

**Marshals Mumblings  
June 2009**



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

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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)

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

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi Everyone,

At the last General Meeting we meet our new Mannequin and we had a naming competition, Andrew Robinson suggested the name S.Pitt

*(S.Pitt - the Dummy –Get it?)*

Congratulations to Andrew who won the Clipsal Pit Shirt, donated by Darren. Could S.Pitt be Karl's long lost brother? I also have to thank Bronwen for the donation of a pair of Adrian's old (but not too worn) black shoes. Congratulations must also go to Scott Chamings who submitted an entry in the CAMS National Volunteer Week Competition. Scott was one of two state winners! Have a read if his winning entry in this newsletter on page 4. Well Done Scott. (We must be a nice bunch of people to work with too...Ed



The biggest Congratulations must go the Lawrie Schmitt, who was honoured on the Queens Birthday List with an OAM (Order of Australia Medal) Please find more about this on page 5.

*Our sincere Congratulations to Lawrie on this very special award.*

Here's something to think about, very soon we will be holding our AGM, and it's time to start thinking about who you would like to run your association. Are you happy with the current General Committee? Nominations for General Committee positions will soon be open. Have a think about this as any financial member can be nominated. (I will be re standing as your President)

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Cont.)

And finally, at the next General Meeting we will be asking the memberships opinion on a project that the General Committee has been working on for some time, we will have several samples of clothing that the General Committee are looking at to replace the current overalls style uniform. This phase out will occur over a couple of years, so for those who have just received overalls, don't panic they are still the SAMROA uniform. I urge as many members as possible to attend this meeting to have your say! This will affect everyone.

So with all that info, it's time to invite you to the General Meeting on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup>, at 8pm at the Veneto Club.

See you all there

Cheers

Paul.

**Cover Photo:** SAMROA Members at work at the Shannon's Nationals (see report on page 9)

**Photo:** All photos (except for the Shannons Nationals report) from Phil Williams, Phil Williams Media and Marketing

Any photo or other contributions are gratefully accepted.

### And why Does Scott like being a motorsport official ?

**“F**or the camaraderie, the people, the love of the sport and the realisation of dreams.

“When younger, I would flick on the television and watch great events like Bathurst, the Adelaide GP and daydream of being involved. My world turned around one day when I volunteered for a motor sport event.

“Now I have exceeded those dreams, I have worked at some of these holy events such as the Clipsal 500 (alongside Australia's best race management teams in Race Control) and also now make the annual pilgrimage to the mountain. I look forward to many more years in the extraordinary world of motorsport (lookout Silverstone).”

- Scott Chamings (SA)

MEDAL (OAM) OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA IN THE  
GENERAL DIVISION

**Mr Lawrence John SCHMITT**

For service to motor sport as an official.

- ❖ Foundation Member, South Australian Motor Racing Officials Association, since 1978; President, for 6 terms; Life Member, 1992.
- ❖ Clerk of the Course, Clipsal 500 Adelaide, Confederation of Australian Motor Sport (CAMS), since 2001; Emergency Coordinator, 1999-2000.
- ❖ Chief Marshal, Hidden Valley, Australian V8 Supercar Championships, Darwin, 1998-2005; Clerk of the Course, since 2006.
- ❖ Clerk of the Course, Gold Coast Indy Carnival, since 2007.
- ❖ Race Director, Formula Holden Championships, 2001-2003.
- ❖ Race Director, Formula Ford Championships, 2001-2006.
- ❖ Race Director, Porsche Cup Championships, 2002.
- ❖ Race Director, Carrera Cup Championships, 2003-2006.
- ❖ Race Director, V8 Supercars Australian Development Series, since 2007.
- ❖ State Training Coordinator, South Australia and Northern Territory, since 1997.
- ❖ Member, Training Team, Singapore Grand Prix (in collaboration with CAMS), 2008.
- ❖ Assistant Clerk of the Course, Singapore Grand Prix, 2008.
- ❖ Member, Training Team, Bahrain Grand Prix, Bahrain Motor Federation (in collaboration with CAMS), 2004-2006.
- ❖ Assistant Clerk of the Course, Bahrain Grand Prix, 2004-2006.
- ❖ Senior Official, Australian Formula 1 Grand Prix, since 1987.
- ❖ Assistant Clerk of the Course, Australian Formula 1 Grand Prix, 2006-2008.
- ❖ Senior Flag Marshal, Australian Grand Prix, Adelaide, 1985-1986; and Sector Marshal, 1987-2005.
- ❖ Clerk of the Course, Le Mans Series, Race of a Thousand Years, Adelaide Grand Prix Circuit, 2000.
- ❖ Clerk of the Course, Adelaide Superkart Club, 1998-2005.

