

May 4, 2010

## Coast Cars Dominate Barcaldine's Revfest

1/8 mile drag racing competitors from Rockhampton, Townsville and Bundaberg took out all major races, bar two, at this year's Tree of Knowledge Festival Revfest held at Barcaldine on Sunday May, 2

Seventy-five competitors, the maximum the Revfest committee were taking, went through their paces on the 1/8 mile strip at the town's aerodrome which had been converted to a drag racing track for the day.

Revfest and Barcaldine Motorsports Association President, Morgan Gronold said organisers are ecstatic with the success of the event.

"Due to so much interest in the event, this year we capped the nominations to 75 and we were full to capacity," said Mr Gronold,

Each year the popularity of the Revfest has grown with competitors coming from all over the state with one even travelling from Melbourne, to compete in the event which carries prize money of over \$4,000

"We are really well supported from a number of areas, we had ten cars from Bundaberg as well as a number of competitors from Rockhampton, Mackay and Townsville."

Mr Gronold said the excellent condition of this year's track saw some outstanding performances during the day.

"The big cars were hooking up, their tyres were gripping the whole way down the strip and they were getting plenty of speed," said Mr Gronold.

"The launch pad was also in ideal condition, it had plenty of rubber and the tyres got grip and speed right from the green light."

This year, Bundaberg's Tom Parry was the Revfest's main event, "Wicked" Winner with Skinny Jackson of Townsville coming in second.

Michael Schmidt of Cloncurry was the "Mild" Winner with Rockhampton's Zaaron Titmarsh runner up.

The Bikes section was won by Howard Voltz of Rockhampton, with Chris Rawlinson in second place.

Cheyenne Elly from Clermont took out the Junior Dragster while Bundaberg's Joe Wheeler took out the "Wild" section with John Walton as the only home grown local Barcaldine competitor to take home a prize in second place.

"It was great to see the prize money shared around and the event supported by so many from the coast," said Mr Gronold.

However, Mr Gronold said competitors come to Barcaldine's Revfest for the atmosphere just as much or more than the prize money

According to Mr Gronold the Festival's Saturday night Street Cruz and Show and Shine are a big drawcard for the event.

"The drag car guys just love being able to drive their vehicles down the main street of a town and it was great that we could pull them all up this year for the Show and Shine.

"It was not only a highlight for the car owners but also for the crowd which was downtown for the Street party," said Mr Gronold.

Right on dusk over 60 cars rattled and roared down Barcaldine's main street, the main highway heading west, which had been shut off from traffic, while spectators lined both sides of the footpath to take in the sight and sound spectacular.

Following the Cruz and Show and Shine all stayed on to enjoy a party under the Tree of Knowledge memorial while bands, Dougie the Dungbeetle, Ballistics and Scarlet Fever, sponsored by the Railway Hotel entertained a crowd of all ages.

Mrs Gronold said the Revfest would not have been the success it was without the support of a number of sponsors, in particular Rayners Crane Hire, Longreach, the Barcaldine Tyre Centre, the Railway Hotel and the Barcaldine Regional Council.

"The Council did a host of work for us," said Mr Gronold, "They were at it all day prior to the event. They put up extra shade and seating and generally ensured the whole facility was the best it could be.

In light of the Revfest's popularity, it looks as though competitors intending to nominate next year will have to get in early.

Keep up to date with Revfest photos and results on the website [treeofknowledge.com.au](http://treeofknowledge.com.au)

## Photos

1. L to R Wicked' winner: Tom Parry, (Bundaberg) , 'Mild' winner: Michael Schmidt, Cloncurry, Bikes winner: Howard Voltz, Rockhampton, Junior Dragster winner: Cheyenne Elly (Clermont), 'Wild' winner: Joe Wheeler, (Bundaberg) holding their unique Revfest trophies designed and created by local Barcaldine craftsperson, Ross Arnold.

2. Saturday night's Street Cruz

3. Peter Ludwick from Winton, smoking up the tyres at Revfest