

Thrills & Spills At Round 2 Of The Dannevirke Car Club Gravel Sprint Series

Round 2 of the Dannevirke Car Club Gravel Sprint Series took place on the 13th February.

The Dannevirke Dairy Supplies Ltd sponsored event at Pahaheke Road turned out to be full of excitement and drama. There was a good turnout of cars with competitors coming from Wanganui, Hawkes Bay, Kapiti, South Rangitikei and Wellington.

Starting from the River Road end the competitors headed towards the hills for the first run. They then re grouped and did a return run to the pits.

Pahaheke Rd is a fast yet technical road. This was challenging for the drivers having to remember corners from both directions. Series leader Gareth McLaughlan was caught out early after hitting a stray rock from a previous car and damaging his suspension leaving Kapiti's Adam Bligh to set the pace.

It didn't take long for ex National Championship driver Geoff Argyle to find his rhythm taking the lead with Adam and local drivers Donald & Michael McLean all posting times very close to each other.

After a great result at the last event, young local driver Cam McLean's day ended early after a small altercation with a road side bank. We hope to see Cam back at an event shortly.

Times got quicker as the day progressed. Local driver Daniel Feck set the fifth fastest time in his two wheel drive Mitsubishi FTO beating most of the four wheel drive cars. Wanganui's Tony Willemsen finished a close second in his class behind local driver Robin Feck. South Rangitikei driver Blake Jones showed good pace in his debut event with his freshly rebuilt 1300cc Toyota Starlet. He will be one to watch in the future.

Geoff Argyle won the overall and took away maximum points, Adam Bligh was second & local driver Michael McLean third. Other class wins went to Blake Jones and Daniel Feck. Robin Feck took out two class wins in two different cars.

The results from Pahaheke Road have mixed up the Series points. Daniel Feck has now taken over the top spot from Hawkes Bay's Gareth McLaughlan.

The next round of the 2016 Gravel Sprint Series is the SPR Parts Otaria Road Gravel Sprint taking place on the 19th March. Dannevirke Car Club would like to welcome anyone interested in spectating, a hot seat ride, volunteering or just coming along.

These events wouldn't be possible without a strong group of people willing to give up their day to volunteer and Dannevirke Car Club would like to thank the landowners, the Tararua District Council, Dannevirke Dairy Supplies Ltd and everyone else that made the day a success.

To keep up to date with the Dannevirke Car Club find us at www.dannevirkecarclub.co.nz or on Facebook.

For more photos from this event and other local motorsport events google “jfropics”.



Event winner Geoff Argyle.

Photo courtesy of jfropics



Class A winner Blake Jones.

Photo courtesy of jfropics



Kapiti's Adam Bligh at maximum attack.

Photo courtesy of jfropics



Ray Wilson driving the Audi S2.

Photo courtesy of jfropics