



2011 ORANZ National Series Round 1 Meremere

That was fun!

Paul has been waiting for a track like this one, a bit of wet weather to soften the track and cut the advantage of the high horsepower cars. It turned out a bit wetter than we had hoped.

With the budget not running to hand cuts 373 was always going to be in trouble off the start and that proved to be true in the first heat when 373 was well last by the first corner but once moving was, by lap 3, able to make a challenge for the lead that didn't come off.

For Heat 2 the team made a pressure adjustment to the BFGs but as we were given the same outside grid and NZ1 was on pole again, 373 again got wasted off the start but the track conditions, apart from the front straight were ideal for our set-up and Paul quickly hauled in NZ1 and took him on the outside on the back straight. I bet that felt good!

It was all on for the start of Heat 3 when 373 finally got the inside grid, and despite Paul's determination to maximize pole NZ1 led over the start/finish jump until Paul took him on the inside at the end of the front straight. It wasn't going to get better than this!

For the Feature race 373 took the early lead from the start but vision issues caused Paul to slow and finally stop to remove our screen mesh and hand the feature class win to NZ1.

It's not every day you can manage to drive around NZ1 twice in one day, come out with equal points and share 1st in Class 3 with NZ1 and 4th equal overall.

We were looking forward to Palmerston North and again hoping for a soft track but because of the poor turn out for Round 1 we may abandon the Nationals, we had fun but it was in no way a satisfactory National event.

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for AutoGrafix
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