WEST AUSTRACIAN

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Big day at friendly Lake King

KART RACING

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Lake King, situated in the south east Wheatbelt country, is about 450km from Perth by road and around 375km as the grasshoppers fly.

Quite a few hours driving but not an issue for almost 80 karters who competed there recently, with participants converging from Kalgoorlie, Esperance, Albany, Bunbury and Perth.

It's hard to describe Lake King, It's not a town or a city, yet the more you think about it, it really is a community.

The community spirit is reflected in a modern sporting complex that

includes a beautiful flowing 680m hot mix surfaced track, the kind of track that makes you smile from ear to ear.

As part of the State's racing calendar, there are two country zone series — the Northern Zone and the South Eastern Zone — having five and four rounds respectively. This race meeting was the second round of the South Eastern Zone series.

The format for the 10 competing classes was five 12-lap heat races over Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning.

The weather was perfect for kart racing — not too hot and no rain.

The age spread among competitors was wide, ranging from seven years to the late 60s. The main thing was that everyone had fun, lots of close racing combined with the usual "offs" by some, yours truly included.

So much fun that it looks like

Karters of all ages converged on Lake King for the second round of the South Eastern Zone series.

Round Three at Kalgoorlie on June 3 and the Final at Albany on August 26 might be the go.

But then there is the Northern Zone series and the city series as well ... choices, choices. This karting is just too accessible.

Typical of virtually all country

race meetings, nearly all competitors and their families camped at the track on the Friday and Saturday nights,

The Lake King club provided the much relished breakfasts and lunches from the canteen at the track, followed with some great evening meals on both the nights, a credit to

the club and its band of helpers. Hospitality at its best.

After leaving on the Sunday, you can appreciate why their number plates read: "Lake King. Western Australia's Best Kept Secret".

No secret to the grasshoppers though.

