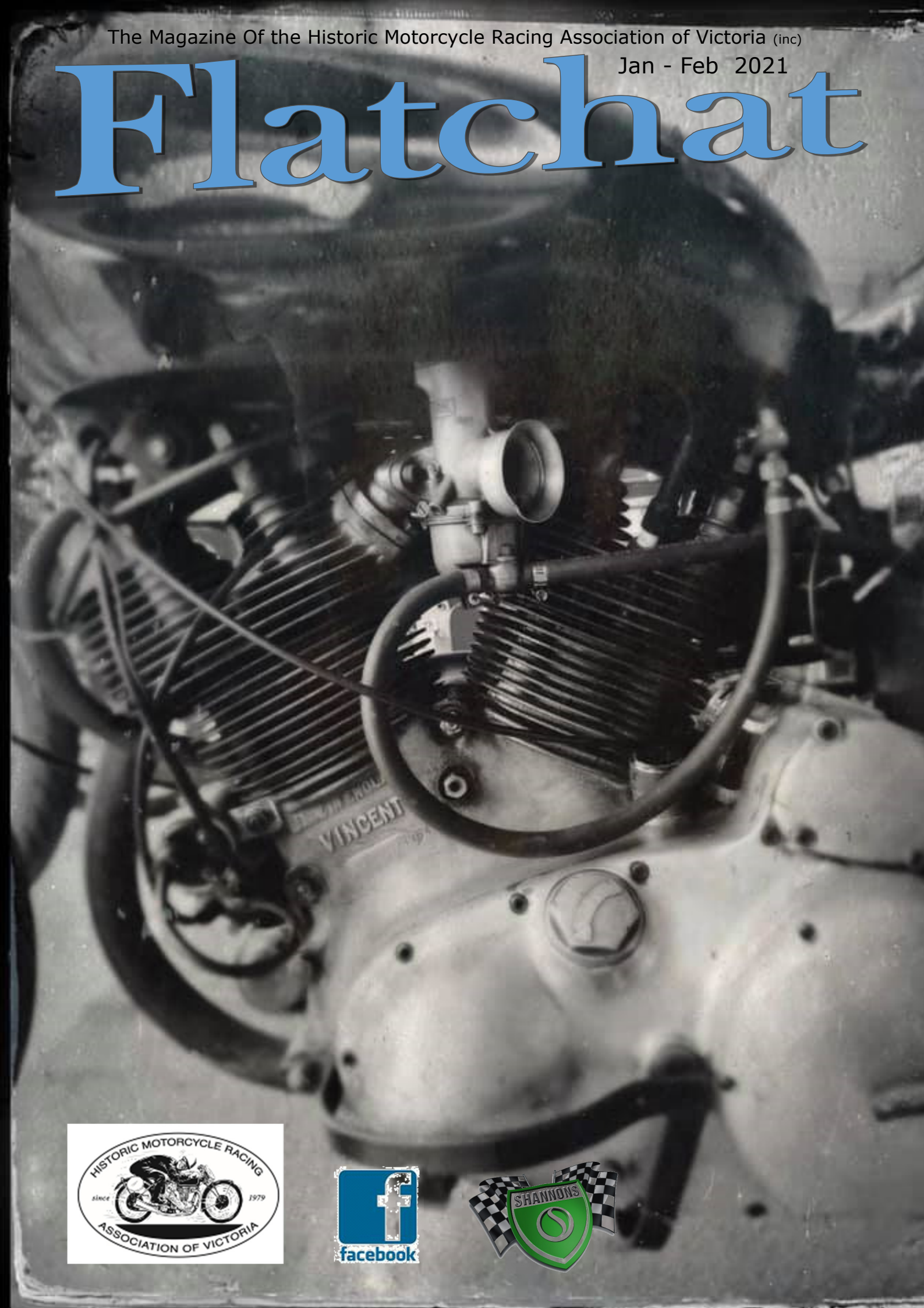


The Magazine Of the Historic Motorcycle Racing Association of Victoria (inc)

Jan - Feb 2021

# Flatchat



# Behind the Bars

## The Presidents Report

Welcome to 2021. 2020 was certainly a strange year and one we would all like to forget.

Firstly the HMRAV committee would like to thank all club members for sticking with us throughout such a difficult time. We would have all liked to be back on the track but unfortunately, not so.

After careful consideration, the HMRAV committee have taken the decision to cancel the Victorian Historic Road Race Championships and the Eddington Sprints for 2021.

