

# The Victorian Flagmarshalling Team

News

P/P 100005100



Founded 1986

News and information November 2018



*Preparing to enjoy a Hot Lap at Sandown!*

[www.vicflag.org.au](http://www.vicflag.org.au)

Proudly sponsored by:



George Hetrel – Club Patron

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



## 2018 VFT Committee



**President**  
**Roger Chirside**  
0458 058 917

[president@vicflag.org.au](mailto:president@vicflag.org.au)



**Vice-President**  
**Mark Thompson**  
0409 324 341

[vicepresident@vicflag.org.au](mailto:vicepresident@vicflag.org.au)



**Secretary/Webmaster**  
**Eric Rigg**  
0457 245 171

[secretary@vicflag.org.au](mailto:secretary@vicflag.org.au)



**Treasurer**  
**David Thornbury**  
0410 846 361

[treasurer@vicflag.org.au](mailto:treasurer@vicflag.org.au)



**Training Officer**  
**Michael Poole**  
0447 274 000

[training@vicflag.org.au](mailto:training@vicflag.org.au)



**Chief Flagmarshal**  
**Arthur Cooksley**  
0406 036 714

[chief@vicflag.org.au](mailto:chief@vicflag.org.au)



**Asst Chief Flagmarshal**  
**William Gaff**  
0418 127 835

(Race weekends -  
0497 165 622)  
[asstchief@vicflag.org.au](mailto:asstchief@vicflag.org.au)



**CAMS Rep**  
**Jason Carroll**  
0422 314 223

[cams@vicflag.org.au](mailto:cams@vicflag.org.au)



**Grade 3 Rep**  
**Paul Meade**  
0425 882 387

[grade3@vicflag.org.au](mailto:grade3@vicflag.org.au)



**Grade 4/5 Rep**  
**Zoe Butteriss**  
0400 160 036

[grade4@vicflag.org.au](mailto:grade4@vicflag.org.au)

## 2018 VFT Training Committee



**Acting Training Officer**  
**Mark Thompson**



**Arthur Cooksley**



**Natalie Daish**



**William Gaff**



**Glenn Rochester**



**Tony van den Dungen**

## 2018 VFT Induction Team



**Tim Oh**  
**Coordinator**



**Karen Legg**



**Glenn Rochester**



**Michelle Clewett**

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  
Mike Murphy  
Terry O'Callaghan  
Damian Petrie  
Kevin Redman  
Eric Rigg  
Mike Shallcross  
Barry Petersen [dec]  
Gloria Shallcross (dec)  
Neil Thompson [dec]

## New Members

We welcome the following new members:

Margaret Chao  
Paul Morris

### Contents

|    |                                  |
|----|----------------------------------|
| 2  | 2018 COMMITTEE                   |
| 3  | CONTENTS                         |
| 3  | LIFE MEMBERS                     |
| 3  | FROM THE EDITOR                  |
| 3  | REMINDER – GENERAL MEETING       |
| 4  | A WORD OR TWO                    |
| 5  | FLAG ONE REPORTING               |
| 6  | CAMS REPORT                      |
| 7  | GRADE 3/3A REPORT                |
| 7  | UNVEILING OF EREBUS RETRO LIVERY |
| 8  | BEING A MOTORSPORT OFFICIAL      |
| 9  | HOT LAPS                         |
| 10 | THANK YOU FROM BMW DRIVERS CLUB  |
| 11 | MERCHANDISE                      |
| 12 | REMINDER VFT CHRISTMAS PARTY     |
| 13 | CHIEF'S BBQ/AGM                  |
| 13 | REMEMBER TO SUBMIT REPORTS       |
| 14 | PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS          |
| 15 | VFT GENERAL MEETING MINUTES      |
| 19 | CALENDAR                         |

This month's cover picture shows Michelle Clewett preparing for her Hot Lap of Sandown!

---

## From the Editor

Many thanks to all contributors to this magazine. Please note articles for the January edition will be required by 20<sup>th</sup> December this year, due to earlier circulation required before the earlier AGM – [magazine@vicflag.org.au](mailto:magazine@vicflag.org.au) - Joy Chirnside

Photos in this magazine appear courtesy of: Michelle Clewett, Luke Hingeley, Mark Thompson and David Thornbury

---

## Reminder – General Meeting – Thursday 6 Dec 2018

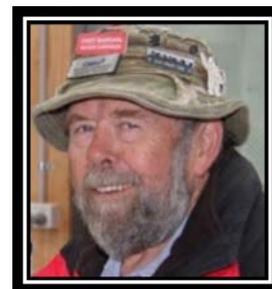
Don't forget to come along to the next general meeting and support the club – details as follows:

- MG Car Club rooms  
Unit 53 & 54
- Eastern Business Centre  
41-49 Norcal Road
- Nunawading
- Time: 8:00pm



## A Word or Two

It has now been several months since the introduction of the 'My Volunteer' page and judging by comments from a number of officials it has hardly been what one would term a raging success. Concerns being voiced include: overly complicated, and difficulty in registering online, resulting in numerous phone calls in a bid to resolve these issues such as names not appearing on lists, despite registering, and seemingly no control on officials putting their names on any discipline without consultation with the relevant chiefs.



