



# VICTORIAN HISTORIC RACING REGISTER

ABN: 97 521 303 894

INCORPORATED IN VICTORIA

ASSOCIATION NUMBER: A 000 7117 C

**CLUB PATRON:** *Sir Jack Brabham* O.B.E. F1 World Champion 1959, 1960 & 1966

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

## NEWSLETTER - March 2009

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

March	1st	Classic Motor Show Scoresby .....	03 9890 0524
March	13th - 15th	<b>Phillip Island Classic (CCE)</b> .....	03 9877 2317
March	13th	Cummo's 80th - Isle of Wight .....	7.30 onwards
March	17th (Tuesday)	Rob Roy VHRR International Challenge .....	03 9850 4795
April	4th - 5th	Wings & Wheels Moorabbin .....	03 9515 0350
April	5th	American Motor Show Flemington .....	03 9890 0524
April	11th - 13th	Mallala & Collingrove Hillclimb .....	08 8373 4899
April	19th	Myrning Sprints .....	03 9827 8124
May	3rd	VHRR Rob Roy (CCE) .....	0413 744 337
May	30th - 31st	Historic Winton .....	03 5428 2689
June	13th - 14th	National Sports Museum - MCG .....	03 9657 5502
June	21st	Rob Roy MGCC Club Challenge .....	03 9850 4795
August	9th	John Pryce Trial OST A7 Club (TBC) .....	03 9787 3640
August	16th	Heathcote (CCE) .....	0413 744 337
August	23rd	Rob Roy VSCC Vintage Hillclimb .....	03 9850 4795
October	4th	Haunted Hills (CCE) .....	0429 999 675
November	6th - 8th	<b>Historic Sandown (CCE)</b> .....	0402 224 133
November	29th	Rob Roy 18th Historic & Classic .....	03 9850 4795
December	5th	Xmas Presentation Dinner .....	03 9877 2758

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

CLUB LIBRARY HOURS Wednesdays 11.30 - 2.00 Club Nights 6.30 - 7.30

**Club Permit Scheme** Lloyd Shaw .....

(Red Plate) PO Box 828 Glen Waverley 3150

\*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.



The VHRR gratefully acknowledges the support of our major sponsors "Share the Passion"

## IMPORTANT NOTICES

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- **Phillip Island Classic** March 13th - 15th. Don't miss this one - record entries!
- **Phillip Island Entries as at 28th February**  
Mini regularity - 48, Div 1 Regularity - 50, Div 2 Regularity - 42, Formula Ford - 58, Groups A & C Touring Cars - 32, Group S - 50, Group S Reserves - 33, Hist Touring Cars over 3lt - 42, Hist Touring Cars under 3lt - 54, JK & Lb - 43, M&O - 25, PQR - 27, Sports cars - 14.
- **Penguin's Nest needs your help!**  
The Penguin's Nest at Phillip Island race meeting is a facility much valued by the ladies, especially those with small children, and a sponsor is needed for 2009. Can you help? If you can assist or have any ideas/contacts please call Ian Tate on 9877 2317 (w) asap.  
**Phillip Island Classic Festival of Motorsport Dinner** To be held Saturday 14th March on the Pit Roof Top suites. Nibbles start at 7.00pm with the Main Dinner at 7.45pm. All welcome, \$60-00 per head including Drinks. Smart Casual Dress. Booking to be accompanied by payment to: Vicki Williams, 17 Schoning Court, Croydon North, 3136 97239217 0403226547  
RSVP by 6th March. Entry by Ticket Only. Cheque made out to VHRR.
- **Friday 13th March - Cummo's 80th Birthday Party** Isle of Wight Hotel Cowes. From 7.00 pm onwards \$20.00 per head Finger Food, Jazz Band. All welcome.
- **March 17th (Tuesday) Rob Roy VHRR** International Challenge .....03 9850 4795
- **National Sports Museum - MCG 13th - 14th June 2009** More details later, but keep this in mind if you would be interested in promoting the VHRR there.
- **Wings & Wheels Exhibition at Moorabbin Airport** - April 4th & 5th 2009.
- **Should you have an historic sports or racing car** which has not previously exhibited at Wings & Wheels, and you care to contact me on 03 9515 0350, or 0412 926 002, I shall register your interest with the Museum Council. Bill Prowse Wings & Wheels Coordinator.
- **If you have or would like to compete in the 2009 Leyburn Sprints** please complete the online Competitors Entry Request at [www.leyburnmotorsprints.com.au](http://www.leyburnmotorsprints.com.au)
- **Rod Amos - Vice President of Motoring Clubs** who has been the go between for the AOMC & Vicroads regarding Red Plates has issued an eight page letter about the scheme. It is available on the AOMC website at [www.aomc.asn.au](http://www.aomc.asn.au)
- **Library - Library - Library** We'd like to hear your ideas on how the Library can better serve the interests of the club. Give Noel a call on 0402 224 133 if you think there might be a way to encourage members to take advantage of this terrific club facility.
- **Group Reps Reports** still thin on the ground. I reckon things of interest would be: How to get better numbers at race meetings. Opinions on how COD's can be made less expensive - an often heard complaint. What your club might be doing to help. Is CAMS helping? Etc.
- **The group C/A category at Phillip Island** is looking like a good field of at least 30 cars, it will be a quality field that will put on a great show for the spectators and fellow racers I'm sure. The muscle car event in the expo centre is creating a lot of interest among the muscle car owners who are very keen on displaying their cars at a high profile race meet like the classic. It is a great way for us as a club to get people who don't usually follow historic racing along to the meet, and also show the fans that a lot of these cars that raced as race cars, were able to be purchased from your local dealership, unlike today.  
We are also conducting the first Torana L34 nationals track side with a confirmed 14 quality cars road and race and with more interest coming every day it is proving to be something that we can build on and make it an important part of future meets. I would like to thank Mick and Anna Cameron for their support and help to get this up and running along with Ian Tate and Richard Williams. I also would like to put to the group C/A drivers to get a group photo on the Saturday morning like they do for V8s and F1s of all the class competitors. Something we can all keep for keepsake. We could make a time for everyone to meet and I will arrange a photographer to take the shot.  
On behalf of the VHRR I would like to thank all that have entered and taken your time and money to put a good show on for the fans. I know it is hard times financially and to get the cars we have, I, and the club, are grateful for your support. I am looking forward to the race, in all honesty I can't wait to get there. Looking forward to seeing you all.

