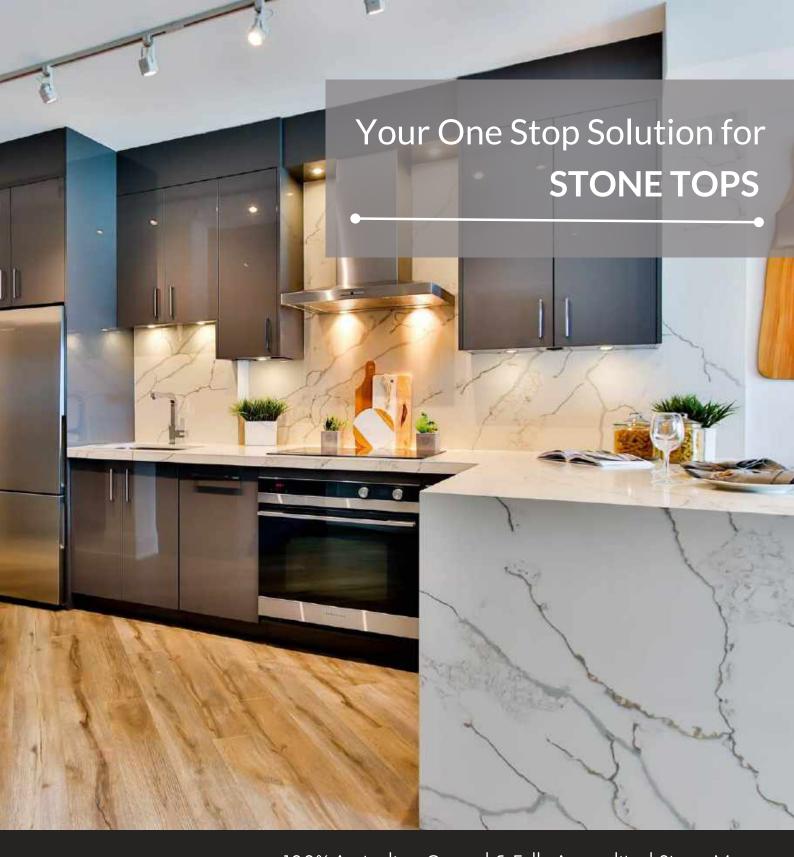
## BRISPORT

MAGAZINE

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## From the Pres

Hello everyone,

We have reached the final edition of BRISPORT and as we start planning for the future, we should first reflect on the year just passed.

This year, the BSCC successfully ran several events, highlighted by seven rallies, which included a Test and Tune, two KCF Short Course Events, a round of the Bosch Motorsport Australia Rally Championship and three rounds of the Queensland Rally Championship.

As you all will know these events do not run themselves - it takes a lot of help and commitment from many people to put one together.



To our senior officials and other officials manning control points, SOS points and roadblocks, I would like to personally thank every one of you for your help in making the 2023 rally season the success it was.

I also must thank all the competitors for supporting our events.



Plans are well under way for the 2024 season and we will be looking at running a similar number of events next year, so we will be asking for your help again.

We will not only be reaching out to our current official base. We will be looking at our competitors to help fill some positions with supplying officials to run these events.

Each Clerk of Course may have a different way of making this happen so please take note of any requirement for this in the Supplementary Regulation for each event.

This year the Brisbane Sporting Car Club celebrated its 70th anniversary with a

fantastic night at the Broncos League Club. We had nearly 90 people attend the dinner to celebrate this magnificent milestone.

"There were lots of stories and memories going around from the past years (some of them may even be true)"

There were lots of stories and memories going around from the past years (some of them may even be true).

Peter Flynn did a great job talking to past and current competitors about the changes in our sport over the years.

We had a special presentation to thank Keith Fackrell for his support to our Short Course events, while I need to thank Judy

Foster for the fantastic work in putting the evening together. Great job, Judy.



Since the last edition of BRISPORT, we did have one event. The KCF Spring stages were back at Benarkin. With a quality field of 24 cars, Peter Flynn again came up with another great format and from all accounts, everyone had a good time.