The decision to do this is one we've taken after reviewing the VicGov's Covid-19 Public Events Framework, MA's "Return to Play" document, discussions with MA and MV, Members of CAMS, other Victorian Road Race clubs, members of the Victorian Historic Management committee and other interested parties.

We have also taken onboard MA's decision to not run the Bonanza, PI Corp's cancellation of the Island Classic and the deferring of the F1 Grand Prix until October. Most of these events are professionally run and some draw in a profit of millions of dollars. If these promoters are cancelling or deferring due to Covid restrictions, it would be fair to say it's a huge task for a small club with a committee of volunteer racers.

We are also mindful of our club's age demographic and the fact that Motorcycling Victoria asked us not to run last year with the Covid outbreak in its infancy. The Covid situation has improved in Victoria but it is still

highly volatile and outbreaks and border closures are an everyday occurrence.

Our committee has many concerns relating to our club, (any club for that matter) being able to fully comply with the Dept. of Health's guidelines and the liability that would befall us as a committee and club if any Covid issues were traced back to our event.

We have made this decision mindful of timeframes and trying to be fair to both our members and competitors. To leave it any later would create too many issues.

We intend to continue to monitor the Covid-19 situation as it relates to the promotion of events and hope that our Southern Classic in November is once again a viable event for us.



### Cover Image

*On The Red Line Photography by Simon Trnovsky has supplied our cover image this edition of Mick Chegs Vincent that has been recommissioned after a long and interesting life. Simons images of the Mac Park meeting as also included in the meeting article by Brian March*

## The Committee

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Tim Loone  
Leanne March  
Patrick Clancey  
Chrissie Clancy

MV Delegates:  
Dave Philpots  
Brian March  
Keith Campbell

Life Members:  
John Todd, Mike Brudar  
Mick Large, John Daley  
Garth Rhodes, Dave Large  
Graham Harder, Doug Hicks  
Shirley Luke, Robert Todd  
Marg Todd, Mick Chegidden  
Brian March, Dave Philpots

# In the Chair

From the Editor



Welcome back to the first Flatchat in almost a year. There's been very little Victorian Historic Motorcycle racing going on and we don't think that's going to change for a while but there is just a glimmer of hope coming around the bend.

Even though we aren't in a position to start our own race meetings some of our members have been able to get across the border and race interstate. Brian March and a band of racing gypsies went to Mac Park for their annual New Years meeting which you can read about further in this issue.

We are also starting up our monthly meetings at the Mitcham Angling Club again with March 15th pencilled

in. Keep an eye on the Facebook page or give one of the committee members a call to confirm when the meetings will take place. Everything is subject to change at very short notice but we'll do our best to have up to date information available.

I'm always looking for interesting articles to include in Flatchat so if you've been rebuilding your race bike, building a new bike, working on or riding your Club Permit bike with your mates let me know.

It looks like our dear friend Concerned of Moonee Ponds has found a ribbon for his type writer too and is once again happy to share his observations with us all....

## Concerned of Moonee Ponds

Dear esteemed editor,

The time has once again arrived where I have felt the need to pen a short note to that great and glorious group of miscreants, the HMRVAV.

Times have been tough, esteemed editor. The world is facing many threats....population explosions, Third world debt, megalomaniac Dictators, Border tussles, Brexit, Climate change and now this dastardly bat flu emanating from a wet market in China! What next.....?

I also note with great sadness the cessation of many of our much loved events....The Victorian Historic Championships, Southern Classic and the wonderful Mount Tarrengower....2020 was definitely an Annus Horribilus.

I have taken great interest though in the HMRVAV's commitment to moving forward, in a rather 21st century way, by running the delightfully named ZOOM meetings....marvellous!!

With the mighty Zoom thingy, the opportunity

is there to invite people from all over the globe...passionate free thinkers that could surely have input for our wonderful committee.

May I be so bold as to suggest sending an invitation to that delightful Norwegian imp, Greta Thunberg. What a passionate youngster she is. For someone so young and still living in the parental home, she seems to have an opinion on everything....marvellous!

Though I must admit, during this whole nasty Covid -19 period, I've not heard a peep from her. Bad internet connection, too much homework....boys....I'm not sure but I'm certain that fertile brain of hers is just the thing we at HMRVAV HQ could use.

Just an idea and something for our wonderful club leaders to "mull over" as they say in the western suburbs.

Wonderful to once again correspond with you dear Sir and I look forward to attending many events in the future.

Yours sincerely,  
Concerned of Moonee Ponds.



