

# SOUTHLAND SPORTS CAR CLUB NEWS LETTER

*September 2009*



## The Pre Race Brief

Hi Everyone.

Hope this newsletter finds you all well as there have been some terrible illnesses around. Oz has had a bad run of it but everyday he's getting closer to looking like a racing sardine. He is away to his favorite tropical island (Stewart Island, Mason's Bay) male bonding and watching the Penguin 500.

Its hard to believe that race season is just about to start, included in this newsletter will be all the information you need to know to be ready for the first meeting in September. So rattle your dags, get the slippers off, clean off the spiderwebs and get the cars ready.

This newsletter won't be up to the usual Oz standard off writing but I'll give it my best in the time frame I have. Driver Profile and quiz will reappear in the next newsletter. So buckle up, get in gear, on your marks get set go.

Cheers Jo

## A Blast From The Past

### RACE PROGRAMME

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# REPORTS



## Presidents Report

With the start of the season just around the corner, the pressure is now on to complete the off season projects. Hopefully all competitors have finished their maintenance and are prepared for battle. Purchasing the new Timing System and getting it up and running has been a huge task but Wayne and Bevan will be ready to give it a test run at the pre-season Test Day on the 19<sup>th</sup> September 2009.

As always there are still plenty of little jobs to be tidied up before the first race meeting of the season so we are having a Working Bee on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September.

Work on relocating the infield tyre wall from Castrol to Turn 4 is now looking good and hopefully will have some grass cover up for the first race meeting. Re-installing the Spectator fencing will be one of the jobs for the Working Bee.

With the AGM fast approaching now is the time to consider putting your name forward to help manage the club.

We have made good progress with training club personnel to C Grade Clerk of the Course level which has helped greatly in running track days and ClubSport events and taken some pressure off Wayne, our only A Grader.

**Noel Atley**

## Race Committee

We are well underway with organising the coming season of motor racing at Teretonga Park. It is a little early to predict fields but the classes are all enthusiastic and all race days are full.

The volunteer list is still a little light in places so if you or any of your friends can assist just give Norma or myself a call and we will put you in touch with the right people.

We have a sponsor "Arrow International" who is donating funding so that all the volunteers on race day (Sundays except the January Meeting) are given a lunch pack. We would like to thank them for their very generous offer.

The other good news is that Shane Crosbie donated some Scott Dixon memorabilia that was auctioned at our prize giving/social evening and wanted the money to go towards an evening for the volunteers. We hope to have an evening in January and have some of the top drivers as guest speakers. Shane helped marshal at an event recently and realised they do an awesome job, so hence the donation. Well done Shane.

Enclosed with this newsletter is an entry form to the September Race meeting. This is the only one we send out for the season, the rest will be available at each race meeting or you can get them off the website, [www.teretonga.org.nz](http://www.teretonga.org.nz)

We had our annual track inspection back in April and by the beginning of October we will have completed all the tasks we have to. Thanks to Dave Holland our Caretaker for keeping up with all the jobs and keeping the place so neat and tidy. Thanks Dave.

The passing of Keith Douglas (obituary elsewhere in newsletter) was a huge shock to us all. I personally will miss him as he had so much knowledge and was always happy to share it when asked. He helped me for many years with all sorts of things including letter writing, which he was very good at.

I cannot imagine what would have happened if Keith had passed away when we didn't have Norma.

**Wendy Jenks**

## **Clubsport Report**

Much to my surprise, our Track Day held on the 18<sup>th</sup> July was a great success despite the cold, wet weather. We had 23 cars for the standing ¼ in the morning and I was totally amazed at some of the times these drivers put down in the atrocious weather conditions. Boy there are some fast street cars out there! Although we had a good turn out, I know from spectators comments that we would have had a few more participants if the weather had been fine. We had a few issues with the timing gear but we are looking to replace this with our own modern gear. In the meantime, I would like to thank the Southland Motorcycle Club for the use of their equipment. Saturday afternoon saw some of the drivers dropping out due to the bad weather, but I take my hat off to all of those driving the circuit as they drove to the conditions and within their skills and their cars capabilities so there were no serious mishaps.

To sum up, I feel this was a very good public relations exercise for the club. Thanks to office workers, scrutineers, flag marshalls and gate keepers – we couldn't do it without your support.

On the Sunday was the last Clubsport event of the season and I apologise to Chris Lange and anyone else who missed it due to it not being advertised in the Southland Times.

