

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

Jul - Aug 2023

Flatchat



Behind the Bars

The Presidents Report

The Reluctant President

So another HMRAV AGM is done and dusted. A new committee has been elected and it looks surprisingly similar to the old one.

Firstly I would like to thank Robert Todd for all that he has done for the club and keeping things rubber side up, so to speak. In all the time I have been racing and involved with the club Toddy and Marg have been there, and we all have a lot to thank them for. And we all wish them the best of luck on their new adventures.

And so I have become president. Some may say I'm now the most powerful man in the historic racing scene. Others may call me a stooge. Which ever way it goes I hope I can do the club proud and live up to the legacy of previous club presidents.

For those that don't know me, I'm Phill Watson. I have been racing and on the committee for twelve years, five of those as secretary. For all those years I have raced my trusty Suzuki T250. Built from a \$500 basket case road bike, I have slowly improved the bike as my skills have grown and it has become the most reliable race bike ever built. It truly is the Bradbury of bikes. But the time has come to sacrifice reliability for more speed. So I'm turning to the dark side and have plans to run the bike on Methanol. So if anyone has some 34mm carbies let me know.

As the days get longer and the sun comes out the club is gearing up for Mt

Tarrengower Hill Climb and the Shannons Southern Classic. The Mt. Tarrengower meet is one of the best weekends on the calendar. Riding up a hill flat out, camping with mates and racing tall tales around the fire. What more could you ask for? Definitely an event to do at least once in your life.

This year is the 40th running of the Southern Classic and we are pulling out all the stops. Entries are open and we are hoping for a bumper field of bikes. The Band at The Southern Classic will be the ARIA Award winning Collards Greens and Gravy they 'll be playing from 7:30 to 10pm at the school house. Copies of the special Southern Classic poster will be given out to all competitors and we have them made out of some type of recycled plastic so they wont rip or tear and will be hanging on your garage wall for years to come. They will also be for sale to the public in the Merch tent along with T shirts with the image on them.

But to make this event a success we do need your help. We need some people on the weekend to do recovery, help out on the dummy grid and a number of other small tasks that need doing to run the meeting. So if you're not racing or have some mates that could help out let us know. Volunteer some time and give the guys that do all the organising a break so they can enjoy their racing too.

And as Toddy would say " See you in the winners circle".

Cheers Phill



Cover: New Prez Phill ready for action on the mighty T250 and above passengering for Noel Fernando - Pic Russ Murray

The Committee

Phil Watson
president@hmrav.org
0413 999 194

Dave Philpots
v.president@hmrav.org
0419 318 138

Brian March
secretary@hmrav.org
0439 113 325
Assistant: Peter Garfield

Peter Large
treasurer@hmrav.org
Assistant :

Ben James
racesecretary@hmrav.org
Assistant:

VACANT
volunteer@hmrav.org

Ken Redwood
promotions@hmrav.org

Glen Dane
flatchat@hmrav.org

Mike Chegwiddden
redplate@hmrav.org
0401 819 609

Aneta Philpots
merch@hmrav.org

Chrissie Clancy
membership@hmrav.org

Vacant
Trophies

Leanne March
Ladies Liaison

Committee:
Eric Saunders, Robert Todd,
Marg Todd

MV Delegates:
Ben James
Ken Redwood

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 Chegwiddden
Brian March, Dave Philpots,
Phil Watson

Bike Build

Story Peter Gaefield



The story of getting a GT250 Suzuki back on the track. New committee member Peter Gaefield shares his experience of finding an historic race bike and getting it back on the track.

At the height of the Covid pandemic in 2021, on a winter's day where Victoria was about to go into another painful lockdown, I bought a motorcycle. The little blue Suzuki was a year shy of fifty years old and looked very neglected. The carbies were hanging off on their cables due to perished intake rubbers. Mud wasp nests plugged the cylinder fins and pine needles filled the cavities around the crankcase's. The tyres were hard and flat. The seat had been branded where a piece of

R. Bringing all my road bikes to the Come and Try days and hanging out of an outfit was great fun even if the huge G forces of Mick Alton's F2 gave me motion sickness.

