

# TOPMarque

2022 Issue 169



**BMW** Car Club of Victoria  
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Cover photo by Louis Gys - Pexels

# From your President



To all the members and friends of the BMW Car Club of Victoria, welcome to another edition of Top Marque.

The 2022 AGM has been and gone, and a new committee is now in place.

There was little shuffling of the deck chairs, and more importantly, we now have 3 new members on the committee that have significantly lowered the average age of your committee. Proof our succession planning is working.

Having been VP and acting President for some time, yours truly has moved up a rung to allow Kevin Flynn to take on the role of VP.

Sadly, after many many years of valuable contribution to the committee and club, Ken Lee (although not due for election) gave notice immediately prior to the AGM of his resignation from the committee.

Paul Weatherall (immediate past President) gave a very interesting presentation on his experience of multiple marques and associated clubs.

Paul's presentation had to be a little rushed to facilitate the AGM, and was enjoyed by all.

The unanimous thoughts during the post AGM socialising was to have Paul at a future meeting to present it in full detail.

This edition contains articles covering the recent events that have attracted record numbers of members.

Our membership numbers continue to grow, fantastic social events are proceeding as planned and motorsport has greater numbers competing than ever before.

By the time you read this, the "cup weekend tour of Tassie" will have happened after several years of postponement due to "that virus."

Motorsport, save for the Come & Try Day on December 3), has wound up for the year. The final round at Sandown saw our club fill an entire run group. The number of our competitors continues to grow.

Please read on for more detail of the 2022 AGM and continue to check our club website for more information on future events.

I look forward to meeting you at one of our events.

In the interim, take care, be safe and be well. Jeff Murdoch

## Message from the Editorial crew



Welcome to another edition of the club magazine, the past 3 months have flown by with so many club events, from trips to Tassie to our AGM and a couple of Motorsport events, it sure has been busy for the committee.

The AGM showed that the club is financially strong, we are supporting the community and membership is growing.

A write-up on a number of these events are in this edition. The editorial team has stayed the same for another year (great news for the two of us), it is so good to see how many members are contributing and giving us content and photos.

The best part of our role is that we get to see everything that is going on at the club either through event attendance or all of the articles that we sort through each quarter.

We are always looking out for articles that club members would love to read, especially about your special ride.

Until the next edition.

Melissa and Ken, The editorial team



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# What's On

For the latest set of events and timing please have a look at the club website at [bmwcarclubvic.com.au](http://bmwcarclubvic.com.au)

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
Sunday, 13 November 2022	MSCA 50th Anniversary Awards Luncheon	Killara Estate
Sunday, 20 November 2022	Show of Excellence	Meat Flour Wine
Sat-Sun 26-27 November 2022	Geelong Revival Car Display	Geelong Waterfront
Saturday, 3 December 2022	Come & Try Day	Phillip Island
Monday, 5 December 2022	BM Tech Members Event	BM Tech
Sunday, 11 December 2022	Christmas Luncheon Cruise	House of Jack Rabbit
Sunday, 8 January 2023	Cars & Coffee	TBA
Sunday, 12 February 2023	Torquay Motor Show	Torquay
Sunday, 19 February 2023	Motorsport Sprint Day	Phillip Island
Sunday, 26 February 2023	British & European Motoring Show	Caribbean Park
Sat-Fri 11-17 March 2023	Drive to the Nationals	East Coast
Fri-Mon 17-20 March 2023	BMW Clubs Australia National Rally	Gold Coast
Wed 29 Mar- Sun 2 Apr 2023	F1 Grand Prix Car Display	Albert Park

**PLEASE NOTE:**

All events subject to Covid-19 numbers restrictions. Keep an eye on your emails for more information as it comes to hand.

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# AGM

2022

The club's AGM (Annual General Meeting) was held on the 12th of October at the RSL Bentleigh. The AGM was attended by 29 people with 5 proxies submitted, which constituted a quorum for the AGM under the club's constitution.

The purpose of the AGM was to review the year just gone, to approve the Annual Financial Report for the club, appoint an auditor for next year, and most importantly to elect a new committee.

## The President's Report:

2022 – A Year in review:

- 2022 we came out of Covid and returned to near normal club activities
- Our membership today stands at 673 members and is as strong as ever, with 306 Club Permits registered.
- We are in a strong financial position
- Over the course of the past 12 months, we have held 23 events, including regular cruises, technical events, car shows and successful long weekends away to the Snowy Mountains and the Otway ranges.
- We have held over 8 Motorsports and 10 Driver training events including the highly successful Women's performance Driving Day. (<https://youtu.be/1TrhrqkHTHs>)
- We have successfully applied for and received several grants from the Victorian Govt totaling over \$26k, to support Women in Motorsport, Purchase of new equipment, providing better administrative support and social media programs, that are currently being worked upon.
- Establishment of a Social Media sub-committee chaired by Sheryl Lumb, with Tahlia Nagy and Joy Sommerton to advise the committee on how best to increase our social media footprint.
- A successful Car Project by the committee to restore and donate a BMW 320i to the Salvation Army for a Women's refuge (<https://youtu.be/lqFf7fqA8t8>).
- Ran a Member Survey in Sept 2022: 55 respondents and overall, the feedback was

positive with many constructive suggestions. The full results to be published in the next club magazine.

## 2023 – Looking to the Future

- To continue to focus on member needs and feedback.
- An increased focus on members' events and in particular technical nights.
- An increased focus on a younger demographic, to increase interest and participation.
- To hold events that are co-funded by the club returning more value to members.
- Introduction of the WildApricot App, to make it easier for members to receive and track information on club events.
- A more diverse committee with greater representation from women and younger members.

## Finally, some Thanks

- Firstly, to our outgoing committee members, for their service on the committee.
- To the volunteers who are involved in sub-committees or helping in the running of events.
- To the members who regularly attend social events, cruises or Motorsport events.
- And to those of you who will step forward to help with the running of the club in the future.
- Finally, to Ken Lee: Ken has served as a committee member for many years. Is a past president and a life member of the club. Ken has decided to retire from the committee as of this AGM. Ken our heartfelt thanks for your many years of service to the club.

## The Club is in a Strong Financial position:

In the 2022 Financial year, the club's financial position continued to strengthen due to increased membership and additional Victorian Government grants. The committee tries to run the year's programs such that each area, Magazine, Motorsports and Events are cost neutral to members.



## **New Committee:**

As per the club's constitution each year half of the committee steps down and an election is held to replace that half of the committee. The committee has been working towards encouraging wider participation within the club and to have this also represented on the committee with both women and a younger demographic represented.

