



Fifth Gear

July 2020



www.torontoautosportclub.ca

Toronto Autosport Club

2020 EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT	Rob McAuley	(905) 399-9374	president@torontoautosportclub.ca
VICE-PRESIDENT	Paul Moore		vicepresident@torontoautosportclub.ca
TREASURER	Rita Moore		treasurer@torontoautosportclub.ca
SECRETARY	Ingrid Beck		secretary@torontoautosportclub.ca
COMPETITION DIRECTOR	Graham Tulett	(905) 828-0245	competition@torontoautosportclub.ca
SOCIAL DIRECTOR	(position vacant)		

2020 COMPETITION COORDINATORS

TIMEATTACK /SOLO-I	Gary Vernon
AUTOSLALOM /SOLO-II	Keith Hui

2020 COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

RALLYSPORT ONTARIO	(position vacant)	
MEMBERSHIP	Paul Moore	registrar@torontoautosportclub.ca
WEBMASTER	Brooke Jacobs	(905) 764-1833 brooke@brooke.net

Club Mailing Address: 18759 Kennedy Road, RR1, Sharon, On, L0G 1V0

The TAC MOTORSPORT CLUB OF TORONTO Incorporated, (known as the "Toronto Autosport Club") is a general interest motorsport club involved in rallying, Solo I, Solo II, ice racing, road racing and social events. Club Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month (**except August & December**) at 8:00 p.m. at "Turtle Jacks Muskoka Grill", 925 Dixon Road (at Carlingview), Etobicoke .

GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME !

FIFTH GEAR is the monthly publication of the Toronto Autosport Club. Articles concerning Club members' activities are of special interest and members are encouraged to submit their writings to any member of the Executive or send them to the Editorial Offices. Past issues of FIFTH GEAR are posted for viewing on the club website.

FIFTH GEAR is normally published on the Tuesday preceding the second Wednesday of each month. Certain scheduling changes will be made to accommodate major motorsport events which are of interest to the members.

DISCLAIMER

Opinions and views expressed in this newsletter are for entertainment purposes, are those of the individual writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinions and views of the TAC MOTORSPORT CLUB OF TORONTO, its Executive members, or affiliated governing bodies such as CASC-OR, CARS, RSO, or the ASN (Canada) FIA.

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Please contact the Executive member(s) directly or through the Club Address listed above, for matters not pertaining to FIFTH GEAR.

Advertising rates (per year) : \$150/full page; \$75/half page; \$25/business card size

Toronto Autosport Club is proud to be affiliated with the following sanctioning bodies:



From The President's Desk

Yikes. Will this ever end?

I don't know when we'll be able to have another TAC meeting. Even though restaurants are opening patios, and some inside tables, I don't think that our regular members that meet monthly count as a family bubble. And we are certainly more than 10 people.

Although some track groups have sorted out ways to hold events, driving schools are still sorting out ways to help students around the tracks. Most events have just converted to lapping days for signed off students and instructors. Ontario Time Attack is trialing a "Follow-You, Follow-Me" technique. Students will follow instructors around the track, then instructors follow students, all while talking on their hands-free mobile phones.

I'm sure people will still have fun, but it won't be anywhere near as effective as having an in-car instructor.

Formula 1 has returned. We've seen the first 2 events in Austria, with everyone wearing masks, and no spectators.

"Podium" celebrations are a bit lame, and they deliver the trophies to the winners with robotic tables. Most teams are wearing rubber masks with what looks like cloth or paper inserts. Very stylish, but those wearing them keep having to adjust them to keep their noses covered. You can own an exact replica for only US\$45!

You'd think that with all the technology involved in producing an F1 car, they could make a mask that fits. And while they're at it, figure out how rig a

microphone so that the interviewers and interviewees don't sound so muffled.

I hope everyone has jumped into TAC members Mitch and Brooke's F1 Fantasy League. Anything can happen with the shorter season and late start, though the races have been exciting without having to pay attention to our selected back-markers.

