



Historic Sports & Racing Car Association of New South Wales, Inc.

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Newsletter - July 2009

Social Meetings - 15 July

Our next event will be our social meeting where we will have two speakers representing organisation to which the HSRCA has recently made donations. Representatives from the *Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia* and the *NRMA CareFlight* teams will discuss with us their organisations and the importance of donations such as ours to continuing their work.

As usual, the meeting will be held at the Deniston Sporting Club - 59 Chatham Road, West Ryde. Formalities start at 8:00pm but feel free to join us earlier for dinner and/or a drink.

President's Message

On behalf of the Committee, I wish to apologise for the disruption which occurred at the recent Oran Park meeting. While it was not the fault of the club – the fire crew who had previously agreed to officiate did not turn up, and could not be contacted – the resultant shortened qualifying and races on Saturday took away a lot of the gloss of what should have been an enjoyable farewell to Oran Park. Accordingly a discount will be offered to all Oran Park competitors at a future meeting. More details later.

Bruce Richardson - HSRCA President

2009 Club Plate Run - Sunday 16 August

Last chance as demand is outstripping supply – no GFC here! Picture this – a beautiful winter's day, a relaxed drive through the magnificent Southern Highlands in some wonderful cars, spectacular scenery, historic destination, delicious roast lunch, roaring log fires and great company. Paul Samuels and Rick Marks are working together to provide a fantastic day for our members with cars on Conditional Registration and those members who would like to come along and bring an "interesting" car on full registration.

- Date: Sunday 16th August 2009
- Meeting Place: 1. Camden Valley Inn (9.45am for 10am depart)
- 2. Mittagong Tourist Centre (10.45am for 11am depart)
- Lunch Destination: Fountaindale Grand Manor, Robertson. Cost: \$45 per head.
- RSVP: Please book now by phoning Rick Marks on 0418 686 340.

Payment is required upfront so please make cheques payable to HSRCA NSW Inc and send to Rick Marks at 25 Farrer Place, Frenchs Forest 2086 with names of member/guests and vehicle that you are bringing.

It will be a great day, so don't miss out.

Rick Marks - Club Plate Registrar

Oily Rag News

The Winter '09 issue of *The Oily Rag* is underway and will include reports of the Cootha Classic, Winton Historics and the HSRCA meetings at Eastern Creek and Oran Park - the last being significant, as it was in all likelihood the final Historic race meeting at Oran Park. Even with these reports and a few other bits and pieces there will still be plenty of room for your contributions. So please if you have any letters, news items or especially important "Cars for Sale" please send them to me ASAP.

By the way when I was wandering the pits at Oran Park it was particularly pleasing to hear from all of you who said that you were going to send me some words on your car or exploits. Now if just a quarter of you do just that, I will never have to ask you silly questions again.

Look forward to hearing from you..

Patrick Quinn - Editor (oilyrag@hsrca.org.au)

Membership Renewal Reminder

Just a reminder that all current members should have received a renewal notice in June and technically last year's memberships expired on 30 June. Everyone will receive this newsletter but unless you renew this will be the last monthly report you'll receive.

Prue & Wes Dayton

Elfin Sports Car Heritage Weekend

An invitation has been sent to us inviting you to a celebration of the 50th anniversary of Elfin to be held 15/16 August this year in Adelaide. For those "internet enabled" check the "Events" section of the HSRCA's website; otherwise, probably best to ring Ron Lambert on 0418 309 383.

