

The Victorian Flagmarshalling Team

News



Founded 1986

News and information

January 2017 6



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George Hetrel – Club Patron

Victorian Flagmarshalling Team, PO Box 5140, Frankston South VIC 3199



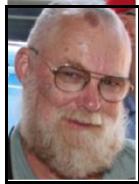
2016 VFT Committee



President
Kevin Watson
0432 986 866



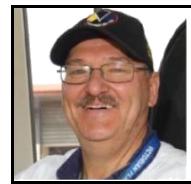
Vice-President
Roger Chirnside
0458 058 917



Secretary/Webmaster
Eric Rigg
0457 245 171



Treasurer
John Pollard
0466 749 226



Training Officer
Mark Thompson
0409 324 341

president@vicflag.org.au

vicepresident@vicflag.org.au

secretary@vicflag.org.au

treasurer@vicflag.org.au

training@vicflag.org.au



Chief Flagmarshal
Arthur Cooksley
0406 036 714

chief@vicflag.org.au



Asst Chief Flagmarshal
William Gaff
0418 127 835
(Race weekends -
0497 165 622)

asstchief@vicflag.org.au



CAMS Rep,
Promotions & Social
Media Administrator
David Thornbury
0410 846 361

cams@vicflag.org.au



Grade 3 Rep
Matt Cornford
0448 518 802

grade3@vicflag.org.au



Grade 4/5 Rep
Paul Meade
0425 882 387

grade4@vicflag.org.au

2016 VFT Training Committee



Training Officer
Mark
Thompson



Simon
Baston



Danielle
Bell



Arthur
Cooksley



William
Gaff



Paul
Meade



Glenn
Rochester



Tony
van den
Dungen



Kevin
Watson

2016 VFT Induction Team



Induction Team
Coordinators
Karen Legg & Paul Meade



Rebecca
Armstrong



Danielle
Bell



Zoe
Butteriss



Harold
Dreher



Shane
Rogers



Trish
Storey

Disclaimer: Readers are reminded that opinions expressed in the Victorian Flagmarshalling Team News are not necessarily those of the Editor, VFT or its officers. Articles are published in good faith and no responsibility will be accepted. Readers are also reminded that certain parts of the magazine are protected by copyright.

ABN 53 038 411 980 ARBN A0008703F Club Phone: 03 8796 5321 Club Mobile: 0409 823 657



VFT Life Members

Keith Alexander

Ray Begg

Rae Begg

Paul Cansdale

Roger Chirnside

Robert Farrell

Sue Jochheim

Alan Krahe

Terry O'Callaghan

Damian Petrie

Kevin Redman

Eric Rigg

Gloria Shallcross

Mike Shallcross

Barry Petersen [dec]

Neil Thompson [dec]

New Members

Welcome to our new members:

Andrew MacKinnon and

Teilor Woolford

Contents

- 2 2016 COMMITTEE
- 3 LIFE MEMBERS / NEW MEMBERS
- 3 2017 VFT FINAL MEMBERSHIP REMINDER
- 3 VFT AGM DETAILS
- 4 PRESIDENTIAL PITSTOP
- 5 MESSAGE FROM RETURNING OFFICER
- 6 2017 COMMITTEE NOMINEES
- 8 FLAG ONE REPORTING
- 9 IN ACTION AT PHILLIP ISLAND MAGIC
- 10 CAMS, PROMOTIONS & SOCIAL MEDIA
- 11 GRADE 3/3A REPORT
- 11 DONATION FROM DUSTINGS
- 12 TRAINING MATTERS
- 14 VFT TRAINING NIGHT
- 14 ATTENDANCE REWARD SCHEME
- 15 MERCHANDISE
- 16 THE RACE
- 17 REMINDER FOR CHIEF'S BBQ
- 18 THE VFT CHRISTMAS PARTY
- 21 VFT AGM 2016 MINUTES
- 24 VFT GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
- 27 CALENDAR

This month's cover picture shows presentations being made to George & Pat Hetrel at the VFT Christmas party at Como Gardens

2017 VFT Membership – Final Reminder Notice

Membership fees were due on January 1st 2017

Please note: Membership fees must be paid Tuesday 28th February 2017 or your membership lapses.

Annual General Meeting Details

Thursday 9 February 2017 at 8.00 PM

MG Car Club

Unit 53 & 54 Eastern Business Centre

41-49 Norcal Road

NUNAWADING

Expressions of interest are open for all appointed positions EOI's close 9th February 2017 at 5.00PM

From the Editor -Many thanks to all contributors to this magazine. Please remember articles for the March edition are due 24th February – magazine@vicflag.org.au

Photos in this magazine appear courtesy of Revved Photography, Rhys Paine Photography and Mark Thompson



Presidential Pit Stop

Hello again!

What a year! So much has happened, on and off the track, it seems that the end of the year has snuck up on us and passed us by. By now you were either bad or good in Santa's' eyes, and most likely made a New Years' resolution that you will never be able to keep.



I would like to start by congratulating Colleen Walker on receiving the George Hetrel Patron's award. This is an outstanding achievement by someone who has conquered quite a few personal goals this year. Well done.

It has been a year off track that has had us need to take steps to make sure the club is totally covered in this litigious society that we are living in. We can no longer fool ourselves into thinking that we are still in the same space we were when the club first started. Not only do our on track activities under OH&S procedures need to be maintained, but also the threat of social litigation such as discrimination, bullying and harassment need to be covered as well. This is why the club has taken the step to ensure the club in total across the board is in a safer place.

As most of you may have worked out by now, I have decided to take a break from the committee side of things. With some very time consuming work commitments that came on board halfway through the year, and a friend that needed a lot of my personal time, I feel in some ways that I have not been able to give the club my best.

It is time that we start to look to the future, not go back to the past. There are those out there that only need the opportunity to step up and take hold of the reins to steer the club in a new and exciting era that we are part of.

On a personal note, I would like to thank those of you who have been there for me through thick and thin in support of me. I feel I will disappoint some in this decision, but as I have always said, you need to be doing this for enjoyment and fun, and that is where I need to get back to.

Once again thank you all for the ride, the friendship and the good times. Signing out,

Kevin Watson
President
Victorian Flagmarshalling Team, Inc.



