

SPEED TIMES

Issue 59 - November 2017

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE DLRA

FROM THE CHAIR

- We will all remember 2017 Speed Week as an unusual week. My team and myself arrived after lunch on Saturday, the weather was hot and sunny. Everybody was working hard preparing the Lake for Speed Week.
- Sunday was looking good.
- Monday came with problems with Track 2, a flat tyre on the tractor on Track 2 and a steel beam on the course.
- Rookies were on Track 1 and everybody eager to run.
- Not quite organised in general.
- Rain came on Wednesday. This is not the best scenario for all of us as we had international drivers wanting to go fast just like the rest of us, but we got by.
- After Speed Week the Committee Members worked hard to overcome these problems. We are looking at shifting Track 1 and 2 south to get away from the wet area at the end of Track 2.
- At the working bee, the time was spent surveying and remapping Track 1 and 2 and FIM Track. This still relies on Mother Nature, the Timing boys have not stopped working on new programmes, new timing equipment, and screens for the Start line and Pitt area.

• Overall, each of the State Committee Members have been working harder towards improving things for 2018 and the future.

• Steve (Animal) Charlton, Kim Krebs, and myself have spent time working on a new three year arrangement for the Lake.

• 2018 will be a one year agreement, because of paperwork.

• Then we have a three year agreement in place and with a possible rollover of five years after that. Steve and I spent two days in Adelaide, with DEWNR and GRAC who are the Land Management and Owners.

We now have direct contact with both parties.

There had been a lot of work done by many people to achieve all of this, it was a great team effort.

I would like to thank all of them for the many hours spent on phones and their time.

It's a great outcome for the Club so let's all work together as a Club to make 2018 better.

• We will be having more International Racers next Speed Week and we look forward to this...

Have a Happy and Merry Christmas to all of you and your Families.

Keep working on being ready for March 12th 2018. See you there!

LIMITED QUANTITY OF 30" LAND SPEED RACING TYRES BY GOODYEAR

There is good news on the tyre front for land speed racers using 30-inch diameter drive tyres. Thanks to Tom Burkland for passing on this news.

Goodyear now has the D2870 available. It is listed as a 30.0 x 9.0 – 18, fits the standard 18 x 6.5 wheels, and has been rated for 2300-pound radial load at 320mph with 70psi inflation pressure. The section width is 8.5 as mounted on the measuring wheel and the rollout is in the 93-94-inch circumference

range. The weight is about 16.5 pounds.

Roughly 100 tyres have been produced and will be sold through the Carol Shelby Distributor in Las Vegas 702-430-5160

They were ready for SCTA Speed Week 2017 unfortunately the news got to us too late to be included in our pre-Bonneville issue. Burkland noted they have been dynamic spin tested using the Svoboda-Burkland spinner in Montana.



WORLD SPEED TRIALS AUSTRALIA

It is with great excitement and pride that the DLRA announce the inaugural World Speed Trials to be held at Lake Gairdner in outback South Australia. They will be conducted from the 17th to the 19th March 2018. Entries are now open, and all information is available at www.dlra.org.au/2018world-record.htm

The World Speed Trials will be held the day after Speed week and run for only three days. Originally created for Ruedi Steck from Switzerland to make some world records attempts, it is now open to all competitors.

To be run under the rules and regulations of the Fédération Internationale de Motocyclisme (International Motorcycling Federation) (FIM) and its Australian associate, Motorcycling Australia, this event is specifically for land speed motorcycles attempting world records in FIM classes. They will be running what the FIM refer to as short distance records for the one kilometre and one mile from a flying start.

The specially prepared track will be 12 miles long (weather and surface conditions pending) with the timing at the midpoint. To claim a record, competitors average speed over two runs in opposite directions must exceed that of a current record.

As would be expected there has already been a significant number of expressions of interest from some of the fastest teams in the world as well as Australian racers.

Entries are to be sent to Swiss Performance (Ruedi Steck)



SPEED WEEK 2018

There have been some organisational changes at the start line for 2018.

