



THE GOOD OIL

AUGUST 2023

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2023 NECC EXEC.



President	Peter Whitten
Vice President	Chris Aggenbach
Secretary	Kevin McCluskey
Treasurer	Gary Gourlay

Committee

Luke Whitten
John Bell
Jodi Mann
Paul Kent
Steve Roman
Kurt Kazenwadel
Ged Blum

Pointscore	Stuart Lister
Khanacross	Ray Wingrave
Club Permits	Ron Woodward
Club scrutineer	Laurie Weston

The North Eastern Car Club meet at 7.30 pm on the first Wednesday of each month, except January, at the NECC Clubrooms, Nolan Lane, Tarrawingee, 3678.

COMING EVENTS

September

6	General meeting
17	Khanacross round 3
20	Committee meeting
23	Valley Stages (VRC4)
30	AFL Grand Final

October

4	NECC social night
8	Bathurst 1000
15	Khanacross round 4
18	Committee meeting
22	Akados Rally (VRC5)
29	Bagshot Rallysprint

November

1	General meeting
5	Khanacross round 5
15	Committee meeting
18	Khanacross round 6

December

6	NECC AGM
7	NECC presentation dinner

NECC TEST DAY

Successful day held at Moyhu Forest



On August 5th the club held a very successful rally test day in the Moyhu Forest, organised by Luke Whitten.

The goal for the event was to give our local crews a chance to run their cars in a non-competitive environment, and seven drivers/cars took this opportunity.

Those who took advantage of the 5km course were Jason Lennane (Honda Civic), Paul Kent (Datsun Stanza), Troy Brendel (Ford Escort), Cody Richards (BMW), Matt Whitten

(Mazda 323), Ged Blum (Hyundai Excel) and new member, Nick Seymour in his Ford Fiesta R2.

After rain on Friday night put the event under threat, Saturday dawned fine and sunny and conditions were perfect for the event.

A big thanks to those members who assisted on the day, and to Scott Mann and Gary Gourlay for their help in the lead-up to the event.

Luke is keen to run another test day in 2024 as the club ramps up its rally events calendar. Three club rallies are likely in 2024.



CLUB PERMIT REGISTRATIONS UPDATE

The following members have their club permit registration due on the dates below. Please remember that if you are not a financial member of the NECC, your registration is not valid.

Jeff Whitten	CH5746	30/09/23
Greg Brown	17817 H	27/09/23
Matthew Bowman	46474 H	5/09/23
Brodie Paul	70749 H	8/09/23
Reece Masters	70702 H	28/09/23
James Stanistreet	84850 H	22/09/23
Shane Gardner	94995 H	20/09/23
James Perkins	2626 H7	2/09/23
Swen Tillack	7182 H8	23/09/23

OVERDUE

Mark Richards	CH8528	11/08/23
Jarrold Branson	82834 H	7/08/23
Michael White	82838 H	17/08/23



CELEBRATE OUR 2023 CHAMPIONS

The committee has locked in Thursday, December 7th as the date for our 2023 presentation dinner - a change for our traditional Friday night affair.

This has been done to move away from the busy 'Christmas party' rush that happens through December.

The dinner will be held at the Plough Inn at Tarrawingee, where we have booked their function room for our celebrations.

Put the date in your calendar now, and we'll have more details on the dinner in the next issue of The Good Oil.



MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Hello All,

Well, it's been quite a while since my last update to you all – apologies and you can expect to hear more frequently from me moving forward.

We've had quite a few new faces join the club since my last update (April!!), so please join me in welcoming our newest members.

New Members

Elijah Nyman	Chris Rebbechi	Tom Rebbechi
Ruby Brough (Jnr)	Chloe Dowell (returning)	Matt Haring
Graeme Cooper	Mitchell Cooper	Lincoln Cooper
Nicholas Seymour	Christine Hanley	Ian Douglas
Roger Guley	Andrew Greene	

Housekeeping

All recent payments and membership cards have been sent out, if you think you've paid, and you haven't got a card, please reach out to me and we'll get it sorted ASAP.