Awards/recognition include:

- ❖ Australian Sports Medal, 2000.
- ❖ CAMS National Motor Sport Official of the Year, 1998.
- ❖ CAMS Service Award, 2006.

Source: Website of the Governor-General of Australia

Congratulations on a very much-deserved award

## T&CC Report

Thanks to all who came out to the recent Shannon's Nationals – particularly those who came out to help with the private practice day on Friday. The weather conditions were a bit ordinary at times – which shows why a decent set of wet weather gear is such a good investment.

On Sunday, an incident saw multiple karts spin and stop at turn 7 in the early stages of the race. It was good to see marshal swarm on the track after the last kart had passed to move them in to safe positions, then get clear before the field was around again – well done everybody, it was great work!

This however is an attribute we have yet to instil in our 'up and coming' members: The ability to identify when this action is justified and to identify a suitable gap, then the confidence to enter a hot track during a session.

A few other things did come up from the meeting. One of which was there was some contact that occurred that was not reported. These contact reports can be quite important – particularly where a competitor has lost position because of the contact. It is important to be vigilant throughout the day, including the last event – which is why it is important to take breaks wherever possible earlier in the day. The other thing that is important is to determine the condition of the driver(s) involved in an incident as soon as possible – check to see that the driver is moving, and see if they can give you a 'thumbs up' (you do remember your hand signals..don't you). The condition of the driver is a key piece of information in determining the severity of an incident – and hence the most appropriate response to that incident from race control.



I like to let everyone one know that we have 2 vacancies on the T&CC one which is any member with at least a bronze level license from the general membership, and the other which would come down from the General Committee, which in saying this there is a vacancy on the General Committee as well. We will be accepting any names at the next general meeting or if you are interested please contact any of the T&CC panel.



## T&CC Report (Cont.)

Looking forward, we have the next Superkarts and Modern Regularity event coming up on the 28<sup>th</sup> June. Again, if you want to attend – put your name down in the red book, put your name on the online database (when it comes back up) or contact the T&CC, Chief Flag (Lui) or ring the chief flag number 0448 633 382.

One of the roles of this committee is to monitor how everybody is going – their skills levels and areas where additional training/instruction/experience are needed. This includes our seniors/team leaders – particularly as we have some new people moving up in to more senior roles.

In order to try to obtain better feedback from team members, we have put together another ‘performance’ sheet, this one is to be filled out by everyone on the flag point and given to the Chief Flag at the end of the day. The idea is to identify areas where the *senior* may need more instruction/coaching to help them along.

We will be ‘trailing’ this new sheet at the Superkart meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup> June – feedback is very welcome. A copy of this sheet has been enclosed with this newsletter to members so that you can have a look at it before then.

It has been over 4 years since we have had a Fire Training day, and we have been organising one to be held on **Sat 18th of July**. This will be held at **Adelaide International Raceway from 09:15 for a 9:15 start**. We at the T&CC cannot stress how important this training day is as we are normally the first people to attend an incident. In saying this most of us have never had to use a fire extinguisher (thankfully), but having attended a few of these training days the apprehension of letting one off in anger isn’t so bad knowing that you have put out a few blazing cars before. Therefore, we would like to see all current active officials (in last 2 yrs), our newer officials and experienced officials attend this training day.

You can add your name in the usual ways and will be only accepting the first 40 names – so get in quick.

That’s all from us for now.

Andrew R and the rest of the T&CC

## SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

**Annual Dinner(including the reward & recognition program)**

**Remember 22 August at Tea Tree Gully Golf Course** (Dimples Restaurant).

Tickets are now available for sale, Members \$35, Non-members \$45 & Childrens menu \$15. See Peter Tann or any of the committee at general meetings or race meetings for tickets or to book your place(s). If you or any of your guests have any special dietary requirements please advise when booking your tickets so we can pre-arrange special meals.