The first is there will be a pre-stage for track 1 at the southern end of the pits. Competitors who wish to run down track 1 will line up there, running west to east. As entrants line up they will give their details to the official and wait to be called. The official should be able to give them a good indication of how long it will be before they will get to go to the start line. The official will send groups of ten down to the start line at the request of the starter.

The running order will have already been pre-determined, so there is no benefit for competitors to race down to the start line and speed limits on all access roads apply.

With 2018 predicted to be very hot this should give competitors and crews the chance to provide themselves with adequate fluids and shelter and will discourage competitors from suiting up too soon as has happened in the past.

With just under four months to go we already have nine entries confirmed. Don't forget if you entered last year but did not attend for whatever reason, you can roll-over your entry for 2018. But we do need an entry form filled out and you will need to pay your 2018 Annual Subs of \$55.00 and Lake Entry \$30.00.

Entry forms are available now at:
www.dlra.org.au/entryform.htm
Pre-Entry cut-off date is the Sunday 4th March 2018.
For all the latest news visit the Speed Week 2018 website: www.dlra.org.au/2018.htm **or like us on Facebook:** www.facebook.com/

DLRA HOSTS INTERNATIONAL VISITORS

Ruedi Steck of Swiss Performance and Korey Bligh from the Target 550 team were in Australia in early November as part of the planning for their campaigns at Speed Week and the World Speed Trials Australia.

The DLRA is providing assistance with storage and workshop facilities in Adelaide and all accommodation, transport, fuel, lubrication and compressed air supplies.

Plus, thanks to Michael Brixton and Peter Noy, they visited Lake Gairdner to see the lake for themselves which was looking fantastic. To say they were impressed would be an understatement.



ABOVE: Ruedi Steck of Swiss Performance Racing in 2011 at Bonneville. (Horst Rosler Photo)

BELOW: Target 550.



ABOVE: Korey Bligh, Michael Brizton & Peter Noy.



DAVE WARBY & THE WORLD WATER SPEED

November saw Dave Warby (son of Ken) take Spirit of Australia to Blowering Dam for a third round of testing. This was the site where Ken Warby set his world record. There were a few problems and the weather was wet on the Saturday, but Dave still managed a pass at 170mph.

The DLRA will be timing the attempt which will be some time next year. A couple of members were on hand to meet Dave and Ken and check the place out.

ABOVE: Greg Butler, Deb Dawson, Dave Warby, Steve Charlton, Norm Bradshaw at Blowering Dam.



ABOVE: Ruedi Steck of Swiss Performance.

Thanks to our Sponsors



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DLRA CALENDAR

WHAT: General Meeting

WHEN: Sunday 10th December 2017

**WHERE: Northern Suburbs Hot Rod Club rooms,
25/196 Settlement Road, Thomastown Victoria.**

Meeting will start at 11:00am sharp, should all be over by 3:00pm. Barbecue after, \$5.00 per head for sausages in bread, salads and a soft drink.

WHAT: Speed Week 2018

WHEN: Monday 12th Feb to Friday 16th March 2018

WHERE: Lake Gairdner, South Australia

Book your holidays, accommodation and transport now!

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DLRA CALENDAR

DLRA MEETING MINUTES

Did you know that members have online access to the minutes of all meetings?

If you are a DLRA member just send an email to info@dlra.org.au asking for access and you will be sent the address and password.

VOLUNTEERS

We are still looking for a local (to Lake Gairdner) sporting club or services club to offer their services for one day only at the end of racing on the Monday.

This would be a great little fund raiser for the right club. We are looking for between six to ten men. If you know of someone please contact us so that we can get in touch with them.

Contact: info@dlra.org.au

DLRA WORKING BEE

The working bee was a great success and the DLRA would like to thank the following members who attended: Greg Telford, Rob Carroll, Rod Drabsch and Peter Noy.

Keep in touch with Dry Lakes Racers Australia

<http://www.dlra.org.au>

Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/DryLakesRacersAustralia/>