HISTORIC **~** TOURING Magazine of the Historic Touring Car Association of Victoria - www.htcav.com.au Oct 2012 HTCAV Heroes Monster Muscle Car Maste Nexi - Muscle Car Masters General Meeting Wed 31 Oct - Phillip Island State Round - URGENT News Phillip Island Classic

Pic courtesy James Smith

- Christmas Party
- Tattle



New Venue - Bell's Hotel Cnr Conventry & Moray Sts Sth Melb. 8pm last Wed of the Month.

Torquing Heads 2012/2013

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2012 Race Calendar

| Event | Organisers | Location | Date | Туре |
|------------------------|---------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| Club Sprint | HTCAV | Broadford | Feb 5 | |
| Phillip Island Classic | VHRR | Phillip Island | 9-11 March | Historic |
| Round 1 State | PIARC | Phillip Island | <u> 21-22 April</u> | |
| Winton Historics | Austin 7 Club | Winton (Short track) | | Historic |
| Round 3 State | ASSA | Sandown | 21-22 July | |
| Winton Fest. of Speed | VHRR | Winton (Long track) | -10-12 August | Historic |
| Round 4 State | VMCI | Phillip Island | 13-14 Oct | |
| Historic Sandown | VHRR | Sandown | 10-11 Nov | Historic |
| Island Magic | PIARC | Phillip Island | 24-25 Nov | Other |





PresEditoro



Around this time of the year there seems to be a sort of mystical gravitational pull that drags us ever faster towards the end of the year.

After the Grand Final and Bathurst things seem to go a bit crazy. After the Big Horse Race they go beserk.

There's a shed-load happening in the next nine weeks. So it's important that we all set some dates in place for the not-to-be missed events to round off the year. Let's run through them...

November 9,10,11 – Historic Sandown.

It's official, Eddie Dobbs' interesting category split of one grid Under 4500cc Nb + Invited + Under 2 Litre Nc, and the other Over 4500cc Nb + Over 2 Litre Nc will get up, despite a disappointing turn out of smaller Nb and Nc cars for whom this split was devised.

If you aren't entering please make sure you come and cheer. Join in the festivities in the pits on Saturday night for the knees up with The Rank Outsiders rocking to the sound of tops being ripped of tinnies...

November 24-25 - Island Magic.

Then it's the fun last race of the year, the one that always seems like 'after the exams' at school. Island Magic has a great feel about it, make sure you get an entry in for that one...

Get your points in!

The week after that it's pointscore madness as final scores are worked out and engraving grinds on into the night... if you have completed your interstate round for the year, PLEASE GET YOUR POINTS IN NOW to make it less stressful and more accurate!

December 1 - Presentation Night/ Christmas Party!

And this year it's going to be bigger and better than ever, make sure you book a room so you can crash in the best possible way – rat-arsed and clutching a trophy to your bosom.

The big thing this year is the band we have playing for you – the Leslie Avril Band fronted by the amazing Ms Avril herself. This larger than life performer can take you from smoky blues through to heartfelt country and beyond... the only 'done me wrong' will be if you don't go and see her.

Plus there'll be videos and quizzes and fancy fellas in funny suits with langorous, lovely louche ladies laying about, plus food, drink – and a table groaning with trophies.

Then it's bloody Christmas and we can all take a break.

Next up will be a proposed February Fun Day and this time we're proposing it at Calder as Broadford is fully booked. Stay tuned for further news. This event may well be popular because...

...there's a big change with the Phillip Island Classic!

Since 2007 the VHRR have been dropping a category so all can get to enjoy this hugely popular meeting, now recognized as a major global historic event.

Historic Touring Cars are something of a drawcard and have had a dream run for the past five years - but our time had to come and next year, the HTC event will be for Over 3-Litre cars - the Under 3-Litre event will have a bye.

In 2014 both HTC categories will run and in 2015 the Over 3-Litre cars will have a bye. Both categories will then run through to 2018 when 'The Five Year Plan' will be evaluated.