When I arrived at Teretonga to open up before the motorkhana event I thought I would be the only one there but I was once again pleasantly surprised that despite the weather, approximately thirteen drivers arrived to take part. We did three different courses and on the third one we all had an extra go as the track was covered in hail, which altered driving conditions considerably. In the afternoon we held two bent sprints which were too challenging for some, i.e. Anthony Ralston, who had to be towed backwards out of the sand trap. These courses are a lot of fun and I would recommend car club members have a go at the short sprints as it is very enjoyable and you don't need a competition car at this level.

Thanks to Oz, Howard, Noel and Sharon for once again assisting me.

The next Public Track Day is on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September, starting with a Standing 1/4 in the morning and Flying 1/8 in the afternoon. Club Members are most welcome – bring the family wagon out and see what it can do. Please pass this information on to anyone who you think maybe interested.

On Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September is the first Clubsport event of the season – all points go towards the Club Championship. The day starts at 9.00am with a Motorkhana (hopefully the ground will be dry enough to have a course on grass), and there will be a Bent Sprint in the afternoon (same format as previous events).

Come and Have a Go!

**Robert Ralston**

## **Race Dates**

These are now confirmed as are the classes running at them.

26/27 September 2009	SIERDC (3 hour), Clubmans, Sports & Racing Cars, Pro 7 Saloons
1 November 2009	Otago/Southland Challenge, Clubmans, Sports & Racing Cars, 1 hour Race, Motorcycles
5/6 December 2009	Clubmans, Sports & Racing Cars, OSCA, Pre 65 Saloons, SI Formula Ford, Pro 7 Saloons, Sports Saloons, Super Six Saloons
15/17 January 2010	National V8 Meeting V8's, Porsche GT3 Cup, Toyota Racing Series, Formula Ford, BMW Mini/Production Racing Series, Suzuki Swift Sports Cup
20/21 February 2010	Classic & Historic, Mini 7 South, Pre 65 Saloons, Touring Cars, Clubmans, Sports & Racing Cars
20/21 March 2010	Clubmans, Sports & Racing Cars, SI Formula Ford, Super Six Saloons

The new Teretonga Park Calendar is also available at the office. Next time you are at Teretonga, call in and get some and put them up at your place of work.

## **AMB TIMING SYSTEM**

I hear mumbblings about the cost to the competitors of the transponders required to run in conjunction with the new AMB Timing system we have just purchased. I agree that it is additional but unfortunately we have to keep up with progress as well as other circuits. Just remember it has cost our club a lot of money also, even though generous sponsors, the ILT Foundation have given us a considerable donation towards the costs.

All competitors must have a transponder on their car on race day. Testing the system has already started and our system will be running by the 26/27 September meeting.

Transponders can be purchased by the competitor through the Canterbury Car Club, phone 03 3496003, at a cost of:

Hard Wired Units      \$580.00 including GST & P&P

Rechargeable Units    \$750.00 including GST & P&P

The Hard Wired transponders are the best one's to purchase as once they are in place that's it, no further hassles. The advantage of owning your own is that at any time you go out testing, go to another circuit, or enter a race meeting you will always be able to download your laps once you get home. It is a one off cost and can be used at any circuit in New Zealand and most circuits in Australia. You have a unique number which is for your transponder only. Placement is very important so we have enclosed instructions on how/where to place them.

If you wish to hire them for testing please notify the office as they have to be charged before use. There is a cost for the hire.

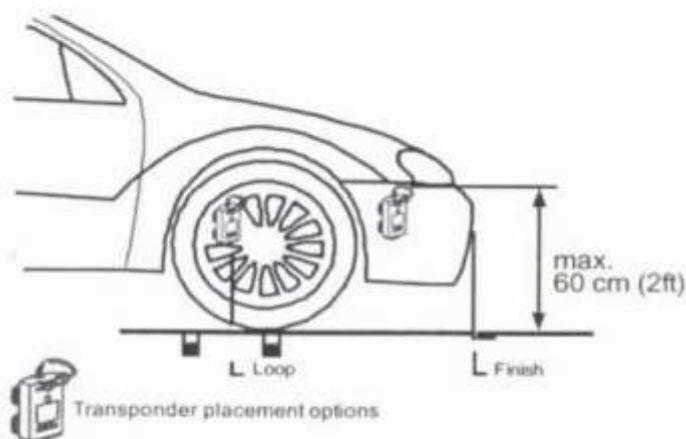
I believe it is progress which we must all embrace.

