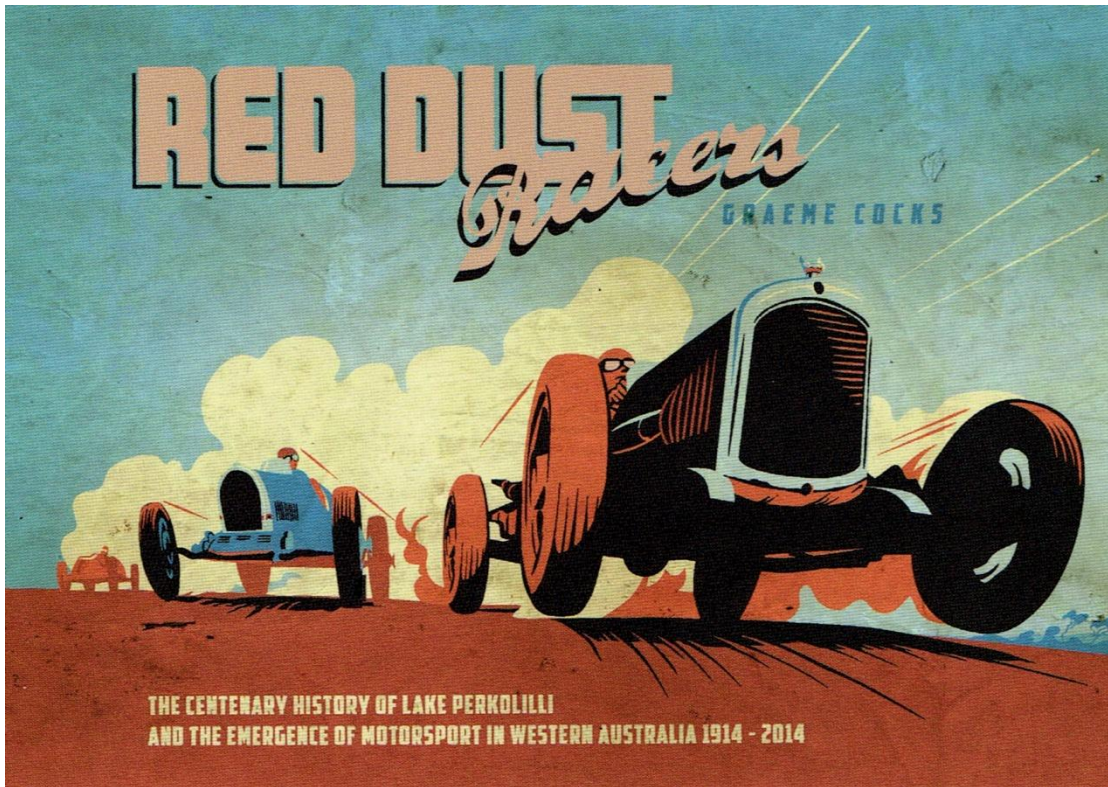


# BOOK REVIEW



Following his previously published huge book, *The Mighty MG Magnettes of 33*, acclaimed Perth born motoring writer **Graeme Cocks** has produced another epic book, this time celebrating the centenary history of Lake Perkolilli race track and the emergence of Motor Sport in Western Australia.

Titled *Red Dust Racers*, it took Graeme a period of twenty years of research and writing to produce this 488 page book packed with 1000 photographs, all the race results, historical newspaper reports of the events and, of course, stories about the colourful characters involved.

From 1914, the dusty red clay pan dubbed the "Brooklands of the West" was the setting for speed record attempts, as well as car, motorbike, bicycle and even aircraft races. In the 1900s it was declared to be the remotest race track in the world.

Among the many interesting drivers mentioned there is a chapter about the exploits of Alan Tomlinson whom I was fortunate to meet in person at a MGCCWA meeting a few years ago. Against the odds, driving his MG TA, Alan won the 1939 Australian Grand Prix staged at Lobenthal, SA. There is a large framed photograph of this extraordinary feat displayed on the wall at the clubrooms.

Clem Dwyer, a life time friend of Alan Tomlinson, is also given space. A young gun in the 1930s, driving MGs, he went on to become one of the most enduring figures in motor sport over the next 60 years.

*Red Dust Racers*, like Graeme's earlier books, has been meticulously researched and is certainly another big read as it unfolds 100 years of motor sports at Australia's oldest surviving race track.

**Catalogue No. SL2.**

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**Note:** Due to its high value this item will need to be signed out on a "special loan" form.

If you wish to borrow the book please personally contact me or in my absence, a committee member .

**David Pitcher - Librarian.**