



OVER *the* HILL

SDMA
CANBERRA HILLCLIMB

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

Email: secretary@sdmahillclimb.com

June 2022

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



We are well on the way to 2022 being half over and we have five successful hillclimbs under our belt. The Event Report for the two lap event on Sunday is in this issue and despite the cold and wet weather everyone seemed to have a very good day.

Most COVID restrictions are now behind us, with the removal in mid-May of the requirement for QR check-in at events. That situation can always change, of course, and the committee will continue to monitor the ACT Government's COVID website to make sure the club complies with all relevant restrictions and guidelines.

SDMA can be pleased with the way we managed the impact of the pandemic on our operations. The frequent changes in restrictions and requirements, particularly in 2020, meant that issues such as where entries could be accepted from, whether pit crews were permitted and whether spectators were allowed made the operating environment extremely erratic, often at short notice. But the club still met its core objective of providing regular safe, enjoyable community level motorsport events for members.

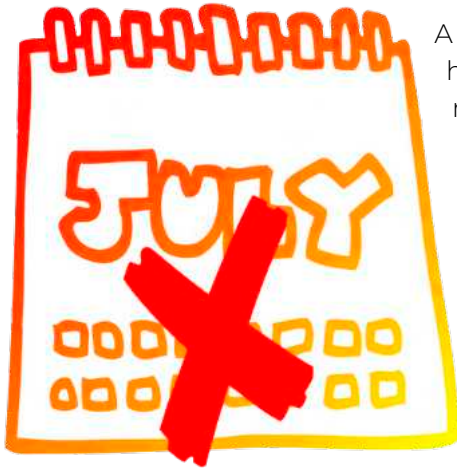
We have a break now until August, with the one lap event on Sunday 7. During that time I hope that more work can be done on facilities at the track, but that will depend largely on the weather. We have a marvellous track and the opportunities to make it even better are great. So if you get an e-mail announcing a working bee to get a specific task done please see if you can help.

We have had good turnouts of volunteers at events and working bees over the last few months, and on behalf of the club a big thank you to everyone who has pitched in.

Enjoy the winter break. I look forward to seeing lots of members at the 7 August one lapper, which, of course, counts towards the ACT HillClimb Championship. Four drivers - Pedro Hietanen, Martin Crombie, Iain Chandler and Jon Harrison - are within two points at the top of the table so the contest will no doubt continue to be very close until the last round. Something to look forward to.

John

NO EVENT IN JULY – NEXT EVENT SUNDAY AUGUST 7



A reminder that **there will be no event in July**, the traditional SDMA hibernation month. Trying to get tyres up to something approaching a reasonable temperature on a track which is very, very cold is difficult at the best of times and can be risky. So we all get to stay home and keep warm.

The next event is a one lap hillclimb on Sunday 7 August. Please watch out for the e-mail and Facebook notifications as to when entries will open.

EVENT ENTRY FEE REFUND POLICY

A Reminder About the Club's Event Entry Fee Refund Policy.

An entry fee will be refunded if a competitor withdraws from the event before entries close at 8.00pm on the Thursday before the event. After entries close, no refunds will be given except in exceptional circumstances.

This information is included in the Supplementary Regulations for each event (generally paragraph 9). The reason for the policy is that if a competitor withdraws before entries close, there is time for another club member to enter and compete. Withdrawals after entries close can't readily be made up by other members and the club suffers a financial loss.





EVENT REPORT: Two Lap Hillclimb – Sunday 5 June 2022

Bleak day but good fun is probably the best way to describe the first two lapper for the year. The winter weather was cold (very cold!) with strong winds and light intermittent showers. Notwithstanding those delights of living in Canberra, drivers were very keen to get out on the track.

After some late withdrawals on Friday and Saturday 36 competitors were meant to start but extra withdrawals on Sunday morning meant only 33 cars finally lined up – the effects of COVID isolation requirements playing a part in the drop offs. The good news was that everyone (generally) stayed on the track so there were no delays due to serious offs, which allowed a fifth run. It has been a long time since we've been able to get five runs for a two-lap event.