## ***Transponder Mounting Positions***

### ***TranX260 Transponder***

Autos: 2ft/60 cm

Motorcycles: 4ft/120cm



## **PRE SEASON TESTING**

This is on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> September and will be open to any competitors. You will have to pre book as it is being run as private testing, i.e. no first aid, flag marshalls etc, just people on the gate. If you have a transponder or want to hire one the system should be running by then. There will be no testing available on the Sunday.

## **SSCC PRIZE GIVING & SOCIAL EVENING**

The Southland Sports Car Club's prize giving for 2009 was held on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> July. Congratulations to all our prize winners this season. Following the award presentations the fun and games got under way. Everyone had a fantastic evening and are looking forward to the next one!!! Special thanks to Joelle, Oz & Wendy for all their efforts. Award recipients are as follows -

### **CLUBSPORT AWARDS**

#### **MOTORKHANA CHAMPION - KEITH McFADZIEN TROPHY**

1st Brendon Mitchell                      2nd Robert Ralston                      3rd Chris Lange

#### **SPRINT CHAMPION - SSCC SPEED TROPHY**

1st Brendon Mitchell                      2nd Robert Ralston                      3rd Anthony Ralston

#### **CLUBSPORT CHAMPION - WARREN ROBBIE MEMORIAL TROPHY**

1st Brendon Mitchell                      2nd Robert Ralston                      3rd Anthony Ralston

### **RACE AWARDS**

#### **SPORTS & RACING CHAMPION - HAROLD WILLIAMS MEMORIAL TROPHY**

1st Alf Dryden                              2nd Damon Leitch                      3rd Don Nelson

#### **FLYING FAREWELL CHAMPION - ERSKINE FLYING FAREWELL TROPHY**

1st David Garden                      2nd Bruce Davidson                      3rd Brent Cross

### **RACE CLASSES**

#### **0 - 1300cc RACE TROPHY**

1st Ian McKenzie                      2nd Walter Willmott                      3rd Dave Robertson

#### **1301 - 1600cc RACE TROPHY**

1st Jeremy Skeggs                      2nd Nick Hamlin                      3rd Bradley Dawson

#### **1601 - 2500cc RACE TROPHY**

1st Greg Elder                              2nd Wayne Elliott                      3rd Dave McLean

#### **2500cc & OVER TROPHY**

1st Brendan Mason                      2nd Robert Ralston                      3rd Shane Crosbie

#### **RACE CHAMPION - NOEL McINTYRE TROPHY**

1st Robert Ralston                      2nd Brendan Mason                      3rd Brent Cross

#### **SSCC CLUB CHAMPION - SSCC CLUB CHAMPIONS TROPHY**

Robert Ralston

#### **RUNNER UP - CLUB CHAMPION - SSCC CLUB CHAMPION RUNNER UP TROPHY**

Brendon Mitchell

#### **MOST IMPROVED DRIVER**

Brent Cross

#### **NOVICE DRIVER**

Dave McKenzie

#### **JUNIOR DRIVER - LADIES COMMITTEE TROPHY (Missing)**

Damon Leitch

#### **MARSHALL OF THE YEAR - MACKS PANEL & PAINT TROPHY**

Steven McKenzie

#### **SPECIAL AWARDS**

Barry & Marguerite Leitch, Leitch Motorsport

## **NIGHT TRIAL**

On Saturday the 8<sup>th</sup> of August we held a combined SSCC and SVCC Night Trial starting at 6.30pm. Eighteen cars left Feldwick Gates on a route mapped out by Jeff McClure to finish at the Vintage Car Club clubrooms with a Pot Luck Tea. In addition to the instructions, crews were given a question sheet which resulted in some very interesting answers. Some of the navigation left a bit to be desired with one well known person not knowing left from right. During the after match a preview of the DVD, currently in production, of early motorsport from the late 40's to the 80's including hill climbs, the building of Teretonga, Ryal Bush road races and world champion drivers, was shown. Ray McCulloch designed a competition with model cars with a team from each club – SSCC being the winners. Car Trial overall winners were "The Brady Bunch". A big thank you to Jeff McClure and Peter Pryde for donating prizes.

**Howard Kingsford-Smith**

## **CLUB CONSTITUTION**

Enclosed with this newsletter is a draft of the constitution that the Executive have been working on this year. There will be a meeting at the Clubrooms to discuss it on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm. Please read it carefully and we would like to hear from as many club members as possible. We would like to pass this document at our AGM in October.

## **YEARLY TRACK HIRES**

Once again these are available from the Office at a cost of \$200.00.

There are some fairly basic rules that go with them which are also available at the Office.

