

# PITSTOP



December 2023

**Winton Raceway**  
2023 in Review

**VMRC** Review &  
2024 calendar

**Winton 300**  
MX-5 Duo  
Triumphs

**Ken Leigh HQ 4**  
**Hour** Celebrating  
30 Years of  
Enduros

**AASA**  
Championships  
Conclude  
Triumphantly

**Hi-Tec Oils Super**  
**Series**  
Review & 2024  
calendar



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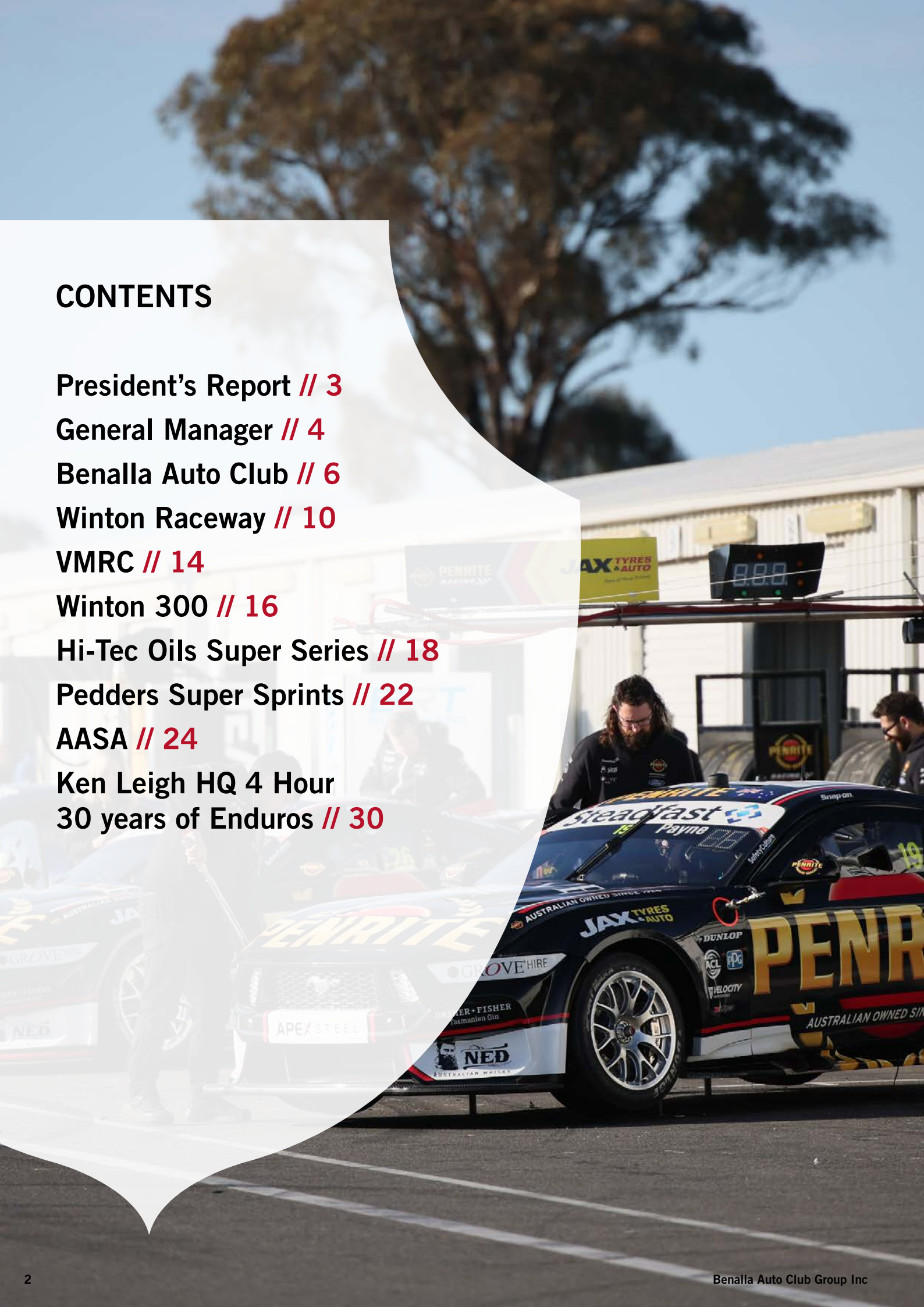
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# PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Hello Members,

Well, what a year that was..!

As I write this to you, I have just been re-elected to committee and re-elected to President of the Club at our AGM last night so to those that have supported me and continue to support myself the Committee and its Management team, I thank you.

At Winton Motor Raceway, the continued work on venue improvements and running events hasn't stopped and I can see the difference in the facility every time I pop out there.

With the VMRC finishing up in November and the ever-popular HQ 4 Hour being our last race meeting in its traditional December date, the Team can now take a well-earned break over Christmas.

AASA has again been the backbone of the Group. This business is amazing and with new customers coming on board everyday, the no-nonsense, common sense approach the Team has to working with its customers is a real testament to good management and people.

