

MOTORKHANA FUN

OR

WATCH OUT FOR THOSE FLAGS !

On Sunday, 7th February, I experienced something completely different..... and I wasn't the only one!

"Be at St. Marys Football Club car park by 8.00am" the notice said. That's where the fun began.

No one counted on a pea-soup fog. I know, because we weren't the only MX-5 doing circuits around the main street of St. Marys looking for the elusive venue.....

Eight o'clock came and went (as did a lot of MX-5s), but eventually the fog cleared and a strong sun broke through to reveal 13 cars lined up waiting for the concours and/or for Ian to give instructions on what taking part in a motorkhana was all about. It sounded easy enough (especially for me - I wasn't going to do any driving !)

Those who paid their money drew a number from a hat to see in what order the cars would compete. Sue Forrest drew lucky number one, and the 'meet' got under way.

I should mention here that we had a ring-in for the day. An MX-6 (which looked huge next to our cars) came out to strut its stuff. At least it was from the same family.....

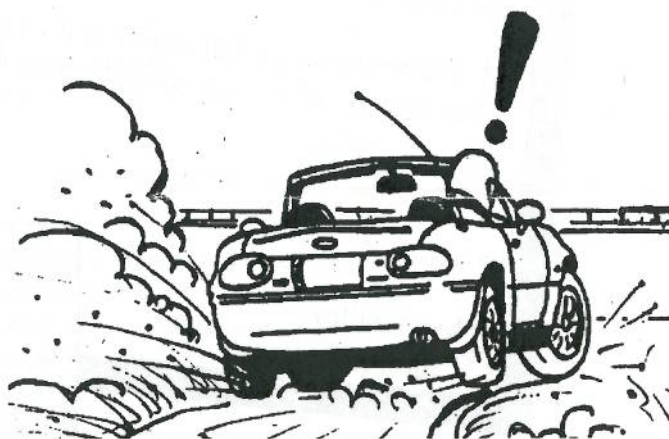
The Motorkhana was a fabulous event. Well organized, keenly contested and a great spectacle.

Driving through flags in a set pattern may sound easy enough, but it certainly surprised a lot of people to find out just how difficult it is to manoeuvre cars through tight turns at low speed. Bryan certainly took the time keeper by surprise when he tried to take a short cut through the finish gate !

What a fun day it turned out to be. It was great to see Club members who normally join in only the social events or the sporting events come together for an event which offered a fair portion of both activities.

I for one can't wait for the next Motorkhana..... You never know, I might even take the wheel myself (if Peter's game !).

Ruth Simpson



MAZDA
MX-5 CLUB OF NSW
P.O. Box 267
North Sydney 2059
Australia

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Letter from the President

Hello to you all. So much happening, so fast, so fantastic. Three months into our committee time and its all full on.

Computer has been purchased and Bryan is considering ideas for improving our newsletter. He is also looking for ideas for a New South Wales club logo. So come on all you budding graphic artists, here's your opportunity. Remember if your artwork is successful, it will be used on letterheads and stickers etc.

Paul is off to the States next week and will come back with heaps of news. Paula is busy scribbling and keeping us all in check. Phillip is frantically posting out new member forms, and two of our founder members are rejoining after they heard of all the activities we are involved in. Iain's motorkhana was a huge success and video's will be screened at the next meeting in April. Captain Cook is busy surrounding himself with helpers and I am doing the supervising. No, seriously my news is the highlight of the day.

After attending a conference in Melbourne of all MX-5 Club Presidents, we have formed a national committee to inaugurate the Mazda MX-5 Club of Australia. A great weekend with great people with ideas and visions to match.

We were all so lucky to have Sue Ransom as our coordinator for the weekend and a fab bloke called Murray Finlay (no relation) as our minutes man. Just think of what we can do now - the sky's the limit, and believe me, these people are looking beyond that again, so lets go with them and have fun.

I will be making a full report at the next meeting, so I'll see you then. Please feel free to call me if your curiosity gets the better of you, and happy safe motoring.

