

Newsletter

December 2020

President's Note

As the year draws to a close I hope all Southland Sports Car Club members, volunteers, competitors, sponsors, staff, and spectators are looking forward to a break from their normal routines with opportunities to catch up with family and friends over the festive season. That list of club contributors is a timely reminder for me of how much goes into running a Race meeting or a Clubsport event. To the outsider it may look like the cars are the centre of any meet but take a walk through the pits, attend the Marshall's briefing, catch the Tastie's banter, drop into the Pit Office etc and you'll get a sense of what has always made Teretonga special – our people and the support they offer each other. Thank you all for the role you continue to play which further develops the proud heritage that our club has.

Some of you may have noticed a new face out at Teretonga lately so I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome Angela Lines to our staff. Angela has been employed on a part-time basis to assist Norma with the day to day running of the Club and Teretonga Park.

On a sad note we recently farewelled three people who were strong supporters of our club. The first was Peter Ward who was a former President of the Southland Sports Car Club from 1978 to 1980. Despite a move to Christchurch Peter was still a very keen supporter of the SSCC and Teretonga Park. Peter's funeral service took place at the Harewood Crematorium in Christchurch on Tuesday 6th October. We also lost Wilson Crosbie, a past member of SSCC and a sponsor for many years. A private service was held as per his request. The club is also sad to notify members that one of our volunteers, Peter McMillan, (who many will know from Flag Point 7) also passed away since our last newsletter. A memorial service for Peter was held on Wednesday 11th November. We thank them for their service and support. Valete.

While chatting recently the conversation turned to the number of older race cars that are out there in sheds and how drivers could be encouraged to bring them out. We know the lap times in Club Saloons continue to fall but it would be great to create an opportunity for pre-1984 production-based saloons to get back onto the track with other cars that are circulating around the 1.20 mark. If you know of a car owner who may be interested in dusting off their old steed please ask them to contact myself or Stacy. Let's see if we can bring out a few more to give Todd's fine little Chevette some company on track!

Once again thanks for all the support you've offered this year and the SSCC exec would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a prosperous and healthy New Year. Look forward to seeing you all in 2021.

Ian Richardson
President



Office Christmas Hours

The office will be closed on Thursday 24th December and reopen on Tuesday the 5th January. For track hires please phone either Rick or Jordan Michels.
Rick – 0274342018 or Jordan - 0273177543.

Circuit Utilisation

As most of you will know Teretonga Park is more than a motor race circuit. The following are just some of the organisations to have used the circuit since our last newsletter.

The National Advanced Drivers School was at Teretonga Park during September underlining the fact that our facility is a valuable asset for road safety training. The National Advanced Drivers School are providers of defensive driving courses and fleet driver training throughout New Zealand.



Late in August some of the NZ6 Saloon competitors hired the circuit for a ride day.



The Murihiku Trades Academy Engineering/Automotive programme, part of the Southern Institute Of Technology's programme which targets Year 12 and some Year 13 students on a path to a career in trades returned to Teretonga Park in November for the second Mini Bike Challenge at the circuit.

Secondary school students attend SIT one day a week over three term's where they learn skills such as welding, workshop health & safety and working with hand tools and complete a design-build project involving the creation of 70cc mini bikes with either 2 stroke and 4 stroke engines. The programme consists of thirty weeks but with lockdown this year the students did a block in their own time during the holidays to make up for lost time.

Students earn NCEA Level 2 credits for the project.

Last year eleven students started the year and nine completed the programme while this year the numbers more than doubled with 23 starting out and 21 remaining at the finish. It was a good group from around the wider Southland area.



The event at Teretonga Park was the culmination of the bike project with a series of events. Points were scored to find the overall winner with prizes and trophies for the winning school and an overall Mini Bike Challenge Trophy, a Slalom Trophy and Slow Lap Trophy.

Organisers were grateful to John Crawford of Southern Suzuki who gave his time to come to the event and educate the students on riding standards.



Southland Secondary School Cycling Championships were held in September.

The Maxis Projects 6+6 Adventure Race also utilised the circuit using it as a base and also for parts of their event over the weekend of 24-25th October.

Race Committee

We are now at the mid-point of our 2020/2021 race season with three meetings done and dusted and three to go.

The difficulties of 2020 have been well documented and as our first meeting of the season approached, the opening round of the 2020 South Island Endurance Series on Saturday 12 September, it looked as though we would be racing behind closed gates. However, at 3pm the day before the event, we got the okay to allow spectators and against all odds we had a good crowd on hand to enjoy the action. A big thank you to all the teams and those associated with the event who got the word out and about via their Facebook feeds.

There was a bit of a gap before our second meeting, a one-day event in November featuring the Noel McIntyre Drainage Club Saloons and Sports & Racing Cars. A short day but an eventful one with three cars off at the loop in a short space of time. The December meeting has just concluded and it was a great weekend of racing with big fields and some great racing.