We are pleased to advise that the new committee is as follows:

**President** – Jeff Murdoch

**Vice President** – Kevin Flynn

**Secretary** – Hans Neilson

**Treasurer** – Phil Logan

**Motorsports** – David Lumb

**Events** – Tony Whelan

**Membership** – Rod Smith

**Merchandise** – Peter Galtry

**Editor** – Ken Christie

**General Committee Member** –  
Melissa Jeuniewicz

**General Committee Member** –  
Tahlia Nagy

**General Committee Member** –  
Jean Dominique Abraham

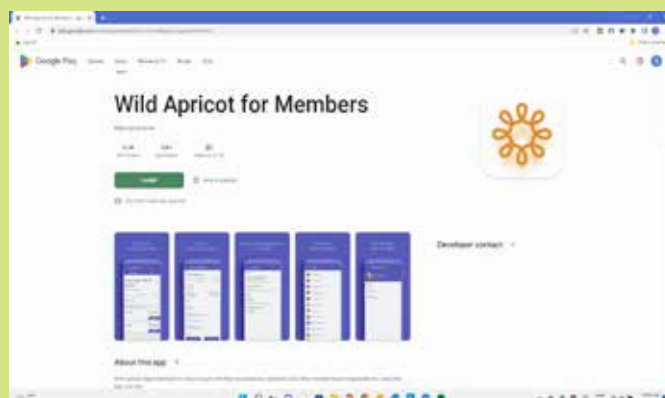
**Loans Officer** – Clive Milham

Tahlia Nagy was elected at the AGM, filling the position previously held by Piebe Van Houten, who we thank for his service to the committee, and Jean Dominique and Clive were appointed after the AGM to casual vacancies created when Kevin Flynn moved into the Vice President Role, and with Ken Lee's retirement.

The new Committee has already had its first meeting on the 25th October and is looking forward to the year to come.

If you have any questions about this year's AGM, then feel free to contact Hans Neilson at [secretary@bmwcarclubvic.com.au](mailto:secretary@bmwcarclubvic.com.au).

# Welcome to the **WildApricot** App



To make it easier for you to keep up with club events and activities, we're pleased to advise that you can now download the WildApricot App to your smartphone. The App allows you to manage your profile, see all the upcoming events and availability, register and track those events that you have signed up to.

The App is downloadable from the Google Play store via the QR code, or the Apple Play Store. It's easy to use and convenient. Just download the App and log in using the email account and password you use for your normal member log in.

# CHRISTMAS IN JULY

## CRUISE TO KILLARA ESTATE WINERY

*By Kevin Flynn*

It was a cool morning when we met at McDonalds in Mernda in Melbourne's Northern fringe and we were all looking forward to our traditional Christmas in July Trip and lunch. This year, we broke the previous record of members' attendance - with 74 members booked in. The weather was cool but the forecast was an improvement in conditions, which hopefully meant dry roads and lots of corners.

As usual, and as we have come to expect, Tony Whelan had a less than conventional route to Kinglake. It was a narrow road with plenty of very tight corners and switchbacks. We managed to dodge the dozens of downed branches and leaf litter that covered the road from the storms over the past few days. We had plenty of wind and rain in the lead up to this cruise, so we had to keep our eyes open for obstacles all the way to Kinglake. We also managed to dodge several cyclists that we were sharing the road with up the narrow pass. Some took a little umbrage at having to share the road with the BMW Club on their ride up to Kinglake.

Our morning tea break was at the Songbird Café and it was a welcome sight. With the temperature hovering around 1c, and fog as thick as pea soup, the spots by the open fire were in hot demand. We fuelled up on some hot coffee and some tasty treats from the larder and headed off towards Yarra Valley.

Again, in typical Tony style, we hit the road much less travelled towards the hills and the glorious Yarra Valley. Mercifully, the fog cleared and what lay ahead was a beautiful ribbon of bitumen, which took us out the back of Toolangi, Chum Creek and then ultimately into the town of Yarra Glen. It was terrific to see a huge convoy of BMWs stretching out for well over 1 km (given the size of the group). Tony managed to keep us all in line and we didn't lose anyone in the convoy as we snaked into Yarra Glen. From there it was a quick blast through Yering and then on to Coldstream.

With the recent wet weather, the countryside was magnificent and lush. Hard to imagine that some

of these towns and areas were devastated by the Black Saturday Bushfires in 2009. Some of these towns are well on the road to recovery following the fires; rebuilding and thriving again. It was hard to imagine some of the scenes that would have met the locals here and the firefighters back on that fateful day in 2009 but the locals are tough and have rebuilt their lives and homes in this beautiful part of Victoria.

The final part of the cruise was into Seville and to our lunch spot, the lovely Killara Estate Winery. The winery and food were terrific, as was the warm hospitality of the locals who were all very keen to see the crowds arriving after a lean couple of years due to the very long Melbourne lockdowns. With 74 members attending, it was fair to say that we took up about 80% of the seating. It was great to see so many familiar faces and a great number of new members and families who were on their very first BMW Club trip. The food was plentiful and so were the views from the winery, which were uninterrupted views of the Yarra Valley.

It was a terrific afternoon of laughs, great food and wine from the cellar door. Their local produce is delicious and their wines have won numerous awards over many years. Many club members bought some of their wine for future enjoyment.

We are so lucky to have Tony Whelan in our club; he is a treasure and has yet again put together another terrific trip. As usual, it was meticulously planned and prepared for us all to enjoy and remember. Arguably, the best Christmas in July event ever but we said that last year and will probably say it again next July!











# A new lease on life

*Written by Melissa Jeuniewic*

Opportunities to give back do not come along often enough, so when our club had the chance to join forces with the Salvation Army, our committee swung into action.

The Salvation Army is an iconic Australian institution whose governing purpose is to give hope where it's needed most. In this instance, our club was able to help by providing much-needed transport to a mother fleeing domestic violence.

It was a chilly Sunday morning but the sun was shining and I felt energised knowing the next few hours would be spent buffing and polishing an E90 that would be heading to a deserving home.

Thankfully the mechanical skills of my fellow committee members were a little more advanced than mine, as there was much work to be done under the bonnet. I was charged with cleaning and sorting parts and vacuuming every square inch of the interior.

It was a team effort in every sense of the word and the hours flew past in a haze of solvent fumes and donuts in the man-shed to end all man-sheds; generously provided by Ken

Christie (who was also our connection to one of our key sponsors, Pick-a-Part).

Pick-a-Part has also generously pledged to support future donor cars for community members in need.

Thank you must also go to Bon Vivant Automotive Care, BM Performance Centre and Treadcare Altona for their much appreciated support in making this project a reality.

While we will never know the identity of the women behind the wheel, we were heartened by the words of Mikaela Baker-Smith, Specialist Family Violence Practitioner, The Salvation Army Australia Territory:

"This car donated by BMW Car Club will greatly benefit my client and her children as they begin to set up a new life for themselves recovering from significant hardship and challenges.

Having access to a car will allow my client to be able to ensure her children are provided with increased educational and social opportunities. It will also mean she can begin to search for safe and secure housing for her and her children as well as exploring educational and employment opportunities for





herself which has been a long-term goal of hers.

This car donation from BMW will go a long way in assisting my client and her children in their recovery from hardship and will allow them to continue to be active and participating members of their community."



# Members

## Monday Night Event

By Kevin Flynn



Our September Member's Night was at the newest BMW dealership in the Jowett Group, Berwick BMW. The Jowett Group has 3 locations; BMW South Yarra, BMW Waverley and now BMW Berwick. Their vision is to tap into the growing population in the Sth East corridor of Melbourne and they were keen to show off their new dealership, workshop and service centre. Many of our members live in and around Berwick, Narre Warren, so we were keen to arrange our member's night here.

The dealership was able to showcase many of the new offerings that BMW are releasing including the new 2 series and 1 series, as well as their new electric car range.

The first was the iX3, which looked like a conventional X3 until you got up close and noticed all the subtle differences around the battery packs and the fact that there is basically nothing under the bonnet except some components for the steering and brakes.

