

COT RECCE



JULY 2021

COT UPDATE

EVENT DIRECTOR, PHILIP BERNADOU

WILL THE EVENT RUN IN 2020, 2021 OR 2022?

Over the last 3 weeks the Classic Outback Trial has again been challenged with COVID-19 outbreaks and restrictions around Australia. With parts of the country in lockdown we find ourselves in a similar predicament to 2020,... the question that's on everyone's mind... **is there an event?**

June 24th we received news that our Clerk of Course, Tom Snooks, suffered a mild stroke and was recovering in hospital. Thankfully he is now home recuperating but the path to recovery will be lengthy. We all wish to see Tom make a speedy recovery. Tom has withdrawn his services as Clerk of Course for 2021 Classic Outback Trial.

The Classic Outback Trial has always been a celebration of camaraderie, a social event that brings people together from all walks of life from around the world, together we race as one. We are once again faced with the uncertainty of, "if, then how?"

Do we cancel?

No. So many people have spent the past 18 months working on the event and to toss it away does not seem like an option. We have come too far, we need this. Social distancing and the Classic Outback Trial is like mixing oil with water. We are a bonded family.

Do we postpone?

We envisage that by March/April 2022 the vaccination rate will be high enough to allow state and international borders to reopen. Hopefully by that time we might even be able to entice the internationals to return. COVID should have settled and even Tom may be able to assist once again?

We are currently exploring opportunities for the first ¼ of 2022 and will know what options are available in the upcoming weeks. We want to thank you all for your patience and understanding during these uncertain times.

ROSS RUNNALLS, COURSE CHECKER:

Having just completed the course check I was very happy with the course and the roadbook. The course is very diverse, opening with some fast station roads and tracks interspersed with native pine forests with their winding and gliding tracks between the trees. Then the event moves east into conventional pine forests, which will keep driver and co-driver busy. They are interspersed with some spectacular shire road stages in hilly terrain. The course will be demanding, unlike the forest highways that are the norm down south these days.



Ross Runnalls clearing a path

It was great to once again get the feel of a long distance rally, which I must admit I am rather fond of. A patient strategic approach is required, to go fast but careful early with the sole aim of staying out of trouble and looking after the car. There is time later to attack when the targets become clearer.

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STEVE HOLLOWOOD ROAD DIRECTOR, COT REGULARITY:

After arriving back from NSW on the weekend, I'm busy with roadbook and schedule updates from the COT21 Regularity course check.

Our checker, Frank Grant, made few changes. But, we've had to make some adjustments for winter running and other changes to both the route and the schedule to fit in with COT Rally.

There has been a lot of rain in the area, particularly on the western end of the event – days 1 and 2. Farmers in the plains area of the Central West will be looking forward to good seasons. But, we've had to make a couple of re-routes to get around some soggy bits.

We also have an additional Regularity section on day 3, to make a total of 27 sections for the event. 14 sections are

Regularity only and 13 sections are shared with COT Rally – with Regularity running before or after the Rally competition.

We first surveyed some of these roads 18 months ago and it's really pleasing to see how the route has held together. Regularity competitors will be both challenged and tested, while enjoying travelling through an interesting and beautiful part of NSW.

We had a bit of a rush to exit NSW before border rules changed. Unfortunately, at the time of writing the border around NSW seems to be getting harder. Be assured we'll do whatever we can to get the event happening.

Back to the roadbook updates!

<continued>...

As a co-driver these long blind events call for precision, constant alertness to extract the maximum information from the roadbook in order to reassure and build confidence for the driver.

On the non-competitive side the shared experiences over a number of days establish life long friendships with fellow competitors.

In my experience, while the investment in a single long distance rally may be the same as for a bunch of local events, that experience will remain in the memory longer than a collection of shorter events, particularly if it is in a foreign country (not that NSW is a foreign country).



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WHEEL SPIN REGULATION INTRODUCTION

One of the conditions placed upon us by the Shire Councils in allowing us to use the shire roads is the making good any damage to the roads caused by the competitors. For this reason we are introducing a regulation regarding wheel spin and this will be issued in a Bulletin. Penalties will apply to repeat offenders.

THE BOOK

By now you should have received your 288 page **2018 Classic Outback Trial Commemorative Storybook**. All competitors from the 2018 event were sent 2 copies, one each for driver and co-driver. 2018 event officials should also have received their copy. If not, please let me know.

With little feedback regarding the 2018 Storybook we're wondering what you think? Let us know [on Facebook](#).

