

SPORTS CAR REPORT #05/08

Hi Guys,

HRC Puke & TAUPO

Shit two weekends in a row that's a tough ask but we all had a great time Puke was FINE and hot 350 odd entries with 40 or so FJs and a large field of 5000s made for an entertaining weekend of motorsport. A good sports car turn out with 8 cars on the grid. Hot weather brings hot problems and Brian's Mallock was overheating something chronic. Bill's Mogal with its nice newly refreshed engine complete with roller rockers etc broke a couple of cam followers. Rogers Buckler on its first visit to Puke lost a rear wheel in the hairpin and that's still on its way to places unknown as a 5-hour search failed to find it. The McRae kept having the left rear come loose (maybe something to do with last year's act) so all in all we were dropping like flies. However Chris in the Mallock Roger in the Orchard special Steve in the Lotus Seven (that we couldn't get near) and the Dick Jones Special had a faultless couple of days. Good to see Bruce back from Australia and racing that car after a major rebuild caused by a Taupo wall incident a while back, once again the car look immaculate. A big historic field with a wide variety of cars including some from overseas and some with wings and slicks made for interesting racing. The HRSCC had the marquee up and everyone made good use of the hospitality on offer. TACCOC had a marquee for hospitality for the FJ drivers so all in all everyone was well catered for and the overseas contingents were well impressed with historic racing New Zealand style.

TAUPO

A repeat of Puke really but on the big track at Taupo. Once again huge fields lots of entries lots of heat and lots of fun. Bill and Roger had managed to fix both of their cars and were over from the bay. Chris brought the Mallock and the Fiat, Rob Brown the Lotus, Richard the Boewolf and Brian and I the Mallock and McRae so another good field. The Mogal blew a head gasket, Brian's Mallock also, (we think) the McRae lost a wheel (again) and everyone went sideways at least once over the 2 days. Heat and Taupo dust a real killer. Good to see Rob with the Lotus out again, but sadly he and the Lotus are heading south so we will see a lot less of them in the future. Unless you do the Southern Festival maybe. Another mixed field of Historic's with huge speed differentials but everyone was safe and sensible. Seeing Calvin Bonney pass Roger on the outside and me on the inside while going a bit sideways on the Taupo infield turns in the Brabham was interesting.

The organization once again was superb and HRSCC and TACCOC again provided the driver hospitality much to the enjoyment of all.

Now here's a heads up.

When the wheel came loose on the McRae I climbed out walked away **TOOK MY HELMET OFF** and stood well back. (I thought) The car was safe so I figured they would finish the race and recover the car later. Not so, the red flag came out and recovery of car and driver was underway. Some time later I was called for a meeting (gulp) turns out I wasn't far enough back hence the red flag. So the moral of the story, get well back, behind a safety fence if you can, or **LEAVE YOUR HELMET ON**.

Next meeting is Pukekohe in March entries online now see you there.

Alan Service
Sports Car Coordinator
McRae U2
Albo@woosh.co.nz