



F1
FORMULA 1
HEINEKEN
AUSTRALIAN
GRAND PRIX

OFFICIALS GAZETTE





20 ODD QUESTIONS WITH ANTHONY D'ANNA

Name: [Anthony D'Anna](#)

State: [Victoria](#)

F1 AGP allocated position:

1. How long have you been a Motorsport Australia official? [2007](#)
2. What racetrack did you start out as an official, and why did you get into officiating? [Phillip Island - waving flags](#)
3. What car club are you involved with? [Improved Production Racing Association of Vic](#)
4. What car do you drive? [Ford Ranger](#)
5. What was your first car? Where is she now? [BMW 316i - long gone but fun little car and very lucky to have as my first](#)
6. Do you own a racing car? If no, what type of racing car would you like to own? [BMW E36 M3 - Improved Production](#)
7. What is something most officials don't know about you? [More people have seen me drive than they'd know. I'm a quiet achiever just striving for perfection](#)
8. When you attend the F1 AGP where do you stay? [At home](#)
9. Are you an iPhone person or an Android person? Why? [iPhone](#)
10. When you're not at the track officiating, what do you do for a living? [Customer Experience for Wesfarmers](#)
11. Name the closed Australian motor racing track that you miss the most? Why? [Calder - not actually closed but I miss racing there and used to do quite well.](#)
12. Which two current Formula 1 drivers would you like to have a drink with? Why? [Daniel Riccardo is enough](#)
15. As a professional official with years of experience, what advice do you have for the up-and-coming officials? Plus are you training anyone to take your role in a couple of years? [Just try to get involved and take every opportunity to learn and do better. You'll get noticed, even if a quiet achiever](#)
18. Who is the official that you look up to most? Why? [Anyone who gives up their personal time to help others have my admiration](#)
19. Will you miss the F18A Hornet jet flyover in 2022? [Yes - mini airshow](#)
21. What's your favourite corner to work on, or watch Formula 1 at the Formula 1 Heineken Australian Grand Prix? [I work the whole track, but normally based at pit exit - best non-corner place to be](#)
22. Who's the funniest official you have worked at Formula 1 Heineken Australian Grand Prix over the years? Why? [Ryan McMullan - Doctor in the medical team who can't help but be funny](#)
24. If you had the choice to drive any track in the world and in any race car, where would you go and what would you drive? [Circuit de Spa-Francorchamps](#)

Favourite photo from 2016 – responding to Alonso's crash at T3



My role Btw is part of the AGP medical team since 2008. National medical chase driver since 2010 at AGP and many Supercars & local events over that time.



CATHERINE MacDONALD

Catherine MacDonald is one of the rare few left who have worked all the AGPs since 1985. She started out on Comms, working Turn 5 in Adelaide. She worked Comms at both tracks and one of her posts in Melbourne was at Pit Exit, so she was able to observe how all the course vehicles operated. Then Catherine was invited to work in Race Control where she did for a number of years. That job segued into the Executive Officer Position with the Flag and Trackies Chiefs. This year Catherine was asked to be the Communications Observer in Course Car 1, which was fortuitous, as her Exec Officer Position was eliminated as part of the cutbacks. The Course car handles track inspections. The driver is Mario Pacifici and Catherine talks to Race Control. The car has a siren and light bar. They work all series, including F1. For F1 races, at the start they are positioned at Turn 14 and during the race, they are at Pit Exit. Henk Duncan, the National Clerk of Course, rides for the Opening and Closing of the track.

OFFICIALS GAZETTE – 2022 FORMULA 1 HEINEKEN AUSTRALIAN GRAND PRIX



Day two of the Formula 1® Heineken® Australian Grand Prix 2022 saw an estimated record-breaking attendance of 112,466. The previous largest estimated attendance for day two of the event was 84,500, set back in 2019. 😊



OFFICIALS GAZETTE – 2022 FORMULA 1 HEINEKEN AUSTRALIAN GRAND PRIX

HENK DUNCAN

Henk Duncan aka Cornelis Hendrickus aka Henk Van den Dungen is the Motorsport Australia National Clerk of the Course for AGP. Here in racing he's known as Henk Duncan. To the FIA who just bestowed a prestigious award on Henk, he is Cornelis Hendrickus van den Dungen, his family name which he used when he emigrated from Holland in 1957.

