

CLASSIC TRIALS NEWSLETTER

Apparelmaster
TOTAL WORKWEAR & LAUNDRY SOLUTIONS
2014 Apparelmaster Classic Trial Championship

ISSUE 008 April 2014

Round 8 Report HRC Legends Of Speed



Director's Report April 2014

With the cancellation of the April Monza meeting, the HRC Legends meeting suddenly became the King Maker Round of the season, as it was the last round of the 2014 Apparelmaster Classic Trial Championship. Paul Couper and Scott Mitchell were neck and neck, and a number of other drivers needed a good result to up their points for the best of four final tally.

In all we had 21 drivers contesting the last round.

And what a round it turned out to be- with the closest results and times registered this year.



We welcomed Mike Foy to the Register. Mike owns a truly immaculate NZ new 1978 Ford Escort Mk2. Mike said that the car was so rough when he first saw it, he nearly didn't buy it. Its redeeming feature was it's original black NZ number plate: **IS1600**.



We also welcomed Bruce Gerring back for his second drive with us. Bruce owns the Scope MG BGT race car and what a wonderful exhaust note that car has!

Syd was very smartly turned out in a new race suit, although I'm not sure if he could still Bossa Nova all night long! We wondered also if he clicked his heels 3 times, he would wind up in Kansas... maybe not, but a wary eye for errant tornadoes kept Syd gazing skyward all day.



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Round 8 Report Cont..



Auckland's dry spell was not broken for the meeting. In fact, the conditions could not have been better: Dry, sunny but cool, and no wind. The track surface was amazing too: new seal on some of the corners with wider run offs meant we were all running over a second a lap faster than at previous meetings. Personally, I had never seen the track in such great condition.

The only downside was that several drivers found they were Speed Bar breakers during practice. Drivers were called together and reminded that even 1 lap timed at under 1min27 would result in a 'no result' for that Trial. A message that would come back to haunt a couple of drivers late in the day

**Historic Racing
Club Inc**



With 12 groups competing we were faced with a very busy programme. After the practices we were on as number 2 and then it was non-stop all day. Everyone appreciated HRC fitting all our trials on the first day of this two day meeting.

Our first Trial saw 16 of 21 drivers (76%) lap the circuit ***within 1 second*** of their nominated times. The practice times were taken to heart and only one driver was under the speed barrier. Russell Goodwin led the bunch with an average time of 0.37seconds. Paul Couper and Alistair Jones snapping at his heels!



Results: Trial 2:

- 1st Russell Goodwin (Jensen Healey) 0.37sec;
- 2nd Paul Couper (Mazda MX5) 0.42sec;
- 3rd Alistair Jones ((BMW 2002tii) 0.42sec;
- 4th Mike Foy (Ford Escort Mk2) 0.50sec;
- 5th Ross Vaughan (Mazda MX5) 0.51sec

I know... red
Boots! That's
what I need to go
faster !



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Round 8 Report Cont..



The big programme flowed on and our second Trial was squeezed in just before lunch.

Mike McCowan suffered the only mechanical failure of the day when he lost 3rd gear in the MG BGT V8.

This was the most hotly contested Trial of the day, as the winner would secure the coveted Manning Trophy. Geoff, Barbara Manning's late husband, raced a Formula Junior Volpini and the Memorial Trophy is made up from the original wooden steering wheel.

Congratulations to Peter O'Sullivan who repeated last years winning form and retained the Manning Trophy for another year.

Again *Nine drivers drove under 1 second* differential laps.



Results: Trial 8:

- 1st Peter O'Sullivan (Ford Cortina Mk2) 0.56sec;
- 2nd Neil Moore (Jowett Jupiter) 0.59sec;
- 3rd Syd Davis (Porsche 944) 0.62sec;
- 4th Ross Vaughan (Mazda MX5) 0.63sec;
- 5th Scott Mitchell (Porsche 944) 0.75sec.



We had now reached the interesting time when Rex's result sheets were being keenly scrutinized. There was no one driver with a big lead and a lot of drivers with very similar times set.

