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The all new Subaru Impreza WRC2008. photo from www.swrt.com





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CLUB NEWS.

A few new members to report this month. Welcome back to Jeff Morrison. Jeff is a former Autocross competitor from years past and rejoins the club after a long absence. Also welcome to Jo Hayes, Scott Chambers, Kirk Mitchell, John Dreyer, and Steve Cornish. All of these guys joined up at Round 2 of the SPG Tasmanian Drift Series recently.

The hunt is on for the MSCT club rally series trophy. It hasn't been awarded for a couple years due to the low number of rally competitors in the club. This year has seen a bit of a surge and that should continue with some more cars set to be unleashed. Due to this, the MSCT club rally series is to be resurrected. If you know where the trophy is, or if you have it in your possession, please contact Matt von Bertouch.

A couple of our Drift members participated in a small working bee at Symmons Plains recently. A concrete strip was laid adjacent to parts of the track, to minimize any damage when the cars leave the track. Thanx to Damien Roach for organizing the man power.

Don't forget that club committee meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at Archers Manor, starting at 7.30pm with ALL club members welcome to attend.

Round 2 of the Pedders Suspension Khanacross series was run at Powranna on May 17th. Matt has all the details inside.

Round 3 of the Pedders Suspension Khanacross series is on August 2nd at Powranna. The Regs and entry form have been included for your convenience.

Speaking of the khanacross, the next scrutiny night is scheduled for July 2nd starting at 6pm. It is being held at LC college and compulsory for anyone wishing to compete at khanacross this year and not yet attended a scrutiny night this year. Contact Matt von Bertouch on 0408 003 212 with any questions

Due to a fault in the Johnson Rod, the promised Targa article was left out last month. So it's in this month.

Due to an issue regarding Police Permits and Local Council requirements, Round 1 of the Pedders Suspension Motorkhana Series was postponed. It was planned that Round 2 would become Round 1 and that another round would be slotted into the calendar. Currently it is unclear when or where the events will be held, until some progress is made with these issues. Stay tuned.

Round 2 of the Tasmanian Rally Series was held in Hobart on May 10th. Called the Signworks Styx Valley Rally, the event beckoned some of our members south for the day. The results are further in.

Round 3 of the TRS is the Hellyer Rally, a favourite of many drivers. It was held on June 14th, and it attracted some folks from the "Big Island" to come across and have a punt. Results can be found further in.

OUR club hosted Round 2 of the Specialised Performance Garage Tasmanian Drift Series on May 31st. Personally I would like to thank everybody that helped me organise and run the event, both prior to and on the day. Damo has a report on the day inside.

Check out Bruce Bain's photos at www.brucebainphotography.com.au Bruce attends lots of MSCT events, so check it out and show your support.

Keep your eye on www.msct.com.au The site is currently current and is currently being kept current by Matt von Bertouch. If ANYBODY wants something put on the site, email Matt at matt@estas.com.au and he will see what he can do.

CAMS are currently going thru a restructure and a shake-up. Hopefully the end result will be a more user friendly governing body.....



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Round 2 Specialised Performance Garage Tasmanian Drift Series.

Round two of the Specialized Performance Garage Tasmanian Drift Series has been run and won. This is the first drift series round held by the MSCT and despite a few technical issues at the start of the day the whole event ran smoothly and we could not have asked for better weather.

21 drivers turned up ready to prove why they should be Tassie's best Drifter, and with only 16 places open for competition it meant drivers would have to prove themselves worthy of a top 16 spot.

Half the field were new entrants into the state series with 2 mainland drivers making the trip down to test out the Tassie talent. One of the mainland drivers wheeling an XF ute running on LPG gas, thanks to the government subsidy, managed to drive right into second place behind first round runner up Ben Purtell. John Dreyer from Victoria, was the highest placed MSCT member on the day followed by Damien Roach, Joe Heyes, Jo Venter, Scott Chambers and Kirk Mitchel. Steve Cornish and Simon Cocks were also driving on the day but were unable to make the top 16. Damien Roach being the only MSCT member to compete in all rounds of the 5 round series so far is sitting in 5th position overall.

One member that had to pull out only days before hand due to the arrival of a new baby was Ronnie Legge, who had also donated the prize money for the event. Thanks very much to Ronnie from Ron's Automotive, 48a Fredrick St, for the support to the club.

A massive thanks goes out to every one from the MSCT that helped the day come together and those who came out and helped us all have a successful day drifting. Bring on round 4 at Symmons 23rd of August!!



COBY'S PIECE

Q: When is a car not a car ??

A: When it turns into a driveway.

Round 2

2008 Pedders Khanacross Series

17th May 2008

Hi to all my fellow MSCT members.

As the sun came up over the Powranna tree's and Motorsport transporters started rolling into the pits, we were up for another ripper day of red hot Khanacross action and round 2 of the Pedders Khanacross Series didn't disappoint. 20 starters turned up for another huge day of dusty gravel fun between the trees and tyre walls and with the memory of round 1 still fresh in the competitors minds you knew that round 2 was going to be a fiercely contested battle for series points.

