

Southland Sports Car Club

Newsletter

March 2011

THE CIRCUIT 1957

Pre Race Brief

Phew!!! We must apologise for the break between newsletters, but the silly season has been upon us. With all the great events on, most of the members have been flat out like a flounders michael. We have had the big push to get the control tower not only finished but usable for race meetings (Brilliant effort Noel, Wayne and all the many merry helpers).

This was completed just in time for the head on the first beer to settle, before the national series rolled into town. This proved to be its usual full on week / weekend, (depending on how quickly you hid), but it was great to see the support and help we got from everyone. Especially the club peddlers who stumped up, and got to experience our world, from outside the car. (Thanks team).

The V8 dust barely had time to settle, before we heard the exciting roar of a flock? swarm? murder? gaggle? of classic race cars (note to self must look up Google and see what the official line is). This was an awesome meeting, with great weather, racing, people and even the odd car. My personal favourite being the Formula 5000's, which after seeing and better yet hearing (and I'm sure I'm not the only one in this boat) straightened a few creases in the old strides. I must take my hat off to Howard, Rick and Mark, it was as they say a classic!!! With all this racing and work going on, the club decided to up the ante, damn the torpedo's and steam full ahead with the opening of our new control tower. (We must be gluttons for punishment) Clive and his crew did a fantastic job on an already busy weekend, Jack Johnstone stepped up to cut the ribbon, aided buy his old mate Harry Hedges who provided a welcome addition to proceedings. On this opening (which is covered later in the newsletter) I'd just like to mention the terrific turnout of members past and present along with sponsors, and helpers. This building is a credit to you and proves that the Club, and Southland, Spirit is alive and well.

Finally if all this wasn't enough, Robert and his racers once again had everyone going round in circles, squares, triangles, while swinging your partner to and fro. This was all done with a smile, good advice, and a very tasty sausage or two. For those of you who haven't been to one of his club sport events, I heartily recommend it. Dust off Nana's car, bring it along. It'll take a week to get the grin off your chin, while reinforcing to you, all that is good in the sport that we love. You'd be surprised; it even gets a little competitive.

So there we go. I hope most have been able to attend some, if not all of these events. The executive and race committee realises this is a big ask, with many a favour called in over our summer season and for this we heartily thank you, one and all.

Now that I sit here and re read this editorial, before whipping it off to print, I think I must be getting soft. It appears rather than being a hard nosed, cutting edge comment on the state of the nation as the Southland Sports Car Club sees it, I have somehow managed to turn it into something more fitting to an Oscar's award ceremony (except without the red carpet, as all the spare cash went into the new control tower). I have thanked just about everyone except the rabbit family that live under our new spectator bank and the dedicated spur wing plovers trying to raise chicks in the sand trap at Castrol.

However there are two notable omissions. Firstly I'd like to thank the jolly man in the red suit for my socks and jocks. Then secondly (and I've left the most important to last) **THE LADIES IN THE KITCHEN** for without your help and dedication, I and all the rest of the team would only be shadows of the people we were. You're smiling faces, bacon & egg toasties, filled rolls, hot dogs, chips, wraps, pies, various topping'ed (is that a word) buns, mouse traps, sandwiches, cakes, muffins and cuppas make our lives complete. Which is how come (judging by my expanding waistline), I must ask you Anne and Hilary, why do you have to make the stuff so damn tasty???

Catch you all at the track for our March Meeting.

Cheers

The Teretonga Tattler

President's Report

Our thoughts are certainly with our friends and family in Christchurch at this time and I am sure many from our club are personally affected. Ruapuna appears to be fortunate to be only affected in a minor way.

Our season is nearly at an end with the final race meeting on March 20th.

Our national race meeting in January went well, with good support from our loyal spectators and Teretonga Park looking great. The new tower worked well with some work required with air flow and temperature control required during our off season.

I was thrilled with the great turnout for our Tower Opening on the Friday evening of Speedfest. Huge thanks to Rick and Fiona and the organising committee for helping to make this meeting a great success

Club Sport goes from strength to strength with great guidance from Robert and his team. Testament to their success is the confidence M.S.N.Z. have to award the 2012 National Club Sport Championship to our club. It will be a lot of work to put it all together but I am sure we will run a great event. Now is the time to concentrate our efforts to have a large contingent of local competitors.

When we all arrive on the morning of a race day a lot of people have done a lot of organising for the week prior to the event, none more so than **Richard McMillan!**

Current status: Chief Flag Marshall

Richard joined our club in 1972 (39 years of membership)

He ran our phone system from the tower to flag points, which was a party line system. Then he helped the club set up truck style radios. He then returned to being a flag marshal. Richard was then in charge of a team of observers who sat at flag points.

With a shortage of flag marshalls in the 80's and 90's observers became flag point chiefs.

Richard took over from Neil MacDonald as Chief Flag Marshall around 2006. This job involves maintaining and recruiting volunteers for flag point duties and organising their race day equipment. Richard also works closely with M.S N.Z. to help keep our volunteers up to the high standard required to help run our meetings.

