



OVER *the* HILL



Southern District Motorsports Association, PO Box 1484, QUEANBEYAN NSW 2620

Email: secretary@sdmahillclimb.com

June 2021

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



The stop-start localised COVID outbreaks and lockdowns remind us that the pandemic hasn't gone away and isn't likely to any time in the near future. That means SDMA has to continue to follow all the COVID rules which the ACT Government and Motorsport Australia require us to follow. It's very important for both the club and our sport that we do the right thing in adhering to COVID protocols,

and that we are seen to be doing the right thing. There are people in Canberra who are hostile to motorsport and we can't afford to give them any cause for criticism, real or imaginary.

One side-effect of COVID seems to be that our spectator numbers have risen steadily all year. In part that may be because we have been blessed with good weather for all our events but we may also be sharing in the increased community interest in events held locally in a known, safe environment and which don't require travel. Whatever the cause, it's good that our sport is being showcased to increasing numbers of Canberrans.

The round of the NSW Hill Climb Championship which we are going to host over the October long week-end will help the club raise its profile even further. It's always an exciting event where we get to watch cars and drivers we don't normally see and to compare different driving styles and techniques. The Committee is hoping to promote the round quite heavily, including seeking sponsorship from firms and businesses in Canberra and Queanbeyan for both the

overall event and for individual classes. If you would like to help with the sponsorship efforts – or you can suggest a business that you think might be interested – please let me know. All offers of help will be gratefully received.

This issue of *Over The Hill* contains appeals for club members to help the club in two specific areas: creating a timekeeping team and building our social media presence. Can I ask you to read both articles and, if are interested in either role, please put your hand up.

After the two lap event next Sunday (6 June) we have a break from competition until August. But while there won't be any events in the rest of June and in July, there will be working bees to progress the new Event Administration Centre development. When the notifications for those arrive, please see if you can help, even if only for an hour or two. The old adage many hands make light work is no less true for being old.

Very importantly, this issue of *Over The Hill* includes the date and venue for the club's Annual General Meeting. Please put the date in your diary now and make an effort to come. SDMA belongs to every member and the AGM is an opportunity for you to take part in setting the club's direction for the next 12 months.

John



Chief Scrutineer's Report

Round Four – One Lap Hillclimb - Sunday 2 May 2021

A great day for hill climbing with top weather and a full field of entrants.

17 vehicles were inspected by the scrutineering team of Mark Wyatt and me. The checks are carried out as part of the club's *Managed Scrutineering* system introduced in March this year, which provides that first time entrants at Canberra HillClimb (both cars and drivers) are checked and around 10 per cent of other competitors' vehicles are also scrutineered.

These Chief Scrutineer's Reports in *Over The Hill* are to let members know how many cars were checked at each event, to highlight issues which scrutineers think drivers need to be reminded of and to draw attention to new, unusual or exceptionally well presented vehicles.

A focus for the scrutineers at this event was tyre pressures. In recent events two vehicles had tyres squeezed off their outer rims, fortunately without

serious damage or injury. The Fairbairn Park circuit generates high cornering forces, especially on the left front, so it's important to raise front pressures by about 4 psi or 27 kPa to compensate. An indicator of pressure being too low is entering a corner and the car ending up in a different position on the track compared to where you predicted/intended. It's also important to keep checking tyre pressures throughout the day, as track conditions can alter with weather changes.



My vehicle of choice for the day was easy: the debut of the custom made 'Land Rover Series 1' built and driven by Robert Gregg. It was formerly a Ford Model A bucket and ran in a lot of SDMA events in the last few years. Robert used the frame and V8 running gear, and then custom made all the paneling, finishing it off with a paint job in authentic Land Rover green. It attracted a lot of attention and really stood out. Well done, Robert.

Anthony Hyde

Social media helper(s) still needed

In the April *Over the Hill* we called out for people to help SDMA's social media team. We were looking for a budding social media or marketing coordinator to assist with the planning and scheduling of our Facebook and Instagram posts.

We weren't overwhelmed with replies and since then need has become more urgent, because our main social media operator, Celeste Oringo, has stepped up to become one of the club's Motorsport Australia-endorsed Event Secretaries, which has added substantially to Celeste's workload.

So we're again asking for someone to volunteer to help out. The social media assistant would help schedule photos and infographics to be posted; field or pass on enquiries that come through Facebook and Instagram; and help create and curate content and marketing strategies for the club.

No previous experience required, we only ask that you are comfortable with using Facebook and Instagram and are keen to learn to use scheduling tools.

