

The Victorian Flagmarshalling Team News

P/P 100005100



Founded 1986

News and information January 2018 6



Christmas is for children of all ages

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Proudly sponsored by:



George Hetrel – Club Patron

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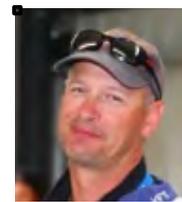
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2017 VFT Training Committee



Training Officer
Mark Thompson



Arthur Cooksley



Jason Carroll



Natalie Daish



William Gaff



Michael Poole



Glenn Rochester



Tony van den



Kevin Watson

2017 VFT Induction Team



Karen Legg



Zoe Franks



Harold Dreher

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VFT Life Members

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Rae Begg
Paul Cansdale
Roger Chirnside
Robert Farrell
Sue Jochheim
Alan Krahe
Mike Murphy
Terry O'Callaghan
Damian Petrie
Kevin Redman
Eric Rigg
Gloria Shallcross
Mike Shallcross
Barry Petersen [dec]
Neil Thompson [dec]

New Member

Welcome to our new member - David Florio

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This month's cover picture shows Father Christmas at Como Gardens with our Patron George Hetrel and his wife Pat.

2018 VFT Membership – Final Reminder Notice

Membership fees for 2018 now due and must be paid by the end of February, to vote at the AGM or by postal vote you must be financial before the AGM on 9th Feb.

Reminder: all members to keep their contact details up to date with VFT, CAMS and Promoters.

Reminder - Annual General Meeting Details

Thursday 9 February 2017 at 8.00 PM
MG Car Club
Unit 53 and 54 Eastern Business Centre
41-49 Norcal Road
NUNAWADING

*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, Judi McDonald, Mark Thompson, Joy Chirnside and others*



A Word or Two

Another year has ended and a new one has just begun. Now is the time to reflect on the past year. On track 2017 was a busy and mixed season. Busy from the point of view concerning the number of race meeting, and mixed regarding the small amount of our members and officials in general, attending smaller events. This lack of people places a larger load on those who do turn up.



Year after year, this same situation has arisen until it has culminated in being accepted as the norm. I call upon our Chiefs, and their many disciples, to work together to address this problem – and it is a problem that won't go away. Talk to people, ring people, that is the job of any Chief. One day we will be caught in a very serious situation due to lack of manpower. We must act before it is too late!

The most disappointing aspect of the year, from a personal point of view, was the ongoing lack of attendance at the General Meetings. One night every two months is not a lot to ask, even the lure of the BBQ before the December meeting failed to attract members. With this epidemic of apathy what hope do we have of inviting guest speakers?

On a more positive note, and away from trackside, I believe in the main, the Committee worked well together. However again there was this underlying lack of response to the Grade Reps from general members concerning issues which may or may not have been of importance. Instead of voicing concerns with these reps some members chose instead to raise objection to the way things were being done, or not as the case may be, at General Meetings. It would have been more productive if the issues had been raised with the relevant Grade Rep so that concerns could have been discussed at Committee Meetings to arrive at a possible and quicker decision rather than wasting time at General Meetings. This state of affairs could be a reason for dwindling numbers.

In closing I would like to thank: the Vice President, David Thornbury, for ably chairing meetings in my absence; Matt Cornford, for stepping in to fulfil the onerous role of Treasurer, a task he carried out admirably; Eric Rigg, our extremely diligent Secretary; Arthur Cooksley, Chief Flagmarshal; Jason Carroll, for enduring at times a rather frustrating year as CAMS Rep; as well as Mark Thompson, Chief Training Officer; also Shane Rogers, Grade 4/5 Rep, again with frustration; and William Gaff, Assistant Chief Flagmarshal.

It would be remiss of me not to thank several other people for their work on behalf of the club; namely the Training Committee; Merchandise Officer; and the various meters and greeters at the gates of circuits to usher in prospective new officials. And last and certainly not least the Editor of our club magazine, Joy Chirnside. I have the privilege of witnessing first hand the work that goes into producing an excellent newsletter.

My thanks to each and every one of you who attended the many race meetings throughout the year and I look forward to 2018 with optimism.

Roger Chirnside
President
Victorian Flagmarshalling Team, Inc.



2018 VFT Committee Election - A message from your Returning Officer

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Nominations for this year's committee closed on December 31st. The candidates are as follows:

President.	Roger Chirnside
Vice President.	Mark Thompson
Secretary.	Eric Rigg
Treasurer.	David Thornbury
Grade 3 Representative.	unfilled
Grade 4/5 Representative.	Unfilled

So, we have four positions on the committee where we have a candidate standing alone, they will be elected unopposed on the night of our AGM. Two positions still need to be filled. Because of this situation two things will follow. Firstly, no ballot papers will be posted out to country members or handed out to attendees at the AGM. Secondly, I shall be **calling for expressions of interest** at the meeting from anyone wishing to become a candidate **for the Grade 3 and Grade 4/5 positions**. Please think carefully about whether you can assist the club by fulfilling one of these roles.

Remember that only financial members can stand for committee roles, be a nominator or seconder, or vote in elections. If you haven't paid your annual subscription yet, have some cash in your hand as you enter the hall. Eric will accept it gladly.

I note that last year's committee, and this year's so far are remarkably lacking in female content! Ladies, remember Emily Pankhurst. You can vote and stand for office now. Don't allow the VFT to be a male dominated organisation, we need some steady ladies hands on the steering wheel. Gentlemen, don't let my comment above stop you from expressing interest too.

Many thanks to those members who have stood for positions so far. Let's aim to have all six elected positions filled by the conclusion of our meeting. I look forward to seeing many of you at our AGM.

