



VICTORIAN HISTORIC RACING REGISTER

ABN 97 521 303 894

Incorporated in Victoria

Association Number A 0007117 C

Foundation Patron: Sir Jack Brabham AO OBE World Champion 1959, 1960 & 1966
PO Box 3485 MELBOURNE VIC 3001 Website: www.vhrr.com Reg. No. 57/001
VHRR CLUB ROOMS 30-32 LEXTON RD BOX HILL

NEWSLETTER - January 2021

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

January	17th	Rob Roy Victorian Hillclimb Championship Rd 1.....	0412 339 934
February	23rd	AGM.....	0458 882 304
March	5-7th	Phillip Island Classic.....	0458 882 304
March	7th	Rob Roy Interclub Challenge Rd 1.....	0412 339 934
April	27th	MGM.....	0458 882 304
May	2nd	Historic Rob Roy.....	0412 339 934
May	21st-23rd	Historic Winton.....	0419 504 233
May	23rd	Rob Roy Interclub Challenge Rd 2.....	0412 339 934
June	22nd	MGM.....	0458 882 304
August	6-7-8th	Winton Festival of Speed.....	0412 264 997
August	15th	Vintage Rob Roy.....	0412 339 934
August	24th	MGM.....	0458 882 304
October	3rd	Rob Roy Interclub Challenge Rd 3.....	0412 339 934
October	26th	MGM.....	0458 882 304
October	31st	30th Historic & Classic Rob Roy.....	0412 339 934
November	5-7th	Historic Sandown.....	0402 224 133

Committee Meetings 2021

January 18th	April 19th	July 19th	October 18th
February 15th	May 17th	August 23rd	November 15th
March tbc	June 21st	September 20th	December 14th

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

(Red Plate)

Chris Nelson.....0439 955 562

2/1 Rushdale Street, Knoxfield 3180 BH only please.

*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.

The VHRR gratefully acknowledges the support of our major sponsors



SHARE THE PASSION

IMPORTANT NOTICES

Report from the Secretary

Just a reminder that the AGM is likely to be held on Tuesday February 23 2021. Leanne Newson, Secretary

Sad to note the passing of John Harvey.

I recall the homage paid to him by Bill Tuckey after a particularly dramatic drive in a Mini at Warwick Farm in the 60's. I copied it out and kept on my wall for years. It read; "Keep thy foot on the firewall, and the thing on the island and thy rewards shall be multitudinous"
Cheers, Stu Anderson

In case anyone in the VHRR hear of someone needing accommodation for the PI weekend I know of a single bed cabin at the Anchor Bell Cabin Park that's available. That's a really busy weekend as you know and might well be the last bed. I've stayed in these cabins previously and they are quite ok.

I've been lucky to get back into the usual motel but know this other one is still available. It was booked for three nights from the Friday.

Nigel Tait - Email: ntai2525@bigpond.net.au

I am thinking of starting a coffee

club racer group where we would have Saturday morning coffee at different cafes It would be once a month but not on the month when there a historic racing meeting e.g. March May August November Red plates cars are most welcome only one off visits to cafe at different locations eg Bayside Mornington Peninsula, Williamstown, Healesville, Queenscliff and Loch If interested please send email to greg.marriner@gmail.com

After the last VHRR Wednesday Lunch

in March it was a welcome return for the guys to catchup after such a long break. Social distancing was observed, thanks to Gordon for



setting up the room. Cheers, Simmo

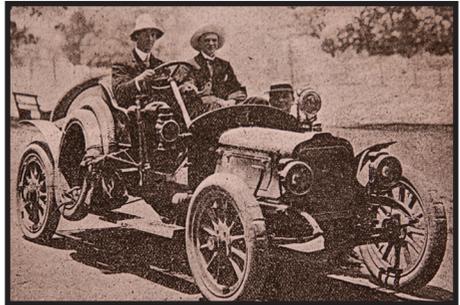
HARRY WHO? Part 3

With Sandown successfully completed the ACV held, during the 1904 Easter, a 400 mile tour through the Western District of Victoria. Starting in Geelong and passing through the Hamilton and Ballarat areas and eventually back towards Melbourne. Despite the roads being considered some of the best in Victoria, and the cars of the period being light, "and altogether unsuitable for lengthy touring", the few participants considered the event a success. Details of the event have been hard to find, but obviously Harry's knowledge of the area and his prior activities there, and as the ACV's secretary, it is obvious that he was involved. The ACV followed up by inviting participation in a 10 event Automotive Gymkhana at the Maribyrnong (Flemington ?) Racecourse on April 30th. The innovation was the first time in Australia, or, for that matter, in the Southern Hemisphere, that one whole afternoon has been given over entirely to automotive and motor cycle races proved to be a great success. That claim was further validated by the statement that followed.