The Benarkin State School was our base again and their P&C did a great job keeping everyone fed and happy.

Nothing was too much trouble for them and they loved having us there.

This is one of their major fundraising events for the year and I was told that the money raised went a long way to reducing the cost of kids going on their camp.

In closing, on behalf of the BSCC Board, I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Please stay safe if you are travelling over the Christmas break and we will see you all next year.

Tony.





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There's more to the Gympie region than you might imagine.

Gympie Regional Council is a proud sponsor of the Accent Benchtops Rally Queensland.













# Aggio wins Benarkin in new GR Yaris

Steerfast's Craig Aggio and Megan Byrne have produced a stellar final run in October's Benarkin Stages event to take out the rally by just two seconds.

A strong field of 24 crews were entered in the Brisbane Sporting Car Club's final competitive event for the year, which included 70 kilometres across two legs and saw Aggio and Byrne secure the win on the event's final stage.

Their victory came at the expense of two very experienced rally drivers with Game Over's Tony Quinn and Ryan Williams finishing in second place, just four seconds ahead of

Neill Woolley and Liam Hinschen in their Inverted Motorsport 1999 Mitsubishi Magna.

Made up of three stages, the event's first leg saw crews get two runs at two shortened stages, before the stages were combined for the second leg, where crews had two passes.

Behind the wheel of a 2021 Toyota GR Yaris, Aggio and Byrne got off to a strong start, getting out to a 16-second lead at the conclusion of leg one, while just two seconds separated Quinn and Woolley.

During the first pass of the extended stage in leg two, a difficult run for Aggio saw him 20 seconds slower than









"It was only our third event in the car, so it was quite surprising to come away with the win"

both Quinn and Woolley, resulting in a drop to third ahead of the final stage.

Disappointment quickly turned to elation for Aggio though, as an almost perfect run through the event's final stage saw him seven seconds faster than Quinn and Woolley, who had each gone 10 seconds slower than their previous stages.

The contrasting stage times resulted in Aggio and Byrne's two-second victory over Quinn and Williams, while Woolley and Hinschen missing their second run of the event's first stage proved costly as they were six seconds off the winners.

"It was only our third event in the car, so it was quite surprising to come away with the win" Aggio said.

"I thought we had lost the event after we had problems on the second last stage, but with rallying being the sport it is, there were a few curve balls thrown, and we ended up winning. After the first couple of stages, we found that we were in front and then we went to have a really good day from there. I knew the car had potential, but it was still quite surprising to win, as well as an honour to beat some of the crews that we did.

"The car was a joy to drive, and it didn't even feel that we were pushing that hard. I wasn't sure how it would perform again some of the fast guys, but to see the times the car was producing was quite encouraging and gives us confidence for the future.

"The club did a wonderful job in organising the event - Benarkin has come a long way in recent times - there used to be a lot of people who didn't enjoy it, however right now, the roads that they are choosing are very enjoyable to drive.

"A credit must go out to Peter Flynn for his hand in running the event, as well as all the other people involved in putting it on." Aggio and Byrne also proved to be the fastest 4WD car for the event, beating the number one seed Marius Swart and Alan Stean by 17 seconds - the Inspirations Paint Capalaba 2007 VW Polo S2000 pilots ending the event in fourth overall.

Wooley and Hinschen also got to enjoy some silverware though, taking out top honours in the FWD Class, while Quinn and Williams won the Invited Class in their 2020 Nissan Navara.

In sixth place was the fourth and final class winner, with David Byrne and Jake Keleher, taking out the RWD class in their 1973 Datsun 240Z.

View the full results via the BSCC website.

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For a long time, the Brisbane Sporting Car Club has been organising events as part of international, national and state championships as well as standalone club rallies and series.

Everyone who has attended these events have gathered in communities which have always welcomed us with open arms, allowing the club the use of their grounds and catering.

One such example of these welcoming communities is the Benarkin State School, nestled atop the Benarkin range, 160 kilometres northwest of Brisbane.

After a break of a few years, Peter Flynn introduced a new concept of a compact rally event in 2019 which was cheap, easy and fun.

