



Skylines Australia

***Vic-Spec***

Victoria Newsletter

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Designed by Charles Lin

Edited by Adam Birdseye

A large, dark, semi-transparent watermark of the year '2011' is oriented diagonally across the bottom right portion of the page.



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2011



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## Introduction

### Ex President's Intro - Ash

This is probably the last piece I shall write up as SAU-VIC President as we are almost, but not quite, up to date with the Newsletters. As President of this fine club for the past 3 years and I believe the longest sitting el-Presidente so far, it has been a great pleasure of mine to look after this club and guide it down the road we are on at present.

The club is brilliantly placed financially; we are now getting to running our own Track Days and so on. Club evolution and development has continued along nicely. Memberships have remained stable...so not growing in number, but not falling either. The 2011 & 2012 Committee's will have to pay special attention to this area over the next 18 months, as it will be a critical factor for the club.

On a different note entirely – SAU Nationals. Since the earliest emails in 2002, I've always had a burning urge to get as many states together in one place/one time and have a super-sized event. Most of us know people from other states personally from our visits and travels around the place so it'll also serve as a great catch-up for old friends and also the formation of new friendships. Bonds between state chapters will also be solidified from such an endeavour. This is one of my major reasons for stepping down from presidency and not running again in 2011. An event of this size will take considerable planning and organisation, so to attempt both would mean that one would suffer.

I hope I have done right by each and every member - thanks for supporting myself and the committee over the past 3 years.

Cheers

Ash Cosgriff  
SAU-Vic Ex el-Presidente

### President's Intro - Hamish

As you all know it has been a big year with both the President and Vice president stepping down, both leaving big shoes to fill.

Before I continue, I would like to say thank you to Ash and Bec on behalf of SAU-Vic. You guys have done so much to make this club what it is, and without your leadership and guidance over the past few years it would not be 1/10th of the amazing club that we have today. The amount of time and effort invested at your own expense has been phenomenal to say the least, and far above the call of duty. The fact that your roles have been more or less uncontested of late stands testament to the quality of your work. Thank you!

As the new president I will endeavor keep this club as brilliant and successful as it has been, with no interruptions to the day to day operation. I also plan to take it in some exciting new directions that will see us through many more years as one of Australia's best car clubs. This role is not one that I have taken on without a lot of thought, and even though I have some HUGE shoes to fill, I know that with the help of the awesome committee I have this year, we will only go from strength to strength. Watch this space!

Hamish Hampton  
SAU-Vic president



## New Members

Please make welcome our new members for May - August 2010:

Forum Name	First Name
jRob83	Robert
GTR R31	David
jonmowa	Johnathon
Kiska	Katia
absR34	Ali
rasolo83	Rhys
Bayside Blue R34 GTV	Johnson
NUTWGN	Annabel
series2_13bt	Joel
AaronNM35	Aaron
blags	Billy
white180sx	Peter
JZP	Zeljko
r33gtrguy	Isa
DattoP510	Joe
SVD115	Jason
Arthur T3	David
WYTSKY	Adam
	Chris
	Nic



WYTSKY - Adam



WYTSKY - Adam



WYTSKY - Adam



NUTWGN - Annabel



NUTWGN - Annabel





## Official Event QLD Floods Charity Cruise (26th January 2011)



Photography by mickeyspit

After the flooding in queensland that affected many of our club members, SAU-Vic decided to run a cruise on Australia Day to raise some money for the cause. With just one week's time to advertise the event, a staggering 32 cars turned up to the meet point in melbourne's north. An eclectic mix of cars arrived, with everything from the rare R34 GTR NUR, to a 1983 Toyota corolla KE70, and even our club secretary's fathers Jag... after a quick chat and a catchup we were off on the road to Macedon once again.

The patented SAU Drive to Mt Macedon is always worth the trip: plenty of narrow twisties, brilliant views and as always, interesting cars. Upon reaching Yarra Glen in the heart of Victoria's wine region, we stopped for a bite to eat - the local bakery once again being the venue

of choice. Lunch was an entertaining affair with an alcohol fueled local providing plenty of entertainment and the summer sun coming out of hiding for a couple of hours.

After lunch we continued on our way to Macedon with the remaining 30 odd cars in a convoy that stretched as far as the eye could see. We hit up some more twisties and eventually made it to our destination where we had a coffee and a chat with some extra people that had missed the cruise, but actually met us at the destination to donate to the cause!

This was another sucessful charity raising venture for SAU-Vic, and once again showed how great our enthusiast community really is. In total we raised \$340 for the QLD Premier's Charity Flood Appeal, and a great day was had by all.