# Mac Park

Words Brian March, Pics Simon Trnovsky

## The HMCRRSA 2020 South Australian Historic Road Race Championships

After the year that no-one saw coming, (and the likelihood of more restrictions in the future), about 50 HMRV members made a dash across the border and competed at the South Australian Historic Championships over the weekend of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of January.

Mac Park at Christmas is a great event and a firm favourite amongst many of our club members. With this being the first real big historic event we could race at and an opportunity to escape Melbourne for awhile, Doghouse, Mick Chegg and Leanne and I loaded up our Handshifters, made our way over and set up our "compound" near the pits. Also joining our happy bunch of campers were former Flatchat editor Reg Boeti and son Dan, Ross Bolding, David Hoy and wife Maggie.

This year we were well organised with multiple gazebo's and King's awnings attached to our race vans. Prior to coming over, Doghouse had been particularly active on various 4wd websites and provided



*Doghouse and Marchy waiting....*

me with a full list of "must haves" for successful race pit/camping. This included awnings, tents for the awnings, mega batteries enclosed in nifty battery boxes and solar blankets to power it all. Combined with the Waeco's that we've both had for awhile, we were set. Doghouse had done well and we had everything we needed. Add to this the good facilities and large camping areas of Mac park, and it really is a great spot to camp, race and socialise....just how we like to roll!

Sign on and scrutineering completed, Saturday morning we were ready to head out for qualifying. To say we were all fairly

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*So who's happy to be racing again!*





# Mac Park

rusty was a bit of an understatement! Ross Bolding put it aptly as “feeling a bit floppy out there”....

That is all of us except Doghouse. The VP had taken the opportunity during lockdown to finish his WLA handshift race bike. With help from many club members but particularly Tim and Michelle Loone, the bike was beautifully finished. It's a bit of a show stopper actually. After running it at home with a borrowed Linkert from Tim, Doghouse had rebuilt a new carb and fitted it up. It had fired up ok but with the restrictions of living in the suburbs, hadn't really been able to test it out. Saturday morning at the track and it wasn't playing the game. While Mick and I completed both quals and were starting to feel a wee bit more comfortable, Doghouse, Ross and David were all playing with the carb trying to get it to co-operate. Luckily Doghouse had brought Tim's carb as a spare and decided to try re-fitting that. Instantly the bike was better and smiles returned to the compound.

Our race, Class C, was in with P2 and all 125's, so out of the 13 racers, all but



3 were HMRV members. This shows me a couple of things....a) the older classes are not dying out, (contrary to what a lot of people believe) and b) HMRV members are keen racers and always willing to support our sport.

As well as our Handshifters, Mick had also brought along his P3 Vincent Rapide. The bike has a great back story and he's known it since the 60's. It's a survivor that's been through living in multiple homes and different states....it even survived the Brisbane floods! It was one of the most photographed bikes at the meeting and always had a crowd watching on when started up. If you get the chance, have a chat to Mick and learn the story of an amazing bike.

Then before we knew it race one was upon us. After nearly 20 years of racing I still get butterflies but after an almost 12 month break, I have to admit I was nervous. But as we all know, once the race starts....the race face comes on and it's away we go. I'd had some problems in NZ at The Burt and had spent lockdown repairing the Indian and fitting up some different profile cams. For once, after making some pretty major changes, every change seemed to work. The little Indian was

*Above, this is what a grid of Historic race bikes looks like, it's been a while.*

*Left: Rissolle and Mick Cheg, interesting conversation to be sure.*



0409 427 428





# Mac Park

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working a treat. It was starting easier, had much better acceleration and I seemed to have nailed the right gearing. I was able to hang with Mick, something I'd never managed before, and finally watch and learn from this well experienced Indian racer. A few gremlins surfaced for Mick....a slippery clutch and a gear linkage bolt disappearing during one race, allowing me to get a few passing moves in but I was happy just to be up and about.

With the old carb back on, Doghouse was now able to get out in all of our races. So, with only a bit of a niggle regarding the gear change linkage, the bike was starting and running really well. He finished all 4 championship races and was rewarded for his consistency by picking up a fourth place. Class C results favoured our club as well with David Hoy 1<sup>st</sup>, myself 2<sup>nd</sup> and Mick 3<sup>rd</sup>.

We had a great time at Mac Park. The atmosphere is really laid back, Danny Ahearn and his club put on a top event and the facilities are 1<sup>st</sup> rate. It was a lot of laughs catching up with the old crew, some we'd not seen since the Burt. As a committee man, I'd also like to congratulate the 50 or so club members for entering the event and supporting the HMCRRSA. It's a strange and heavily restricted

environment for Club Promoters these days and without the continuing support from racers, clubs simply can't keep our sport going.

