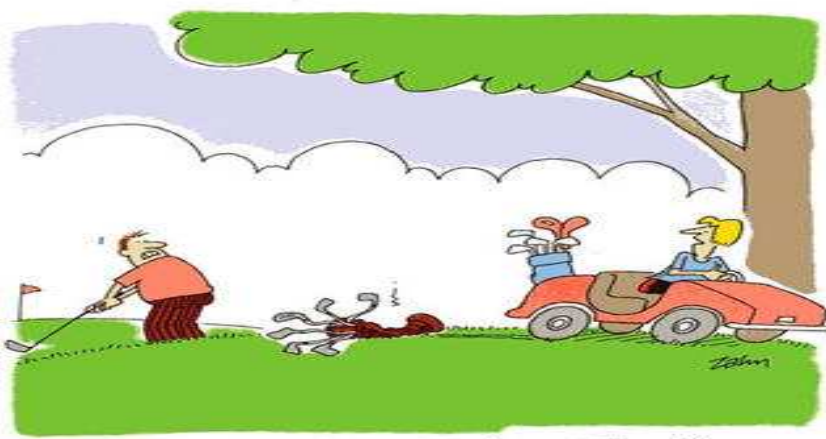




The Official Newsletter of the GCTMC Inc.
 Next Club Meeting will be on April 16th 2008
 At Merrimac High School, Dunlop Court, Mermaid Waters,
 UBD 49 H 4
www.gctmc.org.au
April 2008



"OOOPS! Sorry about that!"

Jason Ruse is Organising a Fun Golf Match for all the Family If any Members or their Families would like to join in contact Jason at,
jason@automotivetechnique.com.au Or 0404759364

Upcoming Officials Courses
 27th April 2008 Silver Module 30th August 2008 Silver Module
 To be held at CAMS Auditorium Milton.
 6th & 7th September 2008 Scrutineer Course at Winsor/ Slacks Creek

Please Note
 The Dead Line for any article for next Months Pitstop is 12th May please send any info to
simon.petty@virginbroadband.com.au



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 CAMS Delegate: Bruce Hodgson: 0408159515
 Alt CAMS Delegate: Wayne Johnston: 0417717288
 Club Trailer Ron King 0414180546 (24 Hours Notice Please)

“The Brown Stuff”

Well there are a few things cookin.....

The last working bee at the nursery was effectively rained out. Pete tells me that for all intents and purposes we won't require another one at this stage. He is waiting to see the quality of some gravel that has been offered , if it is good enough we will likely have the track rolled before we skim it with a grader. The final clean up can most likely be attended to the day before the first event at that facility.

We have the opportunity to use a different paddock at the RDA and it looks like our first Khanacross will be run there this month.

This property is tucked in behind the main paddock and is out of sight from the main car parking / buildings area.

NOW READ THIS: When we do run an event there you will NOT be able to take service and tow vehicles , trailers etc into the competition paddock. The tow cars and trailers will have to be left at the top car park paddock (where we park them at present). Once we go in we will be there for the day, so there will be no late arrivals etc catered for.....So you will have to be (a) on time without exception and (b) organised and pack whatever you want to take in with you into your competition car.

Keep your eyes on the website, we do hope to have a date for our next Khanacross sorted out in the next few days.

At the last meeting several people did the right thing and indicated they will be standing up to do the training for a club chiefs licence. Those people will be getting (a) phone calls and (b) mail from yours truly with the upgrade / application forms etc to get this under way. Once this paper work is returned to me we will arrange the lecture to get that out of the way. From there you will each be assessed at an event. Realistically we can only get 2 maybe 3 people assessed at each event but at least this will be a start.

The roll out of the CAMS Organisational Blueprint (what a mouthful!) is happening this week at a briefing at CAMS in Brisbane. Our club is being represented at the information session by Bruce Hodgson who no doubt will be able to offer his usual experienced take on all the goings on, stay tuned.....

On behalf if Simon I would again appeal for people to submit articles for the newsletter. It might be an event you have recently run, or something you are working on with your car, anything of interest is of interest. Having done a newsletter for another car club for more years than I care to remember I know how much work it involved and the least we can each do is contribute from time to time even if in a small way.

See you at the meeting.

Brownie

Computer Users Computer users are divided into three types: Novice, Intermediate and Expert.

Novice Users - People who are afraid that simply pressing a key might break their computer.

Intermediate Users - People who don't know how to fix their computer after they've just pressed a key that broke it.

