



**1953 - 2023
70th Anniversary**

THE GOOD OIL

SEPTEMBER 2023

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NECC rally crews
2023 Presentation

Khanacross round 3
McRae car collection





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

Pointscorer	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

October

4	NECC social night
8	Bathurst 1000
15	Khanacross round 4
18	Committee meeting
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

Check out our website:
northeasterncarclub.com.au

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Keep up to date with club news via our website or on our Facebook page.

NECC RALLY CREWS

Club members taste rally success in Sept.

Members Michael Trucano and Heli Thaw finished ninth in the Victorian Club Rally Series of the Valley Stages Rally (pictured bottom).

Matt Whitten has had a busy couple of weeks in the co-driver's seat. Firstly, he partnered Lee Peterson to a 2WD win in a round of the Tasmanian Rally Championship (right), before sitting beside Newcastle's Jake Bramble in the Valley Stages. Unfortunately their rally came to an early end after hitting a tree and damaging the rear of the car.

In South Australia, **Jason Lennane** drove his Honda Civic Type R (above right) to an impressive 10th in the Barossa Rally after overcoming an early puncture in the two-day event.



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.

Samual Adams	64776 H	30/10/2023
Robert Ballard	84867 H	19/10/2023
Kieth Cleal	2614 H3	6/10/23
Allan Holland	6102 H8	20/10/23
OVERDUE		
Brodie Paul	70749 H	8/09/2023
Reece Masters	70702 H	28/09/2023



OCTOBER SOCIAL

Join us for a bonfire
and free BBQ at
the clubrooms on
Wednesday, October 5th
at 7.30pm.

Drinks at bar prices.

ALL WELCOME

PRESIDENT'S PREACH

It's hard to believe that it's nearly October already and that we've started planning for our end of year presentation dinner.

2023 has been a year of ups and downs in the club with some tremendously successful events, as well as a number of cancellations due to wet weather.

With spring now in full swing, we're hopeful of getting all remaining rounds of the khanacross series run with our ever-enthusiastic team of organisers and competitors.

Throughout this year your committee has been incredibly hard working as we strive to celebrate our 70th anniversary, as well as planning for the next 10 years of the North Eastern Car Club.

We have also had a lot of members 'out and about' competing across the country, and even travelling overseas to take in some of the incredible motoring museums around the world (more of this to come in future issues)!

Looking ahead to the remainder of this year, I encourage you to book your tickets early for our annual presentation dinner that will this year be held at our "local", the Plough Inn in Tarrowingee. Ticket details are provided in this issue.

There's also round four of the khanacross series coming up on October 15 that is sure to attract another bumper entry.

I hope to catch you at next week's general meeting, or at a club event in the weeks ahead.

Until then, happy motoring.

– Peter Whitten



OIL SPOTS

The club was saddened to hear of the deaths of Col Broster and Jack Berry in recent weeks. Our sincere condolences go out to the families and friends of both men.

It was great to see the ever-energetic Rod Shaw back in competition at the last khanacross, after a few months in the UK. His Mini was back on song and setting the pace for the youngsters to match.

Life member and club stalwart Jeff Whitten is now residing in St. Johns Village after recent health issues. Jeff has the early stages of dementia but is adjusting to the change reasonably well. Club members are encouraged to visit him in the Gibson wing of the village.



Third generation club member, Tom Rebecchi, has been competing in khanacross events this year. Tom is the grandson of former competitor Mike Rebecchi, who now resides in Queensland. Mike's original 1970 Datsun 1600 is now in Tom's hands, but the car tragically had an engine fire recently that did major damage. The car now faces a major rebuild, so if any club members are able to offer any assistance, we're sure that young Tom would be happy to hear from you. All the best for the rebuild mate.