If you are interested please email sdmamedia@gmail.com

COVID AND THE HILLCLIMB

As events in Victoria this week have shown, COVID-19 is still with us. To keep our hillclimbs COVID-free and to comply with ACT Government legal requirements please follow these simple measures:

- Before coming to an event, check the ACT Government COVID site <https://www.covid19.act.gov.au/community/travel> to make sure that you haven't been anywhere in the last 14 days that is a designated COVID -19 affected area.
- When entering the track, **everyone must sign-in** using the **Check In CBR** app/ QR code. **There are no exceptions:** all drivers, pit crew, officials and spectators must be electronically signed in. So please **make sure you have the Check In CBR app on your phone.**

If for some rare reason you can't use *Check In CBR* (e.g. you don't have a smartphone), talk to an official (they're in fluoro vests) as soon as you arrive and they will help you.

By law, everyone on site must be electronically checked in.

- At the track, follow COVID-19 protocols:
 - Maintain social distancing;
 - Use hand sanitiser ;
 - If you want to wear a mask, feel free to do so,;
 - If you feel unwell with COVID-19 symptoms, immediately leave the hillclimb and get tested.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

Every year the club has an Annual General Meeting (AGM) at which the Committee reports back to members (including on the club's financial position) and all Committee positions are open for election.

The AGM is a very significant event for SDMA. It's an important opportunity for members to have their say and play a part in the running of their club.

**This year's AGM will be held on SUNDAY 19 SEPTEMBER
at 2.00 pm in the PIT STOP CAFÉ at the track.**

After the meeting there will be drinks and refreshments.

Please put this date in your diary and try to attend. It's your club and this is your opportunity to express your views and suggest changes and improvements.

There will be regular reminders about the date and venue over the next three months but try to keep this day free so you can come along.

NEW EVENT ADMINISTRATION CENTRE... UPDATE!!

As you can see in the photos, the second 40 foot container for the Event Administration Centre was delivered last Wednesday (26 May). It fitted perfectly on the foundations prepared over preceding weeks by Geoff Bassingthwaighe, Col Merz, Peter McDonald, Henry Hilhorst, David Yates and John Templeton.

The new container is of the same high quality as the first, which means we have a matching pair of top specification units in which to set up the functions we want to accommodate: an Event Secretary's office, a workshop, consolidated secure event equipment storage and an area for scrutineering equipment and records.

The next jobs are to

- Dismantle the old carport in the bottom corner of the pits so the trusses can be re-used for a roof across the full width of the scrutineering bay. This will also free up extra pit space.
- Install the new roof and guttering creating a wider scrutineering bay
- Fit out the interiors of the containers.

As outlined in last month's *Over The Hill*, there's a lot still to do before the centre is finished. This will involve jobs at both normal pre-event working bees and some specially called working bees, which will be notified by email and on the club Facebook page. So if you are able to help out at either type of working bee, please do so.

As well, getting the project finished will be greatly helped if we could have the long term loan of some key bits of equipment we're going to need. If you have any of the items below and can spare them for the next 12 months of so, the club will give them a (temporary) good home and store them very safely and securely.

- Gasless MIG welder, about 180 amps
- Mid to larger size good quality angle grinder
- Workmate

If you can help, please e-mail Col Merz at collie@velocitynet.com.au.





EVENT REPORT: ROUND FOUR OF THE ACT HILLCLIMB CHAMPIONSHIP

SUNDAY 2 MAY 2021

Another good day of motorsport. A strong field (63 competitors), beautiful weather, five class records broken and significant achievements by two of our female members. Topped off by an embarrassing faux pas at the presentations by the President.

The field limit for a one lap event is normally 60 cars, but we were able to squeeze in three of the reserves this time to give us one of the biggest fields for quite a while. The vehicles covered 19 different classes, with 10 classes having three or more competitors so there was good competition throughout the day. Five runs were completed with the overwhelming majority of entrants (58) lining up for all five.

Class records were set by

- Mark Wyatt, in Type 4 1601-2000c, who cut the previous record of 46.95 seconds by 0.14 of second to establish a new mark of 46.81 seconds
- Bohun Martin, in Type 5 1301-2000cc, whose 44.68 seconds on the last run of the day eclipsed the previous record of 45.26 seconds
- Pedro Hietanen, in Type 6 1301-2000cc, who displaced the old record of 45.79 seconds with a time of 45.42 seconds in his third run of the day
- Iain Chandler, in Type AWD 1/2 2001-3000cc (also known affectionately as Type Yaris GR because all five entrants in the class were immaculate new white Yaris GRs), who took the previous record of 48.20 seconds (set by his father Colin at the April event) down to 46.69 seconds on Iain's second run.