Thanks to all that came!

Hamish Hampton  
SAU-Vic President



Photography by mickeyspit



Photography by mickeyspit



Photography by mickeyspit



Photography by mickeyspit



Photograph by mickeyspit





## Official Event Round 1 SAU Vic Championship Haunted Hills, 13th February 2011

Reviewing the first round of SAU Vic motorsport for the year, Haunted Hills, we enlisted help from a newbie. It was our ex president's first time on the mountain, so we thought it would be good for him to convince any newcomers to the motorsport scene just how easy and fun it is to participate in this stuff. We've also included for contrast, a rather detailed insight from Anthony (ant97gtr), which he wrote about last year's Haunted Hills round.

But first, a quick wrap up from our motorsport guru Martin:

-Birds



Photography by wrx.com.au

Well the start of a new Motorsport Year has began. So on a perfect end of summer day 15 SAUers made the trek down to Haunted Hills in Gippsland. Team WRX ran a very good day with plenty of runs for all. With a good mixture of cars ranging from Porsche Nissan Subaru and even a couple of Holden V8's that spent more time sideways than straight. On the track the action started heating up, with our then President Ash giving his new car it's maiden run...followed very shortly by it's maiden spin; Chris (scotsman) destroying the track record with a unbelievable 54.42 second pass; and a number of track virgins testing the waters with some very good results. This all followed by a 8-10 car convoy rolling back into town!

-Martin



Photography by Martin Sullivan

Listening keenly during the driver briefing, to all the great advice that was given by the WRX club members, was the beginning of what would be a great day - then it was time for us to line up and begin our first runs.

Sitting in the staging line, helmet on and hands at the ready you cannot help but feel nervous, excited and down right petrified all at the same time. It's a great feeling...and before long, the adrenalin kicks in and things start to settle as you approach the start line...focusing on the red light that will soon turn to green.

The light goes green and for the next 60-70 seconds all you are doing is concentrating on going as fast as you can, but also remaining in total control. Combine this with tyres that are not up to temp and brakes that are cold - it's very challenging and upon completion of the run, you are simply buzzing.

Haunted Hills is a technical track - lots of variation in track angle, steep incline/decline so there are many places to come unstuck. My first attempt wasn't great with a 69.34 run. My 2nd attempt saw me drop my tyre pressures which hurt grip, combined with a little over confidence and had a bit of an excursion into a grassy area was the end result. Nothing broken or damaged though. Over the next 4 runs I managed to get my time down to 64.72 on the final

run so a good improvement with a rewarding end to see the times drop as familiarity with the track and car came to me. I cannot wait for the next track day - simple as that.

Preparing for your first track day at first, seems like a daunting task. You have to read all the Supp Regs, Entry Forms, Payment and ensuring you have a track license (AASA or CAMS depending on what you are doing). However, realistically having just done it - I can tell you now it's very simple and very basic. So I urge anyone that is unsure about going to a track day, to just man up and do it - it's awesome.

-Ash Cosgriff



Photography by wrx.com.au



Photography by John Richardson



#### Official Event Round 6 SAU Vic Championship (Haunted Hills, 22nd August 2010)

beep...beep...beep...beep...beep...

Damn time for work already...hang on... its @#\*%ing 5:20am and not even I get out of bed THAT early for work!! Oh yeah, its Sunday, and there's only one reason I get out of bed that early on a weekend when I'm not getting paid.... MOTORSPORT. I swear they should put that in a can as there is no better wakeup call than that (ok, ok for arguments sake let's just leave it at that!).

It was round 6 of the SAU motorsport championship, being held at Haunted Hills near Morwell. Despite it just starting to get light when I left at 6am, it was looking like being a cracker of a day weather wise...great for track times... not so great for the drive there and back. Those that haven't been down the Princes Hwy at sun rise/sun set, be warned that you will drive looking straight at the sun most of the way. Despite this I had a good drive there and along the way gave a wave to both Justin the WRX motorsport director and Andrew (SAU Nick: MacGillaZ) in the white R31.

Kudos to the WRX guys because despite having a full entry list we managed to start the recce/passenger session by about 10am. When we first arrived the track was wet - apparently the area had copped what was described during the drivers briefing as torrential rain overnight. However the combination of full sun, high wind and cars managed to dry it out completely by the end of the first hot session. Of course, this wasn't the same for the grass as some of the competitors would find out during the day...but more on that later. Speaking of competitors, despite the GTR numbers

being down, SAU managed to field 9 competitors driving a variety of cars including R31's, WRX's, a Datsun 1200 ute, Silvia's, R32 GTS-Ts and a couple of R33 GTRs.