The battery packs are in the rear of the vehicle and drive only the rear wheels. So, it is a 2 wheel drive only at this stage, and is not legally able to tow anything due the current road laws. However, this is likely to change in the future given the proliferation of electric vehicles. The range is

impressive, and depending on how it is driven, has a range of 380-450kms on full charge. There is no petrol engine on board, so it is a 100% electric only option.

The price is \$130K, so will appeal to a different market perhaps, but BMW are convinced that this is the "way of the future". Some of our members still have a little "range anxiety" but the car allows for both slow and rapid charging options and comes with a "free" charging card for 5 years.

Next was the iX and the true all-wheel drive offering by BMW. This vehicle drives all 4 wheels with 2 electric motors; one in the front driving the front wheels and one in the back driving the rear wheels. The speed and acceleration are eye-watering and unbelievable really given the enormous weight of these cars due the batteries on board. A sub 4sec 0-100 is claimed, which is proper quick in anyone's language. Basically, in the same speed and acceleration range as an M3 or M4. However, this eye-watering performance comes at an eye-watering price of \$240K and up, depending on the vast array of features and options.

The evening was terrific and generously catered





for by BMW Berwick. Our members received a glimpse of what motoring may look like in the future. It was a very interesting night and we all came away with some different views of electric vehicles.

Thanks again to our hosts at Berwick BMW, and the whole sales team, who stayed back well past knock-off time to entertain us and answer all our questions during the evening.





# Supporters of the Performance Driver Training Day for Women

March 2022

*Written by Sheryl Lumb*

There were some impressive BMs and Porsches put through their paces at Sandown on March 19 2022 for the Women's Performance Driver Training Day.

Members of the BMW Car Club Victoria (BMWCCV) and the Porsche Club Victoria (PCV) participated in a fantastic introduction to Motorsport.

All attended a safety briefing, then groups rotated through in-car braking and cornering exercises, some audio-visual and safety gear presentations, in-car sessions with instructors and solo sessions. A fun and great experience for newbies as well as more experienced drivers!

There were many women volunteers and support staff participating in the day demonstrating the large variety of ways that women can become involved in motorsport.

Female volunteers and supporters included:

## **Mentors who had backgrounds in sprinting, drifting and motorkhanas:**

- Sally Anne Hains, Sprinter, Porsche and BMWCCV
- Vicki Rowe, President Lotus Club
- Tahlia Nagy, BMWCCV Motorsport
- Sheryl Lumb, BMWCCV Motorsport
- Sharon Stipkovic, Sprinter

## **Instructor from Evolve Driving:**

- Chelsea Angelo (V8 supercar driver)

## **Flag Marshal female lead:**

- Theresa Ford

## **Videographers and Photographers from VATtrak:**

- Miranda Vattovaz, Owner/managing director
- Sheridan Home

## **Female mechanics:**

- Tahia Armistead (BMWCCV)
- Jesse Bryan (Porsche)

## **Circuit Events and Administration Manager:**

- Samantha Steer, Evolve Driving

Many men within our Club are excellent allies and supporters. Special thanks to David Lumb, Ken Christie and Matt Draheim.





The BMWCCV acknowledge the support of the Victorian Government.

Many thanks to Evolve Driving's MD and Lead Instructor Dean Sammut for organising and championing the women's performance driver training day.

Thanks also to our sponsors Brighton BMW, NicePak and Makulu Storage.

Check out the short video about the day on YouTube [youtube.com@BMWCCV.motorsport](https://www.youtube.com/@BMWCCV.motorsport)



# BMW Fuel Pump Tool

By Ken Lee



BMW have used the same, or thereabouts, plastic fuel pump retaining nut for 20 years (Fig 1), Cars built after 2000 use a different system so this is for the historic cars. The nut can be very difficult to remove, although a screw driver and hammer, or crossed screwdrivers, may work, the nut can be damaged.

With this in mind I made a tool for the job after a request from a friend. The tool is machined to fit the teeth on the nut. My first attempt is shown in Fig.2, it worked but had a shortcoming that did not allow for the height of the wiring connections above the top surface of the nut, hence it squashed the wiring loom while in use.

My second attempt involved adding a piece of square section steel tubing to the original aluminium tool Fig.3, then bolting it together to preserve the dimensions before cutting Fig.4.

The original tool was then cut as per Fig.5, the tool is still a perfect fit after this procedure.

The final part of the construction was to remove most of the rust inside the tube Fig.5, I did this with an assortment of wire brushes, and a pistol drill, I then welded in a sacrificial half inch drive imperial socket Fig.6.

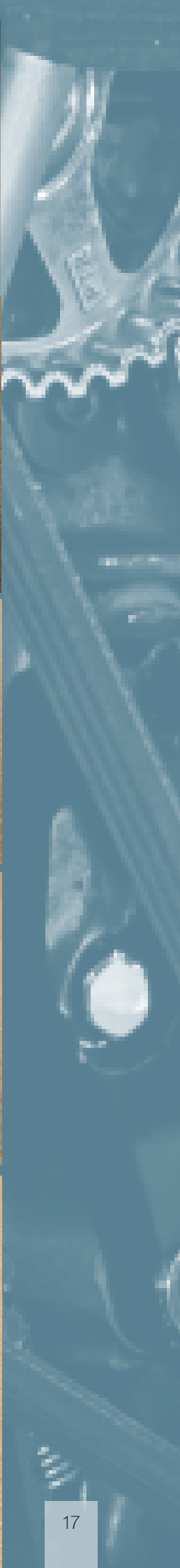
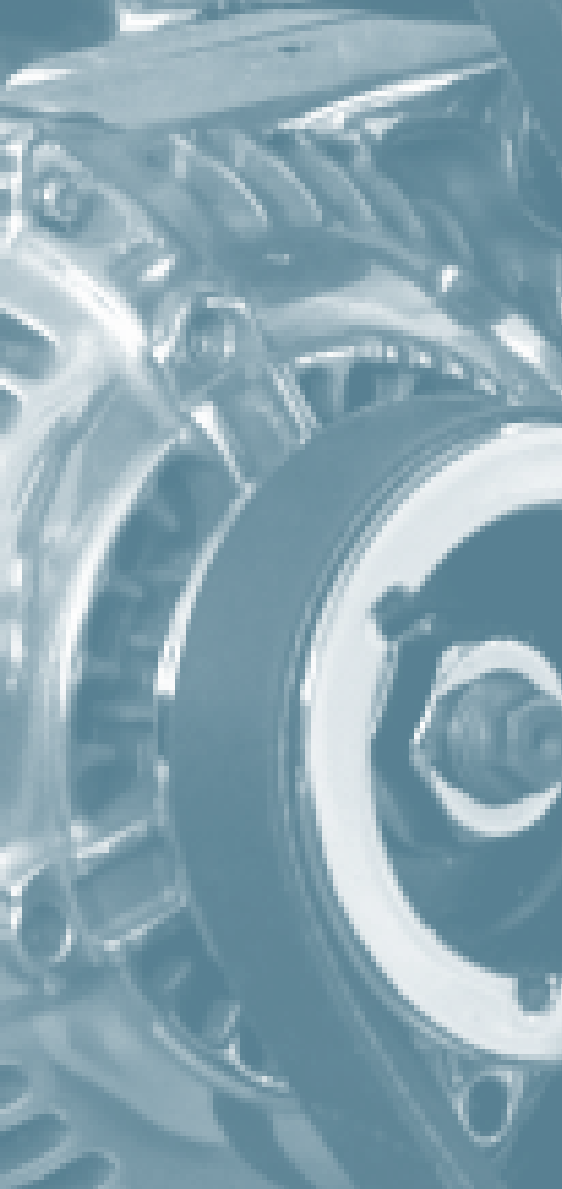
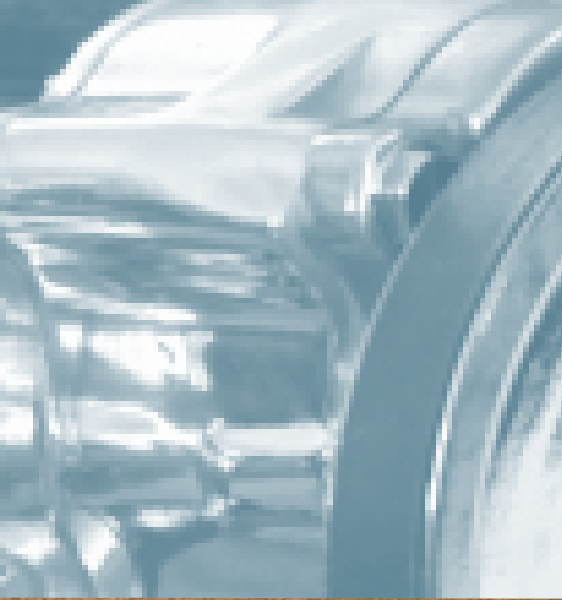
The last step in the process was to paint the now cleaned tool Fig.7, it is shown in the position corresponding to use.

