

ISSUE 263

# The Wheel



**Southern Tablelands**  
Heritage Automotive Restorers Club Inc.

**May 2025**



## Southern Tablelands Heritage Automotive Restorers Club, Inc.

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<b>Vice President</b>	Pam Corbett	0411 097 644
<b>Public Officer</b>	Chris Hillbrick-Boyd	0419 013 263
<b>Treasurer</b>	Christine Brown.	0412 442 623
<b>Secretary/Membership</b>	Bruce McCarron	0407 090 360
<b>Minutes</b>	Ian Robinson	0417 892 482
<b>Property Officer</b>	Michael Oborn	0492 945 986
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**Website:** [www.stharc.org.au](http://www.stharc.org.au) **Mail:** PO Box 1420, Queanbeyan NSW 2620

**Bank Details:** STHARC BSB 633000 Account 164876989

### Club Meetings

**WHEN:** 7pm; 2nd Thursday of each month (except January)

**WHERE:** Girl Guide Hall, Erin St, Queanbeyan.

**Contributions** should be submitted **before the 22nd of the month** for the following month's issue. Articles covering events, members' experiences, automotive/mechanical items or photographs welcomed. The editor reserves the right to accept, reject or modify any section of any article submitted for publication.

**The opinions** and views expressed in the articles published in The Wheel are wholly those of the respective authors, not necessarily those of the Editor, or the Committee of the Southern Tablelands Heritage Automotive Restorers Club Inc. **Previous copies of The Wheel** are available from Australian National Library, Call No N796.70994WHE

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## From the President's driver seat

Hello STHARC Members,

I remember writing at the end of 2024, that the year would soon draw to a close. Of interest, we are about to soon close upon another important milestone of our calendar, and that is the end of a financial (or fiscal) year. Of course, that means that we will soon also come to the end of another membership year.

With that, I draw your attention to our by-laws concerning "Participation in Club Activities":

*In accordance with the Purposes and Objectives of the Club, that is the general promotion of heritage vehicles and heritage motoring, the Club expects all members to actively support the club by participation in organised club activities. Therefore, as a minimum to maintain membership, each club member is expected to attend at least two general meetings and two club events each year.*

Your Committee does not apply this by-law in a strict draconian fashion, but if you have not been seen for the past ten months and have not advised the Secretary of any underlining priorities, your ongoing membership will be questioned. Membership means more than just paying your dues. Remember that we want you to be a member, but more importantly, we want you to be a participant of the club. I make the point that we exist not to provide a means to achieve cheap registration, but we are a fraternity of likeminded enthusiasts.

So call Shannons for a    quote on 13 46 46.

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## From the President's driver seat

Looking ahead, we have an excellent opportunity to participate in the Wheels of Wamboin on Saturday 17 May, and it would not be too late to get involved in our weekend away to Robertson in the Southern Tablelands (how's that for alignment with our name?).

Lastly, I wish to thank those who have communicated appreciation for my ANZAC address given at the last meeting. I was wondering how it might be received, but clearly there was an appetite for it. Remember that I am always looking for other presenters at our regular meetings and will prioritise time for that to occur.

Yours fraternally,

Bruce Legge  
President



**Editors Notes:** Sandra, Marion & Rhonda

**Guess what events have an email address!!  
[events@stharc.org.au](mailto:events@stharc.org.au)**

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**FRONT PAGE**

Our registrar—Chuck—won 2 prizes and Bob Fulthorpe won a prize at the Toyota Nationals at Dubbo on the Easter Weekend. Chuck's car is pictured on the front cover.

Congratulations to you both.



## STHARC GENERAL MEETING

**Queanbeyan Guide Hall 10th April 2025**

The meeting commenced at 7.02 pm. The President welcomed members to the meeting and reminded them to place their phones on silent and to sign the attendance book.

*Attendance and apologies* as per Attendance Book.