Times improved throughout the day and **new class records were set by Jason Perkins and Bryan Fitzpatrick**, both on their fourth run. Jason dropped the mark for *Type 1/2 over 3000cc* by a third of a second from 79.70 seconds to 79.36 seconds and Bryan cut the record for *Type 4 1601cc to 2000cc* by almost a second, from 81.87 seconds to 80.95 seconds, breaking a record set by Colin Scott 18 years ago. Congratulations to both Jason and Bryan.

Fastest Time of the Day went to Matthew Brown. Matt had to work hard as both Sean Doyle and Paul Stringfellow led the field as conditions improved, only to be pipped by Matt who took the Audi RS4 wagon round the track in 77.56 seconds, giving him first in *Type AWD/SV3 Over 3000cc*. **Fastest Female Driver of the Day was Anita Jorritsma**, sharing the Peugeot 206 GTi 180 with husband Adam in *Type 1/2 1601 to 2000cc* and recording a time of 95.91 seconds on her fourth run. **Fastest Junior Driver of the Day was Jack Mules** in the Westfield SE Clubman, a brave effort considering the weather, in *Type AWD/SV3 up to 1600cc* with a time of 90.20 seconds, again on the fourth run.





The full list of class winners is:

• Type 1/2 up to 1600cc	Martin Crombie (Holden Gemini)	93.00 seconds
• Type 1/2 1601-2000cc	Adam Jorritsma (Peugeot 206 GTi 180)	89.33 seconds
• Type 1/2 over 3000cc	Jason Perkins (McLaren 570S)	79.36 seconds
• Type 3 1601-2000cc	Chris Bowley (Ford M-Sport Fiesta)	89.12 seconds
• Type 3 2001-3000cc	Todd Wilson (Mazda RX 7)	89.13 seconds
• Type 3 over 3000cc	Liam Moorby (Nissan R34 Skyline)	84.56 seconds
• Type 4 1601-2000cc	Bryan Fitzpatrick (Renault Clio)	80.95 seconds
• Type AWD 1/2 2001-3000cc	Iain Chandler (Toyota GR Yaris)	81.39 seconds
• Type AWD 1/2 over 3000cc	Rhys Davis (Subaru WRX Sti)	91.45 seconds
• Type AWD/SV3 up to 1600cc	Jack Mules (Westfield SE Clubman)	90.20 seconds
• Type AWD/SV3 over 3000cc	Matthew Brown (Audi RS4)	77.56 seconds
• Type AWD/SV4 over 3000cc	Lance Arundel (Subaru WRX Sti/Lancer Evo 10)	82.50 seconds

All the results are available on the club website, accessible through the 'Results' tab at the top of the home page.





Thanks again to the officials and volunteers made the event possible. Without them we can't do it:

- Stewards: Helen and Mick Nichols
- Clerk of Course: Rohan Thatcher;
- Pre-event Secretary: Daniel Cummins
- Event Secretary: Celeste Oringo;
- Assistant Event Secretary: Dave Peisley
- Pit Stop Café: Julie Merz, Julie Yates, Liz Hilhorst and Pamela Master;
- Flag Marshals: Michael Mann, Matt Wagner and John Courtney;
- Chief Scrutineer: Anthony Hyde;
- Scrutineer: Ed Goncalves
- Timekeepers: Dave King, David Deaves;
- General officials: David Yates, Lyall Reid
- Chocks: Col Merz, John Engisch, Ed Goncalves;
- Announcer: Terry Bennett; and
- Fire and Recovery: Henry Hilhorst.

Photographs thanks to Robert Chandler, on a *freezing* visit to Canberra from Brisbane...

Chief Scrutineer's Report

It was good to welcome club member *Ed Goncalves* to the scrutineering team and as a general official. Ed has a mechanical background and will be a valuable addition to the club's resources.

Ten vehicles were scrutineered at the event and the overall standard was very good. But the process prompted two general reminders.

1. Safety harness expiry:

An FIA Harness is valid for an additional five years after the tagged expiry date.

An SFI Harness is only valid for two years before replacement, no extensions, so although it's far cheaper initially than an FIA approved harness, earlier replacement is required.