Stripping my Ariel Red Hunter down for the Mt Tarrengower hill climb in 2019 was a hoot and despite something falling off on every run and losing third gear I had a great time. I knew that making a race bike out of her or my plunger framed B31 would be an expensive journey so I eventually sold them and started looking for something with a bit more promise.

The ad for the Suzuki turned up on Bookface only a few months later.



It wasn't far from my in-laws house so on a weekend visit to see them, as chairman Dan was about to shut the place down, I picked up the Suzuki. Back at the in-laws I started sifting through all the spares thinking that if I couldn't get it going I could get something back from the purchase.

Back at home I started searching on social media for the original owner. I had bought the bike off his brother who inherited it from his parents garage. Mick had left it with them to tour overseas with Kenny Blake but he never came back to Victoria. Looking through the classic racing pages I soon found him. His amazement that his brother hadn't sold it years before turned to joy when I told him of my plans to get it back on the track.

MikuniOz had already supplied me with a pair of new intake rubbers. I'd pumped up the Michelin PZ4 tyres which still held air, cleaned the fuel system, and soaked

reinforcement mesh had lain on it for a very long time. Every piece of chrome was rusty and all the aluminium that wasn't covered in grease was corroded.

What sold me was the remains of the square blue racing number plate hanging off the front by one bolt and the white letter C on the top right corner. I'd found a race bike. It came with old tired boxes of spare parts and factory tools that had been shunted around the state with the bike. On the positive side it had alloy rims, Koni shocks and an intact set of chambers. I couldn't wait to part with my cash and get it on the trailer.

This was my first race bike and I didn't have a clue what I was doing!

I've been involved with HMRAV since 2018. My first taste of racing was helping with the recovery vehicle for the Southern Classic that year. I was in heaven being right on the track watching the action and breathing in Castrol

the chain long enough to get it back on.

Mick was a mine of information for someone like me who didn't have much experience. This despite not having ridden the bike for nearly forty years!

One Saturday morning as my friend Kelvin primed the carbies I gently kicked her over and on the second kick she fired and ran for the first time in over three decades.

I rode her around the back yard with no front brakes. Mick and I corresponded for months with him sharing stories of his racing adventures as well



Bike Build

as providing information on setting up the bike. At the time he was dealing with some serious health issues and his wife has credited this project for helping his recovery. Mick also sent me a trophy that he won in the Intervarsity challenge 500cc class at Hume Weir in 1976. I'm looking forward to catching up with him in person next time I'm in Queensland.

Over the next year I spent many hours stripping and rebuilding the bike. Our first track day was in June 2022 at Broadford and with the Vic titles, Eddington Sprints, and one day of Winton behind us things couldn't be better!

As much as I've enjoyed volunteering for the club it's been great to get onto the track. I'm not keen to modify the bike much but to leave it as is and as a novice on the track it suits me just fine.

Specs:

One of two 1972 Suzuki GT 250's imported by Melbourne Suzuki for production racing. Ridden by Mick Ralph, University of Melbourne MCC, at many racetracks in Victoria he also raced at Bathurst.

Mick purchased the bike and built it up for C grade racing. Eddy Catton raced the other one.

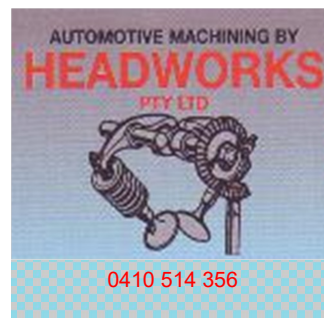
315 top end 34mm Mikuni carburetors on methanol. Borani rims, koni shocks, krober ignition. Engine work by Raymond Bann



Ready for the logbook



At Mt Tarrengower, it goes better with the fuel on!



Black Dog Walk



I'm David Betteridge and have been a member of the HMRAV club for at least 15 years. I ride the Norton Sidecar 942 with my wife Rebecca. It's been great to get back out on the track and race this year, especially at Broadford and Winton.

Have you noticed the new paint job and artwork on our sidecar this year? We are proudly supporting The Black Dog Institute, by raising awareness for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention. I'm off taking part in a trek to Kokoda in November 2023, the weekend after the Southern Classic, as

finished, until he met this man "The Story Teller". It was very clear this had and still affected The Story Teller. The emotion that he shared in telling me this story was moving.