2017 VFT Committee Election – *a message from your Returning Officer*

Nominations for committee elections closed on 31 December 2016. The following are the candidates for the election to be conducted at the AGM:

Position	Vote	Candidate
President	Elected Unopposed	Chirnside, Roger
Vice President	Withdrawn	Chirnside, Roger
	Elected Unopposed	Thornbury, David
Secretary	Elected Unopposed	Rigg, Eric
Treasurer	Vacant	
Grade 3 Rep	Elected Unopposed	Cornford, Matt
Grade 4 Rep		Daish, Natalie
		Rogers, Shane

Multiple nomination forms were received this year, however several were incomplete and considered invalid. As a reminder (for next year), nomination forms require signatures from a mover and seconder as club members, and also a signature from each person nominated.

To lodge a nomination, you are expected to at least discuss the matter with each nominee on your form, and seek their agreement that they are willing to perform the role for the year ahead. The nominees signature confirms they have agreed to stand for election.

As usual, the candidates have been invited to provide a short background article in the January magazine, so they can convince you to vote for them.

The election of committee members will take place by ballot at the AGM on Thursday 9th February 2017 at M.G. Car Club, Unit 53, 41-49 Norcal Rd, Nunawading, Vic. 3131. Voting is open to all full financial members. For those yet to pay your 2017 membership, please do so before the AGM to be eligible to vote.

If you are unable to attend, remember to request a postal ballot from the Eric by emailing Secretary@vicflag.org.au

Country members (those living 80km+ from the venue) will receive a postal ballot with the January magazine.

Please note: Postal ballots must be returned by Friday 3rd February.

As the position of Treasurer received no nominations, we will seek nominations on the night of the AGM from those members present.

Now is your chance to vote for who you think will best lead the club into the future. Sorry, no democracy sausages this year.

If you are interested in the appointed committee positions (Chief Flag, and CAMS Rep), please put your nominations to the committee for consideration.

Regards,
Darren Millett
2017 VFT Returning Officer



Committee Nominees:

Roger Chirnside – President Nominee

Having been a member of the VFT Committee since its inception, with the exception of one year, in various roles, I feel I am reasonably well qualified to serve as your President, which is why I have nominated for this position in 2017.

As Chief Marshal I have been able to view our club's activities from a different perspective and feel that there are a number of areas in which we can improve. Firstly, on track, the lack of officials is a problem. I believe the Committee and indeed all members need to work together in an effort to encourage new participants.

The Induction Team does a wonderful job of introducing new members to the club and it is in this area that I want to be involved, along with the Committee, to make these new prospective members welcome.

If elected to the prestigious position of President, my first item on the agenda will be to improve attendance at general meetings. I have had several thoughts on how to make these meetings more appealing, one of which would be inviting highly notable and interesting guest speakers, but this cannot happen until we achieve much better attendances. As we are now very fortunate in having the use of the MG Car Club's meeting rooms which has a more motoring related ambience, this in itself should be conducive to attracting more members to meetings.

I further believe that it is the role of the President to promote the club at every opportunity and endeavour to further enhance our already highly respected reputation within the sport. But one person alone cannot achieve this, so I would be calling upon the Committee to assist in this area.

Thanking you,
Roger Chirnside

David Thornbury – Vice President Nominee

After two years on the committee as CAMS Representative, along with serving the club as Social Media and Promotions Officer, I have decided to put my name forward for the position of Vice President.

In my professional life, I am a Business Analyst. In short, this involves analysing various aspects of an organisation, and developing solutions to help it achieve its goals. I believe that this experience, along with the understanding of the club I have gained over the last two years on the committee, makes me an excellent candidate to be your Vice President.

If successful, I am keen to work with the rest of the 2017 VFT Committee with a particular focus on the following areas:

- Attendances – We can generally rely on a good turnout for Historic, National and State Series racing. However most of the other events we attend we run pretty lean on numbers. With improved attendances, it means we are better placed to ensure people can take a break, provide training, and perform upgrade assessments.
- Skill Levels – The club has a fantastic reputation, based largely on the quality of our members. However, with the loss of experienced members over time and the influx of new members replacing them, it is important that we have a strong focus on the skills and ability of the team to maintain our reputation.
- Issue Resolution - While we mostly all get along well track side, when issues arise between members, I think there is some room to improve how we deal with these.
- Documentation – The club has a large amount of documentation covering such areas as upgrades, induction, position descriptions and so on. It is important that these documents are reviewed from time to time to ensure they are still accurate and relevant.

The Committee Election will take place on 9 February 2017 at the MG Car Club in Nunawading. If you can't make it on the night, you can request a Postal Ballot by emailing secretary@vicflag.org.au.

All the best
David Thornbury



Natalie Daish – Grade 4/5 Representative Nominee

Hi my name is Natalie Daish and I am putting my hand up to be the grade 4 Rep for the VFT. I have been involved with the team now for nearly 6.5 years and I am very passionate about the club and its members and would like to give something back to the club. I have also requested to be a member of the training committee.

One of the reasons that I want to be the Grade 4 Rep is to help all our new members feel a sense of belonging and really understand why we do what we do. The training is not only about Flag rules etc, it's also about how to handle yourself on a flag point, working together in a team environment etc. I believe that the level of training that we, the VFT can offer a new member is second to none and we are highly regarded throughout the country. I want to keep that reputation going and encourage all new members, male and female, young and not so young to not only try and work the "big" meetings, but also to do as many smaller and sometimes more fun events too. I will work closely with the Grade 3 Rep to also help any Grade 4 member progress into a more senior role if that is the path that they chose.

One of the things that I think I can improve on is keeping in regular contact with the Grade 4 members. I will be making myself readily available to answer any questions and try to deal with any concerns that you have (emails, phone, skype, messenger etc). I am also open to any suggestion on how you the members think that things can be improved for our new trainees and Grade 4 members. What would YOU like to see happen with your training? I am also passionate about providing feedback to new trainees as I believe it is vital that they know their strengths and weakness and what they need to continue to do on the flag point to get through their first 10 days and beyond. Feedback is very important as it gives you an insight into how you are perceived and also how you perceive others (especially the people who are training you). Also if for any reason I am unavailable I will make sure that there will always be someone else available to take any enquiry in my place. I hope that I have given you something worthwhile to consider. I look forward to (hopefully) being elected as your Grade 4 rep.

Natalie

Shane Rogers – Grade 4/5 Representative Nominee

Hi everyone. Most of you have seen me around the track and know who I am. For those of you that I have not had the privilege to meet yet, my name is Shane Rogers. The reason why I am introducing myself at this current time, is that I would love to be given the chance to be your Grade 4/5 representative.



