

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 - June 2011**

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	27th-29th	Historic Winton (Austin 7 Club)03	5428 2689
June	5th	One Tree Hill Ararat04	
June	21st	Trade Night - Precision International03	9877 2317
June	28th	VHRR MGM Guest Speaker Ron Tauranac	
July	10th	Interclub Challenge 2 Rob Roy03	9722 9000
August	12th-14th	Winton Festival of Speed (CCE)04	12 351 403
August	21st	VSCC Vintage HC Rob Roy03	9758 2643
August	23rd	AGM & Committee Elections	
August	27th-28th	Leyburn Sprints04	28 959 101
September	18th	VHRR Track Day Haunted Hills04	13 744 337
September	20th	Social Night at the Clubrooms03	5962 2331
October	2nd	Interclub Challenge 3 Rob Roy03	
October	22nd-23rd	AHCC Haunted Hills03	5174 1473
November	4th-6th	Historic Sandown (CCE)04	02 224 133
November	27th	Historic & Classic HC Rob Roy03	9722 9000
December	3rd	Xmas Presentation & Awards	9877 2758

# Wednesday Lunch Group - every Wednesday except Christmas Holidays.

CLUB LIBRARY HOURS

Club Permit Scheme

Wednesdays 11.30 - 2.00 Club Nights 6.30 - 7.30

(Red Plate)

Lloyd Shaw ......0415 351 164

21 Myers Ave Glen Waverley 3150 \*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"

#### **IMPORTANT NOTICES**

#### Save the date

Possibly the greatest designer of single seaters ever, Ron Tauranac will be our guest speaker at the clubrooms on June 28th. Ron was the designer of the Brabham and Ralt marques, and his visit coincides with the re-release of his previously sold out book Brabham Ralt Honda, with signed copies available on the night. Ron will be interviewed by the talented ex-TV presenter Brian Smith, who will lead Ron through his 40 + year career in professional motorsport. Seats will fill quickly so be early as this is an open event, all quests are welcome.

Entries out soon for Winton Festival of Speed Enquiries: lan Ross 0412 351 403 We'll be having a Trade Night at Precision International - importers of American Engine parts - 591 Blackburn Rd Notting Hill on Tuesday 21st June at 7.30 pm Supper provided. Let lan Tate know if you'd like to come - 03 9877 2317

**Red Plate - Permit Holders**. Members with vehicles on red plates are reminded that your vehicle cannot be used after July 1st until your 2011/12 club membership renewal has been paid. Penalties for noncompliance if caught:

- Fines for driving an unregistered vehicle, or
- Loss of your individual Club Permit, or
- · Loss of your club's authority to operate the Club Permit Scheme, or
- Cancellation of the Club Permit Scheme for all enthusiasts.
- See also AOMC Newsletter http://www.aomc.asn.au/publications/NewsletterMay11.pdf

**CAMS, in partnership with the Australian Federal Government**, is embarking on a campaign of influencing attitudes by educating motor sport participants and the general community about the dangers of illicit drugs to their health, their potential for damage to life time social responsibilities, and in particular to the health and safety implications of undertaking motor sport while affected by drugs.

The CAMS Illicit Drugs in Sport (IDiS) Program is funded as part of the Australian Federal Government's "Illicit Drugs in Sport - National Education and Action Plan", and is backed by comprehensive education material developed by the Australian Sports Commission specifically for use by competitors, team managers, support crew and officials.

The education material, which will be distributed by CAMS, focuses on educating the sport utilising both written and interactive means, with a Government web-based 'e-learning' system currently under development, and due to come online soon.

Illicit drug fact sheets are available for download in the "Links and Resources" section below. These, along with other printed material by the Sport and Club Development Officers in each state to each CAMS-affiliated car club. For further details about any aspect of the IDiS Program, please contact: Shawn Graetz - Project Co-ordinator Illicit Drugs in Sport Program Ph:1300 883 959 Email: shawn.graetz@cams.com.au

## Fraser Ross to Drive Vintage TransAm in USA

CAMS Vic Historic Touring Car Champion, Fraser Ross, son of VHRR member Ian Ross is driving in a Shelby/Ford/Cobra vintage race at the Shelby convention meeting at SAAC – 36 at Virginia International Raceway, VA, USA on May 28 & 29. Fraser is driving a '68 Mustang TransAm similar to what he drives in historic racing in Australia. The race is 10 laps and over 4 miles around. A big track. (Pictures and report next Newsletter).