Date - Thursday 8 February 2018 at 8.00pm

Place - MG Car Club

Unit 53, 41-49 Norcal Rd, Nunawading 3131

Regards,

Paul Freeman

2018 VFT Returning Officer



Flag One Reporting

Welcome everyone to 2018. I hope you all enjoyed a safe and happy Xmas and New Year, and got to relax before the start of the new motor racing year.

For those that like a bit of trivia, 2018 in the Chinese calendar is called the year of the Male Earth Dog (or just Brown Dog for short).

The Chinese horoscope says that, being strong Earth, people will focus on real estate, agriculture, environment, territory and integrity. What does this have to do with our daily life, you say? Who knows, but I did say it was trivia. Perhaps if you are planning on buying property, farming the land or solving global warming, it will be a successful year for you.

For many of us, the first trackside duties for 2018 will commence with the Bathurst 12 hour. I will again be making the annual trek north and can't wait to see and hear 60 of the fastest and sexiest GT cars in the world tackling the Mountain. For those of you that haven't worked the 12 hour before, it is definitely one to add to your bucket list.

The club's AGM follows in mid February, with the election of a new Committee, as well as appointment of the non-Committee positions. This is an important part of our club Constitution, as it presents the opportunity for members to stand for election and thereby have a direct influence on the direction of the club. The AGM also presents a great opportunity for many of us to catch up for the first time in the new year, and to discuss issues and concerns relating to our operation as a club for the forthcoming year.

We then go to the start of March, with the Adelaide 500 (formerly Clipsal 500) coinciding with the first of our calendared meetings, being the VSCRC1 at Sandown. For those members travelling to Adelaide, I wish them a safe and enjoyable trip, and I hope that this year the fortunes of car #17 turn around for the better (maybe just a little bit of Ford bias, LOL).

For those of us not doing the Adelaide 500, I look forward to catching up with everyone at Sandown for our first state meeting for the year. As per usual arrangements, please email, phone or text me to the contacts below.

To get your name onto the above list, members can:

- Email me at chief@vicflag.org.au,
- Call or text me on 0406036714, or

Catch you at the track

Arthur Cooksley
Chief Flagmarshal
Victorian Flagmarshalling Team





Grade 4/5 Report

Welcome everyone to 2018.

Hope everyone has had a great Christmas and New Year. Hope Santa spoiled everyone rotten.

What can I say about 2017, there was some great racing from all competitors at all 3 tracks. But where did everyone go? The only time we saw good numbers was at the Supercars events. Why have people stopped coming to the smaller events?

But let's bring on 2018. Let's have huge numbers at all events. Let's help the club out, as well as helping your fellow officials out. So, come out and help, even if it's just for 1 day. Everybody trackside counts. We still have some time before the race meeting, so have a think about it.

And don't forget the AGM on the 8th of February. Come along and have your vote on the new committee for 2018.

Regards
Shane Rogers
Grade 4/5 Rep



CAMS Report

There is nothing to report on the CAMS front, but I'm happy to announce that we have now received our new club polo shirts and they will be available to purchase at the Chief's BBQ at Rogers place this Saturday night 13/01/18 and will also be available at the AGM on the 08/02/18.

Shirts are priced at \$20 per shirt. We have a range of sizes and short and long sleeve options available. The sizes we ordered reflected our survey of members last year so we have limited sizes for the small, 3XL and 5XL shirts. If we do run out of your size we will be ordering more as we need them

If you are attending the BBQ or the AGM and would like to purchase a shirt or 2, It would be helpful to me if you could drop me a line at cams@vicflag.org.au or ring me prior on 0422 314 223 so I can pre arrange your order for the night.

All the best,
Jason Carroll
CAMS Rep





Vice President & Promotions Update

I hope everyone had a nice Christmas and New Year and have been using the off season to relax and spend time with friends and family.

With the festive period behind us, now is a good time to look at the 2018 event calendar and consider which events you will attend this year. While we all love to do the big events, I would encourage everyone to look at the smaller events as well. Not only do these events provide the best opportunity for you to develop your decision making and officiating skills, they are also the ones we generally struggle with for numbers so you'd be really helping the club out. So please do consider a few of the smaller events as you plan your year.



This is also a good time to go through your kit bag and make sure all your required gear is still there and in good condition. Damage can sometimes go unnoticed, and items get misplaced. So, make sure you don't get caught out trackside needing something trackside that is missing or not up to the task.

Thanks to all of you who braved the adverse weather conditions to attend the December General Meeting. You can all take pride in being part of history, with the event being our first ever "carbon neutral" meeting. For those of you who weren't there, we didn't plan to be so environmentally friendly. There was a power cut in the area, so the meeting was held without electric lighting!



I have once again put my hand up to sit on the committee in 2018. I am really looking forward to working with the rest of the committee members to advance the club should my nomination be successful.

While the nominations for the committee are now closed, I would encourage members to consider furthering their involvement in the sport by taking on one of the volunteer positions we have in the club. Induction, training and promotions are a few examples of the roles available to you, but there are others. You are more than welcome to contact myself or one of the other committee members to discuss what might be suitable. Expressions of Interest should be sent to: secretary@vicflag.org.au by 11 February.

Member of the Month Awards:

- Sam McCoubrie is the recipient of our September Award. She has been recognised for consistently making herself available to volunteer on the Friday of events over a number of years. Fridays are generally pretty tight for numbers, so her help is really appreciated.
- For October, we have acknowledged Justin Parrant for overcoming significant personal adversity to become a valued member of the club. He is a real example to us all to not let the challenges life presents you get in the way of your passions.
- And the final award of the year goes to Greg Hardy. Greg's flexible attitude and sense of humour is a real positive for the club at race meetings. In addition to this, Greg took on the role of Merchandising Officer this year to help the club out.



