

GET READY FOR NATMEET '94!

It's sooner than you think!

As reported in our previous newsletters, the first "MazNatMeet" for members of the five Mazda MX-5 Clubs around Australia will be in Adelaide next Easter (1-4 April)

But it's already time to start thinking about getting organized. Our hosts in the Mazda MX-5 of South Australia are already getting their act together, and have asked us to let them know approximately how many people will be attending from New South Wales.

It will be a great gathering of MX-5's from around Australia, and the South Aussies are champing at the bit to show what they can do to better even their very high standard for organizing club events.

So let's do our bit by letting them know as early as possible how many will be attending. Sure, it's early, but the organizing committee needs indicative numbers so they can ensure accommodation and negotiate the best rates. At this stage they are looking at a 4-star motel five minutes

from the centre of Adelaide, which will cost approximately \$45/person/night.

Events planned will depend on responses and numbers, but are likely to include sporting events like sprints and hill climbs, as well as social events like winery tours.

Enclosed with this newsletter are Registration Forms to book your accommodation, and notify your arrival date and the number of nights you'll be staying, as well as the events in which you'd be interested in participating.

Please fill them in and get them back to the Club as soon as possible.

Welcome to the Club

Darren Keen
Simon Farquhar

A warm welcome to the new members who joined us in May.

Please note our new
Postal Address is

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

Inside this issue

Editor's Desk	2
Motor Torque	4
Easter Parade	5
In the Driver's Seat	6
Member Service Offerings	7
Club Calendar	8

MX-5 MOTORKHANA SERIES 1993

Round #3 Results

Name	Car Rego	Test1	Test2	Test3	Test4	Penalty	Total	Place
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POSTPONED !!!

Last months Motorkhana was postponed as there were only four entries. For the Motorkhana to be organized and not cause a financial burden on the clubs funds, we require a minimum of fifteen members to participate. The Motorkhana is well organized by Iain Boyd who put in many hours of preparation of the different courses and setting up the equipment on the day and then running the event on the day.

The main aim of all this is fun. And of the members who have participated in the first two, it certainly was. It is a venue where you can get the most out of your MX-5 if you wish to move into competition or like most of the field we learn and practice to control and maneuver our cars. But above all we have a great time !!

So why not come along on JUNE 13th. even just as a spectator. You never know you just might get hooked !

From the Editor's Desk

I was down at Brookvale Mazda a couple of weeks ago, on a friendly visit to meet their new salespeople and leave our club membership application forms for them to handout to new MX-5 buyers. I was curious to ask how sales were going with the MX-5 plus what's new in the 93 model. "Well, sales is down, but we are the top dealer for selling MX-5's; this is the Northshore you know!" the salesman said.

I guess surveys show that people living on the Northshore of Sydney are more affluent with many professional people living there? But probably more important is that they would have a higher disposable income; they would have to with the price of a fully optioned MX-5 now costing over \$40K on the road, plus the mandatory theft alarm; not to mention the sky-high comprehensive insurance premiums (especially for under 25's). Arh, tis the price to pay to own a ragtop.

At first glance the 93 model looked essentially the same car as first released late in 1989. The following were my observed differences:

- * Power steering
- * Performance bar on rear suspension frame.
- * Remote boot release.

- * Rear demister and inner lining on Hardtop.
- * Matching colour on Hardtop.
- * Oddments box (centre console)
- * Change in rear gate panel and badges
- * New Mazda emblem on wheel trim and bonnet.
- * Warranty is now 3 years, 80,000km
- * Colour options now include silver and Black

I remember when I purchased my MX early 1990 the fully optioned vehicle then was \$35K incl. on road costs. The re-sale value of a vehicle of my vintage is around \$25K-\$27K with a Hardtop and air-cond in the private market. The limited edition greens are holding their price very well at around \$36K.

So, it's a bargain paradise for second hand MX-5 buyers at the moment. I have seen many original buyers keeping their cars in pretty good nick with very low kilometres and are now selling.

On another note, the last couple of months have been pretty lean on letters to the editor. Can we have some letters, please.

