

THE BLOWER

The Official magazine of the Car Club of the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology Inc.



And he said... "don't worry I'll just take it for a spin 'round the block"



Next Club Night:

10 February 2016

General Club Nights are held at 8pm on the Second Wednesday of each month (Feb – Nov) at:

The Notting Hill Hotel (On the map below) 262 Ferntree Gully Road, Notting Hill

**** Presentation Night 20th January 2016 ****



Deadline for next Blower Submissions:

30 January 2016

Please send all magazine contributions to:
blower@ccrmit.com

All other correspondence to:
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Incorporation Number A0049540G

The Cover

Santa has upgraded the sleigh!



The 2015 Committee & Representatives:

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Editors Notes

Hello from the Blower Editor's desk. I am filling in for our illustrious Blower editor for this month, whilst Bernie receives his treatment. Best wishes to Bernie, who celebrated his birthday in Hospital, but hopefully will be able to return home for Christmas.

A little surprise for Bernie was given by two CCRMIT club members, who found the no-flowers loophole and had delivered a great present!!! Thanks to Brett and Ormie for a bit of fun. Edible bouquets taste better!



Well what a year 2015 has been. It certainly has been an interesting year for the club. CCRMIT has become a very diverse group of members who are involved in many different forms of motorsport. This year we have organised a state level rally, an autocross, a motorkhana, members have competed in rallies at all levels, the RZR championship, Phillip Island 6hr Relay, autocrosses and I'm sure more!

Whilst it is great to see such diversity, we need to ensure that the car club doesn't end up with a series of cliques that end up mutually exclusive to one another. I think the key to it all is having the right mix of social gatherings, club nights, communicating through different forms of media/social media, and this will be something I will be working on through 2016 as part of your committee.

Christmas is fast approaching and that means 2016 is just around the corner. It would be great to hear from you on what your intentions are for 2016? Are you building a new car, stepping up to the VRC? Saving all your pennies for that new turbo or brake package? Please send pics or info to blower@ccrmit.com

I also look forward to some stories from the Alpine in the new-year. It's such an epic event there are many tails to be told

From all of us at the blower team, may you have a safe Christmas and may Santa bring you all those car bits you need to finish off the project. The calendar looks like it's going to be a cracker of a year.

Cheers Andrew
The Blower "Stand-in" Editor



After no nominations at the AGM, CCRMIT is seeking a club member to volunteer to be Club Secretary. Brett Williams who has been our secretary in 2015 has stepped down, and is now Secretary of the Victorian Rally Panel.

The role of secretary is not as daunting as one might think. You basically get to be the person to keep the committee in check, write down some minutes of each meeting, and help communicate committee matters to the club members. A non-committee member is encouraged to jump on board and be a part of organisation of this wonderful club.

If you are at all interested and want to know more about the role, please have a chat to Brett Williams (jugglenaut1@bigpond.com) and he will furnish your questions!



Go on, you know you want to!

Membership Matters

With the introduction of two membership renewal dates per year there is not much change from month to month when it comes to future renewals.

The list is shorter this month than last as some members have renewed early.

Have no fear your membership is from the expiry date not the day you pay so there is no harm in paying up early.

Below is a list of members whose memberships are due for renewal in January 2016.

745 - Michelle Fraser & Family
763 - Brett Williams & Family
830 - Spencer Lowndes
857 - Anthony Robinson
927 - Doug Lakeman
1035 - Michael Bansagi
1172 - David Gill
1175 - Stuart Diggins
1257 - Steve Allen
1266 - Mark Gill
1276 - Barry Sheridan
1281 - Mark Egan
1282 - Ange Egan
1296 - Stuart Wills
1304 - Viv Dilkes-Frayne
1310 - Tracey Dewhurst
1327 - Dean Marshall
1332 - Brenton Simpson
1339 - Nicholas Jacob
1346 - Niall Gavin
1361 - Paul Dobson

Over the past couple of years I have seen new members come along and a few members fall by the wayside. I also note those that are somewhat tardy in renewing but I am more than happy to renew ASAP when required.

All I ask is that if you are on the list above and there is no intention to renew please let me know.

Murray.



20th January 2016
CCRMIT 2015 Award Presentations
The Notting Hill Hotel



Stay Tuned...More details to come early in the New Year

« THE CALENDAR »

The club calendar will be prepared once the relevant series and event schedules are released. In the meantime please see below the rally calendar for 2016.

Please note that some date changes are in with the Department and you should check regularly on vicrally.com.au for updates to the calendar.

Victorian Club Rally Series (VCRS)

An absolutely crazy year ahead for the VCRS, with 8 calendared events. I have not seen such a strong commitment to the series from the member clubs in a very long time. Let's hope all events run and will it make history?

Rnd 1	19 March	Eildon Stages in <i>Blue Range, Eildon</i> (NCCA)
Rnd 2	16 April	Gil Davis in <i>Yarra, La Trobe</i> (HRA)
Rnd 3	14 May	Daryl Tunbridge Trial in <i>Murray Goldfields, Midlands</i> (BLCC)
Rnd 4	18 June	Nissan Nightmoves in <i>Murray Goldfields</i> (NCCA)
Rnd 5	13 Aug	Cooper Memorial in <i>Midlands</i> (WDCC)
Rnd 6	17 Sep	Spring 200 in <i>Murrindindi</i> (FFCC)
Rnd 7	29 Oct	Blue Rock Stages in <i>Yarra, La Trobe, Heyfield</i> (PAC)
Rnd 8	26 Nov	Goldfields Rally in <i>Murray Goldfields</i> (CCC)

Victorian Rally Championship (VRC)

Some changes already in the championship with the Begonia Rally unfortunately being cancelled due to a conflict in date with the WRC round, sees the event being deferred till 2017. This was to be the return of the ARC back into Victoria. We also see a new event in the championship taking the place of the East Gippsland Stages event.