The question of confirming 'shifts' when times are totally unrealistic is also an issue. Are officials therefore able to walk off their posts at the completion of their 'shift'? And do they really not need to arrive until 8:00am? We know that the officials are too dedicated to do this, but why not have a 'day' listed instead of a 'shift'?

Another point of concern is the fact that some officials have indicated that they have registered yet their names still don't appear on the promoter's list.

The method of registering for an event in the past has always proved the most reliable ie:

- Chiefs call for officials names for a particular event, confirming their availability and on what days
- Chiefs then forward these lists to the relevant credentials personnel

This ensures that the chiefs and the promoters know exactly who is coming and what role they are fulfilling.

By all means have an online system, but make it more user friendly, use more relevant terms eg 'days' instead of 'shifts', and with synchronisation between the chiefs and race secretaries.

On a totally different subject, at a recent race meeting, one of our fellow officials was injured quite seriously. Unfortunately, the person concerned did not have ambulance insurance. This highlights the need for everyone to check what cover they have available, in the event of ambulance transportation, be it accident or otherwise, as some private health insurances may not include ambulance, or may only include certain elements.

As the year draws inexorably to a close, the festive season will soon be upon us with parties and end of year gatherings. I encourage everyone to support the social side of our club's activities.

Firstly, the Christmas get together at the beautiful gardens of our Club Patron, George Hetrel and his wife, Pat, in The Basin. George and Pat have again generously thrown open their property, together with the little train that winds its way around their picturesque gardens. This is a day not to be missed – see more details elsewhere in the magazine.

One disappointing aspect of my presidency has been an inability to encourage more members to attend our general meetings. It was this state of affairs that led me to suggest to the Committee that the forthcoming Annual General Meeting, which would normally be held in February, be brought forward approximately two weeks to form part of the Chief's BBQ on 19 January 2019. This is a significant departure from normal but the Committee agreed to give the idea a try. Again, full details can be found elsewhere in this magazine.

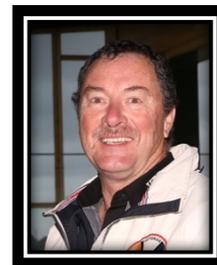
Roger Chirnside  
President  
Victorian Flagmarshalling Team, Inc



## Flag One Reporting

By the time this edition of the magazine is published, we will have completed or be about to complete the last race meeting for the year.

What has been most pleasing with the recent meetings is the numbers of new faces joining the VFT and commencing their training. This includes a number of young people who attended the Sandown 500 as part of the Young Officials Team, and have decided to continue their participation in motor sport by doing their flag training. A big thank you must go out to Mark Thompson who, as the appointed ambassador between CAMS and the Young Officials group, has been instrumental in contacting these people and encouraging their continuation in a trackside role.



We have also had a high number of drivers coming through the recent meetings to undertake their flagging requirements in order to obtain their full racing licence. Without exception, these drivers have expressed their gratitude for the welcome they receive from our members, and the experience they all gain from seeing the track from our side of the fence. Well done to all those members who have worked with the drivers.

Congratulations to those members who have received grading promotions, as well as those trainees who have completed their 10 days and advanced to the grade 4 level. The one thing to remember with our sport is the more you put in, the more you get out. So, with the new year approaching, it is a good time to start thinking about where you want to be by the end of 2019, and start to put in place the plan that will get you there. Start talking to your grade reps, start talking to the chiefs, starting talking to the training officer, and get your plans started early in the new year.

If you are the same as me, you will now be looking forward to getting your weekends back to yourself, maybe getting on with those DIY jobs that have gotten overlooked, or finding the garden in the backyard that the knee high grass has taken over. Either way, take the well-deserved break that you've all earned after putting in such a big effort through the year.

Which brings me to the final note, and that is to say a huge thanks to everyone who has supported the club throughout the year and made it possible for us to service the 22 meetings, covering 51 days, that the club has been requested to attend.

I look forward to catching up with everyone at our next general meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> December and the Christmas party at George Hetrel's later that same week.