Extra copies are available for a price of \$100 plus \$16 postage. The 2016 book is also available for \$77 plus postage. **For a limited time, buy the 2016 & 2018 Storybook for the amazing price of \$150 with free shipping Australia wide!**

The 2018 Storybook was extremely challenging, so much so we considered not producing a book for this year's event. Many of you have suggested otherwise and if there is enough support we may reconsider.

At this stage we are looking at ways to reduce the production time, a 200 page Storybook similar to 2016 is a starting point.

If you have any comments or you would like to show your support [please let Phil know](#) or post a comment [on Facebook](#).



STORYBOOK SPECIAL!*

2x AWESOME BOOKS, 1 AMAZING PRICE
2016 & 2018 CLASSIC OUTBACK TRIAL COMMEMORATIVE STORYBOOK

\$150

FREE SHIPPING AUSTRALIA WIDE!



* While stocks last or before 15 25 July 2021, which ever comes first.

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NOMINATIONS

This is shaping up to be one of the best events we've conducted. With the great forest, properties and shire roads the challenge will be there to preserve cars and crews over the 7 days. Attached is the total

list of nominations. Thank you all.

Due to time restrictions we are limiting the entries to 60, so, to ensure your spot complete the nomination forms on the website together with the \$1,000 deposit to

guarantee your spot. PLEASE list your name when making direct debits.

[The sup-regs are available now](#), and cover administration, entry, vehicle eligibility and decals on vehicles.

DRIVER FIRST	LAST	STATE	CODRIVER FIRST	LAST	STATE	VEHICLE MAKE	MODEL	YEAR	CLASS
Richard	Anderson	QLD	Martin	Darch	Qld	Alfa	Alfa 75	1988	Classic
Michael	Arundel	VIC	Simon	Healey	VIC	Ford	Mustang	1969	Classic
Shane	Attwell	WA	David	Moir	WA	Ford	Falcon GT	1971	Classic
Gerry	Bashford	VIC			VIC	Ford	Escort	TBA	Classic
Stuart	Bowes	SA	Jeremy	Browne	SA	Mercedes	450 SLC	1975	Classic
Brian	Canny	VIC	Stephen	Canny	QLD	Porsche	944	1983	Classic
Pat	Cole	QLD	Bradley	Cole	NSW	Mercedes	280SL	1968	Classic
John	Cooper	NSW	Ross	Warner	NSW	Ford	Falcon	1979	Classic
Andy	Crane	NSW	Dave	Anderson	NSW	Peugeot	504	1970	Classic
Simon	Crane	VIC	Alison	Thomas	VIC	Mitsubishi	Galant	1970	Classic
Michael	Civil	WA	Karin	Tatnell	WA	Ford	Capri Perana	1970	Classic
Luke	Dimech		Neil	Dimech		Holden	HT GTS Monaro Coupe	1969	Classic
Gordon	Douglas	NSW				Ford	Escort	1978	Classic
Hilary	Evans	VIC	Doug	Fernie	VIC	Datsun	1600 SSS	1971	Classic
Kerry	Finn	QLD	Glenn	Harris	QLD	Volvo	142	1967	Classic
Peter	Glennie	NSW	Peter	Clark	NSW	Datsun	1200 Coupe	1972	Classic
Greg	Hannah	VIC	Jacqui	Collihole	VIC	Holden	Commodore	1981	Classic
Kim	Harper	VIC	Alex	Kovacevic	VIC	Ford	Escort RS 2000	1972	Classic
John	Henderson	NSW	Jeff	West	NSW	Volvo	244FD	1978	Classic
David	Hills	NSW	Ben	Richards	NSW	Ford	Escort RS 1800	1976	Classic
John	Hills	NSW	Michael	Tuckey	NSW	Ford	Escort RS 1800	1976	Classic
Tony	Jordan	NSW	Richard	Davidson	NSW	Triumph	Stag	1974	Classic
Adam	Kaplan	NSW	Aleshia	Penney	NSW	Mazda	RX7	1985	Classic
Paul	Lahiff	VIC				Toyota	Altezza RS200	2000	Allcomers
Bruce	Lake	WA	Peter	Hall	WA	Datsun	240Z	1973	Classic
David	McKenzie	VIC	Terry	Brain	VIC	Chrysler	Galant	1973	Classic
Robert	Mifsud	NSW	Starr	Mifsud	NSW	Datsun	Stanza	1981	Classic
Peter	Neal	NSW	Craig	Whyburn	NSW	Subaru	WRX	1998	Allcomers
Mark	Pickering	NSW	Dave	Boddy	NSW	Datsun	240Z	1973	Classic
Nathan	Quinn	NSW	Ray	Winwood-Smith	NSW	Mazda	RX2	1970	Classic
Tony	Quinn	QLD	Damien	Roaach	QLD	Nissan	Navara	2020	Allcomers
John	Rawson	VIC	Jenny	Pollock	VIC	Nissan	Stanza	1979	Classic
Murray	Rogers	VIC	Peter	Ellis	VIC	Holden	Commodore VH	1982	Classic
Ben	Seehusen	VIC	Cameron	Langley	VIC	VW	Beetle	1967	Classic
Tim	Shepherd	VIC	Bruce	Shepherd	VIC	Peugeot	505	1985	Classic
Justyn	Snooks	QLD	Steuart	Snooks	VIC	Nissan	Stanza	1979	Classic
Trevor	Stilling	NSW	Jon	Thomson	NSW	Nissan	Stanza	1979	Classic
Ian	Swan	VIC	Col	Gow	VIC	Volvo	242	1075	Classic
Matt	Swan	Vic	Paul	Franklin	VIC	Holden	Commodore	1987	Classic
Andrew	Travis	NSW	David	Travis	NSW	Nissan	Gazelle	1984	Classic
Michael	Valantine	NSW	TBA			Datsun	Stanza	1980	Classic
Michael	Verge	VIC	Ewen	McPherson	VIC	Holden	Commodore	1980	Classic
Joel	Wald	VIC	Chris	Ellis	VIC	Datsun	Stanza	1978	Classic
Graham	Wallis	VIC	Brian	Ward	VIC	Peugeot	309 GTI 16	1989	Classic
Michael	Ward	VIC	John	Fraser	NSW	Toyota	Corolla	1976	Classic
Murray	Young	QLD	Paul	McBean	QLD	Datsun	180B SSS	1973	Classic

