

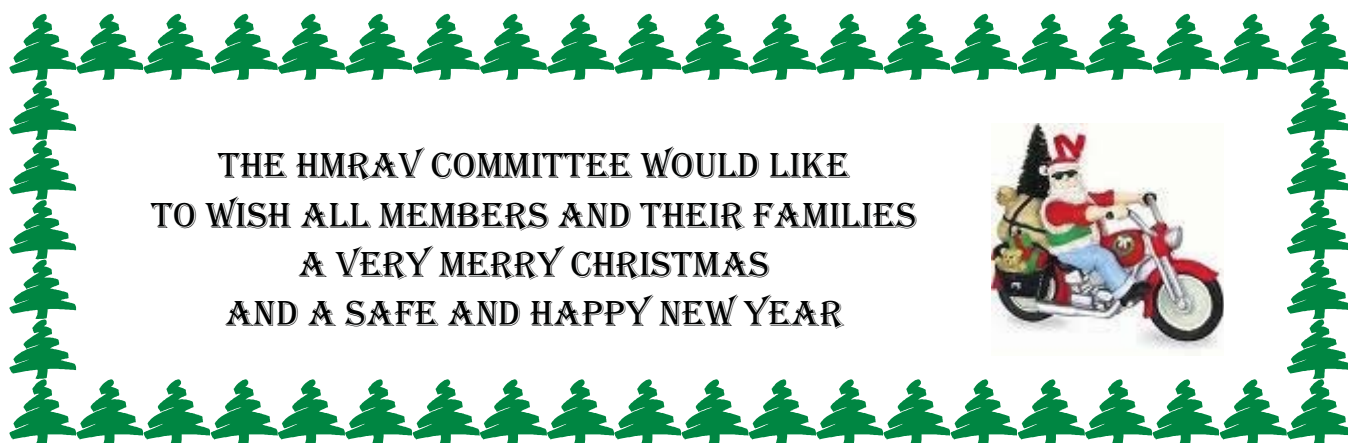


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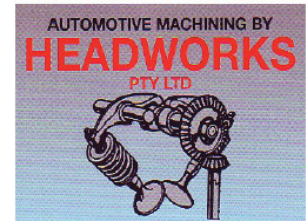
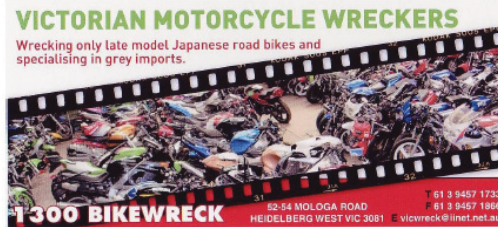


The newsletter of the Historic Motorcycle Racing Association of Victoria

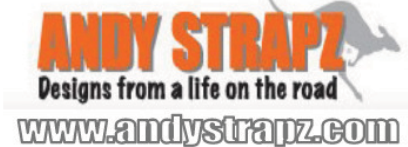


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# The Committee

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<b>Merchandise Assistant</b>	Rebecca Betteridge		
<b>Committee Members</b>	Robert Todd	Glen Walsh	Dave Betteridge Craig Longhurst
<b>Life Members</b>	John Todd Mike Brudar Mick Large	Garth Rhodes Dave Large Graham Harder	Shirley Luke Robert Todd Marg Todd



## Presidents Report

Welcome to the Christmas edition of Flatchat. I really look forward to this one as it always makes me smile when I read through it. Glen does an awesome job with the mag and has quietly gone about putting his stamp on it and making it his own.



Just want to take the opportunity to thank everyone that's in some way assisted HMRAV during the year. Whether you're a racer, flaggie, volunteer, medico, sponsor, committee member or one of our many spectators.....thanks from me. We couldn't do what we do nor have as much fun doing it, without all of you. Cheers.

As far as the Marchy's are concerned it's the end of another year and the start of more adventures! We've just had the best time in 2012, seen so much of the country, raced at great tracks, laughed and had fun with so many friends and embraced all that our sport has to offer.

So, enjoy your Christmas and have a safe New Year.

Bring on 2013!  
Best wishes, Marchy.

