

Calendar

FEBRUARY

- 5 Social BBQ
- 20 Social Run
- 23 Club Meeting

MARCH

- 20 Social Run

APRIL

- 1 - 4 NatMeet (S.A.)

- 17 Social Run

- 20 Club Meeting

MAY

- 14/15 Weekend Run

JUNE

- 19 Social Run

JULY

- 19 Social Run

- 20 Club Meeting

AUGUST

- 21 Social Run

SEPTEMBER

- 17/18 Weekend Run

OCTOBER

- 16 Social Run

- 19 Club AGM

NOVEMBER

- 20 Breakfast Run

DECEMBER

- 18 Christmas Party

Landmark MX-5 in Museum

The historic 250,000th Mazda MX-5 has been placed on public display at the National Motor Museum in Birdwood, South Australia.

At a special presentation, the keys of the 250,000 MX-5 were handed to the Museum's director by Mazda Australia's managing Mr Benn Chijimatsu.

"Mazda Motor Corporation chose to send this historic vehicle to Australia because of the great enthusiasm the Australian public showed for the car from the day it was first introduced," Mr Chijimatsu said.

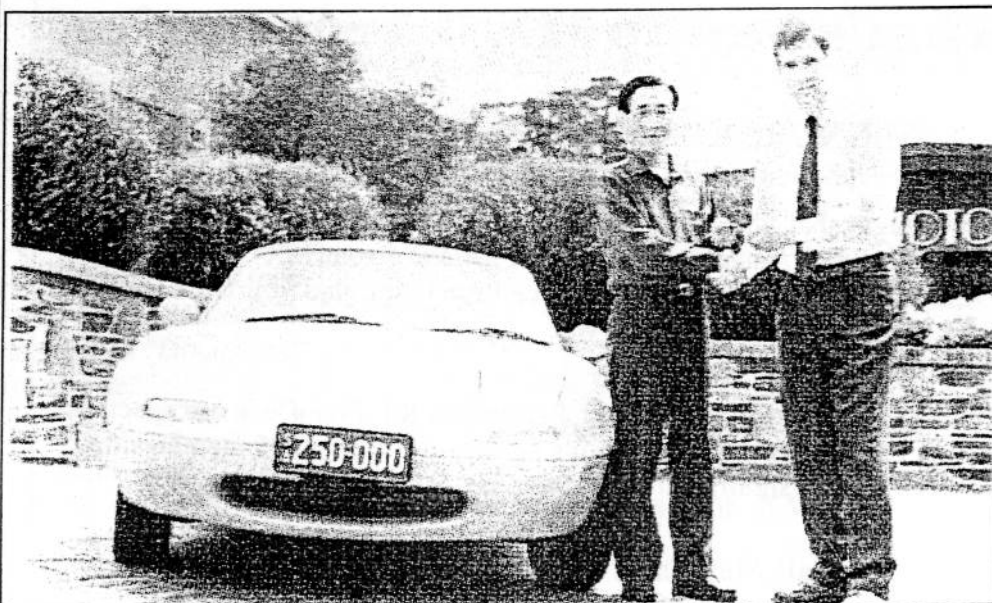
Built to Australian Design Rule regulations, the vehicle stands as testimony to the global success of the MX-5 as well as its wide appeal in Australia.

The 250,000th MX-5 was manufactured just three years and seven months after production of the model began on April 19, 1989. The only other "high volume" sports car - the British MGB - took nine years to achieve this production milestone.

We believe the Mazda MX-5 is a very significant sports car and we are pleased to have the 250,000th example on display at the museum," Mr Cashen said.

"The National Motor Museum is a collection of commercial vehicles, cars and motorcycles that have been important in Australian motoring history and the MX-5 falls into this category. Shortly after its release here, the MX-5 became the first - and

Cont. page 2



From The Editor's Desk

Bryan Wu

A Happy New year to you all and welcome to the first edition of ClubTalk for 1994. This is the first of four issues of our club newsletter for the year, and is a change from the monthly format of last year, but unchanged are flyers every month for our social runs.

There were just over 30 new members joining our club last year but sadly many members did not renew. Our current membership stands at 102, with almost one third (31) being foundation members!

Late last year we promoted a new membership campaign for which the club member who introduced the most new members will receive a prize (Paul Fleetwod won last year and received a Maguiars Maintenance kit worth over \$60). Enclosed with this issue are more intro slips. Simply write your membership number on the back and slip it under the wiper.

I think most of you may know by now that a new MX-5 has been released with more refinements and a larger 1.8 litre motor but now nudging \$40K plus ORC. As with buying anything, volume purchase will always get you a better deal. The club has already spoken to several dealers who would be very interested in offering bulk purchase discount and good trade-in price. If you are thinking of trading up and not particularly in a hurry to buy then contact the club so that we can negotiate with the dealer.

