



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 - May 2014

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

May	24th-25th	Historic Winton	03 5428 2689
June	24th	MGM - VHRR Clubrooms	03 9877 2317
August	9th-10th	Winton Festival of Speed (CCE).....	0412 351 403
August	26th	MGM - VHRR Clubrooms	03 9877 2317
September	13th-14th	Wings & Wheels Maryborough Sprints	03 9827 8124
October	5th	Vintage Collingrove	08 8271 5689
October	28th	AGM - note date change	03 9877 2317
November	8th-9th	Historic Sandown (CCE)	0402 224 133
November	23rd	MGCC Historic & Vintage Hillclimb - Rob Roy.....	0418 311 040
November	29th-30th	Geelong Revival Motoring Festival.....	geelongrevival.com.au
December	12th	VHRR Xmas Presentation & Awards Evening	0407 825 545

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 Hellsten03 9878 5272

(Red Plate)

5 Handel Crt Blackburn Vic. 3130

*CCE = Club Championship Event

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

We remind members that the AGM this year will be held with the General Meeting on October 28 instead of the usual August meeting date. The April Committee meeting, scheduled for April 21 (Easter Monday) was cancelled. The May Committee meeting has been brought forward by a week to May 12, 2014 (instead of May 19.)

An important date to add to your Calendars/diaries - The 2014 VHRR Awards Night and Christmas Party. Friday 12th December at 7 pm in the Grand Ballroom at the Manningham. Look forward to seeing you all there!

Well done Tim Blanchard - guest speaker at last night's MGM. Tim gave a brief resume of his racing career to date, and a much broader insight into how a V8 Supercar team operates. The attention to detail is a revelation. Thanks Tim!

Vale Harry Firth - among the many expressions of sympathy this one stood out from John Lemm....

Harry was a proud Old Fart and displayed the badge regularly. A Rallyist Ancient, "H" as he was called by his crew, of course became an icon of Australian motor sport triumphing in both Ford and Holden camps.

Harry is accredited with launching the careers of both Brock and Bond not to mention Fred Gibson winning the 1967 Bathurst 1000, Charlie O'Brien and many other co-drivers.

Dubbed the Silver Fox, Harry played the game hard so many opponents did not warm to "H" in battle. It is not known generally that while in charge of the Holden Dealer Team, Harry helped Allan Moffat form the Moffat Ford Dealer Team in 1976 after Ford dumped Moff.

A serious lover of good food as a smart old time "Cook", Red Wine and even as late as two weeks ago Harry still had the sharp wit and was having a "go" from his hospital bed. At 96 the mind was still there, the body had just had enough.

The footprint of "H" in motor sport is a big one and quite well documented.

Rest easy Harry, you did it all

The funeral service will be held at the Boyd Chapel - Springvale Crematorium, Tuesday May 6th at 1.15pm

Harry Firth was a cornerstone in the development of Australian motor sport, taking our sport from the amateur and enthusiast days to the professional era. So many of today's professional V8 Supercar drivers have Harry Firth to thank for the contributions he made. At the same time, he always seemed happy and comfortable in the pits at the grass roots level

and especially at historic racing.

Congratulations on a lifetime's contribution to Australian motor sport.

Regards, Chris Davison

Young 16 year old Ben Robson was the recipient of the Ron Simmonds encouragement award plus winning his class at Rob Roy on the 27th April at the VHRR historic hill climb held in nice sunny conditions with a good entry of 60+ cars. Darren Visser had FTD with a 22.22 sec in his ex Leo Bates Cyclo 500. A well run meeting organized by Paul Schilling and his band of helpers from the VHRR and also the MG car club volunteers.

It was only the 2nd event for Ben after having run at the Phillip Island meetings regularly event, so a very happy dad Andrew, and a smiling grandfather Noel, went home a happy bunch.



VHRR ROB ROY HILLCLIMB

Round 1 of Rob Roy Triple Cup.

The Triple Cup is a 3 round challenge between 3 clubs - VHRR, VSCC and MGCC.

For full results see VHRR web site - under results,

Rob Roy April 2014

THE DAY:

As those of us who drove our cars to Rob Roy with roof down can attest, Sunday 27 April started with a very crisp morning and, as so often happens with crisp Autumn mornings, finished up as a beautiful day - just about ideal for competition.