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### **A quick note from the Editor**



As another incredible year comes to a close I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have contributed to another hugely successful year for Flatchat.

With links on the HMRAV website and now the Facebook site Flatchat is being read by more people each and every issue which is playing a vital part in the ever increasing interest being shown in Historic Racing.

I hope to receive many more submission from you, the members, in the new year with more interesting, unusual or funny happenings. Whether it's a humble "shitbox" build, a riding (or passengerring) experience, or something you've found on the internet, the articles appearing in Flatchat are always well received by our readership.

Hope Santa brings you something nice, Cheers, Glen

#### **HMRAV PROPOSED MEETING DATES FOR 2012 TO REMEMBER *(subject to change!)***

SA Historic Road Racing Championships 2012 & Last Round of the Classic Sidecar Challenge  
Saturday 29th & Sunday 30th December (Practice available Friday 28th of December)  
Supp Regs available on the website [http://www.hmra.org/upcoming\\_events.htm](http://www.hmra.org/upcoming_events.htm)

### **HMRAV Club meetings are conducted at the**

Mitcham Angling Club  
19 Brunswick Street, Mitcham

Meetings are (usually) held every 2nd Monday of the month from 7pm SHARP:

**Come along and join us!**



The HMRV's Spiritual and Cultural advisor has been a little quiet of late but he felt compelled to give us all the benefits of his wisdom with a Christmas message...

Dear Esteemed Editor,

As is our usual custom, my good lady wife and I were enjoying a latte at one of our favourite beachside café's when I noted with interest Australia's recent attempts to obtain a seat on the UN's Security Council. Whilst I applaud our country's motives in flexing its Asia Pacific muscles, I wonder if our current crop of politicians and diplomats have the negotiation skills necessary to handle the likes of Ugandan despots and Middle Eastern militia.

I have watched with interest the machinations of our own committee as they shoulder the load created by running such outstanding events as the Victorian Historic Titles, Historic Winton and the Southern Classic. The administration, planning, delegation and financial control on display is nothing short of magnificent and a credit to all who serve.

My question to you Mr Editor is: Should HMRV contact Prime Minister Gillard and UN Secretary General, Mr Ban Ki-moon and offer the services of those organisational dynamo's Mr Doghouse Dave Philpot's, Mr Slim Phil Watson and the delightful, Ms Kelly Spargo. I honestly believe that if the UN Security Council had these three as advisors we might finally rid the world of nasty people and achieve world peace.

I hope you all have a very happy and safe Christmas and New Year and as usual, I leave you with a quote:

"I'd rather attempt to do something great and fail than attempt to do nothing and succeed"

As always,  
Concerned of Moonee Ponds.



Rumour has it that this is a genuine, 100% authentic snap of our man *Concerned* during his days on the Continental Circus...we just don't know which one he is!



Close friend and confidant of Concerned is one of our newer members Mr John Burchell Esq.



Toddy was fortunate enough to be officiating at the Geelong Speed Trials but would these lovely ladies be this close if they saw how Toddy usually dresses?





# MUMS – Come on, Get out there, Have a go

Words Bec Betteridge, Pics Pete from KTJ Images and Sid from scephoto.com

Most of you would know my daughter Ellie, (nearly 4 now), she's been coming to the race tracks with us since she was born. Ellie would be the child you saw asleep in the pits, with all the sidecars & 2 strokes starting around her, or she's clapping, cheering and giving everyone the thumbs up as they come in from their race. She really loves the whole experience and club.

It wasn't all that long ago when a few of you may have read about my very first experience as a 'Swinger' on my Uncle's (now the Pres) Norton sidecar #42, called A place Where No One Can Hear You Scream!! What a long way I've come in such a short period of time.

Two more Girls Only Track Days, which really are fabulous for anyone wanting to have a go and see what it's like. Gaining track time with The Clancey's on the F2, loving Toddy's screeching sliding ways on Parker and surviving Stu spinning me out.... literally, and I find myself borrowing leathers and waving to Ellie from the sidelines on sidecar #942, which my husband built in like 2 months!!! Racing in my first ever event on a Go Kart track in Townsville of all places, completed my first hill climb at Mt Tarrengower and competing in the Great Southern Classic as well as the Ray Kelly handicap race, with all points from all events going towards the Classics Sidecar Challenge!!!! And learnt what a PB is.