See you on the road.

Letters to the editor

To the MX5 Club

We would like to sincerely thank our many friends in the MX5 Club for their kind thoughts, sympathy cards and floral tribute in the recent passing of Maureen's mother.

It was comforting for the entire family to know that we were in your thoughts during this sad period.

Frank & Maureen Johnson

Welcome to the Club

Ken Starkey
Robert Lynch
Simon Hinkley
Mani Raman
Peter Stanton
Terry Edgton
Cyrus Nanavati

A warm welcome to the new members who joined the club during November/December 93.

What's New in MX-5 Accessories

LUXURIOUS LEATHER FOR YOUR MX-5

Ever thought that you could not afford the luxury and comfort of leather seats in your MX? Can you believe you can have your MX-5 installed with FULL leather for less than \$1000. Well aren't you glad you are a member of the Mazda MX-5 Club of NSW?

Ammon International located at 1 Parramatta Rd. Five Dock are specialist Leather Car Seat manufacturers, it's all they do! For MX-5 members only, they are offering significant discounts. See page 10.

Call Alex Chien on 716-6749 / 716-6829

Cont. from page 1

to-date the only - car to win the annual awards of all three Australia's major motoring magazines - Wheels, Motor and Car Australia - and that is quite an achievement. It was also the first sports car to win any of these awards. The MX-5 has been highly praised by the Australian motoring media and because of its global success is recognised as a true 'classic'."

From the Queensland Times

President's Report 1993

As you all know I am not one for long involved speeches or reports so I will cut straight to the point. I have had a wonderful experience being your President for this year and I thank you all for your help and support.

I would especially like to thank and congratulate the committee who worked so well together and supported each other when work commitments got in the way of our pleasures.

We are all aware that the majority of our committee have very demanding business lives and I thank them for so much of the precious time spent improving our club in leaps and bounds.

Leaps and bounds is probably an understatement but I am sure we all now realise what can be done by pulling together.

Becoming part of a national team was thrilling and the excitement of our incorporation combined with the purchase of our new computer etc. and so on, made 1993 a great year. Now we have our walkie talkie investigation under way. Then it won't matter how long our convoy is we will all be in touch.

At this point I would like to make special mention of a few people who have put so much into our club - not just this year but from day one.

Bryan Wu had been the backbone of our committee this year and has always been there for me both as a friend and committee member, nothing was a problem for Bryan - his motto is "Investigate, investigate, investigate best price - do it."

Fortunately this family produced another worker and a perfectionist - Paula Wu. Paula kept me on my toes and no matter what we needed or had to remember Paula had it documented Paula's motto "Document, document, document get it right or else".

I would also like to personally thank our Captain Cook, and I am sure that everyone will agree our social calendar was exceptionally good this year great runs and good company makes us all look forward

to the 3rd Sunday every month.

We also have a marvelous behind the scenes group who are always ready to jump in and help, plan a run, plan a fab Xmas party and play Santa Claus, take us all to a Yule tide dinner and a million other things. Thank you.

All Spouses get a special mention (whether male or female) their commitment is equally as strong and we really do appreciate your support even if sometimes we forget to say so.

I have just been reminded about long speeches etc so I would like to finish by wishing you all a Merry Xmas family and friends and please drive safely, have a great holiday period and I'll see you all on the 3rd Sunday in January.



Lea Findley

P.S.

Nearly forgot the person who not only kept us up to date with all the news but produced it once a month and with style - our editor. Thank you Bryan for our new look newsletter.

Going Inter-State?

Why not contact the local MX-5 Clubs?

Mazda MX-5 Club of Victoria/Tasmania
P.O.Box 73, Surrey Hills, Victoria 3127

Mazda MX-5 Club of South Australia
P.O. Box 34, Uraidla, South Australia 5142

Mazda MX-5 Club of Qld
131 Hillside Terrace, St Lucia, QLD 4067

Mazda MX-5 Club of WA
P.O. Box 849, Cloverdale, WA 6104

MUDGEES MAZDAMANIA

Frank and Maureen Johnson

It's always a pleasure to be in a run with our Club and the weekend away to historic Gulgong was of the usual high standard.

