

PRESS RELEASE

A CELEBRATION OF 100 YEARS OF MOTORCYCLE RACING IN AUSTRALIA 1914 – 2014

A celebration of the first Australian Motor Cycle Grand Prix is currently being planned. This will be held on the site of the original circuit at Kirkconnell, some 30 kilometres east of Bathurst on **Saturday 8th November this year.**

Mr Geoff Fry, secretary of the organising committee, stated today that the 1914 event was won by Mr Edgar Meller on his Douglas machine. Interestingly enough, his brother James came fourth, also mounted on a Douglas.

The original grueling event covered 140 miles, which was 9 laps of the fifteen and a half mile circuit. The winner took 3 hours and 21 minutes to complete the race. Of the 27 starters, only 9 were able to make it to the finish line. Amongst the 9 were Matchless, Zenith, Rover and Rudge, with other makes such as Indian, Harley Davison, BSA, Ablington, Bradbury and NSU also competing.

As an ongoing theme for this event, the Australian Douglas owners group is staging their bi-annual rally in the three days leading up to the celebration. We are also fortunate to have Mr James Meller's grandson attending on the day and the original trophy will be on display, Mr Fry went on to state.

The organising committee would like to send out a clear and open invitation to the owners of all makes of veteran, vintage and classic motorcycles, to join them for the four day rally event, **Wednesday 5th to Saturday 8th November, 2014.** The event includes a Mayoral Reception, bike runs each day, an evening Vintage bike Expo in Bathurst's King's Parade, a family friendly day at the Kirkconnell circuit concluding with a Rally Celebration Dinner.

Please join us for all or part of the celebration.

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"It's time to reflect on the efforts of all past Australian riders on the International scene, over the past 100 years in all forms of the sport from circuit, off-road and speedway."

Click [here](#) to view the proposed rally program being organized by the Douglas motorcycle enthusiasts.

Proudly supported by the Bathurst Historic Car Club and the Rotary Club of Bathurst East.