Catch you at the track,

Arthur Cooksley  
Chief Flagmarshal  
Victorian Flagmarshalling Team



## CAMS Report

At the recent CAMS State Council meeting we started with the election of the State Council. Results as follows:

- CAMS Elected Director: Norman Gowers
- State Council Chair: Jess Harper
- State Council Deputy Chair: Graeme Williams
- State Council Executive:
  - Bruce Ashbury (3 Years)
  - David Bellenger (1 Year)
  - Peter Valentine (3 years)
  - Michael Holloway (2 years)
  - Peter Bready (2 years)
  - Noel Tippet (2 years)
  - Vacant (1 year)



Eventually all positions will be for 3 years but on a rotational basis. So, next year David Bellenger and the Vacant position will be up for election and those 2 positions will be elected for 3 years, Then the year after Michael Holloway's, Peter Bready's and Noel Tippet's positions will become vacant and then those positions will be elected for 3 years, and then Peter Valentine and Bruce Ashbury's positions are filled for 3 years.

Out of the State Panel reports the big attention was to the State Officiating Panel report and it reported that there were issues with the billing for Ambulance services that were required for an official at the 6 hour relay. I won't go in to detail about the incident but an official was injured and needed to be transferred to hospital. The issue, from what I understand, was that the official needed to pay the bill as CAMS insurance doesn't cover Ambulance transport. I asked the question to a senior member of the council as to why Ambulance cover isn't included and was told that Ambulance Victoria will not cover groups and will only cover individuals.

Clarification is being sought as to exactly what is covered, but the message to everybody out there is to make sure you are covered by Ambulance Victoria for both Emergency and Transport services. For those of you that are covered by your Private Health Insurance it's very important that you find out exactly what you are covered for as there is a difference between Emergency and Transport cover.

CAMS delegate, Norman Gowers, reported that a new chair person, Trevor Neumann, has been appointed to the AOC commission.

There is still a lot of angst among some members of the council about Formula 4 and the following question was asked, "How much was CAMS budget for Formula 4 for next year. Norman declined to answer the question due to confidentiality.

Norman reported that the new CAMS building should be ready to move into by mid to late next year.

At their latest Board meeting they were addressed by a member of the State government and they were pushing for gender equality to be implemented into boards, commissions and committees. It was stated that there are around 21 recognised genders. There was discussion as to how we were supposed to have gender equality in our commissions and committees when we are volunteer based. I'm not sure how this/if this, will affect us as a club. Only time will tell.

That was the last State Council Meeting for the year and the meeting dates for 2019 have not been released yet.

All the Best

Jason Carroll  
CAMS Rep



## Grade 3/3A Report

*(Apologies to Paul for not including this article in the September mag – Ed)*

I have noticed recently that there is a lot of negativity amongst our members – mainly comments about other members. Over the years, I have had two seniors previously tell me this little bit of advice and every word of it is true.



We show up to a flag point and see someone we don't get on well with, be polite, bite your tongue because you will only be working with them for a day or two.

Remember, we are all different and we are all volunteers. Go out trackside and do the thing that we like to do. If you aren't enjoying it, have a break from it and if you find it's too much for you, you may consider taking on a new hobby because these comments aren't just being heard trackside by members. We are a part of the Motorsport community and people hear things and people talk. But, at the end of the day, the team will start to get a bad reputation and we don't want that.

On a happier note, I'd like to congratulate Tanya and Doug Salan on their Grade 3A upgrade.

As I had brought up at the last general meeting, I'm having a little break till November but I'm still contactable if anyone has any issues. See you at the general meeting.

Paul Meade  
Grade 3 Rep  
0425 882 387

## Unveiling of the Erebus Retro Livery for the RABBLE.club Sandown 500

*(photos courtesy of Luke Hingeley)*





## Being a Motorsport Official – Jo Mawson

Since joining the Bell Motorsport family, I have been increasing my knowledge of motorsport and upgrading my CAMS licences to suit the areas I wish to volunteer in.

To start with I did the basic General Officials licence, which is an online module, which allowed me to help in a general capacity at any event. All CAMS officials now need a Working with Children's check done.



After falling into the Administration role, I found this was one area I loved and enjoyed, so I upgraded to my bronze, which involves another online module and an assessment at an event by a recognised CAMS Assessor.

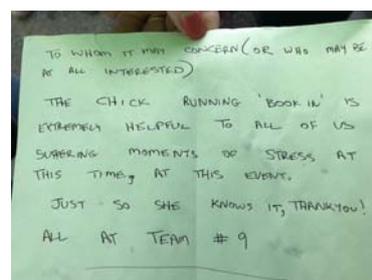


Shortly following this I upgraded to my Bronze Circuit, which involved a 2-day stint on a flag point at a state level event, which I did at the August Access Phillip Island race meeting, being assessed by the VFT. While out there I found I really was enjoying this role and joined as a volunteer flag marshal. The VFT (Victorian Flagmarshalling Team) are a great group of guys and welcomed me with open arms and set me up on a 10-day training schedule, where one gets assessed by peers and officials after the event has been completed. This has allowed me to volunteer at V8 rounds and get up close and personal to some amazing racing.

