



Classic Trials Championship 2015/16



# Classic Trials Newsletter

ISSUE 30 August 2016

**W**ith the cancellation of this years HRC Brass Monkey meeting we thought the 2016 Winter Championship was going to be history. However, at the last minute, an opportunity arose to join the Commodore Car Club meeting at the Pukekohe Park Raceway. Despite it being the middle of winter, and rainstorms every day prior to race day, the day of the Championship dawned fine and sunny. Even better, it stayed fine and sunny all day. The only disappointment was the small entry.



We welcomed Colin Clark to his first Classic Trial. Colin was driving Andrew Leech's Porsche 924. Also back to trialing was Robin Williams with his beautifully prepared Ford Escort Mexico. The Lotus twin cam motor now complete with its eye wateringly expensive new head!

The car with the shiniest paintwork was Ian Christie's BGT! While working on the B at the top of his steep Mairangi bay driveway, Ian returned to find it had disappeared! It had run down the drive, clipping the wall on the way, run up the road, then run back down the road into another steep driveway, before reversing back across the road, through a fence and coming to rest against a tree! Ken Smith and his team at Carcolours did an amazing job matching and painting the B's rear end. The mishap also necessitated a new exhaust set-up, which has given the car a very pleasing 'growl'! Ken was a disappointed non-starter as a cracked block has sidelined the Escort for the time being.



The first trial results showed that Pukekohe is not the easiest circuit to master. Only 3 drivers managed to consistently lap within 1 second of their nominated times. Murray Ralls in the Wee MG was pleased with the sunny day in his open car and took the early lead in the Winter Championship. The right hand rubber windscreen seal came adrift on Ross Vaughan's Alfa on lap 3 and on the next lap the left side also came loose and started thumping on the roof! It sounded as if someone was locked in the boot!



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## Results: Trial 1

1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Murray Ralls</b>	<b>MG Midget</b>	<b>0.76 sec</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Russell Ness	Mini Cooper S	0.82 sec
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Ian Christie	MG BGT	0.97 sec
4 <sup>th</sup>	John Miller	Ford Escort	2.13 sec
5 <sup>th</sup> =	David Tolhurst	Ford Capri GT	2.20 sec
5 <sup>th</sup> =	Robyn Riding	Porsche 944	2.20 sec



With even less cars than the Trials in the other races we were soon back on the road again. A sharp-eyed young fellow from the Commodore Car Club rectified the handling problems of one of our cars when he spotted that the directional tyres on the front wheels were transposed! A quick change over and 'oh what a better ride'!

Much closer results this time as the drivers sorted out the track (well some of the drivers!) Murray was again at the front and it was going to take a good time in the final trial to get ahead of him

## Results: Trial 2

1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Murray Ralls</b>	<b>MG Midget</b>	<b>0.34 sec</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	John Campbell	MG BGT	0.54 sec
3 <sup>rd</sup>	David Tolhurst	Ford Capri GT	0.63 sec
4 <sup>th</sup>	Robyn Riding	Porsche 924	0.66 sec
5 <sup>th</sup>	John Miller	Ford Escort	0.68 sec

As the day warmed up the times were even closer for the final run of the day. It was an excellent trial by John Miller with a host of drivers snapping at his heels. However, no one improved enough to beat the flying Midget, and Murray Ralls is the 2016 PPG Winter Champion

## Results: Trial 3

1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>John Miller</b>	<b>Ford Escort</b>	<b>0.41 sec</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> =	Robyn Riding	Porsche 924	0.46 sec
2 <sup>nd</sup> =	Russell Ness	Mini Cooper S	0.46 sec
4 <sup>th</sup>	Murray Ralls	MG Midget	0.47 sec
5 <sup>th</sup>	John Campbell	MG BGT	0.55 sec



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1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Murray Ralls</b>	<b>MG Midget</b>	<b>0.41 sec</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> =	<b>John Miller</b>	<b>Ford Escort</b>	<b>0.55 sec</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> =	<b>John Campbell</b>	<b>MG BGT</b>	<b>0.55 sec</b>
4 <sup>th</sup>	Robyn Riding	Porsche 924	0.56 sec
5 <sup>th</sup>	Russell Ness	Mini Cooper S	0.59 sec
6 <sup>th</sup>	Colin Clark	Porsche 924	0.74 sec
7 <sup>th</sup>	Ross Vaughan	Alfa Romeo Gtv TS	0.88 sec
8 <sup>th</sup>	Ian Christie	MG BGT	0.95 sec
9 <sup>th</sup>	David Tolhurst	Ford Capri GT	1.05 sec
10 <sup>th</sup>	Terry Burgess	Leyland Mini	1.34 sec
11 <sup>th</sup>	Robyn Williams	Ford Escort Mexico	1.55 sec

Our thanks are extended to the Commodore Car Club for the invitation to join them and make the Winter Champs a reality.

### REMINDER

We have our prize-giving luncheon at the Horse and Trap, 3 Enfield St, Mt Eden from 11am on Sunday 21 August (next week).

We will be having a short meeting prior to the meal to hear the Directors and Treasurers reports and to get a heads up to where the Trialing is heading.

The luncheon is a good time to catch up with everyone and celebrate with the past seasons winners.

**Thanks to those who have replied. However, it's still not too late. If you can make it, please reply to this email and tell me the numbers coming**

It will be a fun time with slide shows and videos from the 2016 Championship

Cheers

**Ross**

Classic Trial Director

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