# **UP & COMING EVENTS**

## **WORKING BEE**

The pre season working bee is on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September starting at 9am. This is to do some general tidying around the place and also finish fencing which we need to have to complete before the race meeting. This is an opportunity for anyone to help. Lunch will be provided. Please let Barry Leitch know of your availability, so we can organise equipment etc.

Hopefully this may be the only one we require this year, except the week of the January meeting where we will have a spruce up.

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The AGM will be held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm in the Clubrooms. Enclosed are nomination forms for the various positions within the club.

## **DVD LAUNCH**

A viewing of this fantastic DVD of all historical footage of racing held in the early days of Teretonga is being held at the conclusion of the AGM on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October at 8.30pm. Some of you may have seen the 5min DVD advertising it and must agree it is great.

For any information regarding race meetings, speed events, open days, in fact most things regarding the club go to our new look web site. Norma has done a fantastic job to get it right up to date. There will be results and photos after each race meeting as well.

## **CALENDAR CHANGE**

There are a couple of changes to the Calendar sent out with the last newsletter.

1. The Bluff Hillclimb next year will be held on Saturday the 6<sup>th</sup> February 2010 not 6<sup>th</sup> March 2010.
2. Drive a Dream will now be held in November this year instead of 14 March 2010.



## **Public Track Day**

**Saturday 12th September**

**Morning Session - Standing 1/4**  
(Road Legal Cars Only)

**Afternoon Session - Flying 1/8**  
(Road Legal Cars Only)



**Entry Fee \$40 per session or  
\$60 for the day.**



## **Clubsport - Round 1**

**Sunday 13th September**

**Morning Session**  
**Motorkhana**  
**Entry Fee \$20.00**

**Afternoon Session**  
**Bent Sprint**  
**Entry Fee \$30.00**

**For further information contact:**  
**Norma on (03) 2130522**  
**email: [info@teretonga.org.nz](mailto:info@teretonga.org.nz)**  
**or**  
**Robert on (03) 2130772 evenings**

## **The Off Track**



## **Trader**

As part of our updated newsletter, we are going to have a Buy, Sell, and Exchange section each run. If you have anything you wish to include, feel free to contact the lovely Norma at our new pit office (Phone (03) 213 0522 or Inter web mail [info@teretonga.org.nz](mailto:info@teretonga.org.nz))

## **For Sale**

### **NISSAN S13 SILVIA CLUBMANS CAR / SPORTS SALOON**

Has been a very reliable well proven car over the last 3 or 4 years its been running.

Contact: Robert Ralston at work during the day on 218 8256 or at home during the evening on 213 0772

Selling due to the fact we have to many race cars and need room in the garage for the new build.

**Asking Price \$18,500 ono.**



# Obituary

When 1964 Teretonga Champion and old friend, Colin Bunce drove Keith Douglas around Teretonga Park in J Fraser and Sons hearse, it was probably the fastest Keith had ever been around his much loved circuit and certainly fastest the Fraser hearse has ever gone. This last lap brought to a close 76 years of a life devoted to a myriad of interests but none more dear to him than Invercargill's iconic department store, the Southland Sports Car Club and matters motoring.

Keith's working life on leaving school, began with H & J Smith Ltd. 50 years later he retired as a Director of the company after working his way through most departments. "Mr Douglas" as he was known throughout the store sat in a tiny cubicle halfway up the stairs surrounded by so much paper it was difficult to see the desk, let alone any sort of order.

During his retirement he wrote the history of the company to celebrate 100 years in business. His dedication to the one employer is rare in today's world.

His other lifelong commitment was to the Southland Sports Car Club and Teretonga Park motor racing circuit. Keith Douglas has been synonymous with New Zealand's oldest permanent motor racing facility for so long, his recent passing leaves a legacy of dedication to the administration of Southland's popular race track which will be almost impossible to replace. He would be one of the longest serving administrators in any Southland sporting organization.

Joining the Southland Sports Car Club in 1958 Keith competed briefly in speed events but quickly realized his interest lay in running the meetings rather than competing in them. During the next 50 years he rose to the top positions within the club, becoming Club President from 1963 to 1966, International Race Committee Chairman 1979, Teretonga Race Committee Chairman from 1964 to 2007, and more recently, race secretary.

His vast knowledge and canny southern approach was recognized nationally as he was elected by all NZ member clubs to the position of Executive member of Motorsport New Zealand in 1969/73 then again in 1985. He became the Vice-President of the national body in 1973 till 1983 then again in 1986/88.

Keith was awarded the Motorsport New Zealand Award of Merit in 1983 in recognition of his services to motorsport and in 2002 was made a Member d'Honneur, an award recognizing those who have given or are continuing to give services above and beyond that expected.