See you on the road.

Bryan Wu

Letters to the Editor

Dear MX-5 Club,

I treat my MX-5 (who has the Japanese pet name of "MEIKAI") like a baby, eg: catch a bus rather than take him out in the rain, pay for a security car park at work but still cover "Meikai" with a car cover & warning stickers not to remove cover or alarm is activated.

Even so, a Telecom truck whilst driving along suddenly reversed and backed into the front of "Meikai" two months ago.

I took time off work, searched the phone book and phoned several Panel Beaters to find someone who would take extra care in "Meikai's" repair (Telecom were paying of course). Even so, when he was returned supposedly in perfect condition, they had:- made a small ding in the back panel whilst removing

and replacing the battery, completely left unreplaced 3 major screws under the front panel.

After many fights and the car being returned to them 3 times before I was satisfied, finally everything seemed ok.

Next, I had to spend a full day just cleaning up the inside of the car, the mess in the boot, finger marks and boot scuffs everywhere.

The bottom line of all the above is :- can you recommend a Prestige Panel Beater who will take great care of the car should any such disaster happen again?

Many thanks,

Robbie

Does anyone know of a good repairer by experience? ed.

MOTORKHANA #3 (Again!) SUNDAY JUNE 13th, 1993

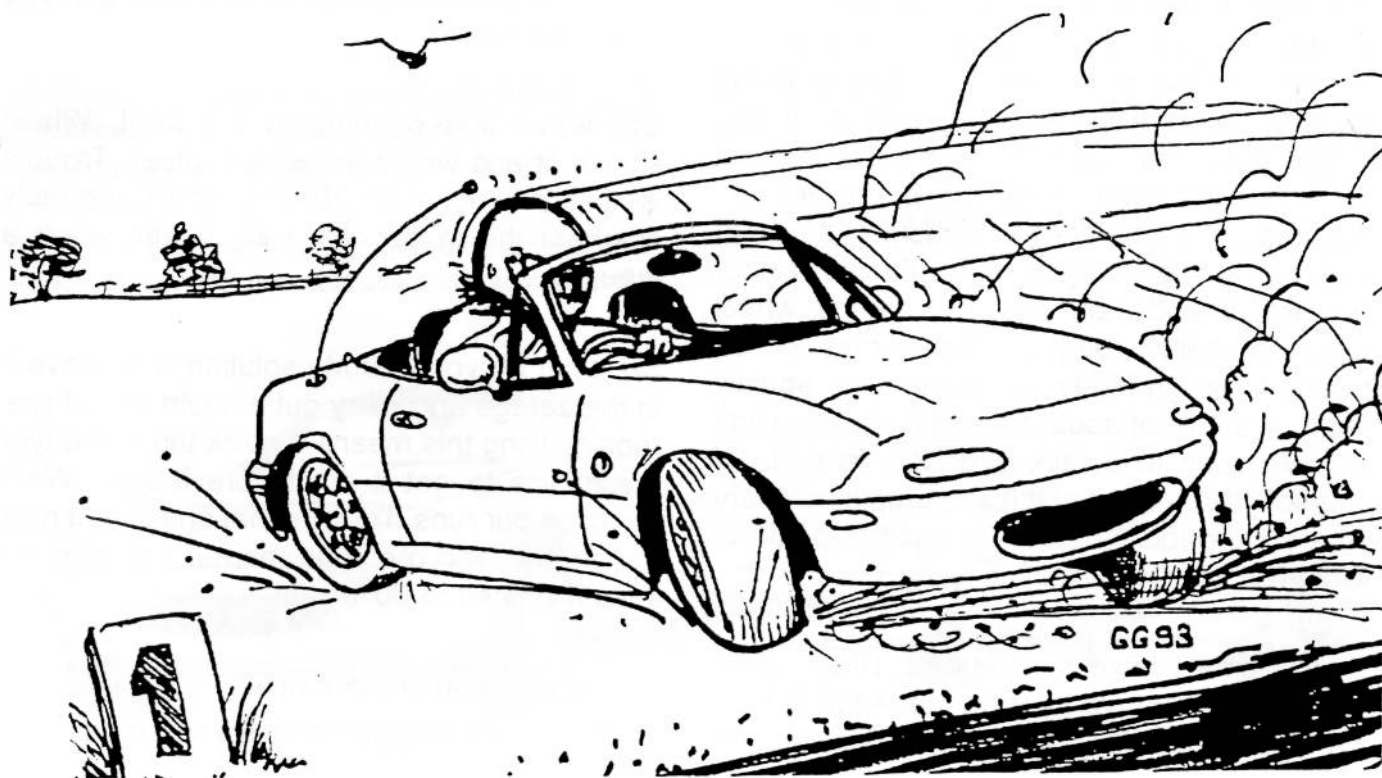
VENUE

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

Phone Iain Boyd on 833 2346 for details

WHAT YOU NEED

- * Entry Fee : \$20.00
- * A Basic CAMS licence (available on the day)
- * A car (not necessarily an MX-5)
- * A current Full or Associate member
- * Please send your entry form and fee to the Secretary ASAP (form enclosed)
- * Program starts at 8.00 am, ends approx 4.00 pm



Motor Torque

Loch Stewart Team Miata, Queensland

It's a constant source of irritation, it's heavy, takes up a quarter of our boot space, it's pretty useless except to crawl to a garage, it's completely useless when the pressure is way below 60 lb/s. in, which it usually is because few people think to check it, and, to add to all these woes, it's illegal! Yes, your friendly (read - bloody-minded) Transport Department Officer will take great pleasure in relieving you of \$150, if he catches you. Yes, Big Brother (you do as you're told) is alive and well and flourishing in Queensland. Ask all the members who have been fined for the heinous crime of a muddy number-plate, or a bent number plate, or no number plate. George Orwell was right, and our freedoms have gradually been taken from us, and all we have left is our ghastly, flat, illegal spare wheel.

