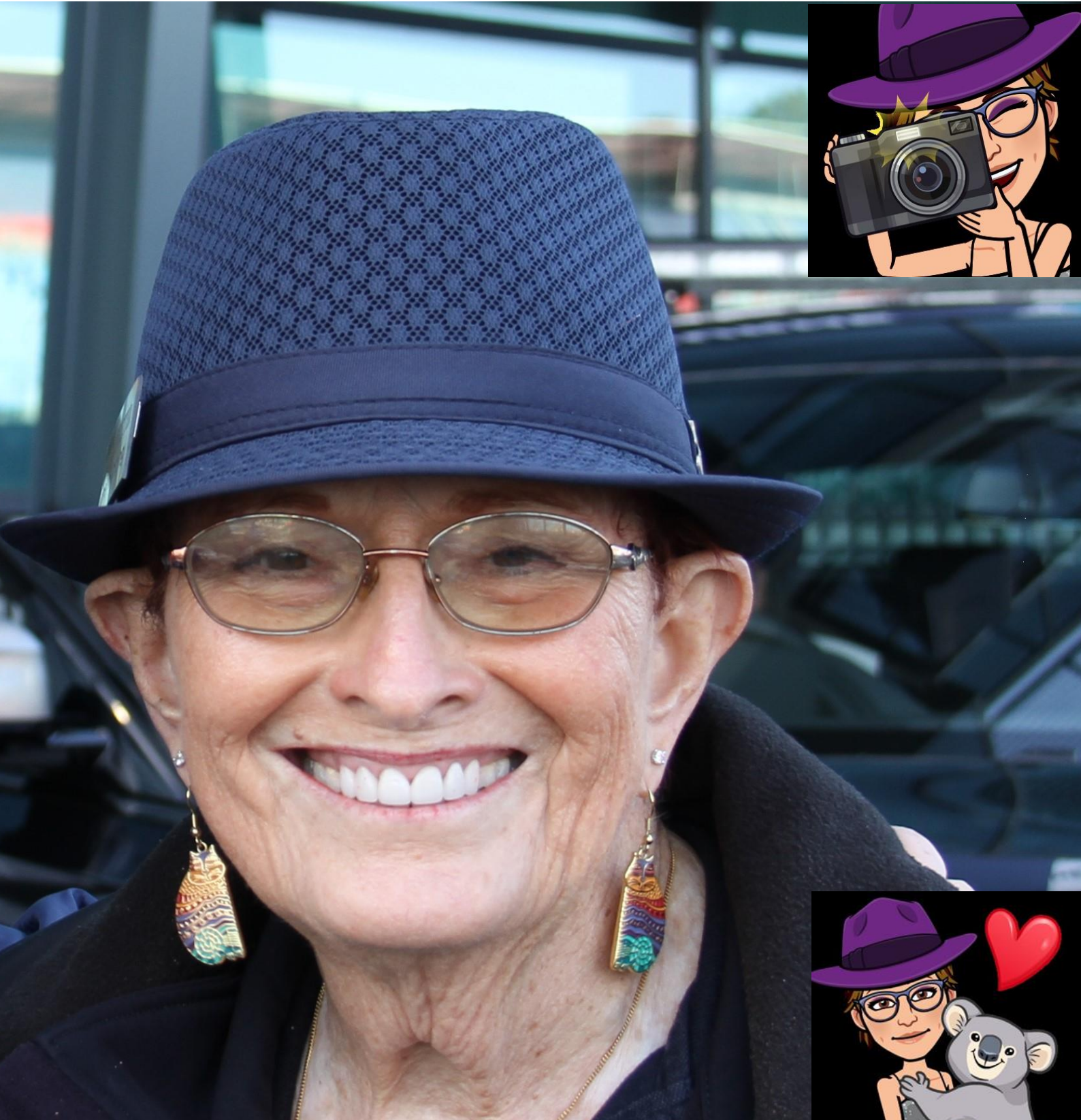


# LYNNE'S GAZETTE

The Officials Gazette will now be known as "Lynne's Gazette". Lynne Huntting has given her heart and soul to the Officials Gazette for over 28 years, and to honour Lynne's commitment we have named the Officials Gazette after Lynne.

Lynne has been travelling to Australia since 1985, flagging until 1996. Together with Bruce Keys, Lynne started the Officials Gazette in 1997, and apart from missing one year (plus the Covid years) Lynne has travelled over 720,000km to and from Australia to oversee the Gazette Issues. That distance almost equates to travelling to the moon and back!