This will mean that next year (and 2015) the Phillip Island Classic will not be a part of our point score. The Golden Oldies Championship will be based on the two Wintons and Sandown in 2013 and those with Phillip Island withdrawals will still have the chance to run in the two State rounds – which may instantly become more popular!

It will seem odd with only half of our 'family' of cars and competitors in the paddock next year but the decision has been



Can't read this magazine clearly? Can't see those racing lines?

Maybe Bill can help! For a comprehensive eye examination and the latest styles in glasses, call - Bill Cutler

Optometrist and Contact Lens Specialist 678 High Street, Kew East 3102 Phone 9859 3962 made and we will have to adjust.

We appealed the decision and offered a firm suggestion to the VHRR that perhaps one grid of Group N cars was a viable alternative, this appeal was discussed but not upheld.

However this will now be a great opportunity for Under 3-Litre competitors to come and support the big engine mates and to help the Club run an even better meeting!

But if as a keen competitor you're feeling all dressed up with nowhere to go, you might want to consider...

Bathurst at Easter!

You can read elsewhere regarding the Bathurst run for Group N cars at Easter – the entry is steepish but the chances to run at the fabulous circuit are few and far between and three days of racing with practice, qualifying and three x 20 minute races makes it sound like half a plan...

Past Event – Muscle Car Masters

You'll also read how the HTCAV Heroes came away with the gold in both

Groups - Andrew Williams brained 'em in Group Nc while Bill Trengrove carried all before him in Nb after fighting off the persistent ex-Manton Mini of Andrew Bergman. And not far behind his old man Brent Trengrove showed great promise making to a podium while David Moran. and Richard Fairlam had mixed fortunes in the Mustang and EH respectively.

In Group Nc members flying the flag included Fraser Ross, John Harrison, Michael Hibbert (second outright in the feature race), Leo Tobin, Rod Hotchkin, Stuart Barnes, Craig Miles, Keven Stoopman and Tony Hubbard – while Club Champ Russell Pilven did the usual giant killing act as one of the three under 2-Litre cars in a 45-car field...

Les Walmsley did very well in the Touring Car Master event as did fellow club members Jim Richards and Paul Freestone, while in Group C the Ian Ross Falcon finally behaved itself and Bill Cutler was always up the front in the BMW M3 in Group A.

Thanks to Darren Knight for his crisp reportage on the event and to old mate James Smith for the images.

Thanks again to Brian Dermott for his preview of the Targa High Country rally, which again clashes with one of our premier historic meetings of the year...dammit.

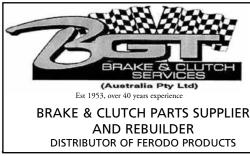
An amusing diversion ... went to the Bay to Birdwood run in Adelaide recently. This 1300-entrant event is a leisurely mosey up from a giant oval near Glenelg then along twisty hills roads, some of which are Targa Adelaide stages, to the car museum at Birdwood. Each year they rotate between The Run (pre-1955, this year) and The Classic (1966-77), for which your historic road car would be eligible. It's way too slow for a competition car, but a lot of fun and would have been better if the great weather they had either side of the run day hadn't turned into windy and bitterly cold. Froze in the MG TC, but the wife, whose (unlikely!) idea it was in the first place, seemed to have a jolly time.

And finally, we end on a note of sadness as we farewell Club member Merv Ginger who passed away last month. There's an article on Merv, whom everyone remembers as a really fine bloke...

See you at the race tracks, club meetings and the mighty Christmas party...