2. Battery positive terminals:

These must have a cover or, at a minimum, be taped over. *Jaycar* have flexible universal terminal covers at a reasonable price.



As outlined in previous issues of *Over The Hill*, the club's approach to physical scrutineering is

- Cars competing at SDMA for the first time are physically scrutineered;
- Drivers competing at SDMA for the first time have their car scrutineered, even if it has competed previously;
- Around 10 per cent of the balance of the cars in the field will be scrutineered; and
- Drivers' apparel can be randomly scrutineered at any time during an event.



PHYSICAL DRIVERS' BRIEFINGS ARE BACK!!!

For the first time in more than two years, there was an in-person drivers' briefing at the two lap event on Sunday. This will be normal practice from now on.

It isn't the full blown drivers' briefing of old: it is a short update so the **Clerk of the Course** can let everyone know of any changes or new requirements for the day.

It will **start at 8.30 (sharp)** near the start line and, because COVID is still with us, *will be socially distanced*.

There will be a sign-on sheet and attendance is compulsory – hence the sign-on sheet.

If your signature isn't on the sign-on sheet when the event starts, you can't compete.

The Drivers' Briefing Update doesn't replace the requirement for drivers to read the *Drivers' E-Briefing* sent by email to competitors, along with their running order number, after entries close on the Thursday night before an event.

The Update is the opportunity for the Clerk of Course to tell all drivers if there are any variations or adjustments which may affect the way the day runs. And *it will be important for drivers to be on time for it*. We want every event to start at exactly 9.00 o'clock, which is the earliest we are allowed under the government's noise management restrictions.

So please be there - on time.

WE NEED MORE PEOPLE QUALIFIED TO BE EVENT CLERK OF COURSE

The Clerk of Course (CoC) is indispensable to running competitive motorsport. They are the most senior operational official on the day and their decisions cover the whole range of things which go to making an event a success. It's a fascinating and rewarding role because you get to see the inner workings of motorsport events and you help drivers have safe, fun racing.

SDMA is extremely lucky that Rohan Thatcher and Chris Hardy, two very capable and efficient CoCs, make themselves generally available to run our events. And we are thrice blessed in that we have David Yates as an emergency back-up, such as happened at the May event when Rohan was interstate and Chris was seriously unwell on the day.

But it's tempting fate to have such a small number of qualified CoCs in the club. It's unrealistic (and unfair to Rohan, Chris and David) to keep relying on their goodwill and availability.

We urgently need additional members to commit to getting their Motorsport Australia Clerk of Course qualification so that we can have a pool of people available to help run events. Because the CoC is a senior role, getting the qualification involves completing two training modules and then working under instruction with a qualified Clerk of Course to be assessed by them as to your suitability.