So, what do we do with it? Firstly, blow it up to 60 lb/s. in, (after all you may use it one dark night out in the bush when Big Brother is not around). Then, what do we do with it? It was suggested to me that we hang it under the boot floor. I had already checked this and decided that designing and fitting a completely new and different exhaust system would be rather impractical and very costly. Also the wheel would probably drag on the bumps or be pinched, or go rusty, or something equally nasty. Well, what about fixing it to the boot lid? yes, you can fit a rack and fix it to that. Of course, you'd have to lift it and prop it up every time you go to the boot for another bottle of wine. Not very practical.

By this time I have a headache, I'll press on regardless. Next we try it on the ledge behind the passenger. Problem is that you can no

longer lower the hood, and the passenger might object to wearing it around his head if you come to a sudden stop,

like hitting a lamp post etc.

So, we move forward a little, and move the seat forward a little! Yes, the wheel fits, and the passenger can still sit in the seat, providing they are less than five foot tall. Cleone is 5 ft 2", her feet fit firmly against the sloping floor, but she has to get out of the car if she wishes to cross her ankles. Would be all right for a very short journey with a very short passenger. So, marry a midget! Also would be all right if traveling a long distance alone. Maureen Heenan (not yet a member but I'm still hoping) travelled to Katherine like this. Congratulated herself that by putting the wheel behind the seat she would not have to remove all her luggage to get it out in the event of a puncture. Of course, she had a puncture, then had to remove her luggage to get to the jack!! Maureen assured me that she was not amused.

Still leave that opening in the front. Wheel should fit and would act as a bumper. Trouble is that driving over 10KPH would probably overheat the motor. Ah, well, it was worth a thought.

So, what do you do? My solution is to leave it in the garage and carry out a squirt can of tyre repair. Using this means a quick trip to the tyre mechanics to get it out before it sets. What about on our runs. I'm sure that one of you nice people will lend me your spare if I need it, so keep it inflated to 60 lb/s in!

P.S. Go out and check it now!!

Further (polite) suggestions are welcome.

