



As the president of the Queensland Early Motorcycle Sports Club I would like to invite you all to compete at the 2014 Shannons Australian Historic Road Race Championships. It's been 15 years since QEMSC has run an Australian Championship. The last time we promoted this event Barry Sheene was racing with our club. The reason we haven't promoted the titles for such a long time is simple, we haven't had access to Lakeside as the venue has been closed to us since 2002, 12 years ago.

While there are other tracks available we all know that racing at Lakeside is “special”. To win a Championship here marks you as one of the “Fast Guys”.

Through the efforts of a great many people we have been able to re-licence Lakeside and to promote an Australian Championship there. I would like to take the time to thank each and every one of the people that made this possible, but I simply don't have the space.

That's because it's not just the track owner, Mr John Tetley, not the former CEO of MA, Mr David White, nor even the QEMSC track committee that makes an event like this possible. For although they have all played a very major role, it's the hundreds of people who act as officials, the admin staff and last but not least, the racers themselves. I would like to pay special tribute to the most often forgotten people of these events. Those of us who don't win gold trophies, who don't get their photos in the newspapers and the magazines but the bulk of the historic bike racers who make up the grids at our events. Without them there would be no meetings. I wish everyone a safe meeting but an exciting one. I think this one will be remembered for a very long time.

Gene Lopeman

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