Over the next couple of months I will be updating our membership database, so if you have a new email address, mailing address or phone number please let me know.

You can contact me on 0409 235 550 or membership@northeasterncarclub.com.au

Until next time, safe motoring

Jodi



PLEASE NOTE

The club is once again accepting new vehicles onto the Club Permit Scheme from new members.

[See full details on the club website HERE.](#)







BY ROSS RUNNALLS

MY CAR

The latest instalment of our irregular 'My Car' segment in the Good Oil ...

A few years ago, in an attempt to improve, or at least increase, Good Oil content, Ross Runnalls instituted the "My Car" segment, in which he started off with a story on his favourite or special car. The plan was to pass the mantle for the next story in the next edition to another club member. This lasted seven issues and ran out of steam.

The contributors were as follows:

June 2019, Ross Runnalls, Subaru Forester

August 2019, Tom Kaitler, Mazda RX7, Toyota MR2, Ford Capri, Mazda MX5, Great Wall

July 2019, Rob Neilson, Datsun 1600

September 2019, Terry Cornelius, "Sabrina" Austin Special

November 2019, Ron Woodward, Datsun 1200

February 2020, Rod Shaw, Austin Cooper

March 2020, Colin Broster, Honda CB1100RD

In an effort to revise this series, Ross has penned a story on his and Chris' newer special car. He will be contacting club members with Club Car registration for more stories, but don't wait, every old car has a story, and we would love to read your story. Forward to editor.....

Our Special Car – Ross and Chris Runnalls

While cycling through the back streets of Porepunkah in late 2021, my wife Chris spotted a cute little ute in a paddock with a for sale sign on it. Discovering that it was a Datsun, she thought it would make a nice restoration project for me. Rob Neilson, a club member and noted old Datsun guru, came along for an inspection and approved its purchase.

Rob has overseen and been a great assistance in the complete dismantling and re-assembly of the 1964 Datsun 320 utility over a 15-month period.

It was decided to avoid the considerable expense involved in restoring the bodywork and retain the worn patina

of the bodywork exterior. Some bodywork was required to reinforce the hinges on the driver's door to close properly. This has disturbed the original patina in that area.

The car was stripped down and the chassis sandblasted and re-painted with rustguard paint. Same with the tub underside.

The rather sad A15 1500cc engine, which had replaced the original E1 1200cc engine, was completely rebuilt. The 4.8:1 diff was swapped with a less truck-like 4.1:1 version. In order to utilise a more contemporary Hitachi distributor, rather than the original Lucas side cap version, the column gear shift linkages were dispensed with and a floor change Datsun 1600 gearbox was installed.

While the brake drums could not be replaced, they were machined, and new brake shoes, wheel cylinders and adjusters were obtained.

Front torsion bars and rear springs were retained, but new shock absorbers were found.

Steering arms and ball joints could not be renewed, but a new kingpin set was found on the internet from Cypress. Terry Goode kindly assisted in aligning the ancient-style front end.

We just made it to the February Show Us Your Car Night, but fuel blockage issues meant we did not make it home under our own steam. A more thorough cleanout of the fuel tank has fixed that.

Some new inertia reel seat belts have been installed, making for a more secure feeling in the tiny cabin.

It rides a little rough, so the tough old rally tyres, obtained in an exchange

“.... the old rally
tyres, obtained in
an exchange deal
for firewood”

deal for firewood with Dinta (Officer), have been replaced with some more supple new road tyres. Might look at removing a couple of leaves from the rear springs, as the heaviest load is expected to be only horse feed.

The rattling windows have been ad-

dressed with new Bailey channel rubbers.