The family was originally known as van den Dungen and several of Henk's five siblings still use it and all the five boys were involved in racing. One CAMS official joked once that there were too many van den Dungen's at the track.

Henk has been involved in motorsports since childhood. He has received his Silver Star for 50 years. This past fall he was awarded the FIA award for Best Senior Official of the Year. In Australian motorsports he is Clerk of the Course/Steward of the Meeting.

Henk had no idea he was to receive the FIA Award. His first notice was a phone call while he was in New York, from Michael Smith - Motorsport Australia, who was in Qatar. Of course, said Henk, he was thrilled, pleased, and thought it was very nice. But he thought the award should go to all the seniors with whom he worked, who did what he asked, and got things done.

Henk has already received the Bronze Service Award from CAMS (now Motorsport Australia.) He's been in active motorsports for the past 55 years. He first knew he was interested in motorsports at the age of two when he was living on Phillip Island, he took second place in a sandcastle contest for building a race car.

It was a hobby and then he joined CAMS and became an official. His first job was flagger, and it used to be very exciting. He had every job - Flaggie, Sector Marshal, Grid Marshal, Grid Sector Marshal, Clerk of the Course. Henk has been a Clerk for the past 45 years. He enjoyed working with the International Series.



Back in the days of the early days of AGP, Henk worked closely with Secretary of the Meeting, Peter Nelson, who instituted/collaborated on several procedures, such as the Minute-by-Minute schedule. Marshals have always gotten pocket-sized printed book MxM schedule at Registration, which covers the entire race week. Other procedures came from those days, such as the A Team, as well as the Boundary Riders and later the Flying Squad.



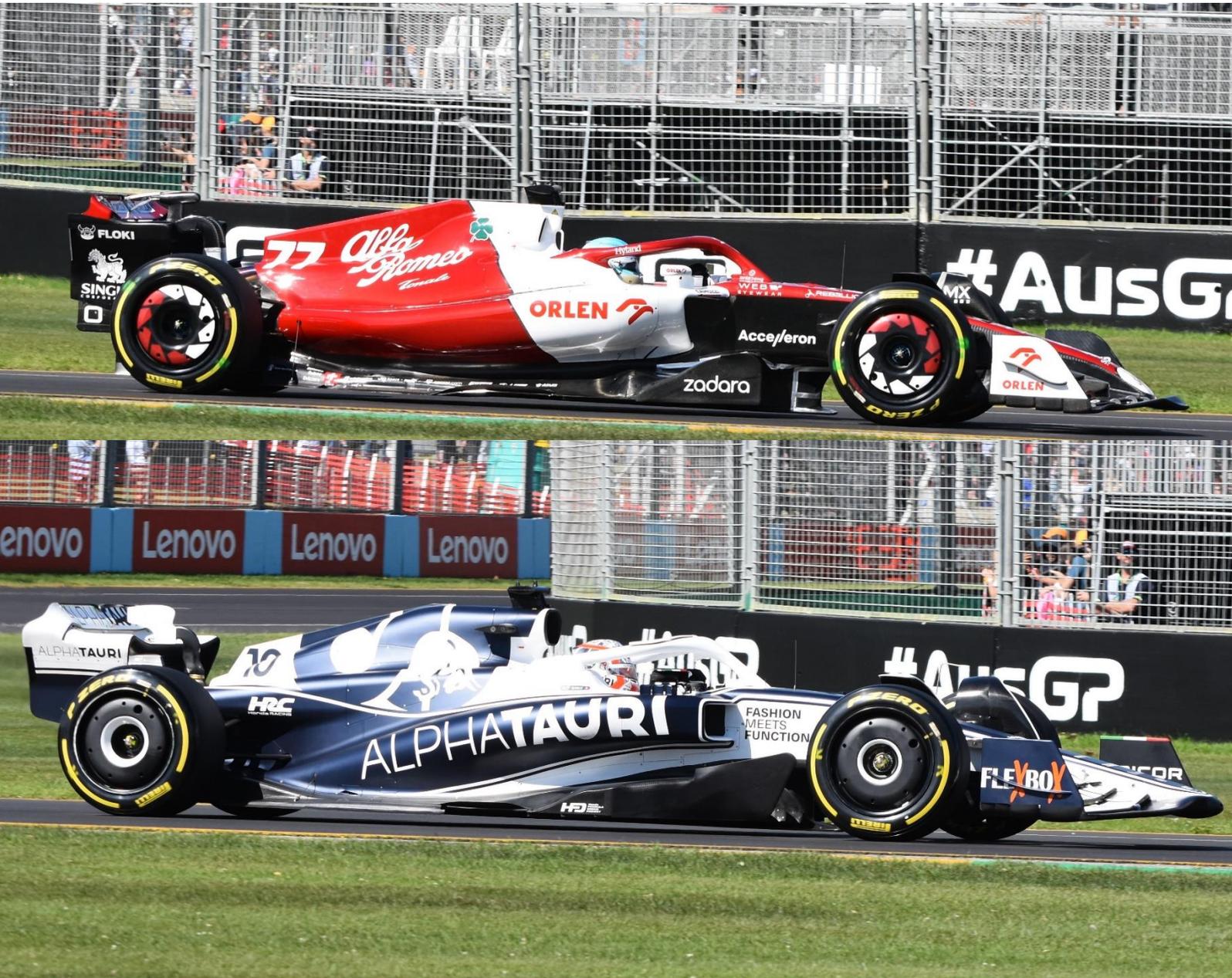
Henk likes meeting challenges and solving problems. An example of this for him was with all the problems with Turn 5 on Thursday, which was causing schedule delays and the possibility of eliminating sessions. Henk was able to work with all parties involved, all the marshal groups, and things were tweaked and tightened, and all sessions got to run.