Due to the overnight rain, the track was quite green with some dirt being washed across the track in parts. However, the combination of sun and rubber being laid down meant that the track gradually got faster and faster. From the get go Danny Traverso in a Targa prepped Evo 9RS set the lap to beat - closely followed by me equalling my personal best, with this battle continuing throughout the day. After 4 hot sessions I ended up in outright second with a new PB of 56.36, just pipped by Danny with a 56.19.



Photograph by John Richardson

It was then announced that they were changing the course layout and running the figure 8 setup. This meant that you start in the same place, going the same direction, but 'cross-over' before "Oh S\*\*t" corner - do that section backwards, before re-crossing over and finishing the last section as per normal. The word was that this should add around 8 sec's to your clockwise layout time. Having never done this configuration most people, including me, did the sighting lap behind the safety car. First impressions were that it was a nice flowing layout but introduced a few blind crests. On my first hot lap on the figure 8, I bottled out and got off of the gas too early on both

new blind crests leaving me with a 65.XX time. On my second run (and last run of the day) I probably should've bottled out on the first new blind crest which cost some time but stayed on it over the second and reaped the rewards posting a 63.64.

Haunted hills has a reputation for claiming cars, however up until this round the WRX/SAU guys and gals had escaped with some pretty minor stuff. Unfortunately there were a few incidents during the day - an R32 GTS-T tapped a tractor tyre with a rear guard at turn 3 leaving only superficial damage (nothing that won't buff right out!), an Evo 10 locked up and went straight on at turn 3 causing superficial (but no doubt \$\$) damage, and finally Oh Sh\*t corner once again lived up to its name claiming a WRX. Perhaps the most surprising damage of the day wasn't done on the track but rather the pits. Someone had erected a canopy which was picked up by a gust of wind landing it on a WRX waiting in dummy grid, punching a hole through the rear windscreen! As always, the main thing is that no-one was hurt and everyone will live on to fight another day.

Congrats to all the SAU competitors who drove well and posted PB's. Also a big thank you to all the volunteers who lent a hand during the day. At the end of the day the top 3 SAU members were:

1st Anthony (ant97gtr) - Clockwise 56.36  
(2nd overall, 1st Modified 4wd)

2nd Dane (phunky monkey) - Clockwise 59.38 (7th Overall, 1st <2.5L AWD)

3rd Andrew (AC1200) - Clockwise 61.74  
(17th Overall, 1st Modified 2WD)

Article by Anthony (Ant97GTR)





#### Official Event Midnight Cruise (19th February 2011)

Saturday the 19th of February saw another popular SAU event roll around, the Midnight Cruise. Following much forum hype, a healthy crowd of about 20 cars assembled at Anaconda in Bayswater, ready to tackle the as yet undisclosed route.

After waiting for some tardy members, the group set off in search of some twisty, scenic roads. Following Dan's round stove tops towards Mount Dandenong, the road signs reading 'Welcome to Knox' were an ominous sign of things to come. A glorious jaunt through Mountain Highway and the Mount Dandenong Tourist Road, which we were fortunate enough to have to ourselves, was dampened not long afterwards by the arrival of our old friends, VicPol. With the Black Spur tantalisingly close, the predominantly RB-powered orchestra was reduced to a mere grumble somewhere around Wesburn, where Mr Plod was waiting to have a bit of a chat with us.

Disco lights ablaze, it became apparent that the worst we had done was stay out too late (!), which seemed more like criticism that should have come from our mothers, not the boys in blue. A few stern words and (highly scientific) exhaust noise measurements later, we were advised to disperse. This the group did, our spirits somewhat low. We headed back towards Melbourne, a bit disappointed but pleased that we had acted with such maturity for the duration of the cruise.

Despite this encounter, it was still a good night to meet some new faces and, let's be honest, perve on Al's engine bay. A big thanks must go out to Dan, not only for organising the event, but handling

the semi-crisis in a calm and articulate manner. It was a great reflection on SAU-Vic as a club.