My final upgrade was Bronze Event command, which was assessed at Haunted Hills early this year, and it was also preceded by an online module. Event command (Clerk of Course) is basically the head of the event and the buck stops there, so you oversee all the other officials and volunteers and control the event, along with the Event Secretary (Administration).

This past weekend both Graeme and I volunteered to help at the AROCA 12-hour regularity event at Winton Motor Raceway and it was a busy weekend with lots to keep us on our toes. Graeme was the Chief Scrutineer for the event, so he was kept on his toes from Friday afternoon until the end of the event at 4pm Sunday afternoon.

I was officially on administration, so that meant check in on Friday and Saturday morning but a few weeks before the event, I thought the VFT may be a little short of flag marshals, so I put my hand up to go out on flags as well. This I was able to do after lunch on Saturday once I had managed to get all drivers checked in and all the team managers packs back, successfully completed. It makes it all worthwhile when you get a little note to say thank you from one of the team.



I was put on turn 9 which is just at the back of the track, after cleavage and was kept extremely busy blue flagging and black flag relaying, calling defects on cars.

Sunday, we went out at 8.15 and were out on points all day until 4 pm. Some of us were on our own, others had trainees helping. Sunday was massive and by the end of the day I hardly had a voice left with so many different calls back to Race Control, but I loved it.

These events are amazing and without volunteers they don't happen. I urge you to come along to any one of our motorsport events and talk to us or anyone else that is volunteering and see if there is any area you might be able to help in.

To become an official there is not cost but your time. I find it very rewarding and love every part of it and only wish I could do more.

Don't be afraid to ask for help or advice – there are plenty of areas at a motorsport event for all sorts of people, we would love more helpers to allow senior officials the chance to dedicate themselves to making the event run smoothly.



## Hot Laps

Michelle Clewett

After the Sandown Rabble 500 on the Monday, I was given the opportunity to go out in a Supercar driven by one of the Tickford drivers. But, to start from the beginning:

I entered the Bottle-O competition asking name etc and in 25 words or less why you would like a hotlap. This competition had been placed on Facebook and was running until late August.

So, I gave my details and answered the question with:

*It would be so nice to feel the buzz instead of watching as an official at an event everyone else enjoying the fun.*

I knew when entering that I probably wouldn't win but you never know.

So, low and behold, after the closing date I got an email saying I had won a Hotlap with Tickford. Now being sceptical as there are so many scams out there, I ended up ringing the number provided, and they assured me that it wasn't a scam.

Well my joy went up tenfold as this had been on my bucket list to go out in a supercar. And then came the conditions of what was required. All of a sudden, the elation I had went down – it required to be a certain weight, height, waist and hip measurements. Well I could pass 1 of the 4 so a plan went into action – I had a month to pull it off to make the requirements. Well, I can say I did it! (Ed: Well done Michelle!)

So, the Monday came eagerly awaiting – had to be at the Tickford marquee at 12pm. I arrived and inside was given a form to fill out for insurance purposes. Then a lunch and a Barista coffee was provided – thought this was great and also realised that all the Supercar drivers were using the marquee too. I chatted to a couple of them, they knew who I was so made it easier. Mingled with a few others who were waiting for a hotlap too.

Finally, we were escorted down to the garages, shown a video of what to do, and then we were made to put on a drivers fire suit, a helmet and waited in a line. Just before they made you get in the car, they attached the Hans device – boy, you definitely can't move much!

Well out I went – wheeeeeeeee is all I can say! It was such a blast, the adrenaline was flying and then it was over in a flash – sob sob. Even though we were supposed to go 80%, me thinks we weren't. They had just tested tyre temp and looked at a few things prior to me going out and when we came back in they went over everything again and checked the data. As I was the last in this group I had a chance to have a good look around at everything that had been going on.



And these are a couple of pics from that wonderful day.





## ***Thank you – from BMW Drivers Club***

Hi Roger,

I would firstly like to thank you and Vic Flag for donating 2 x sets of flags to our new club. This is very generous of you and we really appreciate it.

I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation for the help we were given this weekend to run the Alfa 12 hour event. Graeme and I have a very close association with AROCA and love their events and also love helping out when we can. Graeme was Chief Scrutineer this weekend and I was going to just help with Admin but realised that Vic Flag may be short and put my name down to help.

