

# South Australian Motor Racing Officials Assoc. Marshals Mumblings

## August 2011



# MARSHALS MUMBLINGS August 2011

Official Newsletter of the  
South Australian Motor Racing Officials Association Inc.

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Vice President	<i>Position vacant</i>	
Secretary	Paul Bonnett	0409 092 535
Assistant Secretary	Darren Mattiske	0412 823 171
Treasurer	Peter Tann	0417 867 403
General Committee	Tony Aloï	0417 358 305
	Peter Cirillo	0411 136 165
	David Mori	0409 202 414
	Rob Thiry	0408 194 490

### *Training & Competition Committee*

<b>Chief Flag Mobile</b>		<b>0448 633382</b>
Chairperson/	<i>Position vacant</i>	
Secretary		

OH & S Rep/New Members Steve Clift 041219266

T&CC Members	Leigh Marchesi	0418 813 603
	Matthew Johnson	0427 112 632.
	Paul Bonnett	0409 092 535
	Tony Aloï	0417 358 305

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**The Editor welcomes contributions from any person interested in motor sport. Therefore, views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the South Australian Motor Racing Officials Association or any of its members.**

SAMROA WEB SITE [www.samroa.org.au](http://www.samroa.org.au)

Postal Address: PO Box 1312 ADELAIDE, SA, 5001.

The South Australian Motor Racing Officials Association (SAMROA) Inc. is a volunteer organisation affiliated with the Confederation of Australian Motor Sport (CAMS) Ltd.



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## President's Report

With the Annual General meeting this week, it is time to look back and the year that was.

Our dinner at Scotch College last year saw Rod Mountifield awarded most improved, Shaun Doecke the George Fisher medal for commitment and consistency and Bronwen Williamson club member of the year. Life membership was also awarded to David Castrechini.

Our members continued to play an important role on local, National and International stages with an increasing role at local events and assistance with training of the officials at the inaugural South Korean Grand Prix. This contribution is set to continue with members gearing up to return to Korea and Singapore to finish what they started.

The South Australian CAMS awards dinner saw David Mori receiving recognition as Australian Official of the year.

Through the work of Steve Clift, we now have a program for the mentoring of new people. Even though it is in the early stages, this program seems to be working well with a number of new people added to the ranks. To our new members, welcome aboard.

The AGM is an opportunity for you to make a contribution to the running and direction of YOUR club. There are positions available on the committees – both the general and (particularly) the T&CC. They are also an opportunity to learn how the club and race meetings operate.

Due to heavy demands at work and the need to have more 'down time', I have decided that I cannot give the position of President the time and attention that it deserves. As such, I will not be standing for re-election as President but I am standing as Vice-president to continue to work with the club, although in a lesser role.

## President's Report (cont.)

Dinner tickets are selling well with (at the time of writing) the venue already 50% sold out. If you want to go contact Peter Tann – quickly. Fellinis offers a great venue overlooking O'Connell Street and with Troy Harrison 'the one man band' providing the entertainment it is going to be a great night.

With the next newsletter not until after the Annual dinner, it is time for me to sign off. It has been a busy year but one made easier by the efforts of the people working on the committees and behind the scenes. To all of these people, thank you for being such great people to work with.

And so.... onward.

Andrew Robinson

President.

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Photos courtesy of Grant Sims

Cover photo – SAMROA to the rescue



## O H & S – Keep your mind on the job

### Keeping your mind on the job from Steve Clift

Very few roles are as highly scrutinised as motorsport officiating. CAMS Accredited volunteer officials give their time to officiate at various levels of competition, and as a result open themselves to a degree of scrutiny. This judgment comes from media, friends, family, complete strangers and often most harshly from the other officials themselves and competitors, as they strive for excellence in their performance.

It will come as no surprise then that in the face of this intense analysis, the ability to stay focused on the job at hand plays a major role in determining the quality of an official's performance. Irrespective of whether the event lasts five laps or four days, successful officials must possess skills in two key areas relating to attention: selectivity and mental effort.