Chris Ralph

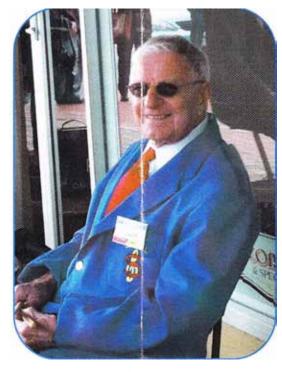




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Vale: Merv (Mick) Ginger 3/1/1934 - 31/8/2012



The Club respectfully notes the passing of our mate Merv Ginger who was extremely active during the mid to late 90s with us. At Merv's funeral in Stawell the Club was represented by Ian Watt, Lindsay Cripps, Eddie and Margaret Dobbs, George Opoczynski and Justin Brown.

Eddie, Watty and Lindsay Cripps share their thoughts here. Couldn't have said it better myself, guys...

Email updates...

The Club emails regular, important information to members via email. This information is to help you and sometimes requires a reply.

However each time we email out we

Eddie:

Many newer members would not have had the good fortune to meet Merv (Mick) but for those who did, our lives were enriched.

He worked tirelessly for the Club and its members. His first love was of course his wife Margaret and family and his second was cars and in particular, racing cars. Whilst he was about the Club, few cars started on the grid without some input from Merv. In my case, most of my car preparation in that period was done by Merv until he felt he was too old to go on with that duty.

His legacy will live on in our hearts and memories and also in Merv's Magic Money Machine. The wooden box that we put our donations towards the drinks and nibblies at the end of a race meeting. His passing leaves a gap

that probably won't be filled.

Watty:

I spoke at Merv's funeral, about:

His knowledge and help around the pits. His contribution to the building of the pointscore system via Swinburne. His financial wisdom, ie raffles and the 'MMM' - Merv's Magic Money Machine, which has become his ongoing legacy to the Club.

His assistance to Team Triumph, and a story about a complete engine assembly, by a team of four in one night, three days prior to a Winton, due to machine shop delay. Merv, the "director of cleanliness", near drove me to tears, sending me back out to the cleaning bay (outside in the rain) – numerous times. It was a good engine that we put together. Obviously spotless internally with no machine shop residue attacking bearings etc!

But it was a very, very late night...

Lindsay:

The good times the jokes the interesting stories, those are things that we remember.

Merv may have departed our lives, but the memories of the times with him continue to be with us all.

The race cars, the Club and all the people involved were a big part of Merv's life. He loved coming along to the races, joining in and giving help and assistance wherever he could. The weekends away to Winton and Phillip Island he particularly enjoyed, including the get together for a drink at the track, and dropping in for a meal on the way home.

He also enjoyed coming to the monthly club meetings and getting together for a meal and a chat, then organising and running the Club raffle.

A great family man, he adored the love of his life his wife Margaret, his children and grandchildren, and was enormously proud of their achievements and what they were up to in their lives.

Merv will be missed but not forgotten.

get a whole pile of return emails, from old emails addresses, full mailboxes, and incorrect addresses.

If you are not receiving emails please email <u>members@htcav.com.au</u> and request to be added to the list.

And if you change your email address please advise us as well.

Cheers - Grumpy



BIG, BOLD 'N' BRASSY

2012 HTCAV & Chrissy Party & Presentation Night Saturday 1 December from 7.00pm.

The biggest party we've ever had – NOT TO BE MISSED!



Cost Tickets \$75 per head. Tickets must be purchased by the monthly meeting on 28 November. No tickets issued on the night.

Bookings can be made with Jervis at members@htcav.com.au or return this form to Christmas Party, PO Box 5108 Middle Park 3206 or fax it to 9690 4323. Featuring: The Leslie Avril Band - A sensational lady singer with a voice and charisma that puts her in a class of her own.

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Good food, cold(er) drinks and the usual shenanigans! Trophies, trophies, trophies!

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To secure your table BOOK NOW...

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Rock on, sleep over then have some fun in the city the next day!

Book your room NOW at our special Club rates. Say you're with the HTCAV when you ring them on 9250 2222

Download a booking form online http://www.htcav.com.au/?p=1558

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Muscle Car Masters. Sept 1 & 2

This year's event at the recently renamed Sydney Motorsport Park would utilise the full 4.5km extended layout. With the great man in attendance, the ARDC took the opportunity to christen it the Brabham Circuit in a move heartily endorsed by one and all.

