

*Incorporating News from The Historic Racing Car Club and The Victorian Historic Racing Register*

# HSRCA Sydney Classic



## Tribute to Ron Tauranac

### IN THIS ISSUE



*Grafton Hillclimb*



*Historic Queensland*



*The Bend Classic*



# Grafton Historic Hillclimb – 25-27 June 2021

BY DICK WILLIS • PHOTOS BY TEDDY WEBBER



*Shane Hefner's 1972 Holden Torana.*



*Ron Pommerral's 1962 Nota Sportsman.*



*The 1974 MG Midget of Dick Hughes.*



*The Nota Clubman of Steve Purdy.*



*The MGB of James Jonklass.*



*The Turner of Robert Rees.*

The Grafton Sporting Car Club was formed in 1955 and opened its own purpose built hillclimb facility about ten km north of Grafton a decade later. Many members had memories of cars which competed there in the earlier days and their thoughts turned to organising an event to commemorate the history. A committee was formed and the wheels began turning to promote a Historic hillclimb event for pre-1975 cars, or those built before the advent of computers and electronic aids.

The Grafton "Mountainview" Hillclimb precinct has been steadily refined over

the years due to the efforts of some dedicated club members and now usually hosts four club hillclimbs per year plus a round of the NSW Hillclimb Championships. Younger drivers are encouraged to hone their abilities at these events and who knows, some may progress to higher levels of the sport as members have done in the past.

The featured marque this year was Nota, with owner and organising committee member Steve Purdy induced some 20 examples to attend forming an impressive display. Steve's efforts over the past several months in promoting

the event played a large part in its success while the committee and members of the Grafton Sporting Car Club made every effort to support the event.

In all 60 cars entered from all over NSW and Queensland, but unfortunately ten were unable to appear because of COVID restrictions, in the end we were lucky to have completed the event before the restrictions really hit hard.

Entrants were divided into ten classes, the largest, Group 6 had 16 starters, in all eight timed runs were available. Class winners and their best





Spencer Yarrow's 1955 Nota Sportsman.



The GRD Ford F3 of William Norton.



The 1969 Nova Clubman of Rod Pugh.



The 1970 Triumph GT6 of Roy Davis.



Les Wright and his 1968 Brabham Buick BT21C.



The Nota Formula Vee of Robert Willetts.

times were as follows:-

Group 1- pre-1945

Mike Gosbell, Russell Morris, 63.30

Group 2- 1945-1960 Sedans

Steve Eather, Austin Lancer, 61.73

Group 3- 1945-1960 Sports/Racing

Dick Willis, Nota Major, 55.15

Group 4- 1945-1960 Production Sport-

sPhil Redhead, MGA, 60.25

Group 5- 1961-1970 Sedans

Mark Wood Cortina 440, 55.50

Group 6- 1961-1970 Sports/Racing

Ken Norton, Remlin Ford, 53.99

Group 7- 1961-1970 Production Sports

Roy Davis, Triumph GT6, 55.98

Group 8- 1971-1975 Sedans

Shane Hafner, Holden Torana, 54.30

Group 9- 1971-1975 Sports/Racing

Bill Norton, GRD F3, 47.97 and FTD

Group 10- 1971-1975 Production

Sports Dick Hughes, MG Midget, 59.42

A special presentation was made to the Nota owner recording the fastest time and amazingly this resulted in a dead head between Dave Morrow (Nota no.31) and Steve Purdy (Nota no.102) who both recorded the identical time of 55.09 just ahead of Dick Willis on 55.15 in Nota no. 29.

Former HSRCA presidents Les Wright

and Bruce Richardson were in attendance with the Brabham Buick and Nota Minx respectively, while Bill Hemming and Ric Scott came all the way from Victoria with the Nota Fang. Queenslanders too were well represented with some interesting cars.

A large crowd of spectators was in attendance on the two days of competition and they along with competitors felt it was a great event, vowing to tell their friends and to return in 2022 when it is hoped to attract an even bigger field of these special older racing cars.