Thank-you Lynne for everything you have done, and will do for your Gazette, helping motorsport in Australia. Please make sure you reach out to Lynne and congratulate her on the new name and thank her for everything she has done.





## WELCOME ADRIAN

Adrian Coppin is the new Secretary of the Meeting, replacing Michael Smith who has left for a motorsport position in Saudi Arabia. He's known for a couple of years it might come to this, so he's worked with Michael on the transition. "But it's a big job I've stepped into the past few weeks, so Kimberly Hughes (Deputy Secretary of the Event and Motorsport Australia Events Sporting Coordinator) has done a lot of the heavy lifting."

For the past five years, Adrian has been working for Motorsport Australia, and now is General Manager Events, Rally & Off Road, putting on 26 national championship events last year. He is an ex-rally driver, starting as a navigator for his dad. Adrian is originally from Canberra, and his wife is from Brisbane, where they now live.

Adrian isn't replacing Michael at Motorsport Australia; that position is yet unfilled, and it isn't known yet whether Adrian will replace Michael on the FIA Volunteers and Officials Commission.

The AGP Secretary of the Meeting has a well-positioned track office. Adrian stars the first-floor office with Kimberly Hughes in the AGPC Admin building just outside the F1 Swipe gate entrance. Prime time viewing for the Who's Who coming and going into the F1 pits. And the barista is just outside on the patio. What's not to like!













**WHO ARE WE**

We're a large lot again this year, with the audited numbers at about 930 at this point. We had nearly 1000 acceptances, but with last-minute withdrawals and emergencies, the numbers shrunk a little. While the majority hail from Australia, visiting marshals come from 20 foreign countries. We don't know yet just how many are new to AGP this year, but they are all welcome and let's show them a good time.

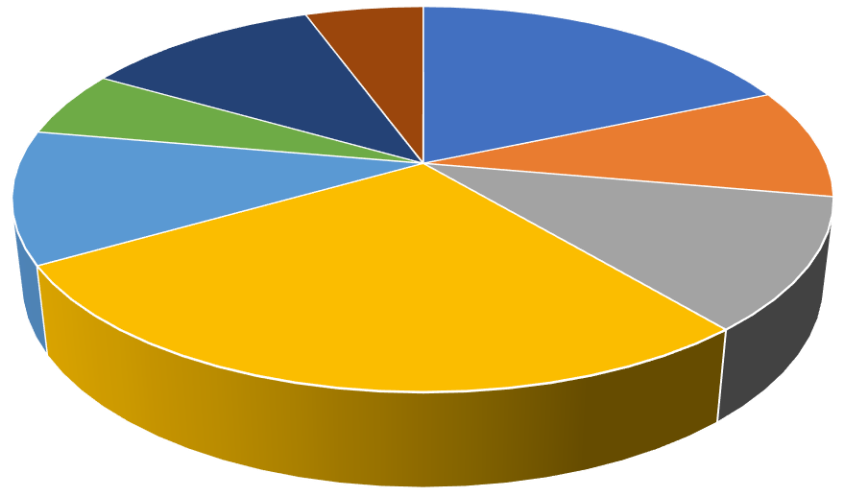
The largest contingent of 15 come from Singapore, with the United Kingdom second with 10 marshals, and New Zealand with six. All the other countries have single digit representatives, with 12 countries having a lone delegate.

It's a toss-up which marshals travel the furthest or longest, as some may have direct routes such as from San Francisco USA at 12,658 km for a 14+ flight non-stop, longer with stops.

But Montreal, also in North America, clocks in at 32+ hours with stops for a direct flight or 16,730 km; while others may have to take a more circuitous route such as from Uzbekistan, which is 12,030 km and takes approximately 21 hours+ with stops. That's dedication for a volunteer marshal!

Also dedicated are the 22 Stalwarts who have worked at all the AGP's since 1985 in Adelaide. Depending on how you count it, that's about 38. Akubras off to yah!

**54 International Officials from 20 Countries**



- UK (10)
- Other Europe (5)
- Americas (5)
- Singapore (15)
- Other Asia (6)
- Other (3)
- New Zealand (6)
- UAE (3)

**AGP STALWARTS 2024**

Terry Bebe, Rae Begg, Raymond Begg, Angus Black, Terry Buxton, Rhys Carleton-Carlos, Roger Chirside, Henk Duncan, Daryl Karlsson, Paul Martin, Mario Napoleone, Greg Piggott, Warren Reid, Geoff Rothberg, Tim Schenken, Lawrie Schmitt, Robert Styling, Tony Thorne, David Turnbull, Tony van den Dungen.