This record has dropped from 50.58 seconds to 46.99 seconds in four events as Colin and Iain have battled it out.

- Zac Le Lievre, in Type AWD/SV4 up to 1600 cc, who cut the old record of 41.45 seconds by the smallest of margins - 1/100th of a second - with a new mark of 41.44 seconds on his second last run of the day.



Zac also took out Fastest Time of the Day with his 41.44 seconds and Toby Wilson was the Fastest Junior of the Day, with a time of 51.27 seconds in the RX 7 competing in Type 3 2002-3000cc.



Fastest female Driver was Melody Wyatt, who had an outstanding result to win her class (Type 3 1601-2000cc) against a field of six other (male) drivers. It was the first time a female driver has won a class which had more than one entrant so congratulations to Melody. Her progress since joining the club six years ago as a keen 15 year old has been wonderful to watch.



Another significant achievement was Celeste Oringo passing her assessment to be a Motorsport Australia accredited Event Secretary. Celeste has been helping Dave Peisley with the Event Secretary role for the last year and has done a great job, a judgement confirmed by her positive result for the MA licence. The club greatly appreciates the work done by all our officials, especially those in complex and time consuming jobs such as Event Secretary or Clerk of Course. So congratulations and many thanks to Celeste.

The presentations after the event were, as usual, very enjoyable but were marked by an unfortunate misunderstanding about birthdays and cupcakes. Celeste was celebrating her birthday and so was Haemesh Catterall, who had just won his class (Type 3 up to 1600cc) in his Honda Civic. Haemesh's wife Candice very generously brought cupcakes along for everyone to celebrate both birthdays, but John didn't realise it was a double celebration and only marked Celeste's happy day. Everyone was cheerfully eating the cupcakes intended for both Haemesh and Celeste, without Haemesh even getting a mention! Sincere apologies and delayed birthday congratulations to Haemesh and thanks to Candice for her generosity. We'll try (belatedly) to rectify the mistake at the 6 June event.

Once again many thanks to our officials who made the day possible : Clerk of Course Chris Hardy, with Rohan Thatcher understudying; Event Secretaries Dave Peisley and Celeste Oringo; Stewards Mick and Helen Nicholls; Pre-Event Secretary Daniel Cummins; Scrutineers Anthony Hyde and Mark Wyatt; Col Merz and Geoff Bassingthwaite on the chock; Kim Le Lievre doing COVID checking duties; Mike O'Connor and Henry Hilhorst on Fire and Recovery; Michael Mann, James Owen, John Courtney and Peter McDonald on flags; Julie Merz, Pamela Masterton and Kim Le Lievre in the Pit Stop Café; Dave King doing timing and Terry Bennett announcing.

Special thanks to Warren Spires and Chris Polglase who were competing but volunteered to help out, if needed, between their runs.



SCRUTINEERING

In conjunction with Motorsport Australia's COVID based approach to online event entry, SDMA has introduced 'managed scrutineering' under which at least 10 per cent of competition vehicles will be physically checked at each event.

Key features

1. Online entry will continue to be the only way to enter an event. Completing both Motorsport Australia self-scrutineering declarations will still be mandatory.
2. Competitors must still provide the *SDMA Statement of Vehicle Compliance* when arriving at an event.
3. Any vehicle entered for the first time will be scrutineered in the Scrutineering Bay before the event.
This applies even if the driver has competed previously.
4. Any driver competing for the first time must take their vehicle to the Scrutineering Bay to be scrutineered before the event.
This applies even if the vehicle has competed previously.
5. In addition to vehicles selected under (3) and (4), another four to six cars (10 per cent of total entries) will be chosen by the Chief Scrutineer after entries close to be inspected in the Scrutineering Bay before the event. The aim is that every regularly entered vehicle will be physically checked at least once a year.

Drivers whose vehicles are to be scrutineered will be told on arrival at the track.

6. Scrutineering will be conducted in a COVID-safe way.
**Drivers will be responsible for opening vehicle doors, bonnets, boots etc.
Scrutineers will use PPE (hand sanitiser, disposable gloves and masks).**
7. Random checks of driver apparel (principally helmets) can be done in the pits at any time.

A cumulative list of the number vehicles which have been checked each year will be on the club website and the Chief Scrutineer will report on each event in the following month's *Over The Hill*. The report will include number of vehicles checked and any compliance/safety issues which the scrutineers have observed.