Cheers, Marchy.

*A big thanks to Simon Trnovsky of On The Red Line Photography, check out the rest of his photos from the meeting on Facebook.*





# Sponsor Profile

By: Mick Large

## T-Rex Racing

Anyone who has followed Historic Racing in Australia will be familiar with the red rockets winning races under the T-Rex racing banner. You may think that such success would need a big organization behind the machines but this is far from the case. These machines are the work of one man; Rex Wolfenden.

Rex has a long involvement with motorbikes. In fact, they have been his life's work. Rex has never had a job outside of the bike industry. He started riding paddock bikes around the West Essendon and Niddrie areas, now covered in housing. His brother Clyde shared the fun and went on to a successful career of his own with the Honda racing organization, working with top riders such as Malcolm Campbell and Andrew Johnson.

Rex completed a mechanics apprenticeship with Honda dealers Mayfair Motors and began racing officially in scrambles in 1968, riding a Greeves. He worked for Keith Stacker on Maicos with Karel Morlang, who later raced a Norton 750 in Historic competition.



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Rex took the big step of going into business for himself in 1976. K and W Motorcycles in Bell St Heidelberg sold Honda, Kawasaki and even Triumphs. Rex says he likes all bikes.

In the late 1990's Rex decided to specialize on racing machines, although he does work



on all machines , including restorations. The speed and reliability of his bikes speaks for itself in local racing and at the Island Classic they are competitive with the rest of the world.

Rex rode his own machines for years but now has top riders to handle the riding duties while he concentrates on building and preparing the bikes.

Rex can handle any sort of mechanical or restoration work at his workshop in 43 Mologa Rd, Heidelberg West VIC 3081 and there is a lifetime of hard won experience behind everything he does.



# Meeting Minutes

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## **Annual General Meeting**

**Date: 10th of August 2020**

**Time: 7.00 pm**

**Venue: Zoom Computer meeting**

Present: Brian March, Leanne March, Pete Large, Dave Philpots, Robert Todd, Michelle and Tim Loone, Chrissie and Patrick Clancy.

The meeting opened at: 7.00p.m.

### **ITEM 1: MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MINUTES: None.**

Moved: Brian    Seconded: Leanne

### **ITEM 2: Presidents report/AGM**

No President's report.

### **Elections resulted in the following positions being filled:**

President:	Robert Todd
Vice President:	Dave Philpots
Secretary:	Brian March
Assistant Secretary:	Phil Watson
Treasurer:	Peter Large
Assistant Treasurer:	Doug Hicks
Flat Chat Editor:	Glen Dane
Race Secretary:	Ben James
Assistant Race Secretary:	Marg Todd
Volunteer Liaison:	Tony Greenwood
Promotions Officer:	Mick Large
Red Plate Officer:	Mick Chegidden
Merchandising Officer:	Aneta Philpots
Membership:	Michelle Loone
MV Delegate:	Dave Philpots
	Keith Campbell

Ordinary Committee Members:  
Leanne March, Marg Todd, Chrissie and Patrick Clancy, Tim Loone.

Toddy to email the list of all committee positions to committee members. Also will ask Phil to have it placed on the website.  
Brian to put the same on the facebook page.

Mick Large is going to do a short story for Flatchat on each of the club's sponsors. Has started with Rex Wolfenden.

Moved: Michelle

Seconded: Tim

### **ITEM 3: SECRETARIES REPORT**

No report.

Moved: Toddy

Seconded: Paddy

### **ITEM 4: TREASURERS REPORT**

Refer to attachments from Treasurer. End of financial year statement from Pete to be forwarded to all committee members.

Moved: Doghouse

Seconded: Brian

### **Item:5 GENERAL BUSINESS**

Dates for next year? Brian to follow up with MV.

Query from Chrissie re: Champion Ride Days taking over the MV Ride/Practice days. Concern over sidecars having sessions especially on the practice days prior to HMRAV race meetings. Brian to follow up with MV.

On-site response, (medical provider for HMRAV meets)....Toddy and Pete having trouble contacting them. Club have paid in advance for both Vics and SC. Need to make contact to sort out financial status for any upcoming meetings.

Moved: Leanne

Seconded: Tim

Next meeting: TBA

Meeting closed: 7:50 pm.

## **COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Date: 18th<sup>th</sup> of January 2021**

**Time: 7.00 pm**

**Venue: Zoom Computer meeting**

Present: Brian March, Leanne March (Note taker), Pete Large, Dave Philpots, Robert Todd, Phil Watson, Michelle and Tim Loone, Glen Dane, Tony Greenwood.