The first three months of 2021 offer our patrons some fantastic racing. With the borders requiring managed isolation it means we will not have the Castrol Toyota Racing Series and associated categories in January. However, a January race meeting at Teretonga Park is a tradition so we hope Southlanders will come out and enjoy a weekend (15-17 January) that will see action from Drift South (Friday and Saturday only), OSCA Super Saloons, South Island Formula 1600, NZ Six Saloons, the 2K Teretonga Challenge plus the Noel McIntyre Drainage Club Saloons and Sports & Racing Cars.

February sees the Mobil 1 Classic SpeedFest, our big weekend of classic motor racing from 19-21 February, which will feature Historic Touring Cars, Formula Junior, Vintage Racing Cars and more. Finally, 20/21 March brings us Southern Thunder - NZ Super Trucks, Mainland Muscle Cars, TCR, Super Production 2021 and plenty more. Entries are out now. If you haven't received one they are available on the website.

That is three top class events so book the dates and we will see you here!

Bevan Gerrard
Teretonga Race Committee Chair



ClubSport

2020..... well, that was certainly a game of 2 halves!

We started off with a hiss and the proverbial ROAR, then the old Covid took our fun away in March but we were lucky enough to return in July, with our very popular Triathlon event. (This will be repeated next year). We also saw the arrival of our very well presented, shiny, red, Nissan Sentra courtesy of the Right Honourable, Rick Michels and the team at Evolution Motorsport, who has had his own challenges this year. I have it on extremely good authority that he is almost back to full noise again, so I am sure we will see him back out with us in the New Year. Thanks Rick, your support is outstanding, champ.

Our Toyota Levin has moved to greener pastures and is finding its way to the Fitchett farm to be given "a new life" so to speak....looking forward to seeing the Fitchett boys back in it next year.

Some very challenging processes saw us get through 4 rounds to date without any further disruptions, which I'm sure we are all very grateful for. The championship is heating up and is looking to go down to the wire once again this year with Andrew Lawrie, Craig Allan and Liam McDonald fighting it out at the pointy end for the Motorkhana title. The Autocross has some new names in contention at the top with the 0-1600cc class led by Josh Cooper, Cole McKinnon and yours truly, (not rigged I promise) while the 1600cc and above class sees Liam MacDonald, Andrew Lawrie and our very own ClubSport sponsors number 1 son, Jordan Michels, in 3rd.

The overall competition is also pretty tight, with Liam, Andrew and Josh Cooper in a close battle at the top of the table.

Absolutely stoked (still) to have the honour of wearing the cap that is the ClubSport convenor but honestly couldn't do it without all the support I get from you all so from me THANKS GUYS! It has been a pretty tough year for us all, so thanks to all of you that have come out and helped and supported us out to ensure we still have these events running....if it wasn't for you these events wouldn't happen and I would win all the classes hahaha...so there is some more motivation. On a very personal note, I would like to thank Tony Fryer and his team at IHD Coaching for the amazing help they have given me with the set ups and clean ups. Your contribution is very much appreciated.

2021 is shaping up to be a pretty exciting one on our calendar and I hope to slip in another grass autocross event but this time at home with the acquisition of a rather large, very flat, and smooth area on our property....watch this space people. From me, 2021 will be a rather challenging year as I am due for shoulder surgery sometime in January, all going to plan, but rest assured I will still be out doing my thing but just maybe not in Larry unfortunately.

As always, a huge thank you to Aimee and my amazing family for their support.

Hoping you all have a great Christmas and see you in January. Please stay safe out there, guys. Stay on the black stuff coz ya never know....it might be me coming to help Y'all.

Merry Christmas All.

Malcolm Mitchell
Clubsport Convenor

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malcolm.mitchell67@gmail.com

The Evolution Motorsport Nissan Sentra

Round 1 of the Evolution Motorsport ClubSport Championship saw the unveiling of the Evolution Motorsport Nissan Sentra which Evolution Motorsport have made available for those wishing to try their hand at ClubSport.

Anyone 12 years old and over (subject to parental/guardian permission) can come and try their hand in a Motorkhana event in the Evolution Motorsport Nissan Sentra. Motorkhana entry is just \$25 per event and the use of the Sentra is just \$20 extra per event.

The Southland Sports Car Club is extremely grateful to Rick, Fiona & Jordan Michels and the team at Evolution Motorsport for their wonderful support of our championship.



Southland Sports Car Club ClubSport Co-ordinator Malcolm Mitchell and Jordan Michels with the Evolution Motorsport Nissan Sentra.

Marshalls Training Day

Our annual Marshalls Training Day took place on Sunday 23 August. Thirty-three marshalls attended the day with fire training one of the major topics covered this year. Motorsport NZ Board Member Nick Hamlin was in attendance and spoke with the marshalls on various matters.