The selectivity of attention refers to the ability to exclude irrelevant stimulation while focusing on what is deemed to be important and relevant to the task at hand — that is, focusing on the right things.

Considerable mental effort is required to selectively focus at the appropriate moment or for prolonged periods of time — that is, focusing on the right things at the right time.

Most officials recognise the difficulty of concentrating for the duration of an event – particularly long events such as the Bathurst 1000. These difficulties are usually caused by insufficient mental effort and/or an attention mismatch — that is, rather than focusing on appropriate cues, officials become distracted by thoughts, other events and emotions. These distractions can be both internal and external in nature, and can include:

#### Internal distracters

- Getting stuck in the past (for example, an earlier decision/call)
- Worrying about the future (for example, how a decision may impact on the outcome)
- Negative self-talk (for example, questioning one's own ability)
- Increased anxiety (for example, general worry about one's performance)
- Fatigue (for example, general depletion of mental and physical energy systems, and associated deficits)

## O H & S – Keep your mind on the job (cont.)

### External distracters

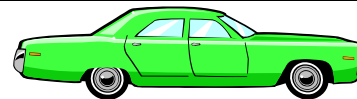
- Visual distracters (for example, crowd, media, environment)
- Auditory distracters (for example, crowd noise, PA system, environmental noise)
- Physical interactions/distracters (for example, replacement players, team officials, weather conditions)

Provided by:-

**CAMS Australian Officials' Commission (AOC) and Australian Sector Marshal's Group (ASMG) Information to promote the Health and Fitness of CAMS Volunteer Officials**

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## Office Bearer Positions

Up to the August General Meeting nominations will be taken for the Office Bearer positions for the 2011/12 General Committee. Here is a short summary of the duties of each position to assist people to encourage others to nominate (or to put their own hand up).

### President

The senior member of the Association, chairperson of General and Committee meetings and very much a leader. Responsible for contacts outside the Association, but these are often delegated.

### Vice-President

Assistant to the President. Chairperson of meetings in the absence of the President.

### Treasurer

Responsible for the financial records of the Association. Prepares a report for General Meetings and Committee Meetings. The job is straightforward, merely requiring the issue of a receipt for all monies received and their banking plus the issue of a cheque for all approved payments. Payments are required to be approved by the General Committee. Bank account has to be reconciled regularly. Preparation of lists of financial members is needed from time to time for advice to the Secretary.

### Secretary

Preparation of minutes of General and Committee Meetings, keeping of membership records, correspondence IN and OUT, including responses to new membership enquiries.

### Assistant Secretary

Preparation of minutes in the absence of the Secretary. Controller of merchandise and maintaining membership records.

### General Committee members

All of the above persons are members of the General Committee, plus FOUR others elected at the Annual General Meeting.

## Office Bearer Positions (cont.)

The primary duty of the four elected members is to attend the meetings of the General Committee and, of course, contribute to the work of the General Committee.

During the year the General Committee may make appointments of one of its members to the Training and Competition Committee, Social Committee, appoint a delegate to the State Council of CAMS, to the Motor Race Panel and to the State Officiating Panel of CAMS. The person filling these positions reports back to the General Committee and, as members know, to General Meetings also.

The General Committee will make its own determination as to when it meets. The first Thursday evening of each month has been the timing of General Committee Meetings for the past year.

The requirements of the above positions may seem a little daunting, but they should not be seen in that light. Whilst they do require a commitment, committee members in the past have coped well with the work load. Membership of the group of four elected at the General Meeting has proved to be an excellent introduction to the workings of SAMROA and has enabled many members to contribute to the Association, including many relatively new members.

Please consider how you can be involved and also be prepared to approach other members if you consider they can make a contribution. A strong Committee goes a long way to making SAMROA the kind of organisation of which we can be proud.

Please feel free to contact any Committee member if you would like to be considered for appointment or to discuss the matter further.



## Ed Says



How the other half (of the globe, that is) lives.

It seems our fellow marshals in the UK have a long and complex training period. This from the McLaren Mercedes web site.