TAC has had to cancel our Discovery Ontario rally, and our Mosport IMSA Picnic weekend was cancelled along with the event. Time Attack, Regional Racing, and Lucky Dog (Chump Car) are all proceeding, but with no spectators, and essential personnel only in attendance.

We are hoping to still hold our rally with the Guru Nanak Foundation in September, but much will depend on allowable crowd sizes, and if drivers and navigators will be allowed in the same car!

Ontario Time Attack's next event is July 25th, at Toronto Motorsport Park in Cayuga, then another at Shannonville the last weekend in August. Attendance has been good. I think people are afraid that the season may be shut down, but things are working out well. Bring a car to race - but please don't come to spectate!

Rob McAuley
TAC President

On The Cover

Ontario Time Attack Event #2.

Photo thanks to Tanner (Michael Tan)

TAC 2020 EVENTS CALENDAR

CAUTION: Assume MOST Listed Events are Cancelled . Verify with Organising Group.

DATE	CATEGORY	EVENT DESCRIPTION	CLUB
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July 2020

15	Meeting	TAC Monthly Club Meeting, Turtle Jack's, 925 Dixon Road	TAC
17-19	F1	BRITISH GRAND PRIX (Silverstone)	
18	INDY	Iowa 300, Iowa Speedway - Newton, IA	
25	TimeAttack	Ontario Time Attack Event #3, Toronto Motorsport Park, Cayuga	
31-02	F1	FORMULA 1 MAGYAR NAGYDÍJ (Budapest)	

August 2020

16	INDY	Honda Indy 200, Mid-Ohio (Lexington OH)	
22	INDY	Bommarito Automotive Group 500, Gateway - Madison, IL	
28-30	F1	BELGIAN GRAND PRIX (Spa-Francorchamps)	
29	TimeAttack	Ontario Time Attack Event #4, Shannonville Motorsport Park	
30	TimeAttack	Ontario Time Attack Event #5 Shannonville Motorsport Park	

September 2020

4-6	F1	GRAN PREMIO D'ITALIA (Monza)	
6	INDY	GP of Portland, Portland International Raceway	
10-12	Rally-CRC	Rallye Défi , Montpellier, Quebec	CASDI
12	TimeAttack	Ontario Time Attack Event #6, Toronto Motorsport Park, Cayuga	
16	Meeting	TAC Monthly Club Meeting, Turtle Jack's, 925 Dixon Road	TAC
18-20	F1	SINGAPORE GRAND PRIX (Singapore)	
20	INDY	Firestone Grand Prix of Monterey, Laguna Seca - Monterey, CA	
25-27	F1	RUSSIAN GRAND PRIX (Sochi)	
26	Rally-ORRC	ORRC - No Winter Maintenance Rally	

October 2020

1-3	Rally-CRC	Pacific Forest Rally, Merritt BC	WCRA
9-11	F1	JAPANESE GRAND PRIX (Suzuka)	

More events to appear as 2020 Schedules are released.

For more information on any event, please contact the organizing club or sanctioning body directly.



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(Very belated) Trip report to the Brooklands Museum, Weybridge, U.K.

In October last year - long before Covid-19 was named or even known to exist, we (Janet and Rob) were on a trip to London England, and Rob decided to take a day trip to the Brooklands Museum.

Brooklands, with its steep 30 ft high banking, was the first purpose-built auto racing circuit in the world, opening in 1907. [As an aside, have you ever wondered why cars are parked in the “paddock”, or why races have a “Clerk of the Course”? Both these terms, and more, were borrowed from the horse racing world when auto racing was in its infancy]. One of the first aerodromes in Britain was opened on the site two years later. The Aerodrome evolved into a major Aviation manufacturing center active through both World Wars, continuing on to manufacture major parts of the iconic Concorde supersonic airliner, finally closing in the 80s. The racetrack was in use for 32 years, except when it was closed during the two world wars. Unfortunately, changes during WWII, including enemy bomb damage, made the cost to open the track prohibitive and the last race therefore took place in 1939. Not long after the aircraft factory closed, the Museum was created on 32 acres of the original site, and about a decade ago the London Bus Museum opened in one of the buildings on the property. As you can imagine, there’s a lot of interesting history to see, explore, and experience!