The weather was beautiful at McDonalds, Eastern Creek, where we assembled. After our cordial greetings to each other, organiser Peter Simpson gathered his flock around him and issued our travel orders. We left "Macka's" (all with hoods down, of course) and drove in a very leisurely manner along the M4 towards our first stop Little Hartley, where we had morning tea, and a loo stop. Both were most welcome. On the road again to Mudgee where we had a drive around town and what a nice town it is, then out to the first winery where the tipplers tipped a little bit and the more sober-siders had a pleasant lunch. Some of us decided to drive back to Mudgee and buy lunch. Onto the next winery and more tipping when the weatherman said, "you lot are having too good a time, so cop this" and it started raining. Naturally, all hoods went up and when we left for Gulgong it was raining quite heavily and remained that way right through the night.

We overnighted at the "Ten Dollar Motel" where our host was most sympathetic to our need for security by locking the rear gate when we were all parked. This motel was perfect for car clubs like ours, where our cars were parked right outside the rooms and an in-house restaurant. We had dinner as a group and indulged in more tipping of the local grape. After dinner we adjourned to the oval office of President Lea and first man, Laurie, where we tipped on till 11.30pm. All agreed enough was enough, and we said goodnight. That was as much as Maureen and I enjoyed of this lovely weekend run, as the phone rang at 3.15am and we were told of Maureen's mother passing away at 2.00am. We Packed and were away at 3.40am Sunday.

A lot of hard work went into the planning of this run, which was evident in the quality of venues and routes we travelled. The countryside looked beautiful and the roads were great to drive along. I'm sure everyone who was present felt the same and will join us in thanking Peter and Ruth Simpson for organizing a great outing for the Club.

Club makes the Mudgee Guardian



You may have noticed a bright convoy of 18 Mazda MX5s zooming through the Streets of Mudgee and Gulgong over the weekend.

If you did, it wasn't your imagination, it was the MX5 Club from Sydney visiting the area to taste the wines and explore the various historic sights of the Mudgee and Gulgong district.

Secretary of the club Paula Wu said the group thoroughly enjoyed their stay in Mudgee and Gulgong and had figured out the best way to fit as much wine as possible into the boot.

"We've certainly brought some good business to the wineries around here. They may be small cars but two cases of wine can fit in the boot with your luggage and if you are packing free standing bottles there's no limit," she said.

18 MX-5s line up for the photograph - story and picture courtesy of the Mudgee Guardian

Mudgee Guardian 22/10/93

In The Driver's Seat

Ross Hutcherson is a Foundation Member of our club. He lives in Sydney's eastern suburbs and although he has 'divorced' his beautiful red MX-5, he has generously been allowed 'access'. "Little Red" was in the first shipment of MX-5's to arrive in Australia and has travelled 49,500 km in three and a half years. Ross is a racing ENTHUSIAST and, over a few cleansing ales after the Motorkhana, was persuaded to reveal all.

SF: Ross, what's your favourite driving experience ?

RH: That's an easy one. Driving around Tasmania with the roof off - absolutely magic.

SF: And a favourite road ?

RH: I think the Newell Highway between Wauchope and Walcha - lots of bends, beautiful scenery, good surface.

SF: In your younger days - before Little Red came along - what did you drive ?

RH: I've had 4 RX-7's in a row from 1980-1989 - the best cars I've ever had. Never put a screwdriver near any of them. The Series 2 was my favourite.

SF: Imagine your most desirable car ?

RH: A blue .. no I would say seven MX-5's, each a different colour. One for each day :Blue, Yellow, Green, White, Red, Black and Silver.

SF: (muttering) They're all the same, quantity not quality.

SF: I've noticed that the boys over 40 prefer red cars. So what made you choose red ?

RH: Well, it only came in two colours when I bought it and white is hard to keep clean.

SF: (Mmmm, he got out of that one easily) What sort of personality does Little Red have?

RH: It depends on who's sitting in the driver's seat.

SF: Go on

RH: (laughs) Let me ask you some questions.....

(Ross tries to turn the tables on the interviewer but is not quick enough)

SF: So, Ross when you're not driving, what do you do ?

RH: (grinning) I work as an economic adviser to the Brazilian Government.

SF: Our readers would like to know about your other interests so will you tell us what you are reading at the moment ?

RH: (still grinning) I'm reading the MX-5 Club newsletter, lots of stuff about the Brazilian economy and the TV times.

SF: Thanks for answering all theses questions Ross, but I've just got one more.....Can you show me how you go around those flags so quickly? (and so he did).

In the next issue of ClubTalk, New Committee member Mike Walkden-Brown will feature In The Drivers Seat. *Stay tuned!*

The MX-5 is dead, long live the MX-5 !

