

Hi team,

Another gorgeous Waikato day, a big field, and a stretch of road begging to be sprinted on. Fifty two competitors took on what is a fast and challenging road, many of us for the first time. It is a road that can favour the brave, and bite the unwary.

We immediately had people under a minute in practice, and it looked like 2007 series winner Gary Bodley, and series regular Alan Smith would be battling at the front. A new (to us) timing system with countdown lights was set up by Kevin Sweeney, and proved very popular. It certainly takes away the uncertainty of hand held stopwatches. After the normal learning during practice we were into the real stuff. Immediately the 2 prime protagonists were at it again with a Nissan Pulsar driven by Daniel Maelzer splitting them. Interestingly, both Gary and Alan withdrew with mechanical problems and spent the day waiting to see how fast the others could go. The gauntlet had been well and truly laid down, and Blair Thomson had taken it up with a vengeance. Unfortunately he ran wide coming off a crest and ended for ended the car down the road a little. Despite what was obviously a high speed accident Blair is okay, not so the Uno. After cleaning up the debris, and warning all of the spilt liquids, competition started again. Some times were noticeably slower, others fractionally so, and some just kept their act all together. A great day had been had - until Rick Liefting had a big off at the Ranstead Road corner, he is by no means the first to have done that, and took out the fence that we have replaced more than once. Again, the car suffered more than the driver, although Rick was clearly shaken, the Porsche 944 is not how it left Germany.

So, at the end of the day Gary Bodley retained fastest time, Alan Smith was fastest Series competitor, Bevan Gray took out Class A, Blair Thomson Class B, Gary Bodley Class C and Alan Smith Class D. Lenare Martin was our quickest Lady, and David Middlemiss was our top Junior.

Look forward to seeing you all at Taupo, again numbers will be 60 maximum, get your entry in early.

A couple of photos for you all, Michael Cooper in his Mitsubishi Galant 2.6l, Gary Bodley in his Honda CRX before it broke down, and Tam Willacy in his Fiat 124 Coupe.

Ciao,

Campbell

Series Coordinator,

TENG TOOLS TARMAC SERIES