I was a guest at the Hi-Tec Oils Super Series presentation dinner a few weeks ago and I have to say, what an amazing revelation that series has been in 2023. Every single driver, team and presenter thanked BAC and AASA for their amazing support of Motorsport and the series. The comments were all about how professional it was run and how the commonsense approach to everything made racing in the series an easy decision. I'm really looking forward to 2024.

I would like to acknowledge our Committee, Management, and loyal staff. These past two years have been tough on them but they can hold their heads high that they have worked through the muddy waters and it's a lot clearer now.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year..! See you all in 2024.

**Barry Stilo**  
**President**  
**Benalla Auto Club Inc.**

# General Manager



Hi Everyone,

2023 brought many challenges, but it was extremely busy and particularly gratifying that the team was able to deliver on everything that was put in front of them.

Remembering that we are here to provide a service to the Motor Racing and Automotive industry alike, its been a great year of new things and types of events.

With the Victorian Motor Racing Championships, Pedders No bull Sprints, Hi-Tec Oils Super Series, 2 Historic events, Hyundai Enduro and a few more, the team has promoted and conducted over 14 Race Meetings this year. A lot more than it has for a while. Not to mention the Drive days, fun days, test and tunes and the list goes on.

The added bonus in having all of our staff multi skilled and across both AASA and Winton has proven to be a success and has created a really cohesive workplace.

Thanks to Shannon Jones for leading her Admin team of Laura Windisch, Adam Conway and Joel Spencer this team punches above its weight everyday.

Winton Motor Raceway is looking fantastic and its credit to the whole outdoor crew comprising of Adam Baker, Andrew Fraser with new additions Jacob Taylor and Zac McCarthy, led by David Bernardi.

AASA has again been such a revelation; its growth is amazing. We are dealing with new customers all around the country and it now holds more than a 50% share of the Motorsport Sanctioning Market. Our relationships with other tracks and promoters is better than ever and we find ourselves constantly working with new innovations and technology designed for the industry.

Chief AASA Steward Michael Fitzgerald has put together a Motorsport Safety and Stewards board with a broad range of our Committee members and other motorsport and safety experts and that resource of knowledge is proving to be invaluable to not only ourselves but many other motorsport customers. Our BAC knowledge base is very experienced and we are lucky that we can call upon the expertise so close to home.

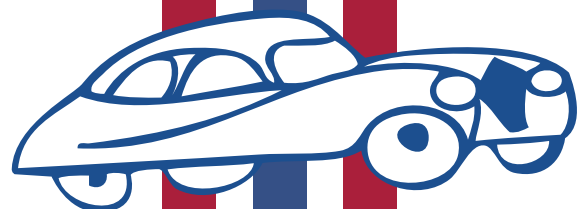
I have been a member of this great club for over 30 years and spent most of my childhood here timing or officiating at sprint meetings, pit crewing for my brother when he was racing and then later competing myself. In fact our Father and Uncle were both involved in competing in the first Race Meeting held here at Winton on 1961. I see it as a great privilege that I have been working for this group for 6 years now. We all pitch in and just make things happen and that's the attitude I brought to AASA when I first came on board and that's the attitude we all have here now.

We have no egos just a great team of people. I personally love the history that we (BAC) has and we will continue to acknowledge and preserve that. I would recommend to anyone that hasn't been out to Winton lately to come and have a look at the history and displays we now have around, not only in our offices but the permanent tributes of historical items that we have on display in the Corporate (now called Showroom) area that have been found and saved by our team or been donated to our efforts to acknowledge the efforts of people and events that form part of our rich history.

Lastly thank you to the BAC Committee, To President Barry Stilo, Treasurer Garry Quigley, VP Ross Wood, Secretary Michael Fitzgerald, Jeff Grech, Richard Whyte, Mark Brient and Michael Tabe, thank you for your support and your presence and input at every event we conduct and your support of the whole team.

I wish you all the best for 2024 and please be safe on the roads.

**Stephen Whyte**  
**General Manager**  
**BAC Group**



# Benalla Festival and BAC Member's Day Thrills Racing Enthusiasts



On November 5th, Winton Raceway came alive with an exciting event as part of the Benalla Festival, perfectly intertwined with the Benalla Auto Club (BAC) Member's Day. This collaboration resulted in a memorable celebration that captivated attendees with a blend of nostalgia, adrenaline, and community spirit.



Embracing the Benalla Festival's theme of "Past, Present, and Future," Winton Raceway curated an experience that delved into the track's rich history and showcased its vibrant present. A dedicated mini-exhibition offered a compelling timeline, featuring the evolution of the circuit through the years. Historical posters, cherished memorabilia, scrapbooks, and gleaming trophies adorned the display, allowing visitors to immerse themselves in the track's captivating journey.



A standout feature of the event was the opportunity for the public to embark on thrilling passenger laps in cars belonging to dedicated BAC members. Gratitude poured forth to the generous individuals such as Shane Macdonald, John McLlroy, and several others who lent their cars and time, treating eager participants to an exhilarating experience on the iconic track.

The day's festivities weren't limited to racing thrills alone. Rotary members extended their warm hospitality by providing a delightful and complimentary lunch for all attending BAC members, fostering a sense of community within the event.