As has always been the case

- **any vehicle that activates the noise meter during a run must be physically scrutineered before being allowed to compete again at that event;**
- **any vehicle about which the Chief Scrutineer has safety or engineering concerns can be scrutineered at any time during an event.**

COVID CONDITIONS OF ENTRY



When you enter the track, either at the competitors' gate or the spectator footpath, you'll now see this large sign setting out the conditions on which the club grants entry to the circuit.

It's pretty straight forward. Everyone coming into the venue must register using the **Check-in CBR** QR app.

We are required by the ACT Government to keep a record of everyone who visits the hillclimb during an event.

So please make sure you sign in, and make sure your friends, pit crew or visitors have signed in, too.

If you see someone walking in without checking in electronically, please ask them to check in straight away.

We can only have spectators if we manage our venue properly – and that means everyone has to follow the rules.

Please help us to ensure the club can keep running events. If you have any issues relating to this, or you think someone may have entered the venue without registering, please talk to Kim Le Lievre, the nominated COVID checker.

WE'RE BUILDING A TIMEKEEPING TEAM

Hillclimbing is overwhelmingly about time: If we don't have accurate run results to boast or complain about, it might be a bit pointless.

For many, many years, the club's legendary Dave King has been the keeper of time, measuring our performances to one thousandth of a second. But Dave is easing out of being the guardian of the timing system and David Deaves is stepping into his shoes. For which SDMA is very appreciative.

But the good Mr Deaves wants to keep competing, which means he will have to leave the timekeeper's chair in the tower at least five times every event to get behind the wheel of the mighty GTS. So we need some timing assistants to build a timing team to work with him to cover the whole event and give the club back-up for days when David isn't available.

We're looking for members with enthusiasm and patience to develop the skills of this essential role and who enjoy being at the centre of the action.

The advantages of working in the timekeeping tower include a great view of the whole course and the fact that all drivers treat you with great courtesy, respect and politeness! Plus it's a fascinating place from which to watch the different styles and techniques of drivers and the varying vehicle characteristics.

The remuneration package is great, too: free sausage sandwiches and soft drinks at lunchtime!

If you'd like to join the team please contact Dave King at timespan44@bigpond.com.



A Word of Thanks from a Happy Visiting Competitor.

Kevin Hinchliffe competed in the 2 May hillclimb, coming down from Sydney with his Sierra Cosworth.

After the event, he sent the club the following e-mail:

"A big Hi to all that made the event on May 2nd happen. I drove 3 hours on Sunday to compete in this event (set off at 3.30am) and 3 hours back but it was worth every minute of it. I was driving the Sierra Cosworth and it was only my second time at the hill and loved it, great people and I was made to feel welcome from the onset. I only completed 4 runs due a fuel issue which was alerted to me by the marshals (Thanks guys). A great event run extremely well by die hard car enthusiasts. The track had so much grip, I only wish I could have done a few more laps on it (next time). Thanks to you all and see you next time,

Cheers Kev."

Many thanks to everyone who helped make Kevin welcome.

FREE TO A GOOD HOME – FREE TO ANY HOME!



Now that the two containers which will be the core of the Event Administration Centre have been delivered (see separate story), the old timber Scrutineering Shed (pictured) is no longer needed.

It's 2.4 metres wide by 3.7 metres long and sits on a timber frame. It's seen better days and needs some tender loving care, but if you are in the market for a garden shed or have some similar need and can arrange to get it taken from the track, it's available, free of charge, first in- best dressed.

If you're interested, please e-mail Col Merz at collie@velocity.net.au

SDMA 2021 CALENDAR

EVENTS	TRACK MAINTENANCE	NOTES
June SUNDAY 6 JUNE (TWO LAPS)	Saturday 5 June	Committee Meeting: Tuesday 8 June Queen's Birthday: Monday 14 June
July: NO EVENT		Committee Meeting: Tuesday 13 July
August SUNDAY 1 AUGUST	Saturday 31 July	Committee Meeting: Tuesday 10 August
September SUNDAY 5 SEPTEMBER	Saturday 4 September	Committee Meeting: Tuesday 14 September
October NSW Hill Climb Championship Round 9: SATURDAY 2 OCTOBER (Practice: Noon- 4 pm) SUNDAY 3 OCTOBER (Competition) Club Hill Climb SUNDAY 17 OCTOBER	Friday 1 October Saturday 2 October Saturday 16 October	Committee Meeting: Tuesday 12 October Labour Day: Monday 4 October Bathurst 1000 : Sunday 10 October
November TWO LAP HILL CLIMB Saturday 6 November (Practice: Noon- 4pm) Sunday 7 November (Competition)	Saturday 6 November	Committee Meeting: Tuesday 9 November
December SUNDAY 12 DECEMBER Christmas Party		Committee Meeting: Tuesday 14 December

INFORMATION ABOUT THE SDMA CALENDAR FOR 2021

The 2021 calendar has 10 events, starting in February and finishing in November. It includes two lap events in June and November and a round of the NSW Hill Climb Championship in October. Most events are early in the month.