With the extremely tight nature of the new infield extension, one V8 driver suggested yellow flags be flown at certain corners to help avoid the ridiculous carnage witnessed last year. A small car punter then countered with the mirthful suggestion to fly yellows on the front straight! (obviously to prevent the "small fry" getting blown away by the V8s). Funnily enough the powers that be elected not to take up either suggestion.

Nb

Two of the expected front runners were eliminated in practice when Scott Fleming (Lotus Cortina) had an engine issue and V8 Touring Car fast man Matt Hansen (Mustang) slammed side on into a fence after a caliper seal popped out. Hansen was sore but unscathed while the ex-Andy Clempson Ford will need some serious attention with the complete driver's side demolished.

Pole man Bill Trengrove (Mustang) soon found Andrew Bergan (Mini) proved to be a more than able replacement for Fleming in flying the small car flag. A huge dice for the lead played out between the pair in Race One while the Mustangs of David Moran and Brent Trengrove had a great battle with the Minis of Darren Burnes and Ben Tebbutt.

Max Ulrich retired his Mustang, as did Tebbutt shortly after, with Bill Trengrove taking the win from Bergan and Greg Toepfer (Mustang).

Race Two saw the same result for the podium with Bergan having no defence to the V8's speed on the front straight after repeatedly getting in front through the tight infield. A little further back the Minis of Burnes and Chris Collett battled the Mustang of Troy Williams. Driver of the race had to be Ben Wilkinson (EH) who finished ninth from rear of grid. Disc brakes? Nah, don't need 'em - they only slow you down...

Toepfer retired on the warm up lap in Race Three with Brent Trengrove arguing with David Moran (Mustang) over third

All pics courtesy James Smith

place until the latter retired with gear selector issues. Al Boughen (Customline) had a close dice with Lucky Phil Taylor (EH) as Brent's Dad Bill took another win from Bergan, with Trengrove Junior third after a big tussle with Burnes.

The final saw Wilkinson up into an impressive fifth before retiring as the Minis of David Wheatley and Mal Rutschack nipped at each other all race. Bill T had to work harder for this final win with Bergan again hot on his heels all race and Max Ulrich close behind in third.



Rob Southouse chased Allan Boughen's Customline.



They have some fast Minis up in NSW!



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Michael Hibbert continued his

The Trengrove/Bergan battles were huge.



David Moran had plenty of Mustangs to play with.



Brent Trengrove grabbed his first podium.





Great to see Rob's ex-Zinner Humpy having a run.

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Nc

The Hansen family fared little better in Nc with Daryl also out early after the rapid '69 Mustang suffered an engine malady in practice. Fraser Ross (Mustang) secured pole but then did not make it out on time for the start and had to claw his way back up the order after starting right at the tail.

Meanwhile Keven Stoopman (HQ) had absolutely nailed the start and almost shaved the inside wall on the way to passing at least four cars off the line. Tony Hubbard was out early with gear selection issues in the normally ultra reliable Camaro.

Andrew Williams (Torana) and Harry Bargwanna (Mustang) had a big battle as Jason Humble (Mazda) built a handy lead. Stoopman had a great dice with fellow Kingswood steerer Toepfer and the Charger of Michael Hibbert until the former suffered yet another frustrating engine drama.

Michael Anderson relinquished third place after spinning his Falcon on a dead Torana's oil, Ross also falling out of the top ten after hitting the same slick. Humble won from Bargwanna and Williams.

Victorian Williams won the next two races with Bargwanna and Humble each bagging a second and a third. Marc Ducquet (Galaxie) was back on his usual rubber (and still spectacularly sideways) after trying out the prospective control Dunlop during free practice. A proper back-to-back test is planned in the coming months. Ducquet had a great stoush with Rod Hotchkin (Falcon) in Race Three until the big XY looped at the final corner. After climbing up the order all weekend Ross finally hit the front in race four before Williams moved back in front with the Mustang retiring trailing smoke.

