



Newsletter

December 2019

President's Note

The year has gone by super-fast again.

It is great to have the new circuit control light system up and running and now brings us up to speed with the rest of the tracks in New Zealand.

I have attended a few ClubSport events over the last couple of months and love the enthusiasm behind the organisers and competitors, especially Malcolm Mitchell. Keep it up.

Merry Christmas everyone and we are looking forward to a busy second half of the season in the new year.

Rachael Beck

President

Christmas Hours

The circuit will be closed from mid-day Friday 20 December and will reopen on Wednesday 8 January. For all track hires during this time please phone Rick Michels on 0274342018.

Years of Service Acknowledged

Volunteers are essential to the Southland Sports Car Club and their activities at Teretonga Park and the club recently had the pleasant task of acknowledging the wonderful service many of their volunteers have given over the years.

Motorsport New Zealand Certificates of Appreciation were presented to thirty-five different volunteers with two of those having served for over 50 years at the circuit, Richard McMillan having given 56 years of service in a variety of roles including as Chief Flag Marshall and also as Chief Gatekeeper and David Robertson having notched up 50 years as a scrutineer.

An impressive nine people had logged 40 or more years of service – Wendy Jenks, Allan Batt, Bevan Gerrard, Elizabeth Gerrard, Alan O'Brien, Sharon O'Brien, Jeff McClure, Rodger Cunninghame and Russell Jenkins.

30 or more years: Les Costigan, Findlay McCrostie, Bernard Mathews, Phil Crannitch, Allan Johnston, Alister Johnston, Howard Kingsford-Smith, Noel Atley, Neil Macdonald, Roger Laird.

20 or more years: Tony Forde, David Begg, Paul Rosel.

10 or more years: Wayne Shieffelbein, Graeme Henry, Allan Smellie, Peter McMillan, Peter Shand, Jo-Ellen O'Brien, Paul Connell, David Strathern, Greg McLeod, David De Garnham, Ian Rosel.

The longevity of service given by many of our volunteers is hugely appreciated by the club but it is also testimony to the great camaraderie and atmosphere at the club.

The Southland Sports Car is always happy to hear from people interested in volunteering at the circuit – call us at 213 0522 during office hours or email info@teretonga.org.nz.



40 years plus service Allan Batt and Wendy Jenks – photo Ron Veint.

Volunteers Evening

We will once again hold our popular volunteers evening on the Thursday (23 January) prior to the Speedworks Events Motorsport NZ Premier Championship meeting from 24-26 January. The evening will commence at 7.30pm in the clubrooms.

Mini Bike Challenge

Teretonga Park was the venue for a unique activity late in October when the Murihiku Trades Academy Engineering/Automotive programme which forms part of the Southern Institute Of Technology's programme to guide Year 11 to 13 students on a path to a career in trades held the first ever Mini Bike Challenge at the circuit.

This is the first year the programme has been run for secondary school students who attend SIT one day a week over three terms where they learn skills such as welding, workshop health & safety and working with hand tools. The students have also completed a design-build project involving the creation of 70cc mini bikes.

Students earn NCEA credits and it is a fun & functional pathway to trades & engineering careers.

Eleven students started the year. One left and one is now in fulltime study so there are nine left and organisers anticipate 20 next year. This year attendees were from kids from Menzies College, Southland Boys High School and James Hargest College.

The event at Teretonga Park was the culmination of the bike project with a series of events – timed sprint, timed slalom, drag race, timed slow laps, timed two lap sprint, timed relay and an obstacle course. Points were scored to find the overall winner with prizes and trophies for the winning school and an overall Mini Bike Challenge Trophy, a Slalom Trophy and Slow Lap Trophy.



MoPars In The South



MoPars in the South visited the track on Saturday 26 October and enjoyed some controlled laps. By all reports they loved their time at Teretonga Park.

Thanks to the organisers here are some photos of the day.



Busy Brendon

Club member Brendon Leitch continues to live a busy life. After spending the year in Asia doing double duty in the Lamborghini Super Trofeo Asia Series and Formula 3 Asian Championship in which he finished fourth he then travelled to the Lamborghini Super Trofeo World Final 2019 at Jerez with Leipert Motorsport where he was again exceptionally competitive and in the top five on lap times.

Brendon was back at his home circuit recently testing the new FT60 TRS chassis (a role he also performed at Bruce McLaren Motorsport Park in Taupo and Highlands Motorsport Park). Between stints on the track he talked of the of his year saying it was busy but it had been a cool opportunity and great fun. He rated his podium at Suzuka and two front row qualifying's – at Fuji and South Korea - as highlights.

Working his way through the testing programme with the FT60 at Teretonga Park he said the chassis is similar to its predecessor, the FT50, but everything is nicer. The programme at Teretonga Park consisted of basic set up and engine development and putting a life on parts with the information gathered going to the series.

After his FT60 testing Brendon was off to Italy for a test with Leipert Motorsport and Lamborghini Squadra Corse in their Huracan GT3 EVO at the Cremona circuit 100 kilometres south of Milan.



Brendon Leitch in the FT60.



Brendon with TRS Category Co-Manager Nico Caillol

Michels makes it two New Zealand titles in one year

Jordan Michels is another club member who has had a busy season.

After winning the NZ F1600 Championship in March he tested a TRS car at Hampton Downs and was then given an opportunity to drive the Mark Petch Hyundai i130 N TCR car in the final two rounds of the North Island Endurance Series at Pukekohe Park Raceway and Hampton Downs Motorsport Park alongside Gene Rollinson. Both outings resulted in class wins and overall finishes in the top six.