I have been involved with the club for the last 5 years and over that time, I have seen the club grow, seen it flourish and it is not slowing down. I want to be given the opportunity to be part of that, to see the high standards that the club is renowned for. With my help, I will continue to offer support and guidance for our Grade 4 members and be welcoming and approachable to all of those Grade 5 who are still on their journey.

I believe that training is a key to growth. To achieve that, I will work closely with the Inductions Team, Training Committee and the Grade 3 Representative to support and help you take the required steps to progress forward. Currently I am a member of the Inductions Team where I actively try to make myself as open and approachable as possible. I will continue this approach as your Grade 4/5 representative.

Any concerns, complaints, feedback, support or if you even want to take the time to chat, I am regularly available at all three tracks the club attends. If you don't feel comfortable with face-to-face, then I am only a phone call or an email away. And speaking of emails. I endeavour to keep you all updated on a regular basis in club activities via email because I want you to feel as if you are part of the team. We are all in this together and we are here to enjoy our time trackside.

Shane



Flag One Reporting

I hope everyone enjoyed their Christmas and New Year celebrations, with lots of food, drink and fun with family and friends. It's certainly one of the few times of the year that we can really relax without race commitments.



The year ahead, however, looks like being very busy for at least the first half of the year – with 15 race meetings covering 18 weekends between the start of March and the end of June. Add in the Australian Grand Prix and the Clipsal 500, and the tally is 17 meetings! This same period also includes two clashes.

As a club, we will be calling on all members to help out to cover these meetings. I know it's been said over and over, and I'll say it again – it should not be left to the small "core" band of members to cover every event. So, let's all dig deep for 2017 to avoid this happening.

By the time this edition of the magazine is published, we will know who the candidates are for the 2017 Committee. I wish all of the candidates well for the elections at the February AGM.

On a personal note, I would like to express my thanks to the outgoing Committee, without whose support and direction we would not have achieved half of what we did in 2016.

Also deserving of a big thanks are the Training and Induction sub-committees, both of whom worked tirelessly behind the scenes and were occasionally the brunt of unwarranted criticism. I would therefore remind those that are critical of the performance of these sub-committees that were it not for them there would be NO new member meet and greets and induction, and there would be NO formalised assessment and grading process.

So instead of criticising these sub-committees, let's all work to support them and, above all else, offer them thanks for what is often a thankless task.

On a closing note, as Chief Flag I would like to extend my thanks to all of the members that have supported the VFT events throughout 2016. The dedication and professionalism shown by our members is what has made the VFT the benchmark when it comes to trackside operations. I sincerely hope that the Committee-appointed Chief Flag for 2017 receives the same support, to ensure our high standards are preserved.

All the best for the new year and I look forward to catching up trackside, if not sooner.

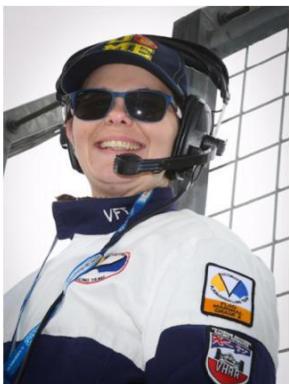
Arthur Cooksley

Chief Flagmarshal

Victorian Flagmarshalling Team



In action (or inaction) at Phillip Island Magic





CAMS, Promotions, and Social Media Update

CAMS

The club was recently recognised for our 30 years of services at the 2016 CAMS Victorian Motor Sport Awards. Congratulations should also go to Tony van den Dungen who was awarded a CAMS Service Star at the same ceremony.



The date for the Australian Grand Prix has now been confirmed for 23-26 March 2017. For those of you who had registered EOI's, you should have received your team allocations by email in December.

Curtis Deboy has been appointed CAMS Officials Manager, filling the position vacated by David Mori. David did some fantastic work in this role, so it will be exciting to see how Curtis builds on this.

For those of you who haven't seen the December edition of CAMS Speed Read, our own Rebecca Armstrong appears on page 18 talking about her trip to the Gold Coast 600. If you are not on the CAMS distribution list for this publication, you can find it on their website.

PROMOTIONS

We have the possibility of attending an activity early in the year to do some recruiting. More in the next magazine if it goes ahead.

I'd like to thank those who helped me out with our promotional activities in 2016. Namely Kim Dale, Luke Hingeley, Shane Rogers, Eric Rigg, Paul Meade, Steve Berry, John Pollard, Will Gaff, Zoe Butteriss, Damien Mitchell, Deanne Millett, and Harold Dreher.

I'd also like to thank everyone who handed a brochure over a fence, spoke to a member of public about the role, or encouraged friends and family to get involved in what we do.

And finally thanks need to go to Paul Meade, Karen Legg and the rest of the Induction Team for their work in converting the enquiries into new members.

SOCIAL MEDIA

We have seen a great increase in interest in the club on Social Media over the year. Facebook has seen an 18.5% increase in our likes, while Twitter is up in followers over 20%.

David Thornbury
CAMS Rep, VFT Promotions & Social Media Administrator



Grade 3/3A Report

G'day everyone

I hope everyone has had a great Christmas and New Year and enjoying a much deserved break.

I would just like to thank everyone who attended trackside during 2016. It was a very challenging year for a lot of us as a number of events we were very light on for numbers. It was not uncommon to be working 1 up as well as doing coms at both Winton and Phillip Island. It would be great to see a few more trackside even if it's only for 1 day every little bit helps.



I have had a great year as your grade 3/3a rep and would like to thank everyone for giving me the opportunity and for some of the great feedback I have been given. I have put my nomination in to be your grade 3/3a rep for the 2017 season. I will continue to send out monthly updates to let everyone know what's going on. I will also send a call out a few days before an event when we are looking short on numbers.

This year I had the opportunity to do a walk around at a couple of the big events just to have a chat 1 on 1 with everyone. I hope to be able to do this again next year if elected.

Thank you again everyone for a great 2016 and looking forward to an even better 2017
cheers

Matt Cornford, Grade 3/3A Rep

Donation from Dustings Race Team

Thank you to the Dustings Race Team [Rod, Jen and Tim Hatfield] for their [generous](#) donation to the Victorian Flagmarshalling Team for service to motorsport. Rod Hatfield (quote) "*I get great pleasure in seeing the appreciation shown by the Flagmarshals to the competitors on the cool down lap of the events.*"



Photos courtesy of Rhys Paine Photography



Training Matters

Hi everyone, well here we are at end of what was to be a very full year of motorsport.