This is partly why I have joined The Black Dog Kokoda challenge.

Like many of you, I know of family members or friends that have been affected in some way by mental health, but if I can reach people that I may never meet, could make the biggest difference. I'm proud to say that I will be joining The Story Teller in this Kokoda challenge, participating in a group of four mates.

1 in 5 of us will experience symptoms of mental illness in any given year.

In Australia that's around 5 million people. And roughly 60% of these people won't seek help. Black Dog is the only medical research institute in Australia to investigate mental health across the lifespan. Mental Illness does not discriminate.

Our fund raising efforts have seen us hold Rock the Black Dog concert in Geelong earlier this the year, which was a huge success with a vast range of many local businesses coming on board to support our cause. We have had auctions for goods and vouchers, sold entertainment books with part of the proceeds being donated, held a Bunning's Sausage Sizzle and even a Golf trip to Tuncurry, who are big supporters of The Black Dog Institute where they held a day for auctions and raised money and awareness.

Funds raised will enable more health professionals to be trained, increase understanding in the community about mental health issues, illnesses, signs and symptoms. Reduced stigma toward mental health in the community as well as increased access to information and resources about mental health and wellbeing.

part of a Hike for Mental Health

How did this come about I hear you ask, well..... I didn't know then, but about 18 months ago I met a man that told me a story. The story was about inspirational talks for Black Dog Institute that he had done, in helping people with mental illness. One talk, in a rural Victorian town, had one young male deciding his road was coming to its end. He, The Story Teller, spoke with the young man, one on one hoping to change his mind. Sometime after, The Story Teller saw the young man on a TV program, telling the host he thought his life was



Ferntree Gully Hydroblasting

John: 0412 79 69 89

Black Dog Walk

Ultimately, we are aiming prevention of the development of serious and life-limiting mental illness in young people.

Many of my family, friends and fellow racers have already contributed with donations using the scan code or buying Walk The Black Dog Merchandise, and I thank you all very much for your generosity.

This is the last big effort to raise much needed funds before my trek so come and see sidecar 942 for a chat, check out our sidecar and how our times at the Classic are going, purchase a cap or stubby holder or even make a donation.

Please it's important to note the Trek its self is all fully funded by me, as well as the merchandised. None of the fund raising monies are used in any way to support this trek or merchandise we sell. 100% of All funds raised go to the Black Dog Institute.

This is the Team Fundraiser QR Code

To donate to Dave's Fundraiser Page, scan the QR Code,
Scroll Down til you get to
'Our Team Members'
and click onto David Betteridge

Thankyou



Black Dog Institute is a national charity and is registered as a non-profit organization under ABN 12 115 954 197



www.coldstreambrewery.com.au



Meeting Minutes

JULY 2023 GENERAL MEETING

Date: 10/7/2023
Time: 7.05 pm
Venue: Teams meeting

Present: Glen Dane, Eric Saunders, Ken Redwood, Doghouse and Aneta, Toddy and Marg, Peter Garfield, Pete Large, Mick Cheg

Apologies: Chrissie Clancy, Marches

The meeting opened at: 7:05 p.m.

ITEM 1: MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MINUTES

We now have a tripod for the soundmeter.

Manhattan Hotel booked for Christmas function on 1/12/2023.

HMRAV not putting in for 2025 Nationals.

Moved: Ken Seconded: Eric

ITEM 2: PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Oil containment in sidecars: Toddy put out a request but received no replies from Interstate Clubs. Tim Hewitts name is on the MA proposed rule change, but he didn't put it in. Recommendations for P4/P5 Sidecars will be in new rule book. Toddy to send a copy to HMRAV Committee.

Officials training: MA Require 120 hours for Level 2 -3 we don't have enough events to train anyone.

Toddy will stand down as President at AGM

Moved: Aneta Seconded: Pete Large

ITEM 3: SECRETARIES REPORT

We need Mt Tarengower and Southern Supp regs done. Marg will do them for the last time. Do we have the permits from MV yet?

Dates for our events need to go in for next year ASAP. We need to be aware that MA can now override dates

for the Nationals We need someone to do SC program.