Entry fees for 2021 will be the same as for 2020: \$85 for a single lap event (\$50 for juniors) and \$105 for a two lap event (\$50 for juniors).

SDMA 2020-2021 COMMITTEE

President:.....John Templeton

president@sdmahillclimb.com

Vice-President and Public Officer:.....Geoff Bassingthwaighte

Secretary:.....Dave Peisley

secretary@sdmahillclimb.com

Treasurer:.....Alex Hitch

treasurer@sdmahillclimb.com

Pre-Event Secretary:.....Daniel Cummins

Membership Secretary:.....Ross Samuelson

sdmamembership20@gmail.com

Editor *Over The Hill:*.....Colin Chandler

sdma.newsletter@tricipics.net

General Members

- o Colin Merz,
- o Henry Hillhorst,
- o David Yates,
- o Celeste Oringo,
- o Anthony Hyde,
- o Zac Le Lievre,
- o Kim Le Lievre,
- o John Stewart,
- o Morrie Lonnie,
- o Warren Spires,
- o Rohan Thatcher,
- o Harry Katsanevas

Some general committee members have specific roles:

- o Col Merz is the Facility Manager for the track;
- o Celeste Oringo and Kim LeLievre are the social media team;
- o Anthony Hyde and David Yates are SDMA representatives on the Fairbairn Park Control Council;
- o Harry Katsanevas is the SDMA representative on the *Motorsport Australia* NSW Hill Climb Panel.

For Sale - Toyota 86 and VW Golf 18" alloy wheels



Enkei black 7.5" PF01 lightweight rims, 5x100 +45 offset, to suit Toyota 86 GT/GTS. Wheels are in excellent condition with only very minor marks. Clear coat has been recently redone Will also fit some older Subarus. **\$980 for the set or \$1380 fitted ready to use with Dunlop Sport Max 225/40 18" tyres**

Email **Iain** on ic@work.netspeed.com.au.



Set of **replica 18" x 8" Audi RS rims, to suit VW/Audi models, 5x112 +45 offset, colour silver.** Wheels are still very usable but do have some scrapes and marks, hence the price. Would be great for your track day tyres for example, or if you wanted to go up in size from smaller rims. \$240: Call **Colin** on 0408 271 296

For Sale - Toyota 86/Subaru BRZ Performance LSD Diff Centre

4.56 ratio LSD differential, Cusco final drive. Differential built by Neal Bates Automotive and is in excellent condition. **\$1800.** email **Iain** at ic@work.netspeed.com.au

For Sale - Tilt Trailer

Tandem Axle, Tilt Bed Trailer

Custom 2 ton car/bike trailer/frame/steel, safety chain

15" Holden stud pattern rims, mechanical brakes and bearings,

LED tail lights and wiring, front and side clearance lights,

Registration to Nov 2020,

2 TON leaf suspension, 40mm 97" axles,

Tow hitch 2 TON slide mechanical, handbrake cable and adjuster.

Floor size is 4850x1900

\$5800

Please email kent.donally@gmail.com



For Sale - BRAND NEW RPM Mondial driving suit

Current FIA approval (8856-2000), never been worn. It is marked

'medium' but it is too big for me (174cm/74kg) so I think it is more like a 'large' size and it probably has the wrong tag sewn on it. It cost me \$625 but prepared to cut my losses and sell it for **\$500**. Give me a call if we can do a deal.

Contact: **Col Merz** on 0412 316 275



For Sale - Maxxis tyre (235/55 R18 100V) on CSA Savana rim.



Purchased to use as spare on 2010 Holden Captiva, but never used. Complete with wheel nuts: **\$200**

Contact **Henry** 0421 677 951 or in the pits.



SDMA MERCHANDISE

To order any merchandise, contact a committee member or visit the Pit Stop Café on event days.

Hats (peak and bucket)	\$15.00	
SDMA cloth patches	\$5.00	
Number plate frames	\$8.00 (pair)	