The entrance fee is GBP 16 for the Brooklands museum, which includes both the Motorsports and Aviation displays, as well as the London Bus Museum. There are more than a dozen buildings, most packed with fascinating displays and activities. Almost everything is included in your entrance fee, with only the Concorde Experience and a ride through town and back to the museum on a historic double-decker bus costing us extra (more about both below).

The main draw for Janet was that it’s the home of a Concorde Plane used by British airways for training pilots. It’s not open to walk through (though you can walk around and stand underneath it), but we booked the 35 minute long Concorde Experience for GBP5 extra. It’s a short lecture and tour, plus a simulated Concorde flight while sitting in the original seats in the cabin. (note if you want to do the concorde must book in advance online, since they are timed visits). Things sure were different back in the day - Rob not only had enough leg room to sit comfortably, but he could actually STRETCH WITHOUT RECLINING THE SEAT! However, headroom was a bit more limited - Rob’s head barely cleared the roof of the cabin, and even Janet had to duck slightly to get through the door.

If you’re so inclined, have lots of spare cash, and can plan your trip several months in advance (that’s how far ahead they were booked) you can even schedule a session on the Concorde Flight Simulator! Yes, it’s the actual simulator used to train Concorde pilots - still working and now maintained and operated by former pilot trainers. For only a few hundred pounds, you can see how you measure up as a supersonic airline pilot!

Aside from the Concorde, there are 6 other aircraft on the grounds that you can board and explore at leisure, including the Sultan of Oman’s personal VC10, with its luxurious fittings. Then there’s dozens more aircraft in various states of restoration and repair on display indoors, not to mention a research and development lab with its stratospheric chamber, Dambuster bomb, and more.

Of course Rob was mostly interested in the track, parts of which still survive, and the automobile displays celebrating British Motorsports. There are cars, bicycles, motorcycles, engines, and displays of racing

memorabilia from (literally) the earliest days of the sport, through to fairly recent Formula 1 cars. Even many of the museum buildings are from the early days of the racetrack. There are garages and workshops, even the original track press office! The BARC (British Auto Racing Club) clubhouse built in 1907 is still being used as the museum offices, as well as having both educational displays and the canteen (cafeteria to us colonials) where we got traditional fare like fish and chips, bangers and mash. Rob had a bottle of "Brooklands" branded GoldStar Ale, which he says was pretty good!

They even have a simulator where you can (at no charge!) sit in an actual Formula 1 car {2007 McLaren MP4-22) and drive one of the original track layouts. When Rob got his turn, he managed to squeeze himself in, and then proceeded to drive the original 2.75 mile layout in a time of about 46 seconds... compared to an actual lap record from 1925 of 1:09!! But of course, with the 72 years newer race car the corners can be taken at full throttle! 😎

The Bus Museum has a collection of dozens of busses that plied London streets, from when they were pulled by horses through to the Seventies. Just as we approached the building, a nice gentleman asked us if we wanted to take a ride, so we climbed on board a vintage double-decker and were treated to a short tour of the town before being dropped back at the Bus Museum entrance. The bus fare was collected during the trip by the conductor, complete with hand-cranked ticket machine on his belt.

There's so much more that I haven't had a chance to mention. The aircraft factory, with activities showing you how to form metal; pioneering Trans-Atlantic flight records; aircraft engines; war history; bicycles from the 1800s, motorcycles from 1904 on up; specials like the worlds smallest car... there's just way too much to even list it all. So the next time you're in the London area with some time available (which of course will be after the Pandemic experience has calmed down), do yourself a favor and plan to spend a full day - or even two - exploring and revelling in the experience.