*Visitors:* Ian Dale and AJ Bala were visitors to the meeting; both are looking to join the club. Ian has a 1987 Mack truck, registered but under restoration, and AJ has a 2000 Toyota Crown and 1991 Toyota Soarer. The President welcomed both visitors to the meeting.

*New Members:* On the Committee's recommendation, members unanimously approved the membership of Denis Reid, Jeff and Samantha Vrins and AJ Bala.

*Minutes* of the 13 March 2025 meeting accepted (moved Bruce Legge; seconded Rosalie Ryan).

*Treasurer's Report:* The current bank balance is healthy. Since last month, income has comprised membership fees, name badges and raffle proceeds, while expenditure has comprised name badges and printing and postage of *The Wheel*. New members were asked to see the Treasurer at the end of the meeting to arrange payment of their membership fees. Report accepted (moved Christine Brown; seconded Ray Malam).

*Secretary's Report:* The club has received hard copies of the Coota Hoota and the Crankhandle, and electronic copies of Dinkum Oil, Clax-on and Colonial have been forwarded to members. Name badges for recent new members are available for collection. Report accepted (moved Bruce McCarron; seconded David Arton).

*Registrar's Report:* The Registrar noted that there was nothing to report from Services NSW or Access Canberra. Membership cards are available for collection.

So call Shannons for a    quote on 13 46 46.

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## **STHARC GENERAL MEETING**

### **Queanbeyan Guide Hall 10th April 2025**

*Events Report:* Rosalie Ryan noted that the Events Committee now had their own e-mail address: [events@stharc.org.au](mailto:events@stharc.org.au). Rosalie also informed members of the following events:

Auto Italia at Queanbeyan Park on Sunday 13 April;

Toyota Nationals, Dubbo, 18-21 April

Canberra Car Enthusiasts Expo at Tuggeranong Homestead,  
Saturday 19 April;

Wheels of Wamboin, 17 May – members to gather at the Guide Hall at 6:45am for a 7:00 am departure, arriving at Wamboin by 7:30 am.

National Heritage Motoring Day on 18 May; and

Club weekend at Robertson, 19 – 20 July; flier available; 13 members have already signed up; highlights include Christmas in July at the Robertson Hotel and a visit to the Australian Motorlife museum.

There will be no morning tea in April as it clashes with Anzac Day. The morning tea for May will be at *Hide and Seek*, Lyneham.

*Editors' Report:* On behalf of the Editorial Team, Marion Francis encouraged members to continue submitting articles to *The Wheel*.

*General Business:*

Alan Boyd has been in hospital but is home again now.

Bruce McCarron will temporarily assume the duties of the club's Public Officer during Christine Hillbrick-Boyd's absence.

## STHARC GENERAL MEETING

### Queanbeyan Guide Hall 10th April 2025

#### *Guest Speaker*

Bruce Legge spoke to members about the significance and importance of ANZAC remembrance, noting that there is a price for the freedoms we all enjoy and that this price is paid by service men and women. It is appropriate to remember and honour those who have served their country selflessly.

Bruce also listed 10 inventions which were originally developed for military purposes and which are now used in motor vehicles: radar ranging technology; GPS; turbocharging; titanium; ABS; drive by wire; gyroscopic stability control; computers; cylinder boring technology and interchangeable parts.

Members expressed their thanks to Bruce for his thoughtful and interesting presentation.





## STHARC GENERAL MEETING

### Queanbeyan Guide Hall 10th April 2025



Marion Francis presented Malcolm Roxburgh with his Editor's Award. Malcolm helped in setting up the process to upload the Wheel to the National Library, and continued to do it until we finally managed the process ourselves. He also provided us with some articles through the year. A well deserved award. Thank you Malcolm

*Raffle:* Four raffle prizes were won.

*Next Meeting:* 7.00 pm Thursday 8 May 2025

The meeting closed at 7.51 pm.

## EVENTS MAY 2025

### Thursday 8th May

STHARC general meeting. Queanbeyan Guide Hall 7pm

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### **17<sup>th</sup> May, 9.00 – 1pm Wheels of Wamboin**

6.45am for a 7am departure from the Guide Hall.