Those high on the Championship standings also needed a good run to bump up their points. Everyone was trying his or her best. The

results spoke for this with **18 of the 20 starters lapping under 1 second**. This accounts for 90% of the field and I don't ever recall a result that close.

Brent Middlemiss took the flying Mini into the top spot with a time of 0.38seconds. Paul Couper and Peter O'Sullivan were next just ahead of the 13 drivers who finished less than half a second behind Brent.

Results: Trial 15:

- 1st Brent Middlemiss (Mini 1275GT) 0.38sec;
- 2nd Paul Couper (Mazda MX5) 0.45sec;
- 3rd Peter O'Sullivan (Ford Cortina Mk2) 0.46sec;
- 4th = Bruce Gerring (MG BGT) 0.48sec;
- 4th = Ross Vaughan (Mazda MX5) 0.48sec

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Congratulations to Robyn Riding who was awarded the prestigious spirit of the meeting award. Robyn who has had a round win in the season opener, has consistently presented the spirit of classic trials, experiencing both the highs & lows that Motor racing dishes up, always with a smile on her face. A round win at Pukekohe and consistent drives all year gave her a 10th overall in the championship in 2014.



Round 8 Overall Results

2014 Apparelmaster Classic Trial Championship Round 8

Place	No.	Name	Trial 2	Trial 8	Trial 15	Average (best 2)	Points
1	47	Paul Couper	0.42	1.18	0.45	0.44	156
2	91	Ross Vaughan	0.51	0.63	0.48	0.5	150
3=	4	Russell Goodwin	0.37	0.82	0.65	0.51	149
3=	116	Peter O'Sullivan	0.99	0.56	0.46	0.51	149
5=	72	Ian Christie	0.59	1.02	0.5	0.55	145
5=	248	Alistair Jones	0.43	1.32	0.67	0.55	145
7	8	Brent Middlemiss	0.76	1.87	0.38	0.57	143
8	75	John Miller	0.66	2.03	0.66	0.66	134
9	31	Mike Foy	0.5	1.16	0.9	0.7	130
10	27	Murray Ralls	0.74	0.97	0.7	0.72	128

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Paul Couper's win followed his Round 7 win at Pukekohe and moved him further ahead on points to be the clear winner of the round.

High points were scored by a lot of drivers and Brent's 143 points propelled him up a place to take a last gasp second overall from Scott Mitchell.

Scott, by a narrow margin was again just under the Speed Bar and did not get a result for the meeting.

Jubilation in the Broadbent camp on what would have been a podium finish for the season was also cruelly dashed when it was noticed that Sheridan had also gone under the Speed Bar by a mere 8 hundredths of a second. Syd Davis joined them with a 2 hundredths under result! Such is life in the fast lane!

I wonder what
0.08 seconds feels
like?



You know 0.08
seconds feels like
a couple of places
up the results to
me !



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2014 Championship Final Results

As predicted, the championship came down to the last round, and three drivers had a chance to take the overall win leading into the final round. The Podium was open to quite a few drivers who needed good points in the final round too.

Paul Couper in his 1989 Mazda MX5 , with an overall win in the final round took the championship with 614 Points.

Paul, who was the Apparelmaster Classic Trials 2012 champion, finished the season with average lap variance of 0.46 Seconds over the 12 races counting toward the final result.

Brent Middlemiss in his 1980 Mini 1275 GT had a late season charge with some consistent times to clinch second place, the 2011 champion overtaking Scott Mitchell in the final round by 6 points .

Scott Mitchell driving his Green 1992 Porsche 964 in his debut season, came a very close third overall after a close battle all season with Paul.

Full results table listed on the next page.