A new laminated windscreen was sourced from Queensland but is slightly larger than the original zone toughened screen. Not sure whether to conduct surgery on the new windscreen rubber to accommodate a larger screen, or try and grind 5mm off the edge of the new screen, without stuffing it completely.

It was decided to not seek club rego, but go with a personalised number plate; IFK 320, paying homage to another Datsun, IFK 250, which we have fond memories of, and the 320 models.

Motorsport Australia has advised competitors of upcoming changes to fire extinguisher requirements for Circuit Race Events. The new requirements can be found on the MA website: www.motorsport.org.au.

National rallying: NECC MEMBERS ON THE PODIUM



After a faultless drive in the Gippsland Rally, NECC members Nick Seymour and Matt Whitten finished second in the Australian Rally Championship's 2WD category in a Ford Fiesta R2. It was the first time the pair had competed together, after joining forces at our recent test day.

COROWA CRUISE

What better way to spend a cold winter Sunday than motoring through the North East?

Sunday, August 20th saw the club's street cruise to both Corowa and Rutherglen take place. The cruise was organised by social director John Bell.

Participants gathered in Apex Park in Wang about 9.30 am and headed off around 10 am. Of the 25 vehicles, 6 were NECC, 7 were Benalla Auto Club and the remainder were mainly from Wang. The Benalla people were looking for a Sunday drive (apparently BAC isn't offering much in that regard at the moment) and the other Wang people are part of the street cruise Facebook page.



The first port of call was Corowa to visit Max's Motor Museum. John had prepared a rough mud map to direct people to the museum once in Corowa. Most people (including Kathy and me) missed the first turn down a dirt road (hence the term mud map) and proceeded to find their own way to the museum.

Fortunately, nobody got lost so no search party was needed. I suspect Google Maps may have helped some. (Note: don't rely on Belly for directions).

The museum was originated by Max MacLean, a local builder and owner of Max MacLean's Hardware store. Quite a few years ago Max built a number of large warehouses in the Corowa industrial estate. Max set up one of the warehouses to display his and his extended family's car collections.

Club member Rob Neilson (Max's nephew) has some of his vehicles on display. The number of vehicles on display has also been bolstered by other

locals also providing cars for display.

Max passed away a few years ago and the museum is now managed by Max's son Ross, daughter Helen and nephew Rob, and provides tours on appointment to interested groups such as our club. Ross, Helen and Rob were on hand to welcome us to the museum on Sunday.

The displays include cars and commercial vehicles and motoring-related exhibits from the very early 1900s through to around the 1980s. One interesting working exhibit is a Rolls Royce V12 Meteor motor (similar to a Spitfire) mounted on a portable stand. When fired up this motor provided a lot of interest, plus noise and smoke. After about an hour we left the museum and headed for Rutherglen

Our stop in Rutherglen was to visit the "Caffeine and Machine" café for lunch. The café is located in the old Holden dealership building and as well as good food and coffee, it boasts a significant collection of old motorbikes and associated bits and pieces which proved of great interest to a number of us who are into motorbikes as well as cars.

The food and company were good and most people settled in for a chat and coffee. There just happened to be a motorbike club from over Shepparton way also visiting the café and a few of us had a good chat to them. They were conducting a raffle for charity, so some



of our group obliged and bought tickets.

The raffle was drawn while we were still there and John Bell came away with a big umbrella embossed with Ford stuff, and I was lucky enough to also have a win, a pretty good quality fishing rod and reel.

At about 1.00 pm our crowd started dispersing with the final few (John, Kathy and me, Richard Mason and his

wife) and a couple of others hanging around until about 2.30 pm.

I think everyone enjoyed the day and a big thanks to John (our club's quiet achiever) for organising it. It was also good to meet and get to know some people with similar interests from other clubs.

Cheers,
Woody



PARTING SHOT

Our hugely successful
Show Us Your Car Night
will return again in
February 2024



KHANACROSS – ROUND 3

Sunday, September 17 @ Carboor