### ***Marshals - Formula 1's unsung heroes***

We love watching our favourite drivers do battle on track, but it's important to remember the other heroes who put themselves on the line to ensure their safety.

Volunteer marshals line the circuit at each grand prix weekend, making up a crucial part of the operation. Numbering about 1,200 in total, they also work in pit and paddock areas, assembly areas and race control, doing everything to see the event runs efficiently.

Typically marshals will arrive at a circuit at 7am and sign on with the race organisers at 7.30am. At this point they'll be allocated their duties for the weekend, told what kind of races are on or whether there will be any special rules in place, before heading to their posts 15 minutes before any of the action starts.

Chris Hobson, who chairs the British Motorsport Marshals Club, has been a marshal for 43 years. He first became involved when he walked into a motor show and saw a stand which was recruiting marshals. He joined up there and then.

"I've always been a petrolhead," says Chris. "I've loved cars and motorbikes since I was a kid. Becoming a marshal allowed me to become a part of the sport at zero cost and I just love working at a race weekend.

"The main challenge marshals face is the long hours – it could be 6pm before their work is done, sometimes without stopping for a bite to eat. Another major challenge is reacting as quickly as possible to an incident as a team.

## Ed Says (cont.)



"The British Motorsports Marshals Club invented the training and grading scheme now in use by the Motorsports Association for all marshals, and it's very gratifying when that training has been put to good use and an incident dealt with effectively."

Training to become a marshal is extensive and hierarchical – you have to reach a certain level of skill before going on to the next. For instance, a trainee marshal with no experience starts out by going to a "taster" day, where they're escorted round an event and shown all the different aspects of marshalling, such as putting out fires and flag usage.

After completing a set number of race meetings, usually ten, a trainee can take an exam to become a track marshal. The training starts all over again and after a further 15 meetings, a track marshal can become an experienced track marshal. It goes on like that until reaching the rank of post chief, who is assigned responsibility for a particular sector of the circuit.

"Marshalling gets you as close to the racing as can be without actually racing, so if you're passionate about motorsport you should get involved," adds Chris.

There will be 20 marshals coming to the McLaren Technology Centre this month – they had entered a competition during National Motorsport Week, held between 30<sup>th</sup> June and 8<sup>th</sup> July, and will receive a full tour of the MTC and its facilities. We look forward to welcoming them.

If you'd like to get involved with marshalling yourself, take a look at the British Motorsport Marshals Club website, [www.marshals.co.uk](http://www.marshals.co.uk), to find out more.



## Ed Says (cont.)



Congratulations to members celebrating birthdays this month:

### August

Barry Hughes 65 years young on 26<sup>th</sup>



### September

Luigi Mori	6 <sup>th</sup>
Andrew Leitch	9 <sup>th</sup>
Owen Smith	10 <sup>th</sup>

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## DIARY DATES OF NOTE

### Annual Dinner

The venue has limited capacity – once the tickets are gone, they are gone.  
Currently selling quickly. Don't miss out – contact Peter Tann ASAP

### 20/21 August

SCC Round 3 – Briefing commences at **0815am sharp** both days.

### 18 September

Stewards Course – for more information, contact CAMS office.

### Last Wednesday in September

Stewards information night – contact CAMS.

### 27 October

CATO course – contact CAMS.

## T&CC Report

We would like to thank all the officials who have come out and supported SAMROA and motor sports over the last few meetings, especially with all this cold weather we've been having.

The Superkart and Modern Regularity event was held on August 7 and it was a cold and wet day. We had some new faces out and some good racing. I hope no one got too wet when the rain hit at 3pm!

The committee would like to remind everyone that in the winter months please come dressed more appropriately e.g. warmer clothes, jacket, jumper, beanie, wet weather gear and water proof shoes – not sneakers or you will be going home early with wet socks and feet !! It is also a good idea to have a spare change of clothes in the car in case you do get wet.

If you do roll up and chief flag or any of the T&CC or Committee members feel that you're not wearing enough, you will be stood down and asked to go home and get appropriate clothing. This is for your own health; we do not want anyone to come down with hypothermia.