Lea Findley
Club President

All the Presidents....

and the 250,000th Mazda MX-5 at the
Melbourne Motor Show



L to R. Lea Findley N.S.W. David Verna QLD. Grant George S.A.
Peter Randell W.A. David Henry Vic.

MX-5 MOTORKHANA SERIES 1993

Round #1 Results

Name	Car Rego	Test1	Test2	Test3	Test4	Penalty	Total	Place
Sue Forest	RLN 295	30.1	33.7	34.9	40.9		139.6	11
Brett Mayhew	AAE 90M	24.5	26.9	30.9	37.4		119.7	4
Don Pulver	MX 085	24.9	29.9	32.8	37.6		125.2	7
Len McIntosh	LM 468	24.9	29.9	32.8				DNF**
Colin Caldwell	REV 851	24.9	27.3	30.7	39.0		121.9	5
Bryan Wu	WU 668	25.5	28.4	31.0	43.2	2	130.1	8
Peter Simpson	MX 5115	24.8	28.5	31.6	37.1	2	124.0	6
Jimmy Stewart*	AAV 30D	23.2	22.9	25.6	34.0		105.7	1
Andrew Varnava	AV 608	28.8	32.8	33.6	40.4		135.6	9
Graham Cook	RMN 760	28.8	32.8	36.3	36.0	2	135.9	10
Ross Hutcherson	MV 371	23.0	23.6	31.0	34.8		112.4	3
Ron Smith	RMI 836	28.7	37.0	36.3	43.0		145.0	12
Wayne Price*	AAV 30D	23.7	23.8	28.3	35.1	1	111.9	2

* MX-6 Vehicle

** DNF = Did not finish

MOTORKHANA DATES

MAY 2nd JUNE 13th
JULY 25th SEPTEMBER 5th
OCTOBER 10th DECEMBER 5th

St. Marys Rugby Leagues Club
Cnr. Forrester & Boronia Rd.
St Marys

Come and try out your driving techniques and
memory skills, Come for fun or competition

Welcome to the Club

Paul Kane
Wayne Price
Mike Walkden-Brown
Robert Liddelaw
Timothy O'Carrigan

A warm welcome to the new members who joined
us in March , this brings our membership numbers
to 134 .

Editor's Desk

I hope you all enjoyed our last newsletter, as much
as I had putting it together. This month you will find
it "Jammed Packed" with lots of interesting stories
and articles. Thanks must go to our friends from
interstate Mazda MX-5 Clubs for allowing the use
of their articles and illustrations.

We are endeavoring to produce a newsletter every
month, so that you will be up to date with what is
happening with our Club. To keep up this
momentum, please keep those articles rolling in.
See you on the road.

Bryan Wu

Dear Editor,

Congratulations on the new format Newsletter. We found it
a most enjoyable, informative read.

And we've acted on one of the articles already. It's great to
be able to say "hi" to other MX5's on the road by popping our
lights - thanks, Bryan.

Peter & Ruth Simpson

Dear Editor,

Who needs enemies when you have friends that DOB.

A certain Jetsetter (who has never been to a meeting) Ex Alfa
driver, Once told a friend he would never buy a "Japanese "
Motor car - same fellow now proudly owns an MX-5 and no
other.

Lea Findley.

MOTOR TORQUE

Iain Boyd

In the last few days, I've had quite a few phone calls regarding the inlet duct modification I described in Motor Torque which has been very gratifying and one of the main questions asked has been "Does it make a difference?" Well all modifications are relative, exactly to what extent depends on the individual driver, so before you carry out any modifications set yourself a standard to compare the modification to.

To arrive at a standard all you need is a stretch of road and a stop watch. I'm lucky in that I live close to the M4 which has a measured 5 kilometre test distance and this is what I use, but any reasonably straight stretch of road between two distance markers will do. What I do is to arrive at the 0 mark in third gear at 2000 RPM. I then start the stop watch and plant my foot on the throttle and measure the time and distance it takes to reach 100km/h. I then turn round and do the same in the opposite direction and note down the average time in a little note book that I carry for just this purpose. Taking the average of the two runs can be important as it will tend to discount wind, road gradient etc.