Run's 1 & 2, North and South tracks

If you didn't already know we split the competitors up into two groups, with group 1 tackling the northern track and group 2 the southern track. Shon McIntee was the first out for group 1 sweeping the road for his fellow competitors, but his run was to be interrupted by a seatbelt malfunction causing him to lose valuable time. Brothers Adrian and Leighton Burns were once again smoking hot, setting the pace on the north track and continuing their battle royal from round 1. After the first 2 runs these boys were only separated by 0.8 of second. Also quietly slipping into the points was Ricky Hunt showing he can match the front runners pace which isn't bad for only his 2nd event.

As for Group 2, the consistently fast Jason Street burst a rear brake hose in his first run, making the mighty thunderbird a bit of a monster in the handling department and seriously hampering his title charge. Paddy Barnett and Dennis Copper took full advantage of Streety's misfortune and set a blistering pace to take the lead in group 2 and take the fight for outright honors right to the wire.

Other shakers and movers were the radial tuned monster Mini of the quick peddling James Wilson, the TRD Corolla of Fraser Nuttal and Nismo Bluebird of Kevin Quigley rocketing through their respective packs to help set themselves up for top finishes later in the day over their rally tired foes.

Our x5 Jr's where also have a cracker of a day with Josh Hunt, Jak Nuttal, Daniel Whiteway, Sam Howe and Phillipa Smith all setting up their own battle and taking the fight for position up to more experienced foes!

Run's 3 & 4, North and South tracks

The groups swapped tracks from the morning runs. With no wind and glorious sunshine, DUST become the next big hurdle for our crews to contend with (Don't we just love that Powranna clay, I'm still picking it from my nose!), along with both tracks starting to cut up from the fast and furious action they where being subjected too.

For both groups the afternoons action went from crazily fast to totals nuts! Leighton Burns gave his brothers Datsun powered Commodore an absolute flogging to take a convincing 9.10sec outright win and 1st in class C for Rd 2, showing his Rd 1 win was no fluke and taking an early lead of the Pedders KhanaX series. To explain how hard these guy's are racing and to justify my earlier comment of 'Total Nuts' Outright 2nd and 3rd where separated by a gap of 0.30sec with Adrian Burns, (being the second abuser of that lovely Datsun powered Commodore) just holding out Dennis Cooper in the Datsun R31 Wedge on radials! A couple more fantastic drives that defiantly rate a mention, was Paddy Barnett in the little Mazda screaming into outright 4th a further 3.4sec back and 1st in class A, also Jason Street (with NO back brakes!!!) held on to 5th outright and 1st class B.

Josh Hunt in only his second Khanacross took the junior win over Jak Nuttal, Daniel Whiteway, Sam How and Phillipa Smith. Our juniors have also stepped it up a notch and it won't be too long before we start seeing these youngsters appearing in the outright top ten (look out DADS)!

Once again I have dribbled for long enough, but I would just like to say thanks to everyone who helped on the day and a big thanks to Tim Kulhanek, who has stepped up as my deputy Clerk of Course and done his Event Command license to assist in taking some of the organizational load off some of us older farts!

Hope you all had fun and see ya all at the next Khanacross on the 2nd August.

Keep doing it sideways in the gravel.

Matty von Bertouch

p.s. for event and series results go to the '**Results page**' at www.msct.com.au, also the next Rounds Pedders Khanacross Supp Regs and entry form can be found on the website!

Targa Tasmania.

The Targa road show rolled through Tasmania recently and the MSCT was well represented this year.

Of course we had our latest Life Member inductee Barry Oliver in the Porsche with Jim Richards racing for the outright win. Jim and Baz finished in 2nd position, around 1 minute behind the winner Steve Glenney and Bernie Webb in an Evo9.

Tim Kulhanek was also competing as a co-driver in the Modern Category in a GTR Skyline. Tim and his driver Ben Wooster finished in 12th outright.

Chris Bulk was navigating for Terry Harper in an XY Falcon in the Early Classic category. Mechanical dramas on the last day put an end to their Targa campaign.

Craig Millich was driving his 1978 Ford Escort in the Late Classics with Mal Ward calling the notes. The pair were charging hard and looking good for a trophy when the car left the road and rolled. The end result was DNF, crew ok and car a probable write-off.

New member Trent Warren navigated in a Ford Escort for Daniel Rowbottom in the Rookie rally. They finished 8th outright in the Classic Rookie Rally.

Also in the Rookie rally was Pete Dadson and Jason Street in Pete's Nissan Skyline GTR. The pair finished 10th in the Modern section.

The current TRS champion also entered the Modern Rookie rally in his Subaru gravel car, employing ex-member and former club president David Catt to make the calls. Waldo and Catt finished 3rd in the category.

In the touring section, Ian Johnson and Ann Montagu entered in the big GT Falcon.