Expert Users - People who press the keys that break other people's computers

In the Wacky world of Motorsport

The Citroën 2CV ([French](#): *deux chevaux vapeur*, literally "two steam horses", from the [tax horsepower](#) rating) The 2CV belongs to a very short list of vehicles introduced right after [World War II](#) that remained relevant and competitive for many decades — in the case of the 2CV, 42 years. France at that time had a very large rural population, who had not yet adopted the automobile, due to its cost. The car would use no more than 3 [litres](#) of [gasoline](#) to travel 100 km. Most famously, it would be able to drive across a ploughed field without breaking the eggs it was carrying. The car featured an air-cooled, [flat-twin](#), four-stroke, 375 [cc](#) engine, with the notoriously underpowered earliest model developing only 9 [bhp](#) [DIN](#) (6.5 kW). A 425 cc engine was introduced in 1955, followed by a 602 cc (giving 28 bhp (20.5 kW) at 7000 rpm) in 1968. With limited tuning from standard & safety





GCTMC Member Profile.

This Month: Robert D'Ercole

Who is now devoting all his time in developing the SUV Super Series.

For More Info

www.suvsuperseries.com

Introduction to Robert D'Ercole.

1988 was Robert's first year in Motorsport. It was spent rallying and resulted in many victories and two regional titles. After a budget-enforced lay off Robert was back in 1991 contesting the NSW State Formula Ford Silver Star series. After dominant performances Robert was forced to miss some races that year due to a broken wrist and ultimately missed out on the title victory.

With no funding to upgrade to the National Formula Ford Championship for 1992, Robert took the decision to head to Europe. After selling everything he owned and armed with a one way ticket he contested four rounds of the Italian Formula Ford series where he quickly established himself as the dominant driver. That year he also contested the British Formula Ford Festival and created a stir with fastest time on a wet track in his heat first time out. Offers to drive came from teams of the stature of Paul Stewart Racing in the UK and Coloni in Italy. Budgets however could not be found in time.

In 1993 Robert stayed on in Britain helping a fledgling racing team called Lanar Racing to find its feet. Robert lived in the workshop and in return for his labour raced any car that was available. Roberts driving and engineering expertise quickly became apparent leading to the team acquiring works engine deals, sponsorship and cars from the likes of Van Dieman and Swift. That year Robert went close to victory in the Formula Ford Festival being consistently fastest but was taken out by another competitor while leading the semi final and also missed certain victory in the Formula Ford winter series after having to miss one of the four rounds, albeit placing second overall. The year ended with a mega test of all the top Formula Ford drivers from around the world including many of Australia's current touring car stars. Robert showed his speed by surpassing everyone present.

Lack of any serious budget meant 1994 was spent doing one-off races in various UK championships with Lanar Racing. Again Roberts speed and sheer tenacity on the track brought results for himself and the team. Van Dieman were taking a keen interest in Robert for their works seat in 1995 by this stage and he tested against and again beat some of the best drivers of his generation but it ultimately was not to be after some dubious political shenanigans saw Robert shut out of the drive. 1995 was spent in the USA working as racing engineer and test driver to west coast based Crossle/Porter Racing, but Robert was unable to break into the American racing scene.

1996 to 1998 spent in Australia engineering cars for various teams

Including an 18 month stint with the Falken/Ralliant Pajero, an association which bought the team its first ever race win.

The highs and lows of motorsport.

Best Moments

Breaking the pre- 90 category lap record first time at the Snetterton circuit, UK.

Qualifying on the front row and winning my first race in Italy at Monza.

Qualifying on the front row and winning two races first time at Mallory circuit, UK.

Fastest in heat at Brand's Hatch Formula Ford Festival in the rain first time there.

Fastest lap and coming from last to third at Snetterton Formula Ford race.

Matching the works Formula Ford teams pace in the UK on a shoestring budget.

Beating all the top drivers I've tested against in back to back testing

Winning the Daewoo one make drive against 125 other drivers in 2001 and then winning the championship in 2002 after being out of competition as a driver for seven years!

Worst Moments

Losing the 1995 Van Dieman works drive due to political reasons beyond my control.

Punted out from behind while in the lead of the 1993 Formula Ford Festival semi final.

Punted out from behind while on the warm up lap for the 1994 Formula Ford Festival final.

Spinning out of the lead while in front of the works cars at Snetterton

Spinning out of the lead at Brands Hatch in front of 30,000 spectators

Hitting the wall head on at Paddock Hill bend at Brands Hatch after suspension failure

Crashing out of the outright lead at the Newcastle Mattara Hillclimb after being hit in the head by a pigeon.