Humble, Daniel Kennedy (Falcon) and Hibbert had a massive battle behind eventual winner Williams with the Charger bagging second from Kennedy who just edged out Humble for third right on the line.

With all the hand wringing over last years panel damage it was an incredibly improved performance from all involved and should be a permanent return to a driving standard more in line with the ethos of the category – to have fun and a bloody laugh. There ain't no sheep stations involved here folks!

Darren Knight

All pics courtesy James Smith



Jason Humble was his usual excellent self.



John Harrison had the ex-Nicholls Mustang motoring.















Big changes to Phillip Island next year But Bathurst at Easter is definitely on

If you're an Under 3-Litre driver planning to enter the Phillip Island Classic Festival of Motorsport next year then you're in for a surprise – they don't get a grid, so you won't get a start.

As a victim of its own success the organising club, the VHRR, has, since 2007 been forced to roster off a category every year so everyone can get a go at this increasingly busy meeting.

So in 2013 the Under 3-Litre grid gets a bye, the two full grids will return in 2014 and the Over 3-Litre will take a bye in 2015. The two full HTC grids will return until the end of the Five Year Plan in 2018.

As a club the HTCAV suggested that a single combined grid would be a fairer solution, this has been considered over the weekend and turned down; their rotational plan is now set in concrete. But as a club the HTCAV can now show what we're made of with the small capacity competitors pitching in at the meeting to make it a roaring success, with the big car guys returning the favour in 2015.

As well, this meeting cannot now be included in our championships for 2013 and 2015. A fourth State round will be included in these years to make up the complement.

This is the 10-year rotational plan as it currently stands for the categories to be dropped.

2013 Group N Under 3 litre 2014 Group Sa or Sb Sports Cars 2015 Group N over 3 Litre 2016 Group C & A Touring Cars 2017 Group Sa or Sb Sports Cars 2018 & on to be notified at a later date



The giant Under 3-Big 3-Litre grid missing from next year's PI Classic!

Bean Counter Business

Greetings all. The July magazine contained the financial statements for the year being the income and expenditure statement for the 12 months ended 31 May 2012 and the balance sheet showing our assets & liabilities as at 31 May 2012. Both reports included prior year comparatives.

Since then, the 3.25 month period from 31 May 2012 to mid September has been a steady period. Details are as follows:

Our funds in the bank are : 8/9/12 31/05/12 Cheque A/c part 1 \$1,123.45 \$1,123.45 Cheque A/c part 2 \$14,721.20 \$16,729.33 ANZ Term Deposit \$21,331.04 \$20,604.50 Total cash funds \$37,175.69 \$38,457.18

During the last 3.25 months the main items of income have been subscriptions \$1,015, magazine advertising \$1,700 and

interest \$727.

The main items of expenditure for the same period have been magazine costs, averaging \$750 an issue including \$150 postage and the \$1,000 deposit we have paid for the annual dinner in December.

Our merchant facility cost is averaging \$30 a month which is quite reasonable and it gives members the benefit of being able to transact with eftpos. Many thanks to Gordon Cox who has processes all these transactions for us.

Detailed financial statements for the above 3.25 month period were tabled at the September committee meeting. This allows the committee to measure and manage how we are going. That's it for this month. See you at the September club night.

Signing off *David Floyd*



But Bathurst is on – limited grid spots left!

If you're missing the thought of a big meeting in the first half of the year there are still 15 grid spots left for the Group N event at Bathurst. At the time of writing the field is split 25% Nb, 75% Nc, and 30% under 3 litre.

You'll get five 20-minute sessions on the famed track – practice, qualifying and three races. That's a lot of track time so unsurprisingly the entry fee isn't cheap - \$1320 including GST. But if you're an Under 3-litre you won't have had to shell out for Phillip Island so it's not that much more, travel and accomm aside...