Like it always had, the school opened its doors to the BSCC for the event, offering its buildings, the oval for the service park and the tuckshop for catering, however it did so much this time around.

From running mini markets with local produce and artworks, to after parties with pizza and entertaining from local performers, everyone from the Benarkin community was welcome and supports the multiple activations at the rallies.

#### "Fund raising events like these ensures our children can all attend and enjoy camp"

For many years, the Benarkin round of the Queensland Rally Championship utilised the Benarkin State School as its headquarters. The school generously provided buildings, bathrooms, and its grounds, as well as catering while the crews serviced their vehicles outside the school yard.

The rally not only entertains local residents, but it has also provided benefits to the school too.

Housing 41 students from Prep to Year Six, Benarkin State School takes the children on a three-day camp every year





to give the, an experience they would not normally have living in a rural forest area.

This year's camp to Maroochydore on Queensland's Sunshine Coast would have cost \$450.00 per student, but the BSCC was able to contribute a large sum of money to help reduce the cost of the camp to a third of a price, courtesy of the fundraising at rallies.

"Fund raising events like the annual Benarkin car rally ensures our children can all attend and enjoy camp," Benarkin State School Principal Kerry Christie said.

"This year, the students enjoyed a beach visit with surfing, games, dragon boat racing, stand-up paddle boarding and canoeing."

President of the Benarkin State School P & C Belinda Bear echoed Christie's sentiments.

"The support from BSCC is in the core memories of the kids who experienced camp this year," Bear added.

"We're grateful BSCC chooses to keep returning to Benarkin State School. Keep up the good work BSCC."

In addition to annual benefits like school camp, the Benarkin State School also had had a new tuckshop built using donations from the club.

The "Spud's Snack Shack" tuckshop was built from a grant championed by a local councilor nicknamed "Spud", a former Benarkin State School student, and is now an integral part of school life as well as Benarkin-based rallies.



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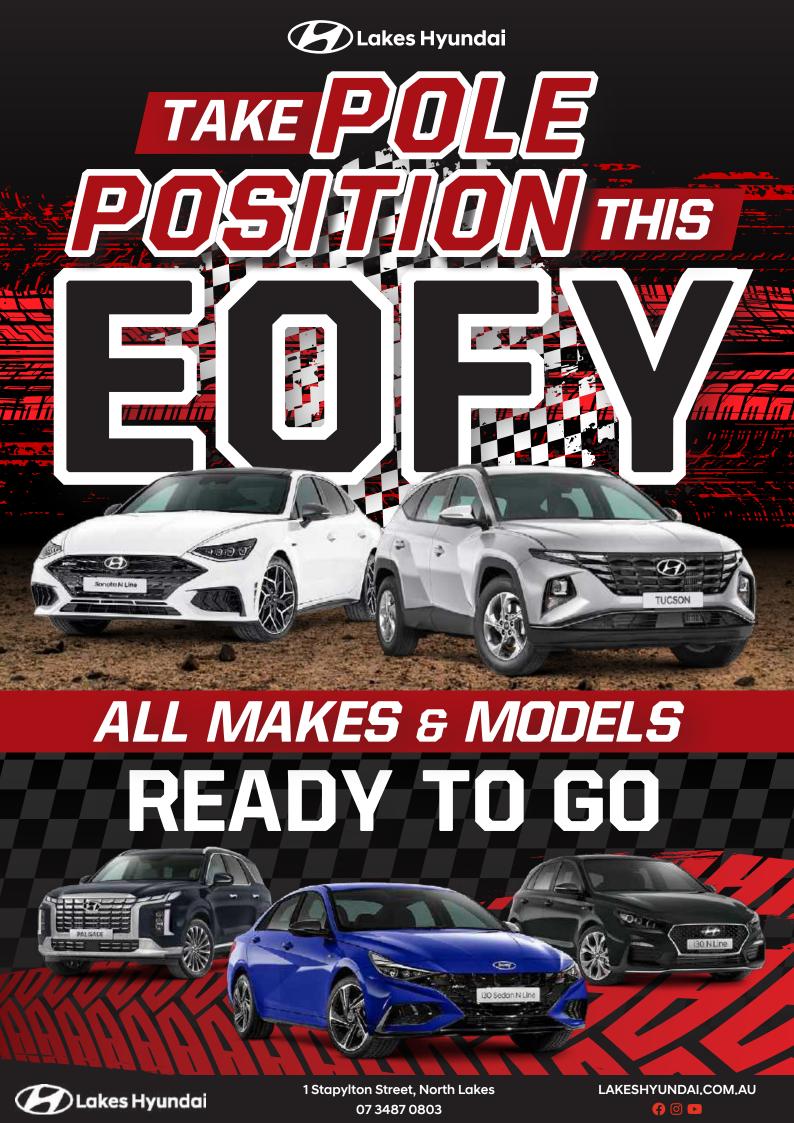
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# Platinum celebration an evening to remember

