



# VICTORIAN HISTORIC RACING REGISTER

ABN 97 521 303 894

Incorporated in Victoria

Association Number A 0007117 C

## CLUB PATRON: Sir Jack Brabham OBE AO

PO Box 3485 MELBOURNE VIC 3001 Website: www.vhrr.com Reg. No. 57/001  
VHRR CLUB ROOMS 30-32 LEXTON RD BOX HILL

## NEWSLETTER - April 2012

We meet Bi-Monthly - on the Fourth Tuesday of the Month 8pm  
at the VHRR Club rooms 30-32 Lexton Rd Box Hill.

### COMING EVENTS

April	15th	Myrning Sprints .....	03 9827 8124
April	22nd	VHRR Rob Roy - Trident Cup (CCE) .....	0413 744 337
April	24th	MGM - Clubrooms.....	03 9877 2317
April	27th	Australian National Aircraft Museum Open Day	
May	6th	Rd 5 HCC Rob Roy .....	03 9722 9000
May	26th-27th	Historic Winton (CCE) .....	03 5428 2689
May	27th	Bryant Park Hillclimb .....	03 5174 1473
June	3rd	Hillclimb Championship Rd6 Ararat	
June	26th	MGM - Clubrooms.....	03 9877 2317
August	10th-12th	Winton Festival of Speed (CCE).....	0412 351 403
August	28th	AGM - Clubrooms .....	03 9877 2317
October	23rd	MGM - Clubrooms.....	03 9877 2317
November	9th-11th	Historic Sandown 2012 (CCE) .....	0402 224 133
December	1st	Christmas Function - Mike Barker .....	0407 825 545
December	1st-2nd	Geelong Sprints - Roy Williams.....	03 5248 7131

### Wednesday Members Lunch - every Wednesday except Christmas Holidays.

CLUB LIBRARY HOURS

Wednesdays 11.30 - 2.00 Club Nights 6.30 - 7.30

Club Permit Scheme

Gordon Hellsten .....03 9878 5272

(Red Plate)

5 Handell Crt Blackburn Vic. 3130 **\*Note new address**

\*CCE = Club Championship Event

All the above club activities including the Wednesday Lunch are designated Red Plate activities

**Disclaimer:** The views and opinions expressed within this newsletter are not necessarily those of the VHRR Inc. or its Committee and/or its Newsletter Editor. Whilst all care has been taken, neither the club or its officers accept responsibility for the accuracy of information printed and the quality of any items or services advertised or mentioned in this publication. Incorporated association Number A 0007117C. The Editor reserves the right to edit contributions submitted for publication.



"Share the Passion"

**The VHRR gratefully acknowledges the support of our major sponsors**

## IMPORTANT NOTICES

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### **CAMS Service Award awarded to VHRR President Ian Tate**

On February 10 this year at the Victorian Motor Sport Evening, held at Brabus Sharp Performance in South Melbourne, our President Ian Tate was the recipient of a CAMS Service Award. The Service Award is awarded for diligent service to motor sport. They must have demonstrated conscientious service to the sport by being involved in motor sport activities on a continual basis and by the display of a high level of dedication to the sport over a long period of time. Ian more than fits that bill!

Peter Bready as Past President and Life member, introduced Ian and read this citation which sums up Ian's dedication, professionalism and lifelong commitment to motor sport.

Ian has been a vital force in motor sport for more than half a century, since he started working with Harry Firth at the Marne Garage. He followed this by working at the famed workshop in Queens Avenue Hawthorn, with figures such as Frank Lowndes, Peter Brock and Colin Bond. His range of skills was remarkable, not only in the engineering of vehicles but also in the management of teams and motor sport logistics. Perhaps his greatest skill was in the management of people. He used this ability to enable his drivers to achieve their full potential – as demonstrated by the development of Peter Brock and the overwhelming success of the Holden Dealer Team. When Harry Firth retired in 1978, he offered Ian the opportunity to take over the business, but he chose to continue as a specialist building engines and fettling cars.

Alongside those achievements in the very public arena, Ian has applied his energies as President of the Victorian Historic Racing Register for more than a decade. In that time, the Club has grown constantly and continues to attract passionate and dedicated members. Under Ian's guidance, the Club has developed two major Historic race meetings; the Phillip Island Classic in March and Historic Sandown in November. The VHRR has built these events into world quality meetings, recognized in every country, and attended by competitors and factories from around the world. In 2011, Octane magazine nominated the Phillip Island Classic as one of the six best Historic Motorsport events in the world. It is a testament to Ian that with all this on his plate he still finds time to drive a wonderful assortment of significant historic cars.

On the basis of this lifetime of achievement, for his outstanding personal qualities and for the grace with which he has served the sport and all the member clubs, CAMS is delighted to invest Ian Tate with the Service Award.

We had been able to keep Ian's receipt of this award a secret and he was surprised and delighted in his acceptance. In his thank you speech Ian very humbly accepted the award on behalf of all in the VHRR. He made special mention of the support offered by Ian McLennan, the "world's best Treasurer" and all members of the race committees including Bob Harborow. On the night Ian and Dorothy were joined by several VHRR General Committee members and their partners, including myself, Ian Mac and Bob, and Mike and Janis Holloway. A special thank you must go to Janis for all her help in working with the VHRR in putting together Ian's nomination. All in all, a great night – congratulations Ian!