As of the Monday before the event only about 40 entries had been received but fortunately by Sunday morning we had 66 starters.

A number of our members drove their cars to Rob Roy, competed and drove home again - unfortunately Ron Simmonds was an exception here as he completed just one run then broke the diff in the normally reliable MX5.

The event was well run with no major incidents or major hold-ups thus providing us with 4 runs for the day.

OUTRIGHT:

There is always a challenge for FTD at hillclimbs and this time the honours were taken by Darren Visser with a time of 22.04. Our own Derek McLaughlan gave him a run for his money with the Mallock Clubman doing a time of 22.58 - his first run with this car at Rob Roy.

VHRR did manage to take out the next 11 places outright!

CLASSES: Below is a summary (class by class) of how our members fared on the day.

CLASS 1 Group J (a&b): According to the results the Ryan clan were split representing both VHRR (Conor) and VSCC (Patrick, first in class).

Conor - 3rd in class in the Vauxhall Sports - 34.12.

CLASS 2 Group K (a&b): Phil Gray 1st in his Ford Special - 25.87, 9th outright

Ray Sprague 2nd in Ford V8 - 27.19

CLASS 3 Group L (Sports & Racing): Bill Redpath 1st in his Redpath Special - 25.93, 10th outright

Dick O'Keefe 2nd in the Photon Special - 25.99 (very close finish here), 11th outright

Combined CLASS Sports & Racing Groups M,O,P & Q: Derek McLaughlan 1st in his Mallock Clubman - 22.58 (knocking on the door of FTD!), 2nd outright Warren Green 3rd in the Ausca Verde - 31.24 The evergreen Graham Hoinville 4th in the Elfin Clubman - 31.57

Class 8 Group Sb Production Sports: John Hardy 1st in the lovely Alpine Renault A110 - 26.09, 12th outright John French 3rd in his MGB - 28.00 Ross McLaughlan 4th Mini Marcos - 33.1

Class 9 Group Sc Production Sports: Mike Byrne 1st in class in the Lotus Europa - 24.92 (anything under 25 is not mucking about!), 5th outright

CLASS 13 Invited Sports Cars - up to 1500cc

Kevin Guiheneuc in the Nota Clubman - 26.71

Dean McLaughlan 4th in the Nota Clubman - 33.73

CLASS 14 Invited Sports Cars - 1501 cc and over (a well subscribed class with 13 entries - 6 of them VHRR!) Mike Barker 1st in class in the Type 3 Elfin Clubman - 23.47, 3rd outright Vic Spiteri 6th in the E Type Jag - 27.98 Nigel Gray 9th in the ever reliable Singer Le Mans 28.42

Ron Simmonds 11th in the MX5 - 28.8 (broke diff after 1st run)

Ian McLennan 12th in his MGB GT - 28.82

John Caffin 13th in his MGC - 29.96

CLASS 15 Invited Touting Cars - up to 2000 cc

Phillip Chapman 1st in his Datsun 120Y - 25.48, 6th outright

Combined CLASS Invited Racing Cars

Ben Robson 1st in the Van Dieman - 24.43, 4th outright (Ben is, I think, 16 - his first outing in this car at Rob Roy. I don't think he has had too many other outings in the car either!! Well done Ben)

CLASS 20 Air Cooled - Pre 1960 John Coffin 1st in the Robbins 500 Mono - 32.04 David Palstra 2nd in the Newbound500 - 35.6

CLASS 21 Air Cooled Cars - Post 1960

Mark Atkinson 2nd in the Falkenberg Jinx - 30.14

CLASS 22 Post 1977 Modern Sports Cars

John Elliott 1st in his Alpine Renault 510 - 25.56, 7th outright

Shane Bowden 2nd in his Caterham 7 - 25.74, 8th outright

John Ingham 3rd in his Type 3 Elfin Clubman - 28.22 (John has only had the car a couple of weeks)

Mike Barker

Adelaide Motorsport Festival

I thought it would be worth making mention of the very successful event run in Adelaide's Victoria Park by the Sporting car Club of South Australia on the Sunday before Easter. No doubt this will be covered in more detail elsewhere, but VHRR members who traditionally enter for the Easter Mallala races might well consider this event next year. (I'm sure it will be run again).

With kind permission and assistance from the Adelaide Council a section of Wakefield street was closed off to allow the organisers to run Super Sprints on a 1.5 km circuit using part of the Clipsal circuit.