I had an amazing time on turn 9 (black flag relay) and the competitors kept me extremely busy which was what I love. I also would like to thank all the other flag officials for their friendliness over the weekend, it is a thankless job sometimes but I know coming from the drivers' side, how important it is to have officials at race days. Was also nice to be thanked and appreciated by David Bellenger.

In my role as Vice President of our club, I am constantly encouraging our members to come to events and try their hand at being an official and hope I can get a few more volunteers to help over the following year.

I have nearly completed my 10 day training and look forward to being signed off soon.

Cheers and please pass on my thanks and gratitude to all involved.

*Jo Mawson*

**Vice President**

**Events Co-Ordinator**

**Founding Member**

**BMW Drivers Club Melbourne Inc**

**[v.president@bmwdcm.com.au](mailto:v.president@bmwdcm.com.au)**

**0412661900**



**BMW CLUBS** | ONE PASSION.  
ONE COMMUNITY.





## Merchandise

The 2018 Merchandise Officer is Jason Carroll.  
To order merchandising you can see Jason at the track or  
Email: [merchandise@vicflag.org.au](mailto:merchandise@vicflag.org.au) or Mob: **0422 314 223**



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  |

Committee has decided to change the design of our hat. We have had a lot of discussions in committee about our hat and it was decided that we wanted to "Jazz" up our hat to try and get our members to wear the VFT hat at race meetings instead of the normal Supercars hat that most people wear when trackside. By the time this mag is out a lot of our trackside members would have seen the sample hat and art work. At this stage, it will be ready to purchase early next year and the club would appreciate it if you could purchase one and wear it trackside to support your club.

It was announced at the last general meeting that we are looking at doing a "Hoodie". I presented a sample at the meeting and have since started to take expressions of interest in buying them. This is a fantastic addition for our "Keep Yourself Warm Trackside" range of merchandise and works extremely well in those cold and windy conditions. The price range has yet to be set but it will be in the \$40 - \$50 range. We have had a great response so far but we need to get some more expressions of interest before we continue on to order them. I have bought the sample and will be buying a club one as well so I ask that you all support your club and also your fellow members that have expressed their commitment to buy one so we can get this idea going.

All the best,  
Jason Carroll



## Reminder – VFT Christmas Party – Sun 9 Dec 2018

This year's **VFT Christmas Party**, the location of which once again is generously offered by our Patron George Hetrel and his wife Pat, will be held on **Sunday 9 December 2018**.

For those that haven't been there before, the Hetrels' beautiful Como Gardens property includes: a miniature railway capable of carrying 30 passengers, always a delight for the adults as well as children;



6 acres of formal garden; as well as a rainforest track, complete with teddy bears picnic and hobbit hole; and an enclosure with chooks,



turkeys, peacocks, and other exotic birds. There is something for everyone to enjoy

so please come along and make the most of the venue with family and friends. Como Gardens is located on the Basin Olinda Road in The Basin, Melways Ref 65, K7.

You are invited to arrive from 11:00am onwards. Please bring your own food (BBQ or picnic), chair or picnic rug and lots of Christmas cheer. The VFT will supply drinks (beer, wine and soft drink).

*Santa will be making a visit to Como Gardens to give presents to our younger guests. If you wish for your child to receive a present, please bring a gift for your own child (no more than \$20 value) to fill Santa's stocking. Please make sure your gift is clearly marked with your child's name and give it to one of Santa's helpers when you arrive.*



## **Chief's BBQ/AGM – Sat 19 January 2019**

Once Christmas and New Year are over and before everyone heads back into the hurly burly of race meetings, attendance at the **Chiefs BBQ** is a must event – and will be held on **Saturday 19 January**.

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

This year it has been decided to combine the Chief's party with the trophy presentations and VFT Annual General Meeting, which will take place at approximately 7:30pm (after people have finished cooking). The social side of the evening will then continue on following the completion of the formalities. So, please come along to what purports to be really good evening.

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 delicious desserts.

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*

---

## **Remember to submit reports**

**Any car to car contact that is sighted must be reported to Race Control**, and drivers are being asked to report to Race Control if they are involved in an incident. Ian Tate, President of the VHRR states that damage to cars is on the increase and VHRR are very concerned, with one of his examples being a Camaro sustaining \$6000 damage at Winton and affecting the competitor's ability to attend future meetings based on finances. Drivers who fail to comply with driving standards will face a penalty. Clerks of Course will be asked to announce this at Official's briefings as well, as some do already.

---

## **Member of the Month Award**

**Award recently presented to Rebecca Armstrong for September**





JOY  
LOVE  
PEACE  
BELIEVE  
CHRISTMAS

## Preparing for Christmas

Quote: *'The best way to find yourself. Is to lose yourself in the service to others!'* quote from Gandhi.