Training definition, “*the action of teaching a person or animal a particular skill or type of behaviour*”,

First of all, I would like to thank my team, without their support throughout the year the job as Training Officer would be even more difficult. My role as Training Officer has been a fulfilling one throughout 2016 and not without its challengers, which only says that there is more to be done come 2017 !!!

I congratulate all those people who have been successful in gaining their respective upgrades, we have over 20 people to date and still several in the throes of completion. Again another thanks to my team in managing the upgrade process and keeping the paperwork in order. I also thank all those who assisted with the successful VFT Training Expo (indecently, again the Expo has been recognised around the country as a great initiative by the VFT) so well done everyone.

It seems that we are getting very close to having the upgrade process working well, with a few minor glitches throughout the year the process has served us fairly well. I urge anyone looking to do an upgrade to visit the website and check the latest upgrade procedure. As you can appreciate we receive many good suggestions from you all that help us to refine and rethink processes in our upgrade procedure, so best to check ok.

I started off with the *definition of Training*, well I think in 2017 we need to go right back to basics in our training, there will be a lot more “hands on” approach to the way we do things, particularly trackside, this together with the Induction Committee and Training Committee getting closer and more involved on a race by race meeting should help pave the way to a better outcome for our trainees as well as those people going for their upgrades. As I mentioned in my last article the role of the EA’s within our club will be fully utilised to ensure that the process follows all requirements for the respective upgrades and/or training.

Event Assessors.

Just a short reminder to make sure that if you have been given an assessment form for a grading that it must be returned at the end of the meeting to be logged and filed. We urge the EA’s of the day to give as much detail as possible on your performance on the day and to ask a lot of questions of the person undergoing an upgrade; this allows us all to work with and to tailor the training of the individual in the areas that need attention.





CAMS Upgrades

I know a lot of you have been carrying out assessments throughout the year, thank you for your efforts, they have been welcomed. As we bring more EA's in to the VFT fold we are reminded of the high level of detail that is required in order to adequately assess the ability or knowledge of the persons being trained or upgraded. It has also been observed that in some cases we need to have further emphases on the use of flags and their meaning and the technique they are used, so we are encouraging you all to pay particular attention to these areas. We will be looking at some up skilling sessions coming into this new year.

Mock Stewards Hearing encompassing Report Writing & Communications

Thank you to all of those people who have sent through their expressions of interest for the forthcoming training night - **6.30pm, 21st February 2017** has been selected as the day, so please see the advert in this issue so you have all the details. We want as many people from the club as possible to attend, so please come along, it promises to be a good night.

We are currently working on a calendar of training sessions we can hold during 2017, so please if you have any suggestions, send them through to me on training@vicflag.org.au and we can add them to our list for consideration.

I thank you all again for your support toward further training, education and your commitment to the club, I look forward to the warmer months of the year ahead and to seeing you all at the next event and hearing about your suggestions and training needs. Remember our Training Committee is at your disposal to answer your questions, alternatively please discuss your needs with your Grade Rep. If you have an interest in joining the Training Committee and think you have something to contribute, please put in your EOI to the VFT Secretary.



BLUE FLAG – waved with vigour. Note: Sometimes COC will specify stationary for Historics etc, this is advised in the race day briefing.

During Practice & Qualifying – Indicates to a driver that a faster car is about to overtake and pass you – let them past

During a Race – Indicates to a driver that you are about to be lapped by another car and you must let them pass when safe to do so

Pit Exit – Held stationary and shown to cars entering the track from the pit lane whilst cars on track are approaching. No need to show when no cars approaching on track.

On closing, one thing we must all remember and that is why we are here, “because it’s fun” so let’s bond together to make it all work and to do the club proud as Members and make 2017 a fantastic year for all.



Mark Thompson
VFT Training Officer



VFT Training Night



VFT Training Night 21st February 2017 Come along to a fun night!



Theme: Mock Stewards Hearing

Conducted by: Michael Holloway – Senior Steward, Chair of Victorian Stewards Panel

Where: MG Car Club Victoria, Building 53, 41-49 Norcal Road Nunawading

When: BBQ Dinner & Drinks provided 6.30pm

Session Start: 7.30pm for 8.00pm start til approx 10.30pm

What to bring: A pen

The *Mock Steward Hearing* is an initiative put together by the VFT and Stewards Victoria and will be conducted by Michael Holloway – Senior Steward and Chair of the Victorian Stewards Panel. It will encompass the procedures and importance of accuracy in the report writing process through to the hearing and verdict of the charges put to the competitor/s. It will be a fun night with real life scenarios, videos, Drivers, Stewards and Clerk of Course with plenty of debates and opportunities to learn what goes on behind the scenes when you write or submit a report. So come along and have a fun night with plenty of excitement, something to eat and a chance to learn and spend time with other VFT Members.

Please send your confirmation of attendance or any enquiries to Mark Thompson – Training Officer - training@vicflag.org.au or Phone 0409 324341



Attendance Reward Scheme

Congratulations to Danielle Bell, winner of our December Draw of the Attendance Reward Scheme. Thanks for your efforts Danielle!



Danielle has won a \$50 fuel card and a voucher for accommodation up to \$150.

We would also like to thank the following members who met or exceeded the minimum event attendance requirement and qualified for the draw:

John Clarke	Geoff Kay	Alan Krahe
Karen Legg	Simon Baston	Rebecca Armstrong
Matt Cornford	William Gaff	Greg Hardy
Eric Rigg	Kevin Watson	Wayne Butteriss
Michael Clewett	Michelle Clewett	Arthur Cooksley
Paul Freeman	John Grist	Matthew "Hollywood" Hardy
Ian Hogan	Paul Kelly	Cataldo Mase
Paul Meade	Doug Salan	Tanya Salan
David Thornbury	Graham Woods	Marie Woods

Special mention to John Clarke, Geoff Kay, Alan Krahe and Karen Legg who attended every race meeting during the period. Well done gents. Additionally Shane Rogers, Roger Chirnside, Warren Gordon and Colleen would have qualified for the draw, had they not been previous winners.

Congratulations to all our winners in 2016, and thanks to all those who qualified for draws throughout the year. Without your contribution to the club's activities, we would not survive.



Merchandise

The Merchandise Officer is Natalie Daish.

To order merchandising you can see Natalie at the track or
Email: merchandise@vicflag.org.au or Mob: 0413 205 253
For overalls and jackets allow 4-6 weeks as these are not stock items.



VFT Merchandise

Overalls  \$220	Winter Jacket  \$90	Overall Jacket  \$175
Bag  \$30	Polo shirt (White)  \$25	Plastic pouches  \$2
Bucket Cap  \$12	Cap  \$10	Beanie  \$10
Internal/External stickers: \$2 		
25th Anniversary medallion 		

Back when

What was the date of the first motor race at Sandown Park?