The resounding success of the day was evidenced by the sale of 80 tickets, a testament to the event's popularity and resonance among car enthusiasts and community members alike. The proceeds from ticket sales were pledged to support the Tomorrow Today Foundation's Community Grants program, reinforcing the event's commitment to giving back to the local community and fostering a positive impact beyond the racetrack.

The fusion of heritage, speed, community engagement, and philanthropy made the Benalla Festival and BAC Member's Day a resounding triumph, leaving a lasting impression on all who were fortunate to be part of this exceptional celebration at Winton Raceway.



# BENALLA AUTO CLUB UPDATE

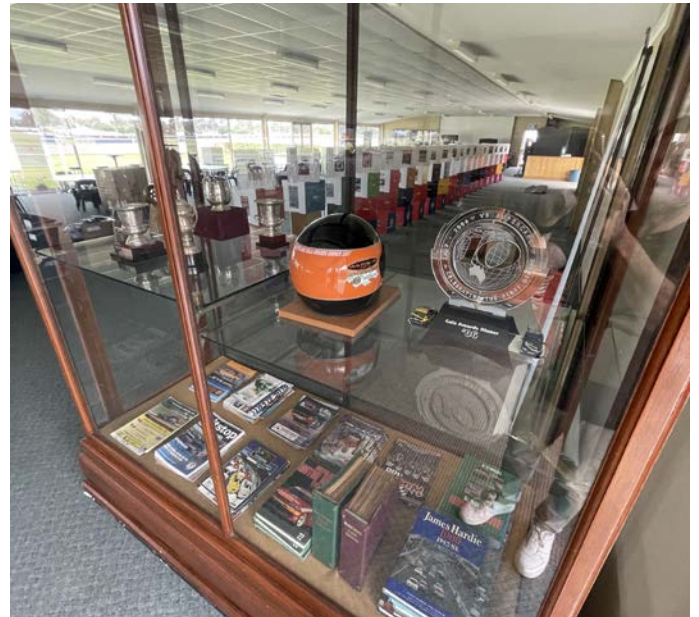


Thanks to the Benalla Auto Club members who provided their cars and time providing passenger laps for the Benalla Festival.





# Benalla Art Gallery Gifts Showroom Cabinets



**The Benalla Art Gallery has generously donated two stunning 2.5m x 2m cabinets to Winton Raceway.**

We extend our gratitude to the Gallery's Director, Eric Nash, for reaching out to BAC.

These cabinets serve as a showcase for trophies, historical books, programs, and magazines, preserving and displaying the rich heritage of the racing track.



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**GIVING MOTORSPORT A CHOICE**

# Winton Raceway's Latest Updates and Community Engagements



**It's been a busy year of maintenance and significant updates for the track.**

The main entrance was relocated from Fox St to Huntley St to ease the heavy traffic, including trucks, from the front of Winton Primary School for safety reasons and to enhance the new entrance to Winton Raceway.



The second notable enhancement was the implementation of Stilo Way's surfacing. This upgrade significantly minimizes dust, enhancing both the aesthetic appeal and driving conditions for racing teams and track visitors alike.



## The team at Winton welcomes Trackschool as a partner providing track day and V8 hot lap experiences at Winton.

John 'Boz' Boston has been in the motorsport industry since 1983 providing high quality and safe driving experiences and has competed at state, national and international level in a variety of categories on both bitumen and dirt.



# WINTON RACEWAY UPDATE

## The team has hosted various industry and community groups at the track.

Winton donated hot laps for some Year 9 students as part of Tomorrow Today's Connect 9 program. Connect9 is a unique ten-week mentoring program, developed by Tomorrow Today. Students in Year 9 level of schooling are matched with a well-connected community mentor who is their 'buddy' through the program. Together they participate in activities that connect young people to new skills, sports and hobbies and new people and experiences, as well as giving them the opportunity to set life and career goals.

We hosted Are-able clients during a Race Car Test Day and a Trackday. Are-able is an important community service to help their clients with a disability enter the workforce. The day is an opportunity for participants to experience an industry and see what it may be like to work there.

Participants learnt about Winton's history and overview of events, types of events and cars at events, cool facts, famous drivers, control tower a pit lane tour. The two days were successful with participants who normally are not social, being sociable and inquisitive about the track.



Students from Tomorrow Today's Connect9 program at Winton Raceway for Hot Laps. For more info: [tomorrowtoday.com.au](http://tomorrowtoday.com.au)



Participants with Are-Able at Winton Raceway observing a trackday event. For more info: [areable.org.au](http://areable.org.au)



# **WINTON RACEWAY 2023 IN REVIEW**

**Events**

**300+**

**Race Meetings**

**14**

**Volunteers**

**250+**

**Visitors**

**100 k**

**incl. competitors,  
crew & spectators**

**Economic Benefit**

**\$32m**

**To Benalla and  
surrounding regions**

**THANK YOU**  
**to all our sponsors,**  
**competitors, crews, family,**  
**volunteers, friends, suppliers**  
**and spectators supporting**  
**Winton Raceway.**

# Thrilling Round 4: VMRC/Winton 300 Recap



Winton Motor Raceway was busier than an international airport on the weekend of the 16th and 17th September for the fourth round of the Victorian Motor Racing Championship (VMRC) which was joined by the Australian Super Trucks and the Winton 300!