Ric (HEKT1K)  
Newsletter Editor

Adam Birdseye (Newsletter Editor): We even made what we can only assume to be front page / breaking news of the Lilydale Leader:

<http://lilydale-yarra-valley-leader.whereilive.com.au/news/story/police-say-skyline-group-is-trouble-on-horizon/>

Ex president Ash posted the following comment on the Lilydale Leader website, rebutting our position as a car club that practises social events in a legal manner:

*The club in question was an official cruise of Skylines Australia Victoria. As Co-founder, past President & Honourable Life Time member. I would like to inform you that this was an official cruise by car enthusiasts. This cruise was a sanctioned event by CAMS. Organisers are bound to ensure road laws are adhered too at all times.*

*To put our official clubs cruise in the same article as typical references to 'hoons' is unwarranted & unfair. We are not there to race each other, we are not there to endanger the lives of ourselves or anyone else for that matter. I notice the article mentions no one was misbehaving. Sgt Rust should be pleasantly surprised of this behaviour in light of the recent media hoon attention. Is it not a good thing to see people behaving legally on the road?*

*I like to see people like Sgt Rust come to events & interact. Perhaps he & others might see that there are car enthusiasts out there that can behave correctly on the roads. SAU-Vic organises Track Days & Driver training exercises each year so that all members are safer on the roads & can use cars in a legal manner.*



## Upcoming Events: SAU Nationals



As I've stepped back from running SAU-Vic to concentrate on other events, one of those events happens to be the SAU Nationals. A United event where all states come together for one big f'in good time! And of course, where else to have such an event you might wonder...

...Shepparton!

The event will run over 3-4 days between 28th-30th October 2011.

There is a Track Day, a Show'n'Shine, and if the moon/stars align for us - a huge burnout comp as well.

This event will be big and every SAU state chapter has expressed keen interest in attending, in large numbers. Entries initially will only be open to club members with some giveaways, trophies and cash prizes! The Show'n'Shine alone looks like it will have 150-200 cars.

So if you want to attend, you'll need to ensure your membership is up to date as we will cross check this before approving entry.

We are also looking to secure some big

cars along to the event. So far I cannot announce anything as there are a few things to sort out, however ensure you keep up with the goings on in the SAU Nationals Thread:

<http://www.skylinesaustralia.com/forums/topic/346683-sau-nationals-2011-its-coming/>

Or the SAU Nationals Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/settings/?tab=privacy#!/profile.php?id=100002163814442>

Cheers

Ash Cosgriff

## SAU-Vic Motorsport Championship Round 4

Next round of the SAU VIC Motorsport Championship is with the WRX Club VIC at Sandown on Sunday 10th July 2011.

So get your car prep'd and ready for the event with Racespace and MiColour. Get along to a Driver Dynamics day to touch up your skills and grabs some wheels and hugging seats from Import Monster.





## SAU-Vic TV Introduction

So it is time for me to grow up and uses my camcorder for something other than getting shots of mates getting hit in the balls, drunken vomit shots, stupid tricks like putting nails up my nose, and some quiet moments with the GF. Wink wink.

So welcome to SAU Vic TV. What is it, and why should you watch. Well watching, that's totally up to you, but I think you really should. The idea came from much piss farting around on the Internet, a video night course, new software, and a competition run by the guys at Mighty Car Mods. The results of which can be seen on YouTube at Mighty Street Cars. At the time of producing Mighty Street Cars it was the plan to have an ongoing series looking at all the modified cars out there. But not the extremely modified cars you see in all the magazines. I wanted to look at the lightly modified cars out there. And get a look at the guys and girls behind the cars, and why they modify in the first place. Unfortunately for Mighty Street Cars, there really wasn't that many people out there that wanted to show of their "lightly modified" cars. So I had to head back to the brain trust and over the last few months the idea that was Mighty Street Cars has now grown into what is SAU Vic TV. What I feel will be a much wider net than what Might Street Cars could ever be. But also a much finer focus. That being the great car club that you and I are both a member of.

So what are the goals of SAU Vic TV, and why the title SAU Vic TV. Well I'll start with the easiest first. I'm a member of the Victorian chapter of Skylines Australia, so that's what I'll cover in the show, and I also wanted to leave the idea open to the other chapters of SAU to form their own versions of the show. So



SAU Vic TV S01E01 - Great Ocean Road Cruise - 5mins 51sec  
Click above to be redirected to youtube.com to watch the full video.

we might soon see SAU Qld TV, or SAU SA TV. It's all up to them. Now for the goals of SAU Vic TV. I'd like to cover all parts of what it means to be a member of Skylines Australia. From cruisers to motor sport, members and their rides, and anything else you the members want to see. Over the coming year I'm going to try and get to as many events as I can, and talk to as many of you that want to get your mug on camera. And if you have any of your own video from anything SAU related, well by the end of the year I should be a home owner with a "man cave" of my very own, so I'll have a studio you can come into and talk about your video, and what Skylines Australia means to you.