The acting hon. Sec., Mr.H.(Harry)B.James, had everything at his fingers ends, and under the direction of Mr. H.J.J.Maddox the details fitted into one another and moved like a well oiled engine. Despite his administrating duties Harry drove and finished 5th in the Voiturette race, and 4th in the motor cycle race. Mr.J.R.Crooke had another easy win in his Locomobile. And a Mr. W.J. Moffatt finished 5th in the motor cycle handicap. All races were handicap events. Other events, starting, stopping and reversing gave the spectators a better understanding of motor vehicle's abilities. The event had attracted about 3000 spectators despite the one shilling admission. Just four weeks later, on May 28th saw Australia's first official hill climb when the

prosecuted for colliding with a cyclist and was fined one pound with twenty six shilling costs. The State Governor, Sir Reginald Talbot and his Aide had ridden out to the "sleepy hollow"



Mr CB Kellow & HB James



1904 Hillclimbing contests

ACV presented the Burgundy Street, Heidelberg attempt. Three years earlier, in August 1901, Harry, together with his boss, Mr J. Proctor had driven the Dunlop De Dion Voiturette to Heidelberg to attended a push bike event on that hill. After the bikes had finished several cars tied their luck. The De Dion, with three on board, only got half way. So Harry had prior knowledge of the terrain and the use of public roads. The original program records that one of the timekeepers was Harry. He was also the starter and still manage to compete in a 5hp Humberette. Not everything went to plan when the police got involved. The local press reported in part - The cyclist got tangled up underneath the car but was not badly injured. The episode, however, woke up the police, and one of the blue coated gentlemen stepped down to the starting point, full of zeal and righteous indignation. Seizing hold of Harry James, explained the incident and the regulations. "Further," he said, "you promised to stand a man with a red flag on the corner, and you have not done so". The constables remained in attendance recording names of competitors for a report to headquarters which resulted in Mr J. Timmins (He wasn't a competitor) being

on horses. When the event was over the Old England Hotel served afternoon tea. There were very few motor cars (possibly about 50) in Victoria at that time but some owners did exercise them at every opportunity, according to press reports from that era. Names that reappear most frequently are usually committee members like Mr.C.B.Kellow a push bike manufacturer and champion rider who as early as 1901 advertised that he was also the Importer of Motor Cars and Sundries. He was later to become the agent for Rolls Royce. You will also read in a future episode he had a habit of getting involved with Harry's happenings by supplying Harry with vehicles. To be continued **The Sir Jack Brabham Annex** at the VHRR clubrooms has had some interesting cars on show lately. The launch of the Blanchard Racing Team Mustang, and the new display of the Blanchard F/Ford cars. Tim Blanchard displays the painting of the Swift F/Ford. Good luck the the Blanchard/Cooldrive Team for 2021.



Cheers Simmo.

2020 Take 2 - Year in Review

2020 is a year I'm sure we can all say, didn't go as originally planned!

Having done my annual wrap up of the season in August, it's fair to say that there weren't the highest of hopes that we'd be getting back out on track before the year was out, but thanks to easing restrictions, we were able to close out the year with a bit of track time, and I'm so glad we got that opportunity to do so.

Late November saw an all Historic Test and Tune at Winton, which for me was such a confidence booster, having started the day with an expectation to be a bit rusty, and a goal to just get back into the groove of things before the end of proceedings, both expectation and goal were surpassed by some margin.

I finished the day right on the pace, which was a massive boost in that ever so important confidence that I've always strived to have under my belt. But, the gain in confidence didn't only come from my belief in the car, but from belief in myself and my ability, there's noticeable progress there, of which I'm very excited to build on in the coming year.

A week later we made the trek up to the Rob Roy Hillclimb for the 29th Historic and Classic event, which once again was a big step forward for my confidence and learning, with varying weather conditions all day long being thrown at us. It's always good fun driving up to the start line not knowing what to expect!

Typical Melbourne weather saw us get 2 dry runs up the hill, and those two runs happened to be the quickest I'd been up Rob Roy, by quite a bit, too.

Coming into the day, my PB was a 29.9, and at the completion of the event my two dry runs were timed at 28.6 and 28.4, which goes to show what I've been told constantly since my first ever time in the car, with experience comes confidence, and with confidence comes lap times.

Overall, the closing stages of the year turned out to be fantastic, certainly a lot better than we'd expected!

As always, a massive thank you must go to Conor Ryan for the amazing opportunity, and for all the help, advice and pointers throughout the year that have most certainly helped with my improvement, learning and confidence, I'm really looking forward to continue to move forward in the mighty Daveric Formula Vee in 2021.

I'm forever grateful, and can't thank you enough Conor!

And to all who helped, supported and were involved with the year that was 2020, I thank you millions, your help is greatly appreciated and

you're all legends!

Wishing everyone all the very best for a happy, safe and Motorsport filled New Year, I look forward to seeing you all trackside in 2021!

Josh Lowing

Of interest this month is the GM Australia & NZ (GMANZ) press release announcing the allocation of the Holden historic car fleet to various motoring museums. Some 12 museums will have received cars and engines. The largest number to go to the National Motor Museum at Birdwood, who plan to showcase the cars from mid-December. Surprisingly, neither the National Museum of Australia in Canberra nor Scienceworks in Melbourne took an allocation. This may be because of a lack of exhibition space. Protection of the former Holden Fishermans Bend buildings has yet to be resolved. As previously reported the Heritage Council of Victoria made a report to the Planning Minister. He has yet to make a decision. There was no opportunity by outsiders to contribute and the report remains secret.

Thanks to Automotive Historians Australia for the above report.

Classifieds

Quick fuel E85 Race Carburettor as new, cost aprox \$1600.00 will sell for \$800.00.ph 0418 313 482



FOR SALE - STARTER KIT I've retired from racing and this gear could suit someone thinking of having a go, without having to outlay for new equipment.

RPM race suit-size M

Sparco boots size 41

RPM gloves size XL/11

Helmet, headsize XL61-62

RPM gear bag.

Some balaclavas and underwear.

It's all used but in good condition.

\$450.00

Tony Burrage 87904868 or 0409767117