**Rosalie promises a free coffee to all those that can make the early departure.**

Please meet at the hall so that we can depart together. Display space is limited so it's first in best dressed. Entry is a gold coin donation.

Please bring a chair, morning tea, wear your STHARC merchandise and your club spirit.

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## EVENTS MAY 2025

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### 18<sup>th</sup> May National Heritage Motoring Day

The aim of the National Motoring Heritage Day (NMHD), an initiative of the [Australian Historic Motoring Federation](#) (AHMF), is to promote and display Australia's strong motoring heritage and to show the community, business and government the strength of the Australian motoring movement.

The club will use Wheels of Wamboin as it's club event for this National Heritage Motoring Day. If you attend any events individually please be sure to send a photo of your car at the event to [events@stharc.org.au](mailto:events@stharc.org.au)

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### Friday 30th May

Morning Tea—10.00am Hide and Seek Café,  
Shop4/2 Colville Street Lyneham ACT

Contact: Alicia Arton 0422 203 495

## EVENTS JUNE 2025

### Thursday 12th June

STHARC general meeting. Queanbeyan Guide Hall 7pm

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### **21<sup>st</sup> June, Saturday 10am – Combined Morning Tea and Club Run to Tarago**

Join us for a combined morning tea and club run to Tarago, NSW, approximately a 45min drive from Queanbeyan. Please meet at the club 8.50 am for a 9.10 am departure. Our destination the Chubby Cat Café, 1-3 Braidwood Rd, Tarago.

Members are welcome to meet us there if you cannot join us for the convoy out.

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## EVENTS JULY 2025

### Thursday 10th July

STHARC general meeting, Queanbeyan Guide Hall 7pm

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### **Weekend away to Robertson 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> July**

Don't forget about our weekend away to Robertson. Once you have booked your accommodation, as a courtesy please email Rosalie at [rosyrhino@gmail.com](mailto:rosyrhino@gmail.com) so she can keep track of who is attending.

The Christmas in July event, on the 19<sup>th</sup>, at the Robertson Hotel is set to be a good night, you can book your tickets through their website [Whats On — The Robertson Hotel](#) . Please write in the notes section that you are with STHARC Car Club, and they will seat us together. Currently we have 13 members attending the weekend.

The Australian MOTORLIFE museum have said we are very much welcome to come and visit and look through on the Saturday.

The Big Potato has recently had a face lift and is now the Pig Potato to commemorate 30 years of Babe the movie. It'll definitely be worth a look.

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**STHARC**

## Weekend to **Robertson**

Join us for a social  
weekend away!

**Sat 19th – 20th July**

Stay overnight at the Robertson Hotel  
and enjoy a Christmas in July themed  
dinner.

Possible activities include:

- ◆ Visit The Australian MOTORLIFE Museum
- ◆ Explore local sites of Robertson
- ◆ Visit the Mittagong markets

Please RSVP to Rosalie once your accommodation has been booked so we can get an idea of numbers.

[rosyrhino@gmail.com](mailto:rosyrhino@gmail.com)



Approx 2 hour drive from  
Queanbeyan



This weekend away is an invitation for club members to enjoy a mini break and enjoy the company of our motoring enthusiasts.

Robertson is a picturesque village in the Southern Highlands and boasts lush landscapes of waterfalls and tree top adventures. It also offers galleries, cafes and historic buildings, such as the Robertson Heritage Railway Station. Fun fact the movie *Babe* was filmed around Robertson!

**The Roberston Hotel** 1 Fountaindale Rd, Robertson NSW 2577

The Hotel offers accommodation, and members can book their own room. Prices vary depending on the room and the site you book through. Currently Booking.com has rooms for \$175 but you'll need to be quick to get a cheaper rate! Other sites include Wotif or Hotels.com. There are still rooms available, however there is also the Robertson Country Motel. Please speak to Rosalie or Alicia if you require any further information on accommodation.