The fuel pump access nut is recessed below the level of the car sheet metal under the rear seat area, it is therefore difficult to unscrew by hand, this tool has the advantage that, because of its height, it does allow extra clearance for a good grip on the tool, this will possibly allow removal and tightening of the nut by hand.

The rubber gasket used under the nut requires rubber grease for installation, forgetting this will make fitting a dry gasket impossible without damage.

This tool is available for loan to club members along with an assortment of special tools for BMW that the club has purchased over the years. If you wish to borrow this tool, or inquire if we have a certain tool you need, send us an email at [loans@bmwcarclubvic.com.au](mailto:loans@bmwcarclubvic.com.au)





# Rosanna Spring Car Classica

by Kevin Flynn

The BMW Car Club of Victoria was invited to attend the inaugural running of the Rosanna Spring Car Classica. The event was run by the Rosanna Trader's Association, in conjunction with the Rosanna Lions Club, to help promote the Rosanna area and bring people out to show off and enjoy some of the new development in the Rosanna shop precinct.

We were invited to participate, along with the Jaguar Club, Alfa Club, SAAB Club, Audi Club, MG Club, Corvette Club and other various classic car clubs. We also had a new McLaren come to put on a show.

We had 10 members wanting to show off their cars and we had a fine array of cars to display from Tony Whelan's i8, to Coby Poletti's brilliant E36 M3, an M5 and just about everything in between. All the cars were cleaned, polished and looking their best.

Our members arrived at 8.00am for the official "bump in" to the car park in our allocated bays. With our cars lined up from youngest to oldest, we all headed to the local café for some coffee and a beautiful cooked breakfast to get us going.

Thankfully, the weather was clear and sunny, which brought out the crowds. By the official opening time of 9.30am, we had a car park full of locals and visitors from far and wide. The organizers were amazed by the huge turn up and the shop owners and local cafes and restaurants did a roaring trade. It was promoted as a family day and it was great to see folks of all ages and a large number of children who got excited by all the cars. We also had a roving Jazz Band playing tunes all morning to keep us all entertained.

It also gave us an opportunity to promote our great club and we were able to sign up one of the organisers of the show, who shares our love for BMWs and owns a lovely 5 series.

The show organisers were very happy with the event that went off without a hitch. We too enjoyed being a part of the successful car show; ensuring that we would be doing it again in 2023. This was yet another opportunity to show off our fine cars and talk to members of other clubs, who also show a passion for classic and beautiful cars.

Thanks to the Rosanna Trader's Association and the Lions Club for putting on a terrific event. We look forward to being part of it again in 2023.









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# Motum Simulator Day

By Rob McAllister

With anticipation I watch my email inbox for BMW Car Club of Vic events. Lo and behold a 'Full motion BMW simulator fun at Southbank – grant subsidised' appeared a few months ago. I checked with my family and son Sean, his son Jake and my son in law Rob were all keen to attend. We all entered, grant subsidised – even better!

Next week Sheryl Lumb called me, "Rob the subsidised grant is for young people – you miss out, but the others qualify". Alright then, with my years on the road and track driving, I'll show the kids who can set the best time on the simulator.

The big day arrived, and we were greeted at Motum by Joe and Leon. Sheryl kindly attended to document the event with a few photos and make sure it went smoothly. The day coincided with the Bathurst 12 Hour, so we chose the Mt Panorama circuit and two BMW M3 GT4s to drive with an hour on each of the two simulators.

The plan was to do about 10 laps each and the fastest two would shootout over 5 laps. Rob (son in

law) set the best lap of 2 min 32, Sean 2 min 34, Jake drove well but struggled to do one consistent lap and Pa's time, 2 min 42. It's obvious the kids have spent too much time on Play Stations.

