



Classic Trials Championship 2016/17



# Classic Trials Newsletter

ISSUE 033 DECEMBER 2016

**W**ell it is that time of year again when we eagerly await the visit of that Jolly Chap in the red suit and a break from the hustle and bustle of our daily lives.

Firstly my apologies for the delay in getting a newsletter out to you, it has been a collective of issues that have conspired to rob the time of the people involved to make it happen.

However we are now back on track and you will see a regular communication come from the committee once again.



Since the last communication, Classic Trial members have been involved in a plethora of activities outside of the Classic Trial. Bronwynne, Sheridan, Helen and Peter have now completed two rounds of the SsangYong Ute series and discovered that it is a lot more aggressive than the Classic Trial. Paul Couper got married and I found out just recently that Neil Moore and Allan Horner visited Le Mans during the year. I have a small extract from that trip and will share that in the next newsletter.

## REASONABLE EXCUSE #1 FOR MISSING ROUND 4

A group from the Classic Trial Register attended an evening at PPG In Mt Wellington where a number of the Australian V8 Supercar drivers were in attendance.

Thanks to Ian Christies for making his MGBGT available for the evening and to John Miller for organising the display with Ian.



We have now completed four rounds and Russell Goodwin has stolen a march on the rest of the competitors and amassed a strong lead. However it is a bit artificial as two of the top five have only completed three rounds as opposed to Russell's four, so it will be interesting to review the Championship after the Taupo round.

*"Close the gate, that horse has bolted!"*

**The next round will be at Taupo on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> of January.  
It will be a one day event.**



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Round three was the TACCOC Summer Series on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> at Pukekohe, and at this round we welcomed Kerry Wood driving Andrew Leech's Porsche 924, Alan Woods in his Porsche Boxter and Stephen Aldersley in his C Type Jaguar. We also welcomed back Mike Ray who participated in the Classic Trial some time back.



## Round 3 Pukekohe TACCOC

The weather forecast for the day was typical Pukekohe... Rain with a chance of Sunshine, Hail, fog and sleet. UV factor 1000!- so in summary, it was fine all day.

This was the second round of the TACCOC series so competitors who entered two or more rounds got a nice surprise at sign in- Thanks Team TACCOC.

After practice, it appeared the track was in good nick, but it became apparent from the lack of timing from several competitors in qualifying, there was a problem. Throughout the day there were some ongoing timing issues that we are still working through. So the results that follow are under review. Terry did the results remotely from the track so was not aware of the issue until after the day had finished, but in likelihood, the issues do not have impact on the current state of the championship standings.



The First Trial was won by Russell Goodwin with a 0.27 variation followed by Peter O'Sullivan 0.32, James Bell-Booth 0.34, Helen O'Sullivan 0.51 and Sheridan Broadbent with a 0.96.



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The Second Trial was won by Peter O'Sullivan with a 0.45 variation, Ken Smith 0.56, John Campbell 0.59, Ross Vaughan 0.65 and Mike Ray 0.81.



At the Pointy end, a cunning plan was hatched, to have a slow run up to the flying lap. This was due to the slow rolling start, causing a few drivers catching the rear of the grid within a lap or 2... Like all cunning plans, it was to no avail, as Russell Goodwin once again put in a masterful drive to win the trial.

The Third Trial was won by Russell Goodwin with a 0.30 variation, John Campbell 0.41, John Miller 0.51, Bronwynne Leech 0.52 and Helen O'Sullivan 0.62.



The round win went to Russell Goodwin with a 0.29 variation, followed by Peter O'Sullivan 0.39, John Campbell 0.50, Helen O'Sullivan 0.57 and Bronwynne Leech 0.63.

As I commented earlier, these results are considered interim at this stage as we are working through some timing anomalies that occurred on the day.





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**Round four** was the TACCOC Christmas at the Downs at Hampton Downs on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December.

It was a mixed day with a few showers, and apart from one light shower whilst the Classic Trial members were on the Dummy grid, all of the Trial took place on a dry track.

Our numbers were somewhat depleted and a week out from the event, it looked like the Classic Trial may be dropped from the event. After some frantic phone calls to register members, we managed to get the grid up to fourteen.



The First Trial was won by David Tolhurst with a 0.29 variation, followed by Rex Fifield 0.42, Allan Horner and Ken Smith third equal on 0.57 and Bronwynne Leech 0.68.



Trial Two honours went to Allan Horner with a 0.30 variation followed by Russell Goodwin 0.32, David Tolhurst 0.56, Graham Hunter 0.71 and Brian King 0.92.



Trial Three went again to Allan Horner with a 0.41 variation followed by Bronwynne Leech 0.45, Mike McCowan 0.46, Russell Goodwin 0.51 and Ken Smith 0.55.

It was great to have Neil Moore back on the grid for the first time in the 2016 / 2017 season.

Neil went on to explain that his absence from the first three rounds was due in the main part to not having any rims for the Jowett. He had found that his rims were cracked and as Jowett rims are not available nor have they been available for some time he had to get some made.



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Currently the Championship is looking as follows;



Championship leader Russell Goodwin in top form. Russell's consistent driving has resulted in him amassing a staggering 635 Points in the first 4 rounds of the year.

Car Number	Driver	Car	Year	Total	Position
4	Russell Goodwin	Ford Escort	1974	635	1
43	David Tolhurst	Ford Capri GT	1975	573	2
116	Peter O'Sullivan	MX 5	1990	474	3
101	Helen O'Sullivan	MX 5	1991	463	4
139	Bronwynne Leech	Peugeot 205 GTI4	1988	459	5

As I commented previously, Russell , David and Bronwynne have completed four rounds, whereas Peter and Helen have only completed three.



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## Upcoming events

There has been some confusion about the next two events, and this has been perpetrated by the lack of communication to the Register members from me.

***Confirming No rounds have been cancelled.***

The next round will be at **Taupo on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> of January.**  
It will be a one day event.

The next event is the following weekend at Hampton Downs.

**This will be the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of January**

and It will be a two day event for the Classic Trial. This is giving the Classic Trial members the option of doing either Taupo, Hampton Downs or both.

Then the next round will be in February at Pukekohe and that will be the Tasman Revival, followed by the Legends of Speed in March.

Looking forward to the 2017 / 2018 Championship, it is looking likely that it may only be six or seven rounds as TACCOC are reviewing the number of events that they run and the number may drop from three down to two.

This will obviously have a flow on to the Classic Trials and the number of events that we are invited to attend. To ensure that the Classic Trial continues to receive an invitation to participate, we will have to guarantee grids of at least 15 cars. If any register members have any suggestions on how to attract new members, they would be most welcome.

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