## TEAM SPIRIT = TEAM BAXTER

People come to volunteer at the Formula 1 for all sorts of reasons. Some come to experience the behind-the-scenes atmosphere, some come because they want to be close to their favourite drivers, and others just really like extremely fast cars. Formula 1 is simply one of those things that draws people in from all walks of life - but what makes them keep coming back is not necessarily the sport itself but the people they work with.

Michael Verni is a radio marshal since 2013 and part of 'Team Baxter'. He's been 'serving' under sector marshal Paul Baxter ever since and looks forward to it each year. And he's not the only one: 'Most of the team I see every year. Over the years we have bonded and have become a very close team.'

Paul agrees. When asked what makes the team special in his eyes he replied: 'It's always a really good atmosphere and we have lots of fun together. But also, because we come together every year, I know who I can count on when an incident occurs. That's what Formula 1 does really well, they keep the teams together.'

Paul's appreciation for his team is mutual. This year Michael and other team members presented Paul with a banner and a photo book showcasing 12 years of team spirit as 'Team Baxter'. 'Paul's just a really good leader and mentor, and we like being together as a team, so we wanted to commemorate this.'





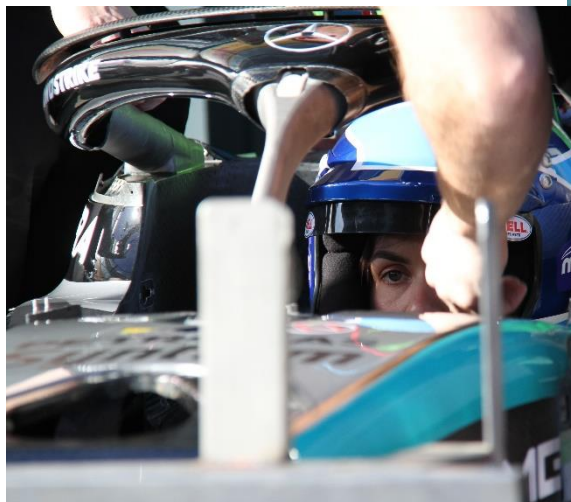
**OUT YOU GET; SLOWLY**



Under the watchful eye of AGP Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Brent May, and F1 Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Ian Roberts, the 2024 AGP F1 Extrication Practice took place Wednesday in the garage of Mercedes-AMG PETRONAS. There was a delay in starting, due to miscommunication on dates which caused a scramble to locate and prepare the spare chassis. Playing the part of the victim, aka injured driver, is usually done by a mechanic of the participating F1 team. Not so in this case, so AGP Marshal, Sienna Moro, Emergency Room Nurse, was recruited.

After Sienna was strapped into the chassis, the first Extrication team did its practice while being timed and critiqued. There were careful movements to secure her in medically appropriate ways and then lift her onto the waiting vacuum mattress with more straps secured to immobilize her properly for her next step. The mat has all the filler (like poly-styrene beads) suctioned out and it forms to the contours of the driver and hardens, preparing him or her to be strapped and transported, if necessary. The straps are all color coded to avoid mismatching.

Applause all around after the first practice. Then repeat, with the other team. There are two extrication teams, one located behind the F1 Medical car at Pit Exit, and one positioned at Turn Eight. There are six medical personnel in each Extrication vehicle, plus the Driver, who has some safety experience. The Driver sets up the equipment and hands out whatever is needed. The medical team includes a doctor and a mixture of nurses, paramedics and those specially training in extrication. Only personnel who have such training qualify for the vehicle. They train together as a team.

