

COMPETITION REPORT APRIL 2011

TEAM HEALEY and MSCA NEWS

COMING EVENTS

Events marked with * count towards the Competition Championship. Sprint and Regularity events require a basic CAMS level 2S licence only. (contact Rod Vogt)

1 MARQUE SPORTS CAR ASSOCIATION (MSCA)

CALENDAR FOR 2011

Round 3	Sunday 10 th April	*Winton	
Round 4	Sunday 22 nd May	*Phillip Island	
Round 5	Sunday 3 rd July	*Sandown	
Round 6	Sunday 21 st August	*Phillip Island	
Round 7	Sunday 25 th September	*Winton	
Round 8	Sunday 21 st November	*Phillip Island	to be confirmed

Sunday December 4th 2011 (to be confirmed) will be Round One for the 2012 MSCA Championship and also for our 2012 AHOC Competition Championship (and the MSCA BBQ/Presentation for 2011.) ENTRY FORMS for these events will be sent to all on the Team Healey email list. If you want to get involved ring Rod Vogt on 5962 1915 or 0408 395 240 or email competition-MSCA@healeyvic.com.au Spectators are encouraged. Entry is free and you are welcome in our pit garage. Competition starts at approximately 9.15am

2 OTHER EVENTS

April 16/17 th	*Vic State Race Series inc MG & Invited British Sports Cars, Phillip Island.
Sunday April 17 th	Historic Sprints at Myrning
EASTER April 22-25	*Historic Mallala, South Australia
	*FOSC (Festival of Sporting Cars) Races at Eastern Creek, Sydney
Sunday April 24	*Round One Vic Supersprint Championship, Sandown
April 30/May 1	*Queensland Historics at Morgan Park, Warwick, QLD

COMPETITION REPORTS

1 MSCA SANDOWN 20th February

A near capacity entry of 117 drivers included a fine entry of nine Austin Healey Club members. A big thank you to David Kelly for a great job as our Clerk of Course with invaluable help from Selwyn Hall acting as a Steward. They made regular visits to the Team Healey compound during the day, putting the fear of God in to us each time – “who is in trouble now ?” was our usual, but unfounded, reaction. Thank you also to Peter Jackson, Shayne MacIntosh and Bill Vaughan for supporting. Russell Baker brought along his now familiar “groupies” with Elaine needing Phil and Pam to keep him settled and Martin helping on the technical side (he makes a nice cup of tea too!). In fact Martin helps us ALL if we have a problem and adds to our day very much.

The weather forecast was not promising at midweek so I organized two triple garages in advance and we all coughed up \$25 for the privilege of some cover, to add to our \$75 entry fee. Our first run early in the morning was on a dry track in mild conditions, and it looked like we may have wasted our hire money. But my new I-Phone weather app. (are you impressed?) showed rain coming and guess when it arrived? Our Regularity drivers sat on dummy grid for 15 minutes in pouring rain, sans top, and drove for fifteen minutes in similar conditions. Congratulations for sticking it out boys! Many competitors in newer cars went a.w.o.l. for their second run but not us. So who were these brave souls?

The REGULARITY event of a near record 17 entries included Tim Westover (3000), Rob Raverty (3000), Cary Helenius (100/6), Leon O'Brien (100/4) and Brian Aitken in the lone Sprite. (Bill Vaughan is “hotting up” his new/old Bug-eye after some uncertainty about running the fairly standard car on the track. Bill has sold his familiar white Sprite to his daughter in Queensland after buying back a Bug-eye he owned many years ago. We feared we may lose him from Team Healey but after some soul

searching our President stumbled upon a race motor which is now being "improved" further and will soon be installed, the matching-numbers engine being stored safely. And I bet Carole thought he might retire!!) Russell Baker made up the sixth Healey Regularity entrant in his standard road 3000 because his race beast was not back from the doctor in time – a new exhaust system is being built to make the car LESS noisy after it disgraced itself at it's last two outings by exceeding the 75 decibel limit imposed at Sandown and Phillip Island. They agonized over their target times after a quickish practice only to drive some fifteen seconds a lap slower in the next session in the rain. Russell had NO idea what his road Healey would do but gave it every thing in the wet, entertaining those of us left in the garage with controlled (?) slides coming on to the main straight. Rob Raverty, Cary Helenius and Leon O'Brien all nominated the SAME target time of 2 minutes per lap and drove in formation all day! Is this some form of cheating? Cary and Leon were silly enough to let Rob lead, obviously thinking HE could nail the target lap time. The official MSCA results are not out yet so we will have to wait and see if it is a case of the blind leading the blind. . Leon ran third in the conga line which wasn't great in the rooster tail of spray behind the other two Healeys. Tim had his Healey flying and was one of the fastest in the whole field in the wet, sensibly waiting until the Healey was straight before sinking the slipper. Brian fought on gamely behind Tim and in front of Russell in conditions where you would rather be in the smaller Healey.

