

Shannons Classic Birthday Bash

Written by JA

Monday, 18 August 2014 12:30 - Last Updated Monday, 18 August 2014 12:45

2014 Shannons Classic aka Big Bellett Birthday Bash Sunday 17 August 2014

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In Sydney the early morning start was made challenging by teeming rain. Everyone on time and we were into the circuit with Bob Bailey arranging us in year order, making an excellent display. He had lots of other plans for the display but the shocking weather meant that it was all too hard.

At Sydney Motorsport Park, our club's display site has one distinct advantage, being immediately behind the grandstand, we had a dry, undercover area to spread chairs, tables, etc and we were far more comfortable than most clubs.



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Forays to the other side of the track to the pit area, were best left to the brief breaks in the rain. There was still plenty to look at:

trade displays and other club displays.

Entertainment had been moved to one of the garages and it was terrific – a Beatles tribute band.

In other garages there was even an opportunity for some regular retail therapy, girls – and they were doing a brisk trade!

The Gore family enjoyed a double-decker bus ride around the track, the rest seemed content to wait for our scheduled parade laps and sit and talk. All the home-made treats were devoured – must have been the cold weather – glad we did the extra batch!

Meanwhile near Booroowa, a wonderful array of cars were gathered: 3 x sedans 67,66,68, 69

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Florian, 3 x 65 wasps, a 74 LUV and a 65 Elf.

Back at the Sydney display, there was little “public” passing by, but it was great to see, Kevin Gore & David & Dianne Cook. Matthew Cosier had his gorgeous red Gemini on display with Southern Sporting Car Club but escaped from there and joined us, including for our “laps”, soon after lunch.



Everyone found a seat in a car, so our whole group enjoyed the parade laps of the circuit.

The “laps” were certainly a highlight for everyone. The pace car was quicker than normal – it couldn’t possibly be because the GTR was pushing him!

It wasn’t raining but the track was very wet with running water in many places.

There was sliding!

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There was sideways!

And in one case that should (but won't) remain nameless, there was a spin!!! by the bemboka bellett bloke.

Who said that?

Two laps of Eastern Creek for those of us that have never done it regularly is enough to get the blood pumping and there was a good deal more excited chatter when we returned, even by the passengers. And thank you very much to the passenger-photographers who captured some of the action.

Everyone is to be congratulated for braving the conditions and making the most of the event. The Belletts were represented by:

Gary Smith 64 sedan, Bob Bailey 65 sedan, Jimmy Barrett 65 sedan, Neville Hannah's 66 sedan loaned to Julie Amos for the day, David Maurice 68 GT, Tom Amos 71 GTR, Warren & Cameron Gore 65 Wasp, travelled from the Central Coast with Lyn Farrell in the D-Max with the wasp on the trailer, Warren Degnan 89 JT190 Gemini, Ian Franks' 81 Piazza loaned to Neil Miller for the day, Michael & Michaela Degnan TX Gemini, Joshua Bailey & Tahlia James 81 TE Gemini, John O'Farrell's rare Gemini station sedan in mint condition.