Answer: Saturday 12 March 1904



The Race, you'll love this!

Quote: *'I race to win! If I am on the bike or in a car, or just my life, it will always be the same.'*

Valentino Rossi (The world's 39th most marketable athlete)

I'm sure there is a part of you that would love to be a copy of the incredible Valentino Rossi

- 125cc World Champion – 1997
- 250cc World Champion – 1999
- MotoGP World Champion – 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2008, 2009
- Most MotoGP wins – 88
- MotoGP Second Place – 114
- And he still wants to race another season at age 38!



It is easy to be intimidated by such an outstanding list of achievements, but you are not a Valentino copy! That does not depreciate your life. Don't compare yourself with another, you are wired up differently, your values and talents have you on a race that you alone can run. Bono said, 'Every moment of your life is precious. You must make each passing moment stepping stones to move forward.' He finished by saying; 'Moments passed may never be rewound, therefore strive to utilise each moment with a spirit of achievement.'

Wow! Strive to utilise each moment with a spirit of achievement! – This poem has a great message which we all could learn – again!

The Race – Dr D H 'Dee' Groberg

Whenever I start to hang my head in front of failure's face, my downward fall is broken by the memory of a race. A children's race, young boys, young men; how I remember well, excitement sure, but also fear, it wasn't hard to tell.

They all lined up so full of hope, each thought to win that race, or tie for first, or if not that, at least take second place.

Their parents watched from off the side, each cheering for their son, and each boy hoped to show his folks that he would be the one.

The whistle blew and off they flew, like chariots of fire, to win, to be the hero there, was each young boy's desire. One boy in particular, whose dad was in the crowd, was running in the lead and thought "My dad will be so proud."

But as he speeded down the field and crossed a shallow dip, the little boy who thought he'd win, lost his step and slipped.

Trying hard to catch himself, his arms flew everyplace, and midst the laughter of the crowd he fell flat on his face.

As he fell, his hope fell too; he couldn't win it now. Humiliated, he just wished to disappear somehow. But as he fell his dad stood up and showed his anxious face, which to the boy so clearly said, "Get up and win that race!"

He quickly rose, no damage done, behind a bit that's all, and ran with all his mind and might to make up for his fall. So anxious to restore himself, to catch up and to win, his mind went faster than his legs. He slipped and fell again.

He wished that he had quit before with only one disgrace. "I'm hopeless as a runner now, I shouldn't try to race." But through the laughing crowd he searched and found his father's face with a steady look that said again, "Get up and win that race!"

So he jumped up to try again, ten yards behind the last. "If I'm to gain those yards," he thought, "I've got to run real fast!"

Exceeding everything he had, he regained eight, then ten, but trying hard to catch the lead, he slipped and fell again.

Defeat! He lay there silently. A tear dropped from his eye. "There's no sense running anymore! Three strikes I'm out! Why try? I've lost, so what's the use?" he thought. "I'll live with my disgrace." But then he thought about his dad, who soon he'd have to face.



"Get up," an echo sounded low, "you haven't lost at all, for all you have to do to win is rise each time you fall. Get up!" the echo urged him on, "Get up and take your place! You were not meant for failure here! Get up and win that race!"

So, up he rose to run once more, refusing to forfeit, and he resolved that win or lose, at least he wouldn't quit. So far behind the others now, the most he'd ever been, still he gave it all he had and ran like he could win.

Three times he'd fallen stumbling, three times he rose again. Too far behind to hope to win, he still ran to the end. They cheered another boy who crossed the line and won first place, head high and proud and happy -- no falling, no disgrace.

But, when the fallen youngster crossed the line, in last place, the crowd gave him a greater cheer for finishing the race.

And even though he came in last with head bowed low, unproud, you would have thought he'd won the race, to listen to the crowd.

And to his dad he sadly said, "I didn't do so well." "To me, you won," his father said. "You rose each time you fell." And now when things seem dark and bleak and difficult to face, the memory of that little boy helps me in my own race.

For all of life is like that race, with ups and downs and all. And all you have to do to win is rise each time you fall. And when depression and despair shout loudly in my face, another voice within me says, "Get up and win that race!"

Take courage this year 2017, life will always have its good and bad happenings. Hear heaven cheering, along with your mates who believe in you and our heavenly Father's voice whispering hope and courage to; 'Get up, and win your race!'

Always here to help,

Mark Bateman - 0412 151 121

Don't forget – Chief's BBQ 14 Jan 2017

Attendance at the **Chiefs BBQ** is a must – it is an evening of entertainment for all ages, socialising and good food – on **Saturday 14 January 2017**.

This purely social event is a great opportunity for new members and families to come along and enjoy the evening. In past years we have been very lucky with the weather and with the backyard floodlit, with a motor racing theme, it has always a very convivial occasion.

For the benefit of the hordes of first timers that we hope will be coming, the format is very simple. The Club will be supplying beer, wine, soft drink and water, as well as salads and memorable desserts (including profiteroles for Tony van den Dungen!!).

All **you** have to bring along is something to cook on the BBQ, and a chair, preferably to sit on. **Sign-on is at 6:00pm** and chequered flag is when the last one leaves!

Location is - **'Brooklands', 46 Dorrigo Drive, Boronia** (Melways Ref 65 D5 for those who still use a map!!) – the home of Roger and Joy Chirnside

Everyone, including well behaved children, are cordially invited – the more the merrier!

Roger & Joy Chirnside



The VFT Christmas Party

It was great to see so many VFT members and families/friends enjoying the lovely surroundings as always at Como Gardens, property of our Patron, George Hetrel and his wife Pat. The weather was ideal- not too hot and not too cold, and as a result we had 65+ in attendance – surely this must be a record!

A big thank you goes again to our hosts, George and Pat, for providing us with such a delightful venue for our end of year party, with something for everyone to enjoy, whether it be the gardens, the cars, the train rides, or the animals, as well as very generously supplying us all with tasty hot food, prior to our BBQ or picnic lunch.



