



Skylines Australia

Vic-Spec

Victoria Newsletter

Designed by Charles Lin

Edited by Adam Birdseye

A large, faint, diagonal watermark with the year '2011' is positioned across the bottom right portion of the page.



Contents

2011



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Introduction

President's Intro - Hamsh

Already off to a good start with a number of highly successful events, 2011 is shaping up to be a great year for SAU Victoria. The annual dyno day was a sellout event, our QLD flood charity cruise managed 30 cars with just one week's notice and new club members have been getting right into trackdays. Motorsport has now seen three circuit rounds and two DECA events, and is only just getting warmed up, with a heap of events still to come.

Financially the club is in a brilliant position with memberships steady and showing no signs of dropping off.

Coming up this year we have the first ever SAU Nationals. Being held in Victoria, combining multiple chapters of SAU from all around Australia, this event will be a sellout and is set to redefine events as we know them in the import community. As for the rest of 2011, it's looking very exciting as we have: more motorsport rounds, two DECA's, cruises, our annual overnight Mt Buller stay/cruise, drive-in movie nights, a "shooting" day, social meets, the annual SAU Vic Show 'n' Shine, monthly general meetings and go kart days lined up. So enjoy 2011, and make sure you get out there and support your car club!

Hamish Hampton
SAU Vic President

Editor's Intro - Adam

With new blood on board, the latest SAU Vic committee have "committed" themselves to giving SAU Vic members the best of their efforts. Ash and Bec, former SAU Vic President and Vice President respectively, have decided to stick around in general committee roles, helping our new staff to maintain SAU Vic, furthering our ongoing success as a car club and ensuring we don't lose the things that have kept our club so great over past years.

That being said, our latest batch of events coordinators with fresh ideas are looking forward to bringing you plenty of new, exciting and traditional events throughout the year. We've already seen a few come and go and there are much more on the way. Make sure to check the member's exclusive events section regularly. Our monthly general meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of every month, at the Elgin Hotel (75 Burwood Road, Hawthorn). Get over there and catch up with the club regulars for a cheap parma/steak...or come along and introduce yourself as a newbie - we don't bite and we love a good chat about cars! We aim to have some cool guest speakers lined up for the year. If you have anything you would like to guest speak about at a general meeting, be it your 9-5 business or anything to do with cars, please drop club@sauvic.com.au a line as we would be happy to listen.

Our newsletters are nearly back on track. If you'll bear with us, in time they will become chronologically relevant. In the mean time, we hope that the articles contained within will fill you with a sense of nostalgia...okay, maybe, help you to reminisce...events from earlier in the year. If you have anything you would like published in a newsletter, be it an event review or a genuine interest article, or if you would like you / your car featured in the member profile, please contact us at newsletter@sauvic.com.au

Adam Birdseye
Newsletter Editor



New Members

Please welcome our new members who signed during the months of March and April. We look forward to seeing you around!

<i>Forum Name</i>	<i>First Name</i>
xplosive32	Leo
Yagnol	Rory
Yagnol	Marty
ash-s13	Ashley
stpage	Brad
JL	Jamie
Greg_R32	Greg
Stalion69A	Damian
r33crayon	Stuart
sanjay	Sanjay
ADIS	Adis
nitrozx12	Simon
xALmoN	Alvin
Bozz	Boris
MANS	Manu
SR-GT	Francesco
	Craig
	Billy



Official Event
Great Ocean Road Cruise
(5-6th March 2011)



Photography by montie



Photography by Bayside Blue R34 GTV

montie - "It was a great day for driving , lots of sunshine (except later in got cloudy)."

white180sx - "I only went on the Saturday as i had to work yesterday but was a nice drive and nice weather. Was good meeting a few people."

R31Nismoid - "Easy drive down/back. Not one caravan for a change hehe."

JPCR33 - "Was a good cruise, no troubles, weather held up and not many slow drivers through the twisties which was good."

htial - "I had an awesome time..."