Apologies: Chrissy Clancy, Marg Todd, Ben James.



# Meeting Minutes

The meeting opened at: 7.00 p.m.

## ITEM 1: DISCUSSION RELATING TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS AND THE IMPACT ON HMRAV ACTIVITIES.

Info provided to Toddy from CAMS MA Site – Covid Return to sport checklist...supports the interpretation of the committee, re: rules and regulations.

Marg: Pulled the CAMS document apart. MV have not provided information on return to racing or any Pro-forma submissions.

Toddy: Has spoken to MV CEO Mestrom. Requested approval in Writing to return to racing. Spoke to Vic O'Driscoll – Vic advised we can run at Eddington under CAMS guidelines but will need to abide by DHHS guidelines.

Brian: Spoke about concerns with VicGov guidelines and the club's ability to fully guarantee the club's liability limits. Also the liability that could rest on individual committee members.

Also discussed who would prepare the submission to DHHS.

Also discussed what committee members liability would be if a Covid issue arose.

Discussed that the Committee would have to fill Covid type roles to meet DHHS requirements and so would not be able to race.

We would also need to pay people to fill extra roles.

Doghouse: Will speak to Peta Lee about whether Historic Winton will be going ahead.

Toddy: Will speak to Bendigo Car Club and Vic O'Driscoll. We may use BCC document to overlay our submission. Camping at Eddington to be discouraged by Committee.

Tim: Does not agree that we should run Eddington if we're not running the Vics. He thought it was double standards.

Committee held a vote:  
No racing at Eddington if not racing at the Vics.

Committee held a vote:  
Agreed to cancel the Vic Titles. So no Eddington and no Vics.

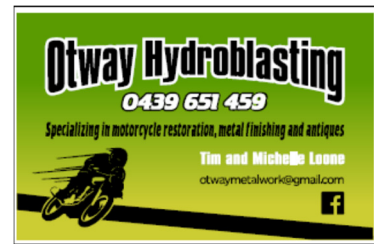
Brian to let MV know and to put together a notice to put on Facebook and to email out to members.

Toddy to let Katy Foulkes, Medical and Craig Button (BCC) know.  
Brian to notify Computime.  
Dave to keep in contact with Austin 7 about Winton.  
Pete to liaise with MV re: Track deposit.

Committee agreed to encourage all members to race/ride at every other events they can.

Moved: Brian Seconded: Dave

Next meeting: TBA  
Meeting closed: 08:30 pm.



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### HMRAV Club meetings are conducted at the

Mitcham Angling Club - 11 Brunswick Road, Mitcham  
Meetings are (usually) held every 2nd Monday of the month from 7pm

**Check Facebook to confirm dates - subject to change!**

**Come along and join us on March 15th**

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# Club Permits

Attention all Club Permit members.

The club has hundreds of members with Club Permits (Red Plate) which means there are hundreds of renewals to process by members of our volunteer committee.

To ensure that your renewal application is processed, you must include the following along with your renewal notice from Vic Roads:

- You must send a photocopy of your current membership card to show that you are a FULL financial member of HMRAV (Racing and Red Plate member only - Social membership does not entitle members to Red Plate privileges). This is essential and a Vic Roads requirement for red plate renewals. (In regards to family membership, It is important that each person who is part of that family membership, is known to the club and has been allocated a membership card)
- You must send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to ensure that your renewal gets back to you in a timely fashion and arrives at the right address.

Failure to adhere to these conditions will mean that we can't process your renewal and will lead to delays and frustration for all concerned.

If you have any questions please call our Club Permit coordinator Mick Chegidden on 0401 819 609 who is only too happy to give you advice.

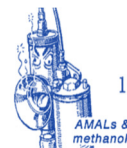
The Club Permit scheme is one of the great things about belonging to a club like HMRAV, so please ensure you are supporting the club by getting your renewal processes right the first time.

Please remember you need the following items for successful renewal:

- Renewal notice from Vic Roads;
- Photocopy of current HMRAV membership card;
- Stamped self-addressed envelope.
- Send all of the above to:

**Club Permits HMRAV  
46-48 Powlett St,  
Dalyston, 3992**

Any questions please call Mick or a committee member!



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**dates in your calendar now!**

April 4th - Winton Sprint  
April 4th - Broadford  
May 30th - Winton  
October 17th & 18th - Werribee Hill Climb  
October 31st & November 1st - Broadford  
December Present

**TEMPORARILY POSPONED**