The Hotel is having a **Christmas in July Dinner** on the Saturday night. The cost is **\$97** pp for a three-course meal, mulled wine and entertainment.

You can book and pay for your tickets through the Hotel

- ◆ **PLEASE WRITE IN THE NOTES THAT YOU ARE WITH The STHARC Car Club** when you proceed to payment so that they will group us together.
- ◆ We encourage members to **BOOK NOW** for both accommodation and dinner so you do not miss out.

The **Australian MOTORLIFE Museum** is located a further 40-minute drive from Robertson and the last entry time is 3.30pm. Members may like to drive straight there and then check in later or arrive at Robertson, have lunch and then depart to the Museum.

Integral Energy Recreation Park, 94 Darkes Rd, Stream Hill NSW 2526

The Mittagong Markets are also on the Sunday.

All activities are optional, and you can make the weekend as action packed or as relaxing as you wish.

To see what else Robertson has to offer we recommend checking out the Visit NSW website.

## **MOTOR BIKE STORY**

### **By Daryl Bourke**

I grew up in a country town out west where I occasionally rode a farmer's Honda 90 arg bike, and often fell off. Moving to Sydney for employment I found myself in a share house with motorbike riders. Seeing the convince and joy of having a motorbike I bought a second hand Honda XL250. Next was getting a motorbike license. My test was at the North Sydney motor registry where the testing officer gave me instructions on a route I should follow, then stood outside and watched me disappear into the hustle and bustle of the city traffic. When I returned I was given my motorbike license. I guess he thought I returned within a specified time without any obvious injuries so I must be able to ride.

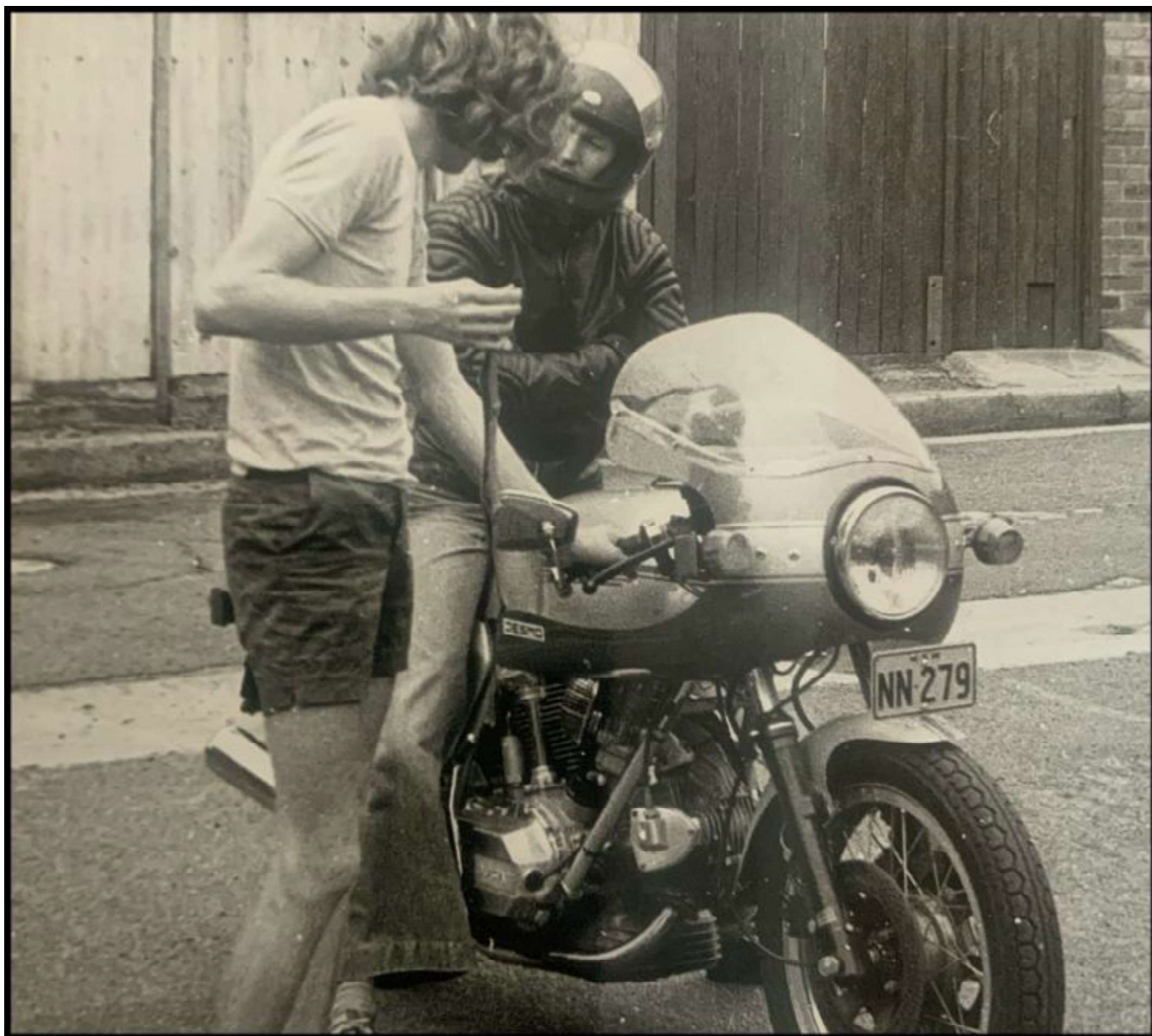
Now all four of us in the share house had motorbikes, a 175cc, two 250 cc and a 900cc. It was chalk and cheese the difference, three small on/off road bike and a real road bike. John had a brand new Ducati 900 Super Sport. The 900SS was just amazing, it looked so good with its fairing and sounded fantastic. The two cylinder 900cc with twin connie exhaust pipes made a beautiful sound. We could hear if John got red lights two blocks away from our share house in Crows Nest.