Moved: Toddy Seconded: Marg

ITEM 4: TREASURERS REPORT

Memberships are rolling in, but nothing else really.

Winton financial report not done yet as we are waiting for the bill for the medical via A7. Refer to attachments from Treasurer.

Moved: Eric Seconded: Ken

ITEM 5: MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Not present

Moved: Pete Garfield Seconded: Glen

ITEM 6: DELEGATES REPORT

None. We need people to step up and take on Delegate's role.

Moved: Leanne Seconded: Brian

ITEM 7: RACE SECRETARIES REPORT

None

Moved: Aneta Seconded: Toddy

ITEM 8: MERCHANDISE OFFICERS REPORT

Waiting on artwork for 40th SC Poster

Moved: Marg Seconded: Eric

Item: 9: GENERAL BUSINESS

Mick has been doing Club plate renewals and some older members are finding it difficult to pay. We will take a laptop to AGM so people can join in online.

**HMRAV Club meetings are conducted via Zoom
usually every 2nd Monday of *the month***

For a link to join please contact one of the committee and we'll send you a link

Come along and join us from your lounge room - it's easy and fun!

Meeting Minutes

Artwork for S/C to be followed up.

Shannon's truck may be available for Southern, Marchy to follow up because he spoke to them.

Phil to do Mailchimp email about AGM. Club members need to step up and do jobs.

Moved: Ken Seconded: Aneta

Next meeting: AGM 18/8/23
Meeting closed: 7:55 pm.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: 14th of August 2023
Time: 7.00 pm
Venue: Mitcham Angling Club

Present: Dave and Aneta Philpots, Brian March, Phil Watson, Ben James, Toddy, Doug Hicks, Mick Cheg, Eric Saunders, Garth and Amelia Rhodes, Ken Redwood, Doug Dukes and partner Joanne.

Apologies: Leanne March, Chrissie Clancy, Pete Large, Peter Garfield, Glen Dane, Marg.

The meeting opened at: 7:10 p.m.

ITEM 1: MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MINUTES:

No matters raised

Moved: Aneta Seconded: Doghouse

ITEM 2: PRESIDENT'S REPORT / AGM

This is Toddy's last President's report:
Received a call from the Bendigo Car Club:
Medical costs are going up
Mt Alexander Shire is very supportive of the Mt T Hillclimb. The Armco is being replaced, the bitumen has already been replaced and all repairs are to be finished by the end of September.
Committee agreed to once again provide a donation to the Bendigo Car Club to help with costs.

Toddy thanked everyone for their support.

The Committee acknowledges all the work Toddy and Marg have put in over the years and the massive contribution they have made to the club.

As this is the AGM, all Committee positions are now declared vacant and new elections will be held. You

must be a full financial member to vote and/or nominate.

Elections resulted in the following positions being filled:

President: Phil Watson

Vice President: Dave Philpots

Secretary: Brian March

Assistant Secretary: Peter Garfield

Treasurer: Pete Large

Assistant Treasurer: Vacant

Flat Chat Editor: Glen Dane

Race Secretary: Ben James

Assistant Race Secretary: Vacant

Volunteer Liaison: Vacant

Promotions Officer: Ken Redwood

Red Plate Officer: Mick Chegwidden

Merchandising Officer: Aneta Philpots

Membership: Chrissie Clancy

MV Delegate: Ben James and Ken Redwood

Trophies: Brian March

Ladies liaison: Leanne March

Ordinary Committee Members: Toddy and Marg, Eric Saunders

Dave to email the list of all committee positions to committee members.
Phil will organise to have it placed on the website.
Dave to put the same on the facebook page.

Moved: Ben Seconded: Mick Cheg

ITEM 3: SECRETARIES REPORT

The Mt T and SC permits have been applied for.
Are we happy to have both up on the website asap?
Agreed.

Dates for 2023:

Easter is 29/30/31/3 Vic Titles 6th and 7th of April - agreed

Southern Classic 1st weekend in November is 2nd and 3rd of November - agreed

The Hartwell Seniors, (Old Farts) meeting is open to

Meeting Minutes

HMRV members.
Broadford, September 2nd and 3rd.

We need to invest more time into the website. All agreed there's lots of potential there. We should also use mailchimp more often, ie: Notifications of events being open.