A massive nine separate categories racing, combined with the Winton 300 requiring a three hour slot on the Sunday afternoon, made for an incredibly tight schedule the entire weekend. We have to say a huge thank you to every single volunteer, marshal and safety crew member on the ground who made such an incredibly tight schedule run like clockwork making the weekend the overall success that it was.

Without further ado, congratulations to Andrew Boydell and Jason Walsh who piloted the #791 Mazda MX5 (pictured above) to Winton 300 Victory completing one hundred laps of the three kilometre circuit in 2 hours and 47 minutes. The #818 Honda Integra of Jimmy Tran and Andrew Shah came home second place, the only other team to make it to lap 100 finishing over a minute behind the leaders. Gerry and Leigh Burges in the #33 Evo 9 rounded out the podium completing 98 laps,



a valiant effort considering the car sustained significant gearbox problems throughout the race. The Toyota 86 of Christoph Heiniger and Daniel Flanagan finished fourth overall winning Class D followed by the Nissan Pulsar of Michael Ricketts and Josh Haynes in fifth overall, winning Class E, a fabulous effort after double stinting in 2 Litre Sports Sedans as well.

Emerging first from the dark clouds of diesel smoke was the Australian Super Truck of Steve Zammit, the Kenworth T401 taking qualifying pole by a massive 2.3 seconds. Zammit went on to win two of the four races, visiting the podium for a third race as well. Following close behind was the Kenworth T900 of Shannon Smith with a race win and P2 finish. Barry Butwell performed well especially in the final two races with a race win and P2 finish to his name as well. For the teams races, Shannon Smith's GLE Racing entry performed extremely well at the hands of Harvey Dale taking a race win and a P2 finish. Lachlan Fern saw similarly successful results in the Fern Earthmoving Volvo with a race win and P3 finish.

After the initiation of Calder Park Raceway last August, the Victorian Motor Racing Championship have scheduled three meetings there in 2024.

**For more information: [wintonraceway.com.au](http://wintonraceway.com.au)**

Photos: Colson Photography





# Winton 300 results

The 2023 Winton 300 at the Victorian Motor Racing Championship saw an exciting race where Mazda MX-5 duo Andrew Boydell and Jason Walsh emerged victorious.

They strategically pitted at the halfway mark, ultimately taking the lead as other competitors completed their stops, securing a comfortable 1m and 29s lead.

Andrew Shah and Jimmy Tran came second on the grid. It was the second year in a row that Tran finished the race as the runner-up at Winton.

Meanwhile, Gerry and Leigh Burges, initially strong contenders in their Mitsubishi Evo 9, faced clutch issues but managed to secure third place.

The event also featured various support categories, making it a thrilling weekend of motorsports action. For a detailed report, check out Auto Action's pre Bathurst issue.

Winton 300 Results Congratulations to the podium winners:

1st A.Boydell/J.Walsh (Spy Optic)

2nd J.Tran/A.Shah (BYP Racing)

3rd G.Burges/L.Burges (York Developments Pty Ltd)

For more information: [wintonraceway.com.au](http://wintonraceway.com.au)

Car Pos	Competitor/Team	Driver	Vehicle	Class
1	Spy Optic	A.Boydell/J.Walsh	Mazda MX5	C
2	BYP Racing	J.Tran/A.Shah	Honda Integra	B
3	York Developments Pty Ltd	G.Burges/L.Burges	Mitsubishi Evo 9	C
4	Heiniger Joinery & Fifth Gear	C.Heiniger/D.Flanagan	Toyota 86	D
5	Young Car Wash	M.Ricketts/J.Haynes	Nissan Pulsar	E
6	Agile Energy	M.Butters/M.Chick	Nissan Pulsar	D
7	Elite Pressure Washing/ Bernar	D.Bernardi/M.Thewlis	Nissan Pulsar SSS	E
8	SGracing	N.Agar/S.Agar	Nissan Pulsar	E
9	theartshop.com.au	N.Jones/N.Kerr	Mazda 323	E
10	Motorsports Training Australia	B.Gartner/J.Rice	Hyundai Veloster	E
11	DSR Engineering/South Gundagai	T.Maynard/D.Smtih	Nissan Pulsar N14	E
12	Nankang Tyres/Rich River Truck	S.Lambrick/S.Lambrick/ P.Chapman	Proton Satria GTI	E
DNF	McGuinness Car Sales	S.McGuinness/T.McGuinness	Subaru STi	C



Photos: Colson Photography



# VMRC in 2024

The VMRC will begin at the reinvigorated facility on March 15-17 and will be the first of six rounds, an expansion of two over this year's calendar.

Winton Motor Raceway will host the second round on May 10-12 and the series will alternate with Calder (June 7-9), Winton (August 9-11), Calder (September 20-22) and Winton (November 1-3).

The fourth and sixth rounds will also feature the Winton 300 and the David Lowe Enduro for Excels respectively.