Round 3, September 17



17th September 2023 Round 3

Driver/Co-driver	Car Class	Age	Age Class	Test 1 Run 1	Pen	Test 1 Run 2	Pen	Test 1 Run 3	Pen	Test 2 Run 1	Pen	Test 2 Run 2	Pen	Test 2 Run 3	Pen	Test 2 Run 4	Pen	Test 2 Run 5	Pen	Total Pens (s)	Total Time (secs)	Outright Position	Class Position	Under 18 Position	Under 14 Position
BRAD GOURLAY	B	S	S	1:48.64		1:45.91		1:43.60		1:50.12		1:50.60	F	1:57.39	F	0:00.00		0:00.00		10	666.26	11	5		
STEPHEN ROMAN	C	S	S	1:49.50		1:37.84		1:35.15		1:43.33		1:41.87		1:42.71		0:00.00		0:00.00			610.40	2	1		
STEVEN CROSTHWAITE	B	S	S	1:49.60		1:36.67		1:34.21		1:56.87		1:43.62		1:43.74		0:00.00		0:00.00			624.71	5	3		
MARK RICHARDS	C	S	S	1:49.10		1:41.79		1:38.92		1:51.08	F	1:47.34		1:45.22		0:00.00		0:00.00		5	638.45	9	2		
ROSS RUNNELLS	G	S	S	1:42.01		1:40.59		1:42.28		1:46.20		1:46.60		1:43.97	F	0:00.00		0:00.00		5	626.65	6	1		
PAUL KENT	C	S	S	1:56.79		1:43.17		1:40.81		1:47.11		1:54.73		1:57.04		0:00.00		0:00.00			659.65	10	3		
JOSHUA MANN	B	U18	U18	1:54.53		1:52.54		1:45.58	F	1:53.69		1:46.36		1:53.38		0:00.00		0:00.00		5	671.08	13	6	4	
ROD SHAW	A	S	S	1:42.30	G	1:37.66		1:34.87		1:44.66		1:42.46	F	1:41.75		0:00.00		0:00.00		10	613.70	3	1		
OLLIE KENT	C	U18	U18	2:18.75	WD	1:52.59		1:49.84		1:57.64		1:56.05	2F	1:54.64		0:00.00		0:00.00		15	724.51	17	5	5	
GED BLUM	B	S	S	1:47.19		1:40.25		1:35.96	F	1:46.33	2F	1:43.66		1:44.44		0:00.00		0:00.00		15	632.83	8	4		
RON WOODWARD	B	S	S	1:56.46	F	1:51.33		1:46.42		1:53.73		1:55.69		1:54.00		0:00.00		0:00.00		5	682.63	15	8		
GRACE WINGRAVE	B	U14	U14	2:18.75		2:12.67		2:02.86		2:13.39		2:16.51		2:15.48		0:00.00		0:00.00			799.66	19	10		1
EMILY WOOLFORD	B	S	S	2:14.47		2:04.25		1:54.70		2:12.03		2:06.90		2:04.47		0:00.00		0:00.00			756.82	18	9		
LUKE BROUGH	G	U18	U18	1:46.33	G	1:35.57	F	1:31.43		1:43.56		1:48.69	F	1:46.22		0:00.00		0:00.00		15	626.80	7	2	2	
TOM REBBECCHI	B	S	S	1:52.58		1:44.69	F	1:52.64	F	1:52.66		1:52.68		1:49.16		0:00.00		0:00.00		10	674.41	14	7		
LUKE WHITTEN	B	S	S	1:40.12		1:38.37	F	1:35.05	F	1:46.91		1:45.47		1:44.03		0:00.00		0:00.00		10	619.95	4	4	2	
WILLIAM GOURLAY	C	U18	U18	1:48.20	G	1:44.18		1:40.13	G	2:06.11		1:50.44		1:48.82		0:00.00		0:00.00		10	667.88	12	4	3	
RYAN CROSHWAITE	B	U18	U18	1:41.84		1:36.73		1:33.14		1:42.04		1:43.10		1:42.21		0:00.00		0:00.00			599.06	1	1	1	
RON LIGETI	E	S	S	2:18.75	WD	1:47.52		1:46.89		1:53.04		1:52.26		1:53.27		0:00.00		0:00.00		5	696.73	16	1		



YOU ARE INVITED TO

End of Year

CELEBRATION &
AWARDS NIGHT

THURSDAY

7TH DECEMBER 2023

@ 7.30 PM

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**Click the link below to
book your tickets**

PLOUGH INN
TARRAWINGEE

TICKET LINK -

[HTTPS://WWW.REVOLUTIONISE.COM.AU/NECC/PRODUCT/36444/](https://www.revolutionise.com.au/necc/product/36444/)

COLIN MCRAE CAR COLLECTION IN SCOTLAND

Matt Whitten got a very special tour of a unique 'behind closed doors' car collection

There isn't a more well-known name than McRae in the world of rallying, and on my recent trip to the UK, I was lucky enough to see some of the cars that were made famous by that man Colin.

