



HDT RETURNS TO MOTORSPORT

In its fortieth year, HDT has made a very welcome return to motorsport with its VE Retro range of vehicles. HDT is a company that built its reputation on the racetracks of Australia, beginning in 1969 with the HK GTS Monaro. It remains one of the most successful teams in Australian motor racing history with Peter Brock taking all nine of his Bathurst wins in HDT vehicles. It was on this pedigree that Brock started HDT Special Vehicles, and it is on the same pedigree that HDT Special Vehicles remains constructed today.

Since taking over HDT Special Vehicles, Chairman and Managing Director Peter Champion has always had this motorsport pedigree in mind, with a view to HDT returning to the track. With HDT's Heritage Series now in full production, the time was right for HDT to make a return to competitive motorsport.

The event chosen was the Clipsal 500 Adelaide Rally, run by Motoring Events Management, running March 15 to 19, 2009. Beginning in Stawell in western Victoria, the rally took in some incredible roads and a variety of events along the way. An innovative mix of closed track auto tests, tricky open road navigation sections, hill climb and circuit sprints, the Clipsal 500 Adelaide Rally proved to be a fantastic return for HDT.

A four-car team completed the event, with HDT proprietors Peter and Sandy Champion in a red VH Retro, Adelaide distributor S.V.E's Collin and Kirsty Baker in their Black VC Retro, Ben Nightingale and Jenny Cole in a VE Retro Ute and HDT's flagship car and team, Phil and Lewis Brock competing in HDT's 427d (7.0 litre) white VC Retro race car.

Amongst a massive field of sixty cars the HDT Retro vehicles stood out against the likes of Mitsubishi Evos, Subaru WRXs, Porsche 911s and a host of Ford Mustangs and other exotica. Highlights of the week included Phil Brock running up the Collingrove Hillclimb circuit in 37.9 seconds – an impressive feat in the big Commodore. The circuit sprints at Mallala were also a great day with all of the HDT vehicles staying out in front of some very fast and very expensive European machinery. The result was a class win for HDT and the Brock boys, and one very happy and very satisfied HDT team.

The following weekend was to see HDT on track again at Oran Park in Sydney, the site of many of HDT's former glories. The Red VH Retro was entered into the Advan Superlap event, running in the street-tyre 'C lubprint' class. Fully set-up with HDT's adjustable coil-over suspension, swaybars and strut brace the car handled beautifully, and with 320KW

40 YEARS LATER THIS BIG NAME IS GOING STRONG

from its upgraded 6L it has the go to match. Piloted by Fujitsu V8 Supercar driver Brad Lowe the car lapped consistently in the 1:23 range all day earning yet more trophies for HDT's cabinet with a class win and trophy for fastest naturally aspirated vehicle.

It has been a very successful return to the Motorsport arena for HDT and there is plenty more planned for the remainder of 2009. Late April after this issue of JUST HOLDENS Magazine had gone to press HDT competed in Targa Tasmania with the 427d VC Retro, which has seen a new host of upgrades in recent weeks in preparation for a solid attack at the Apple Isle.

HDT Managing Director Peter Champion is ecstatic with HDT's return to motorsport. "In this year, the 40th anniversary of HDT's motorsport beginnings, it is extremely important that HDT have a presence on both the roads and racetracks of Australia," He said. "On a personal note, it has been fantastic fun to get our Retro vehicles out on closed roads and tracks and really show what they are made of. We weren't being shy with them, and they all came back running just as strong as ever. And if the reaction from the public is any indication, they love it too!" JH



Collin Baker in his black VC Retro at Stawell Aerodrome



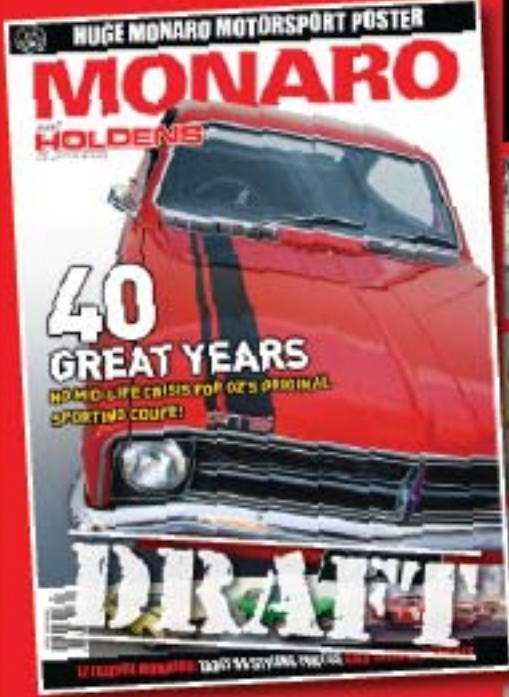
1. (L to R) Phil Brock, Lewis Brock and Peter Champion enjoy some time together at the Bordertown stopover

2. Phil Brock attacks the Collingrove Hillclimb track, on his way to a 37.95 second run



WANTED!

BATHURST 1979 RACE PROGRAM (not 1977 which is pictured left) RING JUST HOLDENS MAGAZINE 1300 CAR GUY



ITS COMING!

FRESH FROM THE TOP-SELLING JUST HOLDENS A9X COLLECTORS' ISSUE COMES THIS MONARO CELEBRATION

- PREMIUM QUALITY & BINDING
- MASSIVE DOUBLE SIDED FOLDOUT POSTER
- GMH STYLING PHOTOS & SALES BROCHURES
- BATHURST 1968
- GREAT RACING MONARO PHOTOS
- BOB JANE'S HT MONARO & INTERVIEW
- SPECIFICATIONS
- AND 8 GREAT FEATURE MONAROS:

- HK Warwick Yellow 327
- HK Piccardy Red 307
- HG Verdaro Green 308
- HQ Coupe Sable Metallic 308
- HZ Palais White 308
- CV8Z customised
- HK wild 8-sec. PRO STREET big block
- HK full race drag car

GET YOURS HAND-SIGNED & INDIVIDUALLY NUMBERED BY THE PUBLISHER!

All subscribers to JUST HOLDENS are issued a unique LION SQUAD membership number, this is hand written on each Member's SPECIAL COLLECTORS' EDITION and personally autographed by Publisher & Editor, Erik Norton, making for a very special product.

ON SALE WEDNESDAY JUNE 25

At all Newsagents wherever JUST HOLDENS Magazine is sold. Tell them it is distributed by NDD, and magazine code is JHM. Or pre-order: Ph: 1300 CAR GUY or www.cargoodies.com.au