

NORTH EASTERN CAR CLUB INC.



EST. 1953

the Good Oil

OFFICIAL JOURNAL

JUNE-AUGUST 2021





the Good Oil is published quarterly, except January, by the North Eastern Car Club incorporated. The opinions expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the club or its committee.

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The deadline for material to be published in the Good Oil is the third weekend of each month except December. Material as text files (.txt), Word documents (.doc) or PDFs (.pdf) is acceptable. Alternatively printed document is also acceptable. All material to be directed to the EDITOR - editor@northeasterncarclub.com.au.

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

NECC COMMITTEE 2021



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SECRETARY **Gary Gourlay** 0407 833 002

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CLUB PERMIT SCHEME **Ron Woodward** (03) 5727 3407
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Cover photo: NECC members @Marysville Stages - Matthew Whitten



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EVENTS CALENDAR 2021

FEBRUARY

3 **General Meeting**
17 Committee meeting
20 George Woods Introductory
27 Rally Retro Festival

MARCH

3 **2020 NECC Annual General Meeting**
17 Committee meeting
20 **VRC•VCRS**
Mitta Mountain Rally *

APRIL

7 **General Meeting**
10 Swan Hill Tour
11 Khanacross Round 1
17 VRC•VCRS
Ada River Rally *
21 Committee meeting

MAY

1 VCRS
Victoria Cross Rally *
5 **General Meeting**
15 VRC•VCRS
Marysville Stages *
16 **Jamieson Drive**
19 Committee meeting
22 Experts Trial
23 **Khanacross Round 2**
22-23 Historic Winton

JUNE

2 **General Meeting**
6 **Ron Grealy Afternoon**
16 Committee meeting
19 VCRS
Nissan Nightmoves *
27 **Khanacross Round 3**

* NECC Rally Championship round

° To be confirmed

Note: dates & events subject to change

JULY

7 **General Meeting**
17 VCRS
Moonlight Meander
/Dan Murphy Trial *
21 Committee meeting
25 **Khanacross Round 4**
31-1 Winton SuperSprint

AUGUST

4 **General Meeting**
7 VRC
Gippsland Rally
18 Committee Meeting
29 **Khanacross Round 5**

SEPTEMBER

1 **General Meeting**
11 Sunraysia Safari Rally
12 **Khanacross Round 6**
15 Committee Meeting
19-20 VRC•VCRS
Yarra Valley Stages *
26 Tour of Gippsland

OCTOBER

2 VCRS
Tunbridge Trail
/Steve Richards Trial *
6 **General Meeting**
10 **Khanacross spare**
17 VRC•VCRS
Akademos Rally *
20 Committee meeting
23 Bagshot Rallysprint

NOVEMBER

3 **General Meeting**
6 Bill Orders Memorial
7 **Khanacross State Championship Carboor**
17 Committee meeting
26 **Presentation Dinner**

DECEMBER

1 **Annual General Meeting**
2 Alpine Rally



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PRESIDENT PRATTLES...

Scott Mann → president@northeasterncarclub.com.au

Something New, something old...

I'm sure many of you know the rest of the saying.

Over the last month, we've experienced both of these within our club and the community.

Something Old;

During the past weeks, Victorians have been glued to the daily press releases to see how far the latest outbreak of COVID19 has been able to spread. As we know, it has now ultimately led to another lockdown within the state which regrettably led to the cancellation of the June General Meeting and the planned gather for Ron Grealy.

I suppose we'll all watch the developments over the coming days, weeks, month.

Something New;

Over the past month, the committee have been looking at options to help offset the purchase of the new timing system for the Khanacross series.

After spending a good amount of time canvassing various streams of grant funding opportunities, two VIC state government grant funding streams appeared to be most viable to the club.

One is dedicated to motor sporting organisations and the development of a club's ability to promote, develop, and improve engagement of the sport. Split of very four rounds, clubs can make submissions for a wide a range of items up to \$200k in value.

The other funding option was via the Community Sporting Club Fund. Like the motorsport fund, it is aimed at getting greater participation.

Upon looking at both funds, a submission was developed and lodged for the community sporting club fund. The category of funding most applicable to our timing system was the club equipment fund. This allowed us to seek up to \$1000 from the fund.

The submission was lodged mid-May and we were advised less than two weeks later that we'd been successful with our application.

This is a fantastic outcome for the club and will allow us to re-allocate some of the funds committed to the timing gear to other club requirements.