Interfooler - "Weather was perfect and traffic wasn't too bad. There were a few slow cars on the GOR but most pulled aside to give us a clean run. Had an awesome time and great to meet you guys who turned up."

Bayside Blue R34 GTV - "Was a great weekend, had lots of fun driving those twisties, definitley come again next time."

Zaver - "It was a fun day with good weather and some good twisties with less traffic, Its good that we did all of the stage 2 route on the 1st day itself... Was definitely worth it!!!"



Photography by white180sx



Photography by Bayside Blue R34 GTV



Photography by montie



Photograph by Bayside Blue R34 GTV



Official Event Round 2 SAU Vic Championship (Calder Park, 5th March 2011)

Calder Park...O how nice it is to wake up at a decent time on the weekend. With Calder being located just outside the CBD it generally draws a crowd of spectator and competitors alike. This years event did not disappoint.

Calder cops a bit of a reputation as being one of the less technical of tracks on the calendar. With the main straight made up of the drag strip, some can imagine that in a low power car you may spend a large proportion of your time travelling down it. But don't write the track off just because of this, you still have to get yourself around 10 corners. After travelling down the main straight with floor planted to the floor at 180-240kmh...when do you brake...250m, 200m, 150m mark?!?! BRAKE!!!!

All in all, the track does offer a mix of constant radius late apex, uphill off camber 'S, white knuckle full throttle cornering and the previously mentioned hard braking. All the while you have to comprehend with limited grip (track not used as much as others) and BUMPS!! Watch the bumps, bumps in braking zones, bumps down the straight, bumps on turn in. This all leaves for an exciting day at the track.

A couple of SAU VIC cars had technical difficulties during the day, we hope to see you back on the track soon.

We had 14 SAU VIC'ers attend Calder. With the track so close to Melbourne, would you rather spend your Saturday as a man bag or out at the track?!?!?

John Richardson
SAU Vic Vice President



Photography by John Richardson

Adam Newton
Nissan R32 - 1:01.1824*

Chris Thomson
Nissan GTR MY96 - 1:02.1241

Andrew Richmond
Nissan GTR MY99 - 1:03.0782

John Richardson
Nissan Skyline R33 G - 1:07.2045

Matt Karlsen
Nissan Silvia MY99 - 1:09.7412

Martin Sullivan
Nissan 200SX MY96 - 1:09.7808

David Madden
Nissan Skyline GTST - 1:10.5449

John Kypri
Nissan skyline R34 G - 1:11.1816

Michael Spiteri
Nissan R32 Skyline M - 1:11.5621

Billy Vasilevski
Nissan Skyline R33 M - 1:13.0789

Jake Hinkley
Nissan R33 Skyline G - 1:15.9441

Chris Sledge
Nissan R32 GTSt MY93 - 1:16.0107

Robert Forbes
Nissan Skyline MY86 - 1:16.4915

A special thanks to John and Martin, who are doing a fantastic job of keeping us updated with everything SAU Vic motorsport. You can find the current standings for the championship here:

http://www.sauvic.com.au/motorsport/2011_ClubChampionship.xls

Adam Birdseye
Newsletter Editor



Photography by John Richardson



Photography by whitewrx



Photography by whitewrx



Official Event Round 3 SAU Vic Championship (Winton, 9th April 2011)

April marks the WRX Club VIC's first visit of the year to Winton in country Victoria. The intelligent of us took the 2.5-3 hour drive after work on the Friday and stayed the night, the others (myself included) left home at 5-6am and headed toward Winton.

Winton is generally regarded as a great track for beginners to start on. Stress on brakes and tires is somewhat reduced compared to other tracks like Sandown and Phillip Island. The track offers beginners a chance to learn braking points, turn in and power down points on a range of different corners. Bumpy braking zones, cambered midcorner, off camber exists that suck you toward the outside of the track, tricky blind exists and fast sweeper.