We could use the services of a Webmaster on the committee.

Moved: Doug Seconded: Ken

ITEM 4: TREASURERS REPORT

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

Moved: Toddy Seconded: Ben

ITEM 5: DELEGATES REPORT

N/A

Moved: Brian Seconded: Mick Cheg

ITEM 6: RACE SECRETARIES REPORT

Nothing to report – ready for the Southern Classic

Moved: Brian Seconded: Doghouse

ITEM 7: MERCHANDISE OFFICERS REPORT

Merch is being organised for the SC
New colour variations
Mugs and posters
Showbags, Brian to talk with Eddy Garner/Dave to talk with Shannon's

Moved: Mick Seconded: Doug

ITEM 8: MOUNT TARRENGOWER

14th and 15th of October. Supp Regs to be loaded on website.
Usually only 30-35 entries available so get your entries in early.

We will need help with scrutineering, Eric Saunders will be there

Officials:
Steward: Vic O'Driscoll
CoC: Toddy

Race Secretary: Marg

Moved: Ben Seconded: Doghouse

ITEM 9: SOUTHERN CLASSIC

Steward: Vic O'Driscoll
CoC: Tony Bolin
Race Secretary: Brendan Ferrari

Purple Dragons need to be booked, Brian to call Kathy Foulkes
40th SC, Doghouse to source a top line band.
Half Page ad to be booked in Old Bike Australia. Two editions if possible.

Moved: Mick Seconded: Aneta

Item:10 GENERAL BUSINESS

Garth Rhodes spoke about his pride in the way HMRV has developed into the club it is. He also thanked Toddy and Marg for all the work they've put in and welcomed Phil Watson into the role of President.

Doghouse – Lamented that we still have the same people on the committee doing all the work. He acknowledged the input from Ken Redwood and Ben James but stated that we need new people to get involved.

He also stated that he'd been waiting 5 months for his log book!

Joanne spoke about issues she and some others had experienced with a particular HMRV official at Winton. Brian and Toddy explained what the club had done about it and what measures were in place to avoid issues in the future.

Toddy stated that he had spoken with the official on a number of occasions since Winton and that he was confident that there would be no further reoccurrence.

Moved: Doug Seconded: Toddy

Next meeting: 11/9/23 via Zoom



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 HMRV (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 Chegwidgen on 0401 819 609 who is only too happy to give you advice.

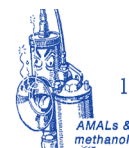
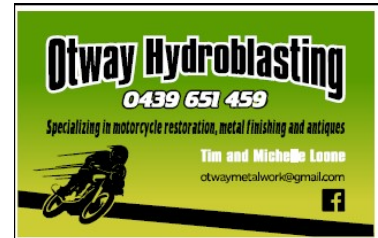
The Club Permit scheme is one of the great things about belonging to a club like HMRV, so please ensure you are supporting the club by getting your renewal processes right the first time.

Please remember you need the following items for successful renewal:

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

Club Permits HMRV
46-48 Powlett St,
Dalyston, 3992

Any questions please call Mick or a committee member!