Jeff Gehrig

The message on my answering machine said "Jeff, this is Matt from Brookvale Mazda, we have a 1.8 Clubman that you might like to play with". Having just returned from Hong Kong, I was jet lagged, not to mention getting a bit "tired and emotional" as I sorted through two weeks mail, vodka in hand. That was yesterday, this morning I actually got my hands on "the new model" or more correctly, one of the new models for there are more than one, this was a Clubman, basically, the old model with the larger engine and a much larger price (more of that later). Some of the differences are obvious, the brace behind the seats, the Nardi steering wheel and leather gear knob, the different door pulls and oddment pockets and the switch for the electric rear vision mirrors. The rest is as for the Mk II, remote boot release, the redesigned air vents (slightly longer knobs for

easier adjustment) the rear suspension brace. Not so obvious, the larger brakes, wider wheels or the Bilstein badge at the rear, which of course, goes with the Bilstein shock absorbers underneath.

Turn the key and the difference is immediately obvious, it sounds different, a slightly deeper exhaust note and a slight roughness at idle. Easing out of the showroom, the car feels slightly more rigid. Unfortunately, this car had only 55 kms on the odo, so any kind of earnest evaluation was out of the question, but even during my short drive, I was able to establish a few facts, firstly this is the engine the car should have had from day one, the increase in torque gets this little baby moving with much more authority, hills seem to disappear and on one long uphill stretch, where my 1.6 would lose revs in fifth gear, the

1.8 maintained the same speed. The Bilstein shockers, while giving the car a slightly firmer ride, also give it more poise, it neither squats as much under acceleration, nor dives as much under brakes, it also changes direction with none of the lurch that I put down to the old narrower wheels, I still don't like the Bridgestone tyres, but they feel better on the wider rims. On the road, the initial feeling of extra rigidity was re-inforced, this car without a hard top, feels like my car with the roof on. Well done whoever dreamed up the "Clubman" concept, no power steering, no ABS, it is a real car, with guts, pity that the nearside rear view mirror is one of those awful convex things, pity about the awful badge stuck on the nose, pity that the speakers do not have the removable cover but they do seem to sound better than the old ones (which wouldn't be difficult) pity that the new Nardi steering

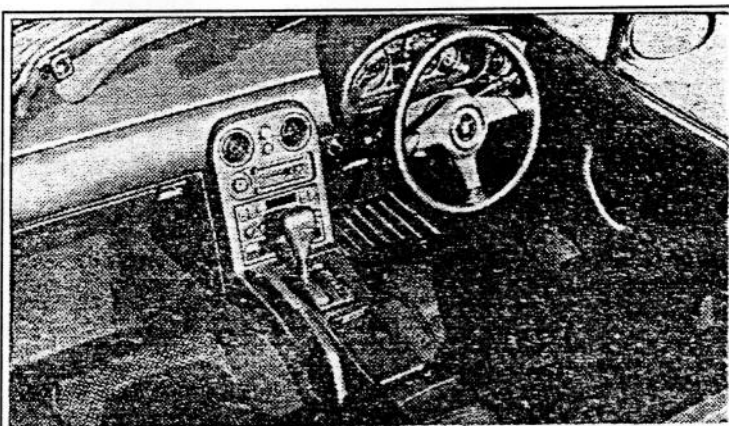


The MX-5 is dead, long live the MX-5 ! Cont. from page 6

wheel has such a thin rim like the old Momo one, I have much thicker Momo in mine. There are no backward steps with this car, it is a genuine improvement over the old model and will I suspect, sell better than the "standard" model which comes without the Bilsteins. The difficult pill to swallow, is the price tag, thanks to the runaway Yen, the price now begins with a four! My 23 months old, under 20,000 km 1.6, will be with me for some time I feel, and why not? It's a great little motor car, all it needs is a set of Bilsteins, the standard shocks are getting tired and new set of spark plug leads, the standard ones are shorting out (has that happened to anyone else after 20,000km?) my fabulous Dunlop D40 M2 tyres are only about half worn but give frightening grip (compare to the Bridgestones) so apart from the significant increase in performance, there is no real reason to change yet. At least I know that when the time comes, the new model is better, one improvement that I forgot to mention, is the change from first to second gear, always a weak point in my car, the new synchro arrangement does make a difference, now if Mazda could only lose that bloody awful badge off the nose.....