Thank you presentations to George and Pat



*Awards:
Left – Patron's
Award in
absentia to
Colleen Walker

Right – Five year
service awards
to Russell and
Steven Clasby.*



*President, Kevin Watson with
the 30 year Certificate that had
been presented by CAMS.*





More Scenes from the VFT Christmas Party





VFT Annual General Meeting Minutes – 2016

Victorian Flagmarshalling Team Inc
Annual General Meeting
11th February 2016
The Beach Hotel: 97 Beaconsfield Pde Albert Park

Meeting opened 8.00PM

Members present - 38. Guests - 3

Apologies: Rebecca Armstrong, Doug and Tanya Salan, Michael Murphy, Trish Storey, William Gaff, Garry McArdle, Chris Sullivan, Murray Stevens, Kimberley Stevens, Brian Mackey, Wayne Butteriss, Tony van den Dungen, Country, Interstate and International members.

President's Welcome

Minutes from the 2015 AGM: Moved: Warren Gordon, Seconded: Shane Rogers that the minutes be accepted. Carried

Matters arising from 2015 AGM. Nil

Reports

1 President

1.1 2015 calendar was busy, numbers were a concern for some events

2 Vice President

2.1 Actively encourage people

3 Secretary: as per report

3.1 Aussie Disposals – Club reward program

3.2 Officeworks – Club reward program.

3.3 Thanks you to Shannons Insurance for their contribution to the clubs annual awards

3.4 Thank you to Brighton BMW and Stillwell Motor Group for the Stillwell Motor Group Encouragement award.

3.5 Working at a Photo Shoot at Shannons Nationals at Sandown with Penrite and the Gullwing

3.6 Holden and BoQ moving on

3.7 Sponsorship enquires with the National sale manager at Ford Australia and sales Manager of Hayman Reese.

3.8 CAMS Alcohol policy updated.

3.9 Looking for a Merchandise Officer.

3.10 Govt Grants – Round 1 response due towards end of February, Round 2 has opened, several areas of interest to the club, training, equipment, etc.

3.11 Kevin Watson, possibly look at the Lord Mayor's Charity foundation

3.12 Thank you to those you assisted me in my role.

4 Treasurer: as per report

4.1 Auditor's report presented to the members. No questions.

4.2 Cheques to be passed for payment:

Alan Lopez \$495 [prepare auditor's report], Eric Rigg \$50 [phone] \$30 petrol [Mt Martha twice and Brighton for gifts and trophies], Peninsula Trophies \$226, InkStation \$308, new printer \$149.

Aust Post \$17.10 [to return old ink for credit] Roger Chirnside \$545. [BBQ] Russell Clasby \$55.50 Trailer rego. Moved: Robert Salan, Seconded: Kevin Redman that the cheques be passed. Carried.

4.3 Thankyou to the 2015 Committee, with special note to Eric Rigg, David Thornbury, Mark Thompson and Terry O'Callaghan

4.4 Overall replacement scheme

4.5 \$70 joining fee on membership applications, rules of the club allow for a joining fee to be implemented.

5 Chief Flagmarshal

5.1 Thank you to members for supporting events. I hope this continues as I will be standing down as Chief Flagmarshal with the Committee to appoint a new Chief Flagmarshal after this evening's election.



- 5.2 Private practice days and manning levels
5.3 Year in review, not nominating for 2016 Chief Flagmarshal
5.3.1 Thank you to Zoe Butteriss and the Induction Team for helping newies in to the team at race meetings.
5.3.2 Thanks to Arthur Cooksley and Kevin Watson as Assistant Chiefs
5.3.3 Thanks to Mark Thompson and the training committee.
5.3.4 Thanks to Geoff Kay for Equipment, Michelle Pollard [magazine editor], Eric Rigg and David Thornbury for posting event details, 2015 Committee, Family members.
5.4 Thank you to Kevin Redman, Mario Pacifici, Roger Chirnside, Damien Petrie, Ron Rayner, Paul van den Akker and Alan Krahe for their support over the years.
5.5 Kevin Watson, Kevin Redman and Roger Chirnside thanked Terry O'Callaghan for his dedication over the years in fulfilling various roles on Committee and Training Committee.
- 6 Assistant Chief Flagmarshal**
6.1 Thank you to Terry O'Callaghan for support.
- 7 Training Officer**
7.1 Thank you to the Training Committee
7.2 Flag point Checklist
7.3 VFT/CAMS Training expo
7.4 Joined the S.O.P.
7.5 Sector Marshal roles – encouragement.
7.6 Video of training programs for ongoing training.
7.7 Upgrades
7.8 Thank you to the Committee
- 8 CAMS Rep**
8.1 VSCE, Speed panel
8.2 CAMS Board -6 meetings
8.3 S.O.P. Roger Chirnside and Mark Thompson on the panel.
8.4 Formula Four category
8.5 CATO Testing.
- 9 Promotions Officer**
9.1 Flyers handed out at Phillip Island V8's
9.2 GRM workshop, 20th Feb
9.3 Motor Expo, Royal Exhibition Building 8-10 April, more details soon
9.4 Eric Rigg – Shannons insurance working at a guest speaker night 10
- Social Media**
10.1 Events page created on club page to increase awareness 11
- Grade 3 Rep**
11.1 currently 57 grade 3's and 13 grade 3A
11.2 Upgrades
11.3 Thanks to Terry O'Callaghan
11.4 Kevin Watson, Incentive scheme of \$100 per meeting being reviewed.
11.5 John Clarke- minimum criteria for upgrades.
- Grade 4 Rep**
12.1 Thank you to Committee
- Induction Officer**
13.1 Seek program
13.2 Thank you to the team
13.3 Thank you to Terry O'Callaghan
13.4 Kevin Watson thanked Zoe for her efforts
- Merchandise**
14.1 Ideas for merchandise
14.2 Kevin Watson [Wesfarmers/Blackwoods passed to Mark Thompson to follow up]
- Magazine**
15.1 Thank you to Michelle Pollard for her efforts

Reports: Moved: Glenn Rochester, seconded: Paul Kelly that the reports be accepted. Carried.



16 Natalie Daish called upon to talk about WAMS Ambassador to the Singapore GP, commenting on training and treatment at the event. Kevin Watson acknowledged Danielle Bell for being in the selection process as well.

17 **Club Awards**

- 17.1 Stillwell Motor Group Encouragement award: Samantha McCoubrie
- 17.2 Club Person of the Year: Held until Island Classic to present
- 17.3 Neil Thompson Memorial award: Geoff Kay
- 17.4 President's award: Karen Legg
- 17.5 Flagmarshal of the year: Paul Kelly

Meeting was handed over to the Returning Officer.

18 Nominees were invited to address members.

18.1 Grade 3 Rep: Matt Cornford and Jason Carroll

Short recess for counting of votes.

Meeting resumed, 2016 Committee positions declared vacant.