If you can get someone to operate the stop watch for you so much the better but if you do get a partner to do this then you are "locked" into this as part of your standard due to the additional weight.

Then when you carry out any modification, you have a comparison.

Remember to be as scientific as possible and maintain (as near as possible) the same basic conditions, for example, that the fuel tank is full and that you are not carrying any additional weight, soft-top/hard-top is always up or down, the car is well tuned and that the tyre pressures are the same as the original standard test run.

I do my runs in the early mornings when there is very little wind (and traffic) and the weather

conditions are clear and dry (not raining or foggy).

Once you have a set of standards they can be used in a variety of ways, for example, when I changed from the standard fibre disc pads to the "Metal Kings" I now use, I was able to compare them to the distance that I had recorded from 100 km/h to 0 with the original set. I now know that the "Metal Kings" are better as my braking distance was reduced by almost 1/3 the original stopping distance.

Without these most basic standards to use as a comparison a great deal of the changes might make to your car over the years will, to a certain extent be wasted as you won't know if there has been any improvement or not.

The three standards that I have are:-

Acceleration.	0 - 100 km/h
Braking.	100 km/h - 0
Overtaking.	3rd gear @ 2000RPM - 100 km/h

The next modification that I will be undertaking on my car will be to "graft" a smaller radius throttle quadrant onto the throttle assembly to reduce the accelerator pedal travel. I find that the standard pedal travel is far too long and that on long distances my right foot tends to cramp up. The present travel from idle to full bore is 70 mm and the effective radius of the quadrant is 28 mm.

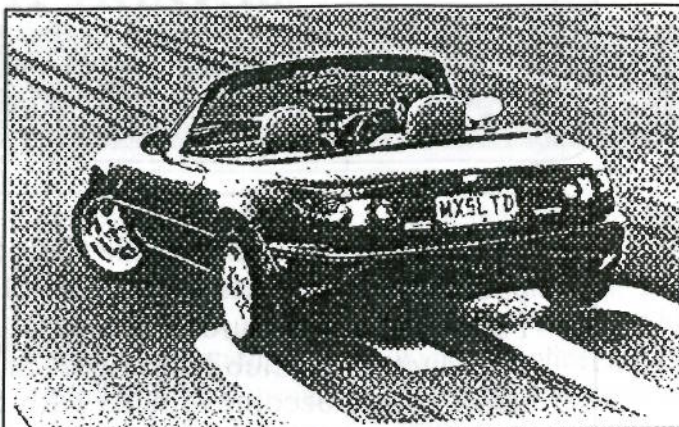
$\text{Pi} * D = \text{circumference} : \Rightarrow (3.142 * 56) / 4$ (as the quadrant is only effective through 90 degrees) equates to 44 mm. So a 70 mm travel of the pedal equal to a quadrant travel of 44 mm = 1:1.6

I hope to come up with a ratio of 1:2 which will require a quadrant with an effective radius of 22 mm which will reduce the pedal travel to 43 mm. This will change the lever advantage so the effort required on the pedal will increase and the smaller quadrant may make the throttle control very critical, so I will let you know how I get on and if the change is worth while. - Happy MXing.

Club Racers !!!

For Information on all Sporting activities
(Super Sprints etc.), Please contact Iain
Boyd on 833 2346

Advertising space for sale
Please phone Bryan Wu for details
PH: 451 - 9985 A/H



For Sale

1990 MAZDA MX-5 Limited Edition:
12 Months Registration, Rego Plates MX5LTD,
Leather seats, Hard/Soft Top, CD/Radio Cassette, Momo Wood Grain
Steering wheel & matching Gear Stick, Wide wheels and Mags, 26,000 KMS.
A very Special and Beautiful Car.