Photograph: Ron Veint

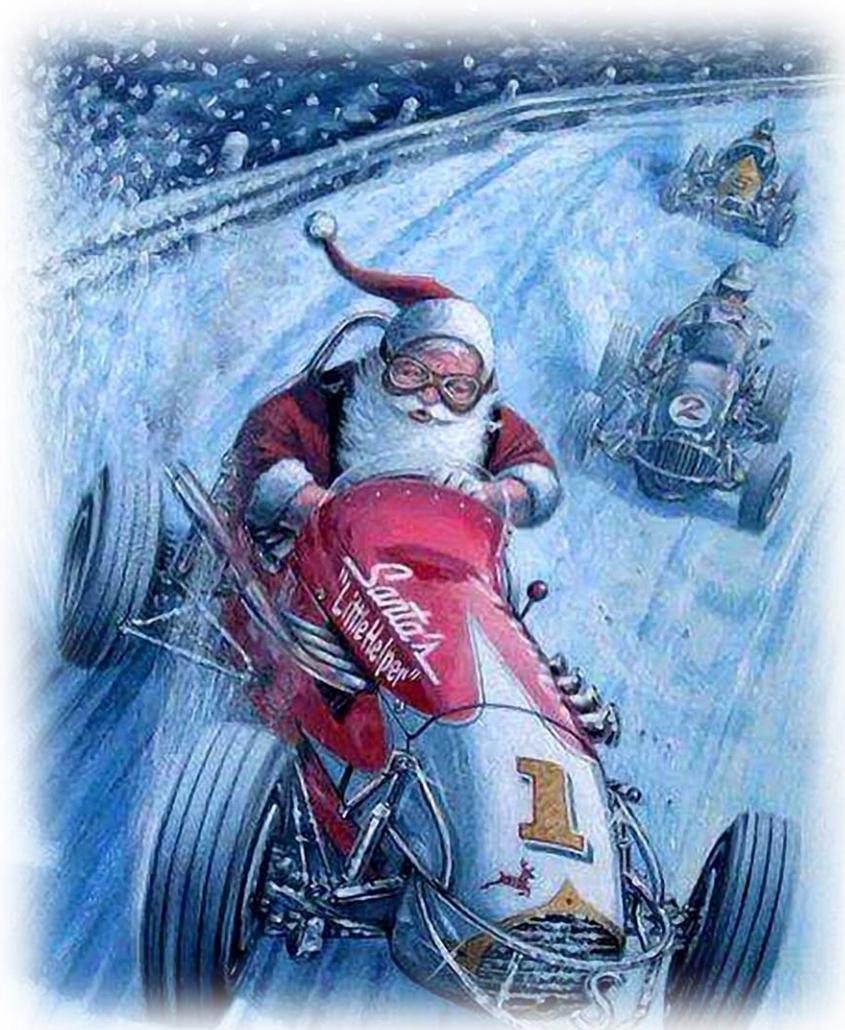
Volunteers

Thank you to all our volunteers for all your assistance throughout 2020. We appreciate the time that you give to the club in your respective roles and the high standard to which you perform your duties. A very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you and your families and we look forward to seeing you all in 2021.



Photograph: Ron Veint

We always welcome more volunteers to the team so if anyone reading this knows of anyone keen to help, give the Teretonga Park Office a call during business hours for more information.



COMING UP IN 2021.....

January 15-17	January Race Meeting
January 31	Evolution Motorsport ClubSport Championship Round 5
February 19-21	Mobil 1 Classic SpeedFest
February 28	Grass Autocross (King Property - Rakahouka)
March 7	Evolution Motorsport ClubSport Championship Round 6
March 20/21	Southern Thunder 2021
April 18	Evolution Motorsport ClubSport Triathlon

Check teretonga.org.nz for full details

DIRECTORY OF CLUB OFFICIALS

Patron	Barry Keen	
President	Ian Richardson	0277 646 288
Vice President	Stacy Lines	0275 076 452
Treasurer	Rachel Lawrie	0272 427 555
Imm Past President	Rachael Beck	0274 488 570
Club Captain	Lenard McLeod	217 7026
Custodian	Noel Atley	0274 445 622
Publicity Officer	Lindsay Beer	021 351 499
Chief Flag Marshal	Cody Masters	0278 206 773
Chief 1 st Response	Lenard McLeod	217 7026
Chief Timekeeper	Bevan Gerrard	215 8257
Chief Scrutineer	Alan O'Brien	216 4695
Board Chair	Rodger Cunninghame	0274 328 536

COMMITTEE HEADS

Race	Bevan Gerrard	215 8257
ClubSport	Malcolm Mitchell	021 666 956
Social	Jo-Ellen O'Brien	216 4695

MOTORSPORT NEW ZEALAND LICENCE EXAMINERS

Wendy Jenks	0272 051 080
Barry Leitch	215 9791
Rick Michels	217 7543

ADMINISTRATION & GENERAL ENQUIRIES

Norma Burns & Angela Lines

Teretonga Park, 86 Sandy Point Rd, Otatara

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Merry Christmas!