Henk is also one of those few who have worked all the AGP's since 1985. No one is quite sure which AGP this is, due to Covid. We started the 2020 AGP, but didn't get to F1, and there was no AGP in 2021. There have been at least 35 AGPs now, but is this 36 or not? And who determines?

Henk's whole family is or has been involved in racing. He has four brothers and a sister, and all the boys were involved, and some of their spouses and children. Now there are only three Van den Dungen brothers working - Tony van den Dungen who is Chief Grid Marshal and Rick van den Dungen, who works Pit Lane & Grid. Henk's son, Cameron van den Dungen, works for GP TV and is one of the Talking Heads we see on the Big Screen monitors, interviewing folks.

Henk has enjoyed his first 55 years and is looking forward to many more.

Well done, Henk (Crankster)!



20 ODD QUESTIONS WITH ROSS GIRVAN

Name: [Ross Girvan](#)

State: [Victoria](#)

F1 AGP allocated position: [Turn 3 Sector Marshall](#)

1. How long have you been a Motorsport Australia official? [44 years](#)

2. What racetrack did you start out as an official, and why did you get into officiating? [Sandown through a friend that was an official](#)

3. What car club are you involved with? [Mustang car club](#)

4. What car do you drive? [fgx xr6 Falcon](#)

5. What was your first car? Where is she now? [1967 falcon; do not know](#)

6. Do you own a racing car? If no, what type of racing car would you like to own? [no, sports sedan](#)

7. What is something most officials don't know about you? [I'm a big softy](#)

8. When you attend the F1 AGP where do you stay? [home](#)

9. Are you an iPhone person or an Android person? Why? [iPhone because my wife got me it](#)

10. When you're not at the track officiating, what do you do for a living? [truck driver](#)

11. Name the closed Australian motor racing track that you miss the most? Why? [all are still working that I have been to](#)

12. Which two current Formula 1 drivers would you like to have a drink with? Why? [Riccardo and Alonso because I think they would be a lot of fun to chat with](#)

13. Supercars- Ford or Holden? Favourite Supercar driver? [Ford, Mostert](#)

14. Describe Porpoising? [the front of a F1 car bouncing up and down at high speed](#)

15. As a professional official with years of experience, what advice do you have for the up-and-coming officials? Plus are you training anyone to take your role in a couple of years? [don't rush into any situation and take it all in before you act and no, I'm not training anyone](#)

16. What is your hidden skill or talent? [to be able to work with most people](#)

17. The USA will hold three Grand Prix in 2023; Austin Texas, Miami Florida, and Las Vegas Nevada. Which one would you like to attend and why? [Texas because it's near my cousin](#)