We had a great turn out from SAU VIC members, with 14 competitors and a mix of modified and standard classes. Cars included S14, S15, R32GTS-T, R33GTS-T, R33GTR, R34GT-T & R34GTR.

The day ran well and without incident, albeit some healthy discussion around the term 'drifting' with the officials.

The next round of the SAU VIC Championship is at Sandown with the WRX Club VIC on Sunday the 10th of July.

John Richardson
SAU Vic Vice President



Photography by John Richardson



Photography by John Richardson



Photography by John Richardson



Photography by John Richardson



Photography by John Richardson



Photography by John Richardson

John Richardson
Nissan Skyline R33 G - 1:38.8250

Guy Morton
Nissan Skyline GTR - 1:39.6618

Matt Karlsen
Nissan Silvia - 1:39.6980

Luke Distanislao
Nissan S14 - 1:40.2598

Johnny Rachele
Nissan Skyline R32 G - 1:40.3959

Matthew Femino
Nissan Skyline R32G - 1:41.7919

Tim Bryan
Nissan Skyline R33 G - 1:43.2085

Joshua Miller
Nissan Skyline R32 G - 1:44.0761

Chris Sledge
Nissan Skyline R32 - 1:45.2965

John Packham
Nissan 200SX - 1:45.8105

Leigh Germain
Nissan Skyline R33 - 1:48.15138

Rhys Solomons
Nissan Skyline - 1:50.4433

Dean Pannowitch
Nissan Skyline R34 G - 1:52.6756

Campbell Shobbrook
Nissan Skyline R33 G - 7:18.8023



Official Event Wax-It Day (16th April 2011)



Photography by Laith Graham

Those of you in the club that know me will also know my car. And if you ever run into me at events or on the street you may have heard me say something about being bummed about not having time to wash my car. But the truth is, I just really don't know what to do.

When I was a kid I'd watch dad grab the hose and just spray water on the 4x4 until all the mud was washed away into the grass. And once I got my own car I'd walk down the isles of "auto-cheap" with no idea of what would work for my car. So when I saw on the forums that there was going to be a Detailing Day at WAX-IT I jumped at the opportunity to learn more in another art form that is part of our addiction.

When I rocked up I was greeted by the sweet smell of a barbie in full fire and quickly after finishing off a few snags we all sat down for our lesson. Antonio started by going over a few basic items we'll need when washing out cars. We then headed out side for the first practical lesson, where one of our cars was sprayed, rubbed, poked and massaged by Antonio as he explained how and when to use each product for the body, glass and rims. I now have a better plan of attack for the weekly car wash.

Next we headed back inside for some basic detailing. Antonio covered how to use clay, the types of waxes, cloths and applicators, and tyre blackener. Then came out the big guns. Antonio broke out the power polisher. Something I'd seen before, but always feared because of hearing stories of clear coat and paint being burned away in a flash of misuse.



Photography by Laith Graham

I can tell you that my understanding of how to use the power polisher has increased ten fold. However I still fear it. And it will still be a while before I get one of my own.

Antonio touched on the inside of the car. Dash, seats, and glass. And then last, but not least, was the chrome. Something I'd not thought about in years since leaving behind the V8 panel van with

side dumps, and moving over to Nissans. During the demonstration on the exhaust the question was asked, "What about all the black crap?" Antonio tested a number of products and then found the best product to clean all that 98 soot off your rear bar. It just melts away. So now all you white 32s have no excuse.

Now I know I echo the sentiments off all the members who attended when I say a huge thank you to Antonio and Russel for a fantastic day and a well run and informative workshop. While not everything sunk in to my rock melon of a brain, I know we all look forward to the next one.

Laith Graham
SAU Vic TV Editor



Photography by Laith Graham



Photography by Laith Graham



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 website:

<http://www.sau-nats2011.com>

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 grab some wheels and hugging seats from Import Monster.