**Quiz Night:** Saturday 11 July - 6:30 for 7:00 pm start at the Sporting Car Club

It should be a fun evening with the Quiz, Tops n Tails, and a Sporting Memorabilia auction. We plan to have some great prizes.

See Peter Tann or any of the committee at general meetings or race meetings for tickets or to book your place(s).

Tickets are \$10 each, BYO Nibbles/supper, Drinks from the bar.

Social Committee Contacts are Scott Chamings, Jodie Johnson, Bob Schofield, Peter Tann. Come along to the social committee meetings and get involved in helping to organise **your** club.

Next Social Committee Meeting : Monday 22 June 8:00pm

Location : Para Hills Community Club, Bridge Road, Para Hills



**Members that will be celebrating Birthdays in the coming month Happy Birthday!!**



**June**

**Geoff Messer (16<sup>th</sup>), Adam Litchfield and Kerry Owens (29<sup>th</sup>)**

**July**

**Colin Leaker (2<sup>nd</sup>), Andrew Robinson (11<sup>th</sup>)**

**Welcome to our latest member: Peter Chiricuta**

## Ricciardello wins Clem Smith Cup, success for South Aussies at Mallala

Tony Ricciardello won the Clem Smith Cup for Sports Sedans in Round Four of the Shannons Nationals at Mallala Motor Sport Park, where South Australian drivers starred. South Aussies won three of the six classes in a big weekend of racing at the Adelaide circuit, with late rain challenging drivers each day.



Ricciardello took his Alfa Romeo to victory in the marquee race of the Kerrick Sports Sedan Series, the Clem Smith Cup. In a dominant Race Two performance, Ricciardello claimed his second Clem Smith Cup, after winning the inaugural Cup in 2007. “We had some problems with the car early on, but after we got that sorted it was perfect, it didn’t miss a beat,” Ricciardello said.

“Winning the Clem Smith Cup again is an honour, big thanks go to Clem for his support of the race and Sports Sedans.” Ricciardello and reigning champion Darren Hossack (Audi) continued their fierce rivalry, which spilt over as the pair clashed in Race One and Race Three. Des Wall (Corvette) avoided the trouble to win the two races and the round; Ricciardello claimed a second and a ninth in the other two races, Hossack an 11th and a fifth.

Adelaide drivers finished first and second in Round Two of the Shannons V8 Touring Car Series. Adam Wallis took his VX Commodore to three wins from three races and the round victory, ahead of 2008 title winner Chris Smerdon (AU Falcon) and Terry Wyhoon (AU Falcon). Wallis extends his points lead, while Smerdon moves into second place. “It’s been a good weekend,” Wallis said.

## Ricciardello wins Clem Smith Cup, success for South Aussies at Mallala (Cont.)

“With the rain around each afternoon, we did a lot of tyre changes in the pits before making a final decision for the races.

“The wets were always on standby and we ended up needing them for Race Three. “Leaving the event with three from three and a bigger championship lead is the perfect result.” While Matt Kingsley took the Porsche GT3 Cup Challenge round win to extend his buffer at the top of the table, Adelaide’s Mark Krashos was the weekend’s hard luck story.

Krashos won the opening two, dry races in convincing fashion, but a decision to use slick tyres in the wet Race Three was costly, dropping to finish 11th. Rain-master Kingsley cashed in to take the race and round win, from Jeff Bobik and Paul Bolinowsky. This weekend’s race meeting was Kingsley’s first in South Australia since he was injured in a massive V8 Ute crash at the 2008 Clipsal 500. “It’s hard to explain how I’m feeling and the emotions involved, coming back to Adelaide and having such a successful weekend” Kingsley said. “My family has been behind me 100%, their support has helped me get back into racing. “The round win is a great result and sets us up well for the rest of the season.”

Even with a switch from Ford to Holden for reigning champ Steve Kwiatkowski, the battle between Kwiatkowski and Shawn Jamieson raged all weekend. Jamieson won all three races in his Commodore, extending his points lead, with Kwiatkowski second and Sam Milton (Falcon) third.