So while mum & dad are on sidecar #942 and uncle & aunty are on sidecar #42 where and who does Ellie stay with I hear you ask? This was one of my biggest concerns about me jumping on the sidecar. I wanted to wait til at least Ellie was 7 or 8, however the opportunity just kinda fell in my lap and for anyone especially the chickadees out there who have giving 'swinging' a go, you would understand it was hard to refuse.



Beccy and Uncle Brian



Dave And Beccy in action at the Southern Classic



Jess Harris ready to head out and have some fun!

Not having Ellie at the track with us was just not an option, she loves as much as we do and its our family time, we spend all week apart from each other, why would you want to do that on the weekend too. Plus Ellie knows them all, which sidecars or bikes they have, can spot them on the track, plays tricks on them and gives out special treasures (look on Toddy's sidecar for Ellie's special rocks). Luckily for us we have meet and made so many great people thru the club and events, with their generosity and support, its enabled me (us) to also get out onto the track and have some fun. Everyone helps each other whether its





bike parts, pitting space, packing up or looking after each other's kids. It's a much unexpected wonderful family friendly environment.

So if you want to give it a go, have a try, don't think you can't, there's plenty of people that are willing to lend you a hand, so you can have so fun. Get involved, it's a rewarding experience, for Everyone!

Next Girls Day will be at Broadford Saturday February 16<sup>th</sup> 2013, jump on the HMRAV site or facebook page for details

Bec Betteridge #942



*The All Girls Days and the Come & Try Days have been a great success this year.  
Heap of different bikes, different skill levels and lots of fun.  
Make sure you or somebody you know is a part of it next year!*







## Presentation Night 2012

Hotel Kew Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December

Words Glen Dane, Pics Marg Todd



It was another great night for the HMRAV with more than 50 members, partners and kids all turning up for the Annual Presentation Dinner. Like all HMRAV events this year, numbers were up with some of our far flung members making use of the accommodation available nearby ensuring they could have a good night.

The formalities were brief with Brian reflecting on the ever increasing number of entries we are



Dave Large presented the Encouragement Award to Leanne March

receiving for each event and the increasing

membership base. He also thanked the committee for their continued hard work and support throughout the year.



Life Member Dave Large presented his award to Leanne March for her efforts this year. Although Dave didn't seem overly impressed with the machinery Leanne raced on Dave thought her contribution was well worth recognising. Leanne competed in all 5 rounds of the Australian modern sidecar Championships with Chrissie Clancey. Together they picked up 3<sup>rd</sup> in the F2 cup. A fantastic effort considering this was the "No Balls" Racing teams first year competing in the Championship with the girls competing on 4 tracks they'd never seen before! This was in addition to her duties as Brian's passenger on the P3 Norton.

Doug Dukes received the President's Award for his continued contribution to Historic Racing. Doug is well known for his insightful and witty commentary at our race meetings and has been around



motorcycle racing seemingly forever. Not so commonly known (until now) are Doug's antics after the final race has ended that walk a fine line between legendary and illegal! Doug was not speechless, but was genuinely flattered to receive his award.

Stan Mucha received the Solo Club Championship award for his great year on his Indian. Stan was really surprised to win the club championship and was rapt.





Solo Club Champion Stan Mucha  
above in action and  
below receiving his award



He describes himself as only just “running” around and didn’t think he was anywhere near contention. Proves the point that if you set a good pace in your class and you have a reliable bike, you can do well.

Consistency also paid dividends for Brian and Leanne who were awarded Sidecar Club Champions this year. The March team competed at Queensland (as part of the first round of the sidecar challenge) Vic Titles, Winton, Mt Tarrengower, The Southern Classic and will be going to Mt Gambier for the final

round. This is in addition to the numerous come & try days and girls track days. A huge year of racing for the Marchys!