Place	Name	Car	Points
1	Paul Couper	Mazda MX5	614
2	Brent Middlemiss	Mini 1275GT	553
3	Scott Mitchell	Porsche 964	547
4	Ian Christie	MG BGT	542
5	Peter O'Sullivan	Ford Cortina Mk2	534
6	Ross Vaughan	Mazda MX5	525
7	Sheridan Broadbent	Valiant Pacer	524
8	David Tolhurst	Ford Capri GT	521
9	John Miller	Ford Escort RS2000	512
10	Robyn Riding	Porsche 924	468



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2014 Championship final results

Placing	Driver	Car	Year	Points
1	PAUL COUPER	MAZDA MX5	1989	614
2	BRENT MIDDLEMISS	MINI 1275GT	1980	553
3	SCOTT MITCHELL	PORSCHE 964	1992	547
4	IAN CHRISTIE	MG BGT	1973	542
5	PETER O'SULLIVAN	FORD CORTINA Mk2	1968	534
6	ROSS VAUGHAN	MAZDA MX5	1991	525
7	SHERIDAN BROADBENT	VALIANT PACER	1972	524
8	DAVID TOLHURST	FORD CAPRI GT	1975	521
9	JOHN MILLER	FORD ESCORT RS2000	1974	512
10	ROBYN RIDING	PORSCHE 924	1981	468
11	SYD DAVIS	PORSCHE 944	1989	459
12	KEN SMITH	FORD ESCORT RS2000	1972	456
13	ALLAN HORNER	AUSTIN HEALEY SPRITE	1963	434
14	RUSSELL GOODWIN	JENSEN HEALEY	1972	431
15	MIKE McCOWAN	MG BGT V8	1977	427
16	ALISTAIR JONES	BMW 2002tii	1974	383
17	JOHN FULFORD	MG BGT	1973	349
18	JOHN McMILLAN	PORSCHE 964	1990	303
19	GRAHAM HUNTER	SIZUKI SWIFT GTi	1989	284
20	MARIA SUTHERLAND	BMW 2002tii	1974	267
21	HELEN O'SULLIVAN	MAZDA MX5	1990	231
22	TIM WALTON	LOTUS ELAN COUPE S3	1966	229
23	GRAHAM HALLEN	FORD MUSTANG / TOYOTA MR2	87/92	227
24	FRANK DENNISON	DATSUN 1200	1972	226
25	GRAEME PARK	PORSCHE 944 / 944 Turbo	1986	208
26	PAUL MILLER	PORSCHE 911	1976	201
27	WAYNE ROWLANDS	BMW 325i	1987	184
28	BRIAN DAY	FERRARI 308 GT4	1976	166
29	MURRAY RALLS	MG MIDGET	1969	152
30	NEIL MOORE	JOWETT JUPITER	1951	151
31=	ARTHUR HOPKINS	TRIUMPH TR2	1956	141
31=	STEVE MOON	MORRIS MARINA COUPE	1973	141
33	MIKE FOY	FORD ESCORT Mk2	1978	130
34	ERRIN HALLEN	TOYOTA MR2	1992	124
35	BRIAN KING	ALFRISTON JAGUAR SPECIAL	2006	122
36=	JOHN WESTERN	HONDA CIVIC SIR	1990	121
36=	FRANK KARL	AUSTIN HEALEY 3000	1966	121
36=	STEVEN PRICE	HONDA NSX	1990	121
39	BRUCE GERRING	MG BGT	1972	116
40	JOHN STONE	AUDI QUATTRO	1986	110
52 Drivers competed in the 2014 Apparelmaster Classic Trial Championship				

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What's' coming up:

Monza Practice Day Hampton Downs 20 April

Message from Ray Green:

Registration for the day is NOT via the motorsport entry website this time, but through Hampton Downs Ticketing: <http://www.hdticketing.co.nz/index.php/cPath/94> and the cost is a very reasonable \$125 per driver. (Drivers can run any number of cars and this is not a "Race" car only day, but a car only day.) No single seaters. Open to our own series of course, plus Alfa Trofeo/AROC, MGCC, Vintage Car Club, Classic Trial register etc.

Just a reminder to anyone coming along for track rides etc, that closed shoes are mandatory, and for anything other than a track ride behind the safety car, overalls and helmets are required. If you have a spare helmet or overalls, please bring them along.

HRC Brass Monkey Meeting Hampton Downs 6 July 2014

This meeting is the Winter Classic Trial Championship and there will be a trophy awarded to the winner.

Prize Giving: Horse and Trap, Mt Eden. August – Date to be confirmed

Cheers

Ross

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