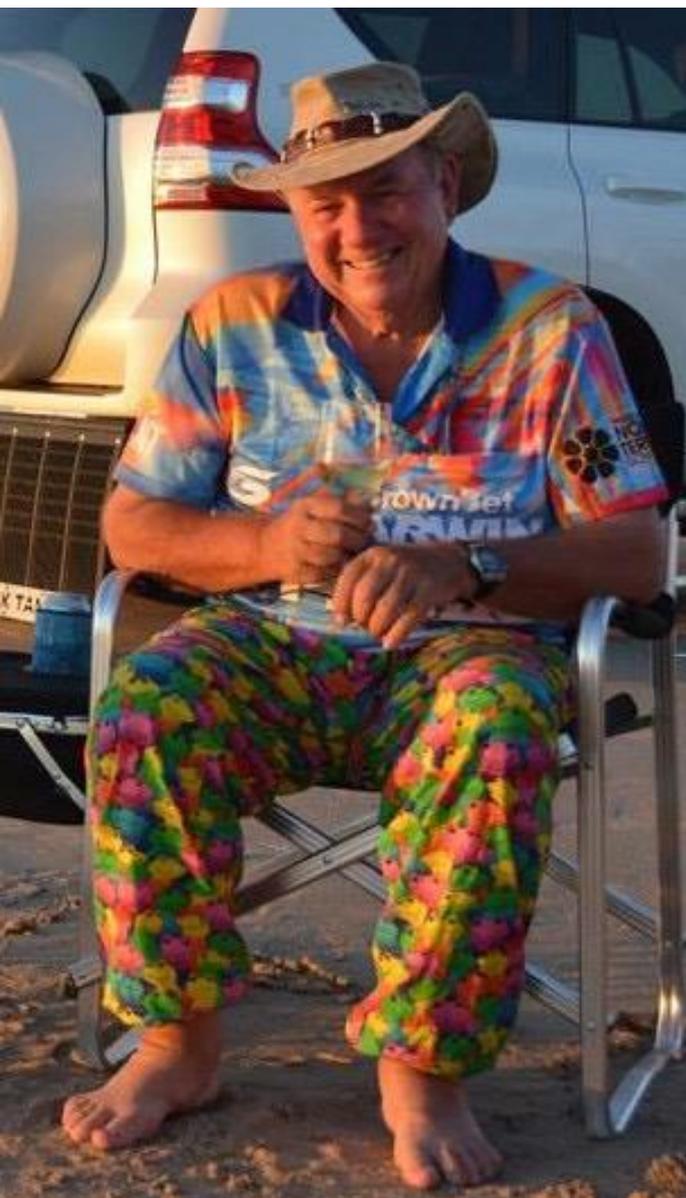
18. Who is the official that you look up to most? Why? [David Mori because he is very cool under big pressure](#)

19. Will you miss the F18A Hornet jet flyover in 2022? [Yes](#)

20. Have you watched MAFS? If so, who is your favourite villain? [No](#)

21. What's your favourite corner to work on, or watch Formula 1 at the Formula 1 Heineken Australian Grand Prix? [Turn 1](#)





VALE – KNUT GASSMANIS

I've not written a vale before, so it's not coming easy to write about a fellow volunteer race official about whom I've known and worked with almost since I started coming to AGP in 1985. And how to synthesize all the things that need to be said about him. Not an easy task.

Knut passed away September 6, 2020. He's survived by his wife Lyn, daughter Michele and son-in-law, Ashley, son Richard and daughter-in-law Ai, two grandchildren Sienna and Ken, and his many compatriots and followers. The one thing I hear the most is we really miss him, he'll be sadly missed, etc.

Knut was involved in motorsports since before AGP in Adelaide, working at Mallala Motorsport Park. He worked the 1986 AGP in Adelaide, along with John Overton, Trevor Ross, and Rocky Stone on an Equipment Crew. They could see that some things weren't being done, so they just started doing them. The next year, they were recruited by Secretary of the Meeting, Peter Nelson, to be a special crew which got things done and were nicknamed The A Team, and the moniker stuck. Overton was the first leader, but Gassmanis took over two years later and remained through 2020.

Knut and the A Team have become synonymous over the year, and not just for getting things done, and doing the impossible, but also for their merry pranks. The team says it was a collaborative process, but Knut thought up most of them. They had the favour of Race Director Charlie Whiting and back in the day when things were more fun in F1, they had

OFFICIALS GAZETTE – 2022 FORMULA 1 HEINEKEN AUSTRALIAN GRAND PRIX

some humorous additions to the race day Steward's Inspections. And the Bernie pranks are legend - and cannot be repeated until the statute of limitations expires.