We have been in touch with the supplier of the timing gear, and we are currently in the process of placing an order for the equipment in the coming week.

With a bit of luck, we might even see this kit arrive in time for the next round of the Khanacross series in late June.

Further to our successful submission, Gary Gourlay attended a sprint race meeting at the Logic centre only to find Kyneton Car Club using the exact same system for the event timing. Reports received from Gary were very favourable.

We'll keep you posted on the process and implantation of the new timing system.

Another new item that happened for the first time in several years was the drive day to Jamieson. organised by Karen and Andrew Bartlett, approximately ten vehicles assembled in Wangaratta before heading towards Jamieson.

I haven't heard the details of the day, but I understand it went well. Congrats to Karen and Andrew for getting out there and organising the day. Well done to all those who made a day of it. Let's hope this is the first of many more to come.

The past month has also seen several events being run and won.

In early May, Lister, Gourlay and myself headed south to Mt disappointment for the Vic Cross Rally. A great opportunity to catch up with many faces we'd not seen for some time.

A couple of weeks later and very different conditions, several NECC crews again headed south to Marysville for the next round of the VRC and VCRS. Greeted by snow, crews were able to experience a type of event seldom seen in Australia.

The last weekend hosted the second round of the club's Khanacross series at Carboor. Unfortunately, I couldn't make it to this round but I'm led to believe that we had a good number of competitors for the day.

Looking forward, June will see the next rounds of both the VCRS (Nissan Nightmoves) and the third round of the Khanacross series on the last weekend (June 27th- 28th). Make sure you get around to either, or both events.

Speaking of the VCRS series, those of our members who are regular participants of this series. The series committee are currently taking a good look at the series and we it is heading in the future. The consensus is that the competitors are seeking events that may not align with the original format of the series. Keep an eye out for updates in the coming months regarding this series as I suspect it about to undergo a transformation of sorts.

As our club's series representative, I will keep you abreast of the proposed changes as they are released.

The last item I need to raise, is the Good Oil. This edition will be the first of the quarterly publications. This will be an adjustment for many in the club who have been used to receiving the monthly dose club news for many the past years. The club will continue to distribute newsletters on a monthly basis as well as updates via the website and the facebook account.

What we need to see going forward is a heathy and ongoing flow of articles, event reports, photos etc for the magazine. Please do not rely on the committee or event organisers to submit reports. Get your fingers on the keyboard and submit your exploits. We need your contribution.

Well, that's all from me, look forward to seeing somewhere soon.

In the interim, stay safe.

NECC is supported by:



**ROBERTSON'S
PHARMACY**



17-19 Rowan Street
WANGARATTA 5721 4510



MEMBERSHIP - EXPIRING MEMBERS

Richard Fung → membership@northeasterncarclub.com.au

OVERDUE

Robin & Veronica Box	Alan Lennane	Troy Dowell & Family
Lisa Box	Christopher Rissman	

JUNE 2021

Keith Eldridge & Family	Trevor Bowden	Troy Gay
Michael Stone	Peter Gay	

JULY 2021

Paul Scalzo	Karen & Andrew Bartlett	Sherwin Williams
James Woodward	Rick Schaefer	Mark Stone

AUGUST 2021

Robin Hourigan	Jarrold Branson	Greg Brown & Tara Sanders	Steven Ousley & Family
Rolf Monschau	Michael White	Maureen & Ian Brown	Evan Sanderson & Family
Peter Williams & Family	Bruce Gooday	Brendon Gigliotti	Tom Canning

SEPTEMBER 2021

Swen Tillack	Ellen & Thomas Crocker	Heath Lloyd	Brad Gourlay & Family
Matthew Bowman	Brodie Paul	Allan Holland	David Sheridan
Ben & Tony Dalton	Paul McKenzie	Reece Masters	James Stanistreet
Craig & Kim Green	Justin O'Connor	Shane Gardner	Sam Prior & Simon Baker

SOCIAL DATES

John Bell → social@northeasterncarclub.com.au

POSTPONED - 6th June • RON GREALY AFTERNOON

This is to honour a life member and his very long commitment to the NECC. Please bring photos of Ron if you have some.

Afternoon tea available and bar will be open.

From 2:00pm at our Tarrawingee Clubrooms.

For inquiries contact John Bell 0400 863 334.

→ **KEEP AN EYE ON OUR WEBSITE FOR A NEW DATE** ←

7th July • GENERAL MEETING

Guest speaker **Jeff Grech** - Jeff will chat about his storied motorsport career.

