

THE END OF AN ERA

After almost 20 years as Chairman of ISRA I have decided to step down and pass the baton to someone else. Chris is an excellent choice having already demonstrated he has the ability and diplomacy to carry out this role.

I consider myself very fortunate and honoured to have been involved with the World's premier slot racing association. Thanks to ISRA I have visited places I probably wouldn't have ventured to and have fond memories of enjoyable road trips with great friends and colleagues.

In writing this small piece for the ISRA website I would like to honour a few people who helped me initially get the organisation off the ground. Without their support and guidance we would not have the organisation we have today.

In no particular order my thoughts are for the following:

The late Perry Dekker, Ernie Mossetti, Kimo Rautama, George Kimber, Gugu, Vlado Okali, Jan Ekman, Jirka Karlik and Paolo Trigilio.

More recently the help from Lars Harryson, Lasse Aberg, Brian Saunders, Paul Gawronski, Graham Woodward and Richard Mack.

On the many road trips I was fortunate to travel with Geoff Mitchell and Paul Harwood. Both friends in slot racing for over 25 years who kept me on the straight and narrow!

There are many stories I could tell of the various adventures from Bordeaux to Ceska Lipa, San Francisco to Slovakia but I will save these for another time!

I am not giving up slot racing, far from it. I plan to develop a centre of excellence for slot racing in the UK and help develop youngsters who will be the future of ISRA. Along with this I am hoping my 13 year old son will be able to attend meetings in the future and who knows we may race as a father and son team?

My thanks to you all. I wish Chris lots of luck and I am always at the end of a keyboard should help be needed.

Good luck to the Ukraine in 2013. I am sure that Ihor and his team will put on a first class event. Work permitting we will try and be there!

Best wishes

Charlie