

# 500 CAR CLUB OF TASMANIA QUARTERLY APRIL – JUNE 2015



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# From the Chair

Hello punters

This quarter has seen plenty of motorsport activity within the club, with the running of the season's first state rally championship round, and also a wonderfully entertaining novice tour (see further on for reports).

We have also held the Annual General Meeting, and the Annual Presentation Night with plenty of cheers and beers, stories and trophies.

With another trial and state round preparations underway, there is never a dull moment for the committee and event organisers. The lead-in time required to organize an event is a minimum of 12 weeks prior, and even a simple activity requires a reasonable amount of work to prepare and deliver, let alone a state-level rally!

Volunteer organisers are a peculiar breed, strangely prepared to rise to the harsh demands on their free time, family life, and sanity. Their only reward is to see an event well run, and most importantly, well attended! The club has made a conscious effort to rationalise the amount of events calendared in the year, with mind to produce 1<sup>st</sup> class events that capture what the members want.

This only works if competitors actually enter rather than just talk about it! Too many cars in sheds, and too many excuses could spell the end of some events forever, and certainly affect the organiser's motivation. Not everyone aspires to be a special stage legend, but you can be a kxanacross hero for very little money, and in your family wagon as well (bring the whole family).

If speed is not your gig, the next trial may be just the thing for you. These events can be as easy or hard as you care to make them, and really just an excuse for a day out getting lost and found over and over.

And don't forget being an official at any of our events; maybe you are the poor soul with a organiser's future ahead of you. ☺

Waldo

# Annual Presentation 2014

An awesome night was held at the Prince of Wales Hotel in April to present special awards and winner's trophies to club members, and celebrate the previous year's success.

Video footage was displayed showing the antics of the khanacross series, and some fun from the rally series.

Congratulations to all the very worthy recipients, and thanks to all those that attended to share a great meal and some laughs.

## PERPETUAL TROPHIES 2014

FJ Bailey for Consistency	-	Darren Clark
Ray Long for Directors	-	Graham Malcolm
Cyril Klye Club Champion	-	Stephen Turner

## KHANACROSS SERIES 2014-15

Series Winner	-	Nathan Roddam
FWD under 2L	-	Nathan Roddam
FWD over 2L	-	Ben Curwen
RWD under 2L	-	Tim Gadsby
RWD over 2L	-	Matthew Duncombe
AWD	-	Anthony Shaw
JNR	-	Keith Burton

## RALLY SERIES 2014

Series Driver	-	David Oates
Series Co-driver	-	Darren Lovell
Classic Driver	-	Darren Clark
P1 Co-Driver	-	Daniel Willson
P2 Driver	-	Craig Wright
P2 Co-Driver	-	Mark Kyle
P3 Driver	-	David Oates
P3 Co-Driver	-	Darren Lovell
P4 Driver	-	Andrew Morris
P4 Co-Driver	-	Sam Allright
P5 Driver	-	Sam Button
P5 Co-Driver	-	Nathan Walker



Khanacross Series  
winner Nathan Roddam  
soaking up the night.

## Guy Farmer Novice Tour

Director Dale Wiggins created a very clever Saturday event that catered for the beginners and experts alike.

Starting at Acton in the brisk sunshine, nine crews gathered to collect instructions, including three husband/wife crews, and two father/son combinations. A couple of the crews were absolute novices, and although somewhat apprehensive, and after some dubious help from the others, took to the task in fine form.

The instructions took us on a long loop through some fantastic South-East roads, through outposts such as Marion Bay and Connellys Marsh, in equal parts sunshine and blowing horizontal rain!

Lucky for some, including us, the instructions were designed so that crews would easily find the way to the finish at the Shaw residence for a barbeque and beer.

Well done to Geoff and Sue Rainbow for taking the outright honours, and a big clap for Daniel and Jasmine Davies for first Novice home, including keeping the kids amused.



The Davies family taking suspect advice from the wily Mark Kyle

“We should have a go at this trial thing!” “What about the Kids?”  
“They will be right, we can pack the car full of food, Imogen can bring her game and Zandy loves looking out the window, and there is a BBQ at the end”  
And that’s how it all started for us. So we packed up the Falcon wagon and headed down the road to have a go at our first ever Trial. At the start we were greeted with a range of experience, from “I don’t know what the hell to do” to “yeah just have fun, it doesn’t matter” and “you are going to make mistakes”.  
Maps were handed out and a quick brief later we were in the car, trying to make head or tail of what we had gotten ourselves into. After a little while and some epiphanies later we got into it and it all started to come together, go here, turn there, and we were at Richmond. A pit stop for the kids later and we were on our way again, this time with a bit more confidence, until a wrong turn at Albuquerque (or was it White Hill) lead us 15 minutes off the track. After some swearing and the mandatory “My wife likes to drive too” driver change, we were back on our way. With me being somewhat of a bad passenger and my wife hurtling down narrow gravel roads with the look of Ari Vatanen in her eyes, this made this section of the Trial out through Bream Creek very fun.