1st September • GENERAL MEETING

Trip out to **Moyhu** to tour vehicle door cards and race and rally cars internal panels facility

- TBC - more details to come

2nd Sunday of each month • TONE ROAD CAFE Wangaratta

Tone Rd Cafe on the second Sunday of each month 8:00am to 10:30am. Club permit registered car owners catch-up and chat.

Coffee and breakfast available.

13th June, 11th July, 8th August, 12th September, 10th October, 14th November, 12th December.

RALLY REPORT: MARYSVILLE STAGES

By Peter Whitten, RallySport Magazine → peter@rallysportmag.com.au



Photography: Matthew Whitten, Bruce Keys, John Douch

Insight: Handbrakes, socks and controller's fires – the Marysville Stages had it all

It had been two years since I'd entered a rally, and five years since I'd done more than a couple of stages in a rally, so it's fair to say that I headed into the Marysville Stages with a dose of trepidation.

There'd been some false starts in that time, with COVID-enduced cancellations, an event that was canned through lack of entries, and plenty of time on the sidelines rebuilding a car that I've had in my possession for nearly 30 years.

My Ford Escort is a pretty basic machine – Group 1 they used to be called in the 70s and 80s.

It runs a mildly tuned 2.0 litre Pinto engine, a four-speed close ratio gearbox, and a 4.6:1 limited slip differential.

In this day and age it's never going to be a rally winner, but it's proved to be a strong and reliable ally over many years, and many events.

With my son, Luke, putting his hand up for co-driving duties, the Marysville Stages round of the Victorian Rally Championship was an event that we prepared long and hard for. The car was in tip-top shape (or so we thought), and was ready days before the rally, which is always a good start.



As the rally got closer and the weather forecast got worse and worse, I made the decision to ditch my crusty rally tyres, even though they still had plenty of grip left on them. A few years sitting in the shed didn't fill me with confidence that they'd handle the mud and snow predicted.

A quick call to Stuckey Tyres had four fresh Dunlops at my door, and we set off for Marysville eager to tackle whatever the weather gods had for us.

Things were going to plan until we drove the 'Halda check' and found that the rear

brakes were sticking on. Why problems like this don't surface in the week before the rally is beyond me



Our service team of Troy and Josh soon diagnosed that the master cylinder in the hydraulic handbrake had seized. A few whacks of a big hammer and a liberal injection of WD40 soon had that in order though, and we set off for the first of seven special stages.

We knew that there was snow on the higher hills around Marysville, and as we pulled up to the start of the first stage, the rain had set in.

Off the start line of the opening 11km stage, the car immediately felt down on power and as the stage progressed it was clear that we had an issue. A three-cylinder engine might work a treat in a Yaris AP4, but in a 45-year Escort, it was struggling to pull the skin off a rice pudding!

Our diagnosis was that one of the Weber carburetors had sucked in a sock – a foam covering that stops dust getting into the fuel system. At stage end, it proved we were correct.

The stage was something to behold, and after travelling to Sweden last year to watch a near-snowless WRC round, I was being treated to a winter wonderland in my own state. Go figure!

The snow continued to tumble down, and we were then informed that stages two and three had been cancelled, so we toured back to Marysville for an early service.

Two hours later, and with our carby problem seemingly overcome, we set off for two stages that were to be run twice in succession, with a re-fuel in between.

But the best laid plans don't always come to fruition, and off the



RALLY REPORT: MARYSVILLE STAGES - cont

By Peter Whitten, RallySport Magazine → peter@rallysportmag.com.au

start line (again) the car dropped onto two cylinders and we were barely able to make it up some of the hills. 40th fastest time was hardly anything to write home about.

I repeat ... why problems like this don't surface in the week before the rally is beyond me?.

Fortunately the stage was only 4.5 kilometres in length, but we were now concerned that the problem could be more serious. At the finish control, smoke billowing behind the car had us thinking that maybe we had blown an engine

.... until we realised said smoke was actually coming from the control official's fire!

A painfully slow transport stage followed until we found space to pull over and investigate the problem further. This time, two 'socks' had been sucked into the Weber carburetors, which required me to reach in and pull pieces of foam out of the ram tubes.

The air inlet on two carbies was blocked solid.

Determined that this wouldn't happen again, I ripped all four socks off the carbies and decided (with my fingers crossed) that we'd run without them for the final three stages. With no dust around, I figured there was little chance of foreign objects being sucked into the engine.

Heading off into the next 21km stage, the car was finally back on song and we were able to get our teeth into the flowing corners and make proper use of the sticky Dunlop tyres.