"In 2022 we revived this series to give the competitor groups another choice for a State Championship in Victoria," said Benalla Auto Club Group Manager Stephen Whyte. "We were quick to lock in the dates after we raced at Calder this year.



VICTORIAN MOTOR RACING CHAMPIONSHIP

VMRC



## 2024 CALENDAR

Round	Date	Venue
1	March 15-17	Calder Park Raceway
2	May 10-12	Winton Motor Raceway
3	June 7-9	Calder Park Raceway
4	August 9-11	Winton Motor Raceway inc. Winton 300
5	September 20-22	Calder Park Raceway
6	November 1-3	Winton Motor Raceway

[wintonraceway.com.au/vmrc](http://wintonraceway.com.au/vmrc)

"The series was a four-round championship then. We gave it a name and we had four categories to start with. By the end of the season, we had eight because people wanted somewhere to race. The championship has had unbelievable growth. This year it grew to five rounds and next year we will have six.

"We have a strong group of categories lined up, which is just amazing and a very positive sign for Winton, Calder, and our sanctioning body AASA".

The 2024 VMRC will include the fan favourite Australian Super Truck Championship which will take in the Winton rounds only. There is a chance they may trial at Calder at some point. The big rigs debuted in Australia with their first race meeting at the Melbourne circuit in 1988.

The categories that will be at both circuits will be the Vic V8s, Victorian Hyundai Excel Championship for Trophy and Masters, Victorian Sports Car Series, Super TT, 2 Litre Sports Sedans together with APRA Pulsars, Australian Hyper Racer Championship, Stock Cars Australia, BMW E30s, HQ Holdens and Legend Cars, depending on their calendar.

For more information: [wintonraceway.com.au](http://wintonraceway.com.au)



## SUPER SERIES SS

### ROUND 5 SMSP

The TA2 Muscle Car Series made a spectacular entry into Round 5 of the season, illuminating Sydney Motorsport Park with its first-ever night races. With a robust lineup of 26 cars, the series featured prominent participants prepared to challenge the regular contenders across four thrilling races.

Jordan Cox, steering Mark Crutcher's Mustang in the owner's absence during the Hi-Tec Oils Super Series, triumphed in the series' opening race. As a TCR star, Cox set the pace during qualifying and dominated the Top 10 Shootout in a competitive field that included multiple Trans Am front runners.



Cox led from the outset and clinched victory, leaving points leader Dylan Thomas (Mustang) trailing in second, while Cody Gillis (Mustang) secured third. Initially contending for the lead, Josh Haynes (Mustang) slipped to 17th after contact with Gillis on Lap 2, yet managed a commendable comeback.



In a dominating display by the Mustangs, Tom Hayman secured fourth place, followed by 17-year-old Elliott Cleary (Mustang), Ben Grice, Jackson Rice, Kyle Gurton, Haynes, and Brad Gartner in the top 10. The Masters category leader, Nick Bates (Mustang), clashed with Russell Wright (Mustang) on the final lap, leading to Wright's retirement alongside John Holinger (Camaro).



Several technical issues marred the competition: Brett Niall (Camaro) faced overheating, Josh Thomas (Mustang) triggered a Safety Car due to a differential issue, and Josh Anderson (Mustang) retired due to a drivetrain problem.

Elsewhere on the track, the RX8 Cup saw Brock Paine clinching victory ahead of Luke Webber, Justin Lewis, Justin Barnes, and Tim Berryman. Bruce Duckworth emerged victorious in the first Legend Cars race, with Shane Tate reversing the outcome in the second. In the EFS Australian Excel Series, Ryan O'Sullivan claimed first place ahead of Tyler Collins, Blake Tracey, Jaylyn Robotham, and Hugo Simpson.

# Sydney Motorsport Park welcomes Hi-Tec Oils Super Series: TA2 Muscle Car Series thrills under lights!

The Australian Trans Am race saw Ian Palmer (Pontiac Firebird) comfortably securing a win, followed by Sean Englis and John Prefontaine in Ford Mustangs, and Alwyn Bishop (Plymouth Duster) leading the pack ahead of Andy Clempson (Mustang).



Cory Gillett triumphed narrowly in the first Super TT race, driving a Chev-powered Nissan S13, with Graham Elliott (Holden Commodore SS) trailing closely, while Brent Edwards (Ford Falcon XR6 Turbo) impressively surged from the back of the grid to third. Finally, in the Stock Cars category, Danny Burgess claimed victory in an OzTruck-dominated race ahead of Brett Mitchell and Brendon Hourigan.



Photos: Matthew Paul Photography

# SUPER SERIES UPDATE



# SUPER SERIES SS

## ROUND 6 CALDER PARK RACEWAY

In Round 5 at Calder Park Raceway, multiple National Champions were crowned across prestigious racing series like The TA2 Muscle Car Series, The Yellow Express RX8 Cup, The EFS Australian Hyundai Excel Championship, The Mountain Motorsports Australian Super TT Championship, and The Yamalube Legend Car Australia series.