Much like Krashos’ Porsche weekend, Yiani Harpas was in the box seat to win the opening round of the Australian Superkart Championship. Harpas won Races Two and Three, before crashing out of the final. Sam Zavaglia took the round win ahead of reigning champ Darren Hossack and Harpas, V8 Supercar driver Shane Price was sixth on debut. Michael O’Donnell and Asher Johnston slugged it out for the Dover Madison Formula Vee race wins, with O’Donnell scoring two wins before Johnston took out the finale.

This weekend’s racing from Mallala will be broadcast next Sunday, 14 June, on SBS’ Speedweek from 1pm.

Round Five of the Shannons Nationals will be held at Winton Motor Raceway in Victoria on 27-28 June.

(From the Shannon’s Nationals website, reproduced with permission)

## 2 cars, 4 Officials & 6 Hours

Ray & Ashley Stephenson donated a VB Commodore to me. This meant we could now enter 2 cars and 4 drivers (Peter Cirillo, Tony Aloji in the "new" car, and Darren Martin and myself in my red #3 Commodore) in the 6 hour relay. Tony and I collected it from under a gum tree on a farm at Strathalbyn about 3 weeks before the event. Okay, it wasn't pretty, but it had the basis for a reasonable car. It has a 173 (2850cc) motor, standard carbie, extractors, VK 5 speed and a VL open pool diff with disc brakes. One of our local racing drivers and senior officials offered us some used 14" racing tyres. He said they are past their racing life, however, fine for sprints and hill climbs. When I collected them, they were very used (bold as) so I borrowed a set of 16" saloon car tyres.



The carbie was leaking fuel everywhere and was told that it wouldn't give us any power even if it was rebuilt. This prompted me to put the fresh engine with the Holley 390 4 barrel in my red commodore and use the old 350 Holley on the green car. Peter and Tony worked on the car for 4 or 5 nights removing weight (tow bar, seats, carpet etc), degreasing the engine, doing the brakes, degreasing the engine, flushing the radiator, degreasing the engine, general maintenance and fixing odds & sods and trying to do all the requirements like fitting bonnet pins, fire ext, etc. Much care was taken not to remove any of the "rustic" charm. Don't ask Peter how long it takes to fit a front bumper. Over this time, I learnt a lot of Italian words, if you know what I mean.



Ray & Ashley Stephenson donated several other items with the Commodore, one was a fresh motor. A Red block 202 bored out 60 thou, ACL flat top pistons, star fire conrods, unknown cam with a blue 12 port head. At a recent swap meet, a Holley 390 4 barrel and matching manifold was acquired.

## 2 cars, 4 Officials & 6 Hours (Cont.)

A day was spent cleaning and painting the block and head ready to be dropped into #3 and a time was arranged for Darren Martin to help with the change over which I was told would only take 3 hours. We got the old engine and gearbox out and we separated the motor and gearbox to discover the clutch would not last another meeting and plus we needed the odd gasket for all the things that hang off the motor. After a week delay, the new clutch was fitted and the motor was in.

While pouring the coolant into the radiator, we heard fluid dipping leaking on to the floor and discovered it was coming from between the block and the head. At this stage, I didn't know whether to cry or laugh. The head needed to come off and we discovered it had a bow in it so it needed be refaced. WT Engineering at St Agnes looked after us and was able to do the job at a very good price and with a quick turn around.

The Thursday night before the event came and the head was put back on and as we started engine, petrol was flowing into the carbie so fast that the fuel filter remained empty and petrol was pouring out of the carbie jets. Not a good sign so now we needed to rebuild the carbie. Sprint was able to rebuild it on the Friday and it came back looking like new. Finally, Friday night before the meeting, the engine started and it sounded so sweet. There was only a small oil leak from the crank seal. While removing the radiator for the umpteenth time, we found the inlet to the radiator was now cracked. The radiator needed replacing anyway. The crank seal and radiator was replaced and the exhaust welded Saturday morning and the car loaded on to the trailer ready for the practice day.

We meet Craig Walkom (Naomi Maltby #91 Saloon Car partner) at the track who was able to tune both cars and offer some set up tips.

Race day come and we meet our 5th member of our team. Brandon and his dad Bruce are regulars in the modern Regularity meetings and drive some old XB falcons painted in the same colour scheme as the yellow and blue "Mad Max" police interceptor cars. Quite funny as Peter was the Clerk of Course at the last meeting and basically told Brandon to go home as his diff was leaking oil.