**Troy Kelly.**

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**During a recent visit to Sydney** I was able to find time to take in the new Australian Motorlife Museum just south of Woollongong that opened late in 2008.

This is a most impressive, purpose built facility where there is a large display of historic motor cars and numerous displays of memorabilia covering the history of motor car servicing, etc. The facility is in the hands of the very capable Wendy Muddell and her team of volunteers who maintain the exhibits, man the entrance, run the shop etc. Additional to the car display there is an extensive library, a very nice meeting room for car clubs with catering facilities, including a bar. There is plenty of parking for large groups with provision for picnics.

It is a completely new building that I saw under construction last year and I estimate the overall size around 25,000 sq. ft., located in the Integral Energy Recreation Park on Darkes Road, Kemplab Grange. From Sydney's Mascot airport to the front gate is 85kms., and the normal GPS recognizes the address. It is great to see the initiative of Wendy and her group and if you are driving to Sydney it is a good place for a coffee break. The local car clubs, including even those in Sydney are really fortunate to have such a first class venue to incorporate in their drive days and travels.

**John Blanchard**

### **Report 1 from the Formula Junior Springbok Aussie Offensive**

The Australian Formula Junior contingent consisting of Peter Boel (Lola), David Reid (Cooper), Roger Ealand (Lotus), Don Thallon (MRC), Kim Shearn (Lotus), Bill Hemming (Elfin), Norm Falkiner (Stanguillini), Neil McCrudden (Lotus) and Lance Cawardine (Macitee), arrived to a very, very, very wet Swartkops circuit just north of Johannesburg. A tricky little circuit which fortunately dried out in time for our Saturday races. The high altitude played havoc with our fuel mixtures and it was very exciting watching 9 people who had no idea what they were doing running around changing jets, ratios and underwear. In the end, from a field of 27 finishers, the aggregate placings were Don Thallon 7th, Roger Ealand 8th, Kim Shearn 11th, Bill Hemming 13th, Niel McCrudden 15th, David Reid 16th, Lance Cawardine 17th, Norm Falkiner 20th, and Peter Boel after a rushed blow up and engine change, 22nd. For some unknown reason, Roger Ealand was awarded a trophy for "Index of Performance"...whatever that means...which we suspect was given to shut him up. It hasn't worked and he has become even more insufferable.

After Swartkops, we went various ways on safaris and wine tours. Apart from Bill and Kim being savaged by supposedly tame half-grown lions and having pants ripped and legs punctured and scratched (I'm sure the bloody animal was trying to bite my nuts off, but they had retreated into my stomach out of abject fear), we all arrived at Cape Town tired but happy, ready for this weekend's meeting at Killarney. By the way, Niel McCrudden won the Formula 2 race at Swartkops in his Marcon against some top class international competition.

### **Round 2**

We all arrived at Cape Town for the Killarney Circuit with cars relatively in 1 piece. The setting of Killarney is in the middle of slums. You have to see South African shanty towns to get the real definition of "slums". It made Calder look like an Oasis. However, the circuit, while a bit rough in places, is a ripper. The Formula Juniors were pulling a timed 135 MPH on the straight.