David Thornbury
Vice President
The Victorian Flagmarshalling Team.



Merchandise



The 2017 Merchandise Officer is Greg Hardy.

To order merchandising you can see Greg at the track or

Email: merchandise@vicflag.org.au or Mob: 0425 726 310

For overalls and jackets allow 4-6 weeks as these are not stock items.

VFT Merchandise

Item	Price
Overalls	\$220
Winter Jacket	\$90
Overall Jacket	\$175
Bag	\$30
Plastic pouches	\$2
Polo shirt (White)	\$25
Bucket Cap	\$12
Cap	\$10
Beanie	\$10
Internal/External stickers	\$2
25th Anniversary medallion	\$20

Why not write an article for the VFT Magazine??

In order to make the magazine a more interesting read, we need to rely on members for articles and/or pictures. If you would like to contribute, please talk to the editor, Joy Chirnside, at magazine@vicflag.org.au or 0417 018 044.



A Quick and Amazing Trip to Paris

Joy Chirnside - Editor

(I knew that Roger wouldn't wish to write an article about his own achievement so I thought I would do it for him!!)

It all began with a phone call on Friday 10th November from the President of CAMS whilst Roger was officiating at the Sandown Historic meeting. After Roger recovered from the initial shock of being informed that he had been named as the recipient of the prestigious FIA Outstanding Official of the Year, to be awarded at no lesser venue than the Palace of Versailles in Paris on **8 December**, it was time to do some quick planning! Not only did I have to renew my passport in a hurry as I had less than 6 months left on it, but we had to sort out dates for flights and accommodation and appropriate dress for a black tie event! In addition we had two grandchildren due at the end of November (to separate sets of parents), very special events that we didn't want to miss out on!

Roger's flights and two nights accommodation were paid for as part of receiving the award, so we paid for my flights and an extra couple of nights accommodation so that we could at least relax after the big event and see some of the sights in wintertime – which we did and thoroughly enjoyed!

And so, on the evening of 6 December, after the safe arrival of two gorgeous grandsons a few days earlier, we were on our way to Paris! We were met on arrival at the airport next afternoon and taken by chauffeur driven car to the Hotel InterContinental Le Grand in the centre of a very cold Paris, close to the Paris Opera House and near to the FIA's headquarters. As the FIA Prize Giving ceremony has been the traditional closing event of the FIA Annual General Assembly Week since 2011, there were FIA banners everywhere around the hotel as the majority of the meetings were taking place in the hotel's function rooms.



There were certain formalities to be completed upon arrival with regards to the Prize Giving evening, which were then followed by a very brief sightseeing stroll near to the hotel in the cold evening air.

The next afternoon, Friday 8th December, was spent making sure all the creases and wrinkles from a very long flight had been ironed out, before boarding a coach for the police escorted trip to the Palace of Versailles, some 21kms from the hotel, on the outskirts of Paris. We initially wondered why there were so many police on motorcycles with lights and sirens everywhere, until we realised that at every intersection between the hotel and the Palace the police were stopping all other traffic to allow our convoy of 8 plus coaches through! Obviously the FIA has a lot of clout in Paris!



On arrival at the Palace, after a light sprinkling of snow, we were welcomed via a red carpet through a French Guard of Honour to the sound of royal drums.

The first hour or so was spent walking through the palace, accompanied by chamber music with the musicians and singers all dressed in XVII century costumes, and passing through the Royal Apartments, the



King's Chamber and the Hall of Mirrors. Along the way official photos were taken of all the guests and champagne was offered – and enjoyed!





Dinner took place in the Battle Gallery (Gallerie des Batailles), the largest room in the Palace, covering almost the entire first floor of the South Wing. The walls depict nearly 15 centuries of French battles through paintings that are almost floor to ceiling. There were 70 tables of guests and the event was a veritable who's who of motorsport. At a table near us were seated Sebastian Vettel, Valterri Bottas, Max Verstappen, Toto Wolff and their partners. Lewis Hamilton wandered past as well, with his minders.



During the evening Roger was introduced to a number of dignitaries including Jean Todt, President of the FIA.

Following dinner, we continued our walk through the Palace, and on to the Royal Opera House, where the Prize Giving was to take place. Inaugurated during 1770 during the reign of Louis XV, the Royal Opera House was, at the time, the largest concert hall in Europe. The Palace of Versailles as it is today, having been added to constantly over the years, contains 2,300 rooms and

the parts that we saw were awe inspiring, especially when you consider that its origin in the 17th century was Louis XIII's hunting pavilion!

As an award recipient Roger (and I) were seated towards the front of the Royal Opera House, but many of the guests were seated in an alternate room from where they watched the proceedings on a big screen. The Prize Giving itself was split into sections as there were so many awards to be made, with some awards being given separately and others in groups. Roger was in the 'Circuits' section, a group of about 19 recipients, who, having



been given their awards backstage were then presented to the audience altogether. A few of the recipients were mentioned by name individually and Roger was very lucky to be one of these as the Master of Ceremonies thanked the "invaluable

volunteers and officials as we congratulate Roger Chirnside from Australia as The Outstanding Official of the Year" (and which was followed by applause).



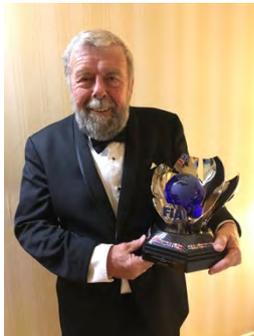
For those that are not aware, the award for the FIA Outstanding Official of the Year 'pays tribute to exceptionally long and dedicated careers as officials in motor sport' and as Roger commenced his officiating journey in 1966 (yes, 51 years ago!) I guess this had something to do with the award!

