



Classic Trials Championship 2014/15



Classic Trials Newsletter

ISSUE 018 April 2015



PPG Classic Trial Championship Round 8 HRC Legends Of Speed Hampton Downs Raceway 28th March 2015

Director's Report-

We set off from Auckland on Saturday morning 28th March with light rain falling, but trusting the word of the Ardmore Flight Desk manager who on the day earlier (when I was purchasing fuel) had said that Saturday would be a little showery but mainly a fine day.

On arrival at Hampton Downs the weather was dry but overcast and looking problematic. We had 17 entrants, and, as Ross Vaughan was attending a conference in Brisbane, John Miller and David Tolhurst ran the CT briefing. It was good to see Mike McGowan back at the track after his recent health scare.



Whilst the Legends of Speed meeting was set up by HRC to be a two-day event, as with some of the earlier meetings, the practice and all three Classic Trial runs being scheduled for one day continued.

Practice went well on a dry track, with the sky still overcast, although Alan Horner had a problem at the hairpin and ended up with his car stalled and unable to be re-started.

There were twelve classes running in the Legends meeting and with a number of tow-ins and delays occurring, the time for these to be completed stretched out.



By the time we were assembling on the dummy grid for Trial # 1 the weather had deteriorated and rain was falling. The run was designated "Wet", with the cars going onto the track with rain lights on. The track was very (Ed. *VERY*) slippery with oil spills that had occurred in a couple of places.



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Results -Trial 1:

1 st	Brent Middlemiss (Mini 1275GT)	Lap time variance	0.59 secs
2 nd	Rex Fifield (Ford Escort Mexico)	Lap time variance	1.50 secs
3 rd	Trevor Clark (Toyota MR2)	Lap time variance	1.60 secs
4 th	Bronwynne Leech (Peugeot 205 GTi)	Lap time variance	1.92 secs
5 th	John Miller (Ford Escort RS2000)	Lap time variance	2.15 secs



It was great to have Mark from PPG attend the final round of the championship, and see everyone putting on a great event, close and competitive driving and with the PPG Brand to the forefront.

It was mid-afternoon when we gridded for Trial # 2. This was the Geoff Manning Memorial Trophy run. The weather had improved considerably and the track had dried out. Some very close times were achieved with the result being a tie for first place with Peter O'Sullivan and Paul Couper, the first time that this has happened.



Results-Trial 2:

1 st =	Peter O'Sullivan (Ford Cortina Mk2)	Lap time variance	0.28 secs
1 st =	Paul Couper (Mazda MX5)	Lap time variance	0.28 secs
3 rd	Brent Middlemiss (Mini 1275GT)	Lap time variance	0.32 secs
4 th	John Miller (Ford Escort RS2000)	Lap time variance	0.34 secs
5 th	Sheridan Broadbent (Valiant Pacer)	Lap time variance	0.39 secs

Barbara Manning presented the trophy – the Wooden Rimmed steering wheel from Geoff's Volpini Formula Junior racing car, to Paul Couper & Peter O'Sullivan





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With further delays occurring as the day progressed, it was looking very doubtful that there would be time for the third Trial to be run on the Saturday. The options proposed were to cancel it, or run it on the Sunday morning. This was not going to suit a number of the trialists, so it was fortunate that Terry Riding was able to use his influence with the Clerk of the Course and the Trial #3 was run as the last race of the day. Whilst there were some dark clouds, the weather stayed fine and we got a dry run.

This run was for the HRC Legends Of Speed Spirit award; the Jack Brabham Shield, and again this was closely contested, - the winner being Paul Couper with a very credible time variance of 0.20 secs.



Results -Trial 3:

- 1st Paul Couper (Mazda MX5)
- 2nd Bronwynne Leech (Peugeot 205 GTi)
- 3rd Peter O'Sullivan (Ford Cortina Mk2)
- 4th Brent Middlemiss (Mini 1275GT)
- 5th = Allan Horner (Austin Healey Sprite)
- 5th = Russell Goodwin (Jensen Healey)

- Lap time variance 0.20 secs
- Lap time variance 0.27 secs
- Lap time variance 0.39 secs
- Lap time variance 0.43 secs
- Lap time variance 0.45 secs





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1 st	Paul Couper (Mazda MX5)	Lap time variance	0.24 secs
2 nd	Peter O'Sullivan (Ford Cortina Mk2)	Lap time variance	0.34 secs
3 rd	Brent Middlemiss (Mini 1275GT)	Lap time variance	0.38 secs
4 th	Bronwynne Leech (Peugeot 205 GTi)	Lap time variance	0.42 secs
5 th	John Miller (Ford Escort RS2000)	Lap time variance	0.49 secs





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2015 PPG Classic Trial Champion
Paul Couper

So ended the last meeting of a very successful 2015 season. Paul Couper started this last round with a slender 13-point lead over Brent Middlemiss and after the final trial won the 2015 PPG Classic Trial Championship by an even lower margin (5 points) from Peter O'Sullivan with Brent taking 3rd spot. Paul has now won the Championship 3 times, 2012, 2014 and 2015

2015 PPG Classic Trial Championship Overall Results

1 st	Paul Couper (Mazda MX5)	662 points
2 nd	Peter O'Sullivan (Ford Cortina Mk2)	657 points
3 rd	Brent Middlemiss (Mini 1275GT)	623 points
4 th	Ross Vaughan (Mazda MX5)	578 points
5 th	David Tolhurst (Ford Capri GT)	575 points
6 th	Ken Smith (Ford Escort RS2000)	574 points
7 th	Allan Horner (Austin Healey Sprite)	573 points
8 th	John Miller (Ford Escort RS2000)	566 points
9 th	Sheridan Broadbent (Valiant Pacer)	563 points
10 th	Ian Christie (MG BGT)	548 points
11 th	Bronwynne Leech (Peugeot 205 GTi)	547 points
12 th	Russell Ness (Mini Cooper S)	466 points
13 th	Robyn Riding (Porsche 924)	453 points
14 th	Neil Moore (Jowett Jupiter)	404 points
15 th	Syd Davis (Porsche 944)	373 points



Congratulations to Sheridan Broadbent once again winning the Ladies Classic Trial Championship. It is heartening to see more ladies interested in Trialing and we have word that more will be driving with us next season.

Thanks to David and John for organising the final round and to John for writing up the meeting report.

All in all, a very satisfactory end to this season's PPG Classic Trial Summer Series, and we look forward to the Brass Monkey run in June.



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Special Event Invitation

PPG Classic Trials Track Day

An Invitation to Club Lotus and Classic Trials Register members, as well as invited guests who would like to have some private track time at Hampton Downs
If you want to enter Classic trials next season this is a great opportunity to see what its all about.

The track will be open for both Racecars and road legal cars, which will need to be up to WOF standard.

- Marshalls and safety crew will be included
- Price is Per Car- not per Driver
- No Drifting....(Err Intentionally that is)
- Car numbers will be limited



Price is \$150

Date : 8th May 1230-1630



RSVP Essential to: Paul.couper@icloud.com or Mobile 021 0241 3883

Upcoming Events:

HRC Brass Monkey Hampton Downs 5 July 2015

Cheers

Ross

Classic Trial Director

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