One weekend on a ride north to Dee Why, John initiated swapping bikes so I could experience riding a big 900cc bike. John, on my 250, positioned himself in the lane next to me on his 900 and told me to "open it up". I gave the throttle a twist and it seemed everyone else must have hit their brakes, why did they drop back so far, oops, it was me rocketing forward. As we came to a sweeping corner I had to use all three lanes to take the corner as I had no idea how to lean such a big bike. We pulled over and I willingly returned to my little 250 with my legs shivering from the anxiety of what just happened. It would be a long time before I got on something bigger than a 250 again.



## **MOTOR BIKE STORY**

**By Daryl Bourke**



House mate Neil talking to John, who is sitting on his Ducati 900 Super Sport

## **MOTOR BIKE STORY**

### **By Daryl Bourke**

After having children and moving into the Canberra area of NSW I gave up motorbike riding. Too cold and too risky for a young father. But later in life with no children at home, I found some work colleagues were getting motorbikes, often referred to as mid life crises bikes. Clive wanted to sell his and insisted I take it for a week. As I mounted his Triumph Trophy 900cc triple, I could feel my anxiety level peaking, how would I cope with such a big powerful bike. After stalling it three times in his driveway I somehow managed to ride it home. My concern was how would I get it back to him, so each day after work I would take it for a ride, a bit further each day so I could manage the distance to return it. By the end of the week I was hooked and purchased it. This led me into a new circle of motorbike friends who directed me to do Superbike School training. A very wise thing as falling off a Honda 90 Arg bike was not good training for the 1200cc sports bike I was now riding.

On a recent motorbike trip we stopped at the Tamworth Motorbike museum where I came across a Ducati 900 Super Sport. Many memories of motorbike riding in Sydney flooded back. What shocked me was how primitive the Ducati 900SS seemed compared to my memory. I was in awe of this bike and now I stood next to it aghast by how basic it was. While today's sports bikes are very sleek, fuel injected rockets with full ABS brakes and adaptive suspension, the Ducati 900SS still holds a place in my heart for what it was in the seventies, an awesome bike.