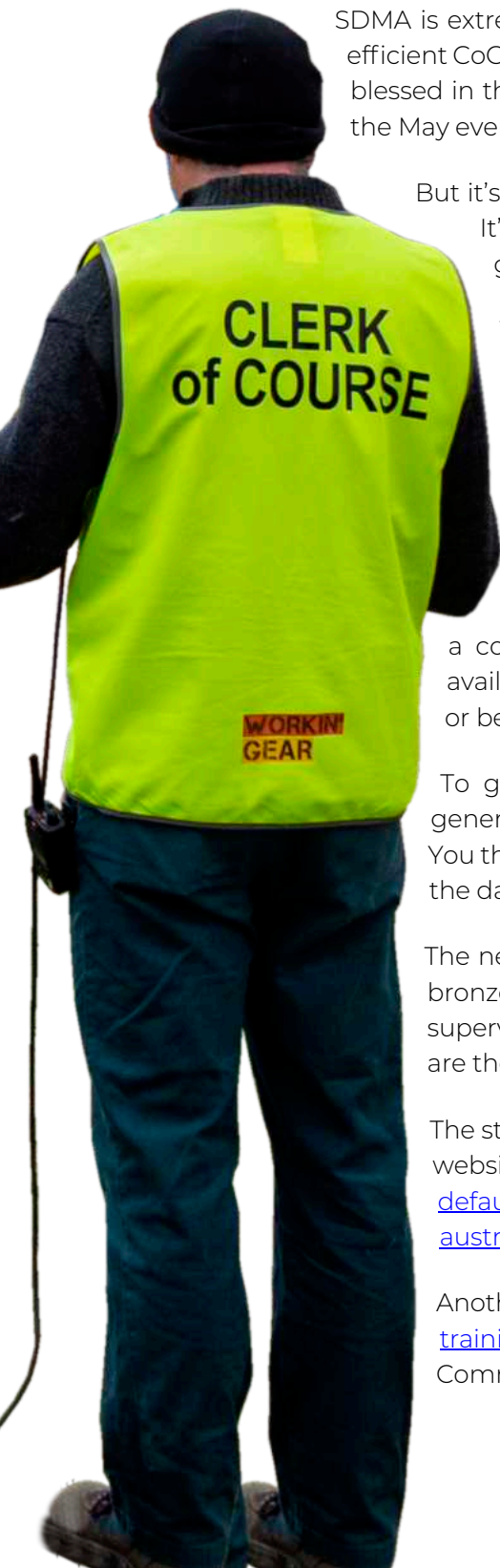
An important point: being CoC doesn't mean you have to give up driving. If we have enough qualified people available, a Clerk of Course can still be a competitor in a hillclimb if there is another qualified Clerk of Course available to take over for the duration of their run. So it's not an either/or (drive or be CoC) situation.

To get a CoC qualification, you start by becoming a Motorsport Australia general official, which is done by completing an on-line introductory module. You then assist at events over 12 months, which can be combined with driving on the day.

The next stage is to complete the Bronze Event Command (a fancier name for bronze Clerk of Course) on-line training module and then work under supervision of an accredited Clerk of Course, who assesses you. If successful, you are then eligible to be an accredited Clerk of Course. Congratulations!

The steps involved are explained more fully on the Motorsport Australia website, specifically: https://www.motorsport.org.au/docs/default-source/default-document-library/officials/event-assessment/motorsport-australia_officials-pathway.pdf

Another MA website page, <https://motorsport.org.au/membership/officials/training>, provides details of the modules including the Bronze Event Command course.



EASING OF COVID RESTRICTIONS



Southern District Motorsports Association
Operators of the Canberra Hill Climb

COVID-19 CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

1. Everyone on-site must follow general community COVID-19 protocols, namely
 - Maintain social distancing
 - Use hand sanitiser when appropriate
 - If feeling unwell with COVID-19 symptoms, leave the HillClimb
2. SDMA encourages the wearing of masks in the Pit Stop Café.
3. If you want to wear a mask in any other area, feel free to do so.

Thank you for your co-operation.

18 May 2022

Southern District Motorsports Association (ABN 65 785 986 387)
PO Box 1484 Queanbeyan, NSW, 2620

The ACT Government eased COVID restriction in mid-May so it is no longer mandatory for people coming to hillclimbs (drivers, pit crews, officials or spectators) to check in electronically using the *Check In CBR* app and QR code.

However the government wishes organisations to continue to display the *Check in CBR* QR code for voluntary use by members of the community. So the posters with the SDMA QR symbol remain around the track.

SDMA encourages everyone to follow general community COVID precautions such as observing social distancing, using hand sanitiser when appropriate and wearing masks if they wish. These general precautions are set out in the revised *SDMA COVID-19 Conditions of Entry*, which are displayed at both entrances to the track (competitors and spectators) and around the central *Pit Stop Café* area.



Last year's AGM had many date changes because of COVID lockdowns and restrictions but we hope this year we can set a date and it will happen.

The Act that we are incorporated under says we have to hold the AGM by the end of September. A date hasn't been set at this stage but (COVID permitting) **we hope we can hold it in the third or fourth week of September.**

The final date and venue will be advised after the Committee decides on both but please think now about making time to come along and play your part in running of the club.

SDMA 2022 CALENDAR:

The calendar may change. Check the club website (www.sdmahillclimb.com.au) and keep up with latest club news in *Over The Hill* and on the club *Facebook* page.

