



"THE BOYS CAN DRIVE THE OLD 'BLUE MEANIE' (VK GROUP A)

AND THEIR WIFE DRIVES A NEW VERSION"



1980's velour interior is replaced with New Generation updated interior.



LOVE IT?

When first revealed to the public the overall reaction varied from enthusiastic to overwhelming with a small amount of diehards who believed that HDT should not be revived in this manner. Without Champion's entry onto the stage what would the future have held? What would have been the fate of the mighty HDT name? In recent years the Penisi-owned HDT had been modifying and maintaining customer cars which included Commodores of all models and styles. The name lived on in reproduction merchandise and some restoration products such as GMH-correct decals, badges and stickers. But where to from there? It is worth noting that the Penisi's approached Champion, they had already decided it was time to move on. With no disrespect to the Penisi's, who had ensured the name endured, the grand vision to revive HDT wasn't there. To do so would take a bold move and deep pockets, and luckily someone with Peter Champion's genuine Holden obsession, he had two choices: close the Sydney facility and combine HDT with his CHAMPION'S BROCK EXPERIENCE museum essentially consigning HDT to a brand of stickers and caps, or, do what few others would and sink millions into building a vibrant performance car 'brand'. As far as we're concerned, good on him.

WHICH IS BETTER

Public opinion has also covered the topic of 'can the new be as good, or better, than the original? And, should a new car carry a classic name?' We all have our opinions, here's something to think about. When the reborn Monaro appeared, one school of thought said the mighty name should be left alone and never re-used; that the new Monaros were just two-door Commodores

(overlooking that original Monaros in base form were nothing more than two-door Kingswoods); that the flood of new cars would devalue the originals. History shows their fears were allayed, indeed I firmly believe the new Monaro was the spark that lit the fuse that lit the raging fire of the spiralling popularity of what is called Australian 'muscle cars' - the new car breathed enthusiasm into the desire for our home grown classics. People bought a new one and because it has got the Monaro badge on it, it kept the name alive and now it's stronger than ever, it increased the value of the old ones. We don't see any reason why a VE HDT would devalue original Brock Commodores, quite the opposite - new sexy, more powerful, better handling, safer cars which will draw attention of a new generation of enthusiasts. Can you remember the price of original Monaros before the reborn Monaro was released? A few thousand. Checked the price of old Monaros lately???

Champion put it this way, "What's wrong with having a HDT-plated car that they can drive down the street and it's not costing them an arm and a leg, the new one's probably going to be cheaper than the old one would be. The boys can drive the old 'Blue Meanie' (VK GROUP A) and their wife drives a new version."

Many of the people who bought new Monaros are those who couldn't afford the originals when new, now they're IMN' the dream, and increasing the profile of the old cars. It has brought new people into the car enthusiast scene, with little-by-little encroachment of governments into personal expression through cars and car enhancement - that's a good thing to have more involved. New enthusiasts are connecting to the scene through the new car. So, why can't the New Generation HDT do the same?



WHO IS PETER CHAMPION?

Who is the man behind this 'new HDT'? Long before any thought of buying and re-inventing HDT Peter Champion had assembled one of the most impressive private collections of Holdens, he is a dinkid, dyed-in-the-wool, Holden fanatic who had been personal friends with Peter Brock since the early 1990's. His obsession drove him to spend vast sums of money on building the museum located in the Queensland town. 🇺🇸

HOW TO GET THERE

Getting to CHAMPION'S BROCK EXPERIENCE is easy and Holden fans will find it well worth it. Tiger Airways has direct flights into Yeppoon from some capital cities, other airlines also service Yeppoon. By luck, Yeppoon is also the ferry point for Great Keppel Island which lies off it shores - go visit the fantastic CHAMPION'S BROCK EXPERIENCE and have a holiday! If you can't sell the 'cheese and kisses' on a family trip to Yeppoon on that basis you're not trying hard enough.

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Visit: www.championbrockexperience.com.au