Wakefield Park Accommodation

There is a shortage of accommodation in Goulburn over the weekend of the Wakefield Park meeting in September. I have contacted the Goulburn Tourist Bureau and they have advised the following motels have vacancies:

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|---------------------------|-----------|
| • Alpine Heritage Motel | 4821 2930 |
| • Bakehouse | 4821 7666 |
| • Best Western Centretown | 4821 2422 |
| • Governors Hill | 4821 1766 |
| • Hillview | 4821 3130 |
| • Trappers | 4822 5445 |
| • Willows | 4821 4322 |
| • Mike's Manor | 4822 8414 |

Bruce Richardson - HSRCA President

Minutes General Mtg - 17 June 2009

Denistone Sports Club. **Apologies:** Ian Pope, Richard Carter, John Cummins, Paul Hamilton, Mike Henderson, Wes Dayton, Brian Pymble, Brian Wilson, Ian Ross, Geoff Morse. **Previous Minutes:** April '09 minutes were read by Bruce Richardson. Accepted: Bruce Mansell. Seconded: Max Brunninghausen

Treasurer's Report – David Medley

- **Club Profit & Loss Report:** Eastern Creek made just under \$6,000 profit – some good news. The Oran Park Meeting is looking good with a healthy entry level.
- **Wakefield Park Refunds:** Bruce Richardson answered a question from the floor - a refund will be sent from Wakefield for amounts paid by drivers for private practice. Other cost issues still up in the air.

Secretarial - Steve Perry

- **June Newsletter:** Blame me for any problems with the June Newsletter – Wes was away. In fact there was an error in the dates for the Club Social and the General Meeting this evening – they swapped themselves somehow. The Social Meeting is the next gathering on 15 July, '09.
- **General Meetings:** Reminder dates: 15th July, 19th August & 21st October (No meeting in September).
- **Membership Renewals:** These will be sent out at the existing rates – no increase this year.
- **E-Mail Addresses:** It is requested of members to provide a current e-mail address for the newsletter to save the cost of postage and the labour involved in stuffing 285 envelopes each month! Bruce and I noticed several names that we know for sure have e-mail! Please advise Wes Dayton to help your Club! (Bruce Smith suggested that the default should be e-mail communications with postal mail only if selected – a good idea).

Competition Report – Noel Bryen

- **Eastern Creek:** Successful meeting with few issues.
- **Oran Park:** 260 starters to date with 40 FFords for their feature event and two grids of Group N. Group S about 32, and we have 33 for the Dawson-Damer Trophy Race. Looks like a great meeting.

Registrars' Meeting - Geoff Morse: Nil report this month.

OH&S – Mark Alchin: Nil report this month.

CAMS Historic Commission – Peter Addison

- **Meeting:** A meeting was scheduled to be held in August, but is now cancelled; discussion items include plans for the future of CAMS to be discussed at a "Summit Meeting" now in September '09. This has been reduced to one day instead of two, which will be a challenge. No agenda available as yet.

Eligibility: No reports this month.

General Business

- **Newspaper Article:** "Voice of Car Racing" – North Shore Times. "Bob" (John) Cummins has been awarded the Order of Australia for Services to Motor Racing. Unfortunately John is not here at our meeting due to some medical issues, (and he has not changed his name to Bob as written in the article).
- **Cancellation Fee:** Dave Medley wishes to correct the minutes of the last committee meeting as his proposal was actually to apply a \$50 fee only to cancellations made in the last 7 days prior to a meeting. Another suggestion from Ray Kenny is for a late entry fee of \$30 to apply as well, as used to occur to help encourage timely entries. Noel explained that there has been a very fair system that is as flexible as possible, given car problems and health problems. Some basic guidelines are really required to assist Noel in being consistent in application of refunds.