## 2 cars, 4 Officials & 6 Hours (Cont.)

Practice was soon over and had to nominate our times. At 11am the event started and to everyone's surprise, our cars circulated with planned sash change over's. Brandon's diff was still leaking oil and smoking so we used plan b - his dad's car. The only note worthy things that happened was Brendan had some gear selection and fuel problems and Darren Martin brought the red commodore in with a pretty warm engine and a lack of coolant. I had to come in early in my last stint as I was "losing fluid" from the overflow, however, the engine temp was normal. My fault for overfilling the overflow.

In the end, I think we surprised a lot people (most of all, us, as we were expecting Peter to break it) with all our cars finishing when much better cars broke down. For the record, the Red Commodore consistently did 1:31 laps, the fastest was a 1:30.88. The Green Commodore did consistent 1:43 with a couple quick 1:40's. The end, the team finished 13th. A very good result for us.

(Thanks to Phil Williams for the Photos and Darren Mattiske for the article)

## KWIK STIX Sponsoring SA Officials

Kwik Stix are sponsoring Motor racing officials in South Australia by providing over 2,000 gift vouchers to officials working at events.



People who have been to their restaurants will agree that they provide great food and good service at a good price.

The new meal vouchers are now for "one main meal" at all restaurants owned by The New World Lifestyle group. The New World Lifestyle group own several restaurants throughout Adelaide

**Note: These vouchers are only for the restaurant specified on the voucher**

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

Superkarts/Modern Reg	28 June	Chief:Lui Mori
Fire training (A.I.R.)	18 <sup>th</sup> July Start: 09:30	Chief:Peter Cirillo
Superkarts/Modern Reg	2 <sup>nd</sup> August	Chief:Adam Litchfield

## The Mountain is calling...last chance

Officials applications are now open for this year's Bathurst 1000 (October 8-11). In previous years, there have been a number of members heading over as a group – sharing cars and adjacent campsites (John will submit a campsite application on our behalf).

Anybody interested in answering the call, should contact John Silverblade (john.silverblade@marion.sa.gov.au) or at home on 8265-1828, wk 7420-6421 or mobile 0412261579. Applications need to be in by late June.



## Australian Central Credit Union Community lottery

SAMROA is participating in the Australian Central credit union community lottery this year, with 800 tickets (80 books) allocated.



The concept of the lottery is that the Australian Central credit union and sponsors will provide tickets, prizes and run the lottery while community organisations sell the tickets and (after banking) receive 100% of the ticket monies received. This is a great opportunity to raise some funds to help finance additional training and updated equipment.

We are now in the last month of tickets sales, but you can still assist by helping sell tickets or by buying tickets in the lottery (\$2 each, lots of great prizes).

**\*\*Note that ALL books and money MUST be \*\*  
\*\* returned to Bronwen by the 28<sup>th</sup> June \*\***

## SAMROA Merchandise



SAMROA Sew On  
Badge - \$6



SAMROA Sticker - \$3  
(10cm across)



SAMROA Logo Pin  
(Metal) - \$3



SAMROA T-shirt - \$40



SAMROA Cross Flags  
(Metal) - \$3



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

### Trade Discount at Ray's Outdoors:

SAMROA is now a trade customer at Ray's outdoors, simply quote the Business name (South Australian Motor Racing Officials Association) or number D73564 at the register to get a significant discount. 28 stores nationwide, SA Stores at:

61-69 West terrace ADELAIDE  
1 Phillip Highway ELIZABETH  
Harbour Town ADELAIDE  
AIRPORT



Now is the time to ensure you have proper wet-weather gear for the winter ahead (so far, looks like it might be a cold one....)

### July Newsletter:

Please note that due to the Editor travelling interstate in early July (wonder why...) the July newsletter will be printed a few days early on Tuesday July 7<sup>th</sup>. Final deadline for material: Midday Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July. Earlier is appreciated.

Also, thanks to Peter Tann for his assistance in printing the newsletter each month.



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367 Grange Road, Findon

Ph: 8356 4404

Mobile Lui: 0408208755

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RAA Approved

Supporting the SAMROA  
30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary dinner.



MTA Member