Lawrie Pitt entered the Late Classic section in his Toyota MR2 with Marty Bulk sitting along side. They finished 33rd in a field of some 60 cars.

Les Walkden Rallying had a 2 car team entered in the Modern section, with youngster Klark Quinn with Natasha Deniese in an 07 spec C STi, and Tony Longhurst with Jahmeil Taylor in an 06 spec C STi. Both cars finished in the top 10- Quinn in 8th and Longhurst in 10th.

All results can be found at www.targa.org.au

Atko Tails from the WRC

WRC 5-Rally Jordan

Australia's only WRC competitor had another corker of a rally at Round 5 Rally Jordan recently, finishing in 3rd position, his 4th podium in 5 starts for 2008.

Based around the banks of the Dead Sea, the majority of the stages are actually conducted below sea level along barren, sandy roads in scorching heat.

Atkinson and Prevot spend most of the rally just outside the top 3, but when Latvala lost 50 seconds in one stage, they slipped into 3rd place. They then only had to drive conservatively to maintain their position.

Solberg and Mills suffered a broken shock absorber, then a leaking brake caliper, to be finished off by sliding off the road into retirement on the last stage of day 2.

Atkinson and Prevot comfortably hold 3 spot in the Drivers Standings.

The next round is Rally Sardinia starting on May 16th.

WRC 6-Rally Sardinia.

Round 6 of the WRC took the teams to Sardinia in the Mediterranean, between Spain and Italy and a stones throw from Corsica. Surely a welcome relief after the deserts of Jordan.

Chris Atkinson and Stephane Prevot started the event strongly and for the whole 3 days were consistently setting times between 5th and 10th fastest. Due to their consistent performance, the pair finished in 6th position, just over 5 minutes behind event winner, current world champion, Sebastian Loeb.

Team mate and supposed SWRT No1 driver Petter Solberg and Co-Driver Phil Mills were running in the top 3 for most of day one, but a flat tyre on the second stage of day 2 saw the pair drop down the time sheets dramatically. The pair struggled to regain much time after that and finished the event in 10th place.

Probably the biggest factor in the Subaru's struggling to stay on the pace was the fact that the temperature of the event was some 6 degrees cooler on average than for the same event last year. This affected how much heat the tyres could generate, therefore affecting the grip levels.

Atkinson still holds down 3rd position in the drivers standings on 31 points. Hirvonen leads with 43 points, followed by Loeb on 40 points.

The next round is Round 7, the Acropolis Rally of Greece starting on May 29th. The SWRT will use the Acropolis Rally to launch the new Impreza WRC2008, after extensive testing in the last few months.

WRC 7- The Acropolis Rally

Chris Atkinson maintains his 3rd position in the WRC drivers standings after a disappointing Round 7.

Driving the all new Impreza WRC2008 in its first competitive outing, Atko, with Stephane Prevot on board, finished day 1 in 8th position, dropping from 6th after damaging the suspension after spinning.

Team mates Petter Solberg and Phil Mills finished day one in 3rd position after a trouble free run in the new car.

Day 2 started out well for Atko, setting a similar time to the front runners on the first stage, but suffered a minor electrical fault with the starter motor prior to the second stage of the day. Unfortunately the pair couldn't get the car restarted and therefore missed the remaining stages for the day, forcing them into retirement.

Day 3 saw Atko return to the event to use it for a spot of testing and he came out firing, taking the stage win on the first test of the day.

In another run of bad luck, Atkinson spun again in the second stage of the day and again damaged the suspension on the unforgiving roads. He was able to continue but was forced to retire for the second time in this event on stage 16.

Solberg and Mills managed to hang on for second place, just over a minute behind winner Loeb and around 45 seconds in front of Hirvonen in third place.

Round 8 on the WRC calendar in the Rally of Turkey on 12-15th June. Keep up to date at www.swrt.com

WRC8- The Rally of Turkey.

Chris Atkinson and Stephane Prevost finished in 13th position in this grueling event. In a return to the WRC calendar, the rally was very unforgiving, with rubble strewn goat tracks proving to be treacherous and punishing. Driving the new model Impreza in its second only rally, Atkinson was forced to retire on stage six with damaged front suspension. He was allowed to restart the following day under SuperRally rules. Team mates Petter Solberg and Phil Mills finished day 1 in 6th place.

Day 2 was dogged by dramas from the new Impreza, firstly by electrical gremlins causing him to leave the lunch time service late. Once the fault was rectified and he was back on the road, Atko set some reasonable stage times, including a second fastest on one stage. Until SS14 when hydraulic issues again forced them out.

Day 3 was an opportunity for further testing for Chris Atkinson, and some consistent driving saw him sneak into 13th position for the rally. Not bad for the amount of troubles encountered.

Solberg held onto sixth position, with Hirvonen taking the win from Latvala, then Loeb, Sordo and Henning Solberg in 5th.

Atkinson slips to 4th in the championship and just 1 point in front of 5th.

The calendar takes its mid year break now, with round 9 being the classic Rally of Finland at the end of July.

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