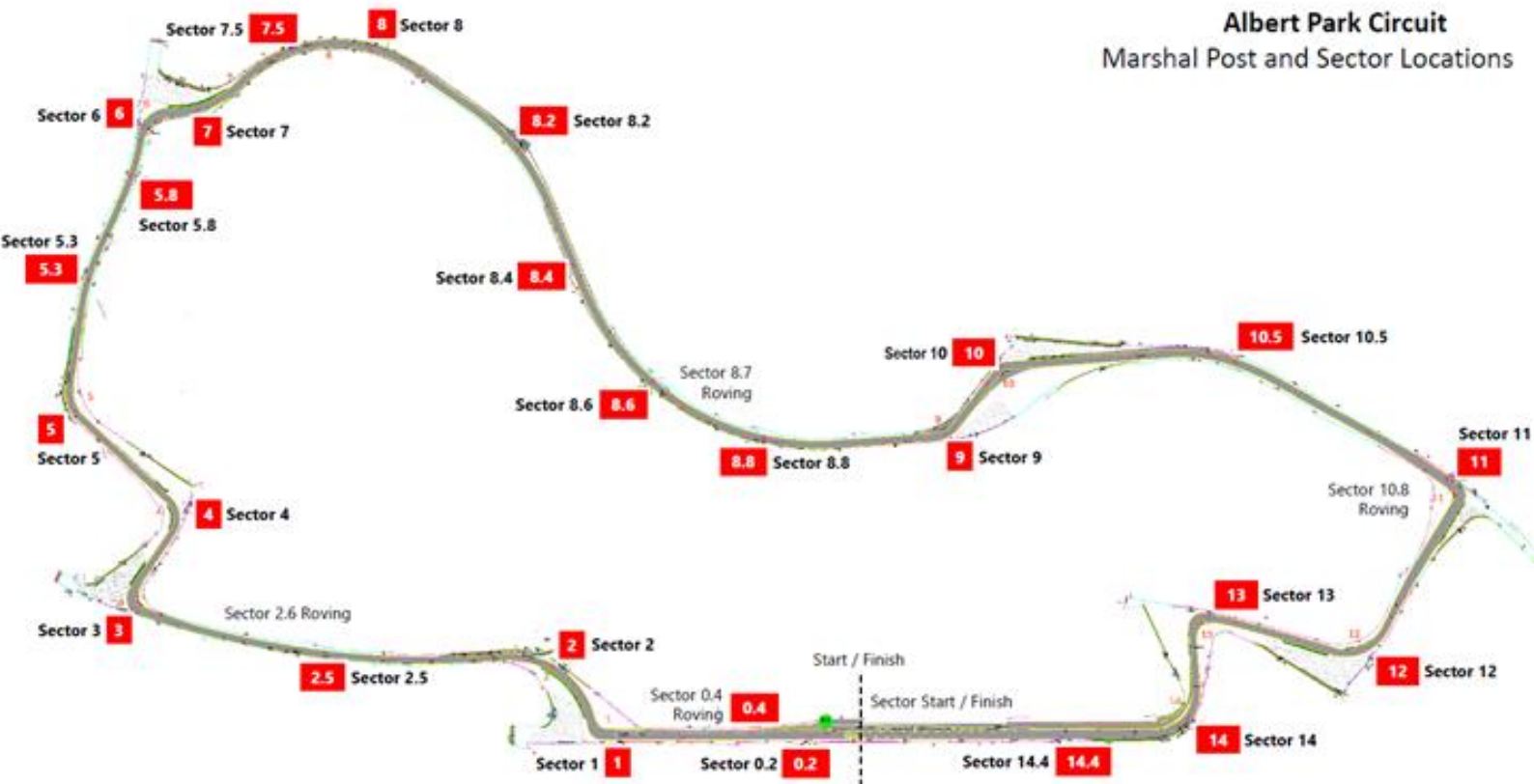






## ATTENDANCE

Day one of the FORMULA 1 ROLEX AUSTRALIAN GRAND PRIX 2024 saw an estimated attendance of 65,030. This is the third highest Thursday attendance on record and is 4,198 higher than the official estimated for Thursday in 2023 (60,832).







## **BUNNY GOES TRACK**

Kym Sorah has been in the Motorsport 'business' for 30 years now and she loves it. With her husband Mark she spends about 15 weekends per year at events, down from 26 they did initially per year.

She recalls that when she and Mark first started dating, he was already involved in F1 and other events. To spend time together she decided to join as well. A decision she does not regret.

Apart from Formula 1 Kym is involved in club sprints and V8 Supercars. She often sees friends at those events too - friends she made through her time on the track. 'It's a great opportunity to get to know new people and potentially meet life-long friends.'

Today Kym works as a radio operator, responsible for communicating all action on the track to other sectors and race control. She's the 'eyes on the track' so to speak and sometimes also must report on the occasional, unintentional, so-called 'track intruder'.

One funny story that stuck with her over the years, she told us about: 'I was working track side and out of a sudden a rabbit appeared on the track. I called it into race control saying: 'Bunny on track!'. But before anyone could act on this, cars were already approaching - and approaching fast. The bunny stood no chance. So, I just said: 'Bunny on track - now bunny is splat :('). Despite it being sad for said rabbit it was a pretty funny moment for us. Especially when we tried working out where poor Mr Rabbit ended up.'

Whoever gets to meet Kym can imagine even better how that situation must have gone down in the team. With her positive attitude and infectious laugh, it would've been a pretty hilarious moment.

Over the years Kym has witnessed more and more women joining motorsports. From race officials through to female drivers the Grand Prix event in Melbourne is no longer the male dominated sport it used to be.