During those years, Keith has dealt with people from all walks of life from young trainee staff members to the greatest of Formula One World Champions. His guidance was firm, in many cases unequivocal, but always fair. He has seen the difficulties of constructing a race track in the wastes of Sandy Point, and enjoyed the growth of International motor racing during the great years of the 1960's Tasman Series which attracted all the top drivers from the Formula One world including nine World Champions. In latter years the International glamour has faded but has been replaced by an even more popular Club and National racing scene.

His other interests included model railways, cooking and writing. He first edited the Southland Sports Car Club "Bulletin" for many years, then in 1982 co-wrote the first of three history books on Teretonga Park, called "Teretonga 25".

Like all good New Zealand motorists, Keith joined the Automobile Association 57 years ago and after joining the District Council in the 1970's he became District Chairman from 1986 to 1989. He was proactive in the merger of 15 AA's around New Zealand, was involved with the Regional Land Transport Committee, the Milford Road Congestion Group, the stock effluent working group and various State Highway strategies. Keith was the resident expert on ACC levies for the motor vehicle account and reviewed many local authority City and District roading plans.

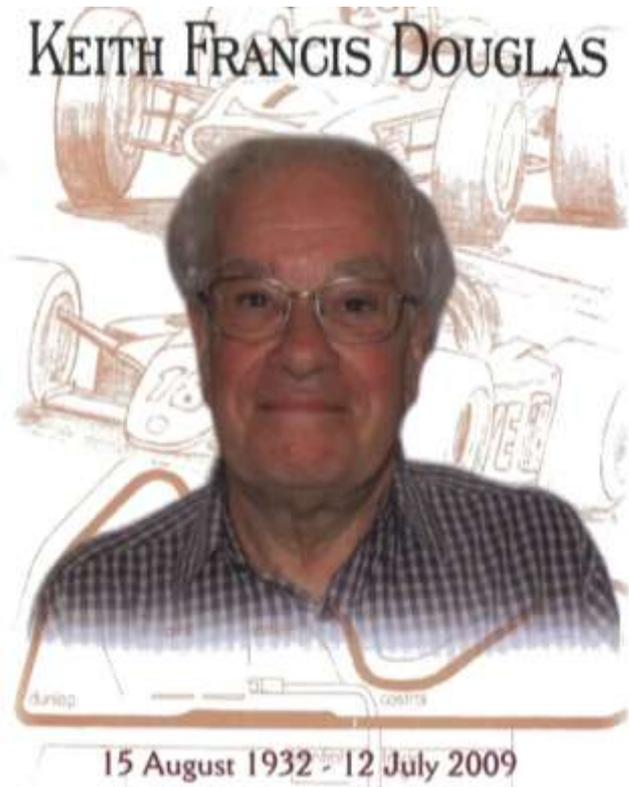
He was heavily involved on the Centennial Organising Committee for the AA and was about to undertake the huge task of researching the documents recording the history of the AA in Southland.

The Model Engineers Club also benefited from Keith's enthusiasm for things mechanical. It gave him great pleasure to see the enjoyment on children's faces when the Club held their open days at Surrey Park.

Keith realized in the latter years it was time to hand over to a younger breed of administrator but his counsel was still respected to this day.

The numbers of people and cars which formed a guard of honour along the entrance to Teretonga Park and lined the fence to watch as Keith was driven enthusiastically around the circuit by one of his oldest friends is testament to the respect he was held in by the New Zealand motorsport fraternity.

Keith Douglas is survived by his wife June and stepson, Barry Smith.



# 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: Paul Rosel 021 374520  
 RACE CHAIRPERSON: Wendy Jenks 03 2166641 (Hm)  
 CLUBSPORT CONVENOR: Robert Ralston 03 2130772 (Hm)  
 CLUB CAPTAIN: Barry Leitch 0274 845456  
 DEPUTY CLUB CAPTAIN: Nick Hamlin 0292 340362  
 SOCIAL CHAIRMAN: Bradley Dawson 0276 516923  
 CUSTODIAN: 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](mailto:info@teretonga.org.nz)



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

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Costs include Joining Fee (where applicable) & GST

### 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.

The Club Championship/Financial Year is 1<sup>st</sup> August – 31<sup>st</sup> July.

### 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 May – ADD \$30.00; in June – ADD \$20.00; in July – ADD \$10.00.

Please find enclosed payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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 \_\_\_\_\_

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

Visa/Mastercard/Bankcard Details (circle)

Card Number:

Name of Card Holder: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$: \_\_\_\_\_