The next event for us out at Round 3 of the SCCSA State Championships which will include the HQ Nationals on 20 and 21 August. Please put your names in the database, red book or contact the chief flag to ensure your name is down. This must be done a week before the event for numbers for the Sporting Car Club. Remember – it's easier to take your name off the list than to put it on!!

The AGM is coming up and so a new committee for the T&CC will also be nominated. We need more members to nominate for the T&CC – we should not have to rely on the General Committee to make up the numbers – Likewise we should not have to always expect that the "Senior's" of this club should sit on the Committees each year – how can we expect this club to continue if we don't get the "newish" members to step up!!

## T&CC Report (Cont.)

Please think about joining the T&CC – WE NEED YOU.

With this newsletter you will also find a copy of your Reward and Recognition scheme point scores for your information. Remember that you need to be at the dinner to be able to choose your prize...so get in and get your tickets.

### Upcoming Events:

20 & 21 August	SCCSA State Championships Rd 3 + HQ Nationals	Peter Cirillo Asst: Rod Mounfield	08:15
3 Sept	HQ Enduro & Formula Vee	Tony Aloï	08:00
18 September	Steward Course		
18 September	City to Bay fun run	Darren Mattiske	TBA-EARLY
25 Sept	Superkarts and Modern Regularity	Paul Karamanov	8:15am
27 Oct	CATO course	Register with CAMS	

See you all out at Mallala!

Matt Johnson and the T&CC

## VINTAGE COLLINGROVE



### 1st & 2nd October 2011 Barossa Valley, South Australia

Vintage Collingrove Speed Hillclimb Weekend is on again this coming spring. Located in superb scenic countryside with majestic red gums and rolling hills just a 90 minute drive from Adelaide and 7 km south of Angaston at the top of the Barossa Valley. Collingrove is most often considered Australia's premier hillclimb track.

Vintage Collingrove is run by the Sporting Car Club of South Australia specifically for vintage style machinery as well as CAMS Group J & K pre-WWII cars. There are classes for racing, sports and touring cars. Certain early post war cars may be accepted on an invitation basis providing they are of 'vintage' style and character.

If you have been to the famous Vintage Sports Car Club event at Prescott in England, then chances are you will feel at home at Vintage Collingrove, and if you haven't, well this is probably the next best thing in Australia.

For entrants and friends there is a full weekend of activities. This includes a run on public roads in which unregistered cars provided with permits can participate. There's also the fun Saturday night 'Climb Dinner', the Sunday Partners' Program' and in the evening the Roaring Forties café farewell get-together meal.

Come-and-Run permits are available for entrants who do not have a CAMS competition licence, so this

is a very economical way to enjoy your favourite pre-war sporting or touring car.

As they say, "just feel the atmosphere." The competitive hillclimb is held on Sunday and while the 'paddock' obviously has a vintage feel, there is also the spectator car park for 'collector' style vehicles. Clubs are welcome to arrange their own display.

So, if you like the idea of vintage Amilcars, Austin 7s, Bentleys, Bugattis, Buicks, Chryslers, Essex, Fords, Rileys and MGs competing in superb countryside, then Vintage Collingrove is a must for you and your family. Spectators are most welcome on the Sunday from 9.00 am for a most reasonable charge.

#### For more information,

- See the published entrants' Promotional Poster
- See the published spectators' Promotional Poster
- Contact the Sporting Car Club of SA 'Events Office' on 08 8271 5689 (fax 08 8272 5396)
- Email organising committee at [vintagecollingrove2011@yahoo.com.au](mailto:vintagecollingrove2011@yahoo.com.au)
- After July go to the SCCSA web site, [www.sportingcarclubs.org.au](http://www.sportingcarclubs.org.au) and follow the links to Vintage Collingrove



## SAMROA Merchandise



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(Metal) - \$3



SAMROA 30th year  
badges...\$10 each



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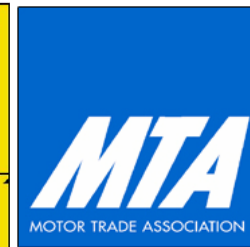
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