Rnd 1	19 March	Eildon Stages in <i>Blue Range, Eildon</i> (NCCA)
Rnd 2	30 April	Marysville Stages in <i>Murrindindi</i> (FFCC)
Rnd 3	28 May	Mitta Mitta Mountain Rally in <i>Upper Murray</i> (NECC)
Rnd 4	28 Aug	Maryborough Toyota George Derrick Pyrenees Rush in <i>Murray Goldfields, Midlands</i> (CCRMIT)
Rnd 5	16 Oct	Akados in <i>Murrindindi</i> (MUCC)

Australian Rally Championship (ARC)

As discussed with the date shift of the WRC round to November, has seen the Victorian ARC Round to be deferred to 2017. This leaves the ARC back to having 5 rounds.

Rnd 1	22-24 April	Quit Forrest Rally (WA)
Rnd 2	27-29 May	National Capital Rally (ACT)
Rnd 3	17-19 June	International Rally of Queensland (QLD)
Rnd 4	9-11 Sept	Rally SA (SA)
Rnd 5	18-20 Nov	Coates Hire Rally Australia (NSW)





Garages – how nice is it to park that car sideways...Dave Gates knows!!

Meanwhile...

What's going on?



Cathy and Matt posing for a photo at the Alpine (Source Brown Bear)



Matt Lee checking out the grip level of a Tyre Casing (source JEP)

Whoops!?!

« THE SCORER »

Well the results are in and congratulations to our 2015 award recipients!

Steve Poore Trials Champion

This year we see joint winners, **Colin Sichlau** and **Rick Thorpe** who resisted a late charge from Mark Sichlau to take out this years' award. Colin has previously won in 2012, and it's a long time between drinks for Rick, having to go back to 1986!

Well done to you both

	Neerim Classic	Marysville Marathon	Nissan Nightmoves	Spring 200	Blue Rock Stages	TOTAL	Placing
Colin Sichlau		20	20	19	20	79	1=
Rick Thorpe		20	20	19	20	79	1=
Mark Sichlau			19	18	19	56	3
Cathy Elliott	19	18	18			55	4
Brett Williams			19	18		37	5
Richard Gill	20					20	6=
Ryan Humphreys				20		20	6=
Luke Simpson				20		20	6=
Matthew Avedian					19	19	9

Noel Kelly Novice Award

Consistency has paid off for **Mark Sichlau** and he takes home the Noel Kelly Novice Award. Congratulations Mark!

	Neerim Classic	Marysville Marathon	Nissan Nightmoves	Spring 200	Blue Rock Stages	TOTAL	Placings
Mark Sichlau			20	19	20	59	1
Ryan Humphreys				20		20	2=
Richard Gill	20					20	2=
Matthew Avedian					20	20	2=

From the Clerk...

I heard Andrew Roseman was going to step into the Blowers editor roll, so I thought "yeah, I'll send you something". Now as I write, I'll be honest and say that that I'm not sure what I will write about! So read on, and I guess you'll find out!

In the rallying world the personal highlights for me have been running my first VRC event, and managing to cobble together various highlights of the VRC season, and continuing to try and improve the public presentation of our sport.

The 2015 Maryborough Toyota GD Pyrenees Rush, was not just a rally, it was an event! Up the top were a few key players, but without the help of over 100 people on the day, the event was never going to happen. In 2016 I have committed to running the event again, however 2017 that's a different story unless I have some active helpers to share the load during 2016. I know everyone is busy these days, we all work, we all have families, we all have other activities we want & need to do. Running events isn't easy, but it's certainly achievable. And with a few more people actively committing earlier on, the job does get easier (means you can plan ahead, and not have to factor for limited help during the lead up).

I have a firm belief that for rallying to have continued long term prosperity, we need to engage with the local communities - Sure we can rally around them, but long term they are our partners. But engaging with communities means increased workload.

So, please make Cathy & my life that little bit easier and offer up your time to the club, so again we can run a kick arse event in regional Victoria!

Also in 2016, we need to revitalise that old social chin wagging that seems to have died off. I've already made some enquiries with a few Melbourne based V8 Super cars teams for some group tours, because putting aside the dizziness of circuit racing, there is some pretty damn cool engineering going on, and I'd like to see that first hand! Hopefully there will be details early in the new-year!

A few years ago we ran a Dyno Fight Night, and if the demand is there (10-15 cars), I'm prepared to select that one into gear. Nothing better than a few burnt snags and some dodgy prizes for those cars that have no power, and those that think they do...

Anyway, enough dribble from me for now. Have a great safe & enjoyable Christmas & new-year! And keep your eyes peeled for both the VRC Awards night (12th Feb), and VCRS Awards (19th Feb) - Both on Friday nights, so good excuses for a quite beverage.

Cheers



Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year