Knut would come up with new procedures and Rocky would use his IT skills to make it into a workable process. Knut went to Korea several times with these processes, to train staff there for their upcoming Grand Prix, in 2010.

Knut and the A Team worked AGP, Clipsal and Le Mans in Adelaide. Knut also worked as Equipment Manager for Scouts Rally SA. In February 2020, at the South Australia Motorsport Australia State Awards, Knut was honored with the Service Star Award.

Wednesday night of this year's AGP, several of long-time Seniors, led by Henk Duncan and Ken Smith met with the A Team to remember Skip Taylor and Knut after the Seniors Briefings. They had their favourite drinks, had a moment of silence, and toasted the two, who were good friends. Then they watched "The Life of Brian" and shared stories of the two. Henk gave a little speech. When asked to describe Knut, there was a wide variety of replies.



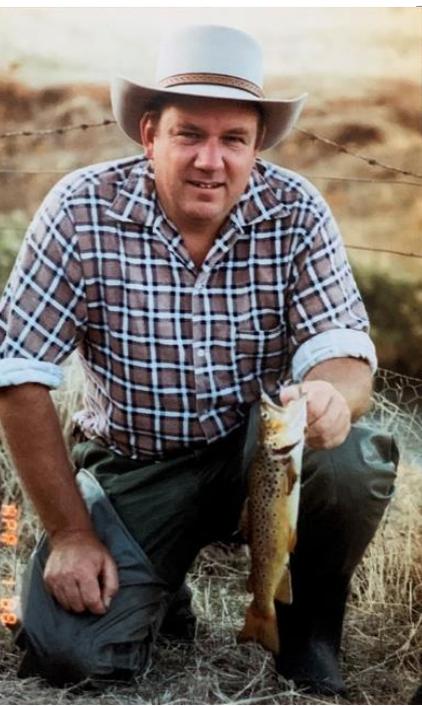
Interesting. Welcoming. Complex character. Lovely man. He had an open ear, especially for newbies. Easy to get along with. Nice guy. Always out for a good laugh. Comedian. He was an ideas person, and a stickler for details, maybe even pedantic. Organizer. He loved working with new things, which his engineering background helped. Mentor. Leader. A good trainer. Took the time to explain things. Generous and passionate sharer of time.

Knut had a full life away from the track and motorsports. He loved fishing, fishing boats and caravans. He and Lyn would take long trips, maybe two months, in their caravan, while he fished. Knut belonged to several fishing organizations, including the South Australia Fishing Association and The Australian National Sports Fishing Association. He served as Recorder. It was basically a Catch and Release philosophy - catch the fish, record the event, and return the fish to its water. He was a volunteer for three years and was given the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Knut was the only one on the tightly knit A Team that fished, and he was full of fishing stories, which they claim to have 'tolerated' over the years. On one of his caravan trips, he was in the Daly Waters Pub in Northern Territory when they were filming "The Last Cab to Darwin" and he ended up being in a bar scene ... at least the top of his hatless head.

Knut was born in 1948 and emigrated a year later from Germany, although he would insist, he was Latvian. He lived in Morphett Vale and Reynella in South Australia. He was a mechanical and electrical engineer and worked since 1985 at Women's and Children's Hospital in Adelaide where he oversaw bio medical engineering. One of the things he was in to was lifesaving, which is how he met Lyn in 1967. They were married in 1969.

The AGP Marshals join with the A Team in grieving the loss of the Merry Prankster. RIP Knut!



WAY BACK IN 2010



OFFICIALS GAZETTE – 2022 FORMULA 1 HEINEKEN AUSTRALIAN GRAND PRIX

JANETTE TAN

Janette Tan, Race Director of Singapore Grand Prix, is here at AGP on non-FIA business, and provided an interview on the FIA Volunteers and Officials Commission, of which she is a member.

Jan has been a member of this FIA Commission since 2011 when she was asked to sit as a guest. She became a full-fledged member in 2012. (Editor's Note: Jan also sits on the FIA Circuits Commission, the FIA Women in Motorsports Commission, and is the Asia Pacific Coordinator for the Women in Motorsports Commission.)