Mt Gambier - 4th November I have been competing at this event for 5 years and without doubt it is the best Hillclimb that I have been to including Bathurst. The Historic day is one they are trying to get interest in and while not run strictly to historic rules is nevertheless an excellent day. Anyone who is interested can see the track on "Youtube", the pits and all other facilities are exceptional.

Cheers John French

**Thank you Dick O'Keefe** (Beautiful Photon Special) for your help at this year's Phillip Island Classic. Many times over the weekend, I was asked to go and find him and get him to go see such and such as he has ignition problems. At no time did he say no! I am too busy! At one stage I saw him working on a car and it was only a short time before his event. That is beyond the call of duty. Plus, I find out, he has rung Melbourne and given them a list of parts to bring down so he can fit them before he goes racing. How good is that! Dick O'Keefe, thank you so much.

Richard Williams

**Wednesday the 18th**, at the Wednesday Group Lunch, we had a busy day, with the release of two books and a presentation of an OBE (over bloody eighty) to Don Kinsey. David Fogg had signings of his book "Foggy Memories", which is a very detailed story and photos on many of David's adventures both in business and motor racing, a good read.

The other book is the story of Joan Richmond, "From Melbourne To Monte Carlo and Beyond", a little known Melbourne born racing driver who did some amazing things with her motor cars at various tracks around the world, this book was put together with a lot of help from VHRR club member John Reaburn, highly recommended reading, with many previously unseen photos. John and David presented copies of their books to George Spanos for the club library.

Both books are available for sale by contacting, David on 0418322996 and John on 0427807787 or 97285367. Also jr2publishing@gmail.com the web site is www.joanrichmond.com Ron Simmonds **Some 20 cars including FF's** attended on a fine but cool Easter weekend.

NSW group O racing cars dominated the placings. Qualifying saw Richard Carter head the sheet with a 1.13.1 lap, followed by Barclay, Hamilton, and Holly all NSW. Bill Hemming was the quickest Vic. 1.17.2 followed by Peter S trauss, Tony Burrage, and Murray Bryden. Victorians seemed to have their share of problems with Kim Shearn, Murray Bryden, Bill Hemming and Tony Burrage all packing up early.

Phil Randall FF was the only Vic to compete in all events with John Connelly in his Zink and James Calder in his Lotus 7, 4 out of 5 events. Race 1: First Carter Elfin mono followed by Hamilton Elfin 600, Tim Kuchel SA Gilbert 5000 and Hemming Elfin 400. Peter Strauss FJ was 9th. Race 2: First Carter followed by Kuchel (1.12.8 fastest lap for the weekend) Hamilton and Barclay Brabham BT 21A, Hemming was 5th. The 5 Lap Handicap saw Bo Jensen SA in a FF win by some 40 seconds, perhaps the handicapper was kind as Jensen was consistent all weekend with 1.17 laps. Placings 4 to 15 all finished within 10 seconds. Race 3: First Carter again followed by Kuchel, Barclay and Ed Holly Brabham BT 21C. Race 4: First Ed Holly by 3/10 of a second ahead of Carter. Barclay 3rd.

So many laps for the weekend must have taken its toll as only 10 cars started this race.

Rod Anderson VHRR groups M&O Rep rodcga@gmail.com 0419 311 914 (Was not at Mallala but a family wedding in Melb.)

### **Interested in Historic Formula Ford?**

With email fast becoming the most effective way to keep members up to date, the group registrars are updating their records. So if you own a Formula Ford or are simply interested in the category please email me, with your name, any Formula Ford(s) you own, plus your address for posting race meeting entry forms and we'll update our records. Please note this database is for the use of the VHRR and not for general circulation without prior permission.

Nick McDonald email: nick@a3recruitment.com.au 0414 569 506. Thanks indeed.

**The geographic names** committee has approved the name "Brabham" for the Caversham Aerodrome including the proposed housing estate.

**The Spitfire** was built from a Top Flight Kit from USA spruce main spares& balsa fully sheeted wings & fuselage it has 6 servos, motor, ailerons, rudder, elevator, flaps, air operated undercarriage. The motor is a 15cc OS 4 stroke motor with fuel pump. It has taken 12 months to complete. Bill Coombs







**My Two Days with Sir Jack** - continued - Sunday - by Graeme Ankers Sunday, Grand Prix day, and a fairly light schedule for the Brabhams.

I spent the morning with my friends in the Historic Paddock until midday, when Sir Jack and Lady Brabham duly arrived and were to go straight through the QANTAS Lounge to the restaurant above

Brabham duly arrived and were to go straight through the QANTAS Lounge to the restaurant above Pit Lane. There was an enormous crowd at the barrier in front of the Lounge entrance chanting "Sir Jack!" As usual, he stopped to sign autographs. After dragging him away, you guessed it: straight up those precipitous stairs. Lady Brabham smiled at me, shook her head and said: "It's his neck; you can't argue."