Thank you, Richard, for being one of the many club officials who tirelessly work to make our club what it is today.

Even during these difficult financial times we are continuing to do well and I look forward to some guidance from our club and Executive to help progress to our next stage of development.

Cheers Noel

CONTROL TOWER BUILD

**165 photo's of the build progress from start to finish
are available in CD form**

Contact Noel on 0274445622 for your copy

Clubsport Report

The Clubsport season is coming to an end with one more competition to go. We have held several meetings over the last couple of months, all well attended with our last meeting attracting 23 entries in both the motorkhana and sprint competition. This all bodes well for the Club's involvement and is particularly important for 2012 when, I am very pleased to announce, we will be hosting the National Clubsport Competition. This will take place early next year and planning for it will get underway very soon. We will be keeping you informed as to what is happening and would like to see as many club members as possible taking part, either as a competitor or helping to run the event.

On that note, once again I cannot thank enough everyone who has helped run the clubsport events and public track days. Those taking part in Clubsport have showed amazing competitive spirit and both these events are showing real promise now, with good support and gaining the club new and enthusiastic members.

The next Public Track Day and Clubsport meeting is scheduled for the 16th & 17th of April respectively. Many apologies for scheduling it on the same weekend as the ITM400 but we didn't know their dates when we were setting ours. We will be needing helpers for the Public Track day on the Saturday, to man the track crossing gates and to act as Flag Marshal's. Anyone able to help out should contact Robert on 2188256 (work) or 2130772 (home).

See you all there.

Robert

Club Captain's Report

The Mobil 1 Control Tower complex is now signed, sealed, delivered and officially opened and what a great opening it was, exceeding all expectations. As I have difficulty in winning an argument, I have no show of estimating the numbers of past/present members and guests that attended the opening ceremony, however others that have a better idea of estimating crowds have suggested that we had 350 to 400 there on the night. Quite remarkable really and shows the interest and support there is for the club and the continuing developments.

All funders have shown tremendous support and are full of favourable comments on the way the project has been managed, the end result achieved and have indicated their willingness to be part of any future initiatives. Congratulations to all that have been involved.

As you will be aware, Scott O'Donnell via the Richardson Group and Mobil 1 have negotiated, the naming rights to the complex, this is hugely beneficial to the Club with far reaching effects for the future. It all goes to show what can be accomplished with a quality facility and the willingness of companies to be involved through the interest it generates.

The official opening was the precursor to what turned out to be a great weekend of motorsport and talking to a large number of people over the weekend, the highlight of the opening appears to be the participation of Harry Hedges. It was a pretty good effort for one so young and extremely pleasing to see Harry make the effort in attending a big milestone for the club.

While we had reservations about incorporating the opening with the Evolution Motorsport Classic Speedfest, it seems to have added to a great event which turned out to be one of the best weekends we have had at Teretonga for a number of years. Congratulations to Rick, Fiona, all the event sponsors and the Speedfest committee on organising an event that has sparked so many favourable comments from around the country.

Cheers

Clive.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Stewart Smart

Brian Bradshaw

James Dicey

David North

Jim Tennant

Jamie Hodgins

Brett Wilkinson

Noel Bonisch

Upcoming Events

Saturday 16th April 2011

Public Track Day

Sign On & Vehicle Check from 11.30am to 12.30pm
Drivers Briefing 1.00pm approx.
\$50.00 to enter – Enter on the Day.

Sunday 17th April 2011

SSCC Clubsport

Season Final

Monday 4th July 2011

Southland Sports Car Club Inc.