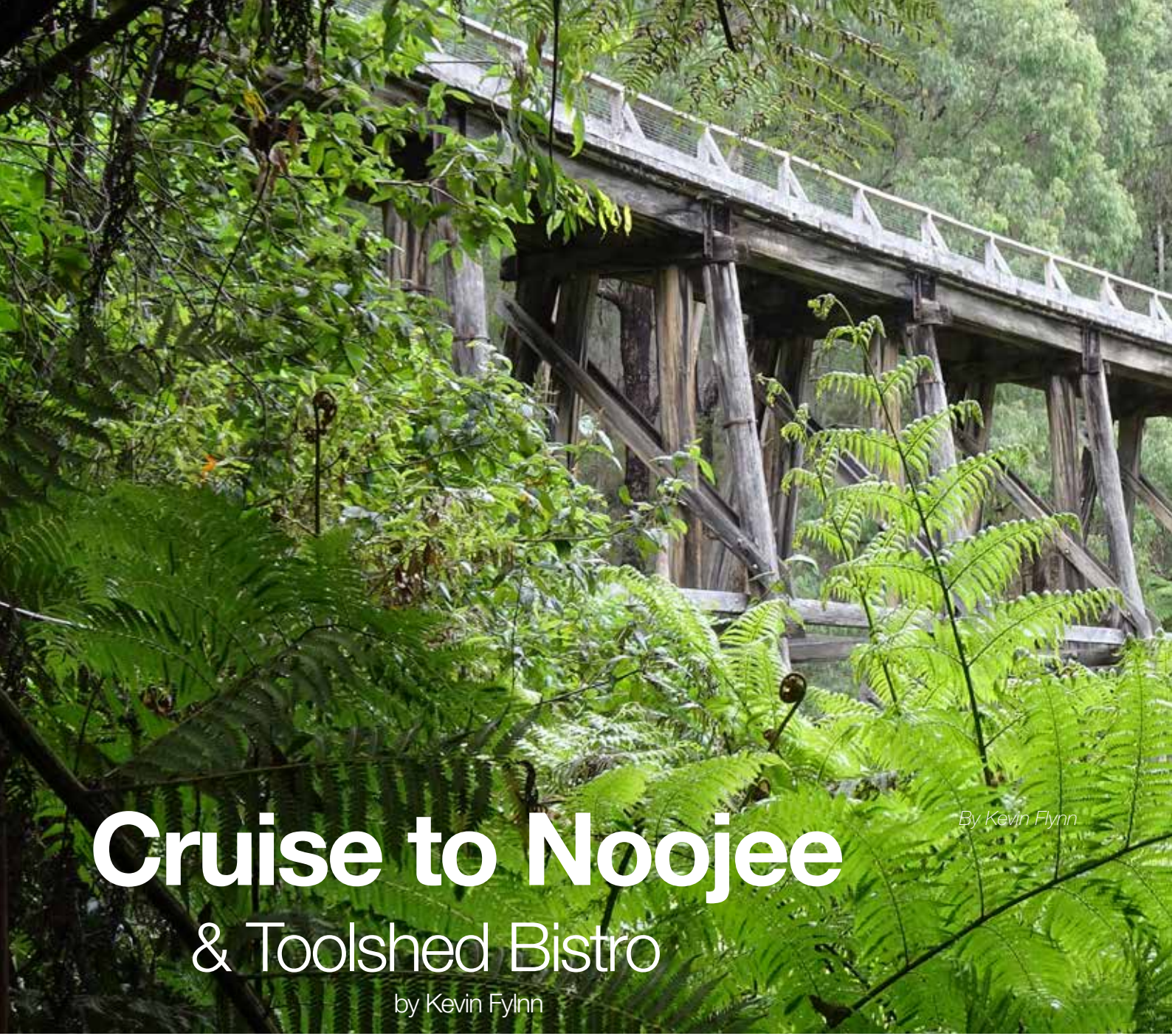
In the final shootout Rob beat Sean who retired with motion sickness due to the Virtual Reality (VR) goggles.

## Impressions

The simulators we drove were 3D versions and I was quite surprised as to how realistic the movement of the machine was synchronised with the vehicle screen. The cockpit was as realistic as you could get with a genuine removable steering wheel, foot pedals and seat/seating position. I struggled with placement on bends as the car was a left hand drive, I'm not a fan of the VR goggles and would prefer three wrap around screens. Overall, the choice of racing tracks, vehicle and vehicle tuning is phenomenal.

Next time we would choose a shorter track so we could get more practice laps in.





# Cruise to Noojee & Toolshed Bistro

*By Kevin Flynn*

by Kevin Flynn

After many days of rain and an unusually wet spring, it was a pleasant surprise to be greeted by a sunny morning. Our meeting spot was BP in Officer on the Princes Highway. We had another large number of members who had booked into this event and we were all looking forward to a terrific drive to a very pretty part of Victoria. It came as somewhat of a surprise that many of the group had not visited this area. Once gathered, we received our instructions and trip notes for the journey and began our trip towards Labertouche and on to our morning tea stop in Jindivick.

Tony Whelan, our trip and events co-ordinator was especially chirpy, upbeat and still glowing from Geelong's win in the AFL Grand Final the day before. We were all reminded of Tony's love of the Cats!

As usual, and as we have come to expect, Tony Whelan had a less than conventional route to Jindivick

and we were able to admire the fantastic scenery. Again, due to the wet weather, the hills and open farmland were green and lush.

Our morning tea break was at the Jindi Café and it was a welcome stop for morning tea. The Jindi Café was originally some old municipal buildings that had been turned into a terrific little café. The café is well placed on a ridgeline and offered breathtaking views of the Baw Baw valley and surrounds. The café is a "family business," so the staff were all members of the family and we were treated to some good old fashioned personal service, as well as a talk to the group about the history of the area, the town and the buildings they now own.

Again, in typical Tony style, we hit the road much less travelled towards Moe and the now infamous Blue Rock Lake in Moe. We were able to line up our fine cars for some terrific shots, with the mountains and





the lake as background. The weather was kind, so we enjoyed a stop and the stretching of our legs. From here, we headed off through the hills; catching some terrific views of Mt Baw Baw and the snow, which was still covering most of the Mt Baw Baw ski runs. From there it was a quick blast along the Mt Baw Baw tourist road towards Noojee.

This road was fantastic and surrounded by pristine eucalypt forest. The roads were interesting and offered a challenging blast through the hills. Thankfully the road was very quiet, apart from a few motorbikes, so we were able to experience the full alpine driving experience.

We cruised into the quaint hamlet of Noojee. Our lunch break was at the Toolshed Bistro. It was a fantastic place for lunch and had a terrific homestead feel and vibe. The bistro was set in a converted old farm building, which was set on lovely manicured

gardens surrounded by pristine forest. The bird life was abundant and we enjoyed a lovely selection of good old country food. Their speciality was chicken schnitzel. Most of us ordered 1 of the 15 different styles of schnitzel on offer and nobody went home hungry. The food, service and hospitality were first class.

After lunch, it was a quick 5 min drive to the famous Noojee Trestle Bridge. We walked up to the bridge and across the bridge for some great photos of the surrounds and our cars, which were parked in the valley below.

With the sun setting, we said our goodbyes, for now, and headed home through the Yarra Valley and back to Melbourne. It was another terrific afternoon of cruising through some fantastic roads and beautiful scenery and left us all with big smiles across our dials.









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# Performance Driver Training Day For Women and beyond!

by Fiona Lindsay

My day started super early on the morning of March 19. Up at 5am for a 6am departure arriving at Sandown pretty much right on 8am after dropping off hubby Lars at the local library. We had a full day planned as after my event at Sandown, we had booked to see Jimmy Rees at the Athenaeum that night so we knew we had a big day and I was ready for it!

The day started on the chilly side with a bit of fog, which gave the morning an eerie feel but women soon started arriving and we all began chatting rather nervously and excitedly. It was great to see so many other varied BMWs and Porsches as we were sharing the day with the Porsche Club ladies as well. I personally was extremely thankful to find a van near the garages offering coffee – just what I needed to calm the nerves a bit.

It wasn't my first time on the track. I've participated

for a few years' with the BMW Car Club in the past with the combined Salvation Army events late in the year taking underprivileged kids' and their families for hot laps around Sandown. Now, I've never raced competitively, however my ex-husband spent many years' on the track so I was far from being a newbie to motor racing. I picked up a lot of hints, tips and tricks from him over the years', but as with most things – you can study the theory all you like, but it never completely compensates for practical experience.

Last November, I participated in the "Come and Try" Day hosted by MSCA at Phillip Island which was a brilliant day and I learned a tonne. Needless to say, I was bitten by the speed bug – big time. Sandown with Evolve was going to build on that and I was super excited to learn more. Especially amongst other women.

We were welcomed at 9am and were separated into

smaller groups and sent off with an instructor. We had Dave with his old WRX – a bit of a hoot really considering he shared with us he paid \$1,500 for it. He shared with us the importance of the sitting position and where to best locate your hands on the steering wheel to stop your arms crossing over. Tick – got it.