After lunch, Lady Brabham stayed in the restaurant talking to some old friends, so Sir Jack and I went to the autograph stand near the V-8s. There we met Allan Moffat, who was signing Grand Prix posters. The young lady on the microphone declared: "Here we have that great Ford driver from the past,

Moffat, and of course, three-times World Champion Sir Jack Bradman..." (We'll be generous and put it down to nerves...)

Next stop: Turn 15 for a parade lap with Sir Jack and Alan Jones. The Triumph Owners' Club were privileged to have their machines chosen as the marque to escort these two champions. The lead car, which carried Sir Jack, was a TR4A Convertible, bright red and returned to concourse condition. The driver opened the door for Sir Jack, who promptly stood in the car and then sat down on the last piece of panel in front of the boot lid. The owner looked at me in amazement; it was obvious Sir Jack was going to sit on the car and not in it.

The two QANTAS girls, in their gold, designer outfits, introduced themselves, and Lisa, Sir Jack's appointed assistant for the parade, jumped in – or should I say on – the car, straightened Sir Jack's tie, buttoned his jacket, put her arm around him and said laughingly: "He won't fall off. Let's go!" The owner nervously promised no jerky gear changes and then disappeared onto the track with Alan Jones following.

After the parade lap I took Sir Jack back to the restaurant, picked up Lady Brabham and did a quick golf buggy trip around the Historic Paddock. We were greeted by cheers and applause. Once again Sir Jack wanted to stop and sign autographs, but their car was waiting at the QANTAS Lounge to whisk them off to the airport. We bid our farewells with smiles and handshakes. (Their flight would probably have returned them to Queensland in time to watch the Grand Prix on television.)

Sir Jack Brabham OBE, AO turned 85 on 2nd April, 2011. I certainly hope – as do all motorsport enthusiasts – to see Sir Jack and Lady Brabham at many more Australian Grands Prix, especially in Melbourne.

Special thanks to Brenda and Grant Campbell, and also to Richard Williams, for a memorable weekend

**Email Newsletters -** sometimes I have email addresses that bounce so if you aren't getting them, please let me and the Membership Secretary know - grant@thecampbells.net.au

#### Classifieds

**For Sale** Take advantage of the confusion surrounding the Elfin brand after Tom Walkinshaw's demise. There are 2 new vehicles for sale at huge savings: Elfin MS8 Streamliner, only \$72,500 (over \$30,000 off!). Brand new with only 300 kms delivery mileage. Ducati yellow monster. Elfin T5 Clubman, only \$69,990 (over \$15,000 off!). Factory demonstrator with less than 1000kms. Both cars can be viewed at The Elfin Heritage Centre in Moorabbin, call Bill 0408 059 002

**Brand new (unused) Puma** FIA approved triple layer racesuit for driver around 5' 10" 34" waist, comes with full set of fire retardant underwear, hood, socks,gloves, plus size 9 Oakley boots and Sabelt gloves. I bought these items from Race Image in the US. The suit is plain white with black flashes, no advertising. It was used as a display outfit in a shop. I landed these items for \$750.00. Now for sale, due to a sudden change of plans, for \$500.00. I would prefer to sell together, but could be persuaded otherwise. I will charge more per item however, \$400 for the suit, \$100.00 for the shoes etc. Also, 1 near new Classic Additions lightweight breathable car cover, it fits a small sports car: Spitfire, Midget, suits indoor/outdoor use. this is a good product, landed for \$250, for sale at \$150.00. Please call Bob on 0430 220 877

## John Snow - Classic Motor Racer

Written and researched by John Medley, well known for his highly acclaimed "Bathurst - Cradle of Australian Motor Racing", this long awaited book presents the life and times of Sydney retail heir John Snow who raced in Australia and Europe immediately before and after the Second World War. When the world was much larger, few Australians raced as widely as John Snow. And then John Snow and his racing colleagues went to war. Price \$50 plus \$10 package/post in Australia/New Zealand Available from John Medley Post Office Box 171 Holbrook 2644 NSW

**Formula Ford Lola T440** 1977 Class Fa. \$30,000 Fresh Larner 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

**Porsche 1978 911** (Updated as RSR Clone) A great car and would enjoy a new owner who would exercise it more than I have over the last couple of years (Not at all!) Since the Lotus bug has bitten, I haven't driven it in any event. Besides, four of us are soon going to the UK and Europe to compete in our FJ's. Reduced price of \$67,500 - Kim - 0418 335 385