The next section went back on to the Tasman Highway and down to Dunalley, where we missed the shortest route by about 10 meters! Bugger! The section wound its way around the coast and back through to the Forcett back roads, needless to say we knew the road, it was where we made the mistake earlier. Then we saw it “R7”, “What the hell does that mean”. We decided that it didn’t really mean anything and continued on. The last part of the trial was fairly simple to decipher and we welcomed the end with a sigh of “That was actually pretty fun”. We met the other competitors at the end and found out half the signs had blown over, some had missed signs, some went the wrong way and the great thing was no one really cared and everyone had a smile on their face at the end. To me and my wife’s surprise we placed somewhere in the middle. At the end of the day, we had a great time, saw country we never seen before and started to enjoy the challenge of the Trial, I think we will definitely be along to do more of these events.

Davies Family

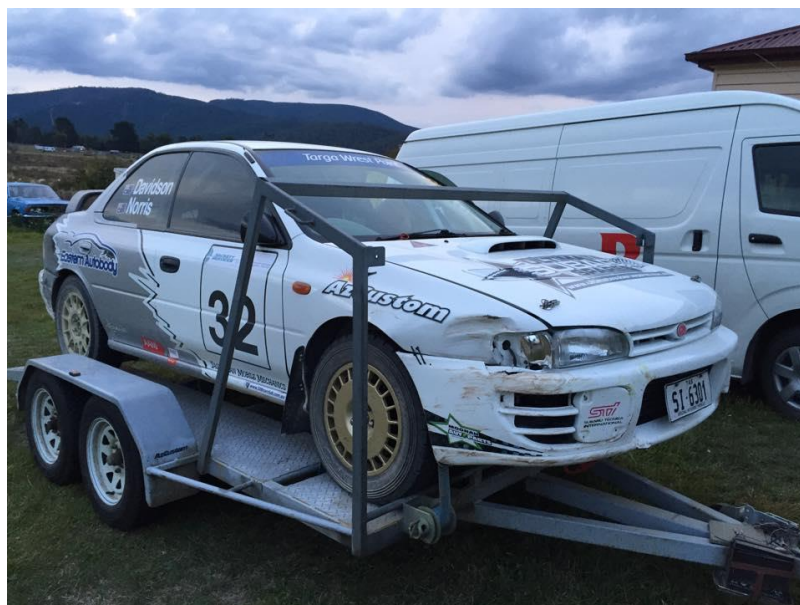
## Sackett Services Nicholas Stages Rally

### Tasmanian Rally Series Round 1

On the 10th of April a small group of mates headed north-east to Mathinna for the Sackett Services Nicholas Stages rally, the 1st round of the 2015 Tasmanian rally championship. This was to be our first event on the gravel after converting our tarmac/targa 1995 Subaru WRX to gravel spec.

After spending the night at 'The Creech', we woke to a very fresh Autumn morning in the township of Mathinna where the service park and Rally HQ was held. On arrival we were greeted by friendly locals, and a north/south reunion with fellow competitors, not a bad way to shake off any pre-rally nerves & jitters.

It wasn't long until we were into the first couple of stages and carefully coming to grips with the car on the slippery surface. The stages themselves were in great condition with a combination of tight and narrow plantations, to fast and flowing gravel highways. It wasn't long until we realised we had missed an important part of gravel rally prep, the Subaru's cabin was filled with thick choking dust and maybe we would need to plug a few holes in the body before the next event...



We were getting used to the car more and more and our pace was picking up, maybe a little too much! Midway through a tight stage and a lapse of concentration, we went off the road and took out a couple of trees, It took me by surprise how quick it had happened but luckily we were able to continue back to Mathinna and to the finish line in 4th outright.

The locals welcomed the competitors & crews back at the Mathinna pub where great meals, beers, and presentations took place along with stories and laughs from the days action.

All in all the 2015 Nicholas Stages rally was a great success and full credit to Graham Malcolm and crew, and the 500CC for a well organised and run event. 500CC also had great representation and filled top spots on the leaderboard with Lee Peterson & Daniel Wilson taking out outright line honours in their mighty 2WD Nissan Sunny, with Darren Clark in his awesome Mazda RX-7 taking out 3rd.

Johnno Davidson







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# SOUTHERN SAFARI 2015

## SACKETT SERVICES

**SATURDAY 8th AUGUST – 10AM**

### **Not long to wait for round three of the Tasmanian Rally Series**

This year's Southern Safari Rally will be back into the Mt Lloyd pine plantation, utilising perfect rally roads that formed ARC stages in the early 2000's.

The last time we held an event on these roads would have been around 2005 and the organisers have also selected some newly built roads which have never been competed on before!

With 105Km of competitive sections, with only 55Km of transports, this event is quite compact while still stretching over ten stages.

Central servicing will be on the Plenty Link Road, with a BBQ running throughout the day to keep service crews well fed.

Keep an eye on [500carclub.com.au](http://500carclub.com.au) for updates and further information

### **WANTED – OFFICIALS!**

As with each event we run, we need control officials, spectator marshals and road closures. Pretty much each point in the forest is a great place to spectate as stages are tight and twisty!

If you can spare a day to come and help out, please contact:  
Graham on 0438 728 910  
or Casey on 0408 628 057.

Alternatively, you can email [info@500carclub.com.au](mailto:info@500carclub.com.au)



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## 2015 Event Calendar

- 19 July Winter Trial Touring Assembly  
Kingston
- 8 August Sackett Services Southern Safari Rally  
State Rally Championship Round 3  
Plenty Valley
- 15 November Club Khanacross Round 1  
Cambridge
- 5 December Club Khanacross Round 2  
Cambridge

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