

The Muddy Talker's Bit.

Counties Classic Series Round 2, 9/03/2013

Supported by Elf Lubricants.

Well, well ,well, the things you find when you take water from a pond...

And did you know that it takes approximately 55 seconds to fill a 44 gallon drum with water using a 4" hose?

Probably why the dead sheep appeared!

The day's event actually started on Friday, with a gang of club members watering the track; starting at 10.00am, it went on until 9.00 that evening, and continued from 7.30am Saturday, at a more restrained pace, right up to the start of the 20 lap Feature. Jason McKinstry is now known as Mr. Tractor, Matt Koppens as The Waterboy. Many thanks are owed to the guys who spent hours hauling hoses around, by both competitors and spectators. You know who you are, the unsung heroes of CMORC, too many to mention individually.

OK, so what happened? Shock, horror!! An RVR leads the series, second is an RVR, with another in 8th overall. Eric Teers showed he is a force to be reckoned with in this type of event, Mike Small not far enough away to be discounted. They are both good racers, giving no quarter and asking for none in return. Damn, they are a sight to behold at full noise; well worth the price of admission on their own.

It may all be a bit different if the two other main contenders for the \$1500 travel voucher prize hadn't struck trouble. Challenger driver, Geoff Matich, had showed his ability in Rnd 1, blowing the doors off (not quite, but it makes for a better story!) the Class opposition. Three good fighting wins over young Ken Rowe, then left with only 1st and 2nd gear for the Feature. Bugger! However, he is still 3rd overall, so in with a chance for a repeat series win.

Club President, Nick Hall, spat the field into the weeds in Rnd 1 and looked to be doing it again. He was involved in a torrid battle with Richard Crabb in the first Heat, then while leading the second, blew a CV. So, on the trailer with the car, and out to help the meeting run smoothly. What a guy!

So, Class by Class....

Starting with Challenger, Ken won the Class for the day. Just a young bloke, he is starting to show good genes will tell, with his old man Wayne's tenacity. Shane Campbell, after a few seasons lay-off, is now second and showing seat time is needed with a few wayward excursions off the course thrown in to keep him humble. Geoff ended up third.

In Class 7 we see another young fulla who is learning fast, Tyler Castle. He just couldn't be touched. Bit different to the first round, eh Tyler? Jaden Carrington lies second for the Series after a strong 2nd Rnd (watch that space). Dyson Delahunty is getting used to the move up from Kiwitricks, but needs the old man to make some larger blocks for the loud pedal.

Ian Foster's new Class 10 continued to prove a bit recalcitrant to finish what it starts, but we all live in hope, Stan.

Class R, or whatever it's called, is all about Eric and Mike, although Graeme Giles has got some pace, and lies 3rd in class. Dave Boniface found that close contact with a Class 1 results in the best roll of the series, so far.

Richard Crabb should have had his mid-engined Class 3 at the first round, the damn thing is humming. Jarrod Marwood's stead, sensible pace in the ex-Alan Tutt car sees him second in the Class; Nick still there but a long way back now.

Phil Finlay is walking Class 5, and lies 6th overall. End of story. Well, not quite, as Taine Carrington now has a toy that could prove to be a good step up. He just needs seat time to get used to the sheer grunt that is has over his old Class 7. Race everywhere you can, Other Best Mate, and it will come.

With Tony McCall missing this round due to family reasons (our thoughts are with you, young Brookie), Mike Fraser had a field day in the ex-Andrew Kelly Class 1 car. Man, he is good fun to watch, always at full noise. In fact, those of us at Race Control were running a book to see when he would hit the pole on the outside of the start/finish line. Oh by the way, Mike, you owe the Starter, Kevin Hal, for the laundry bill to clean his hi-vis vest. Grant Sleeman has fabricated new rear trailing arms after one let him down in the 1st round, and was a bit mystified by changed handling characteristics. Grant, for many, epitomizes the true spirit of the sport. He will take any Tom, Dick or Jessica out for a skid, always goes hard, and stays enthused in the face of adversity.

Class 2 was left to Craig Patterson after Anthony Hewitt's big Dodge had a bad case of "throw some money at me, quick". Craig's Isuzu, sans tailgate (is that legal?) is always drive with élan, and a welcome addition to any event.

For this round the only Class 8 entry was Graham Steedman, and I bet he wishes he had stayed at home. His demise, when the diff parted company from the driveshaft, gave us the unusual sight of a Thundertruck bunny-hopping into retirement, and amused all and sundry as it took a crane to load it onto his transporter, well, flat bed truck actually. Oh dear, more early development woe, Graham. Never mind, just feed it more dollars and will get there.

Last, and by no means least was the Junior Series, for Kiwitricks. Class M was a solo run for Jack Hawkswood, and boy, is he quick! Class J turned out to be a humdinger. Aston

Southward looked the business during the heats for sure, but faded in the 10 lap Feature. Marcus Runciman, by contrast, didn't do too well in the heats, but ran away and hid in the feature race, and thus leads the Class for the series. I may be wrong, but I think this may just be his first big win, and I look forward to many more. Marcus stand head high to a bantam rooster, probably weighs about the same, and for some reason always looks terrified when he steps up to collect a prize. C'mon, lad, you are a racing driver! But the kid who leads the J Class is called Trae (wait for it, wait for it. Ta Dah!!) Carrington. A cheeky little monkey of the first order, consistent placings saw him with the Class win for the day. But Marcus leads the class by 50 points. All he has to do at the Final is turn up, do one heat, and watch the rest.

Now, before I go and have a cup of tea and a lie down, a few "Special Mentions".

NonStop Commentary's Driver of the Series contenders are Mike, Eric and Mike. Absolute nutcase, and good bloke, all.

Ken, keep eating what mum feeds you, it's working.

Stan, we still love you, even though you are a loser ☺

Crabby, come back any time, we have found the recipe for sausage on bread, with onions AND sauce. And you will get plenty of "sauce" from me!

Mike Fraser – quick, run away, here he comes again. Yehaa.

Steedman, I blame you for the minor 'quake, but typically, it was a week late.

Aston and Marcus, I love your work.

And finally (was that a sigh of relief I just heard, or the wind blowing through the macrocarpas?), a really **BIG** "Onya to the club members who gave up their time to keep the dust down. Without that sort of commitment, amateur sports would go down the gurgler.

See you at the motor races.

Dink