Once presentations were over the “bench racing” began in earnest.....Stories grew larger and tales of incredible passing manoueurs came thick and fast! The usual Triumph vs Norton rivalry surfaced but a new battle line was drawn. It appears the number of members who have purchased

buses or “Coasters” is growing and “my bus is bigger than yours” is now almost as important as who won what!

So, another end of year dinner has come and gone and it’s great to see it so well supported. It’s a fun night and a chance to kick back and reflect on the years racing.

Next year is sure to be a big one with more fierce competition for the HMRAV’s top honours



### Solo Club Championship Points

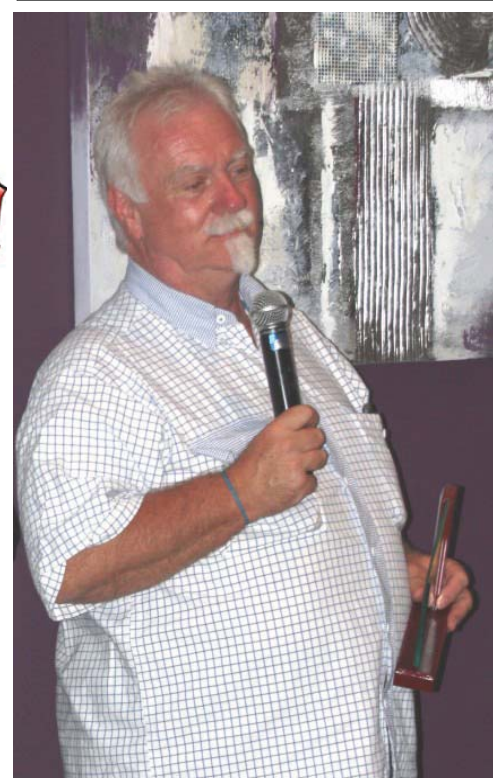
1st	237	Stan Mucha
2nd	230	Keith Campbell
3rd	189	David Wain

### Sidecar Championship Points

1st	205	Brian March & Leanne March
2nd	192	Steve Barnettt & Alaina McCarthy
3rd	158	David Wain & Greg Ditchfield
	158	Chrissie Clancy & Leanne March



Brian and Leanne March, Sidecar  
champions for 2012.  
Well Done



Doug Dukes, well deserved  
recipient of the Presidents Award

## **Another Shit of a Project: Episode 5.**

### **It seems that it is endless – Get used to it!**

Last time I talked about the project being close to completion, that's if you ignore the need for tyres, carb fitment and set-up, throttle cable connection, chambers, etc, etc! Well, with having to apply for my job recently (just like to thank Big Ted for that) after nearly eleven years in the role, I've had to focus away from the bike as you might expect.

I got back to it recently, and have now fitted and plumbed the carbies, my customized specials as I call them. Anyone interested in letting me loose on their CR's for some special treatment, Hmwahahahaha!

Phil Watson our club Secretary contacted me recently and the two of us will be sharing resources to develop and make some chambers. Thanks Phil, and I hope that my reply e-mail did not go into your junk mail? At least then the carbies and battery won't get too hot, and I will be able to access them!

Just been saving the pennies to get into Mick P's workshop and get the tyres taken care of. Not that Mick is expensive, just that I am broke! I've used up my allowance for a while, and begging for more is increasingly difficult for me. My knees are buggered and getting up takes a while!

I had an interesting encounter recently, relevant to the project. I was on a run in a local park (yes I did say a run, like "Pounding the Pavement", literally), and stopped to watch some young blokes on those three wheelers, you know the ones with the big front wheel? They were having a ball drifting or sliding down a hill from one of the poppet heads up hear. I had a yarn with them and mentioned the Tarrengower Hill climb where I'm aware that the same bikes have come down the hill sideways! It's on YouTube. Anyway, we got onto the outfit and how we missed out this year, and also about the project. Two of them were real keen to have a look and even a go. A few days later, along with their Dad's, they came and had a look, and I offered them a ride, they accepted with absolute enthusiasm! Just have to help them get their licenses now. Looks like it's been worthwhile already?

