

AUTOMANIA

First time out for hot rod event

Text from Paul Grace

Pics from Mal Bain & Julie Philips

PROMOTERS Neil Roper and Martin Beckett pulled out all stops to provide a great venue, plenty to do and an all-out marketing campaign across all segments to attract punters to their Automania show held 12-13th March.

With great weather there were high expectations for big crowds but it didn't happen that way on Saturday or Sunday. In reality the event is new and like all new events and businesses it takes a while to build momentum so perhaps next year patronage will increase. The Rockit Dance on Saturday night was a hit and the Gate prize of a cool restored '68 Mustang was won by Liz Osborne from One Tree Hill. If you spoke to anyone who went they loved the venue and enjoyed the event so

feedback plus all other factors are sure to be worked on for next year.

1 A line up of just some of the fine hot rods and street machines.

2 Eric Livingstone wowed hundreds with his Hemi T and Jack Coopers blown and bagged '55 F100

3 Organiser of the Rock it dance, Neil Roper does it in style with two lovelies, Leslie Kirkland & Julie Moyle.

4 Part of the expectant huge crowd of ticket holders, wait patiently for the draw of the '68 Mustang gate prize.

5 The Rocking Bodgies from Australia strid their stuff.

6 One of the many bands performing on Saturday.

7 The swap meet area was huge and well patronised by swappers.

8 More fun, broadcasting live, was in good company with this rare '37 Ford ragtop and contrasting T.

9 Jim Lytle, creator of V-12 Allison powered Big Al spent Saturday meeting and greeting fans.