Some of you may know that a young (then 17 year old) British Formula 4 driver, Billy Monger, had a horrific accident at Donington back in April 2017 and as a result lost part of both legs. He is an amazing young man, determined to go on racing in the future and he received the FIA President's Award, and received a standing ovation as he walked very carefully onto the stage, on his new prosthetic legs and the aid of sticks, showing an amazing amount of courage and upstaging every other award presentation of the night!





The Prize Giving ended with all recipients being invited back onto the stage together which was quite a sight. Words can't fully describe the amazing venue of the Palace and also the grandeur of the event. It all seemed quite surreal to be a part of it.



The receiving of the trophy and the box in which to transport it home, was the culmination of an incredible event and to quote Roger: "One of the most amazing nights of my life". The fact that we were able to share it, made it all the more memorable. As Roger has since stated many times, he never realised that all those years of doing something he loved could lead to such an event, one for which he is truly humbled and honoured.

Our thanks and gratitude therefore must go to all the people concerned who made receiving this award possible and for a trip that will remain memorable for ever.

There must be something about the date – 8 December! Found in the VFT Archives:

Flaggies Flyer

[wysiwyg://6/http://www.vicflag.org.au/flyerdec.htm](http://www.vicflag.org.au/flyerdec.htm)



Roger Chirnside wins CAMS Official of the Year for 2000



Last night 8th December 2000 an utterly stunned Roger Chirnside, Chief Flagmarshal of the Victorian Flagmarshalling Team was awarded the CAMS Official of the Year award.

Roger wearing the famous green hat was uncharacteristically lost for words as he was presented with his award.



In action (or inaction) at:

Winton 300



Sandown Historics





Training Matters

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

Training & Development definition, *“To improve one’s performance” “It is any attempt to improve current or future performance by increasing one’s ability to perform through learning, usually by changing the person’s attitude or increasing his or her skills and knowledge”.*



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 2017 and not without its challengers, which only says that there is more to be done come 2018!!!

I congratulate all those people who have been successful in gaining their respective upgrades, I’m happy to say we have had over 20 people that have completed their upgrades 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 Mock Stewards Hearing and Communications Up skilling night at the MG Car Club; I hope we can have a few more of these initiatives during 2018, so again thanks to all those people who assisted and attended these nights.

The upgrade process is working well now. I urge anyone looking to do an upgrade that they visit the website and check the latest upgrade requirements prior to sending your EOI to the Club Secretary. Once the Secretary has received your application it is then passed onto the Training Committee to be logged for commencement.

I started off with the *Definition of Training & Development*. Whilst our club is held in high regard for our professionalism, knowledge and level of expertise, there is always room to develop the club even further by developing a positive attitude. Hmm I can see you already thinking “What The!” however I’m sure you will agree that there has been a level of apathy that has started to develop within the club over the past couple of years. I’m sure you will all agree that a positive attitude plays an enormous part of our everyday lives so why not continue to develop it in our own club. We are lucky to have such a wide and diverse group of members from all walks of life that have a positive can do attitude, so I got to thinking why can’t we all tap into that positivity and make our club just that bit greater. I’ve put just a few tips to developing a positive attitude below.

Use a more positive vocabulary
Ignore whiners and complainers
Don't let yourself get dragged into other people's complaints
Use positive words to describe your life
Be mindful and helpful to others



I think if we adapt a couple of these tips it will be a good start to building a positive attitude for ourselves as well as the club and a great year of training and upgrades ahead.

When the 2018 Training Committee has been established, we will start to work on a calendar of training sessions we can put together during 2018, 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.



Mark Thompson
VFT Training Officer

Thank you from Geoff Kay

(and apologies for not getting this into the September mag - Ed)

From: geoff.jennykay

Date: 29 August 2017 at 9:21:40 pm AEST

To: "secretary@vicflag.org.au Eric" <secretary@vicflag.org.au>

Subject: To all VFT

I would like to say a big thanks to all my friends at VFT for the beautiful get well card, and also the many phone calls, messages and visits while I was in hospital, it meant so much to me. Sorry I missed some of your visits due to being moved to different hospitals.

I am home now and doing good, and very busy with physio every day. Thanks for everybody's support and thoughts, will be seeing you all soon. Tah Muchly Geoff.



More in action (or inaction) at:
Island Magic, Phillip Island





Christmas Party at Como Gardens





Chief's BBQ



Many thanks to everyone who turned up on a very miserable wet evening for the Chiefs BBQ. Hopefully a good time was had by all.
Roger & Joy





Flying with Struggles!

...you'll love this.



Quote; 'What is the difference between an obstacle and an opportunity? Our attitude toward it. Every opportunity has a difficulty, and every difficulty has an opportunity.' —J. Sidlow Baxter

I live near Fountain Gate Shopping Centre and was blown away by how many shoppers there were everyday through November and December, filling the carparks and overflowing all the kerbs and parklands surrounding the centre over Christmas. Abandoned trollies were littered all over the area from the mountainous loads of presents they had carried out from the shops.

There is much debate of this new generation whether our children have been given so much that they now expect everything all at once. Not satisfied with what they have; they want everything right now, not tomorrow, but right now. I think we have spoiled our children to expect more than they ought and expect it all the time. It may seem odd to think we aren't teaching our children to fly in the face of struggles. You can't fly through life without there being seasons of struggles.

