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Member Auction on Sat 24 Aug 2019: Report and The Results

The Member slot car auction was a fantastic occasion that rewarded Club member's with choices of bargain or collectable slot cars and the Club with a healthy fundraising result. It all starts for the Committee and some helpers well before the event and it is fitting to thank a number of people before sharing more about the best annual slot car auction in Australia.

Every committee member who was in NSW was involved with a number of us arriving by 3pm to setup the hall. It is thankfully easier than the swapmeet with only 20 of the 45 trestles needed, but with viewing from 4pm there isn't much time. The group to thank are Mark D, Sid, Rodney D, Boothy, Andrew, Brendan, Rod H and Jason for many different things done on the day from general setup and pack up to managing entry before the 4pm viewing and fee collection before the auction commences at 6pm. Whilst doing the hall setup, Pete, Johnny and Roger do the kitchen setup and start cooking the snags. Their work in the kitchen continues the whole night too and great they can still bid on lots. To some specific thank yous we'll start with the two auctioneers this year.



Rodney D and Boothy shared the duties this year with Rodney the main auctioneer starting and ending the night and Boothy taking control for 80 lots in the middle to give Rodney a break. Boothy also provided a different style that goes back to the fast-paced livestock auctions where when a bidder raises your hand you become the new top bidder at a \$5 increment. Supporting the auctioneers, Andrew and Brendan were on the stage and Dominic and Rodney H at the cashier table. The system works really well with the addition of one more person, Jason, who presents the lot being auctioned to the audience and then delivers it to the cashier.

We also need to provide additional thanks to Jason for managing the raffle with enthusiasm never previously seen that set a new record for fundraising. Separately, congrats to Simon S and Rodney C for winning the raffle cars.

So now to the auction itself. It was with a little nervousness the auction commenced with a few less people in the hall than recent years and some lots going cheaply or passing in. Soon enough, though, the bidding became stronger and it was clear there was plenty of money in pockets even if there were a few less pockets. Sadly it seemed that Avant Slot and Ninco cars were of less interest than other brands. Later in the auction we would see the collection of Nascars and Supercars do very well with the collection of Pioneer US Muscle doing well except for the more collectable, pricey models. On the prior page you'll see some of the lots on display which we do in order from Lot 1 to Lot 285 across the hall with the exception of the more valuable items that are on a more protected table with central location.

John B was a big supporter of the auction with 50 lots included having offered 70 lots to choose from very early in the planning to help produce a varied final list. John kindly put into the auction the most collectable items including Lot 164 C71 Auto Union and Lot 165 24C/501 1/24th Ferrari V8 shown below. Being purchased by the same bidder they achieved fantastic prices and their availability and being auctioned were a highlight for all members on the night.





Above are auctioneer Rodney with Brendan and Andrew on left. On right is Boothy with Jason presenting Lot 166, the Scalextric Electric shop sign.

One lot worth making mention was Lot 76, the long ago sold out C2452 Club TVR Simon S sold. With a very reasonable reserve the car sold for \$150 and helped a Club member get closer to having the set of four Club cars.

With thanks to all the volunteers, the sellers and all the bidders on the lots, overall on the night thousands of dollars of slot cars were sold. We saw 230 of the 285 lots selling (81%) varying from \$5 to \$1,000. Some sellers sold 100% of their lots, others less than this, but all sellers indicated they were happy with the night. As mentioned briefly super fundraising for the Club.

The Committee have already started sharing thoughts on what could have worked better, what did go well and how this might be changed for next year. The aspects we believe to focus on are higher attendance and quality list with similar or higher clearance rate to this year.

So with the thank you's and news from the night attended to, here is the list of auction lots with their sale price. If the sale price is blank the item was passed in. The 285 lots and three 15 minute breaks worked really well for the evening, partially because 30 to 40 lots that initially passed in, were sold by negotiation between the seller and a bidder during these breaks. Thank you for attending and making it a another great Club event.

Cheers
Dominic

(This report when published in Club Lines for Members included a full list of every lot and the selling price but this information is for Members only. Please consider joining the Club to obtain all the many benefits of Membership and be a proactive contributor of this fantastic national, Australian Scalextric club).