The Brisbane Sporting Car Club marked its 70th anniversary in style as a huge turnout of members gathered at the Broncos Leagues Club to celebrate the club.

With a five-star buffet dinner proving a hit amongst attendees, there was plenty of reminiscing through the good times and the bad throughout the night. The headline act of the evening was the panel discussion led by Peter Flynn, which featured individuals from different eras of the club.

Jim Reddiex and Barry Farrell shared tales from the formative years in the 1960s and 1970s, before Dennis Brown, Richard Anderson, Bob MacGowan, and Simon Knowles took turns discussing the 1970s through the 1990s.

"The place was buzzing with excitement as members gathered to honour our club's rich history and share plenty of laughs"

In addition to the panel discussion, the other major highlight of the evening was an official presentation to Keith Fackrell, who was thanked for his support of the everpopular KCF Rallysprints.

Club President Tony Kabel was pleased with how the night turned out.

"It was a very special celebration and one that was a lot of fun," Kabel said.

"The place was buzzing with excitement as members gathered to honour our

club's rich history and share plenty of laughs.

"These nights are important because they remind us of where this great club came from, as well as offering up a fantastic trip down memory lane.

"It's a snapshot of our past and a glimpse into our future. Here's to the next 30 years and beyond, leading up to our 100th anniversary.

"Thank you to all those who attended and helped put the night on."















The Brisbane Sporting Car Club's final motorsport event for 2023 took place towards the end of October as a strong turnout of cars attended the October Social Run.

With the weather gods delivering a beautiful Spring Day, participants completed more than 100 kilometres around the northern suburbs, starting and finishing at the Dayboro Showgrounds.

To add spice to the non-competitive fun run, participants were kept engaged throughout by some entertaining trivia questions, while optional driving skill tests added a thrilling edge.

With the event starting at 10am, Barry Neundorff provided participants with







some mouth-watering pikelets to get them through the day, highlighting his hidden, yet impressive BBQ talent.

All in all, the event was well received by the many people who took part - kudos to Jim Reddiex for orchestrating this joyous occasion.



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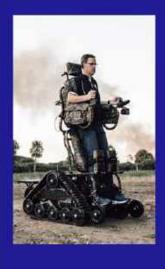




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Celebrating the

# Champions

of the

Menzies McCons

The Motorsport Australia Queensland Rally Championship had three entertaining rounds in 2023, with the title fight going right down to the wire.

Following on from the season, BRISPORT caught up with the four champion drivers.

#### **lan Menzies**

#### Outright Champion Driver

"We are happy with winning the 2023 title - that was our goal and we are pleased to have done it for the fourth time.

"It's nice to win a title, but for me -people who I respect highly congratulating me or getting a pat on the back from fellow competitors is what I do this for - it's certainly a nicer feeling compared to a plastic trophy.

"I also enjoy spending time in the car

Co-driver: Robert McGowan Car: Mitsubishi Lancer Evo 9

**Total:** 146 points Record: 3 heat wins

of testing ourselves. It's a personal goal and we're not about the fanfare.

"I have won four titles with Bob, with our first being 2015. We have had a lot of good luck over the year, but also a lot of bad luck, which has contributed to us coming second seven times.