Others serving on the VOC are the current president, Abdulla Aziz from Bahrain, and Michael Smith from Australia AGP Secretary of the Meeting,) plus members from Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, India, Italy, Portugal, and Spain. Herbie Blash is its ambassador.

The Commission sponsors the best Officials Awards. There are seven individual awards, as well as an Official of the Year and a Lifetime Achievement Award. Eleven Australians have received top FIA honors. There also is a Best Team of the Season Award, which the AGP Officials won in 2020. Each year, the commission sends out an email at the end of August to all ASN's (such as Motorsport Australia) calling for nominations and providing a link for submission. They can be submitted through a specified date in October. Then a select FIA Committee reviews the nominations and makes the selections. The Official of the Year is invited to the FIA Prize Giving Gala, and the other winners receive awards, which are usually presented at local ceremonies.

Another project of the Commission is the Volunteers Weekend. Each year a weekend is selected, and an email is sent to all ASN's prior to the weekend encouraging the locals to celebrate the committed and dedicated volunteers- officials, marshals, and medical staff, who devote their time with no financial remuneration. Last year it was held in November. The date for 2022 has not yet been announced. Resources are available online for the ASNs to use to promote the weekend.

The Commission has a new project to promote the work of the hardworking volunteers and strives to do it for every event each weekend. Last winter, the VOC set up an Instagram account (@fia_volunteers_officials) to showcase our officials. VOC has highlighted several Australian Officials and this weekend VOC is featuring two from AGP. One has already been posted.







SO, IT'S GOOD-BYE FROM ME, AND GOOD-BYE FROM THEM ONLY UNTIL 2023 😊

Saying goodbye this year is going to be much easier than in 2020. The uncertainty of that Friday morning way back in 2020 is still etched in my mind. Frustration, disappointment, confusion all played out over the coming two years.

But that is now replaced with a quietly spoken confidence that we are indeed returning to normal. We did it. The music kept playing for four days and the drivers came out to play. It was fantastic to see all the old faces in orange, red and green with loads of new officials attending the track for the first time.

The crowds at this year's event have been amazing. There are less spots available, but everyone can see, the paddock is full of families, the grandstands are packed with everyone from the battler to the rich and famous, the food stands are buzzing, the courtesy drivers are smiling, the corporate boxes are brimming with champagne smiles and there is a real buzz of excitement in the air.

People who have never been to Albert Park are here, they are genuinely excited by the motor racing spectacle and are embracing all the displays and activities. There is NO doubt that Drive to Survive has built a new following for Formula 1 and the popularity will continue to grow. Whether it's Verstappen, Hamilton, Alonso or Sainz (to name a few), alliances between teams and new spectators are being forged and Formula 1 is the clear winner.

To the numbers, and with Saturday and Sunday sold out it makes it easy to calculate the number of people in attendance:

Thursday	55,107	Pre Covid-Average	47,000	
Friday	112,710	Pre Covid-Average	74,500	Previous record 82,000 in 2019
Saturday	SOLD OUT 130,000	Pre Covid-Average	83,000	
Sunday	SOLD OUT 130,000	Pre Covid-Average	104,000	
Total	427,817	Total	308,500	

427,817 people over four fun filled days is one more full MCG worth of people that have attended the 2022 Formula 1 Heineken Australian Grand Prix than in pre covid years. EPIC.

Thanks to all the unsung officials who make this event tick, from the A Team who make it things just happen, to the sign on muster team who had to battle faulty power and electronic issues on Thursday morning. To their credit they made it happen Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Are you seeing a pattern? I hope so because you played your part in making it happen.

The Peter Nelson Cup will be awarded on Sunday night and congratulations to the winners. (I am writing this on Saturday afternoon, so I have no idea who will win, but my pick so far is Turn 10).

Thanks to Ron Searle, Michael Shaw, and Lynne Hunting for their contributions to this year's Officials Gazettes. Having each edition sent out via Rosterfy Emails the day prior made them easy to access and they were up online before we knew it making it a seamless transition to the digital world. We all made it happen this year so pat yourself and your colleagues on the back.

It was bloody magnificent. Bring on 2023.

Till then.....

Regards

Richard McLean

Editor – Motorsport Australia Gazette

0408 512 355

richard@valleywindows.com.au