EVENTS	TRACK MAINTENANCE	NOTES
July NO EVENT		Committee meeting Tuesday 14 June Queen's Birthday 13 June
August SUNDAY 7 August (1st Sunday) ONE LAP HILLCLIMB	Saturday 6 August	Committee meeting Tuesday 9 August
September SUNDAY 4 September (1st Sunday) ONE LAP HILLCLIMB	Saturday 3 September	Committee meeting Tuesday 13 September
October SATURDAY 1 October Practice NSW Hillclimb Championship Round 9, 12pm-4pm SUNDAY 2 October (1st Sunday) NSW Hillclimb Championship, Round 9 SUNDAY 16 October (3rd Sunday) ONE LAP HILLCLIMB	Friday 30 September and Saturday 1 October Saturday 15 October	Committee meeting Tuesday 11 October Labour Day 3 October
November SUNDAY 6 November (1st Sunday) TWO LAP HILL CLIMB SUNDAY 21 November (3rd Sunday) ONE LAP HILLCLIMB	Saturday 5 November Saturday 19 November	Committee Meeting: Tuesday 8 November
December * SUNDAY 4 DECEMBER Christmas Party		

SDMA SCRUTINEERING ARRANGEMENTS

1. Before COVID-19, SDMA practice was that every car was scrutineered before every event.
2. Motorsport Australia's 'Return To Race' COVID management policies stopped physical scrutineering of vehicles at events. Instead competitors are required to complete an on-line self-scrutiny declaration when submitting an event entry.
 - Because of concerns about the time between a competitor completing the on-line self-scrutiny form at time of entry and their vehicle lining up at an event, SDMA developed the SDMA Statement of Vehicle Compliance, which competitors must hand in on arrival at the track on the day of the event. It requires the competitor to confirm that they have examined their vehicle in the 72 hours before the event and certify that it still meets the standards set out in the on-line self-scrutiny declaration.
3. COVID restrictions have eased but SDMA has not returned to an 'every car, every event' approach. Instead, SDMA has adopted the following scrutineering policy:

On-Line Entry

- (1). Only on-line entries are accepted. This is no change from pre-COVID.
- (2). Competitors are required to complete the **Motorsport Australia on-line self-scrutiny declaration** when submitting an entry.
- (3). Competitors are required to complete the **SDMA Statement of Vehicle Compliance** and hand it in when arriving at the track on the day of the event.

Before the Event starts

- (1). Any **vehicle** entered for the first time will be scrutineered in the Scrutineering Bay before the event starts. This applies even if the driver has competed previously.
- (2). Any **driver** competing for the first time must take their vehicle to the Scrutineering Bay to be scrutineered before the event starts. This applies even if the vehicle has competed at the hillclimb before.
Before an event, the Event Secretary and Chief Scrutineer will identify the vehicles to be scrutineered under (1) and (2).
- (3). In addition to vehicles checked under (1) and (2) above, 10 per cent of total entries will be scrutineered before the event starts. The aim is that every regularly entered car will be physically scrutineered at least once a year.
Before an event, the Chief Scrutineer will decide the vehicles to scrutineered under (3).

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

At scrutineering, drivers will be responsible for opening doors, bonnets, boots etc.

PPE (principally, but not only, disposable gloves and masks) will be provided for scrutineers.

During the Event

- (1). Any vehicle which activates the noise meter must be physically scrutineered before being allowed to compete again.
- (2). The Clerk of Course or the Chief Scrutineer (or the Chief Scrutineer's delegate) can require any vehicle to be physically scrutineered.
- (3). Random checks of driver apparel (principally helmets) can be done at any time.