Life is not just about having everything you want or desire without the effort and sometimes the failures that are encountered. The effort and dedication it took to get where one is today. Part of good parenting is teaching the youngsters the steps it took for people to arrive at their present.

The good book says that teaching perseverance develops endurance and endurance, reward. What do you know that can be done without a bit of struggle? Acquiring an education, or learning a new skill, or developing a successful business, an accomplished painter, musician, or athlete? Well, the answer is obvious; none of these were acquired without work, effort, struggle, overcoming obstacles, perseverance, giving up free time, hours of endurance and sometimes, even frustration.

There is truth in the cliché 'What doesn't kill me makes me stronger!' Has the love for our kids only fuelled their disappointments? We don't need a generation of quitters, because it's too hard! Real love equips our children to respect hardships, struggles, to learn to overcome obstacles, understand perseverance, which develops an attitude that accepts responsibility for and owns one's destiny.

In the mid 60's, Keith Richards of the Rolling Stones penned the song 'I can't get no, satisfaction.' And he was right. Satisfaction doesn't come from the things you get. Lasting satisfaction comes from the things we make happen. Things that take effort and perseverance and after FLYING WITH STRUGGLES achieve our goal, that's what fills us with a rich sense of satisfaction.

Real love will upskill a youngster to **WORK** through their struggles. This will require **SACRIFICES** which matures into **SATISFACTION**. Often struggles are seen as just, bad! My encouragement is for you to see the struggle as a stepping stone that will make you a better person, rather than just another stumbling block that has come along to wreck your year once again.

2018 will have its fair share of good times and no doubt there will be a few struggles. Fly with whatever struggles come your way and let this year end with a sense of satisfaction no matter what comes your way. Make the decision now to not let struggles steal anything away from you and plan a very satisfying year.

Quote; 'Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin.' —Mother Teresa

Doing Life with you, Chaplain Mark Bateman 0412 151 121.



VFT General Meeting Minutes

Victorian Flagmarshalling Team Inc. – December 2017 General Meeting

General Meeting Minutes

7th December 2017

MG Clubrooms, 53/41-49 Norcal Rd Nunawading.

Meeting opened 8.00PM

Members Present: 19.

Apologies: William Gaff, Roger Chirnside, Geoff Kay, Jenny Creet, Mark Thompson, John McBain, John Grist, Warren Gordon, Rebecca Armstrong, Country, Interstate and International members

Minutes of the previous meeting: Moved: David Humphries, seconded: Shane Rogers that the minutes be accepted

Matters arising: Nil

Reports

1 President

1.1 Roger wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year [via Vice President]

2 Vice President

2.1 Recent monthly award winners: Sam McCoubrie, Greg Hardy and Don Johnson

3 Secretary: as per report

3.1 Nominations for the 6 elected positions close on the 31st December 2017, EOI's for all other positions close 5.00PM on the 8th February 2018 contact Secretary to register your EOI.

3.2 Had 105 new member enquiries through various channels, a lot no response to email, some enquiries following email to join us trackside, and several new members as a result.

3.3 Members are advised to keep their contact details up to date with VFT, CAMS and Promoters.

4 Treasurer: as per report

4.1 Payments to be passed: Acuity Risk Solutions \$907.50, William Gaff \$125 [President's award], Jason Carroll \$37.50 trailer [Magic], Kevin Watson \$37.50 trailer [Magic], Melbourne Trophy Centre \$661.05, Kevin Watson \$75 trailer HQ's, Aust Post \$143.75 [Magazine postage], Mark Thompson \$442 [Breakfast for the Magic], Telstra \$30 [Secretary phone], Corporate Printers \$160 [Nov Magazine], Shane Rogers \$8 [food for GM BBQ], Glenn Rochester \$160 [food for GM BBQ]. Moved Glenn Rochester, Seconded Shane Rogers, Carried.

5 Chief Flagmarshal

5.1 Reports on final events of the year, numbers a concern, Island Magic clashed with Supercars Newcastle. Mario Pacific stated that it was the Committee's role to ensure sufficient numbers are achieved. John Clarke suggested that VFT Sector Marshals should wave flags if short of numbers.

6 Assistant Chief Flagmarshal:

Kevin Watson has generated his own 'return to work' document.



- 7 **Training Officer**
 - 7.1 Sorry I can't be here tonight, unfortunately work taken precedence, first of all a big thanks to Glenn Rochester for stepping up for the BBQ tonight,
 - 7.2 I would like to once again congratulate the people that have upgraded during this year, this shows that there is a good level of commitment from our members and a willingness to make a difference to the club.
 - 7.3 We are also trying to emphasise the role of the Grade 2's to ensure that the standards are maintained to a high level, it's important that we all help out those members who require some assistance and in particular if you are an EA in which case you must be sure to follow the CAMS EA Guidelines before completing an assessment.
 - 7.4 We have also started to gather footage from trackside scenarios for use on the website coming into the new year, these will be used on the website as a training aid.
 - 7.5 We also hope to run another Stewards / Report Writing session in the new year, this will differ from past sessions and will encompass many new speakers, so I encourage you all to watch this space.
 - 7.6 Don't forget the CAMS courses, whilst there is nothing scheduled for the immediate future, please let us know if there is a course you would like to do, we can then discuss it with CAMS.
 - 7.7 Again I would just like to thank you all for your support, it's been an enlightened year for sure and has been not without its challengers, our Training Committee has worked hard to cater for everyone's needs, and coming into the new year if you feel you can make a contribution, please be sure to put in your EOI for the Training Committee. I would also like to take the opportunity to thank the main committee for their support throughout the year.
 - 7.8 Bryan O'Reilly: When does the Training Committee plan on running a Fire Extinguisher session.
 - 8 **CAMS Rep. detailed report in November magazine.**
 - 8.1 State Council executive elections held
 - 8.2 Victorian Superkart Club, club level karting struggling and noted several factors contributing to this.
 - 9 **Promotions.** Sandown 500, Bryan O'Reilly had announcement put of trackside PA acknowledging the VFT
 - 10 **Grade 3 Rep.** Nil
 - 11 **Grade 4/5 Rep:** Nil
 - 12 **Induction:** Nil
 - 13 **Merchandise:** Nil
- Reports: Moved: Glenn Rochester, seconded: Paul freeman that reports be accepted. Carried
- 14 **General Business**
 - 14.1 Michelle Clewett – magazine online option.
 - 14.2 Mario Pacifici asked Jason Carroll for a breakdown of costings on Polo Shirts
 - 14.3 Bryan O'Reilly has a contact in the travel industry and maybe able to assist with discounts for those travelling interstate or overseas to motorsport events.

