



To all sponsors, supporters and fellow competitors, here is a brief story following my debut in the ASP Mount Alma Mile Hill Climb, for it's the third year running.

Dad and I dual entered his rally car, as it is very suited to the demands of the steep hill and high speed turns in this event, but Dad broke three drive-shafts early in the competition, two in practice and one of them on his first official run. Southern Districts Car Club do their timing quite differently to most other hill climbs as it is timed accumulatively, making it very difficult to gain lost time, it is a great system though as consistency is paramount. On my practise run I took it easy and started to get a feel for the track, recording 50.82 seconds. Following all of the drive-shaft breakages we decided to change something on the car to reduce the axle tramp off the line. Changing from the stronger STI rear lower control arms to the standard ones was successful, but I still took it easy on the launches all weekend. My first officially timed run of day 1 felt smooth, and gave me a 47.43. On the following and last run for Saturday I managed a 47.11, placing me 6th outright from 150 entrants. We were all very pleased with this placing, it was at this time Dad decided not to run on Sunday to conserve the car for me, which I really appreciated, though definitely missed sharing the car with him.

Mark from S.A Motorsport Tyres was a great help as usual giving us not only a brilliant deal on a brand new set of Hankook Ventus R-Spec C-70 soft tyres, but also some ripper bacon and egg sandwiches throughout the weekend. I have found the Hankook tyres remarkable in their grip levels in previous events such as Collingrove National Hill Climb Championship, Legends of the Lakes Hill Climb, and a GSR/EVO Club Time Attack at Mallala, and for these reasons we did not give into the pressure of running slicks in this event as many entrants did.

Sunday morning brought a cold track causing many competitors to be about a second slower on their first run than the previous afternoon, but I managed to stay in the 47's. On my second run I tried braking a little later into the chicane causing a minor lock up, but I managed to keep it straight and miss the bollards. On my last run before the top 12 shootout I lost about half a second due to putting my foot down too early in turn 2 causing the car to power slide beautifully through the corner, time costly but exciting. Dad's car is certainly not short of power! With different rules to last year, there was now a top 12 shootout for 2WDs and 4WDs separately. Simon Orme and I were the only Subies in the 4WD shoot-out against very quick GTRs, Porsches, and EVOs. I entered the shoot-out in 9th outright and Simon entered in 5th. They ran us from slowest the fastest, putting me before Simon. I managed a 46.64 sec, which was faster than Simon had run all weekend, he was now worried according to Dad! Ormey put it all together on his run and recorded a flat 46 second pass, which was very impressive and maintained his 5th position at that point. Everyone was pushing it, not allowing me into the top six, for the next shoot-out. I finished up 9th outright from 150 entrants, I was very happy knowing that each car in front of me had similar or more power and the driver experience was very high.

The car ran perfectly all weekend (besides the axle troubles) and also sounded even better than previous according to the spectators that commented, this was thanks to some recent upgrades from Mark at Exhaust Technology.

Gavin from Australian Clutch Service was a great help on Sunday morning supplying us with a pair of billet drive-shafts which we could not fault all day, and the awesome twin plate clutch did its job once again.

I personally really admire Tristan Catford's ability to maintain such a fast pace all weekend to achieve 1st place in the outright section of the event once again this year.

Congratulations to Sebastian Lip for Winning the AWD Shoot-out, and to Willall Racing for their part in the preparation and tuning of his Awesome R35 GTR.



I would also like to congratulate Southern Districts Car Club and the Awesome ASP Team for putting on another great "World Class" event.



Daniel Day April 2nd & 3rd