If you're interested, act quickly before the spots fill – email Troy Williams at tw@ twmotorsport.com or call him on 0415 939 833 to get a registration form sent to you.

Life is all about change...

Historic Sandown - Return Of The Thunder, Big Bad Sandown

9-11 November 2012

Help celebrate the 21st running of this event run by the VHRR and do so in the 50th year of motorsport at Sandown.

Assuming enough cars enter, we are looking at 2 grids :

One to be Nb cars up to 4,500 cc and Nc cars up to 2,000cc

And the second grid to be Nb cars 4,501 cc & over and Nc cars 2,001 cc & over

Early bird entries close Monday 1st October.

Entry forms are on the club's website.

Hooning on High Tarmac Tattle

In only 7 weeks, the road which has carried hundreds of thousands of skiers in cars, 4WDs, busses and coaches up Mt Buller to the best snow in Victoria, will be closed for hooning. And so will two more of the most testing driving roads in the State – from Mansfield through the Wombat ranges where the bushrangers roamed to the Italian settled wine town of Whitfield, then over the rugged, twisting, switchback shoulders of Mt Terrible to Eildon and its breathtaking Skyline Road.

Targa High Country is coming to Mansfield – on Friday 9th November the town will be closed for motor racing. Where 40 kph can now seem too much as shoppers wander the High Street, V8s and twin turbo supercars will be braking from 160kph for the roundabout opposite the pub and across from the Courthouse. The local police, so familiar with the illegal antics of high speed visitors from Melbourne, will guard the streets so the racers can max their cars.

As an exercise in democratic freedom, it is hard to think of anything as evocative as the tarmac rally, when speed and driving skill take over the roads and all the mimsers have to keep clear. Locally, everyone loves it, can't wait to see the stars in action.

In the supermarket, people stop Lin and ask how we're going, is the new engine done yet. Everyone knows what happened in Tasmania. The Shire wants to put the Torana in the centre of the Spring Parade to promote their viewing platforms – a great local initiative, catch a bus from town which takes you out to a very remote and terrific viewing spot where you can eat and drink all day as the racers tackle a tricky series of 3s and 4s down the edge of the mountain while an ex competitor commentates. This is F1 quality hospitality in the middle of nowhere and it's a fraction of what you pay in Albert Park. Worth trying.

This is the third running of the Victorian Targa and it looks likely to be the same course as 2011 which means a hectic 238 competitive kilometres in only two days, coming back to Mt Buller village each night. The track needs respect – it will offer up extremes of driving experience and candidates for some of the hardest sections of any Targa course:

- Fastest (every car can reach its max in the 1100m long straight through the remote Alpine forests, beating the longest straight on Mt Arrowsmith by 500 metres)
- Longest, steepest uphill (Mt Buller)
- Most testing technical section (Big River)
- Fastest, longest 9 right (Powers Lookout)
- By far the most exposed security park.

So although it's all over in a weekend, with only one day off work, you come away feeling like you've had a pretty good reaming. And the car is ready for a bit of TLC.

This year, total classic entries are down from 65 to 52 with seven weeks to go - and there are always some last minute entries. Although the high dollar has capped the prices on the important things you need for racing - like tyres - it has taken the gloss off many of the businesses that support motor sport entrants. New and used cars, transport, building and construction are industries where motor sport is popular but business is soft. Without the Freestones, the Ullrichs, the Cattlins, the Battens, with none of the Kents from Tassie and Ralphie now retired, the pre-73 touring car entries are looking a bit weak - from 19 to 12 so far. Rumour has it that Len and Gayle might grab a last minute entry after the big wedding and if Cap'n Richard Woodward can find a nav we'll see the yella Monaro smoking the stages. Although watch the 7R> on Whitfield, Woody - the bank still bears a Monaro shaped dent.