Next Meeting: AGM 8th February 2018 at MG Clubrooms
Meeting Closed 10.20PM



VFT Special General Meeting Minutes

Victorian Flagmarshalling Team Inc. – 2017 Special General Meeting

Special General Meeting Minutes
9 February 2017, 9:50pm
MG Car Club,
53/41-49 Norcal Rd, Nunawading

Members Present: 40 Members.

Apologies: Tony van den Dungen, Terry O’Callaghan, Robin Wood, John Booker, John McBain, Paul Freeman, Mike Murphy, Trish Storey, Warren Gordon, Paul Kelly, Simon Baston, Jenny Creet, and country, interstate and international members

Kevin Watson convened a Special General Meeting for the purpose of voting on two amendments to the constitution.

Motions:

1 Amendment to Quorums for General Meetings :

- 1.1 John Clarke requested an update to the wording of the proposed amendment published the November 2016 edition of the club magazine. Request was put to a vote, For: 2, Against 38. Request is rejected.
- 1.2 John Clarke spoke to the motion.
- 1.3 Kevin Watson gave attendees the opportunity to speak For the motion. No members chose to speak For the motion.
- 1.4 Kevin Watson gave attendees the opportunity to speak Against the motion. Kevin Watson (on behalf of the Committee), Murray Stevens, Mario Pacifici, and Darren Millett spoke against the motion.
- 1.5 Kevin Watson put the motion to a vote. 2 votes cast in favour. Minimum vote of 75% not attained. Motion Rejected

2 Amendment to the selection of appointed committee positions. Addition of a minimum Grade for Chief Flag Marshal

- 2.1 John Clarke spoke to the motion.
- 2.2 Kevin Watson gave attendees the opportunity to speak For the motion. No members chose to speak For the motion.
- 2.3 Kevin Watson gave attendees the opportunity to speak Against the motion. Kevin Watson (on behalf of the Committee), Murray Stevens, and John Haywood spoke against the motion.
- 2.3 Kevin Watson put the motion to a vote. 3 votes cast in favour. Minimum vote of 75% not attained. Motion Rejected.

Meeting Closed: 10:15pm



VFT Annual General Meeting Minutes – 2017

Victorian Flagmarshalling Team Inc. – 2017 Annual General Meeting
Annual General Meeting Minutes
9 February 2017, 8:00pm
MG Car Club, 53/41-49 Norcal Rd, Nunawading

Members Present: 40 Members.

Apologies: Tony van den Dungen, Terry O’Callaghan, Robin Wood, John Booker, John McBain, Paul Freeman, Mike Murphy, Trish Storey, Warren Gordon, Paul Kelly, Simon Baston, Jenny Creet, and country, interstate and international members

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

Minutes from the previous Annual General meeting (11 February 2016): Moved: Geoff Kay, seconded: Natalie Daish that the minutes be accepted. Carried

Matters Arising:

Nil

Reports:

1 President:

1.1 Kevin Watson gave thanks to everyone for all their efforts during the year. The year 2016 has been challenging. Change is good provided it’s for the right reasons.

2 Vice President

2.1 Roger Chirside gave thanks to the club. 2016 was not the best year in terms of the administration. Believes the committee has acted in the best interests of the club. We will learn from 2016 and move forward.

3 Secretary:

- 3.1 Eric Rigg notes 2016 was an interesting year for himself
- 3.2 Membership stands at 189 (131 paid, 58 pending). Four resignations from the club have been received from people we haven’t seen for some time.
- 3.3 We have received around 100 enquires to join the club over the year.
- 3.4 Penrite has increased their sponsorship to \$2,000. We also received donations from Dustings Racing Team and Karingal Bowling Club of \$500 each.
- 3.5 Still looking for Expressions of Interest for a number of Committee/Volunteer positions.
- 3.6 The website suffered some issues recently, but is now back up and running.
- 3.7 Kevin Redman gave thanks to Eric for the hours and hard work he dedicates to the club.

4 Treasurer:

- 4.1 As per Audit and Treasurers reports.
- 4.2 John Pollard notes that having the accounts audited is not legally required for our club, however he believes the money spent to audit the accounts is a good investment.
- 4.3 Highlights from 2016 include the one off cost of the 30th anniversary, \$5k government grant and approx. \$57k in the bank.
- 4.4 Kevin Redman queries if the grant has been spent/allocated. JP advises the grant needs to be spent on specific areas and the 2017 Committee will allocate this.
- 4.5 Payments to be passed:

• Alan Lopez	\$495.00	2016 Audit
• VicRoads	\$56.90	Trailer Registration
• Telstra	\$50.00	Secretary Mobile
• Revolution Racewear	\$231.00	VFT Member Overalls + Freight
• Frankston Newsagent	\$8.30	Cards (Sympathy/Newborns)
• Eric Rigg	\$30.01	Petrol reimbursement

Moved: Jason Carroll, seconded: Shane Rogers that payments are passed. Carried.