"Every year it's our goal to win the state title and this year, luck went our way and we steadily improved over the course of the year, so it was good.

"Starting off with Manumbar, we were a bit off the pace, but we found it at Rally Queensland where we won every stage - it was good to back where we feel we should be."



"We both enjoy the challenge of testing ourselves. It's a personal goal and we're not about the fanfare"

PHOTOS: ZED PHOTOGRAPHY



#### **Josh Wiedman**

2WD and Junior Driver

Co-driver: Nick Reid Car: Ford Fiesta Total: 115 points

**Record:** 3 class podiums

"It feels pretty cool to have won both the 2WD and Junior championships after having some good battles.

"Manumbar was the debut of our car for this year and it was pretty good overall, except we were getting used to the car and had a small crash.

"Rally Queensland was really strong though and we managed to finish with good results. Whenever we have an issue free run, we tend to go good because we usually finish everything.

"Even when Nick and I have issues or the car is broken, we try to push every time so we can keep the points coming. In competitions like this every point is crucial.



"In the 2WD Championship, we were having a good battle with Tim and trading heat wins for much of the season - a lot of time we were just a few seconds apart.

"We try to push every time so we can keep the points coming. In competitions like this every point is crucial"

"Then in the final round, it was wet and we saw him broken down on the side and that's when we knew we had won - as long as we stayed on track.

"It's a bit of a sad way to have ended, but it was good battle and I think we were deserving.

"The Junior cup was less stressful

because there weren't that many juniors, but it was still nice to win."

#### Nikki Duclos

#### Cluhman Driver

"It was a mixed year full of emotions, mechanical issues, new set ups and some mistakes on my part, so get to the class title was an amazing feeling and a hard earned one for sure.

"I guess Manumbar was the foundation of our title charge even though I had never driven there before. It was a lot faster that I realised, which is not something I was used to and a bit out of my comfort zone, so to get the win was awesome.

"Because I was familiar with Rally Queensland and Imbil, I felt really good but put pressure on myself to do well again after Manumbar - it was a different mentality as usually I am the underdog.

"Gympie was rougher than usual, and after a bad start in testing, I drove more reserved. Unfortunately, our light relay failed on the final night stage, leaving us in pitch black to complete 15 kilometres. While we lost a huge amount of time, I was just relieved when we crossed the finish line. To secure second place made us even more proud of our efforts - not just in the car, but also our never give up attitude.

"As for Imbil. I wanted to win this one, so I put so much pressure on myself to prove I could. But a mistake in the first few kilometres on the unforgiving Kadanga Hill left us bogged for 20 minutes and out of Heat 1 placings. **Co-driver:** Liam Bainton **Car:** Subaru WRX Sti

**Total:** 120 points **Record:** 2 heat wins

"That lunchtime break was tough mentally as I felt so disappointed to have let my team down. I truly thought I had lost the title in one swift move.

"We started at the back for Heat 2, meaning the sweep team of Mathew Dolan and Alex Cherry were behind us. I couldn't have been

more grateful for this as it was because their support that I was able to get back in the right head space and finish the rally strong.

"I then didn't know we won until a week

after the rally, when I was told that my Heat 2 result was good enough to secure the title.

"We had some great competitors amongst us in our category which made for an awesome competitive year pushing us all to improve, which is exactly how you want it.

"I would like to thank Bear for all he does, my fellow competitors, organisers, volunteers and all who have supported us throughout the year with words of wisdom and encouragement.

"I would also like the thank my sponsors Tripp Industries, Dowling Metal Products and Colourquick Powedercoating. We are both grateful and stoked we got the win for them all."



"As for Imbil. I wanted

to win this one, so I put

so much pressure on

myself to prove I could"

#### **Heath Dutton**

Novice Driver

"We were very surprised. I think we were very lucky because we got the win after the demise of another competitor. David Micjan was winning for most of the year, but he blew gear box in the last round

"We started rallying two years ago and because of COVID, there hasn't been many rallies for us to do, so we are still quite new to the sport - in fact this year was first full campaign.