There's parking at the Museum, so depending on where you're staying you can drive if you choose, but it's a short 30 minute rail journey to Weybridge from London's Waterloo Station. From the village station, you have the option of a local bus, or a 25 minute (just over a mile) walk to the Museum entrance, but we chose to take taxis on the drizzly day. The rail fare depends on what train you choose (it's the UK - there are several to choose from), but we went with the cheapest direct service that got us there before 10am, which cost us about 11 pounds each for the round-trip ticket.

Rob Jones





Toronto Autosport Club - Executive Conference Call Meeting minutes July 8, 2020

Call time: 8: 03 pm

Participants: Rob, Paul, Rita, Graham & Ingrid

President

Not much. Checked ASN Canada website to see if anything has been updated - nothing new. A lot of sports back on. BMW club and Time attack, as well as other events are running their events.

Membership

80 members: 6 life, 44 primary, 30 family

Treasurer

Account Balances:

PayPal	\$230.24
Savings	\$15,172.21
Chequing	\$8,353.99

Tangerine info updated. In the process of updating Ministry information.

Competition

Race tracks are up and running. Shannonville had first race of season this past weekend; the "Lucky Dog" event. Also included a Drifting exhibition as well as endurance race. No spectators. ORRC is considering a virtual event.

Time Attack this Saturday.

Rally sprints limited to half the usual attendance and run over two days.

Guru Nanak still want to hold event in September, will have to wait and see if Navigational rallies will be allowed.

Social -

Nothing

Old Business - nil

New Business - nil

Adjourned at 8:50 pm

Minutes by I. Beck

Attention Proud TAC Members!

Now you can buy clothes and more with the TAC logo on it, through the Toronto Autosport Club's online store (a partnership with Café Press.com).

Choose from a large selection of shirts, jackets, mugs, bags, even games and toys! Almost anything that Café Press sells, they will sell with the TAC logo on.

Visit the store at

<http://www.cafepress.com/torontoautosportclubgear>





Membership Application

Mail: 18759 Kennedy Road,
RR#1 Sharon, Ontario, L0G 1V0
Email: registrar@torontoautosportclub.ca

- New Members – Single or Family \$50.00
 Renewal Members – Single or Family \$50.00

(You may PAY ON-LINE or by Cash or Cheque; Please see below...)

- TAC Membership includes CASC-OR (Race, Solo) & RSO (Rally) affiliation for the year
- Family rate is limited to family members domiciled at the same mailing address.
- Renewals : Indicate membership number [#] (if known)
- Assigned membership numbers will be reserved until February 1st.
- All memberships and affiliations expire December 31.
- Please be aware that membership data may be shared with CASC-OR and/or Rallysport Ontario.

Date _____

1st Member _____ [#] email _____

Address _____ Home Phone (____) _____

_____ Bus. Phone (____) _____

Province _____ Postal Code _____

2nd (Family) Member _____ [#] email _____

3rd Family Member _____ [#] email _____

4th Family Member _____ [#] email _____

5th Family Member _____ [#] email _____

PAYMENT METHOD:

Cash Cheque # _____ PayPal Other TOTAL \$: _____

To pay by PAYPAL/Credit Card, please visit the Club website at: www.torontoautosportclub.ca.

This Application Form must also be filled out and submitted so we have your information.

You should begin receiving the FIFTH GEAR newsletter within 2 months. Please let us know if you don't.

FIFTH GEAR is also available on the website. Check here if you do NOT need a mailed copy

TAC works only because volunteers make autosport happen!

So that we know *your* interests (and where you can help out) and can therefore plan the right mix of events – please complete the information checklists below ...

Please indicate your autosport interests for the coming year :

- TimeAttack (Solo 1)
- Autoslalom (Solo 2)
- Navigational rallying
- Performance rallying
- Road racing
- Vintage Racing
- Ice racing
- Karting

Please indicate three areas that you can help with this year :

- Solo (1/2) organizer / worker
- Road Rally/Ralliette organizer
- Contract Rally organizer
- Rally Checkpoint/Green-crew
- Social Event Organizer
- Ice race organizer / worker
- Event timing / scoring
- Performance Rally organizer