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5 Chief Flagmarshal:

- 5.1 Arthur Cooksley gave thanks to all members who supported the club in 2016. Some events were very light on numbers while a couple everyone came out of the woodwork. There is a core group who volunteer at most events. Smallest attendance was 8, with the largest 63.
- 5.2 A couple of members have had medical issues in 2016. AC wishes them the best for their recovery. Nice to see a few weddings and babies in the club recently.
- 5.3 There were a number of upgrades completed over the year, with a few also ongoing. Some members also took the step into the Sector Marshal role.
- 5.4 Thanks to Will Gaff, Kevin Watson and Roger Chirnside for their support and camaraderie over the year. A goal for 2016 had been to grow the senior's team from the clubs Grade 1 & 2 members.
- 5.5 Thanks to the Training and Induction Team's for their work and support in 2016.
- 5.6 Thanks to "Mr Reliable", Geoff Kay for ensuring the trailer was at meetings and distributing all the equipment.
- 5.7 In 2017 we will attend 29 events totalling 66 days. There are two clashes, including the first weekend of the year which also clashes with Clipsal. Please add your names to the lists.
- 5.8 AC reminds members that where Event Organisers have their own registration process, we still need to register with the Chief. There has been some discrepancies with the Island Classic.

6 Training Officer:

- 6.1 Mark Thompson gave thanks to the Training Committee for their help and support throughout the year.
- 6.2 Training Expo. Was a little down on numbers compared to the previous year, but still deemed a success, with good information provided by the presenters. Thanks to CAMS for funding the event.
- 6.3 5 seniors have offered their assistance to the Mentoring Program. MT believes it is important for us to draw upon their experience.
- 6.4 The Flag Point Checklist has been working quite well. Any feedback or suggestions on improvements are welcome. Also the EA Checklists and Questions Sheet.
- 6.5 Trainee Sectors. Great to see members being picked for this role. Looking to introduce preliminary training to assist with the transition. Will include Incident Management etc.
- 6.6 New guidelines have been introduced for upgrades. Sets out the minimum number of race meetings, etc.
- 6.7 We are likely to see some focus on the CAMS Code of Conduct in 2017.
- 6.8 Online training videos focusing on various aspects of the Flag Marshal role are still a work in progress.
- 6.9 A training night is to be held on 21 February at the MG Car Club. Format will be a mock Stewards hearing. Please contact MT to attend.
- 6.10 Upgrades. Please make sure you take care of the paperwork and that it is returned to Will Gaff at the end of the day.
- 6.11 Planning to conduct an EA refresher course during the year. MT emphasises to all EA's the importance of following the prescribed guidelines.

7 Asst. Chief Flagmarshal:

- 7.1 Will Gaff gave thanks to those present for their attendance. Great to see such good numbers.
- 7.2 Numbers at some events were very low, which made things quite challenging.
- 7.3 WG gave thanks to the committee for their support, to Arthur Cooksley and Kevin Watson for their help during the year, and also the general membership.
- 7.4 12 upgrades were completed in 2016, along with five 10 day assessments. Approx. 12 upgrades are currently in progress.
- 7.5 15 months ago WG offered to take over the management of upgrades. Paperwork at that stage was in a bit of a state, but has been cleaned up and now the process is working well.
- 7.6 It is very important that we look after the upgrade paperwork and ensure it gets back to WG. Paperwork for completed upgrades is archived by ER.
- 7.7 WG gives thanks to Jason Carroll for his work in developing new upgrade guidelines.
- 7.8 The volunteer website postings are now back in place for 2017. WG has contacted those who have expressed an interest and 6 out of the 8 enquiries are scheduled to attend the first meeting at Sandown.
- 7.9 WG spoke to criticism some members have made of the Training Committee. He noted one incident where he overheard someone was complaining to another member about delays in their upgrade. When he intervened, he was able to resolve this relatively quickly. WG reminds members that if they



have any issues to ensure they raise them through the appropriate channels so they can be addressed rather than just complaining to other members.

8 CAMS Rep:

- 8.1 David Thornbury advises the February State Council meeting was unable to be held due to falling short of the quorum. Similar to us, they are looking at ways to improve meeting attendance.
- 8.2 One of the State Council meetings this year will have a guest speaker from CAMS insurer. It will give us an opportunity to raise the Directors and Officers insurance issue.
- 8.3 The members of the CAMS Risk Committee have been confirmed, and include two board members and two risk management specialists. The previously raised issue around breaks/length of days for officials has been referred to this committee, so hopefully we will see some action on this.
- 8.4 2017 NCR is now available on the CAMS website for anyone interested.

9 Promotions:

- 9.1 David Thornbury gave thanks to everyone who assisted with promotions this year. Whether it was helping at one of the special events, at Supercars, talking to people over the fence or friends and colleagues, it all helps.
- 9.2 Have a couple of potential activities coming up.

10 Social Media:

- 10.1 David Thornbury advises both our Twitter and Facebook followers grew by around 20% in 2016 which is an excellent indication on the interest in the club. Facebook followers are almost four times our membership.

11 Grade 3 Rep:

- 11.1 Matt Cornford thanks everyone for attending the meeting.
- 11.2 MC enjoyed his first year in the role. Intends to continue with monthly email updates and ad-hoc calls for additional members where EOI's are low.
- 11.3 MC gave thanks for the opportunity to do walkarounds. Good to talk to people one on one. Everyone seems happy.
- 11.4 Attendance at some events in 2016 was low. MC reminds members that even if they can come along for one day, that it all helps spread the workload.
- 11.5 51 Grade 3/3a members attended events in 2016 for a total of 870 days volunteered.

