



Classic Trials Championship 2015/16



Classic Trials Newsletter

ISSUE 021 September 2015

HRC Icebreaker- Hampton Downs Round 1 of the 2016 Classic Trials Championship

**Historic Racing
Club Inc**



As predicted, the weather for the first round of the 2016 PPG Classic Trial Championship was spot on. There was a cool breeze, but who cared when the track was dry! With several regulars away on holiday (John McGregor at the Goodwood Festival) it was good to commence the season with 21 starters. We are very pleased to have PPG as our sponsor again for the new season.



We welcomed 3 new drivers: Ray Chubb, Nissan Skyline GTS-4, Terry Burgess Leyland Mini, and Dan Bulog, Fiat 125. Ray's the man to see if you are interested in fitting a roll bar/cage to your car

(www.rollcage.co.nz)

Terry's Mini with it's 7-port cross flow twin SD Webber head is something else! The Fiat 125 and 125T were once a common sight in NZ and it is good that finally we have one of this endangered species back in competition.

After the drivers briefing it was a rush to get the Classic Trial cars out for the first practice session. Then we had a good break while the other groups had their time.

With all of our Trials on the first day of this 2-day meeting, once we started there was little time to sit around.

As the big Pacer was off the road, Sheridan took the Cortina and Peter was back in the MX5. Helen O'Sullivan is now the owner of my number 91 MX5 which has been reborn as number 101. She's enjoying her new drive and even on her first competitive outing in the new Mexy finished a creditable 8th overall.

Robby Riding arrived in a very smart Porsche 944 sporting the Cambridge Racing colours of the day.





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The first Trial of the season was driven with almost too much caution and only 3 drivers managed to lap with times of one second under their nominations. Murray Park started the Championship with his first win followed by Russell Sykes and Neil Moore in the oldest car competing.



Results: Trial 1

| | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| 1 st | Murray Park | Honda Prelude GT | 0.5sec |
| 2 nd | Russell Sykes | MG BGT | 0.81sec |
| 3 rd | Neil Moore | Jowett Jupiter | 0.92sec |
| 4 th | Bronwynne Leech | Peugeot 205 GTi | 1.23sec |
| 5 th | Syd Davis | Porsche 944 | 1.25sec |

Trial 2 was a real contrast to the first one with over half the field returning times of under 1 second. The first three, led by Ken Smith, were only 2 hundredths of a second apart.



Results: Trial 2

| | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| 1 st | Ken Smith | Ford Escort RS2000 | 0.25sec |
| 2 nd = | Stephen Miller | Ford Escort RS2000 | 0.27sec |
| 2 nd = | Paul Couper | Mazda MX5 | 0.27sec |
| 4 th | Mike Foy | Ford Escort | 0.44sec |
| 5 th | Sheridan Broadbent | Ford Cortina GT | 0.46sec |

Bronwynne Leech's Peugeot was the first casualty of the season when the alternator support bracket suffered a metal fatigue fracture. This coming after last competing in the 3 hour Endurance race with no mechanical problems. The good men at Race Brakes in the Hampton's Industrial Park welded up the bracket and Bronwynne was back in the race for the last Trial where she took a creditable second behind Paul Couper. Incidentally, Sheridan Broadbent and Wendy Metcalf shared the driving in the 3-hour race. The final trial had some initial drama when Dan Bulog's Fiat stalled on the starting line and the field was red flagged while the dead Fiat was pushed off.





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Results: Trial 3

| | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| 1 st | Paul Couper | Mazda MX5 | 0.24sec |
| 2 nd | Bronwynne Leech | Peugeot 205 GTi | 0.32sec |
| 3 rd | Ken Smith | Ford Escort RS2000 | 0.36sec |
| 4 th | Ray Chubb | Nissan Skyline GTS | 0.52sec |
| 5 th | Russell Sykes | MG BGT | 0.55sec |



Paul was hoping to make the Icebreaker the competitive outing for his new Westfield 11 sportscar. However, it wasn't to be! A piece of track debris, thrown up by the car in front during a practice session at Hampton Downs the week prior, ripped off a radiator hose and subsequently destroyed the motor. (Ed. well..actually my inattention to the Idiot gauge played a part too)

Old Faithful, the red MX5, had been stored in our barn for some months and was quickly brought back into service With Paul behind the wheel this unbeatable pair once more showed us the art form that is Classic Trial driving.