Next we moved to 3 different locations on the track – the first was the slalom with witch's hats to teach the practical side of steering position. I learned pretty quickly that it's not about speed! The second location was the back straight (who knew it had a slight rise) for a braking exercise. For some reason I was a little intimidated by this one but did manage to push my old Z4 hard onto the ABS and hey presto – all was well. We needed to accelerate up to 100 km/h as quickly as possible and then when we heard our instructor blow his whistle, brake as hard as possible. Tick – got that too.

The final exercise was with our first female instructor – Chelsea Angelo – for cornering. And this is where I found the biggest challenge. Turns 11 and 12 revealed work to be done. Chelsea made it sound so incredibly easy and having her in the car with me was not only super helpful, but wow – very cool. An actual female professional race car driver!

At lunch Chelsea shared about her unbelievably extensive career at such a young age and how being in the right place, at the right time and surrounded by the right people had really assisted in her making the decisions she did to land her not only on local circuits, but also on European circuits as well. I very much doubt there was a single person in the room unimpressed by her accomplishments. And all with her lash and nail extensions still intact! Lol

There were a few extra sessions in between where we learned from Revolution Racegear about equipment and about flag marshalling and what the various flags mean.

The afternoon was spent doing laps. We had the availability of the instructors in-car or we could go it alone. I had a couple of laps with the instructors but relished the time on my own to focus on improving my cornering – especially at turns 11 and 12. At the end of the day, I was the only one lining up! Where had everyone gone?!

True to form with my ex-husband, I was last to leave for the day and so incredibly pleased with how it all went. All of the instructions were extremely helpful, encouraging and positive, the food was amazing, the weather was absolutely perfect and the company during the day was awesome. Could not have asked for more.

So what's next? Recently, I attended Motum in South Melbourne and did a 30 minute simulator activity. In all honesty, it made me dizzy and nauseous but Jake at Motum spent way longer explaining about braking. We also ran through quite a few YouTube videos focussing on cornering and braking and he spent quite a bit of time coaching me, which was extremely valuable.

Huge thanks to Sheryl and David Lumb for making these events available and to the Vic Govt for the subsidies, making it a no brainer to participate. I am so incredibly excited to get out there properly and compete, knowing that I've done all I can to adequately prepare. Thank you to the BMW Car Club for these amazing opportunities. Wish they were around when I was younger for sure.

See you out on the track!







# Sprinting Sammii

Sheryl Lumb interviews Samantha Stuart

Samantha Stuart, or Sammii Stuart as she goes by on social media, is a 26 year old up-and-coming driver from Victoria. Recently returned from a Boot Tour driver training experience in the UK, Sammii is knuckling down ahead of her assessment day for a chance to join a GT Cup team as one of 300+ applicants worldwide.

## 1. Take us back to the beginning, how did you get started in motorsport?

Well, I come from a family of petrol heads. My uncle regularly raced TARGA Tasmania in his Porsche 911; my brother brought me along to motorkhanas, and my dad used to navigate in dirt rally events back when I was a toddler. In fact, that's how I learned to read. Mum would hand me the clipboard with the Excel spreadsheet that had the navigation instructions with the road names and the distances on them, and I had to sound out the syllables (and quickly!).

## 2. What inspired you to get into racing specifically?

While having always been surrounded by family involved in motorsport, it was only something I was vaguely interested in so I never pushed to have a go. That said, cars are expensive and no one wanted to put a kid with no experience into the driver's seat anyway. But BMW Car Club Victoria ran its ladies only Come and Try track day at Sandown back in March, and alongside all the BMWs and Porsches, I kept up in my little 2015 Ford Focus ST— I was hooked!

I didn't have any further breakthroughs though until May when BWMCCV hosted simulator sessions at Motum in South Melbourne. I loved it and immediately booked more! Steve (the owner) then introduced me to people currently racing, and it went from there.

## 3. You've done very well with simulator training for a relative newcomer, even exceeding supercar driver's results on the leaderboard for the



Sammi is front row, third from the left.

**Watkins Glen circuit. How helpful has simulator driver training been in preparing you for driving on a real race track?**

Unsurprisingly, I believe nothing beats seat time in a real car, on a real track, with real consequences. But simulator training is a tool (and useful one at that) to develop techniques, learn tracks, and trial different cars. I'd say more than anything, it has been helpful for me in developing my attitude to racing— how do I approach a new track, or a new car? Do I prioritise fast lap times, or work on my consistency? I work on things like left foot braking, tyre management, retaining focus over long periods, how to handle disappointment when things go wrong, and how to bounce back.

I'm currently 10th on the leaderboard, which yes, puts me above some big league names, but really it's just a marker for how effective every new technique I learn is. After all, there are still 9 names in front of me that I've yet to beat.

**4. On your Instagram account, you call yourself a 'Speed Demon'. Have you always identified yourself as interested in going fast?**

I wouldn't call myself a true adrenaline junkie, but I have always had a love of cars and horses and going fast brings me a sense of peace mentally. I think the moniker of "speed demon" mainly comes from the speed at which I move through my life. I don't like being stagnant; I need to always be doing something or learning something. I make quick decisions about what I want, and then I just go for it.

**5. Tell us about the Formula Woman competition- what is it? How did you hear about it?**

I was scrolling through Instagram reels and came across a video posted by Formula Woman. I went to their profile and saw "Applications for 2022/23 now open"... colour me intrigued, so I ventured down the rabbit hole.

It's a competition where rookie ladies from around



the world compete for a spot on the Formula Woman UK GT Cup team and get to race the following year. It's televised and everything. It was such a crazy idea really, but I took a leap of faith and signed up.

#### **6. You've just returned from the Formula Woman September UK Boot Tour- how was it?**

It was a journey and a half to the other side of the world but overall it was such an amazing experience! I feel so fortunate to have found a group of such talented and supportive women who I now have the honour to call my friends.

On the first day we had karting at Daytona Milton Keynes... and let me tell you, up until then, I did not like karting. I drove a kart maybe 3 times prior to this and still had no idea how to properly drive one. Thankfully, Alicia Barrett, who is a UK champion karts racer, was there and was an absolute legend and gave me some pointers. I dropped my lap times from a PB of 91.16s to an 82.32s average in one day. Day 2 was the Bedford track day, where we got to drive 2 BMWs and a Ginetta, which was incredibly fun!

But my highlight for the trip was on day 3 when we did simulator training at Silverstone.

We did some reaction testing, focus testing, and finished up with some races (I won my race). I got to geek out about the stats and data collection from everyone's driving, and learned a lot.

#### **7. What is the next step on from this?**

Well this year, they have offered 2 spots on the GT Cup team, but they're also looking to enter into the Nations Cup series, which I believe will be held in Saudi Arabia, so I'll be looking to represent Australia in that.

My assessment day for the Formula Woman competition will be on 30 November, so I will be travelling back to the UK then. The finals for the GT Cup team will be hosted on 5 December, and the finals for the Nations Cup team will be hosted on the 7th.

So right now, I'm focusing on getting fit both physically and mentally, sim training, and (much to my chagrin) karting, as these will be just some of the components we will be tested on. They're looking for well rounded





individuals who can take instruction and are team players— women who can improve exponentially in all areas, not just pull a fast lap time initially. I aim to be that woman.