12 Grade 4/5 Rep:

- 12.1 Paul Meade thanked everyone for their support in 2016
- 12.2 PM wished luck to Natalie and Shane, who are both standing for the position of Grade 4/5 Rep in 2017.

13 Induction:

- 13.1 Paul Meade gave thanks to the Induction Team for all their efforts in 2016.
- 13.2 Karen Legg also gave thanks to the Induction Team.

14 Merchandise:

- 14.1 A number of uniforms have recently been completed and issued to members. One order is currently in progress.

15 Magazine:

- 15.1 Joy Chirside states she hopes everyone has been happy with the magazine, to which the meeting responded with applause of approval.

Reports: Moved: Mark Thompson, Seconded: John Grist that reports are accepted. Carried

16 Award Presentations

- 16.1 10 year Service Badge awarded to Jason Carroll
- 16.2 Roger Chirside spoke to the members about Noel Barr, Neil Thompson, and Barry Petersen, for whom a number of the clubs awards honour.
- 16.3 Stillwell Motor Group Encouragement presented to Greg Hardy



- 16.4 Neil Thompson Memorial Award for Attendance presented to Geoff Kay. Kevin Watson commended Geoff Kay for his generous offer to withdraw from the running for the award during the year. He advised that Geoff was a deserving winner and as such the offer was declined.
- 16.5 Barry Petersen Flagmarshal of the Year presented to Shane Rogers
- 16.6 President's Award presented to Damian Mitchell
- 16.7 Noel Barr Club Person of the Year was not presented due to the recipient not being in attendance.

17 Outgoing President Closing Remarks

- 17.1 Kevin Watson gave thanks to everyone who helped and supported him through the year. Thanks to Eric for all the work he does for the club. Thanks to Arthur Cooksley and Will Gaff for their work as part of the leadership team. Thanks to the general membership, many of whom KW now counts as friends. The club is like a big family.
- 17.2 This year will be busy supporting a couple of friends and with work commitments, but KW is still here to support the club.

Annual General Meeting suspended for the purpose of a Special General Meeting.

Annual General Meeting resumes.

Meeting was handed over to Darren Millett, Returning Officer.

18 Nominees called from the floor for the position of Treasurer

- 18.1 No nominations received

19 Nominees for contested positions were invited to address the members

- 19.1 Grade 4/5 nominees Natalie Daish and Shane Rogers

Short recess for the counting of votes.

Meeting resumed, Committee positions declared vacant.

20 Committee Election Results

- 20.1 President – Roger Chirside (Elected unopposed)
- 20.2 Vice President – David Thornbury (Elected unopposed after the withdrawal of Roger Chirside)
- 20.3 Secretary – Eric Rigg (Elected unopposed)
- 20.4 Grade 3 Rep – Matt Cornford (Elected unopposed)
- 20.5 Grade 4/5 Rep – Shane Rogers (Elected by secret ballot)

Returning Officer handed meeting to 2017 President Roger Chirside

- 21 **Motion that all voting slips be destroyed.** Moved: Roger Chirside, seconded: Eric Rigg, carried.

22 Incoming President Opening Remarks

- 22.1 Roger Chirside gave thanks to Kevin Watson for his leadership in what was a tough year. Thanks also to outgoing treasurer John Pollard on doing a great job.
- 22.2 As far as RC is aware the VFT is the only dedicated flagmarshalling team in the world. This is a great honour and something we should be proud of.
- 22.3 RC intends to encourage robust debate, but will not be tolerating any bullying.

23 General Business:

- 23.1 John Grist raises concerns about a lack of response to queries sent to the Committee and Training Committee. He hopes 2017 will see an improvement.
- 23.2 Roger Chirside notes that any member can request to attend the Committee meeting to air any grievances they hold.
- 23.3 Eric Rigg calls for Expressions of Interest for the positions of Promotions, Merchandise, Magazine and Induction Team to be sent to the Secretary.
- 23.4 Roger Chirside notes he wishes to focus on improving attendances at the General Meetings. RC is currently working on a guest speaker for an upcoming meeting. RC also intends to work with the Chief Flagmarshal to improve trackside attendances.

Meeting Closed: 10:40pm

Next Meeting: General Meeting, 8pm 6 April 2017 at the MG Car Club



2018 Calendar		
3-4 March	Sandown	VSCRC 1
9-11 March	Phillip Island	Island Classic
22-25 March	Albert Park	F1 GP, not a VFT event
20-22 April	Phillip Island	V8's Phillip island 400
29 April	Sandown	Porsche 6 Hour
5-6 May	Phillip Island	VSCRC 2
11-13 May	Sandown	Shannons Nationals
18-20 May	Winton	V8's Winton 400
26-27 May	Winton	Historic Winton
1-3 June	Phillip Island	Shannons Nationals
16-17 June	Winton	VSCRC 3
23-24 June	Phillip Island	Multi Club [closed Meeting]
21-22 July	Sandown	VSCRC 4
28-29 July	Phillip Island	Vic 6 Hour Relay
4-5 August	Winton	Festival of Speed
18-19 August	Phillip Island	August Access
1-2 September	Winton	Shannons Nationals
14-16 September	Sandown	Sandown 500
29-30 September	Phillip Island	VSCRC 5
13-14 October	Winton	AROCA 12 Hour Relay
9-11 November	Sandown	Sandown Historics
24-25 November	Phillip Island	Island Magic

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!



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