Co-driver: Matthew Thompson

Car: Daihatsu Charade

**Total:** 52 points

Record: 3 class podiums

"Of course we had our own dramas too in the final round-coming out of service park, we drove the first stage at pace and released we had a fuel leak. We were below empty and struggled on third and second, so. It was just a matter of trying to get to end.

"It's been quite an interesting year. At Rally Queensland, I was quite sick and we only managed to do the first day, while my co-driver was sick in Imbil.

"But it was good that only doing the first day of Rally Queensland didn't derail the rest of season. We had a lucky year in all honesty as it was hard to beat the other crews.

"With all that said, it was an amazing feeling. Winning a class like this is definitely motivation to keep pursing rally in the future."





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# Year one in review The first-year journey of Alan Kuss

Alan Kuss has officially finished his first ever year in a rally car, after he and codriver Jayden Knight had a mixed weekend at the KCF Rallysport Spring Stages.

The duo didn't finish the event after mechanical gremlins, however they still showed plenty of promise during the first half of the event.

Following on from his final event of the year, BRISPORT caught up with Alan about his performance and the year as a whole.

**BRISPORT:** How did you find the Spring Stages?

**Alan Kuss:** It went very well. Recce was good and the stages looked great. Jayden and I were so excited to get into it because we love this event and have done it twice this year. This time around, we just hopped in and had a clean run - most importantly, we didn't meet the local cows on the track like we did earlier in the year.



#### B: Even though it went well, you were not able to complete the full event - was it a frustrating way to end the year?

**AK:** Yes it was. We had another mechanical issue that stopped us finishing the event. Coming through Stage 2, Jayden was on point calling the notes, and both the car and I were perfectly synced driving fast and clean.

We missed one of the wash outs and while hitting it a touch harder then we should have, we bent the bash plate mount back onto the exhaust manifold, cracking the manifold and losing all boost pressure.

Having put in a brand new engine, we decided to go easy on it and call it a day.

#### B: Finishing sixth and seventh in the first and second stages would have given you some confidence though?

AK: Yes definitely! Jayden and I have already spoken about doing some further training together to further refine our skills so we can get into the rhythm for next year. We would love to improve on our first year and can keep on the pace.

#### B: Did the new engine have something to do with missing Imbil?

AK: Yes. We just missed out on Imbil due to the new engine being put in. We wanted to take our time and make sure it was good to go before running it.

#### B: Now that your first season is done, how would you rate your year as a whole?

**AK:** Honestly, we have had a rough year with breakages, but it was expected as it was a brand new build rally car. Jayden and I have really enjoyed this year and can't wait to make a few changes to the car over the break, so that we are ready to hit the 2024 season running hot.

#### **B**: What was your most enjoyable moment?

**AK:** I think it would have been the Accent Benchtops Rally Queensland. Experiencing the big event, where we were able to talk to some of the teams we don't always see in the regional events. Even though we had a massive engine issue early in the event, we really appreciated the support by all teams and spectators that saw us come into the service park with our heads dropped.



#### B: What is the plan for next year?

**AK:** Once we complete some upgrades to get the car off the ground and complete some extra training, the plan is to attend every event and try to finish them. We are not hunting podiums but just consistency.

#### **B**: What are you looking forward to most?

AK: Simple. Finishing an event!





#### B: Anyone you'd like to thank for your first official year?

**AK:** We would really like to thank Matt and Amy Davidson, Paul and Josh Wiedman, David Micjan, for all their support along the way.

A huge shout out to Sam Hill, who helped us get the engine sorted because the car is feeling so strong after he worked he magic.

I would also like to give a shout out to all our sponsors and supporters, without these companies, we wouldn't be able to do what we do and we love having them all a part of our TAC MOTORSPORTS FAMILY.

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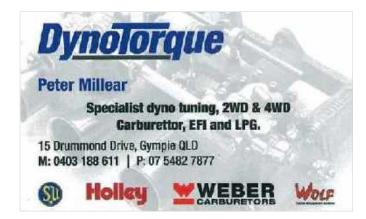
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