### **8.What are your long term goals for the future?**

Obviously my immediate aim is to make either the GT Cup team or the Nations Cup team with Formula Woman, but I eventually want to race open wheelers... maybe be the first Formula Woman to race in a Formula series! I'll look to start in Formula Ford and then once I've developed as a driver, both in skill and confidence, I will look to compete in an F3 series.

### **9.I understand that you've been told that you are too old to have motorsport aspirations and you've started too late. How do you answer these critics?**

Haha it's interesting that everyone focuses on how motorsport is dominated by men (which it is), and

the need for more women in motorsport which is wonderful— but not a single person has ever suggested to me that I'm incapable because I'm a woman. I have, however, had plenty of people say "you're too old to be a professional driver" or "you won't be able to make it to top level because you're starting too late".

And I understand why they say such things. Looking at the top drivers, yes most started in karting when they were between five to eight years old. Ayrton Senna built his first engine when he was four! But just because it's not the usual path, doesn't mean the path I'm choosing is any less valid. I guess I just have to work harder to prove them wrong! And really, only time will tell. But I definitely would rather give it a shot against the odds, than regret not having tried.

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# Trackside Treasures

*Phillip Island and Winton MSCA Motorsport Events.  
Photos: Rob Clark*







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# Highlights over the last 12 months

## MOTORSPORT

- 8 sprint rounds including the long-awaited Taillem Bend
- 50 competitors throughout the year
- Consistent BMWCCV dedicated only run groups of 20 + competitors at each event
- Great friendly rivalry had by all
- Some even laid on a grazing table. Thanks Dev & Nick
- Congratulations to all class winners and overall championship winners
- Come along to Jack Rabbit Christmas lunch and The Club Championship awards presentation on Sunday 11th Dec. 2022
- Congratulations to BMWCCV winners of some MSCA classes
- BMWCCV is affiliated with the MSCA who we consider the best Victorian organisers of grassroots motorsport events. Thanks Bruce, Petrina, Mark and Committee

## DRIVER TRAINING

- 10 driver training events including one at Mt Panorama, Bathurst

- Successful special performance driving day for women at Sandown in March
- Defensive Road Safety training for those starting out or as a refresher course
- Performance Driving for those wanting to enhance their driving skills
- Virtual reality full motion simulator training for track experience and family fun
- Annual 'Come & Try' for novices to be held at Phillip Island on 3 Dec. 2022
- Many thanks to Dean Sammut of Evolve Driving for his continued and much valued support of BMWCCV

## SUPPORT

- Many thanks to the competitors and volunteers who have helped out throughout the year.
- A special thanks to our Motorsport photographer Rob Clark for capturing sprint action even under difficult weather conditions.
- BMWCCV gratefully acknowledge grant funding from the Victorian Government which has enabled purchase of motorsport safety equipment and subsidies for numerous driver training events in 2021 and 2022





## Members' Moments











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# E30 2022 Garagistic BMW Driver's Cup Standings After Round 5

Car #	Competitor	Round 1 Sandown	Round 2 Winton	Round 3 Phillip Island	Round 4 Sandown	Round 5 Phillip Island	Round 6 Phillip Island	Round 7 TBC	Subtotal	C'ship Points	C'ship Position
22	Alex Jory	25	25	25	22	25			122	122	1
24	Geoff Bowles	20	20	14	25	15			94	94	2
55	Simon Shiff	10	20	18	20	20			88	88	3
38	Jesse Bryan	7	14	22	20	22			85	85	4
27	Brian Bourke	22	22	20	-	13			77	77	5
50	Ashley Rogers	12	12	16	14	18			72	72	6
7	Rory Plant	16	13	12	16	11			68	68	7
19	Ryan Carter	9	10	13	14	14			60	60	8
54	Paul Shiff	15	12	-	8	10			45	45	9
23	Tristan Blaufelder	9	-	11	8	10			38	38	10
30	Jess Bell	13	-	-	12	13			38	38	10
25	Elwin Iim	-	9	10	9	9			37	37	12
51	Simon Leach	18	-	-	-	16			34	34	13
40	Rod Martin	8	9	-	10	-			27	27	14
87	Mark Gorgovski	-	-	15	11	-			26	26	15
90/23	Graeme Bell	11	-	-	15	-			26	26	15
57	Darryl O'Neill*	8	-	-	9	8			25	25	17
43	Jeremy Payne	-	16	-	-	8			24	24	18
15	Cameron Hudson	-	15	-	-	-			15	15	16
11	Dean Coutts	14	-	-	-	-			14	14	18
83	Stuart Clarke	11	10	-	-	-			21	21	19
90	shannon Cooper	-	-	10	-	9			19	19	21

\* Production Class

# 2022 BMWCCV Club Motorsport

## Championship Results

### BMWCCV Sprint classes

A BMW Standard Under 2.0 litre

B BMW Modified Over 2.0 litre

C BMW Standard 2.0 to 3.0 litre

### BMWCCV Sprint classes

D BMW Modified 2.0 to 3.0 litre

E BMW Standard Over 3.0 Litre

F BMW Modified Over 3.0 Litre

### BMWCCV Sprint classes

G BMW Standard M

H BMW Modified M

I BMW Racing Under 3.0 Litre

### BMWCCV Sprint classes

J BMW Racing Over 3.0 Litre/ Racing M

L Non BMW Car

Competitor	Vehicle	Class	Phillip Island	Sandown	Sandown	Winton	The Bend	Winton	Phillip Island	Sandown	Totals
			12-2-22	6-3-22	2-4-22	1-5-22	12-6-22	21-8-22	18-9-22	23-10-22	
Zachary Dunn	E36 320i	A				9	10	10			29
Peter Garrett	E36 328i	A				10					10
Dev Raj	Z4 sDrive 30i	C	10		10			10	10	10	50
Nick Mavrikos	E92, 325i	C						9	9	9	27
Clive Milham	E36 328i	D	10	10	10	10		8	8	9	62
Mark Higgins	Mini r56 John Cooper Works	D				10		10	9	10	39
Vaughan Rosier	Mini r53 John Cooper Works	D	10		10						20
Luuk Zillig	Mini r56 John Cooper Works	D							10		10
Carl Brown	Mini r56 John Cooper Works	D						9			9
Rod Smith	E46 330cd	E			9	10	9	9	10	9	57
Scott Mc Millan	E82135i	E						10		10	20
James Smith	E46 330cd	E					10				10
Jeff Murdoch	E82 135i	F	9	9	10	10	10				48
Glen Maynard	E82 135i	F	10	10							20
Brian Easton	F87 M2 Comp	G	10	10	10			9	10	10	59
Tahlia Nagy	F87 M2 Comp	G			7	8	8	8		9	40
Tim O'Sullivan	E92 M3	G	9	9			9				27
Anthony Kamen	E90 M3	G	8		8					8	24
Peter Caretti	F87 M2 CS	G						10	9		19
Robert Forte	E90 M3	G		8	9						17
Timothy Sung	F87 M2 Comp	G				10					10
Jeremy Katz	G80 M3	G					10				10
Shane Robertson	F80 M3 Comp	G				9					9
Shane McKenzie	E46 M3	H		10	10			10	10	10	50
Mathew Jones	F87 M2 Comp	H	10								10
Stephen Gorman	E36 M3	H								9	9
David Lumb	E30 325i Race	I	10				8	10	9	10	47
Mark Ferguson	Mini r53 Cooper S	I	9	8	10					9	36
Louise Forrest	E30 325i Race	I			9	10	7				26
Matthew Draheim	E30 325i Race	I		10			9				19
James Draheim	E30 325i Race	I			8		6				14
Stuart Clarke	E30 325i Race	I					10				10
Simon Latimer	E30 325i Race	I		9							9
Daniel Forrest	E30 325i Race	I				9					9
Jeremy Payne	E30 325i Race	I							8		8
Zachary Dunn	E30 325i Race	I								8	8
Ken Christie	F80 M3 Race	J	7	9		10	9	9	8	10	62
Simon Flanagan	E92 M3	J	6	8	10	8	4	8	9	7	60
John Horton	E46 M3 Race	J	9	10			7	10	10	9	55
Jon Chadwick	E82 135i	J		7	8		6		7	8	36
Robert Forrest	E36 M3 Race	J			9	9	3				21
Keith Olsen	E92 M3 Production	J					10		6		16
Jim West	E36 M3 Race	J	8				5				13
Peter Caretti	F87 M2 Comp	J	10								10
Gavin Clarke	E92 M3 Race	J					8				8
Glyn Bosisto	Nissan Skyline R33	L		10			10			10	30
Clive Massel	Alfa Guillia	L		9					10		19
Nick Mavrikos	Porsche 911	L	10								10
Steven Linham	Hyundai i30N	L			10						10



