



FORMULA CLASSIC RACING

17th December 2023

Christmas Message from your (mainly absent) Chairman.

When I left for the UK this year the season was looking good. New competitors and cars were out on track or in the wings being readied. We were saddened by the retirement from racing of Allan Ould who had been a stalwart supporter of our category and a constant competitor for many years. His unequalled depth of knowledge on all things Motorsport and the unselfish way that he dispelled this knowledge was, to me a measure of the man and his enormous contribution to Single Seater Racing over many decades.



This leads me to the incredibly sad passing of one of our most revered and popular competitors in Bob Creasy. Bob was a true Gentleman with an easy charm and a full lifetime of experiences which he could recount in a manner which held the listener spellbound. I was fortunate to have some time with him, sharing his history both on the track and in his early life on the land. One instance that I recall was at Collie where I was invited to the sanctum of the magnificent off road RV which served as his prospecting mobile basecamp. All my vows of an early night and limited intake of alcohol went out the window as I entered this hallowed boudoir, there to be entertained by fascinating stories of old and what appeared to be an unlimited supply of red wine. Rest in peace Bob and thanks for the privilege of knowing you.



This year it was very much a less than successful pilgrimage to Europe. A double DNF at Hockenheim followed by another DNF and damage at Dijon removed me from any FJ championship aspirations and the rest of the season did not improve that much. The F2/Atlantic campaign also started with double DNF's at the first 2 events but improved from there on with a change of car. I returned Perth and to Wanneroo for the Bob Creasy Memorial event. Qualifying saw me leaving pit lane to be immediately swamped by a host of very fast cars. This was a relatively new experience for me and forced a level of concentration and commitment which led to a sub minute lap on old tyres of which I was reasonably happy. In the old days this would have resulted in a spot at least on the first couple of rows but not now, oh no!! The result was a lowly 8th on the grid and a sharp lesson in how times have changed in Formula Classic Racing. I am delighted with this new level of competition within the group. All this whilst observing , first hand, the excellent standard of driving allowing then on-aero/less powered cars to safely enjoy themselves in the midfield battles. I think that we could improve in the aspect of reliability (from me also) but recognise that our cars are old, relatively complicated and in some cases very highly tuned. A special mention must go out to the pit crews, mechanics and helpers that we have among our ranks, many thanks for all the time and support that

you provide. It is very much appreciated. Enormous thanks must also go to all the Officials and Marshalls that give freely of their time to make it possible for us to race. I hope that they are aware of our gratitude and I also hope that there are steps in place to make them better appreciated by the organisers. It only remains for me to wish each and every one of you a very enjoyable Christmas Break and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Cheers

Marty

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A LAST MINUTE CHRISTMAS IDEA?

The latest FCR shirts are available for sale at \$35 each. The shirt is made from lightweight breathable polyester material and available in a range of sizes from Medium to XX Large.

Please contact Brian Searles (0438 160 435) if you wish to buy one.

AGM

A note for next year's diary.

The club AGM will be held on Thursday 18th January at Densford Civil's premises, Sarich Court, Osborne Park. Registration from 7.00 pm with the meeting commencing at 7.30 pm. Please advise whether or not you will be attending the meeting.

Light refreshments will be available at the close of the meeting.

STANDING STARTS vs ROLLING STARTS

An agenda item for discussion at the AGM will be standing starts vs rolling starts for our group in the future at Wanneroo Park. Rolling starts were trialled at the final round of this season's race meeting, please provide any feedback you have on this topic in preparation for discussions at the AGM.

Note: Collie Motorplex is unable to offer rolling starts as an option due to track licence constraints.

2024 PHILLIP ISLAND CLASSIC

Bruce Mitchell will be spectating at next year's Phillip Island Classic and he is keen to know if any other FCR members are thinking of going and whether they may be interested in sharing accommodation, rental car, etc. Bruce can be contacted on 0427 711 953.

2024 CALENDAR

Below is a copy of the 2024 calendar. Of particular note is the all historic double header that is scheduled for two consecutive weekends in September. It is hoped these two events will attract entrants from interstate and possibly overseas, more information on these two events will follow in due course.

1	Carco.com.au Raceway	03 March
2	Collie Motorplex	23/24 March
3	Carco.com.au Raceway	14 April
4	Collie Motorplex	04/05 May
5	Carco.com.au Raceway	15 June
6	Collie Motorplex	17/18 Aug
7	Carco.com.au Raceway	14/15 Sept
8	Collie Motorplex	21/22 Sept
9	Carco.com.au Raceway	19 Oct

Wishing you all a very merry Christmas and a prosperous and healthy New Year.

STAY SAFE

Contact details; admin@formulaclassic.com.au