So where and when can you watch SAU Vic TV. At the moment I think YouTube will be the best way to get the show out there for your viewing pleasure. Check out the channel at [www.YouTube.com/](http://www.YouTube.com/)

[user/sauvictv](http://user/sauvictv). Subscribe and "Like" as much as you can. Hopefully this will promote the show on YouTube itself and we'll get viewership outside of just the Victorian members. And that brings us to the when. At the end of the first episode I did say "next week", and I'd like to think that I could get an episode out each week. I'll try my best to reach this lofty goal. Even if it is just a quick two minute upcoming events update. But maybe one or two 10 minute episodes a month would be a better goal while I'm doing this by myself.

Now I've used the word "so" almost as much as I said "umm" in the first episode. But that's not going to stop me using it. So I hope you'll keep tuning in to SAU Vic TV, and help me make it just as much a part of your Skylines Australia experience as anything else SAU.

Laith Graham





## Member Profile Up Close And Personal



**Name:** Nathan Neophytou

**Age:** 24

**Member for:** About 12 months

**Ride/s:** Evo VII & R34 GTR Vspec II Nur

### Modifications:

GTR - Nismo catback, HKS frontpipe, HKS actuators, Greddy intake kit & HKS cam gears.

Evo VII - HKS 272 cams and gears, HKS DLI twin power, Blitz boost controller.

**So, Nathan, what industry and occupation do I need to work in to own both an R34 GTR and an Evo 7 (what do you do for work)?**

Haha, well my industry is quite an interesting one which involves being in the chemical manufacturing industry



working with polymers & elastomers (adhesives etc.)

I basically work there as a QC Chemist taking care of all manufactured products to ensure they meet specifications.

**Both these vehicles are frequently pitted against each other, particularly with regards to a track environment... which would be your weapon of choice factory vs. factory around the circuit and why?**

Around the circuit I would choose the Evo considering it is lighter and very nimble. Has an excellent AWD system. The GTR feels heavier, suffers from some oversteer and has more lag than the evo. However, if these were matched when modded, then I'd choose the GTR and unleash the true potential of the RB26!

**What do you move up to from an R34 GTR?**

I wouldn't mind the R35 (next model that's coming out) but the R34 nur is just so much more exclusive. Perhaps I should have both :)

**Where can we find Nathan on a Saturday night?**

Most Saturday's I usually chill with my mates, or do some touge runs with a few mates that's drive 370z's. There's the odd occasion of hitting the city night life too.

**And fun times are to be held in the back of the Lancer or the Skyline?**

The Evo only because of many "fun times" having already occurred. I wouldn't allow it in the GTR and even if I did, the back is far too small for anything, even sitting.

**At the last DECA I attended, I got my ass handed to me by a couple of Evos on the skidpan. How do you respond to allegations from certain people that Lancer Evolutions are in fact DIRTY, CHEATING hairdresser cars?**



In the past, I've had the odd mention only because it's a sedan. At the end of day, it ain't a baby bitch lancer and can put people to shame. I've taken mine to DECA and definitely put on a show (AWD ftw!)



**What are your daily driving pet peeves (people driving slow in the right lane etc.)?**

People driving slow whether it's any lane or if they're in my way and not at least doing the damn speed limit. The worst I have to say is merging from the ramp onto the freeway. People freak out and slam their brakes on to try and get in instead of matching the speed.



**Everyone knows "random police inspections" go hand in hand with owning an import. What sort of attention have you had from the boys in blue?**

With the GTR, nothing bad and only had a few pull me over to compliment my car (actually surprised). The Evo.....well it's a long painful story regarding major canary and big EPA issues haha.

**What other hobbies/sports do you engage in?**

Dirt bike riding. I frequently go to the motorcross track and also smash up some endurance riding during some awesome camping :)



**What is your dream car?**

My realistic dream car is a Porsche GT3 RS but otherwise it's the Koenigsegg CCX-R lol.

**What comes first, the cars or the lady/ies?**

The car remains my priority and don't have the worry of maintaining a girl hehe. In the end, car comes first then the lady/ies can be part of the package. There's nothing better than cars, bikes and chicks :)

**You can change one Victorian road law...what will it be?**

Get rid of the pathetic anti-hoon laws. So far the road toll is getting worse rather than improving.

**What does this stain on my pants look like to you? I've tried everything to get it out.**

That stain is a white...almost transparent-like substance that's quite common amongst males when they first gaze upon the "substrate". The stain on my pants almost became permanent when I first looked at my car in the flesh at the import place, not to mention the very first drive!



**Do you know anyone who can fix hail damage on my R33?**

The only bloke I go to for anything that's regarding paint, body fixing, fabrications or any other modifications is GP Smash Repairs in Epping. The work performed is of superlative skill.

Interview by Adam (Birds)  
Newsletter Editor