## Welcome to our new members as at October 2022

First name	Surname	Vehicle #1 Year	Vehicle #1 Details	Vehicle #2 Year	Vehicle #2 Details	Vehicle #3 Year	Vehicle #3 Details
Prabhath	Jayalath	2020	M340i xDrive	2020	118i M Sport		
Andrew	Jobling	1986	635 Csi				
David	Johns	2013	120i Convertible	2018	X3 30i		
Karolina	Kralj	1975	2002 coupe white				
Dani	Aquilina	1975	2002 coupe white				
Jacob	Lawrence	2021	M4 GT4				
Simone	Linham	2018	i30 Premium				
Andrew	Lord	1995	E36				
Stephen & Deborah	McEwen	2015	435i F32	2006	130i hatch manual		
Maureen	McLaughlin	1997	Z3 roadster				
Con & Angelo	Mouzouris	1988	M3 Convertible Red				
Phil	Nash	1981	316 5 speed	1981	Alpina C1		
Peter	O'Connor	1996	318is				
Marlo	Petrilli	2004	E46 325ci	1995	E34 530i		
Henry	Piper	1982	735i	1982	735i		
Sammy	Priyananda	1998	E36 318is	2008	E93 335i	2014	F30 320i
Kanchana	Ratnayake	1997	1.9L Black	1997	Z3 1.9L		
Henry	Reynolds	2005	Convertible E46 330i				
Michael	Rourke	1997	Z3 Roadstar				
David	Saynor	2014	X5				
Linsey	Siede	1996	328i Coupe M Sports				
Dr Jonathon	Slater	2000	740iL M Sport				
Samantha	Stuart	1988	E30 320i Convertible				
Brad	Williams	2013	F30 328i MSport				
Bob	Wolstenholme	1996	318i Sedan				
Hamish	Young	2004	BMW E46 330Ci Manual				



# Member Services Directory

## **BM PERFORMANCE CENTRE**

Factory 4, 7-13 Ponting Street,  
WILLIAMSTOWN VIC 3106  
Tel: 9077 8816  
Contact: Mark Higgins  
BMW & MINI Specialist, Deep M  
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www.bmperformancecentre.com.au

## **BM TECH AUTOMOTIVE**

295 Canterbury Rd,  
CANTERBURY VIC 3126  
Tel: 9836 1888  
Contact: Joe Brogno  
Trade Prices on parts for members

## **SOUTHERN BM**

1 Sullivan Street,  
MOORABBIN VIC 3189  
Tel: 9555 4049  
Independent BMW Service, BMW  
Performance/Tuning & Classic BMW  
Maintenance  
Contact: Andrew (Service), Jimmy (Classic)  
or Sean (Performance)

Exclusive member pricing

## **TYRE SERVICES**

### **EASTERN TYRE SERVICE**

297 Canterbury Road,  
CANTERBURY VIC 3126  
Tel: 9836 1000  
Great prices for Club Members

## **BODY WORKS**

### **CHARLIE BATTISTI & CO**

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2-4 Moncrief Rd,  
NUNAWADING VIC 3131  
Tel: 9894 4622  
Contact: Noel Griffiths  
Email: admin@charliebattisti.com.au  
www.charliebattisti.com.au  
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## **OTHER SERVICES**

### **MAKULU VEHICLE STORAGE**

3 Ebdon Street,  
Moorabbin Vic 3189

Mob: 0401 523 713

## **SCHMIEDMANN**

www.schmiedmann.com  
Contact odense@schmiedmann.com  
+45 65941545

## **SHANNONS INSURANCE**

40 Corporate Drive,  
HEATHERTON VIC 3202  
Tel: 13 46 46

## **To BMWCCV MEMBERS**

To receive the highest standard of customer service and the member discount offers please remember to let the business know you are a Club member and show them your BMWCCV membership card when you visit.

# Authorised BMW Dealers

## **METROPOLITAN AUTHORISED BMW DEALERS**

### **BRIGHTON BMW**

795 Nepean Highway,  
Bentleigh. Vic. 3204  
Tel: 9524 4000

### **DONCASTER BMW**

812-814 Doncaster Road,  
DONCASTER VIC 3108  
Tel: 8848 0000

### **ESSENDON BMW**

1 Circuit Road,  
ESSENDON FIELDS VIC 3041  
Tel: 9086 7200

### **MELBOURNE BMW**

118 City Road,  
SOUTHBANK. VIC. 3006  
Tel: 9524 4000

### **MORNINGTON BMW**

181 Mornington-Tyabb Road,

MORNINGTON VIC 3931

Tel: 5970 5970

### **SOUTH YARRA BMW**

145-149 Williams Road,  
PRAHRAN VIC 3142  
Tel: 9521 2121

### **WAVERLEY BMW**

579 Springvale IRoad,  
MULGRAVE VIC 3170  
Tel: 8581 9600

## **COUNTRY AUTHORISED BMW DEALERS**

### **BERWICK BMW**

6 Coventry Road  
Narre Warren  
Tel: 87634500

### **GEELONG BMW**

212-224 Latrobe Terrace,  
GEELONG VIC 3220  
Tel: 5221 2111

### **GIPPSLAND BMW**

Cnr Princess Hwy & Coonoc Road,  
TRARALGON VIC 3841  
Tel: 5173 5888

### **MILDURA BMW**

Cnr 7th Street & Etiwanda Avenue,  
MILDURA VIC 3502  
Tel: 5021 2999

### **SHEPPARTON BMW**

8002 Melbourne Road,  
SHEPPARTON VIC 3630  
Tel: 5823 2940

### **SYMES MOTORS**

239-241 High Street,  
BENDIGO VIC 3552  
Tel: 5444 3338



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Email: [admin@charliebattisti.com.au](mailto:admin@charliebattisti.com.au) | [www.charliebattisti.com.au](http://www.charliebattisti.com.au)