Robert In Action

Top Photo: Running in Targa.

Lower Photo: The SUV Super Series Car in full flight.



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Events Calendar Mid April till End July From QLD CAMS Calendar Version 13

Date	Organiser	Type	Status	Venue
19 April	Porsche Club Queensland	Supersprint	Multi Club	Morgan Park
19/20 April	Moranbah Off Road Club	Off Road Short Crse	Multi Club	Moranbah
19/20 April	SE Queensland Off Road Racing Assn	Off Road Long Crse	State Ch'ship	Jimna
20 April	Ipswich West Moreton Auto Club	Autocross	Multi Club	Willowbank Park
26/27 April	Warwick Motor Sporting Car Club	Supersprint	Multi Club	Morgan Park
27 April	MG Car Club of QLD	Hillclimb	Multi Club	Mt Cotton
3/4 May	Historic Racing Car Club	Race	Multi Club	Morgan Park
3/4 May	Proston Car Rally Club	Khanacross	Multi Club	Proston Rally Track
4 May	Twin Cities Autosports Club	Hillclimb	Multi Club	Mt Stuart
10 May	Porsche Club Queensland	Supersprint	Multi Club	Morgan Park
11 May	Holden Sporting Car Club	Motorkhana	State Ch'ship	Willowbank Raceway
16 May	Marque Sports Car Club	Touring Road Event	Multi Club	Roads in S E QLD
17/18 May	Australian All Rally Group	Rally Sprint	Multi Club	Clifton
17/18 May	Short Circuit Motor Sports Assn	Supersprint	Multi Club	Stanthorpe
17/18 May	Gympie Auto Sport Club	Off Road Short Crse	Multi Club	Sexton
18 May	MG Car Club of QLD	Hillclimb	Multi Club	Mt Cotton
18 May	Ipswich West Moreton Auto Club	Autocross	Multi Club	Willowbank Park
24/25 May	South Burnett Motorsport Club	Khanacross	Multi Club	Sanders Property
25 May	Holden Sporting Car Club	Motorkhana	Multi Club	Willowbank Raceway
31 May	Brisbane Sporting Car Club	Rally	State Ch'ship	Benarkin
31 May 01 June	MG Car Club of QLD	Hillclimb	State Ch'ship	Mt Cotton
31 May 01 June	Warwick Motor Sporting Car Club	Supersprint	Multi Club	Morgan Park
7/8 June	Twin Cities Autosports Club	Hillclimb	Multi Club	Mt Stuart
7/8 June	Warwick Motor Sporting Car Club	Supersprint	Multi Club	Morgan Park
13/15 June	Nat Racing Cship	Race	National Ch'ship	Queensland Raceway
14 June	MG Car Club of QLD	Hillclimb	Multi Club	Mt Cotton
20 June	Marque Sports Car Club	Touring Road Event	Multi Club	Roads in S E QLD
21/22 June	Australian All Rally Group	Rally Sprint/Motorkhana	Multi Club	Clifton
20/21 June	Brisbane Sporting Car Club	Touring Road Event	Multi Club	Roads in S E QLD
21/22 June	Brisbane Sporting Car Club	QRC Rally	State Ch'ship	Sunshine Coast
28 June	Australian Motorsport Enthusiasts Club	Motorkhana	State Ch'ship	Marybrough
28/29 June	Australian Motorsport Enthusiasts Club	Wheels on Wide Bay	Multi Club	Marybrough
29 June	Ipswich West Moreton Auto Club	One Car Sprint	Multi Club	Willowbank Park
5/6 July	Warwick Motor Sporting Car Club	Supersprint	Multi Club	Morgan Park
6 July	MG Car Club of QLD	Hillclimb	Multi Club	Mt Cotton
12/13 July	Warwick Motor Sporting Car Club	Race	Multi Club	Morgan Park
13 July	Ipswich West Moreton Auto Club	Autocross	Multi Club	Willowbank Park
13 July	MG Car Club of QLD	Come & Try	Club	Mt Cotton
13 July	Holden Sporting Car Club	Motorkhana	Multi Club	Willowbank Raceway
18 July	Marque Sports Car Club	Touring Road Event	Multi Club	Roads in S E QLD
18/20 July	V8 SuperCar Championship Series	Race	National Ch'ship	Queensland Raceway
19/20 July	South Burnett Motorsport Club	Khanacross	Multi Club	McKinnons Property
26/27 July	Gympie Auto Sport Club	Off Road Short Crse	Multi Club	Kilkvan