The Easter Parade

Lower Blue Mountains Run

April 18 1993.

Well, strictly speaking not quite Easter (except if you are Greek) but close enough to label the trip the "Easter Parade" of thirteen colorful MX5's through the lower Blue Mountains.

This trip was a first time experience for the author and a thoroughly enjoyable one it was too. It started promptly at 9.00 am at May's Hill with the party winding its way onto the F4 for the fast start to the trip with the wind in the hair and glorious sunshine to have all the ingredients for a perfect day.

We made a colorful parade as evidenced by the amazed looks on people's faces, the friendly waves and toots on the horn as we whizzed by.

The party left the freeway at the base of the Blue Mountains and wound its way to the foothills and our first stop at Hawksbury Heights. This was an opportunity for further introductions and to take in the view before a Le Mans type start precipitated by the sight of Graham (our tour leader) disappearing up the hill in his blue machine.

We found ourselves winding our way further up the mountains with beautiful green countryside sparkling in the sunshine.

At Morning Tea we were joined by a machine that embodies the tradition that inspired the creation of

the MX5. A shiny MG in the traditional British Racing Green.

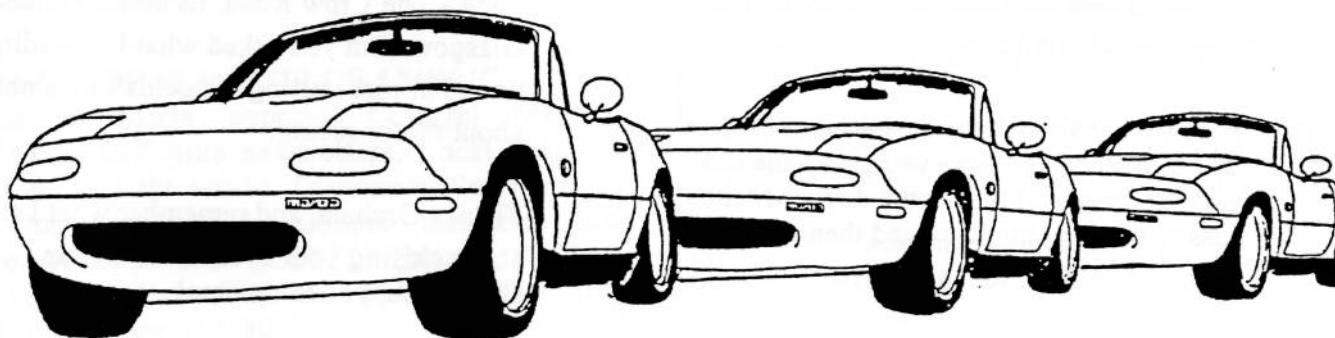
After Devonshire Teas and Apple Strudel with ice cream (which I thoroughly recommend !) we wound our way up the tortuous but immensely enjoyable Bells Line of Road to the Mt. Tomah Botanical Gardens where we stopped for lunch. These gardens were opened in 1987 as a Bicentennial project and they are beautifully maintained with a rich variety of native flora and habitats including some of the biggest Goldfish I have ever seen !

One was able to peruse all this as well as the surrounding hills and a commanding view of the country to the North and West, from a sun-drenched balcony whilst satisfying your hunger with well prepared food from the restaurant. Others came prepared and were able to have a picnic lunch on the spacious lawns.

After a relaxing couple of hours the members made their own way back home and were able to reflect on a relaxing day spent driving some **real** roads instead of the crowded ,straight and traffic light infested routes we take to work every day. It reminded each member of the very reasons and images that inspired us to purchase that little machine in the first place.

So, when's the next run ?!!?!!

Timothy O'Carrigan



In the Driver's Seat

Welcome to our new series of articles by club member Sue Forest, *In the Driver's Seat*. These are in-depth interviews of our club members. We find out who they are, why they own and love the magical MX-5, etc. etc. We kick off this series with our Club Captain, Graham Cook. Oh, and don't forget if on your next club outing a red haired lady driving a blue MX-5 comes up to you, when you least expected, *SMILE*, you're In the Driver's Seat!

