



MAZDA MX-5 CLUB OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.

PO Box 312

FULHAM GARDENS SA 5024



A DAY AT THE RACES SUNDAY 16 JUNE 2013



For some people, this was the first time that they had ever seen a sunrise at Mallala. And what a rugged up, frosty looking lot they were. Karin Caffin was our only female Flag Marshall and I would like to congratulate her. Could she become a role model?

After sign on, Driver's Briefing and Flag Marshall's Training, 12 of the MX5 Club's finest were allocated flag points located around the track. Some walked, some drove their own car and some were taxied to their flagging location.

It was so foggy that Race Control carried out radio checks to receive reports about visibility. The first practice session was conducted with fog lights on! The second session for first time competitors was a little better as the fog lifted to a lovely sunny day.

The MSCA (Marque Sports Car Association of SA) is the organizing body for Super Sprints in South Australia and they utilize volunteer officials from affiliated car clubs to present this form of competition and keep costs at an affordable level. This Sunday it was the MX5 Club's turn together with the Datsun Car Club and Mercedes Driver's Club to provide Flag Marshalls and carry out other duties as directed.

As it turned out, the large contingent of MX5 Club members "saved the day" as there would have otherwise been a shortage of personnel. Our Club should be very proud of the 12 members who volunteered throughout the day to assist in an official capacity. During the course of the day Race Control gave us direction via our headphone radio sets, which took the form of on the job training. Our volunteers adapted very quickly to their new roles and listening in from my position as Number Two Starter, I have never been prouder of my fellow members.

During the day, Ian Duncan presented Poppy with a trophy which his team had won at the 6 Hour Relay in recognition of her contribution in supporting the teams throughout the day. For once, she was speechless.



Karin and Lindsay Caffin heading off to



Which yellow coat is the imposter Flag Marshall?



Can I borrow the keys Dad I promise I'll be careful!!



Where is my lunch?

There were 7 Club members competing on Sunday and another couple of cars that were not part of our Club, so overall, there was lots of MX5's to be seen on the track on the day. There was only one unfortunate incident in the morning where there was a coming together between an Audi TT and an MX5.

Lunch was organized by Kari Soutter and Poppy Hawkins and was conducted in one of the pit side garages located close to trackside and amenities. This proved most successful as it provided the perfect focal point for competitors, the volunteer officials and the social supporters to enjoy a convivial luncheon.

Lunch was interrupted by a call for people who wished to participate in a parade lap around the track to assemble quickly in the Racing Car Form Up area in the pits in preparation for their adventure. It was magnificent to see 23 MX5's spread out over two thirds of the circuit. Not sure how many laps we did, some said 6 laps, some said 5, I completely lost track of how many laps we did. It was conducted in very safe conditions and hope all enjoyed their laps of Mallala circuit.

After lunch our volunteers returned to their Flagging Stations. I for one was relieved of my post by a Datsun Club member who was very keen to have his time on the Starting Grid. I was quite pleased because this enabled me to mix with our supporters and have a bit of fun and answer some well thought out questions. I am a bit worried that I have awakened a monster!

I would love to hear from other people about their experience of the day. I think I can say on behalf of the drivers that they were "knocked out" by the Club's support on the day. The look on their faces at lunchtime said it all. As best I can ascertain everybody had a thoroughly enjoyable day.

At the end of the day, the Clerk of the Course, thanked me in person for the support that our members provided throughout the day, so in turn I pass on the congratulations to our volunteers and in fact the entire Club because this is all about our Club's image and the caliber of people that make up the Club.

After we all packed up, a few of us headed back to the Mallala Pub, where lots of lies were told and much frivolity took place providing a perfect ending to a highly successful day.

A big thanks to all who attended.

Report by Dennis Hawkins, Sporting Secretary





Morning Tea at Virginia Nursery

Kari and I, with the help of Klara and Suzie, had a sunrise start setting up the garage for the use of our Members.

After ensuring our menfolk had their morning tea prior to taking up their Flag Marshall positions, we then drove to Virginia Nursery to meet up with the other members who were joining us there.

15 members enjoyed a very pleasant morning and once coffee was drunk, we all browsed through the Nursery and the Gift shops and did some serious shopping.

We then drove back to Mallala with Kari, Suzie, Klara and myself stopping to pick up lunch for all the drivers, Flag Marshalls and all the other members who attended.

Lunch had been prepared by M & G's Takeaway in Mallala who did a wonderful job cooking the chickens, preparing the salads and buttering the rolls.

It was great to see so many of our Social Members turn up to Mallala to support the drivers and volunteer Flag Marshalls. Thank you to 36 Club members who participated in the day.

The success of the day is due in no small part to Kari and Chris Soutter who did a lot of work behind the scenes. At one stage Kari was Secretary, Acting Treasurer, Social Secretary, Sporting Secretary and President, holding down the Club fort while the rest of us holidayed.

Report by Poppy Hawkins, Social Secretary



1. **Who is the Club Mascot?**
2. **Which vegetarian did a chicken leg attack?**
3. **Which Flag Marshall was ungrateful when a competitor left a wheel and tyre for him to collect?**
4. **Who surprised her husband at Virginia Nursery when she purchased more items than they can fit in their house?**
5. **Which Member got lost on their way to Virginia Nursery?**
6. **Which Member kept calling the Datsun 240Z a Porsche?**
7. **Who are the Members getting married next January?**
8. **Who ate the most lollies at the Mallala Pub?**
9. **Who was the Flaggie who competes in other forms of motor sport?**