Back to the project. I've done most of the bolt wiring, under the sump, and have started making a frame to fit over the right hand side cover, which if punctured, would leak gear box oil. Um, and you have to lean these things through corners don't you, not steer like on the Pig? Well, that means that I'm likely to lay it down on the odd occasion doesn't it? It's a bit of a task, mainly working out the correct mounting points and getting the two inch flat to bend at odd angles. I know a local Tattooist who has offered to "Tattoo" the bike for me with an air brush, if I give him some credit. Who am I to argue! It'll certainly make it unique. Might even.....nah, too old for that now, and I'm unique cause I don't have any Tatts at all.

You might recall that I had some Yamaha forks in the offing? Well, I did get them but they are too big and too modern unfortunately. But there you go; you never know if you don't have a go. Looks like the original units, in sortakinda reasonable shape, will stay put. Has anyone got any advice on the correct or suitable fork oil to use, and the quantity? As I mentioned last time, I can't find details anywhere.

The bike is still up on the stands, and I'm reluctant to take it down just yet. Until I get the tyres done and fit up the chambers, it's in an ideal position to work on without lying on the shed floor or breaking my back bending over it. Still haven't sourced what might be a reliable electronic tachometer for the project, but that's a minor issue and I will find one eventually.

Major win recently, I scored, thanks to Buck, a two bike trailer in excellent condition, for the best possible price, zip, zilch, nada, free even. See ya can be lucky sometimes! It just needs the lights sorted and a bit of a tidy up, but bugger all really.

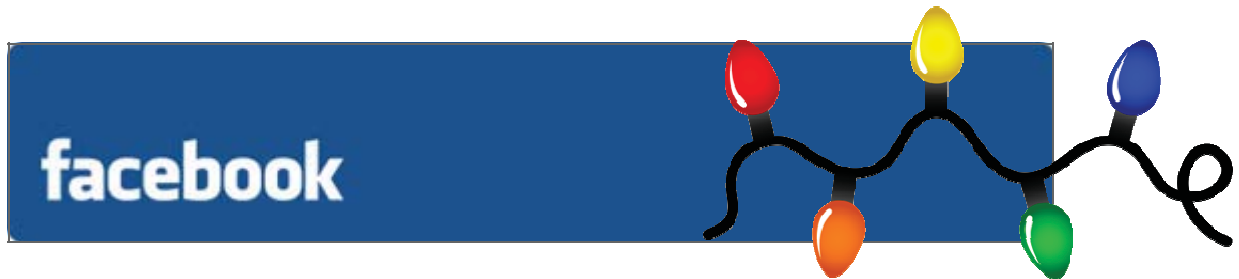
I climbed up on the bike recently to see how it felt with me on it? Imagine, all 100 kgs of me sitting on this little two stroke about 7 feet up in the air. The Boss came in to see what I was doing, and I said that I was just checking clearances between me and the tank (guy's you know what I mean?). Well, typical woman, she responded with, why, they're only there for balance these days! Note: complete loss of self-esteem and any remaining feelings of manhood! Revenge will be mine I tells ya, isn't that right dear? I didn't mention last time that the number "23" on the bike will be its racing number. I have cleared that with John D already. I also have the photos and form ready to go in for the log book, which I don't expect will present any problems. Well, I am an optimist after all!

On writing this, the young blokes have been back again, and we've had a yarn about the bike and racing. One of them is also very keen on having a go on the outfit, HmMMM have to see about that? Anyway, they are also keen to see the project finished so I have two little helpers now. Might mean I have to find another one to build so they can both have a go? Strueth, let it be a four stroke next time!

That's about it for now, not a lot on the bike and a bit on other things, but it's still moving in the right direction. Oh, by the way, I got to keep my job after all. I probably should thank Ted for that, I did say probably! Until next time.

Cheers, Tony.





The HMRV facebook page is continually growing, it seems a lot of people are really enjoying the medium to share information and their experiences.

At last count there were more than 210 members of the facebook page and more than 170 in the "Red Plate Gang."

Everyday there's something added and it's become a great way to get up to the minute information out.

If you haven't had a look, or don't know how ask one of you sons or daughters, nieces or nephews, they're sure to be able to help. Otherwise try one of our resident experts like Marchy or Doghouse (they're worse than teenage girls!)