- **Lakeside:** Max Brunninghausen provided an update on the Lakeside circuit – it has a new surface and access tunnel, and the pits have been renewed, and some corners have been re-rated. Their next meeting is on the 14th July and has 2 or 3 races with Historic cars. There is no difference in noise levels at 95 Db. No restrictions on cars apply.
- **Group O Tyres Issue:** Max Brunninghausen reported that after some 9 years of successfully running Avon tyres there is suddenly an issue with the CAMS Commission over tyres used in Groups M & O. If Dunlops are enforced by CAMS several drivers will cease driving. Feeling was running high, and Ray Kenny suggested that Group M tyres were changed originally over safety issues, and that an availability problem was being suggested. There has never been an issue regarding availability at all – it was a safety issue as the Dunlops are unsatisfactory in the wet, and not as safe as other tyres – especially in the wet. Letters have been sent to the Commission regarding this safety issue and Dunlop tyres, but this does not seem to have been referred to at all. Bryan Miller has been recommending the modern Dunlop tyres, in spite of some dry & then poor wet track comparison testing by Michael Henderson. It seems the modern 204 Dunlops bear no resemblance to the performance of original Dunlops that were run in the '60s – especially in the wet. Bruce Richardson is happy to send a letter from the HSRCA if Max and others are happy to put a letter with all the details together.
- **Dehydration at Race Meetings:** Bruce Smith raised the issue of Pit Marshals requiring drivers to have their helmets on & gloves etc in place well before the race, which just causes drivers to over heat, in hot & humid conditions - can this be overcome with a 2-minute board instead of just using the 1 min board? (Even a 3 min board might work to allow fitting time for balaclava, helmet, glass eye, prescription glasses, gloves, neck doughnut/HANS and a tight seat belt with crotch strap adjusted).
- **Social:** Garry Hancock reported that the next General Meeting on 15 July, '09, is to be a Social Evening and we have reps from NRMA Care Flight and Prostate Cancer Foundation attending, after offers to attend and explain their organisations, following our HSRCA donations. We also have a special night on August 7th as a type of special 'Golden Oldies' reunion dinner, which is progressing very well. Invitations will go out very soon to members.

There being no further business, the General Meeting closed at 9:10pm.

Minutes Committee Mtg - 7 July 2009

Present: Peter Addison, Mark Alchin, Noel Bryen, Garry Hancock, Dave Medley, Geoff Morse, Steve Perry, Bruce Richardson, Peter Rose & Les Wright. **Apologies:** Nil.

Previous Minutes: June '09 minutes were reviewed in summary by Bruce Richardson; accepted Peter Addison; seconded Geoff Morse.

Treasurer's Report: Dave Medley

- **Financial:** The Association is in a good position with \$85K in the bank account. In addition, Dave is waiting for a cheque from Oran Park for half the gate from the recent meeting; firming up for a \$32K profit for the Oran Park meeting. A few other issues to be discussed in general business regarding this meeting. HSRCA end-of-financial-year accounts are next to be prepared.

Race Report: Noel Bryen

- **Oran Park Issues:** Crash Rescue no show; Firechase could not attend, but could supply fire extinguishers, and this happened. Despite a firm booking made with Michael

Hegarty, CRAFT did not turn up. An email was sent from HSRCA to CRAFT to confirm the booking. On Saturday morning no contact was possible with M. Hegarty. As of this meeting, still will not return calls. One rumour was voluntary liquidation supposedly occurred on Friday is one possibility. A few conflicting stories exist including that he confirmed to HSRCA that he could not attend on the Wednesday – no one on Committee was aware of any such call made. No one could make contact on Saturday to confirm anything at all. Poor PA system did not help with communications during this delay. Some complaints came in from Victorians. Peter Addison suggested that even though this problem was beyond our control, we should include a discount to genuine Oran Park competitors at our next meeting, as 25% of their weekend was lost. Peter put the motion: "At either of the remaining meetings this year, if you competed at Oran Park, you will be offered a discount of \$100 on your entry fee". The Committee was in unanimous agreement - motion passed.

Secretarial: Steve Perry

- **Correspondence:** Wyong Shire Council questionnaire issued to the Committee, Wyong Automotive Racing Precinct (or "WARP") regarding feedback questions to assist this Council with its feasibility regarding a local motorsport and driver training facility. Steve Perry to collate Committee answers to WARP questions and respond to Council by the 17th July '09.

Registrars: Geoff Morse

- **Oran Park:** Meeting had its issues – to be discussed in general business.

