Unit 5, 55/61 York Road, Penrith

## Robco Products Pty Ltd

Car Bra manufacturers. Car Bras can be tailor made if your car is customised. 10% discount to club members. 49 Shepard Street, Marrickville

Contact Sandra (02) 9560 5393

## Rockdale Mazda

Trade prices on all parts, discount on labour, free loan car and free car wash and vacuum.

Cnr. Allen and Arncliffe Sts, Arncliffe

Ph: (02) 8577 4888 Fax: (02) 9599 8121

Service Manager - John Mansweto

## Roman Auto-Tek Pty Ltd

Momo Steering Wheels, Recaro seating, alloy road wheels, gear knobs and other accessories. 10% discount to club members.

14 Cavell Avenue, Rhodes

Ph: (02) 9743 6822

## Sam's Auto One

Check out Sam's Specials for Club Members.

187 George Street (Cnr Alfred St) Paramatta

Contact Sam Silvestro

Ph: (02) 9633 2899 Fax: (02) 9891 1473

*Many other companies will offer you a discount if you belong to our club, this can save you serious dollars on specialised items for your MX-5.*

*Please note that the Mazda MX-5 Club of NSW Inc. does not endorse or recommend any product or service provided by the above companies. It is listed as an information service for our members only.*

## Contacting The Committee

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Email [treasurer@mx5.com.au](mailto:treasurer@mx5.com.au) and/or

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## CLUB WEB SITE

<http://www.mx5.com.au/nsw/>

**Webmaster:** Christopher Johnson

Email: [webmaster@mx5.com.au](mailto:webmaster@mx5.com.au)

## Club Talk

Club Talk is a quarterly publication of the Mazda MX-5 Club of NSW. Please send all editorial contributions and advertising copy (hand-written, typed or on floppy disk) to marked to the attention of Editor at the club address below.

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 your 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

**MX-5 CLUB of NSW Inc.**

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