My 1975 Moto Guzzi 850T. (and the Z in the background...)



[Brian March](#) Spoke with Doug Flack on the weekend and he's tooling up to make some P4 Sidecar chassis's. They'll be for Honda fours, so if he get's enough genuine interest he might make 3 or 4. If you want to know more, msge me or email me at [bmarch12@hotmail.com](mailto:bmarch12@hotmail.com). Start saving your pennies...



[Douglas Chivas](#) i need to sell P5 TZ750 Windle just won 2012 aust champs to make room for P4 BMW iam getting old

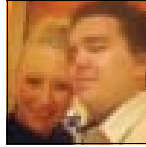


#### [Brian March](#)



Brilliant turn out today at the Come and Try day at Broadford. Over 80 punters fronted up and rode the wheels off their bikes! A really good natured group who just wanted to enjoy their day and respect everyone else on the track, all combined to make it an easy day for the HMRV crew. Huge thanks to [Phillip Watson](#), [Rebecca Betteridge](#), John and [Chrissie Clancy-Ingpen](#) and of course the First Lady, [Leanne March](#), who handled all the admin and scrutineering. You guys did a fantastic job. I met some great people during the day and I hope to see you all again at future HMRV events. Special mention to Shelley from the Mornington Peninsula Motorcycle club, (a great bunch of people and definitely new friends of HMRV) for having a go on the sidecars.....we think we may have a new convert! All in all, an awesome event and a great advertisement for the club and the Broadford complex. Cheers, Marchy - HMRV Pres.





[Stace Heanz](#) Fantastic weekend at Geelong sprints ... Everybody get onto it for next year it's an absolutely fantastic weekend out !



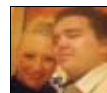
[Chrissie Clancy-Ingpen](#) Whoops. Wrong timing you do that in the pits not on the track...



[Peter Large](#) Don't worry about it Stu. The Gorries like to throw their passengers out on that corner!



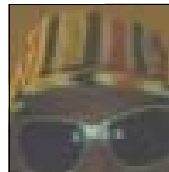
[Stuart Williams](#) I checked the bearings while i was at it... So not a complete waste of effort!



[Stace Heanz](#) Ouch !



[Brian March](#) The part I like the most is that like any rider worth his salt....Doug's completely oblivious to what young Stu is doing



[Phil Watson](#). If you are renewing your license or applying for a new one you no longer need the signed and stamped form. You just need a copy of your current club membership card and send that in with your filled in form.



Although it was at short notice, we had 10 people turn up for the first HMRAV Red Plate Run. The venue was Soltan Pepper Restaurant, in Romsey. Stuart Gorrie is the head chef there, and he cooked us up a hearty meal of scrambled & eggs benedict, tomatoes & mushroom.

One sidecar passenger however, opted for a huge stack of pancakes with ice cream & berries, obviously to build up more strength.

Those attending were Dave (Vincent sidecar), Lyn (BSA sidecar) ,Tiny & Monica (Norton Commander), Ray (Kawasaki), Steve (Suzuki), Rob (Velocette), Brian & Leanne (Norton Commando) & Doug (BSA)

After about 1 1/2 hours of talking bikes, work, & solving the worlds' problems, some of us took the option of a local ride. Brian, Leanne & Rob had to head off home, while Tiny had electrical problems on the rotary. He and Monica stayed back to sort them out, then headed safely back to Ballarat.

The rest of us rode up through Lancefield & Newnham then up Mount Macedon. Rather than the normal tourist route, we took the challenging Alton Rd up the front side of the Mount. This is a steep 3km narrow bitumen lane, with several very tight hairpin bends, taken at walking pace. There is 1km of gravel road to finish up near the Cross car park.

A 20 minute chat was then followed by a run back to Romsey, for tea & scones at Doug's place. More bike talk and a look in the shed.

All agreed it was a good few hours spent with friends, and something that could add to the HMRAV calendar.

Thanks to Stuart & Gillian Gorrie for the catering.

Regards, Doug Gorrie