19. **Voting outcome.**

- 19.1 Grade 4 Rep: Paul Meade Returned unopposed.
- 19.2 Grade 3 Rep: Matt Cornford, After voting.
- 19.3 Treasurer: John Pollard, returned unopposed.
- 19.4 Secretary: Eric Rigg, returned unopposed.
- 19.5 Vice President: Roger Chirnside, Returned unopposed.
- 19.6 President: Kevin Watson, Returned unopposed.

Returning Officer handed meeting over to the 2016 President: Kevin Watson.

20 Motion: that all voting slips be destroyed. Moved: John Clarke, seconded David Humphries, Carried

21 **General Business**

21.1 List available for upcoming events

21.2 Robert Salan – postal votes. Returning Officer responded

Next General meeting: 7th April - Beach hotel at 8PM

Meeting Closed 10.10PM

Special Committee Meeting: 11th February 10.15 PM

Purpose to complete the Committee with the 4 appointed positions to be filled.

Present: Kevin Watson, Roger Chirnside, Eric Rigg, John Pollard, Matt Cornford and Paul Meade.

Position of Chief Flagmarshal: 2 EOIs: Arthur Cooksley and Kevin Watson, Kevin Watson was asked to leave the room. After voting: Arthur Cooksley was appointed 2016 Chief Flagmarshal.

Arthur Cooksley removed his name from EOIs for Assistant Chief Flagmarshal

Chief Flagmarshal presents the names he desires from the list of EOIs.

Position of Assistant Chief Flagmarshal: 4 EOIs, **Arthur Cooksley [withdrawn]**, William Gaff, Warren Gordon and Kevin Watson. Arthur Cooksley appointed William Gaff as Assistant Chief Flagmarshal on Committee, and Kevin Watson as assistant Chief off Committee.

Position of Training Officer: 1 EOI: Mark Thompson. Arthur Cooksley appointed Mark Thompson as Training Officer

Committee ratified the three positions

2016 Chief Flagmarshal: Arthur Cooksley

2016 Assistant Chief Flagmarshal: William Gaff [Committee]

2016 Assistant chief Flagmarshal: Kevin Watson [off Committee]

Final appointment for Committee: CAMS Rep. 1 EOI: David Thornbury. David was appointed to the position.

Meeting closed 10.25PM



VFT General Meeting Minutes

Victorian Flagmarshalling Team Inc. – December 2016 General Meeting

General Meeting Minutes

1 December 2016, 8:00pm

MG Car Club

53/41-49 Norcal Rd, Nunawading

Members Present: 22 Members.

Apologies: Paul Freeman, Mike Murphy, Mark Thompson, Arthur Cooksley and Country and Interstate Members

Kevin Watson welcomed all attendees to the meeting. Thanks to the MG Car Club for allowing the use of their club rooms free of charge. Please ensure we leave the venue as we find it to maintain our friendship with the club.

Minutes from the previous General meeting (4 August 2016): Moved: Geoff Kay, seconded: David Humphries that the minutes be accepted. Carried

Matters Arising:

John Clarke queried the motion put forward in item 15.2 regarding no further action being taken after Mario Pacifici's apology to the committee. Offered to put forward motion again as it was not seconded. No interest received from floor in seconding the motion.

Reports:

1 President:

- 1.1 KW reminds members of the Christmas party on 11 December at George Hetrel's. The presentation to George (Club Patron) will be special, so it would be great to see as many members there as possible.
- 1.2 Representatives of the club will be attending the CAMS State Awards night on 9 December. The club is expected to receive an award in recognition of our 30th Anniversary.

2 Vice President

- 2.1 Christmas party. George Hetrel's is not only a car museum, but also fantastic gardens and miniature railway. Remember to bring your own food. Some nibbles will be provided by the Hetrel's
- 2.2 Chief's BBQ. Bring your own chair and some meat for the BBQ. Salads, sweets, beer and wine will be provided. RC would like as many people as possible to attend, and invited the meeting to encourage those not present including our newer members to come along.

3 Secretary:

- 3.1 Membership stands at 193 (191 paid, 2 pending invoices for new members)
- 3.2 Nomination forms for the Elected Committee Positions were in the November magazine. Expressions of Interest for Club Appointed positions must be received by 5pm 9 February 2017.
- 3.3 We have received around 100 enquires to join the club this year. Some have been trackside recently.
- 3.4 The 2017 event Calendar is now on the website. It will also appear in the next magazine.

4 Treasurer:

- 4.1 As per report.
- 4.2 \$170 Net profit for the 2016. Although this is not a large figure, JP is pleased with it given the one off expenses associated with the 30th anniversary.
- 4.3 JP noted his opposition to the club taking out Directors and Officers insurance at a cost of \$908. He states the club has survived for 30 years without it and that it is only of benefit to the committee.
- 4.4 Payments to be passed:
- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| • Australia Post | \$164.00 Magazine Postage |
| • Corporate Printers | \$153.00 Magazine Printing |



• Telstra	\$50.00	Secretary Mobile
• Newsagent	\$4.00	Bereavement Card – Butteriss'
• Revolution Racewear	\$931.00	VFT Members Overalls
• Promotional Centre	\$263.51	Overall Embroidery
• David Thornbury	\$250.00	Patron's Award
• Geoff Kay	\$150.00	Equipment to Island Magic, HQ 4 Hr.

Moved: Geoff Kay, seconded: David Humphries that payments are passed. Carried.

5 Chief Flagmarshal (via email):

5.1 Completed Meetings:

- 7 meetings have been run since the last General Meeting.
- Sandown 500 and Shannons Nationals both 3 day events. Managed okay on the Fridays with help from Roger and the senior officials.
- Winton 300. 12 plus 1 Trainee. Saturday ran okay. Sunday saw atrocious weather conditions. Event was finished on lap 80 (27 of those laps under Safety Car) to protect the wellbeing of trackside officials. KW wrote 13 reports for incidents at turn 3.

5.2 Upcoming Meetings:

- HQ 4 Hour this weekend

5.3 Thanks to the Training Committee for their assistance with the upgrades this year.

5.4 After attending Bathurst this year, AC notes the high standard of VFT members and how spoilt we are for racing in the state.

6 Asst. Chief Flagmarshal:

6.1 Island Magic. 37 Saturday, 39 Sunday plus Trainees and Drivers. 15 Communicators and 15 Sectors.

No issues. A few drop outs and a few gains. WG identifies the need for members to focus on covering slow vehicles with white during racing. Also focus required on blue flagging and keeping track of the leaders/tail markers. There was a big impact at turn 6 and 7 over the weekend. Welfare checks are in progress for members on those points.

