

## 36th Anniversary of Historic Winton



For all our members that like looking at well restored cars and cars from another era and who like the thrill of seeing cars in a competitive situation then Historic Winton should be on your bucket list.

I first became addicted many years ago. I do not think it was called Historic Winton in those days. The rules were a lot slacker and personal safety of both the public and the drivers was of little consequence. It was possible to stand next to the track to take photographs where as today you have to have special passes to get track side. But never the less it is a fun packed few days of racing.



This year was the 36<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Historic Winton and I am sure there will be many more to come. It is one of the few places that you can see race cars from a different era competing as they once did when they were in their prime. Mini's up against Mustangs, Holdens and Fords. Most races contain a mixture of cars from different categories and they compete on their own terms. Then this year saw the return of handicap racing and this is a real thrill and something that I hope is here to stay. Smaller cars get a substantial lead on the more powerful cars with the hope they will all cross the finish line together.



Vintage motor bikes are also a feature of this event and the way some of these riders throw their bikes around I am sure that they are just as competitive today as they were when they were racing in their hey day. Motorbikes and sidecars are also a feature and I am quite sure that many of these people must have a death wish. Unfortunately one rider in the sidecar left his steed at speed but fortunately no one was hurt.

The pit area is also a great place to go and get up close and personal with the car competitors and drivers. There is some magnificent machinery to be seen and to see the detail that some people go to is incredible.



those that do not have the heart for full on racing there are regularity events and these for the drivers are just as testing, keeping to nominated times and speeds. This also allows spectators to see cars in a racing environment that they may not always see as some cars these days are just too valuable to race or the drivers still enjoy getting on to the race track but only want to compete against themselves.





A walk around the display cars is also another must. A great array of cars from Veteran through to classic and special interest cars are on display. Some in the condition they were found, others restored to far better than show room condition.

If you like you can make a full weekend of this event although accommodation is usually at a premium. Racing starts on Saturday at approximately 12 o'clock until about 4.30 pm and on Sunday it starts at 9.00 am and goes through till about 4.30 pm not taking into account any delays. As you can see either a full day or a full weekend but certainly as far as I am concerned an event not to be missed.

John Washbourne