

Well, I guess all you devout and fanatical J, K and L racers have been wondering what the heck has happened to your regular newsletter author/editor/registrar Dick Willis. Well sadly I must inform you that after many years in the seat as JKL registrar he has finally called it quits and handed the "Registrars Hat" over to me.

I say sadly, not because I now have the job of keeping you all up to date with the all the news relevant to our favourite race category, but because Dick has been such a wonderful promoter of and competitor in the earliest form of Historic racing that is "J K and L".

He been the most travelled, most competitive and most regular competitor that I can remember since I first became involved in JKL in 1978. He has really put his heart and soul into the job of registrar over a long period, and I know that along with me all in "Team R", all "JKL" peddlers wish him well and say "thanks for everything Dick". Now you can have less time at the keyboard and more time on the spanners tending the vast amount of cars that you run. Thanks again mate!

By the time you all receive this newsletter Morgan Park will have been run and won. My spies tell me that it was a great event, very much in the same vein and feel as Winton. Promoted by the HRCC of Queensland there was a large contingent of "JKL" cars from all over the country.

Though light on entries in "JK", there was a strong field of "L"s. Great racing to from all accounts, with the big guns up front putting on a great show with some fast and furious racing. Parting registrar Dicky "I race everywhere man" Willis had the Mildren Cooper out for a run but was unlucky to break a suspension arm and retired for the Sunday events. A welcome invited addition the field was Les Wright in the mighty Dalro Jag and he, along with Dave Reid in the Faux Pas managed to keep Dick honest in the Saturday race.

Fellow Team R Bro's John Medley and Frank Cuttell were drafted to the commentator's microphone to provide some excellent commentary for the weekend. Sadly John had destroyed yet another BMC motor in the Nota and retired for the weekend. I thought I did a good job on the Prad motor at Winton when a top came off a valve but I saw the Nota motor last week and Johns "explosion" put my blow up to shame!

Most travelled for the weekend was Mick Arnold all the way from Tassie. Mick was having a "works" drive of his old car the Sharp Holden of Grant Craft and he kept other "Grey Holden Men" David Gleen (Anderson Holden) and Paul Armstrong (Jewitt Holden) honest for the weekend. Several other southerners made the journey north of the boarder to enjoy what all accounts was a beaut weekend of "Hysterics" racing. Another crowd pleaser to reappear (albeit in Regularity not racing) was my personal front engined "Aussie special", the wonderful Tornado of Frank Moore. The sight of watching then owner John McDonald power sliding the Tornado at full throttle through the kink on pit straight at Amaroo in the 80,s is something I'll never forget, and by all accounts it still has an awesome track presence. Bring it out some more please Frank!

The topic of dwindling entry lists in most categories, but specifically "JKL" has been debated for many years. Costs, in particular travel and accommodation, are the main culprits that restrict many of us doing more of what we love and that is racing our cars. We all like competing at particular meetings and if there are a limited number of events you can manage then you have to choose

carefully. Dick Willis has been a great advocate and promoter of our category and I hope I can follow in his footsteps and carry on with the good work that he has done.

Over the next few months I will endeavour to get in touch with as many of my fellow "JKL" competitors as I can to find out what are your "must do" meetings. If you can only run a few meetings a year and can only do one away meeting (out of state) let's try and all get there together to fill the grids up.

That brings me to our next local "JKL" meeting which is Wakefield Park on September 28 & 29.

This is our (HSRCA) major Pre war and Pre 60,s meeting of the year with a definite emphasis on our older cars. There will be free marquee garaging for all JKL's and free cross entry for those who need more track action and would like to run in regularity as well as racing. Wakefield is a meeting in the same vain as Winton and Morgan Park. The circuit is ideally suited to our older cars and the pubs and restaurants in Goulburn are more than suited to catching up with our interstate mates for a good old bout of "socialising and lie telling". Let's all get onto our interstate mates and promote Wakefield Park in September as a "must do" meeting. Full fields of "JK" and "L"s would be a great result.

Thanks for the opportunity to get more involved in our favourite historic category. Call or email me with your ideas complaints or news. Whilst I know many of you there are always new faces to put a name to. Make yourselves known to me down at the Team R pits.

Cheers and safe racing

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