I'm not sure of the numbers but probably 150 historic cars covering most categories entered for this fantastic event. In a real picnic atmosphere on the lawns of Victoria Park a diverse and most interesting selection of cars, and classic motor

cycles were on display, along with those actually competing. It was great to see a very good selection of Formula One cars entered and they were given pride of place in the "paddock" area. John Bowe drove Joe Calleja's 1974 March 741 and headed the other equally famous F1 cars over their special 12 lap event.

Because the circuit was so short, and given the unusual nature of the very temporary circuit, outright racing was not permitted, no dicing, passing only on the straights etc. , i.e. Regularity rules. Everyone entered into the spirit of the event but still put on a marvellous show for the spectators.

It was a lot of fun. Everyone had three 6 lap "sprints". Ron Townley had his fabulous Lago Talbot, as always in full flight, and it was hugely admired by the many spectators. I had my Match SR4, and had the pleasure of being in the same events as Ron. Everyone loved the circuit, even though the exit into Wakefield street and the return back into the circuit proper took a little "learning"!

The organisers did a great job in creating this event from a zero base and I am sure they intend to run it again next year, no doubt on the Sunday before Easter. With the many attractions of Adelaide and the surrounding hills etc. it is easy to occupy yourself for the few days until Mallala which for us started by getting the car out there on the Thursday, unofficial untimed practice on the Friday, and the normal two day meeting over the Easter weekend. Entering the Super Sprint at Victoria Park makes it even more worthwhile entering for Mallala!

Actually I was "conned" by the SA Historic Touring cars Association into taking the Match into the SCCSA clubrooms on the Monday night following the Victoria Park event. I joined with the Club's librarian Michael Gasking in a short presentation on our recollections of our times at Repco Brabham in 1966. Michael was then the senior technician and in charge of engine assembly and running the engines on the dynamometer, and luckily, as a budding engineering cadet I was permitted to work alongside him while the very successful engines were in manufacture and dynamometer tuning for Jack Brabham's 3rd World Championship year.

So VHRR members, keep it in mind for next year!
Nigel Tait

2014 Historic Queensland will again feature a large contingent of Groups J,K,&L with group marquees and dedicated races, bbq etc. Other features include 50 years of Mini Cooper S, the 3rd round of the Heritage Touring Cars East Coast Series, Capricorn Cup for Group S, Queensland Cup for Group N, Queensland Tourist Trophy for Sports/racing cars, and all other Historic Groups (compatible grid sizes permitting) and we usually have three grids of Regularity Trials to accommodate pre 1990 cars. Enqs 0424 321 072, or see www.hrcc.org.au for Supp Regs and entry links. Entries open on May 11th and CAMSeventry is the preferred option.

Classifieds

Lotus Super Seven race car, 1963, fully race prepared, international race history, \$59k ono, call James on 0417 888 513

Lotus Elan convertible, 1969, good condition, \$32,500 ono, call James on 0417 888 513.

McLaren M10B F5000 rear wheel, good condition, needs polishing. From the Pat Burke/Warwick Brown car. Best offer. 0412 346838.

Peter Brock: Living with a Legend

Book Launch: 6pm Friday 4 April Benalla Lakeside Sports & Community Centre

\$35 per person, including dinner (includes vegetarian and gluten free options).

Pre-pay and get a book valued at \$30 included for a total price of only \$60.

Signings a 6pm with dinner served at 7pm.

Call (03) 5762 1116 for bookings

Repco Brabham Engine Parts

- Two 6 series 85mm bore Cylinder blocks and steel stiffener plates (numbered E13A and E11B)
- 72mm stroke Laystall crank to suit above (excellent condition, crack tested OK)
- New fully machined 620 timing chest
- Re-conditioned oil pump
- Used oil pump (body only)
- Nine new ARGO con-rods to suit 800 series short block
- Assorted un-machined castings
- Lucas camshaft driven/electric fuel injection pump with clutch drive
- Bosch ZV8 twin point racing distributor with h/t leads
- One pair of steel camshaft blanks

Due to the underwhelming response, I have reduced the price to \$12K o.n.o. the lot or I will separate at prices to be negotiated.

Contact John Sheppard on 61 3 9379 7898 or john.shp@bigpond.com