## **MOTOR BIKE STORY**

**By Daryl Bourke**

Tamworth Museum—Ducati 900 Super Sport





## TOYOTA NATIONALS AT DUBBO - APRIL 2025

### By Bernie & Mark Wyatt

Over the Easter long weekend, several of our STHARC members made the trip to Dubbo for the annual Toyota Nationals — always a highlight on the calendar! With a great mix of Show & Shine, Motorkhana, and Drag Racing events, it's a fantastic weekend of fun, competition, and community.

A huge congratulations to our members who brought home some well-deserved trophies:

Chuck

- Best Engine Bay – Historic Original

Best Exterior – Historic Original

Bob

- Best Engine Bay – Classic





## **TOYOTA NATIONALS AT DUBBO - APRIL 2025**

**By Bernie & Mark Wyatt**



Well done to all involved! The Toyota Nationals is a great excuse for a getaway, and next year promises to be even bigger and better as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the event.

Bernie & Mark Wyatt

## **TOYOTA NATIONALS AT DUBBO - APRIL 2025**

### **By Chuck Landwehr**

A small group of STHARC's dedicated Toyota Nuts ventured off to the annual gathering of Toyota's at Dubbo. The event has been in Dubbo for the past 49 years, first 27 years as The Toyota Celica Nationals and the last 22 as simply The Toyota Nationals.

Our group consisted of an orange 1977 Toyota Celica, a 1978 bronze Toyota Celica both Liftback versions, an orange and white 1975 Toyota Celica Coupe, a white Toyota Paseo, and a green 1970 Toyota Crown Coupe. Some convoyed to Dubbo with fellow enthusiasts from the Canberra Celica Group, a non affiliated club, just a bunch of social car owners. These cars left from Gold Creek at around 8:00am.

Bob Fulthorpe had arisen quite early and headed off solo in his ever-redoubtable Toyota Paseo, survivor of Bob and Katies navigation rally's and other undocumented adventures. My son Simon and I had loaded the Crown Coupe onto the trailer the evening before and much like Bob made an early start, stopping occasionally to ensure the strapping was still securely holding our prized possession to the trailer.

We gathered at the Matilda motel, where an evening greeting is held and all entrants collect their passes and instructions for the weekend. Many others take advantage of AirBNB and Stayz for their accommodation further contributing to the Dubbo economy. Saturday morning saw us all arrive at Ollie Robbins oval by the river in Dubbo for the Show and Shine.

## **TOYOTA NATIONALS AT DUBBO**

### **By Chuck Landwehr**

Bob and his Paseo picked up an award for best Classic car engine bay. Simon and I picked up a similar award for Historic engine bay plus an award for best Historic exterior.

A strong contingent from the Celica Group also picked up awards from the show and shine.

Saturday afternoon saw the crowd gravitated to the Dubbo City Sale Yards where a Motorkhana got of to a start at about 2:00pm. Bob once again demonstrated his car craft in whizzing the little Paseo around the various obstacles, at first wallowing like a drunken sailor with underinflated tyres, then squealing around on 40psi at each corner, a great spectacle. Bernie and Mark similarly put there 1977 Celica through its paces, with their Daughter and son in law having a blast in the RA40 Celica. As first timers, they showed true grit and enormous potential.

The Sunday drag races at Bodangara Airstrip, consisted of bracket racing, where one nominates a time, and endeavours to get as close as possible to the time, without achieving a lower time, known as breaking out. It is not a direct competition lane on lane but to keep the day flowing cars are lined up at the start Bobs time was so high that he was midfield before the lights for the car in the lane next door turned green.

Friday and Saturday evenings are spent in finishing the finer details on the cars for the events, and consuming sociable quantities oof alcohol. Sunday night is presentation dinner night where the weekend is wrapped up and the trophies for all the prizes are presented.

Monday mornings and we bid farewell to our long time acquaintances and newfound friends and promise to return for future frivolities.