6.2 WG gives thanks to everyone for the year. It has been both interesting and challenging.

6.3 John Clarke queries if seniors could agree on a standard approach to the use of white flags. WG advises this is already in discussion.

6.4 John Clarke queries if we can be confident senior officials are up to the task when major incidents occur. RC responds that all people are different and will react differently to situations. We can't instantly give 30 years of experience to someone who has only been in the role for 5-6 meetings. We are all volunteers, and we need to give some latitude during the development process. KW adds that people will learn from the incidents they deal with, and the true measure is how they perform the next time the situation arises.

7 Training Officer (WG and MT via email):

7.1 15 upgrades completed this year, plus 5 trainees completing their 10 days. A number of upgrades are continuing.

7.2 ER is archiving all assessment documentation.

7.3 For those going for a CAMS upgrade (I.e. Bronze, Silver, and Gold) they must notify CAMS two weeks prior with an upgrade request. David Thornbury queries that given our upgrades may run over several meetings, at what stage should members contact CAMS. WG advises when approaching final assessment in consultation with the training office.

7.4 MT gives thanks to the membership for their support.

7.5 MT congratulates everyone who completed upgrades in 2016

7.6 MT gives thanks to the Training Team

7.7 A Training Night is being organised which will include a mock Stewards hearing. The event will be held at MG Car Club on 21 February. Further details will be published in the January magazine

7.8 John Clarke notes that Tony VDD is willing to conduct an EA course provided there are 4 people attending. JC currently has 3, so if anyone is interested make it known.

7.9 John Clarke notes the club upgrade processes does not have a Fail result, only not yet deemed competent. He queries the processes to mentor people until they are deemed competent.

**8 Grade 3 Rep:**

- 8.1 MC gives thanks to all the Grade 3/3As for their contribution to the club in 2016
- 8.2 MC notes that his initiative of monthly emails to the Grade 3/3As has been well received, with people appreciating being kept up to date.

9 Grade 4/5 Rep:

- 9.1 A few new members have recently had their grade 4 presentations.
- 9.2 PM gives thanks to the Grade 4s and membership for their support

10 Induction:

- 10.1 The Induction Team has been recently. Did a great job at the Island Magic
- 10.2 PM thanks Karen and the Induction Team for their work in 2016

11 CAMS Rep:

- 11.1 Fab Pulciani who is the Integrity Officer for CAMS has recently resigned. Who was responsible for managing Drug and Alcohol Testing?
- 11.2 David Mori's former position of Officials Manager with CAMS has been filled by Curtis Deboy.
- 11.3 A business case is being put together for a motorsport facility in Mildura, to include a race track.
- 11.4 The date for the Australian Grand Prix has been confirmed for the weekend of 23-26 March 2017.

12 Promotions:

- 12.1 An approach has been made to Nissan Motorsport to do recruiting at their open day on 17 December. Not looking great at this stage as they have had an overwhelming amount of interest from groups wanting to display on the day.
- 12.2 Looking at another recruitment activity in January at the opening of a slot car racing facility.

13 Social Media:

- 13.1 DT is continuing to post event information on Facebook, so keep checking the page.

14 Magazine:

- 14.1 Cut off for articles for the January magazine is 24 December. ER advises those standing for elected positions on the committee in 2017 can prepare a soap box article for the magazine.

15 Merchandise:

- 15.1 A few uniform orders are in progress.
- 15.2 Currently in the process of ordering some new flags.

Reports: Moved Robin Wood, Seconded Paul Kelly that reports are accepted. Carried

16 General Business:

- 16.1 KW notes he was approached at the Island Magic to sell or donate our old flags. He will put to the committee at their next meeting.
- 16.2 Reward Scheme Draw. David Thornbury read out the names of those who have qualified for the December Reward Scheme Draw. Shane Rogers conducted the draw. Congratulations to Danielle Bell who wins a \$50 fuel card and \$150 accommodation voucher to help her attend a future away event with the club.
- 16.3 RC advises that planning for the Grand Prix is well under way, with EOIs having closed in November. Those who have nominated for less than the full four days are unlikely to be accepted. RC suggests members should think seriously about their commitment to this event.
- 16.4 PM queries if there was any follow up with the gentleman from Phillip Island Web-Radio who spoke at the Island Magic briefing. ER confirms he caught up with him and discussed some opportunities.

Meeting Closed: 9:24pm

Next Meeting: Annual General Meeting, 8pm 9 February 2017 at the MG Car Club



2017 Calendar

March 4-5 *	Winton	VMRC 1
March 4-5 *	Sandown	VSCRC 1
March 17-19	Phillip Island	Island Classic
March 23-26	Albert Park	F1 GP, not a VFT event
April 7-9	Sandown	Shannon Nationals
April 15-16	Winton	Formula Festival
April 21-23	Phillip Island	V8's Phillip island 400
April 30	Sandown	Porsche 4 Hour
May 6-7	Phillip Island	VSCRC 2
May 13-14	Winton	VMRC 2
May 19-21	Winton	V8's Winton 400
May 26-28 *	Phillip Island	Shannons Nationals
May 27-28 *	Winton	Historic Winton
June 9-11	Winton	Shannons Nationals
June 17-18	Winton	VSCRC 3
June 24-25	Phillip Island	Multi Club
July 22-23	Sandown	VSCRC 4
July 29 -30	Phillip Island	Vic 6 Hour Relay
August 5-6	Winton	Festival of Speed
August 19-20	Phillip Island	August Access
August 26-27	Winton	Shannons Nationals
September 8-10	Phillip Island	Shannons Nationals
September 15-17	Sandown	Sandown 500
September 23-24	Winton	VMRC 3
Sept 30 Oct 1	Phillip Island	VSCRC 5
October 14-15	Winton	AROCA 10 Hour Relay
November 3-5	Sandown	Sandown Historics
November 11-12	Winton	Winton 300
November 25-26	Phillip Island	Island Magic
December 2-3	Winton	HQ 4 Hour Relay
* = Clash		

Expressions of interest to attend any events must be conveyed to the Chief Flagmarshal via any of the following 4 ways:

- The VFT Club Phone : **03 8796 5321**
- The VFT Club Mobile: **0409 823 657**
- Email: chief@vicflag.org.au
- In person, **trackside or at club meetings**

Please DO NOT use Social Media for expressions of interest!



www.vicflag.org.au

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