Amal Carburettor Parts
John Parker
12 Clarke Drv Ringwood 3134
03 9879 3817

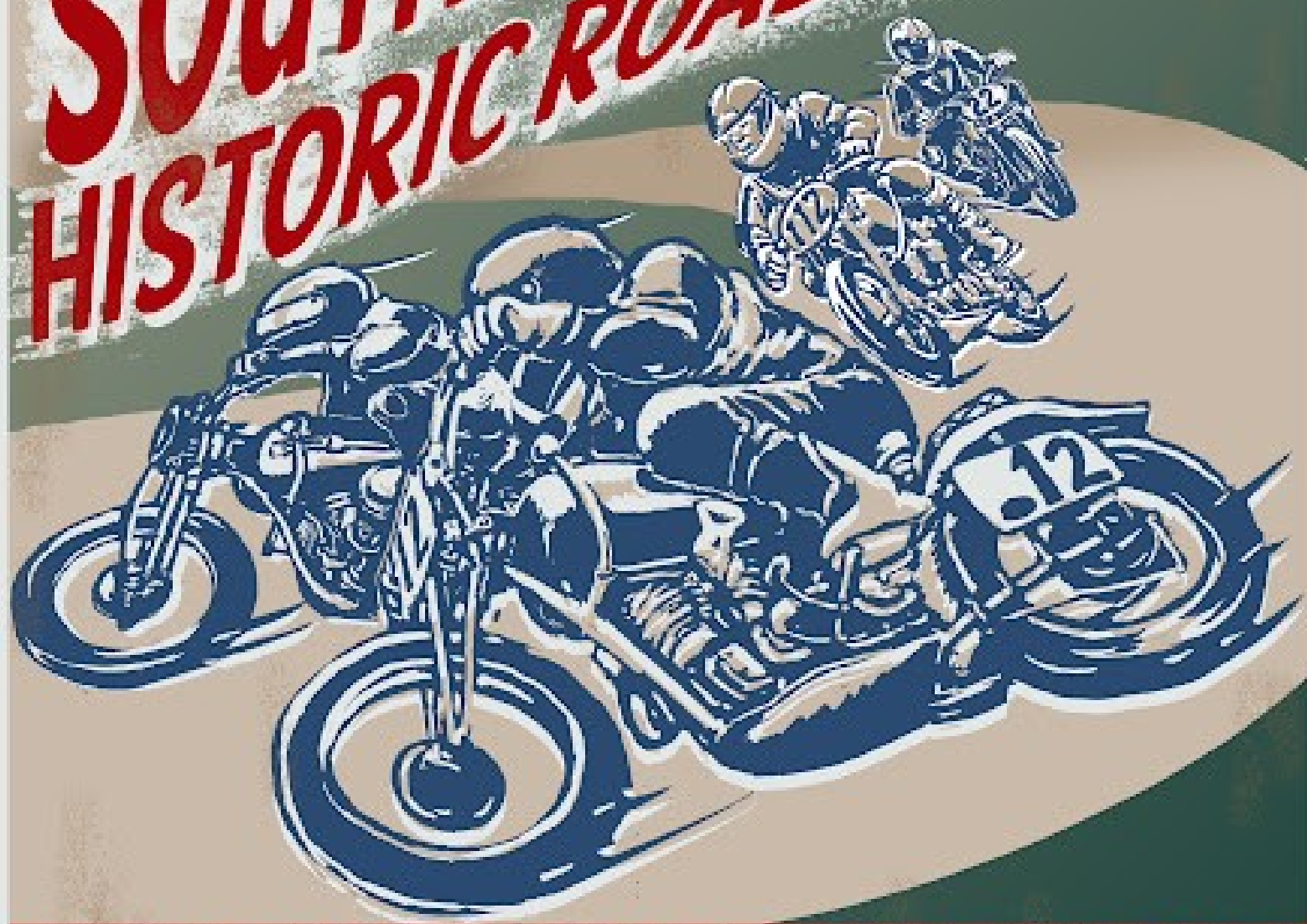


FLOWERDALE
HOTEL
(03) 5780 1230



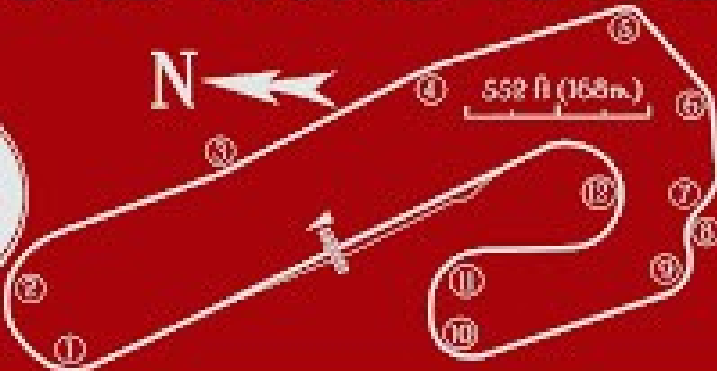
THE HISTORIC MOTORCYCLE RACING ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA PRESENTS

THE 40TH ANNUAL SOUTHERN CLASSIC HISTORIC ROAD RACES



BROADFORD ROAD RACE CIRCUIT.

NOV. 4 & 5,
2023



www.hmvic.com.au