Of course, the THC is the fourth and final round in the 2012 HTCAV Rally Championship – and in a bid to put victory out of reach of any one else, the Wilson

| HTC | HTCAV Rally Championship 2012 | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|-------------------------------|----------|-----------|-------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Pos | Car n | o Driver | Navigator | Car | Class | Cumulative Points Rd 3 | | | | | | |
| 1 | 471 | Wilson | Wilson | 1971 Ford Perana | 4MSH | 54,810 | | | | | | |
| 2 | 383 | Ullrich | Ullrich | 1963 Jensen CV8 | 3LMSF | 51,765 | | | | | | |
| 3 | 222 | White | Yelds | 1961 Volvo 122S | 2LMSD | 45,675 | | | | | | |
| 4 | 484 | Ralph | Gibson | 1970 Ford Perana | 4MSH | 42,021 | | | | | | |
| 5 | 487 | Byrne | Stoopman | 1971 Alfa Romeo GTV 2000 | 4LMSB | 37,758 | | | | | | |
| 6 | 408 | Pfingst | Loth | 71 Holden Torana/71 Datsun 1600 SSS | 4MSE | 36,219 | | | | | | |
| 7 | 361 | Steuart | Steuart | 1962 Ford Anglia 105e | 3LMSB | 32,277 | | | | | | |
| 8 | 355 | Priddle | Guymer | 1963 Ford Zephyr | 3LMSE | 28,457 | | | | | | |
| 9 | 501 | Large | Dredge | 1972 Ford Falcon GT | 5MSH | 23,142 | | | | | | |
| 10 | 210 | Waldron | Gregory | 1955 FIAT Abarth 750 | 2LMSA | 20,868 | | | | | | |

brothers are coming back in their wonderful dark blue original Perana from Canberra. With up to 21,000 points available for the win, this would seal it. But with no entries from Pete and Sari Ullrich, Andy White and Ash Yelds or our own Chris Ralph, the way is open for the Colin Byrne and Paul Stoopman to get on the HTCAV podium in their astonishing 71 Alfa GTV 2000.

In THC last year, this young crew of engineers were only just ahead of the Tattle Torana, but in Tasmania the LMS Alfa performed right at the front of the Classic field outright until a broken carb linkage set them way back. If there is an Alfa near the top of the Classic Class, these guys can pass the Jensen and the Amazon ahead in the HTCAV rankings – a result in the top 10 outright should do it.

Wayne Pfingst ran John Loth's Datto in the gruelling Targa Adelaide but the heavily improved XU-4 is back in action for THC. Now boasting 15" wheels and Proflex shockers with a host of detail improvements, this MS Torana has also had a rebirth as a 1971 LC to squeeze into the Early Classic competition with Tattle. This crew also has a chance to move up the rankings but a lot will depend on what happens when they have to drop their worst performance – your best two results count.

Lurking just behind the Queenslanders is the indomitable Steuart family and their little Ford Anglebox, which we can expect to be flying now the missing 500 revs have been persuaded to turn up for duty – this is now a limited modified Anglia which will pull 8000 rpm.

Jack Waldron and Vin Gregory are the only other crew in the HTCAV Top 10 which have entered THC this year. Last year they won the handicap event in that tiny little car, just beating the Freestones' interpretation of an early model Holden tarmac rally car. This crew also will have to drop their worst performance and the handicap event is a more competitive battleground for this Fiat 750.

To everyone in the HTCAV, I strongly recommend a trip up the Melba Highway to Yea and then a cruisy trip to Mansfield for the Prologue and then a day on the Mansfield Shire viewing platform. Call Nic Nye at Mansfield Shire on 03 5775 8555 to find out all you need to know. It will be a good introduction to the sport of racing legally on public roads – maybe next year, you'll be lining up with us!

Brian Dermott

Tony strokes it home Phillip Island State Rd October 13-14 2012

All pics courtesy Phil Wisewould

It was a relatively lazy three from the three for Tony Hubbard at Phillip Island after an uncharacteristic run of niggles in the mighty Camaro over recent meetings.