After the rain passed we had two more dry runs but the track was cold and did not yield fast times for most of the Sprint competitors, but Leon broke HIS best ever lap time at Sandown by 3 seconds and went under two minutes for the first time. Cary also broke two minutes for the first time, improving by nearly two seconds and just 0.6 behind Leon. Rob Raverty did a best of 1.59.72 but has gone just a bit faster in the past. Their fastest times of 1.58.95, 1.59.61 and 1.59.72 respectively reflected their physical closeness on the track and provided a great spectacle. Russell found the limits of the standard Healey at 1.52 while Brian was just 0.18 sec off his best time at 1.49. Tim was very impressive in improving his fastest Sandown lap by three seconds to 1.44.10.

In the SPRINT competition, Mark Bird in the ex racing 100/4 and myself in the Group S MBG ran in the same group which missed the rain but we suffered a very wet track and had our wet session shortened by a red flag after a clubman spun and blocked the track in turn one. Can't say I was too disappointed and by the end of the fourth session I had 30 laps to my name. I got the MG down to 1.37.09 but on feeling the lack of warmth in the tyres, coach Jackson declared I needed to go harder. Bloody hell! Peter then buried his head under Mark's bonnet but it was not a go faster talk but some head scratching as to why the Four was running hot. Mark wisely finished early, but not before posting a 1.43 fastest lap. Colin Wallace had a day to forget, breaking the gearbox early in his first run, having only 4th gear out of five because all the others had disappeared! Too much mumbo, perhaps?

POINTS EARNED TOWARDS THE 2011 COMPETITION CHAMPIONSHIP with four fastest laps:

1	Rob Raverty	922 pts	1.59.72, 2.00.05, 2.00.21, 2.00.50
2	Mark Bird	864 pts	1.43.79, 1.44.59, 1.44.99, 1.45.15
3	Russell Baker	854 pts	1.52.69, 1.53.07, 1.53.32, 1.54.15
4	Cary Helenius	827 pts	1.59.61, 1.59.99, 2.01.04, 2.01.34
5	Brian Aitken	819 pts	1.49.67, 1.49.94, 1.50.50, 1.51.48
6	Tim Westover	800 pts	1.44.10, 1.44.37, 1.44.84, 1.46.10
7	Leon O'Brien	693 pts	1.58.95, 1.59.38, 2.00.85, 2.01.92
8	Col Wallace (assoc)	zero	1.34.98, 1.40.56, 1.44.38, 1.49.09

2 WAKEFIELD PARK SUMMER HISTORICS (HSRCA) 26/27th February

Brian Duffy ran the 30000 at the lower key Wakefield event where the Group Sa Sports Cars ran with the older Group J, K & L cars. In a field of 22, Brian won both scratch races and finished tenth in the lottery of the handicap race for a successful weekend and a good points start to the 2011 Group S Racing Association Catalina Cup. Colin Goldsmith from NSW ran his 3000 also for 10th and 5th outright placings and 17th in the handicap. Brian's points earned toward our Comp. Championship:

Brian Duffy	941 pts	1.14.64, 1.14.72, 1.15.21, 1.15.23
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THE COMPETITION CHAMPIONSHIP LADDER has Rob Raverty leading on 1892 points after 2 events, followed by Brian Aitken (2) on 1720, Russ Baker (2) on 1666, Leon O'Brien (2) on 1615, Bill Vaughan 948, Brian Duffy 941, Mark Bird 864, Cary Helenius 827, Tim Westover 800 and Hugh Purse 770.

3 **TONY ROGERS SCORES HIS FIRST POINTS IN OUR NEW ASSOCIATE CLASS** at the Porsche Six Hour Relay Race at Sandown on February 27th. Tony is an ex Healey owning club

member who used to compete in his Healey but now runs a 2.4 911 Porsche at Relay events, Historic Regularity and some Tarmac Rallies. If you have ever attended the Historic meetings you would have seen Tony garaged with John Goodall, Trevor Smith, David Kelly and/or Peter "Ozzie" Osbourne from the Sydney Healey Club. Tony was part of the second Healey Team at the 2010 Winton 6 Hour Relay event. Tony is very much part of Team Healey, albeit without the Healey – which is the whole point of recognizing members like Tony using the Associate Class. Tony earned the following points : **Four fastest laps 1.35.35, 1.35.83, 1.36.65, 1.36.88 earns 847 points.** The Associate ladder has Colin Wallace on 945 points followed by Tony Rogers on 847 points after one event for each.

4 BILL VAUGHAN competed at the **HAUNTED HILLS HILLCLIMB** run by the MSCA on March 6th and reported that a good day with many runs was enjoyed by the 45 entrants. There is no Regularity event at the Hillclimb and the lap times are not suitable for our Competition Championship scoring system.



The Goat visited Team Healey again at Sandown and took a particular fancy to Russell Baker in his road Healey. If you look closely you can see that Russell and the Goat have similar facial hair! These goat photos are being sent through to me by a mob calling themselves WikiLeaks – never heard of them. The problem here is that the Goat is clearly giving Russ advice before he goes out to compete. Russell, the Goat is NOT the STIG!



Martin watching the Team, bemused?

Mark Bird with father, Franz.



I hope that is the Sprite leaking fluid and not you Brian Aitken!



The Tony Rogers (Associate Comp) Porsche



The coaches looking for more stress for me!



Raverty and O'Brien ready to go.

A CLOSING THOUGHT "I've learned that you cannot MAKE someone love you. All you can do is stalk them and hope they panic and give in."

Cheers

RIOD VOGT