PH: 332 4605 BH/AH

PARTS REGISTER

GENUINE MX-5 PARTS & ACCESSORIES

<u>Part Description</u>	<u>Condition</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Phone</u>
One set of Headlights	Very good	Iain Boyd	833 2346
One set of plastic door sill covers	Very good	Iain Boyd	833 2346
Three Alloy Wheels (Topy)	Very good	Iain Boyd	833 2346
Two Tyres (SF325)	Very good	Iain Boyd	833 2346
Car BRA	Very Good	Jimmy Stewart	043 851450

AFTER MARKET

Assorted MoMo Steering Wheels (wood and Leather types available)	Very Good	Bryan Wu	451 9985
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NB: Contact Iain Boyd or Bryan Wu for parts and accessories to be included in this register.

MEMBERS ONLY!

The following companies have agreed to offer special services and discounts to MAZDA MX-5 Club Members. Please note that you must produce proof of membership by showing your Club membership card.

John Newell Mazda Service

VIP service, Free Loan vehicle. Unit 3,9-13 O'Riordan St, Alexandria. PH: 319 0011

Finishline Car Accessories

Discount MX-5 accessories, free courier delivery. P.O.Box 272, Caulfield South, Victoria 3162
PH: 03 528 4618.

AMG

10% Discounts on body kits, wheels, tyres, sports exhausts, extractors and suspension parts.
500 Glenmore Rd. Edgecliff. PH: 3276508. Ask for Simon Stratford or Brian Connell.

NB: Please note that the Mazda MX-5 Club of NSW 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.

MAZDA AUTO CLUB
proudly presents the 1993
DRIVER TRAINING DAY
 Saturday 1st May

The Mazda Automobile Club of Australia (N.S.W) would like to invite you and your friends to attend a Driving Training Day to be held at Oran Park South on Saturday the 1st of May. The day is intended to be an introduction to Club Motorsport and not as racing practice. The day will allow you to become familiar with the racing circuit, learn braking techniques, learn how to steer your car and show you the basics of how to drive around the circuit. The day will be similar to those run over the last 3 years.

START:- 8am Oran Park South Circuit.

LUNCH:- will be available from the canteen.

FINISH:- approx. 4:30 pm.

- CAMS approved Helmet must be worn - no sharing is preferable.
- Tyre pressures must be at or above 35 p.s.i.
- Maximum of 2 entrants per vehicle - no sharing is preferable.

ENTRY FEE :- \$50.00 for Members of a Car Club
 \$60.00 for Guests

NOTE :- Entry Forms with money will be accepted until maximum of 49 is reached. Entries open on the 24th of February 1993.

Inquiries to *Peter Godden on 871-1209 a.h.*

----- Cut off and return with cheque -----

MAZDA AUTO CLUB
DRIVER TRAINING DAY
 Saturday 1st MAY

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

Driver's Name

Address Postcode

Phone (home) What car will you be driving

Driver Experience :-

Road Years Circuit (if any)

What do you hope to learn on the day

COST :- Members --- \$50.00 Club Membership #

Guests --- \$60.00 Where did you hear of this event

Please make cheques out to :- **Mazda Automobile Club**

and send with this form to :- Peter Godden

11 Treeview Place, North Rocks 2151

Beware the performance equipment !

I recently delivered a modified MX-5 to a member of the Mazda MX-5 Club of Qld. and she rang me the next day to ask me to remove the equipment!

This is the story, which I just had to repeat...

Leaving her office at 1.00am after working on a project, our member drove up the lane to the main road, and was rather embarrassed to have to edge through a group of youths who were ogling both at her and her car.

As she reached the road she turned left, applied the usual amount of throttle and immediately the back swung out 90 degrees under the unaccustomed torque.

Quick correction saved the day and she roared away as quickly as possible to hide the burning cheeks !

A few kilometres up the road, she had regained her composure. Turning on to a deserted length of road she decided to try out the newfound power and proceeded

to reline the car at 7000 rpm in each gear.

This happy little activity came to an abrupt end when a large gentleman in blue stopped her and asked her if she knew what speed she was doing !

"No", said our trusty member, "I was too busy looking at the tachometer. I've just had a new exhaust



system fitted and I was trying it out."

"We know," replied the worthy officer. "We could hear you coming ! And you were doing 130 km/h, and this is a 60 zone !"