January 2022

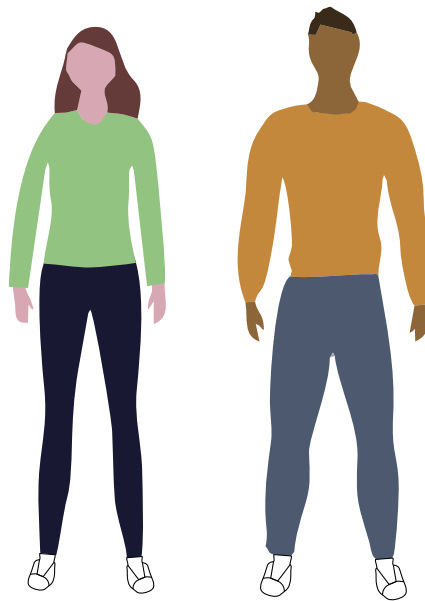
References

Motorsport Australia Return to Race – Scrutiny of Vehicles and Apparel_V1
https://motorsport.org.au/docs/default-source/covid19/officials/scrutiny-of-vehicles-and-apparel.pdf?sfvrsn=35f48a0_7

Motorsport Australia Return to Race – Scrutiny of Vehicles and Apparel_FAQ_V1
https://www.motorsport.org.au/docs/default-source/covid19/officials/motorsport-australia_return-to-race_scrutiny-of-vehicles-and-apparel_faq.pdf?sfvrsn=c78f3cfd_7

REMINDERS FOR ALL HILLCLIMB ENTRANTS

- **You must be a *current* financial member of SDMA to compete.** If your membership has expired please contact the Membership Secretary, Ross Samuelson, at sdmamembership20@gmail.com. For 2022, membership is \$55 for individuals and \$75 for families.
- **You must have a *current* Motorsport Australia (MA) Speed licence** to compete.
- **You must have, and use, a Motorsport Australia approved safety helmet** (see the “Competitors’ Information” section of the club website <https://www.sdmahillclimb.com.au/competitors> for details of approved types).
- **Your vehicle must be roadworthy and safe to compete** and meet the safety requirements set out in the “Competitors’ Information” section of the club website <https://www.sdmahillclimb.com.au/competitors>.
- **Drivers must wear long trousers (no shorts) and long sleeved shirts made from a natural fibre such as cotton (no tee shirts), and enclosed footwear.** Any clothing, including footwear, made of flammable synthetic material, such as nylon for example, is not acceptable.



- **If your car has a Motorsport Australia logbook you must have, and must use, a Motorsport Australia compliant frontal head restraint (FHR),** previously known as a HANS device.
 - *There is no requirement to have or use a FHR if you are driving a road registered car or an unregistered vehicle which does not have a Motorsport Australia logbook.*
- **You will need to provide your own COVID personal protective equipment** such as hand sanitiser, disposable gloves and face masks (if you want to wear one). There are hand sanitising stations around the track..

SDMA 2021-2022 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

Point Scores:.....David King

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

Publicity/Media Officer:.....Celeste Oringo

Membership Secretary:.....Ross Samuelson

sdmamembership20@gmail.com

General Members

- o Colin Merz,
- o David Yates,
- o Henry Hillhorst,
- o Harry Katsanevas,
- o Warren Spires,
- o David King,
- o Celeste Oringo,
- o Daniel Cummins,
- o Zac Le Lievre,
- o Anthony Hyde,
- o Rohan Thatcher,
- o McKelvy Reed,
- o Martin Crombie,
- o Matt Brown,
- o Paul Welch.

Some general committee members have specific roles:

- o Col Merz is the Facility Manager for the track;
- o Celeste Oringo is the social media person;
- 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.

Magazine Editor *Over The Hill:*Colin Chandler

sdma.newsletter@tricipics.net

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.



WEAR YOUR CLUB COLOURS ON YOUR SLEEVE, OR YOUR MUG, OR YOUR LAPTOP...

Let everyone know you're a proud SDMA member!

The club has partnered with **Redbubble**, a print on demand website which makes clothing and other merchandise in Australia, to offer a range of items branded with SDMA logos and insignia.

There are 35 items on offer, ranging from Tee shirts, hoodies and sweaters to mugs, laptop sleeves, tote bags and aprons.

And they're all now available online at www.redbubble.com/people/SDMA-Hillclimb. Just click on the 'Shop all products' tab.

The club receives a percentage of all purchases made, so if you head over to the site the next time you're looking to update your wardrobe or thinking about gifts, you'll also be supporting SDMA.

The jumpers and long sleeve shirts are suitable for motorsport use so help yourself and the club at the same time!