Member's Interest

Ash Cosgriff's
(AKA, the guy from Glee)
Simulated Trip To The Formula 1



Over the past couple of years, ex SAU Vic president Ash Cosgriff has been lucky enough to interview some rather important people down at Shell/Ferrari during Formula 1 season in Melbourne. This year he was invited along for a trackside tour with a twist. Unfortunately we had to cull down his review of the day into something readable (har har, coming from Birds), focusing on his experience with the Ferrari F1 simulator. For the full review of his exciting day and some full res photos, please see here (it is an interesting read):

<http://www.skylinesaustralia.com/forums/topic/359406-2011-shellferrari-f1-experience/>

Adam Birdseye
Newsletter Editor



My mobile rang only a week and a half out from the Melb 2011 F1 GP, it was an offer to again attend the F1 GP from Shell, to see once again the inner workings of the Shells technical partnership with Ferrari. Some of it perhaps the same, some no doubt very different. Such is the nature of Formula 1. I wasn't exactly free, but when an offer like that comes around, things are easily juggled around. Especially when this year there was an added extra (as if it wasn't enough already): to have a go in the **Ferrari F1 Simulator** that Felipe Massa uses regularly!



I love cars, I love video games - A good portion of you have no doubt played Gran Turismo 5 - **Well throw GT5 out the window** - This is the business. No video was allowed - I did manage to get a few pics of the whole experience which is a once in a lifetime really.



There are two types of F1 Simulator. The Portable one, and the Not-So-Portable one.

- Drivers on average spend 1 day per week in them. The portable one Fernando Alonso I believe used at Fed Square for the demo on Thursday 24/03.

- When I asked the Ferrari dude running it how much they cost overall - He just looked at me and thought a thick Italian accent he said "Cost?"... So clearly these are some expensive toys.

- The thing behaves like a proper F1 car, you feel all the bumps, jolts and so on. I'm not a huge bloke but the drivers are smaller in Felipe's case... So it's sure uncomfy too, the real experience.

- Steering wheel it's identical to that of the actual car, but its pretty close.

- They have ALL the tracks PERFECTLY mapped out. You can load up whatever you want

- It's also running Windows 7!



Simulated Trip To The Formula 1 (Continued)

And now...

What was it like?

The car starts up and idles at around 3000-3,500rpm. You start off in the Albert Park Pit Garage. To leave the pit garage you need to dial in "around 10,000" I was instructed and just "let the paddle out". Easier said than done when you aren't controlling the clutch by foot and you use more RPM to launch than you average RB has in terms of rev limit. Taking off out of the pits before you even come to corner one I think I've hit the limiter in each of the 5 gears. It takes me a good second to realise each time as the car just spins up that fast it's utterly ridiculous, and by now I'm just giggling like a Japanese school girl. There were other people using the simulator and pretty much every person i watched went straight off into the wall

at Turn 1 the first time around, somehow i managed to get around it unscathed.

The pedals are something else. I was told they are almost the same. The accelerator is light as a feather. A Nissan Skyline pedal feels heavy by comparison like a triple plate vs stock clutch sorta thing. It's totally different.

The brake pedal - well bugger me. There is barely **ANY MOVEMENT** in this thing what so ever. There would be less than 5-10mm of travel, yet strangely it does not lock-up as fast/hard as you would expect and is actually quite usable which was the most impressive part I think.

I managed to complete my entire 1st lap without putting the car into a wall, gravel trap or otherwise. I wish the same could be said about my recent GTR track experiences. I'm not sure who was more surprised out of it all though, myself or Mr. Ferrari watching/advising me, either way it was intense and just bloody awesome.

After that was done, as we were in the Shell Corp Hospitality area right above pit straight, it was time to watch Practice 1 and have a beer.

Ash Cosgriff
Ex-SAU Vic El Presidente

Photographs Provided by Ash Cosgriff