Want to have a fantastic Christmas 2018? Is that a YES? Then now is the time to get started and work towards the best Christmas you have ever had. You're gonna love this!

Many go into Christmas wondering what others are going to do for you to make your Christmas fantastic. I remember being so pumped up as a kid and excited for Christmas only to receive socks from my sisters and jocks from my brothers.

This was so deflating, I almost didn't want Christmas to come around. I had these big expectations and they all fizzed out to underwear. As a youngster I turned these feelings inwardly and concluded, no-one cared. But, why would you want someone else to be in-charge of your good times and happiness? You take charge and make the good times happen.

Imagine how many people's Christmases could be made brilliant by a simple act of kindness.

You see the true Spirit, the joy and love of Christmas, is found in giving to those you love. Or better still you and those you love plan some acts of kindness for others in your community.

There are always lonely people like seniors, new to Australia families, single mums or students who can't make it home to be with their family and doing it tough.

Here is a plan.

- Listen out for or find someone who has had a tough time, someone who would benefit from some festive goodwill. The best recipients for these are usually people that you don't know.
- Choose them a gift, big or small.
- Write them an anonymous note of kind words about why you were thinking of them.
- Leave it at their doorstep.
- Ring the doorbell or knock on the door and leg it – make sure they don't see you.
- Feel happy knowing that you have spread some Christmas cheer with no expectations of anything in return.

Sadly, so many presents won't satisfy the ones who open them, and disappointment will sneak in and take the joy of Christmas away. The good book says; 'More joy is found in being a giver rather than just a receiver.' Let's stop hoping for a gift that will satisfy and get going with preparing for Christmas. There is heaps of fun to be had, tilt your head back and give me a hearty - Ho, Ho, Ho!

Our kids do not need a bigger present or the latest and greatest thing. Let's help our kids and grandkids to get their focus on giving to help others. Get your family together, ask the kids who needs some help and plan how you could help someone who is not as well off as you, and do it together. It maybe your local nursing home or a neighbour, or a school friend whose family has had a tough year. That stirs kindness and makes Christmas exceptionally special.

The more you give, the better you'll capture the rich and true meaning of Christmas. God said it this way ...he loves us so much, he gave. Have a great Christmas and here's a thought, why stop there; plan a great 2019, com'on – you're unstoppable! From my family, to your families, have yourselves the very best Christmas ever – enjoy, have fun, laugh and have a great Christmas.

Doing life with you, Chaplain Mark Bateman 0412 151 121



## VFT General Meeting Minutes

Victorian Flagmarshalling Team Inc. – October 2018 General Meeting

General Meeting Minutes  
11 October 2018, 8:00pm  
MG Car Club  
53/41-49 Norcal Rd, Nunawading

**Members Present:** 20 Members.

**Apologies:** Zoe Butteriss, Trevor Franks, Wayne Butteriss, Brian Mackey, John McBain, Robin Wood, Arthur Cooksley, Michael Clewett, Michelle Clewett, Mark Thompson, Paul Meade, Jenny Creet, and Country and Interstate Members.

Roger Chirnside welcomes members to the meeting. Thoughts are with Arthur whom is an apology tonight due to attending a family gathering to honour the passing of his father.

### **Minutes from the previous General meeting (2 August 2018):**

Moved: Glenn Rochester, seconded: Geoff Kay that the minutes be accepted. Carried.

### **Matters Arising:**

- 0.1 John Clarke refers to item 0.1 of August Minutes. Thanks to Mark Thompson for providing requested Minutes. John notes that the July and August 2018 Minutes are still outstanding.
- 0.2 Roger Chirnside refers to item 5.4 of August Minutes. Thanks to Tim Oh, Karen Legg, Glenn Rochester and Michelle Clewett for their assistance with Induction. Roger notes that this role is an important part of what we do as a club.

### **Reports:**

#### **1 President:**

- 1.1 Unfortunately the proposed awards night has had to be cancelled due to difficulties securing a guest speaker. Thanks to Jason Carroll, Will Gaff, and Mark Thompson for the work they had put in to organising the night. It is now proposed that the awards night and AGM be incorporated into the Chief's BBQ on 19 January 2019.  
Jason Carroll adds that the main issue with securing a guest speaker of appropriate stature was timing. The concept is however still being explored for the future.

#### **2 Vice President (via email):**

- 2.1 Mike Murphy is still in Box Hill hospital and slowly recovering. He would love a call or visit from his friends in the club. Geoff Kay advises that he saw Mike today and that he had a positive attitude and wanted to move forward
- 2.2 With the end of year coming, our sponsorships will need to be renewed. If anyone has any sponsorship prospects, please let Mark know.
- 2.3 The club will be providing members with a breakfast at Island Magic to mark our last event of the year.
- 2.4 Members are reminded of the importance of being diligent with their Facebook and Social Media comments and posts. Derogatory comments are not helpful, and we all need to be mature about our comments.
- 2.5 It is important that we all recognise that Winton is just as important to attend as Sandown and Phillip Island. We often struggle for number at Winton, so please consider going to this great track.
- 2.6 John Clarke notes there is a core of 8 members who regularly attend all 3 circuits.