Over the weekend, Niel McCrudden heavily damaged his F2 Marcon after leading his race. Martin Bullock came 2nd in his Chevron F2. In the Formula Junior runs, Don Thallon's MRC destroyed (totally) his engine, Peter Boel's Lola ran out of bits to keep his motor running and Lance Cawardine's Macitee simply failed to proceed.

The finishing order in the race was Kim Shearn (Lotus 18) 8th, Roger Ealand (Lotus 18) 9th after a fantastic race long battle with Kim, Bill Hemming (Elfin) 10th, David Reid (Cooper) 15th after hurried front end repairs from an earlier coming together, Neil McCrudden (Lotus 20) 16th and Norm Falkiner (Stanguellini) 19th. Bill's finish gave him and his Elfin an eventual 3rd outright in the Formula Junior World Series as this was the final race. A major proof of consistency winning over skill!

On the road trip from Cape Town to East London for the last meeting, we all took in the picturesque Garden Route and stopped off in Animal Parks to cuddle tigers, cheetahs and snakes.

East London Grand Prix circuit looks ridiculously fast and the circuit is virtually derelict. Hired help is currently cutting weeds and grass off the kerbs this morning, 1 hour before practice begins. It looks like we're in for a scary weekend.

The final round of the Formula Junior 50th Anniversary has been run at East London Grand Prix Circuit. And what a circuit. It was unanimously voted the best circuit ever by all drivers.

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Unfortunately it is a decrepit state (the facilities, not the track surface which is actually a public road) and is under threat by property developers. Turn 1 (Potters corner) is not to be taken lightly. About one in ten of the cars held it flat and the circuit gives out stickers "I'VE GOT THE BALLS FOR POTTERS" with very unsubtle graphics. The visit by international drivers and cars was an important part in the promoters attempts to save the circuit.

After 2 close and exciting races, the results were Roger Ealand (Lotus 18) 6th, Bill Hemming (Elfin) 9th, Kim Shearn (Lotus 18) 10th, Don Thallon (MRC) 13th, David Reid (Cooper) 15th, Neil McCrudden (Lotus 20) 16th, Norm Falkiner (Stanguillini) 19th, Lance Cawardine (Macitee) 20th.

It must be noted that Don had his broken engine and main shaft hurriedly repaired for a run, Neil generously lent his car to Peter Boel for one race, and Norm (spin) and Lance (gearbox) failed to finish.

Following the meeting, the cars were cleaned and packed into the containers for the long trip home. To give you some idea of the state of squalor and crime in South Africa, the race organisers kindly connected 4 hoses to the back of the pit area for us to clean the cars. Within half an hour, the hoses and taps were pinched. Having said that, the Aussie party didn't go out of it's way to look for trouble, and while we witnessed some nasty behaviour, we didn't experience any real danger. Generally, if we made the first move at being friendly, the people were terrific. But again, the overseas experience has proved just how well organised and hospitable our race meetings are at home.

At the prize giving on the final night, the Australian team was extremely loud in voice and clothing (our bright yellow team shirts again proved to be a popular standout). Roger Ealand and David Reid in particular were just a little bit embarrassing and the rest of us had to apologise for their inappropriate behaviour. David was forgiven because he did a magnificent job of organising freight etc. I'm afraid Roger, as the winning Australian, should not be allowed to represent our country again. Now he no longer organises Speed on Tweed, best we simply send him back to the country from whence he came.

After a year of sensational events, I've got to say that this Formula Junior category has provided the best racing experience I've ever had. Great cars, full grids, great people and great racing. We can only hope the momentum can be maintained as a stand alone category.

See you all at Phillip Island.

**Bill Hemming**

**Classifieds**

Light open Car Trailer for Mini, MG, Clubman, Open Wheeler or any Vintage type racer. Single axle, new tyres, new Lights, was Registered. \$650 0419 312 299 Glen Iris.

**CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP - don't miss out! Register Now! - Your opportunity to win one of the many trophies presented at the Christmas Awards function.**

**Events counting towards the Championship:**

March	13th - 15th	<b>Phillip Island Classic (CCE)</b> .....	03 9877 2317
May	3rd	VHRR Rob Roy (CCE) .....	0413 744 337
August	16th	Heathcote (CCE) .....	0413 744 337
October	4th	Haunted Hills (CCE) .....	0429 999 675
November	6th - 8th	<b>Historic Sandown (CCE)</b> .....	0402 224 133

**Registration for Club Championship** - Please fill out this form & post to VHRR - Mike Byrne 3 Kristen Close Frankston 3199 before Phillip Island with a cheque for \$10.00

Name ..... Car ..... Group .....

Address .....

..... Phone ..... Fax .....