OH&S: Mark Alchin

- **Oran Park Review:** Several OH&S concerns including that of Greg Neal who had real concerns for his safety after being towed in during Saturday qualifying – a flat tow by 4WD in reverse direction tethered by the roll bar. Only one driver in the 4WD – this is one issue as our standing requirements are for two. Greg could not make the turn back into the pit lane due to the sharp radius. There was a real risk of being pulled over and possible injuries. As it was the car received some minor damage and tyre abrasions as it was pulled sideways at 90 degrees. Mark was not informed until after the weekend. No tow hooks on this car (Historic exemption applies), meant tying to the roll bar which is not ideal. Letter received from Greg Neal was read by Bruce Richardson, about returning the refund cheque offered by the HSRCA - even though there was some damage to his car. There were several other incidents over the weekend. Bruce will be advising all to fit tow hooks, and will write to Greg Neal thanking him for the kind gesture of returning the cheque.
- **Dave Roberts:** Tipped upside down. The rescue people planned to cut his seat belts despite the driver's express wishes explaining he had a back problem, and did not wish to be dropped. Requested to be rolled back on his wheels. Another incident report. A safe method must be employed by competent rescue people to best suit the situation.

Social: Garry Hancock

- **Social Evening:** Next Wednesday's social evening is on track; speakers from both charities *Careflight & Prostate Cancer Foundation* will be attending

General Business:

- **Oran Park - Communications Person Required:** Handling a problem such as the big delay that occurred – Dave Medley suggested that some one should be in place to handle the PR issue and provide information to competitors and visitors. Part of the issue was due to a faulty PA system, however the Tower to base-of-tower communications link was not effective. We need to consider a person for this role. It was generally agreed that the Committee consider suitable persons.
- **Race Commentary:** Steve Shepherd voluntarily offered to provide commentary at the meeting and Noel said he did a good job.
- **Driver Discipline - Oran Park:** Following several on-track incidents, the Committee has voted & agreed on certain actions to be taken.
- **Wakefield Park cancelled meeting Issue:** Bruce spoke with Mick Ronke at Winton re this issue with his son at Wakefield. Les and Bruce will meet with Mick at Wakefield Park this week.
- **Accommodation Issue:** Wakefield Park meeting – Bruce advised that the Goulburn Tourism confirmed there is still plenty of accommodation available.
- **Possible Wyong Circuit:** Wes suggested that we include Don Thallon's interest in assisting with design. Steve Perry to action.
- **Honorary Members:** Reviewed by Bruce and Wes. Names were discussed and at the next general meeting the final list can be voted upon.
- **George Aungle Collection of Historic 35mm Film:** HSRCA has bought the collection and Peter Schell will review and process.
- **CMC Day Eastern Creek:** Bruce Richardson suggested the CMC Display Day is a good idea for the club. Only room for about 12 cars. Bruce has usually organised this event in the past and we need some one to organise this event.
- **Late Fees Clarification:** Late withdrawal fee - \$50 for withdrawal within 7 days and also a fee of \$50 penalty for late entries.
- **Regularity Invitation:** Peter Rose suggested a letter be sent from the HSRCA inviting CSCA (Combined Sports Car Association) clubs to participate in our events. S. Perry to write a draft & find out the Presidents of each club.
- **Website:** Peter Rose provided some feed back was received from some Registrars as to what information is required to be available to them via a password, but some have not replied as yet. Geoff Morse to chase up.

The Meeting closed at 9:35 pm.

Classifieds

CAR STORAGE: I have secure undercover storage space available for your pride and joy. I can also provide repair and/or servicing if required with full workshop facilities onsite. For further details please phone **John Dowsett** at The Classic Connection, 1/29 Edwards Street, Riverstone 2765. 02-9627 1120.

FOR SALE: Two tickets, plus Startline grandstand tickets, to the Goodwood Revival Meeting, 18th, 19th, 20th September, as well as membership pass to the Goodwood Club. Open to offers. Contact **Bruce Richardson** on 02-9449 6062