SF: Graham, your car is a magnificent colour !
how did you choose it? (Read with a cheerful
Scots accent)

GC: Because I didn't want red or white. I'd heard
that blue was on the way and I liked the color.

SF: A lot of drivers talk about their car as if it had
a personality. What's your view?

GC: No, it doesn't have a personality. It has a
delightful way of just..... existing. It makes
me feel good when I see it in the morning.
It hurts when something happens to it. It
causes Pride in the Heart.

SF: (sniff) Your most memorable MX-perience?

GC: OO ah that's a toss up between Peter Findlay's
high speed day at Amaroo, or the sheer joy of
being with the rest of the group at the
Kangaroo Valley meeting with Toshihiko
Hirai.

SF: As Club Captain you find interesting and
exciting roads for us to explore each month.
What's your favourite?

GC: Mine's quite short, actually I used to do many
laps of Mitchell's Pass - you go up the old
Western Hwy and then come down Mitchell's
Pass to the new highway and then to Emu
Plains. And then so it again.

SF: In a previous life - before you were an MX -5
owner - What did you drive ?

GC: A Pulsar Q - a good car

SF: and your most desired car?

GC: The McLaren F1

SF: We'd like to know something about your
regular passenger.

GC: Jean, my wife. We quarrel a lot but she's
fine. (with twinkling eyes) I wouldn't
change her.

SF: And now for some penetrating, probing 60
Minutes type interrogation - If I could grant
you ANY passenger - from the past, present
or future - who would you choose ?

GC: My late brother -he was taken from us too
soon in a motorcycle accident. He shared
my love of cars.

SF: And, what are you reading at the moment?

GC: I've just finished a great book - a Scottish
book - The Crow Road. Its about a street in
Glasgow. But you asked what I'm reading
now. I'm just starting "Phoenix". Its a novel
about motor racing.

SF: Thanks Graham, and remember what I said
about closing your eyes in the slalom.
Good luck, you're up next!

Members Only

..... it pays to belong!

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 current Club membership card.

A.M.R. Motors. Mazda Service

Free loan vehicle, 10% discount on labour, Free exterior and interior wash and clean. A.M.R. Service is located at 370 Parramatta Rd. Petersham, Contact Dominic or Robert. PH: 569 2844

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. Call Barry Helfenbaum PH: 03 527 6924.

AMG

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

IAN LUFF Dynamic Safety Advance Driving

\$25 Discount on Car Control Courses. For details PH: 820 2030

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.

Foreign File:

MX-5 Car Clubs around the World.

MAZDA MIATA CLUB OF AMERICA - Your line to Miata experts. Colorful MIATA MAGAZINE plus newsletters. Local chapters throughout the world. Discounts. Service tips. Factory authorised. Sample magazine \$6. Membership \$25 (US\$35 Canada, US\$48 Foreign). Miata Club of America, P.O. Box 759E, Lilburn, GA 30225

Member Survey

Have you sent your Activities Questionnaire form in yet?

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

MIKE'S DYNAMIC DRIVING

Ian Luff Dynamic Safty Advanced Driving is offering a \$25.00 discount to MX-5 Club Members on their range of driving courses conducted at Oran Park.

The course I attended was the level 1 car control course (\$150.00 to MX-5 Club members). I chose the level 1 because I haven't attended an advanced driving course for some years.

The course includes classroom tuition and practical training on the Oran Park Short circuit Go-Cart track. The track is wet down with a water truck when required to create a skid Pan and exercises are created around witches hats which include:

- 1) Emergency braking
- 2) Slalom
- 3) Swerve and recover
- 4) Cornering techniques.

The course is a good entry level advanced driving course and offers a foundation to improve your driving skills. However if you have attended a driving course recently you may be better off taking the level 2 course.

Students are graded A+ (perfect) to C- (unsatisfactory).

Ian Luff has been conducting driving courses for 21 years and has a large corporate client base. (are our roads getting better?). I enjoyed my days tuition and feel the course is good value for money and look forward to my nexr course, level 2.