Come to think of it, they could also lose the automatic transmission, this is after all, a sports car (even more so now) automatics are for people who use a car to go from point A to point B, who never learned to drive properly or want only to impress the neighbours, such people could buy the Laser convertible (Capri). Not what the marketing people at Mazda want to hear I guess, as they have to maintain sales figures but the MX-5 is too good a car to prostitute. I can only pray that none of the motoring magazine dignify the automatic by publishing road tests of it. A true sports car is not about "transport" it is about getting up at 2.00 a.m. and driving to Katoomba and back for the Hell of it, it's about taking the "old" road instead of the freeway because of a favourite set of tricky corners, it's about switching off the radio and listening to the car. The MX-5 is a true sports car, well almost, it doesn't leak oil, it almost never breaks down, it doesn't shake your fillings out, it doesn't have any nasty handling vices like snap oversteer or plough understeer like some much loved English marques, it doesn't have Italian electrics which die in the middle of nowhere, it does nothing to offend, its' only purpose is to provide nothing but pure enjoyment

to people who really enjoy driving, a car which when you are lying in bed at night, can be heard to say "drive me", a cry which an automatic owner would never hear!



Fueltronics MX-5 1.6 Performance Chip

BD4 Motorsport in West Ryde has now available the Fueltronics Performance Computer Chip for the Mazda MX-5 1.6 Litre.

This chip is a bit different from other chips marketed by Powerchip in that it has four different programs which can be simply selected by flicking a switch.

Program one is the Power Program with aggressive fuel and timing curves generally combined with higher rev limit for the ultimate in engine performance.

Program two is the economy mode with modified ignition timing to enhance the engines lean burn fuel efficient characteristics.

Program three is the security mode which completely immobilize your vehicle - no amount of hotwiring will get by this one, short of replacing the ECM.

Program four is the valet program to make sure that your MX-5 cannot be driven excessively hard when loaned to friends or relatives.

All this for around \$500 dollars installed, for more information contact BD4.

BD4 Motorsport is located at 1233 Victoria Road, West Ryde (BP Workshop) PH: 804 6110

Christmas Brunch 93

Paula Wu

The day begins beautifully.....sun shining, top down and on the way to the Newington Inn, Petersham.

53 people turned up on the day and the numbers was up from last year. A number of members have brought the kids (grand-children)to meet Santa.

Without further adieu, promptly at 10 am brunch was served.....important to hungry little vegemites like us.

Menu: scramble eggs, quiches, fried eggs (not rubbery), bacon, frys, grilled tomatoes, sausages, toasts, orange juice and coffee.

While brunch was on, the committee were busy selling raffle tickets for the famous "lizard", Meguiars maintenance kit and a Mazda Beach Pack. All prizes have been won and the Lizard finally went to a good home (Ruth Simpson). After our hunger have been satisfied we were visited by our favourite MAGICIAN who entertained us once again with his jokes, juggling and magic. The kids loved it. (so did the adults).

Down the hallway we can hear the ringing (or clanking) of a bell, followed by Santa himself. He brought with him presents for the kids and stayed to present our members



Sue Forrest receives her motorkhana prize .



Club guest Roxanne was pleased with Santa

with their trophies and awards.

Major prizes went to Mark Schmitzer who took out the Concours trophy, Ross Hutcherson took out the Motorkhana Cup. Congratulations to all the winners.

Thanks again to Frank Johnson who organised the Christmas Party....



Toby King does not need two hands to drive his auto MX-5



Colin Caldwell receives his Motorkhana prize



Club Treasurer, Bryan Wu



Ross Hutcherson receives his Motorkhana trophy



Faye Heeks receives her pressie from Santa



Mark Schmitzer receives his Concours trophy



Club President Peter Simpson receives his Motorkhana prize

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.



Ammon International Pty. Ltd.

Ammon Int'l are professional manufacturers of Car Leather seats. For your MX-5, **two seats in full leather (your choice of colour) for only \$ 975** (semi leather, side and back panels are vinyl for \$850) Door panels can also be leatherised for an additional \$170. All fully installed and three years warranty. Ammon is located at 1 Parramatta Rd. Five Dock. Contact Alex Chien on PH: 716-6749 / 716-6829

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

Burncroft Guest House

Burncroft is a small guest house set on 20 acres in the Lower Hunter Valley, with views across the valley to Watagan Mountains and Brokenback range, Your hosts are club members Suzanne and Richard, 10% discount for MX-5 club members, for reservations and information PH: 049 307246

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 MX-5 Club of N.S.W. 1994 Committee

* President Peter Simpson 419 7125 (home) 898-0655 (bus)	* Secretary Paula Wu 018-866-481 (bus) 451-9985 (home)	* Committee Member Mike Walkden-Brown 412-2697 (bus) 938-6375 (home)
* Vice-President Paul Heeks 533-5411 (bus) 544-1361 (home)	* Treasurer Bryan Wu 925-7271 (bus) 451-9985 (home)	* Competition Secretary Graham Cook 899-6811 (bus) 047-355465 (home)
	* Captain George Russ 369-4499 (bus) 660-3407 (home)	
	* Social Secretary Ruth Simpson 419 7125 (home)	

