

2010 CAMS OFFICIALS GAZETTE

Issue Two – Friday 26th March 2010

LOOK WHO'S HERE



What a well orchestrated signing process. The gathered crowd yells out the drivers name when they see them exit a minibus (driver a nice man you can afford it), or a marquee brand vehicle rolls up out the front complete with chauffeur. Some even walk over direct from the car park but none bring along their million dollar girlfriends or wives. Gents bring along your ladies

The black texta brigade then all open their programs to the page of that driver after his name and page number is yelled out. The selected driver is then mobbed and swooned for his autograph which I swear is viewed as gold.



LITTLE PAIN – BUT IT WAS EASY

It was a confusing start for Thursday morning. I knew where to park, where to go but when I arrived at muster there were two very large queues and without supervision I joined the wrong queue, (thanks Murphy) waited for a while then joined the other queue once I knew what was going on, before making my way through to the overworked CAMS staff that made life simple from then on.

Paperwork completed and photo taken, it was time for the speeches. Any heated words from some officials during sign on were quickly forgotten as the group made it way to the track for a dose of motorsport.

Some places don't look the same at different times of year however Albert Park looks TOTALLY different any other time apart from these four days. I was able make way through Albert Park mid summer with the final wife and No. 1 son to take in the lake view and enjoy a relaxing walk. It was full of dogs, kids playing basketball and families enjoying picnics. It was my Albert Park moment.

Not long ago I received a number of photos from a friend of the Las Vegas strip covered in snow but my only recollection during a NASCAR Truck round is 40 plus degrees. That was another Albert Park moment.

Kind Regards
Richard McLean

Don't forget to keep the Gazette Team up to date throughout the weekend via SMS to 0438 590 994



TUESDAY REVIEW

Another beautiful sunny warm day at Albert Park in Melbourne ready for the Qantas Formula One Australian Grand Prix. The F1 teams continue to unload and unpack. More bits and pieces of race cars began to appear. The Mercedes team seemed alone in doing nothing. Its large distinctive packing crates remained unmoved, unopened and untouched. They must know something the rest don't know.

Current V8 Supercars point's leader, JAMIE WHINCUP of the Triple 8 Holden team had fun driving one of JENSON BUTTON's F1 car around the track. How sweet the sound!



APP Corporation, the new engineering construction company hired by the Australian Grand Prix Corporation, has been making some changes while building the circuit. This year all the offices dealing with the National Support categories are housed with their series - a long far way from the F1 paddock. The only support series cars to have arrived so far are a few of the fabulous Shannon's Historic Demonstration cars. They each are housed in a tent suitably labelled with owner and car information. When all is in place, it will be worth the hike.

One of the hardest working groups of the many CAMS volunteer race officials was the A Team, busy hustling needs and necessities for the marshals and putting things together. This is one team unique to AGP, named after the TV show about misfits pulling off impossible tasks. They are a favourite of BERNIE ECCLESTONE and one year had their very own A Team Formula One tabards.

They are known as merry pranksters and have pulled off many varied and clever tricks, the stuff of which legends are made. Even Bernie has been on the receiving end.

One serious task they pulled off in Adelaide was helping the Williams F1 team. Its engines were delayed and arrived the day before the cars took to the track. None of the other teams would loan Williams their fork lifts, so the A Team muscled the crates into place and NIGEL MANSEL and NELSON PIQUET got on track as scheduled. This especially annoyed rivals Ferrari and McLaren. One of the team's grateful sponsors, Beltin Beer of Germany, suitably rewarded the crew.

Wednesday will be a very busy day at the track. In addition to the new Mercedes road car doing laps and FIA Track Inspection, the Medical Team will be doing several exercises including a full worse-case scenario. The senior race officials will be holding their pre-race briefings. New things are in store. Stay tuned.



NELSON ON SCHENKEN, PIQUET & LOWNDES

PETER NELSON of Melbourne has a new assignment of Deputy Secretary of the Meeting, and training his successor, MICHAEL SMITH. Peter, a CAMS employee and Secretary of the Meeting for the past 25 years, has worked all 26 AGP's. His resume includes 74 World Championship race events for cars and FIM, and 500 total races he's worked as a senior race official.

Peter uses the analogy of architect of a building to describe the Secretary's job as putting together the plans (schedule, regulations, officials, equipment, etc.) The Clerk of the Course (TIM SCHENKEN) conducts the race meeting according to the plans in place, like the builder using the architect's plans. If the plans at the meeting have to change (because of accidents, required repairs, changes in regulations, weather, etc.) they go back to the Secretary to make the changes and re-issue the plans.

Peter's favourite F1 drivers are those who have passion, Ayrton Senna and Nelson Piquet in particular, as well as Jackie Stewart. For Peter, Senna had the 'Wow' factor at Turn 15 at Adelaide and that never changed. What does change are the teams, year by year, but Peter says Ferrari always stands out as original and fascinating.

Peter doesn't have a favourite V8 driver, although there are a few great ones at the pointy end of the field. Maybe Craig Lowndes because he used to be a kid underfoot at PIARC BBQs many, MANY years ago

Peter remembers that the AGP was one of the first races to use Grid Girls - in 1980. Then in 1990, Shell adopted the practice.