Luke's calls were coming out eloquently and we got to the end with the 16th quickest time.

After a quick refuel it was back into the same 4.5km stage we had troubles on earlier. With everything working as it's supposed to be, we improved our speed by a full 20 seconds, moving to 15th fastest – 25 places higher than we had been a little while earlier.

By the time the last stage was run, the light was really deteriorating and our headlights were beaming. Eager to finish with a bang, we attacked the stage to record the 13th fastest time.

As mentioned earlier, we were never going to match the more powerful cars ahead of us, but we were pleased to have made our way from a start position of 33 to



finally finish in 15th place overall.

On a day when the most impressive performance came from the organisers for getting a rally off the ground and enough stages run, it was a satisfying feeling to pull back into a muddy Marysville footy ground to celebrate with our fellow competitors.

I'd also come to the realisation that I'd been out of the driver's seat for far too long, and that it certainly wouldn't be two years before I ventured back behind the wheel again.

Now, where's that rally calendar?



NECC members Troy and Sam Brendel were also competing at Marysville Stages

Photography: Matthew Whitten

KHANACROSS SERIES - Round 2, 23rd May

Images by Kylie Dowell - for results & more photos, visit our website: northeasterncarclub.com.au/khanacross/



KHANACROSS SERIES - Round 2 Results

GEOFF PORTMAN BOOK

Held: Sunday May 23rd

Results
KHANACROSS

Car #	Driver/Co-driver	Car Class	Age Class	Test 1		Test 2		Test 3		Test 4		Total Pens (s)	Total Time (min:secs)	Outright Position	Class Position	Under 18 Position	Under 14 Position
				Run 1	Pen	Run 2	Pen	Run 3	Pen	Run 4	Pen						
1	Luke Brough	C	U14	2:25.03		2:10.25		2:07.81		2:04.63		2:09.88		2:07.93		2	5
2	Steven Crosthwaite	B	S	1:41.31		1:37.06		1:35.75		1:37.91		1:47.19		1:45.44		4	4
3	Brad Gourlay	B	S	1:47.20		1:39.34		1:37.13		1:36.66		1:41.97		1:43.50		3	3
4	Joshua Dowell	B	S	1:42.34		1:35.69		1:34.50		1:34.79		1:39.62		1:40.41		2	2
5	Jimi Wingrave	B	U18	1:43.19		1:39.32		1:38.94		1:40.44		1:45.63		1:43.47		8	8
6	Simon Kerr	B	S	1:39.47		1:37.44		1:35.09		1:35.66		1:37.81		1:39.50		1	1
7	Deryll Lennane	C	S	0:00.00	WD	1:40.12		1:39.44		1:39.31		1:49.09		0:00.00	DNF	3	3
8	Eliza Moore	B	S	1:56.28		1:48.13		1:44.81		1:43.31		1:53.53		1:51.72		11	11
9	Ryan Crosthwaite	B	U18	1:41.41		1:39.19		1:40.78		1:41.78		1:45.06		1:45.16		6	6
10	William Gourlay	B	U18	1:42.88		1:40.85		1:39.63		1:39.27		1:45.69		1:44.81		7	7
11	Jason Lennane	C	S	1:42.50		1:38.53		1:37.44		1:36.25		1:42.78		0:00.00	DNF	2	2
12	Tamzyn Dowell	B	U18	1:49.00		1:40.38		0:00.00	WD	0:00.00		1:53.94		1:53.81		5	5
13	Tyler Wingrave	B	U18	1:42.36		1:38.44		1:40.15		1:40.22		1:42.91		1:43.97		6	6
14	Claudia Lennane	C	U14	2:04.40		1:54.03		1:57.59		1:57.19		2:05.88		2:04.16		4	4
15	Ron Woodward	B	S	0:00.00	WD	1:46.25		1:43.75		1:44.81		1:52.35		1:51.91		12	12
16	Chloe Dowell	B	S	1:47.53		1:42.44		1:43.66		1:41.33		1:49.59		1:48.79		9	9
17	Rod Shaw	A	S	1:38.59		1:39.41		1:36.31		1:37.35		1:44.37		1:44.13		3	3
18	Steven Roman	C	S	1:39.16		1:38.02		1:37.53		1:47.22		1:46.62		1:45.00		8	8
19	Brandon Chambeyrton	B	S	1:51.82		1:45.06		1:43.03		1:41.82		1:56.78		1:50.32		10	10
20	Matthew Haring	D	S	1:46.00		1:41.19		1:43.47		1:42.91		1:52.72		1:49.56		11	11
21	Luca Baricenic	B	U14	2:20.50	2F	2:29.07		2:38.97		2:17.75		2:35.81		2:30.53		22	14
22	Rory Smyth	C	S	0:00.00	DNF	1:40.73		1:38.63		0:00.00		0:00.00		0:00.00	DNF	6	6
23				0:00.00		0:00.00		0:00.00		0:00.00		0:00.00		0:00.00			