It was a sunny afternoon in Scotland and we left Glasgow around midday to head for Lanark, the hometown of the McRae family.

We'd pre-organised to visit the home of Alison, Colin's wife, for a tour of the collection of cars still owned by the McRae family.



We arrived at the McRae's street and had to walk the remaining kilometre or so to their house as our bus couldn't fit up the small country road.

Jimmy (Colin's dad and a multiple British Rally Champion) was yet to arrive, but we began our walk in anyway as we had word the he wasn't far away.

Soon enough, Jimmy was driving past in his Volvo and we arrived at the family home.

Off to the side was a plain roller door, and we knew that inside was some of rallying's greatest ever artefacts.

As the door opened, it was like a scene from a movie. The first time laying eyes on the cars in that shed was something I could never have imagined, and a vision I'll never forget.

At the forefront was Colin's 1995 World Championship winning Subaru Impreza 555. Still stickered up from the 1995 RAC Rally colours in the famous blue and gold – it was almost as it finished that famous event.

So much so, that even when opening one of the doors, caution had to be taken as it was bending the front guard where obviously the body was not quite straight.

Directly across was Colin's self-designed R4 – a car that featured a naturally aspirated 2.5-litre Millington



Diamond engine producing over 300hp to all four wheels.

A concept that was designed to make rallying cheaper and more affordable, it never got off the ground due to Colin's death just after its completion.

Many believed that it was the future of rallying, with its tubular chassis design and other innovative ideas. Many of these ideas, including the

tubular chassis, are now used in the World Rally Championship's Rally1 cars some 20 years later.

The Ford Sierra Cosworth that Jimmy, Colin and younger brother Alister all drove in the British Rally Championship sat in the corner, a car with likely more stories to tell than any other in the shed.

Colin's first motorsport car was a Mini Cooper that was used for



COLIN MCRAE CAR COLLECTION IN SCOTLAND

Motorkhana type events. That was in the shed as well, as was one of his first rally cars, a Vauxhall Nova.

A stray road car sat in the shed, which was one of a limited number of McRae edition Imprezas built by Subaru to celebrate Colin's 1995 championship win.

It was an incredible sight to see all these cars with so much history in the one place, and we were disheartened to hear that just weeks before, three of Colin's other famous rally cars – his Subaru Legacy RS, his Ford Escort Mk2 and his Peugeot – had all been sent to auction.

Alison, who now owns all the cars, said that the cars were too valuable to be sitting in her shed and not being appreciated by people, so the decision was made to sell them on to people



who could enjoy them.

I have to give full credit to the McRae family for their hospitality in the time we were at their house.

Firstly, all the cars had been outside the shed earlier that day for a wash, so they were in pristine condition for our visit.

It was a relative 'free for all' with the cars in the shed. While of course

we couldn't drive them, we were allowed to look, touch, open doors, take photos, and even get inside and imagine we were driving these incredible machines.

I think everyone on our tour group would've understood if they'd rather we didn't take photos, or get inside these cars, but the family allowing us to have free reign over the cars was





something that I know I'll never forget. Visiting the McRae car collection was definitely a highlight of my trip.

A massive thanks to Jimmy, Alison and Max McRae for their assistance in sorting this out. Hopefully we can be back soon!

– Matt Whitten

Learn to Drive Day Saturday 14th October 9am – 12noon Tarrawingee Club Rooms

For Junior's aged 12 +

Bookings Essential –
Please call Jodi on 0408 235 550 OR
membership@northeasterncarclub.com.au



PARTING SHOT

Paul Kent puts his Datsun Stanza through its paces at the Khanacross in September.



KHANACROSS – ROUND 4

Sunday, October 15 @ Carboor