Mike Walkden-Brown.

MOTORKHANA DATES

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

1993 CLUB SOCIAL CALENDAR

Please note down these dates in your diary!

Dubbo Weekend Run	NOVEMBER 21st
JUNE 23rd	Berri Run
Club meeting	NOVEMBER 24th
JULY 18th	Club A.G.M.
Yule Fest	DECEMBER 15th
AUGUST 15th	Film night
Breakfast Run	DECEMBER 19th
AUGUST 18th	Christmas Party
Club meeting	
SEPTEMBER 19th	NB. Camp Quality run to be announced
Gosford Run	
OCTOBER 16/17th	
Mudgee/Gulgong Weekend Run	
OCTOBER 20th	
Club meeting	

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)

MX-5

Mazda MX-5 Club of New South Wales
P.O. Box 267, North Sydney, N.S.W. 2059



Reminder !

Our next club meeting will be held on

Wednesday, June 23rd at 7.30 pm

**Lidcombe RSL Club
Cnr Joseph and Taylor St.
Lidcombe**

AGENDA - GENERAL MEETING

1. MEMBERS PRESENT/ APOLOGIES/ QUORUM TO PROCEED.
2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 21/4/93.
3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES.
4. CORRESPONDENCE.
5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT.
6. TREASURER'S REPORT.
7. SPORTING EVENTS CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT.
8. CLUB CAPTAIN'S REPORT.
9. INCORPORATION OF THE CLUB
10. INTRODUCTION OF NEW CONSTITUTION
11. GUEST SPEAKER ON MX-5 SUSPENSIONS
12. MEETING CLOSE.

MAZDA MX-5 CLUB Supports Safe Driving



The MAZDA MX-5 CLUB of AUSTRALIA National Committee is totally committed to providing the most fun filled, enjoyable, competitive and cost effective 'events menu' for the inaugural National Meeting to be conducted in Adelaide 1994 between Fri. 1st and Mon. 4th April.

Although a considerable amount of planning has transpired, we need your response to assist in finalising certain matters. We realise Easter 1994 is some time away, but recent experience has shown the limited facilities in Adelaide are pre-booked at least twelve (12) months in advance.

Accommodation - Adelaide Parkway Flag Motor Inn (~~ref brochure~~)

Used by many car-clubs - recently renovated throughout - central location (5mins from city - faces parklands)

Car parking directly outside your door (all off street within the courtyard) with good security - in fact the best surveyed.

Tariff \$ 35.00 per person per night. Cooked B/Fast \$8.00 Double Rooms.

Terms of settlement: Quarter by end July. Quarter by end December.
Balance by end of February

Economics allowing, it is desirable to keep together for logistical purposes and the camaraderie.

Please indicate in the following boxes.

Number of nights staying Breakfast Occupants

----- 3)



Arrival Date: _____

Departure Date: _____

EVENTS MENU

SPORTING

Venue: Mallala Motorsport Park

Excellent driver's track - vast run-off areas all round - no obstacles - home of SA Touring Car Racing.

Note: A full programme of events includes everybody. Sprints for the 'hot-shoes'.

Regularity fun events at slow pace for others.

Will car be double entered YES ☐ NO ☐

Being a CAMS co-ordinated event, you will need:

CAMS Membership

CAMS Basic Licence (minimum)

Approved Helmet

Approved Fire Extinguisher

Neck-wrist-ankle-clothing.

Suitable footwear

Fees will be advised when a full # of participants is finalised.

This is not an event for thrashing or damaging cars.

It will be run within the strict rules established by CAMS

SOCIAL - options - indicate numbers of participants

1) Tour of the famous Barossa Valley - including visits to selected wineries is: Peter Lehmann's etc. ☐

2) Indoor go-kart racing (nighttime!) ☐

3) Mystery fun-run. ☐

4) Tour the Adelaide Formula One Grand Prix Track ☐

N.B. Other surprise social events have been planned.

Overall costs per head will be advised as soon as possible