The inaugural series of this year surpassed all expectations, promising an even more exhilarating 2024 with two days of Live TV coverage and the addition of thrilling categories to the series.



Our series sponsor, Hi-Tec Oils, has committed to another five years of support. We extend our deepest gratitude to George Gambino and his team for their unwavering encouragement and belief in our mission this year. Collaborating with like-minded, dedicated individuals has been an exceptional experience.



The concluding day of the Hi-Tec Oils Super Series posed a challenge for teams and officials due to unexpected water inundating the track. Despite the adversity, TA2 successfully completed their races, while most other categories missed one. The only category that did not race on Sunday was RX8 Cup, as their control tire was unsuitable for the conditions.

Jarrod Hughes claimed victory in three TA2 Muscle Car races, securing an impressive performance compared to Nash Morris' single win, while Dylan Thomas emerged victorious in the series over Josh Haynes. Tyler Collins emerged triumphant in the EFS Hyundai Championship over Jaylyn Robotham, who entered the round with equal points. Brad Vereker emerged as the winner of the final round.

Shane Tate dominated both Legend Cars Australia races, cementing his national title. In a competitive turnout for Vic V8s, Craig Eddy (Holden Commodore VH) managed to overtake Mark Houeix (Commodore VS) to win Race 2, only for Houeix to reverse the outcome in the third race. In the limited Super TT event, Brent Edwards claimed victory in both races.

The 2024 calendar will be announced in January 2024. **For more information:** [hi-tecoilssuperseries.au](http://hi-tecoilssuperseries.au)



Photos: Colson Photography

# Calder Park crowns multiple National Champions across thrilling racing series



# PEDDERS 'NO BULL' SPRINT SERIES UPDATE



**The 2023 racing season brought a wave of enthusiasm and competitive spirit across various rounds, showcasing remarkable moments and remarkable participants in each session.**

## **Round 1: Twilight Opening**

The inaugural event was a twilight spectacle, comprising five exhilarating sessions. Noteworthy returns were seen, with Bryan Gibson back in action after an absence, steering his MGB. Dough Dick made a triumphant comeback with his Datsun 1600, clinching victory in his class C1. Additionally, Ian Tavare made a return appearance in his legendary racer, continuing his legacy from the previous year.

## **Round 2: Power Unleashed**

Round 2 witnessed five compelling sessions and one recovery. Richie Renato showcased the might of his Volvo C30 T5, though ultimately was narrowly edged out by Bruce Terrell in his Commodore R8 in the racing cars over 2L category. An interesting twist unfolded with a BAC Committee member, participating in his F3 Dallara and Radical, securing the top two spots in the open-wheeler class, despite being in a testing phase. The junior grid expanded with three new female drivers, marking a progressive shift in this traditionally male-dominated sport.

## **Round 3: Cold Challenges**

Five sessions marked Round 3, without any recoveries. Cold weather posed a challenge for the open-wheelers, resulting in only two entries. Les and Matt Sears, a father-son duo, made a mark with their individual BMWs, clinching first places in their respective classes. Meanwhile, the juniors' participation continued to grow steadily.

## **Round 4: Demonstrating Consistency**

Similar to the preceding rounds, Round 4 featured five sessions. Notable performances included Keith Mere, a BAC member and volunteer, displaying consistent form in his MX-5 in class A1. Clinton Gazelle triumphed in A2, while Manson secured the first position in B1. The junior contenders showcased promising skills, demonstrating their potential.

## **Round 5: Final Thrills**

The season's final round welcomed Super Karts to the field, adding a new dimension to the event. Doug Dick showcased his endurance and commitment by participating in all five rounds, culminating in a well-deserved 1st place in B1. The open-wheelers boasted a growing grid, while Mily Miller's impressive performance secured her 1st place in the juniors' category, steering her 86 to victory.

# Reviewing the exciting highlights of the 2023 Sprints Season

Gratitude was extended to the consistent support from regular officials, especially Team Allsop—Steve, Jo, April, Daphne, and Sarah—for their unwavering assistance throughout the season.

Richard Weston, the Clerk of Course, announced he will retire at the end of 2024, offering an opportunity for interested individuals to step into this role during from the beginning of 2024 and receive training from Richard himself. The sprints were highlighted as a great starting point for those eager to learn.

The season's success wouldn't have been possible without sponsorship from Pedder's Bendigo, acknowledging Grant and Kat Phillips for their support throughout the 2023 season.





## SEPTEMBER SUMMARY

The AASA State Championship's fifth round, the Queensland Racing Drivers Championship, brought together a notable lineup of Supercars talent at Queensland Raceway. The EFS 4x4 Accessories Track Attack Excel Cup featured 34 Excels in a "400km Endurance Event," comprising a 100km race and a 300km race.

Top Supercar stars like Anton DePasquale and Zane Goodard, alongside Super 2, Super 3, and Trans Am drivers, participated as co-drivers. Connor Roberts and Ryan Casha dominated Q1, Q2, Top 10 Shootout, and Race 1 but faced a setback during the main 300km race.

The event wasn't short of drama, with incidents involving Jr-Lung Hay Bartlem and Ben Grice, the latter escaping uninjured from a significant roll-over in Race 1.