Annual General Meeting &
SSCC Prize Giving

CAPTURED ON CASTROL

Eddie Bell 2011 NZ V8's Summer Series



The Break Down

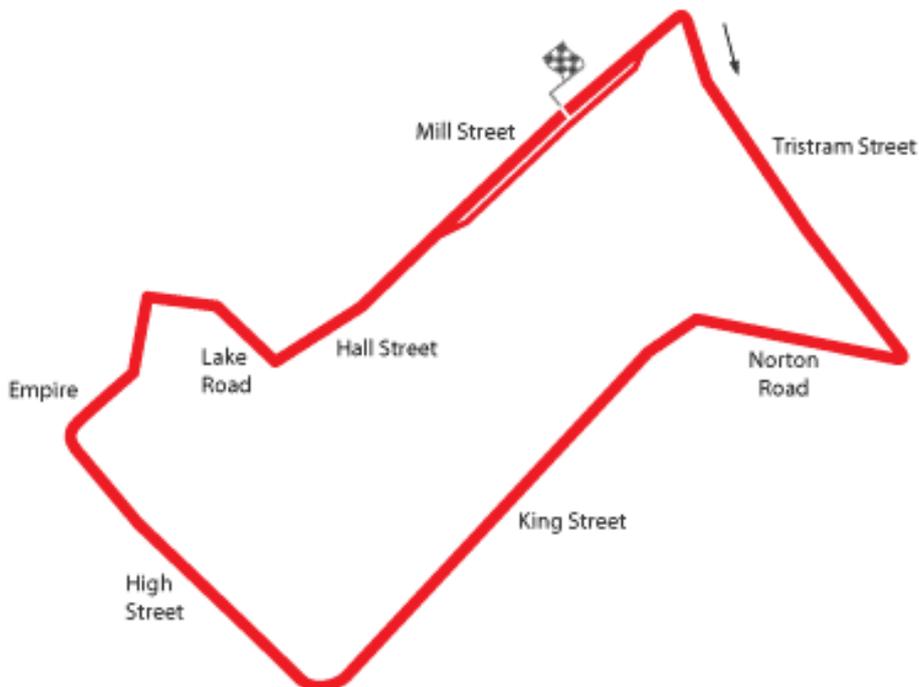
Boredom Buster 5



Here's a quick quiz to test your metal, and see if all your cylinders are still functioning.

Please note: This month's prize for the first correct entry to Norma at the pit office is an all expenses paid climbing trip. This challenging, and not for the faint hearted, trip includes an experienced guide, all climbing equipment, sturdy jandals, and as much rope as you can find washed up on Oreti Beach. We will whisk you away to the soaring and lofty peaks of our Northern spectator bank where you will experience unparalleled views of The Loop, Castrol, The Esses, and in the far distance even the occasional glimpse of The Brickyard. But wait there's more. If you still have the energy as a final treat you will be guided up the craggy slopes of our new control tower stairs, where 3 floors up you will experience the world as God sees it.

1. Well it looks like the Yanks can't help themselves when there's oil up for grabs. However if you were a loyal Libyan, what makes your flag worth fighting for?
2. Speaking of oil, in 2008 the modern petroleum industry celebrated 150 years of production. Where was the world's first commercial well located?
3. While on the subject of old, in the nursery rhyme "This Little Piggy" what did the third pig get to have a big feed of?
4. After a decent meal out we quite often shoot home in what we call an Automobile. The meaning of which comes from the ancient Greek and Latin words meaning "self movable". However where in earth did the word "Car" spring up from?
5. Other than Charlie Bunces "Bug", what was widely credited with being the first self-propelled mechanical vehicle or automobile in about 1769?
6. Since winter is slowly but surely approaching, if you decide on an Island holiday and someone suggested a trip to Crozet or Kerguelen Islands Where would you head?
7. For those of you that are struggling, who said "If everything seems under control, you're just not going fast enough"?
8. Here's one for the animal lovers. What has four legs and goes "BOO"?
9. With all this quake stuff, we now all know of the Moon Man. However who was the last man to actually walk on the moon?
10. Lastly for the travelled. What is the name of this circuit, and where would you find it?



CLUB DIRECTORY

Patron: Jack Johnstone
 President: Noel Atley 0274 445622
 Vice President: Howard Kingsford-Smith 0272 323464
 Imm. Past President: Wayne Shieffelbein 021 661086
 Treasurer: Nick Hamlin 0292 340362
 Race Chairperson: Wayne Shieffelbein 021 661086
 Clubsport Convenor: Robert Ralston 03 2130772 (Hm)
 Club Captain: Clive Campbell 03 2130953 (Hm)
 Social Chairman: Bradley Dawson 0276 516923
 Custodian/Newsletter Editor: Oz Osborn 0274 423114

Administration/Track Hire: Norma Burns Ph: 03 2130522 Fax: 03 2130523
 PO Box 543, Invercargill 9840 Email: info@teretonga.org.nz



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM (New Members only)

PO Box 543, Invercargill 9840
 Phone: +64 3 2130522
 Fax: +64 3 2130523
 Email: info@teretonga.org.nz

Costs include Joining Fee (where applicable) & GST
 The Club Championship/Financial Year is 1st May to 30th April.

MEMBERSHIP TYPE (Please Tick)

Full Member \$85.00 Allows member to compete in all events
Social Member \$45.00 Members who choose not to compete in any events
Junior Member \$35.00 Any member 12 to 18 years of age. Allowed to race after competing in 5 previous speed events.

To Compete in Events an appropriate Licence must be held.

Name _____
 Address _____
 Date of Birth _____ (required for funding purposes)
 Phone (Home) _____ Mobile _____
 Email _____
 Occupation _____

If elected to membership I agree to abide by the Southland Sports Car Club Inc. Rules and duly authorise the Southland Sports Car Club Inc. to provide information concerning my membership to MotorSport New Zealand Inc. if requested by them.

Signature _____ Date _____

Joining Concession

If joining within 3 months of the end of the financial year, you can join for those month's at a cost of \$10.00 per month PLUS the next years membership, i.e. Join in February – ADD \$30.00; in March – ADD \$20.00; in April – ADD \$10.00.

Please find enclosed payment of \$ _____

Post this form with cheque payment to: Southland Sports Car Club Inc., PO Box 543, Invercargill 9840

Visa/Mastercard/Bankcard Details (circle)			
Card Number	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
Name of Card Holder	_____		Expiry Date _____
Signature	_____		Amount \$ _____