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NOMINATIONS (REGULARITY)

DRIVER FIRST	LAST	STATE	CODRIVER FIRST	LAST	STATE	VEHICLE MAKE	MODEL	YEAR	CLASS
Phillip	Blunden	VIC	Lynda	Blunden	VIC	Holden	EH	1964	Regularity
John	Crighton	QLD	Marian	Crighton	QLD	MG	MGB GT	1972	Regularity
Rob	Garnsworthy	VIC	John	Teasedale	VIC	Ford	Mustang	1970	Regularity
Bill	Gill	SA	Kathy	Gill	SA				Regularity
Blair	Healy	VIC	Mary	Healy	VIC	Peugeot	404	1964	Regularity
Warren	Herrick	NSW	Glenda	Lawrence	NSW	Holden	Commodore VB	1979	Regularity
Tim	Kenyon	VIC	Chris	Lee	VIC	BMW	321i		Regularity
Paul	Kirkham	VIC	Mariella	Kirkham	VIC	Datsun	510	1970	Regularity
Stephen	Lambert	NSW	Ruth	Lambert	NSW	BMW	2002 Touring	1972	Regularity
Marijke	Limberiou	NSW	James	Limberiou	NSW	Mercedes	280 E	1983	Regularity
Phil	Macwhirter	VIC	Laurette	Macwhirter	VIC	Alfa	Giulia	1970	Regularity
Greg	Newton	NSW	Liz	Newton	NSW	Holden	Commodore VB		Regularity
Bruce	Power	TAS	Jill	Robillard	TAS	Chevrolet	Master 85	1939	Regularity
Andrew	Raper	VIC	Stuart	McDonald	VIC	Ford	Fairlane	TBA	Regularity
Marti	Shelton	QLD	Barry	Shelton	QLD	Ford	Delux Coupe	1941	Regularity
Jan	Sinclair	QLD	Anne	Sinclair	QLD	Holden	Monaro	1971	Regularity
Rhys	Timms	VIC	TBA			MG	SA	1936	Regularity
Jan	Sinclair	QLD	Anne	Sinclair	QLD	Holden	Monaro	1971	Regularity
Heather	Worth	NZ	Jo	Worth	NZ	Volvo	Amazon	TBA	Regularity
Alan	Watson		Pam	Watson		Ford	Territory	2010	Tagalong
Errol	Bailey	QLD	David	Wood	QLD	Isuzu	MV-X	2017	Tagalong

TAGALONG

There has been great interest in this fantastic tour around Central and Mid-Western NSW. With only 8 positions available don't leave it too late to make your bookings if you are interested in this feature of COT. All the information is on our website: [Tagalong](#)