While it is early days, the 2016 PPG Classic Trial Championship started much where the 2015 Championship finished with Paul in the lead

2016 PPG Classic Trial Championship Round 1

| | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| 1 st | Paul Couper | Mazda MX5 | 0.26sec |
| 2 nd | Ken Smith | Ford Escort RS2000 | 0.31sec |
| 3 rd | Stephen Miller | Ford Escort RS2000 | 0.45sec |
| 4 th | Mike Foy | Ford Escort | 0.54sec |
| 5 th | Russell Sykes | MG BGT | 0.59sec |





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IMPORTANT NOTICE

From Terry Riding- Motorsport NZ Classic Trials Liaison

Hi all,

On Thursday Robyn and I spent two hours in at the Motorsport New Zealand offices discussing the issue of Log books and how Terry Burgess got pinged for not having one.

The long and short of this that it was agreed that he should not have been fined as it was his first event and as the event is under a "Club Sport" basic permit, the competitors who run in the Trial only have M grade licenses and therefore do not even get a manual when they get their license, so they do not know of this requirement.

However going forward we need to get all of the Classic Trial Register members who do not have one already a log book, and new members joining the register to get one at the same time as they do their licenses, as this is now going to be enforced and we do not want to discourage register members by them getting fined for not having a log book. After all it is a one off cost of \$30 and the upside is that they only then have to get scrutineered every third event.

I am happy to coordinate the process, but we will have to move reasonably quickly on this.

I am getting a letter from Motorsport buying us some time, but that will only be to the TACCOC Outsource IT Christmas at the Downs meeting in December.



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Cont....

I will then step them through the process.

The definition of a vehicle requiring a log book is as follows;

A vehicle is required to have a log book if the vehicle is competing in a series;

“Series” means a single Event or a series of Events the results of which are aggregated to form a single result and includes (but not by way of limitation):

(a) An Event or series of Events the winner of which is awarded the title of “Champion” or some other title in the style of “Champion”:

(b) A Championship;

(c) A Series;

(d) A Cup;

(e) A Trophy;

(f) A Challenge;

The fact that ostensibly we do not enter the series unless we pay the \$20 is irrelevant.

In Summary, All Classic trials cars will need a log book. Please refer to Terry’s letter above and contact him if you have any questions.

Log Book covers: Peter O’Sullivan has made some very smart Log Book covers. There are a number of styles and they also have storage pockets for your competition licence and car club membership card. They are very reasonably priced – see Peter if you are interested.



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What's coming up:

We have three TACCOC rounds between now and Christmas. This is a great series with less groups competing, which results in quicker a turnaround. All the meetings are one-day affairs and best of all; **the entry fee is only \$200!** Even better, if you enter all three meetings you'll pick up a **\$100 cash rebate** at registration on the final round

2016 PPG Classic Trial Championship programme

| | | | |
|---------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Round 2 | 3 October 2015 | TACCOC Spring Classic | Pukekohe |
| Round 3 | 1 November 2015 | TACCOC Summer Classic | Hampton |
| Downs | | | |
| Round 4 | 13 December 2015 | Outsource IT Christmas at the Downs | |
| Round 5 | 9 January 2016 | HRC Tasman Revival | Taupo |
| Round 6 | 22-24 January 2016 | NZ Festival of Motor Racing | Hampton |
| Downs | | | |
| Round 7 | 20 February 2016 | HRC Tasman Revival | Pukekohe |
| Round 6 | 2 April 2016 | HRC Legends of Speed | Hampton |
| Downs | | | |

Enter all events, online at www.motorsportentry.com

Cheers

Ross

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