▪

**3 Secretary:**

- 3.1 165 Members. One invoice outstanding.
- 3.2 2019 Membership fees remain unchanged. Membership fee invoices will be in the next magazine and are payable from 1 November. Members are reminded to include their membership code on payments.
- 3.3 Nomination forms for the 2019 Committee will be in the next magazine. Closing date for nominations will be 19 December 2018. Closing date for Postal votes will be 15 January 2019.
- 3.4 Kevin Watson queries the closing date for EOI's for the 2019 club volunteer positions. Eric advises this will be the day of the AGM.
- 3.5 Eric requests members ensure the club is kept up to date with email and postal addresses. A number of items are being returned to him.
- 3.6 Working with Children Cards will be changing in November. However there is no need to change your card until your existing card is due to expire.

**4 Treasurer:**

- 4.1 As per report.
  - 4.2 Payments to be passed:
    - Australia Post \$142.35 Magazine Postage
    - Corporate Printers \$153.00 Magazine
    - Arthur Cooksley \$149.50 Trailer repairs and service
    - Officeworks \$34.45 Paper and envelopes
    - Arthur Cooksley \$75.00 Equipment VSCRC 5
    - Roger Chirnside \$59.95 Phone Battery and drinks for meeting.
- Moved: Will Gaff, seconded: Glenn Rochester that payments are passed. Carried.

**5 Chief Flagmarshal (via email):**

- 5.1 Completed Meetings:
  - Winton Festival of Speed. Chief Flag Kevin Watson, Asst. Chief Warren Gordon. 12 graded, 2 trainees, 4 drivers. Wet Saturday, fine Sunday. Multiple passing under red and yellow.
  - PIARC August Access. Chief Flag Arthur Cooksley, Asst. Chief Will Gaff. 15 graded, 3 Sectors, 3 trainees, 4 drivers. Dropped 1.0, 2.1, 3.1, 5, 6.1, 8 due to numbers. Good sized fields for most categories. Main Excel race a non-event due to a number of incidents. Reasonable number of PIARC communicators.
  - Winton Shannons Nationals. Chief Flag Kevin Watson, Asst. Chief Warren Gordon. 12 graded, 1 trainee, 2 drivers. Poor fields for GT's and F4.
  - Sandown 500. Chief Flag Arthur Cooksley, Asst. Chief Will Gaff. Placements by David Thornbury as part of assessment. 49 Friday and 68 Saturday/Sunday. Approx. 30% of flag marshals were non VFT with little or no experience. Our members did a great job with training and supervision. Sunday included the Young Officials with five placed between 1 – 5 and four between 9 – 13.
  - VSCRC 5 Phillip Island. Chief Flag Arthur Cooksley, Asst. Chief Will Gaff. 15 graded, 1 trainee, 1 driver. Dropped 1.0, 2.1, 3.1, 5, 6.1, and 8 due to numbers. High number of withdrawals due to competing meeting at Winton. Reasonable fields across most categories. Some issues arose with Race Controls and normal race protocols.
- 5.2 Upcoming Meetings:
  - AROCA 12 Hour. Eric Rigg Chief Flag. 5 graded, 2 trainees listed.
  - APC Series 6 Hour. Currently 9 on the list, which is half the minimum number. Will need to consider if we attend as a club if there is not a surge in numbers.



