



The Z Car Club of Queensland Celebrates 40 years of the Z Marque from Nissan

Saturday the 26th of September 09 saw the Z Club of Qld hold the first of two events to take place over that weekend .To celebrate the 40th birthday of the launch of the 240Z and the 25th birthday of the formation of the Z car Club of Old.

First was a navigation rally, which covered some of the more picturesque roads of South East Qld, through the northern suburbs of Brisbane, out to Samford and Dayboro. It may interest you to know the course which was taken went past the site where the club met for the first time which was at the base of Mt Cootha. After Samford the course swung out to Mt. Mee and Mt. Glorious and along the D`agulia highway to Killcoy and down the Brisbane Valley Highway to Wivenhoe Dam. On reaching the navigation run destination, a bar-b-que lunch and drinks was provided by the club. Also on hand was a red six speed 370Z for participants and club members to take the car for a test drive. This opportunity was made possible by the staff from Ian Boettcher Nissan at Bundamba. I found the 370Z to be much of the same characteristics of the 240-260Z with a cockpit layout very similar to the first series Z. It does have a blind spot where the quarter glass window, if you can call it that, should be. But for a show room car - this thing can go!

I think everyone there had a good time and had their fill of burgers and drink.

The following day found us a Lakeside Park raceway which is on the North side of Brisbane and is now a heritage listed raceway venue.



I was most surprised to see the number of Z's that came out to compete.

It was a bit unfortunate we only had 240-260Z's and one Skyline prince GTR in the mix .But the differences under the hoods told a different story. There was a combination of engine, gearbox and diff setups that could be only limited to one's wildest imagination. Wilbur had his turbo charged silver 260Z with its three litre VL Holden engine. His car looks as if it has been widened to two lanes and lowered to the ground. Wilbur has also takes away any excuses that we are getting to old to do this sort of thing! At 77 most would like it if they can still drive, but to take a sports car out to the track and kick butt with it, he stands in a class of his own.



He is not the only member from the Graham family we have to worry about. Richard seems to have changed the colour of his 260Z from blue to pale green and sounds like it has a supercharger in it now. However they did not have it all their own way.

There is another sporting family among our ranks. The Lea family has a strong racing history and was one of our champions at the recent Nissan-Datsun Nationals 09 held in Warwick. Jason Lea senior tells us all about his SC class racing 280Z (USA) in the NDN09 DVD. Now he is joined by his son, Jason Lea junior in a 180SX. But to claim the same status as his dad he will have to step into a Z at some time.



I was hoping to have an easy day of it. But no Neville, pulls in beside me with his white 260Z which is armed with a Ford 4litre engine. Things were looking grim for me. But it does bring on the classic battle between Holden and Ford, only in Datsun Z bodies. This happens as Wilbur and Neville were in the same heat and I did my best to stay with them to watch the battle unfold. Unfortunately we had a dust storm the night before and most of us had trouble seeing on the first few laps



We have some extremely talented drivers in the car club at present. Four of them were present at Lakeside on the weekend. For three of them it was their first

time and Greg Hutley may have only been twice before. But Dave Healy ,Chris Price and Mike Mc Kelliget picked up the gauntlet thrown at their feet and proceeded to beat us up with it . These guys achieved times for their first outings at the track that most of us could only dream about . Mike with the RiskTeck car (red,white and blue car) was the stand out here . I have been racing at Lakeside since 1984 and I have never seen anyone lay down the times he did first time out. Taem McKevans Racing, a name to watch.



Dave Healy in his multi-throttle body injected L-series engine 260Z set some very impressive lap times too!

But the whole day was not all about speed there was a Regularity Competition to deal with as well. This is where Ray Ferguson and Andrew Ward come into their own . Competing in the novice section of the event each was required to complete five flying laps, all of which had to be within as close to identical lap times as possible. Consider this, most of us can not count to five when racing on the track . This all has to be done in traffic as you have 13 other cars out with you. Not so easy and to get to within .9 of a second and 1.3 seconds is a good result.

Aubrey Hughes
Committee Member and
25th Anniversary Event Coordinator



RESULTS

ADVANCE CLASS

POINTS

	NAVIGATION		SPEED EVENT	TOTAL
1.JASON LEA	105	80	1.03.06	185
2.JASON LEA JNR	105	30	1.07.53	135
3.WILBUR GRAHAM		75	1.03.33	75
4.NEVILLE MUNT		70	1.03.57	70
5.RICHARD GRAHAM		65	1.04.39	65
6.AUBREY HUGHES		65	1.04.47	65
7.DAVE ROBERTSON	64			64
8.MIKE McKELLIGET		60	1.04.96	60
9. DAVE HEALY		55	1.05.75	55
10. CHRIS PRICE		50	1.06.29	50
11.GREG HUTLEY		35	1.07.25	35

NOVICE CLASS

1.ANDREW WARD	90	65	1.3	155
2. RAY FERGUSON		70	.9	70
3. JOHN CADE	66			66

Trophies and prizes will be awarded at the AGM along with keyrings