Ron Woodward → cps@northeasterncarclub.com.au

As you are no doubt aware Geoff Portman, one of Australia's finest rally drivers and member of our club for many years passed away recently after a long battle with cancer.



Fortunately, prior to his passing Bruce Keys, well known Australian motorsport identity, was able to collaborate with Geoff and document various aspects of his life. This collaboration has resulted in a book (some 250 odd pages) being prepared by Bruce and covers not only Geoff's rallying exploits but other aspects of his life such as work, family and other pursuits.

The book is currently in it's final stages of preparation prior to going to the printers. The printing will be done here in Australia, not overseas. The book will have a very limited print quantity and only be available from Bruce, it will not be available on line or through commercial outlets such as book shops.

All work done by Bruce and others on the preparation of the book has been on a voluntary basis and the cost of the book will be set to recover costs only. At this stage the cost of the book will be approximately \$110.00 to \$120.00. It may ultimately be a little less depending on the final print quantity. To obtain a copy of this book there are three things to do as follows

Contact Bruce on email bkeys@bigpond.com to let him know you want a copy. This needs to be done urgently as the actual print quantity has to be determined in the next couple of weeks.

Closer to print time you will be requested to pay a non-refundable \$50.00 deposit

Just prior to printing you will be required to pay the balance of the cost plus packaging and postage as applicable.

For further details contact Ron Woodward on 0400 250 861

CLUB PERMIT SCHEME

Ron Woodward → cps@northeasterncarclub.com.au



CHECK YOUR PERMIT RENEWALS NOTICE ONLINE

Due to the Good Oil transitioning to a quarterly publication, CPS renewals/due dates can be found on our website on the following link.

northeasterncarclub.com.au/club-permit-scheme/

PERMIT RENEWALS

The following vehicles on the Club Permit Scheme are due for renewal.

JUNE 2021

Wayne Owen	09083 H	21/06/21
Jenifer Turner	66441 H	03/06/21
Keith Eldridge	69526 H	07/06/21
Richard Smyth	0933 H6	12/06/21

OVERDUE

Peter Williams	76541 H	13/04/21
Louise Harper	90099 H	05/04/21
Geoff Sefton	CH6710	21/05/21
Thong Lee	36766 H	02/05/21
Norm Nieuwland	66435 H	11/05/21
Lane Griffin	90080 H	17/05/21
Peter Williams	0936 H6	31/05/21

NOTICE TO ALL CLUB PERMIT HOLDERS

Due to the change in the frequency of committee meetings, I will no longer be available to sign Club permit paperwork prior to those meetings.

I will remain available prior to general meetings (6.30 - 7.30 pm) to sign paperwork and the mailing option will still remain available.

PERMIT SIGNING

Both club permit applications and renewals will only be signed in one of the following two ways:

1. During the hour prior to commencement of a monthly general meeting (first Wednesday of each month excluding January). Meetings commence at 7.30 PM.
2. Sent by mail to **Ron Woodward at 28 Lauriston Avenue, Milawa VIC 3678**. Renewals must include vehicle condition report form (download form from club web site) and a stamped self-addressed envelope. Due to longer mail delivery times, please allow a 2-week turnaround time.

Note:

Please contact **Ron Woodward [5727 3407 or 0400 250 861]** to discuss any new vehicle applications prior to commencing application process. Please refer to details below regarding eligibility of new applications.

Ron Woodward → cps@northeasterncarclub.com.au



NOTICE FOR MEMBERS WITH VEHICLE/S ON THE CLUB PERMIT SCHEME:

If you don't renew your Club Membership by the due date, your permit registration will be automatically INVALIDATED until your membership is renewed.

UPCOMING EVENTS



➔ KHANACROSS SERIES - visit the webpage ➔ northeasterncarclub.com.au/khanacross-calendar/

➔ SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER - JEFF GRECH - General Meeting, 7th July 2021

For the latest, visit our website ➔ northeasterncarclub.com.au



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