- Sandown Historics. Chief Flag Arthur Cooksley, Asst. Chief Will Gaff. Currently 27 on the list and expecting many more.
  - Island Magic. Chief Flag Arthur Cooksley, Asst. Chief Will Gaff. Early days, but normally attracts good numbers.
- 5.3 Encouraging number of new trainees commencing and progressing through to their Grade 4.
- 5.4 A lot of positive feedback received from drivers who did their flags at the August Access meeting.
- 5.5 Thanks to those members who continue to assist with doing induction at recent meetings.
- 5.6 Both the AROCA and APC Series events are going to be a major problem based on current numbers.
- 6 Asst. Chief Flagmarshal:**
- 6.1 Will Gaff states his disappointment with negative comments from some members around the items that have been provided to the members in recent times. The club is in a healthy financial position thanks to sponsorship deals, and the intention of these items has been to provide something back to the membership. Kevin Watson suggests anyone who thinks these items are a waste of money does not have to accept them.
- 6.2 Will advises that Island Magic falls on the same date as the Victorian State Election. Members attending this event should investigate postal and early voting options.
- 7 Training Officer (via email):**
- 7.1 Mark advises that unfortunate due to numbers, a Training Committee meeting will not be held this week. He will arrange a meeting after he returns from his business trip.
- 7.2 Items the Training Committee are to discuss:
- Reinstating the quiz as part of the Grade 4 upgrade
  - Report writing scenarios as part of the 10 day training
  - Who are the newbies currently in the pipeline
  - Current upgrades statuses
  - Providing assistance to the induction team
  - Bag presentations
- 8 CAMS Rep:**
- 8.1 CAMS have announced that they have bought a new Headquarters. It is located at 275 Canterbury Rd, Canterbury. The Malvern East office was sold for \$8m and the new Canterbury Rd office purchased for just under \$6.75m. The new office building will undergo both internal and external modifications prior to staff moving in. Exact dates of the move will be communicated to members later this year, with an expected relocation to take place around March 2019.
- 8.2 Jason Carroll advises that the next State Council meeting is on 16 October.
- 9 Grade 3 Rep (via email):**
- 9.1 Nothing to report.
- 10 Grade 4/5 Rep (via email):**
- 10.1 Zoe Butteriss congratulates Margaret Chao and Vivek Prabhakar on their upgrade to Grade 4
- 10.2 Please feel free to come chat to Zoe anytime.
- 11 Induction:**
- 11.1 Tim Oh advises that there were brand new Trainees for both the August Access and Sandown 500. Tim gives thanks to Michelle Clewett for her help with the meet and greet.
- 11.2 Tim has been obtaining useful feedback from Trainees when making follow up calls after their first event.



▪

**12 Merchandise:**

- 12.1 Jason Carroll displayed a sample of a hoodie that he is looking to add to the merchandise range. Expected price to be about \$45. Will be looking for EOI's from members soon. John Clarke suggests staggered discounts based on member attendance.

**13 Magazine:**

- 13.1 Roger advises that submissions for the November magazine are due 24 October. All contributions are welcome.

**Reports:** Moved Paul Freeman, Seconded John Haywood that reports are accepted. Carried

**14 General Business:**

- 14.1 Roger Chirnside advises that applications for the 2019 Australian Grand Prix are now open. He advises that it is increasingly necessary to attend all four days.
- 14.2 Roger advises he received a call from Garry Rogers complimenting the club on the magazine, particularly an article regarding loyalty in the last edition.
- 14.3 Roger presents John Haywood with a certificate and service badge in recognition of 30 years with the club.
- 14.4 Glenn Rochester advises he recently had email communication with Perry Ballard, who passed on salutations to members of the club.
- 14.5 Karen Legg queries the status of the Shannons hotlaps that were to be provided to some of the 2017 Award winners. Eric Rigg advises recipients should have been contacted by Shannons and that he will follow this up.
- 14.6 Karen notes a recent event in NSW in which Flag Marshals did not assist with extinguishing a fire as they had not received training. She queries is the club needs to revisit this training. Roger advises that the training we used to attend at the Nah Nah Goon was discontinued due to challenges meeting Worksafe requirements. Will Gaff advises that he is working on the possibility of doing training at a CFA Training Facility. Karen notes she has seen a fire fighting simulator that may be an option.
- 14.7 John Clarke queries where in the training manual or constitution that it states that marshals should stand on flag point while the track is hot. John notes the NCR just states marshals should be visible to showed the point is manned. John suggests bar stools have been provided at Winton to allow marshals to sit while on duty. Mario Pacifici notes a marshals response to debris while in a bunker such as Winton have would be to duck, but in all other situations they need to be able to run to avoid being hit. Kevin Watson clarifies that the stools at Winton are provided for resting purposes only. Roger Chirnside notes it is common sense that being stood on a point allows you to run to avoid impacts and debris.

**Meeting Closed:** 9:55pm

**Next Meeting:** 8pm 6 December 2018 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 AGP, not a VFT event       |
| 20-22 April     | Phillip Island          | WD40 Phillip Island 500       |
| 29 April        | Sandown                 | Porsche 6 Hour                |
| 5-6 May         | Phillip Island          | VSCRC 2                       |
| 11-13 May       | Sandown                 | Shannons Nationals            |
| 18-20 May       | Winton                  | Supercars 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           |
| 2-4 November    | Phillip Island          | Australian Production Car 6hr |
| 9-11 November   | Sandown                 | Sandown Historics             |
| 24-25 November  | Phillip Island          | Island Magic                  |
| 9 December      | Como Gardens, The Basin | VFT Christmas Party           |

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](mailto: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](http://www.vicflag.org.au)

**Proudly sponsored by:**