A short time later Jordan was winging his way to Australia when he was offered an opportunity to drive for Wall Racing in the TCR Australia Series at Queensland Raceway where he impressed despite battling illness in the team's Honda Civic Type R.

On his return to New Zealand Jordan and his team unveiled his new Honda Civic Type R Fk7 TCR race car which was purchased by Peter Williams of Riverton to run under the Team Williams Racing (TWR) banner.

The plan was for Jordan to run the car in the Carter's Tyre Service 1 Hour South Island Endurance Series initially, which he did, despite a broken collarbone sustained just before the series began.

Despite driving in pain at times Jordan won Class B at the first three rounds before clinching the South Island title in his class at the final round at Mike Pero Motorsport Park.

That result qualified him for the New Zealand Endurance Championship at Hampton Downs and he



Photograph – Jordan on the way to the Class 2 NZ Endurance title at Hampton Downs Motorsport Park – photo Geoff Ridder

duly added his second New Zealand title for the year to his trophy haul when he won the Class 2 New Zealand 1 Hour Endurance Championship title.

Michels and his team were due to turn their attention to the new TCR New Zealand Championship but with the delay to the commencement of that championship a Plan B will be required.

Race Committee

We are at the mid-point of our race season with a very successful Carter's Tyre Service Endurance round under our belts and a good meeting in October for our Noel McIntyre Drainage Clubmans competitors.

One of the highlights at our October meeting presented by Downer was the debut of our new circuit lights and as we went to print in December the last piece of the system – the Mega-Viz Board will be in place.

In January we welcome back Speedworks Events with their Motorsport NZ Premier Championship events featuring another good contingent of international drivers in the Castrol Toyota Series, this year using the new FT-60 chassis which is bigger and faster than the previous FT-50 plus the exciting TR86 Championship and Formula 1600. Another highlight will be the appearance of D1NZ at the meeting.

There will be some exciting changes at this year's George Begg Classic Speedfest with new sponsor Bill Richardson Transport World bringing some new innovations to the event.

It will all end in March with our big Super Truck and Mainland Muscle Car meeting backed up with some exciting support classes.

Bevan Gerrard
Race Committee



ClubSport

With 4 rounds under my belt as Clubsport convenor, it's time to look back on what has been a very busy and successful few months in my new role.

Numbers are continuing to grow each round with a lot of new faces and some older competitors coming back to the class. This is great to see.

Big shout out to Lindsay Beer for his constant support and hard work with advertising for our club and class. Cheers Lindsay very much appreciated :)

Motorkhana points to date see Stacy Lines leading the pack with a 9pt lead over Jeremy Lennon with Liam MacDonald just a point behind. Autocross results see Sam Hole leading the under 1600 class by the smallest of margins, just 0.1 second over Josh Cooper and a further 5 seconds back to Kent Lines while Andrew Laurie leads the over 1600 class with a handy 11 seconds over Liam MacDonald who are out there alone with a further 93 pts back to Craig Allen.

Overall lead to date sees a fairly tight top 5 with only 32 pts in it with Andrew Lawrie leading the way with Liam, Sam, Josh and Kent hot on his bumper.

I'm pretty sure I speak on behalf of you when I say we are looking forward to the next round in January and hope the weather gods continue to smile down on us.

Also on the horizon, as discussed at previous meetings, is the work Lindsay and I are putting into an "in town motorkhana" demonstration event. We are currently in talks with the ICC and some local businesses to get this event happening, watch this space.

I am absolutely stoked with the regular attendance especially from our younger competitors this year and the support given to them by all. Great stuff guys, well done :)

I will finish on a personal note to say "Thank You" to Rick Michels for his support with the Evolution Motorsport car, Todd Blackmun and Andrew Kennedy for the Ford Ka and to everyone that has

banded together and assisted me with the running and clean ups of these rounds thus far, your help, advice and support is truly appreciated.

Most importantly I need to thank my wonderful partner Aimee, for supporting me in this somewhat challenging and time consuming role.

I hope you all have an excellent and safe Christmas and New Year and hope to see you all (and some more new faces) in January

Stay on the black stuff people

Cheers

Malcolm

COMING UP

January 24-26	Speedworks Events Premier Championship Meeting
January 30	Evolution Motorsport Motorkhana Round 5
February 2	Evolution Motorsport Autocross Round 5
February 14-16	George Begg Classic SpeedFest
March 1	Evolution Motorsport Motorkhana/Autocross Round 6
March 21/22	NZ Super Truck Event
April 3/4	Drift South
April 5	Evolution Motorsport Clubsport Triathlon

Check teretonga.org.nz for full details

DIRECTORY OF CLUB OFFICIALS

President	Rachael Beck	216 2454
Vice President	Ian Richardson	213 0797
Treasurer	Rachel Lawrie	0272427555
Imm Past President	Dean Maw	215 6851
Club Captain	Lenard McLeod	217 7026
Custodian	Noel Atley	03 2349060
Publicity Officer	Lindsay Beer	021 351499
Chief Flag Marshal	Cody Masters	
Chief 1 st Response	Lenard McLeod	217 7026
Chief Timekeeper	Bevan Gerrard	215 8257
Chief Scrutineer	Alan O'Brien	216 4695
Board Chairman	Steven Kennedy	03 2360306

COMMITTEE HEADS

Race	Bevan Gerrard	215 8257
ClubSport	Malcolm Mitchell	021 666956
Social	Jo-Ellen O'Brien	216 4695

MOTORSPORT NEW ZEALAND LICENCE EXAMINERS

Wendy Jenks	0272 051080
Steven Kennedy	03 2360306
Barry Leitch	215 9791
Rick Michels	217 7543

ADMINISTRATION & GENERAL ENQUIRIES

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