Nash Morris and Alice Buckley's strategic pit stop during an early safety car period paid off in the 300km Endurance Race, securing them the win, followed by Connor Roberts & Ryan Casha in second and Tyler Collins & Cameron McLeod in third.

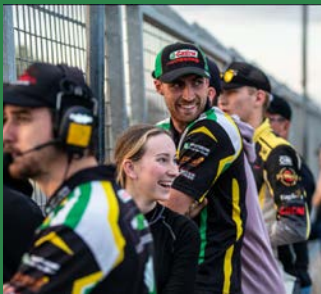
The QLD Production Cars hosted a "State of Origin" round welcoming NSW Production Touring Cars competitors. Anthony Levitt paired with Porsche Carrera Cup racer Luke King but faced mechanical issues resulting in a DNF for Race 3. Tom McLennan claimed victory in the final race, trailed by Roman Miller and the NSW duo Matthew Holt & Josh Muggleton.

In the WA Tarmac Rally, over 15,000 spectators gathered for the Make Smoking History Tarmac West. A new format featured three Rallysprint events across Perth. Troy Wilson dominated all three events in his Mitsubishi Evo X, praising the rally as his addiction.

The Ellenbrook Rallysprint saw Wilson securing a clean sweep, followed closely by Matthew O'Neill and Kelly Thomas in their Subaru WRX STi Spec C. Malaga Sprint witnessed Wilson's tire challenges but still clinched victory, with Max Whiting following in second and Alex Rullo recovering for third.

The City of Perth Rallysprint had Wilson securing another triumph, with O'Neill and Thompson in second and Whiting in third, celebrating the event's success and thanking the organizers.

The Engine Shop City Sprint, sans co-drivers, was won by Peter Bergman, trailed by Alexis Hernandez and Harley Owens in a tight finish.





In Speedway, the Western Australian Pro Modified Racing Inc began its season with a showcase at Langley Park's Celebration of Motorsport, displaying Pro Modifieds and generating significant interest, particularly among younger attendees enjoying interactive experiences with racing vehicles.

This event, a yearly anticipation, marks a celebration within the Speedway community and nurtures interest among the younger generation for motorsport.





## OCTOBER SUMMARY

The Great Tarmac Rally 2023 concluded with the final round held in the Victorian High-Country region. The event covered over 250 kilometers and attracted a field of over 60 cars across various categories. The Super Rally category initially saw the dominance of Jason and Fiona Wright in their R35 Skyline until a fire caused their withdrawal, allowing Mark Cates and Bernie Webb in their Porsche 911 GT2 RS to take the lead but later withdrawing due to weather conditions. Greg Bass & Lance Arundel in a Toyota Yaris GR emerged victorious.



In the Modern 4WD category, Matt Close and Cameron Reeves in an Audi TTRS Sport exhibited consistent performance, securing a class win despite brake overheating issues. Their adept handling in rainy conditions also led them to an outright win. In Modern 2WD, Paul Dowie and John Allen's Porsche GT3RS faced stiff competition from Jeff Morton and Daymon Nicoli's Porsche GT2 RS, with Dowie strategically securing second place to clinch the overall championship.



Liam and Larry Howarth dominated Early Modern 4WD in a Nissan GTR V-Spec, while Dean Lillie and Chris Exner's Mazda RX7 showcased exceptional driving skills, chasing the outright win despite technological disadvantages in Early Modern 2WD.

Other categories like Classic Modified, Classic, Rally Sport, Rally Challenge, and Early Classic witnessed thrilling battles and noteworthy performances from various teams.

The Australian Tarmac Rally Championship for 2024 will kick off at the Lake Mountain Sprint in March, followed by subsequent rounds including the Snowy River Sprint and the Great Tarmac Rally before concluding with the challenging Mt Baw Baw.

Moreover, the Victorian Motor Racing Championship (VMRC) is expanding to six rounds in 2024, offering grass-roots categories a structured and affordable racing platform. The championship will feature various categories partnering with headline events like the Australian Super Trucks and others such as the Hyper Racer Championship, Vic V8s, Hyundai Excel Championship, Sports Car Series, among others.

In the off-road racing realm, the Teagle Excavations ARB Pines Enduro 400 witnessed Danny Brown and George Apted securing a dominant victory, while Brent Martin and Andrew de Simone captured their third ARB Australian Off Road Racing Championship title.

Additionally, the TSOA Kwinana Autotest event showcased an impressive mix of cars competing in challenging conditions, with various classes and the introduction of a 'regularity' class for less competitive entrants.

Finally, the Pro Mod Masters at Geraldton City Speedway featured a strong lineup with Matt Bosveld aiming to defend his title against a competitive field.

These events showcased thrilling competitions, outstanding performances, and highlighted the dedication and skill of participants across diverse motorsport categories in Australia.





## NOVEMBER SUMMARY

The AASA State Championship for 2023 concluded with the QR Sponsor Thank-You Day, offering QRDC & 2 Days of Thunder competitors a chance to appreciate their sponsors, family, and friends with exhilarating laps around QR in gratitude for their support. The championship winners across categories were celebrated at the presentation function, acknowledging their off-track efforts and on-track racing achievements securing podium finishes.