### **Dear all, Made it home finally after a great weekend at the Phillip Island Classic.**

Just a short email to thank not only the organisation team for this event and how well it was run, but also the fellow racers I competed against over the weekend. Running side by side with Nick Bennett in his new Formula Ford for 3 or 4 corners was a great moment and one I felt totally safe to be involved in. Great racing! Just a mega track to race at and one of the best meetings of the year.... can you dig it up and move it to Derbyshire England? Please!

I heard on several occasions this meeting being compared to the Goodwood Revival. The Phillip Island meeting is a stand alone event that's on par with any big race in Europe whether that's the Silverstone Classic, Spa 6 hr, Brands Hatch festival, Algarve Festival and many others.... don't try and compare it to Goodwood, this is one of the best meetings of the year. No other race in Europe can compare with Goodwood, but by god, Phillip Island is matching the rest of them.

Again many thanks for a great weekend. Andy Newall

### **Can I just pop a few words in about my first drive.**

Firstly I would like to thank Craig Bowring and Neville Butler for encouraging me (vigorously) to get my Group A Skyline out there for the first time. Luke Ellery was driving my beast in the group A and C Category so that he could qualify for the AGP the following week, as I wasn't allowed to drive, because I had only just got my provisional circuit licence.

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The help that the ladies get from the members and committee of the VHRR needs to be recognised and applauded. I doubt there is another form of sport out there where we ladies have received the encouragement and support from the committee of the organising club. A huge thank you to all the team involved with the VHRR.

Phillip Island was my first squirt in the Group A DR30 after buying the car two years ago. Apart from a couple of heritage hot laps at Eastern Creek and a club day at Mallala in SA. To say I was nervous was a massive understatement, and to find out I was going out with 62 other Group N drivers really put the wind up me. I very quickly learned that cold slicks need to be treated with a lot of respect, and more importantly, that invisible roundabout at turn 4 sneaks up on you when your tyres are still cold. I still had a great time though.

I was pretty slow around the island, but I was happy with my lines, and some fine tuning on the wheel alignment by Glenn Seton saw me cutting 3 seconds off my lap time once the car was easier to steer. To add to my slow times, we were driving with a very tired standard road gearbox, and this continued to get worse every time the car went out.

I had a ball, and realise that I have to get a lot more track time in the car before I can gain any sort of confidence in how it steers, but I was really pleased with how it stopped and the power delivery was fantastic.

So in short, I want to apologise for holding all the Group N boys up, but I had a lot of fun, and can't wait to get some more time in the car. Thanks once again to the VHRR and the Mini Club for organising such a fabulous event. Carolyn Kruger

**On behalf of the WA contingents** we thank you so much for inviting us to take part in the 2012 Phillip Island meeting. Once again a memorable & enjoyable event. Please pass on our special thanks to the flags whose job is so vital to the safety of the event, also of course to all others who contributed their time to such a great weekend. Regards John Davies

**Australian National Aircraft Museum Open Day** - Moorabbin Airport Mel Ref: 87 F4

The Museum is putting on an open day for VHRR members on Friday April 27th from 2-5pm. Your VHRR Membership card will get you free entry with one guest if you so desire. Our Chairman, Graham Malcolm will put on a conducted tour mid-afternoon. We may also have well known Aviator Terry Brain give us a talk on his experiences flying the Firefly and towing a Drogue for the navy to shoot at. The Museum now own the Firefly and it is on display. Hoping you can join us. Bill Prowse.

**Red Plates** - If you are reading this you don't need to but if you aren't you should. Lloyd stopped handling Red Plate matters three months ago but is still receiving enquiries. Gordon Hellsten's details appear on the front page of newsletters. Lloyd Shaw

### **Rob Roy 75th Birthday**

The Vintage Sports Car Club will be holding a 75th Birthday of Rob Roy Hillclimb and Celebration on the 19th August. Any pre-war cars wanting to enter to relive 1937 contact Patrick Ryan 9335-4666 BH. More information closer to the date.

### **Young Member Initiative**

VHRR is wanting to develop and encourage younger people to take part in motorsport activities. With this in mind and knowing VHRR currently has 3 or 4 young people competing, VHRR is offering free membership to Juniors aged under 18.

CAMS has on offer a Level 2 Speed Junior licence costing \$15.00 (yes \$ 15.00) and is valid for the following unless otherwise approved by CAMS:

- Regularity Trials up to national championship level
- Single and multi-car non-race speed events up to international level
- Some Touring Road Events
- All events available to Level 2NS licence holders

Could those members who have sons or daughters (grandchildren) aged between 14 and 17 with a CAMS licence or those of that age group wishing to take part please contact Patrick Ryan on 03 9335 4666 BH

### **Older Member Initiative**

Members might even give a thought to sharing their car with others (OLDER FRIENDS EVEN) at VHRR activities either as a share drive or a patron. (YES, A WORKS DRIVE) We need more entries at our Rob Roy and Haunted Hill events to make them viable into the future.