As she was still in third gear, our member felt that this was a pretty good trial of her car's new equipment.

The officer (and his

mates) was definitely not impressed. They proceeded to pore (and paw) all over the car and to question her, asking if she owned the car and what was her occupation. As it was a limited edition green MX-5, and the member is an extremely attractive blonde, and it was 1.00 am, obvious questions were arising in their minds as to her method of earning a living !

They eventually also took umbrage at her month-out-of-date registration sticker and lack of number plate.

The only thing at this

point that stopped her sitting in the gutter with her head in her hands was the thought that the police might also think that she was drunk !

Eventually they allowed her to leave and she drove home somewhat more slowly.

"So, am I really to remove the modifications ?" I asked when I heard all this.

"Not bleedin' likely," came the response. This lady is a real hot foot and, after experiencing what the new equipment did for her car, she would kill me if I tried.

....I really must make her a bracket for that number plate.

Story by Loch Stewart
- Team Miata, MX-5
Car Club of
Queensland.

Illustration From:
MX-action. MAZDA
MX-5 Club of Vic.

The 17th HISTORIC WINTON

29th - 30th May, 1993

Winton Motor Raceway, Benalla Victoria

The Club has received from the Austin 7 Club two complimentary two day passes for this Event.

First come first serve. Call our lovely Secretary, Paula, if you wish to go, on 451-9985 A/H

Mazda MX-5 Club of N.S.W. 1993 Committee

* President

Lea Findley 554-2999 (bus)
832-1101 (home)

* Vice-President

Paul Heeks 533-5411 (bus)
544-1361 (home)

* Secretary

Paula Wu 018-866-481 (bus)
451-9985 (home)

* Treasurer

Bryan Wu 925-7271 (bus)
451-9985 (home)

* Captain

Graham Cook 899-6811 (bus)
047-355-465 (home)

* Membership Officer

Phillip Sophocleous 774-3856 (bus)
547-1607 (home)

* Competition Secretary

Iain Boyd 833-2346 (home/bus)

1993 CLUB SOCIAL CALENDAR

Please note down these dates in your diary!

MARCH 21st Newcastle Social Drive	SEPTEMBER 19th Gosford Run
APRIL 18th Blue Mountains Drive	OCTOBER 16/17th Mudgee/Gulgong
APRIL 21st Club meeting	Weekend Run
MAY 15/16th South Coast Run	OCTOBER 20th Club meeting
JUNE 19/20th Dubbo Weekend Run	NOVEMBER 21st Berri Run
JUNE 23rd Club meeting	NOVEMBER 24th Club A.G.M.
JULY 17/18th Yule Fest/opt. Wkend	DECEMBER 15th Film night
AUGUST 15th Breakfast Run	DECEMBER 19th Christmas Party
AUGUST 18th Club meeting	NB. Camp Quality run to be announced

**OP.. STOP PRESS...STOP PRESS...ST
NATIONAL!
NATIONAL !
NATIONAL !
P PRESS..STOP PRESS..STOP PRESS**

ADELAIDE - EASTER 1994

Who's going?????

I can hear you all now - is she mad?
What the devil is she on about? Its finally
happened, she's gone nuts!

This is not the case?

Those of you at the last meeting know some of the details but you will all have to wait until the April general meeting to hear it all. In short - the first national meeting of MX-5's. Exciting stuff and the whole thing being planned by a great group of people who will ensure our stay is memorable. Of course we will add our personalities to that success as well.

Who's going? Ring me and let me know, I have 10 cars already.

- Lea Findley.

"QUOTABLE QUOTES"

"Truck Drivers still consider all MX-5 Drivers to be #!@#%&! unless they are girls in low-cut dresses (which they mostly are) in which case they are 'gorgeous'..."

- Rob Luck

Australian Road & Track, April '91

"Mazda's only problem is going to come when the company decides a new model is needed; how do you improve on styling perfection?"

Car Australia, August '92

"The MX-5 is a selfish Sportscar, one that three years after its introduction still manages to send a shiver down your spine."

-Greg Kable
Motor, July '92