He won with relative ease over Rod Hotchkin in the blue GT HO in all events while the person who looked earlier to be the go-guy, polesitter Leapin' Leo Tobin in the Mustang, was plagued in the races by brake trouble – not the sort where you have insufficient retardation, but too much. The bushes of a rod (not Hotchkin) in the brake balance area had become worn and reluctant to release things after this Tobin Brother buried his size 10 into the appropriate pedal.

Twice he roared from the back of the grid to join the top three before succumbing to this small but very annoying malady. The Overtaker is not happy being retarded.

Not having seen the Saturday I can however report that only Leo and Club Champ Russell Pilven in the Datsun 1600 failed to make it to the end in that day's race, the latter due to a failed coil pack.

The Sunday morning race I did see the highly entertaining battle between Russell and Gentleman Jack Smallman in his BDA Escort. Like Leo, Russell roared through the field until he reached Smalls, who found he could exit corners a bit faster and so amused himself keeping "We've got the Power..." behind him to the finishing line, all in the most gentlemanly fashion, of course. The two caught Alan McKelvie by the time the reached the line. All three were grinning hugely as they peeled themselves out of their racesuits.



And regarding this item of clothing Jon Pillekers was lucky not to have to call urgently for the drycleaners after he went wide coming on to the straight and underwent a wild and grassy ride on the wet outer. He became bogged and couldn't continue; luckily the only mud was external.

In the Appendix J Challenge, Paul

Trevethan's Lotus Cortina held sway on Saturday, his chief challenger, Len Read, having clutch hydraulics issues. This reversed on the Sunday morning but gremlins returned in the afternoon as the Lotus was again the front, before retiring. This allowed Simon

Browning to over take the ailing Mini for an Nb win and PB time. When asked why clutchless gearchanges were a problem with a dog box, Len returned blank stare, grin and ungenerous character reference, in that



order.

Robert Marshall has been doing very well, getting to grips with the big red ex-Miceli HO (famous fo' his ho's, yo...) and had inherited two third places before retiring in the last. His mate Kevin Galvin also joined the fray (and the Club) in a Monaro which treated its new owner with the typical disdain shown by many race



cars to new owners – unreliability. Built in the 90s by the Youldens and driven initially by Luke in our races, it's been in NSW for some years. Welcome Kevin, we hope the Mo stops being a Ho very soon...

In the last race, Rapid Russell Pilven took the last spot on the imaginary podium as John Smallman's handling issues that disallowed him to pursue over nine long laps.

Indeed, with a number of cars retiring, disparate levels of performance and no close battles it challenging to keep up a bright line of patter, alone and high up in the commentary position. Reminded me of five equally spaced cars over 20 laps at Winton in the early 90s, the only bright moment being when chiropractor Justin Brown retired the XM Falcon, allowing me to suggest he was perhaps coming to make an adjustment...

With no such opportunities for weak



wit available to me this day I blabbed inconsequentially to a miniscule audience, not even convinced the mike was working.

But soon folks, a little baby blue BM will rescue me (and unfortunate audients of my blither) from all this and I'll be out there again on the right side of the Armco.

Can't wait for Sandown, just hope I can remember what one is supposed to do and that the new car gremlins look on me kindly.

Chris Ralph



The Smalls-Pilvo battles were good.



2012 Pointscore

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| JohnMann | | | | | | | | 0 | Steve Watt | 27 | | | 31 | | | | 5 |
| Fraser Ross | 46 | | | | 3 | | | 49 | Douglas Juniper | | | 27 | | | | | 2 |
| Leo Tobin | 35 | 32 | 27 | 37 | 33 | 4 | | 167 | Richard Fairlam | | | 33 | | | | | 3 |
| Les Walmsley | | | | | | | | 0 | Quentin Ferry | | | | | 22 | | | 2 |
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