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## **Team announced for 2013 Monte Carlo Rally retrace.**

The Monte Carlo retrace project team all met for lunch and photos at the Docklands Ice Rink prior to the AGP. The official driving line up was announced, with Craig Lowndes joining Richard Davison and Gary Poole for a journey back in time to return to the January 2013 Monte Carlo Rally, some 60years later. Patrons Tony and Diana Gaze were also present, with Tony slipping back behind the 48-215 (FX) sedan wheel. Tony said "ours was clean and polished, but this is immaculate". Craig Lowndes was also excited and fully grasps the history of the 60th trip. "I've never driven a FX before, especially on snow, but I am looking forward to learning the finer manners of a 1953 car" Craig said.

At the following Australian Grand Prix, Richard introduced the project to Hon Louise Asher, Victorian Minister for Tourism, who performed the launch with AGP Corp CEO Andrew Westacott. Richard said "this project is part of our family history and I am proud to be involved", and added, "recently Goodwood estate have invited us to display the 1953 replica at the 2012 Revival".

**The MG Car Club is running the 5th Round** of the Victorian Hillclimb Championship at Rob Roy on Sunday 6th May. VHRR members may not be aware that the VHCC caters for historic cars by including three Historic classes, for Gp N cars up to and over 2000cc, as well as a class for Groups J,K,L M,O,P, Q & R. A great opportunity for VHRR members to compete at the top level of hillclimbing in Victoria. For enquiries, please contact Ken Price on 0418311040

Note my corrected contact number for all MG Car Club and Rob Roy enquiries. Thanks, Ken Price.

Competition Director MG Car Club, Vic. 3/30 Chelmsford St, Williamstown North, Vic 3016, AUSTRALIA  
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**Scotty Taylor informs me the ex-Jim Clark/Dawson-Damer Lotus 18 F1** which he purchased here a couple of years ago has completed its restoration in England and he is thrilled it has been accepted for the Monaco Historiques this year. Regards, Graeme Noonan

**Uncollected trophies:** The following trophies remain uncollected - if you can assist here that would be great, otherwise they'll be recycled. Call Ian Tate - 03 9877 2317, or pick them up at the next MGM - April 24th VHRR Club Championship: Q Sports - Jim Foulis - Rennmax, Sb - Rohan Hodges - Lotus Lb Sports - Shane Bowden - Prad, Sc - Mike Byrne - Lotus, Lb Racing - Bob Boast - MG TC, Group A - Adrian Aisley - Walkinshaw Commodore, Sb - Ian Ross - Shelby 350, FJ - Kim Shearn - Lotus, R Sports - Phil Verwoert - Graduate, Sc - Perry Spiridis - De Tomaso Pantera, R Racing - Rohan Carig - Hardman, FF - Ian Edgar - Lola. Phillip Island: Doug Whitford Trophy - 1st Lb - Nick McDonald, Mark Dymond Trophy - 1st Ka Graham Raper, Stan Jones Trophy - 1st Lb - Nick McDonald.

## **Classifieds**

**MGA Competition Flywheel.** Steel, lightweight with ring gear. \$60. 5 BMC steel wheels for sale. 14" suit Sprite, Morris Minor, or Major etc. Reinforced centres. \$50 the lot.  
Ian McDonald 0418 502335 or AH 9589 1217

**Set of four Performance Superlite alloy wheels** 15x6 with four stud pattern(4x425 fitment) - very good condition \$100 - call Peter 0412 264 997

**Intercomp Lap Timer, made in USA** complete with User Manual and case. Perfect for test days. \$359.00 ono # Schroth Recovery strap. CAMS approved \$35.00 # Alloy Catch Can \$60.00 # Race suit Nomex Single layer Size 42 Vintage Style Light Blue with Dark Blue ( Dunlop/Stirling Moss style ) \$260.00 ono Contact Michael Ban on 0415336460 or alpineban@gmail.com

**Lotus Elan Galvanised chassis** new never used. \$1400 OBO. Group Q Sports car Lotus 23B Lookalike. Built by Ian Adams & Leon Thomas in 1977 Raced in NZ & Australia 1600 TC motor Has Log Book & COD For more information Ring Bob Boast on 0421 215 732

**Formula Ford Lola T440** 1977 Class Fa. \$25,000 - (note reduced price - again) Fresh Lerner engine, fantastic car handles well and extremely well presented. some spare parts and ratios. Also available is a fully enclosed trailer for sale. Contact John 0418 568 974

**Race and collector car and trailer storage,** secure and alarmed. Mechanic on site. Hoists. Clayton S. Call Mark 0409 509 508

**Lola 644 Formula Ford Fb,** fresh motor enough gearing for all Victorian tracks. lap record holder at Mallala ex Andrew McInnes car so it goes well, was at the pointy end of the class until I got my hands on it. My Streamliner is nearly ready and I only need one Racing Car. History, Log Book and CoD. spare wheels \$23,000 Colin 0419 312 299

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