



Barham rider Monte Hare tearing up the Balranald track on his way to first place in the 450cc senior's class. **Photo — Pam Edelsten**

Motocross return a wrap

MOTOCROSS

BALRANALD Motorcycle Club hosted two days of great racing last weekend in what was the final meet at the track for 2016.

The club reformed this year after several years in recess and, despite a few hiccups, members couldn't be happier with how the racing year went.

Round 3 was postponed due to wet weather and Round 4 had to be cancelled at the last minute after some cross-border licensing issues.

"The Balranald club is affiliated with Motorcycling Victoria because it just makes sense," president Barry Anderson said.

"We are so close to Victoria, we have an 03 telephone code, most of our riders and members come from northern Victoria.

"Our closest tracks are Swan Hill and Robinvale, it just complicates things that we are in NSW, and it means

a few more boxes need to be ticked but we're determined to keep this track going."

The weekend's racing was an outstanding success with almost 100 riders signing on over the two day event.

Competition was fierce especially between the senior riders.

After some very exciting battles on the track, Barham rider Monte Hare came out on top of Swan Hill riders Lee Mayers and Ben Dickeson.

The club was particularly impressed with the number of junior riders who participated.

"A majority of the riders were juniors including 16 division 1 and 2 riders on the little 50cc bikes over the weekend, it's great to see those future champions out there," Anderson said.

One junior rider even travelled from Melbourne.

BCP Pro Circuit Honda rider Anthony Atanasovski is one of the country's rising stars and gave the local riders some serious competition.

Atanasovski will be riding

in the National Junior Motocross Championship in Renmark late next month and got some quality practice in at the Balranald race meeting.

Another first for the club was a dedicated ladies race.

Club secretary Cindy Furnell joined in the action placing second after another Balranald rider Deanne Jones.

"I've been pushing for a ladies only race all year after talking to other girls who feel a bit intimidated by the guys roaring past them," Furnell said.

"It was great to have our own class for a change, not only is it a great confidence booster but it is also great to show my kids you can do anything you put your mind to."

The Balranald Motorcycle Club thanked all supporters for helping their return to action this year.

Anyone interested in helping out on working bees or riding enquiries can contact the club's Facebook page or call president Barry Anderson on 0428 135 055.