Meanwhile, the SEK NSW Season 2023 concluded with an impressive turnout, witnessing a record-breaking participation at the Lithgow combined district kart club for the final round. With over 120 drivers and 42 karts on the track, the 4-stroke Honda-powered endurance series divided into three classes to manage the consistently high numbers.

In the top class, Maxx, #333 CGR dominated the season, securing both the top-class championship and the outright championship for 2023. 'Fonly, the 2022 champions, experienced a mix of highs and lows to claim the second spot in Maxx and the outright championship, while Kart 3 Polaris Marine clinched third in Maxx and the outright championship after an impressive late-season charge.



The Sportsmaxx category saw thrilling lead changes throughout the year, culminating in Kart 35 Team Jaco securing the class championship for 2023. Kart 66 Better Still Racing and Kart 142 Unalli Endurance Racing secured second and third places, respectively, in Sportsmaxx.

Moving to the Sportsman category, Kart 23 Polaris Marine emerged as the champions with consistent podium finishes throughout the year. Kart 555 Claw Racing and Kart 19 SDC Motorsport secured second and third positions after completing their first full season.

The final round's race results highlighted impressive performances:

### Maxx:

- 1st. Kart 6 Wright Racing
- 2nd. Kart 3 Polaris Marine
- 3rd. Kart 33 JJA Racing

### Sportsmaxx:

- 1st. Kart 35 Team Jaco
- 2nd. Kart 142 Unalli Endurance Racing
- 3rd. Kart 888 Specific - BBB Racing

### Sportsman:

- 1st. Kart 69 Black Sheep
- 2nd. Kart 2 Grip Sniffers
- 3rd. Kart 23 Polaris Marine

Anticipating a significant year for Honda 4-stroke endurance racing in 2024, a new club has been formed to accommodate the larger fields. Polaris Marine, Karting Solutions / Maverick, and DSR joined forces to launch the Endurance Racing Club, introducing an 8-round season for 2024, including a 24-hour event at Sydney's Eastern Creek Karting Complex.



## Magilton/Woods Triumphs in HQ Enduro



The Ken Leigh HQ 4 Hour, marked its 30th anniversary at Winton Raceway on the 8th to 10th December.

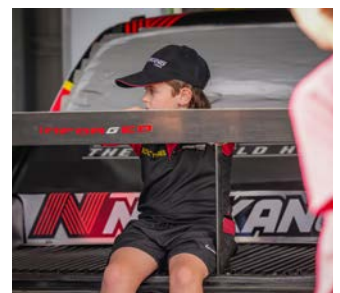
The Ken Leigh HQ 4 Hour, marking its 30th anniversary, traces its origins back to the inaugural HQ 3 Hour event at Calder Park in 1983. Al Basnight, the Racing Director of Calder Park and a fervent supporter of HQ racing, played a pivotal role in bringing this event to life.

Three standout performers during the event were the Magilton/Woods car, No. 14, the Baxter/Osborn car, No. 1, and the Raatjes/McLeod car, No. 33. These cars set the pace throughout the weekend.

The racing spanned two scorching days, with Friday night featuring a lively BBQ at the showroom. On Saturday, there was a single safety car intervention, prompting all participants to execute their mandatory pit stops, resulting in a significant reordering of the field. The Magilton/Woods team surged to the front after the pit stop sequence.

Sunday's starting grid welcomed six cars on the lead lap. The Magilton/Woods car maintained an unchallenged lead throughout the race.

While the top three cars pulled away from the pack, the competition among the other three cars on the lead lap—specifically the Corey/Holmes car, No. 8, the Gartner/Whyte car, No. 21, and the Fitzgerald/Whyte car, No. 77—showcased some of the most thrilling racing seen in the event. Witnessing these cars go three-wide through the sweeper was a sight to behold!



Photos: Colson Photography

Ultimately, the consistently fast laps from the Magilton/Woods car, No. 14, secured them the 1st place victory, with the Baxter/Osborn car, No. 1, claiming 2nd place, and the Raatjes/McLeod car, No. 33, taking 3rd place. It was the first time the Magilton/Woods team had triumphed in the Ken Leigh HQ 4hr Enduro.

Congrats to all competitors and thanks to the spectators and officials braving the heat!

### Top 5

Pos	Car	Driver
1	14	A. Magilton / R. Woods
2	1	B. Osborn / J. Baxter
3	33	R. Raatjes / A. McLeod
4	21	B. Gartner / S. Whyte
5	77	M. Fitzgerald / R. Whyte

The Ken Leigh HQ 4 hour was supported by the final round of the Stock Cars Australia Championship with Scott Nind dominating the weekend with 4 wins from 4 races. Stock cars final results for the weekend:

### Top 3

Pos	Car	Driver
1	Mustang	Scott Nind-Ford
2	Silverado	Josh Hourigan-Chev
3	Silverado	Robert Marchese-Chev

Congratulations to all Stock Cars Australia competitors for a fantastic 2023 Championship.



# PARTNERS



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