MORI, MORI, MORI PLUS TAN

DAVID MORI of Adelaide is the new Chief of Communications. He has worked 24 AGP's, as has his dad, LUIGI MORI who is a Flaggie at Start-Finish. Father and son have bonded over motorsports and are true petrol heads. David started out as a Flaggie and worked club races in many capacities. He was the Communications Chief at this year's Clipsal and Assistant Clerk of Course. David has been a Communicator for the past four years at AGP, always in Race Control in various positions.

David's favourite thing about AGP is the networking and meeting people from all around the globe. The motorsports is just a bonus. A little known fact about David is that he's 40 years old and still plays gridiron. He's a lineman. In real life, David runs Findon Crash Repairs.



MICHAEL SCHUMACHER and Ayrton Senna are David's favourite F1 drivers, while Ferrari is his favoured team. In V8's, it's up and comer Shane Van Gisbergen, with the Jim Beam Racing as his favourite team.

JANETTE TAN of Singapore is the Chief Flag Marshal for the Singapore Grand Prix. This is her second AGP. Last year she came to observe and learn. This year she will roam and rove with The Goon Squad. Janette's favourite thing about AGP is the festival atmosphere, the hype and the crowd. The Aussies are very friendly and nice. The fact that she knits is Janette's little known fact.

Favourite F1 driver and team for Janette are Ayrton Senna and the old John Player Lotus Team. She has a die-cast model of the distinctive black and gold car.

PREECE TALKS UP DUNCAN & SENNA



STEVE PREECE is a new CAMS National Track Safety Marshal. This is his twenty-fifth AGP. Steve's interest in motorsports started when he was 18. He competed in a Gemini race car at Club level and also became involved in race officiating. The latter won out and he worked his way through the ranks and is now Clerk of the Course at Mt. Panorama for the V8 Supercar races, the 12 hour race, and the V8 Supercar event at Sydney Olympic Park.

Steve also is Race Director for the Australian Driver's Championship and is a member of CAMS National Track Safety Advisory Committee. Steve now spends his days inspecting our permanent race tracks. Prior to taking his new position, Steve was an Assistant Clerk of Course and took over from HENK DUNCAN in 2009 when Henk suffered an injury during the event.

Steve is from Sydney, and teaches commercial photography. What he likes best about AGP is the level of the event - running an event to a world standard; and the camaraderie. What little known fact about Steve is "Classified?" His favourite F1 driver is Ayrton Senna and his favourite team is Team Lotus. Steve has no favourite V8 driver or team.



CAPTION CONTEST - FRIDAY

OK, you know the drill dream up with your own caption for this photo →→→→→
Just write your name, team, corner, and your caption in the area provided below and place it in the designated box in the muster tent.

Name: _____ Team: _____ Corner: _____

Caption: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

Email: _____



Supplied By:

1ST PRIZE IS ONE PAIR OF XL GOLDEN EAGLE GLOVES & SAFETY GLASSES VALUED AT \$60 RRP



LYNNE'S CORNER – THE GOON SQUAD

This year the race marshals working on the circuit include Sector Marshals, Flaggies, Trackies and Spectator Marshals. These are all under the thumbs of four veterans. The head Goon this year is TERRY O'CALLAGHAN, and his side kicks each take on one of the specialties. They are ROGER CHIRNSIDE of Melbourne, ALAN O'DEA of Adelaide, and PAUL OVERELL of Brisbane. The sidekicks have each worked all 26 AGP's.

10 THINGS THAT YOU DO NOT KNOW ABOUT OUR CHIEF FLAG MARSHAL – TERRY O'CALLAGHAN (Well, now you do!)

10. He does quilting in his spare time.
9. He dreamt of becoming a professional ballet dancer when he was young.
8. He does a fantastic Michael Jackson impersonation at a pub, when he gets the occasional weekend off (Maybe we'll see him perform at the Appreciation Party.)
7. His greatest passion is train spotting.
6. He can whistle the National Anthem backwards (Ask him to do it the next time you see him.)
5. He once was the Chief Mechanic for the Patagonian Hill Climb Champion.
4. He can down ten doughnuts in six seconds.
3. He cannot drive quickly.
2. He is afraid of the dark, and that's why he sleeps with the lights on.
1. Rumour has it that he has a complete collection of Liberace Records.



Not only is there a new look about the circuit and where things are located; some of the race officials are sporting new uniforms this year. Some officials have new polo shirts of varying designs this year; and orange overalls will replace whites for the Trackies and Recovery Support Marshals. Flaggies will remain in whites for this year. World-wide, F1 marshals are changing to universal orange.

Eight Minardi F1 two-seater rides were given Wednesday afternoon and will be throughout the weekend. The drivers are the same as last year - ZSOLT BAUMGARTNER and retired V8 Supercar driver, CAMERON McCONVILLE. PAUL STODDART had said he was not interested in returning to Formula One while Mosley (MAX MOSLEY) was in office. Now that Mosley is gone, Stoddart said "Never say never."

It has been confirmed that there are no cars running the KERS system. So out goes that chapter of the Sector Marshal's handbook. The Communicators now have a two-second delay before they transmit over the landline. Race Control has all trackside communications going into a laptop as well into the ears of new Chief, DAVID MORI.