

Milbrodale Mountain Classic : an exciting weekend with surprising results for the Irons clan.

(Article by Ian Irons : Photos by Jamin Forest)



Our sponsor for the weekend on the 292 car was LENLORD 4WD SALES, of Richmond NSW, with the HOGS BREATH CAFE on the Lexus V8 powered PINK VW of Warren and Tania Irons. It was the first time out for Warren in three years and with the V8 in the back it was always going to be an interesting experience. One of Warren's mates, Gerome, came up to give a hand and try his luck at navigating, something a little different to his usual motocross (but not a long way removed). Tania and Gerome shared the navigators seat, with Warren learning what V8 power does in changing braking points (I think he said "it won't stop"), and trying to keep the VW gearbox together for the whole distance.

Ian, that's me, with Simon Lennox from LENLORD 4WD SALES in the fright seat, started the prologue with the 292 car feeling great, and although we didn't think we'd be challenging the front runners, a spot somewhere about 2/3rd back in the field would have been nice. After the first straight and a couple of corners we were entering the trees, hooked onto the first one, and "uh oh", we're going straight ahead! The steering wheel with the quick release has come off in my hands. Damn, I mustn't have secured it properly! Off we go again after making very sure the wheel is on this time. A short time later, as we've just slotted the gear shift into top gear, the front wheels touch the ground after a jump and the steering wheel has again freed itself. This time we turn instantly left, up on two wheels and heading straight for a hellish huge tree! All's well though, as missed the tree, and didn't roll. The steering wheel is again checked and off we go (very gently this time). Around the big tyre, up the hill, and what do you know, the bloody steering wheel parts company again! Not quite as exciting as other

times but not too good for the recovery crew we were aiming at. Finally we made it back to the finish, with no more dramas. And this was only the prologue, not sure how much more adrenalin I can handle! We ran the first race on Saturday with a zip tie on the offending button and it lasted two laps before it came apart, just as Geoff Page pulled over to let us past. I drove very purposefully from there, holding the wheel on in order to get to the finish. Last lap Saturday and the motor decided to run on two cylinders. Simon Lennox took over the driving on the Sunday with Andrew Van Ewyk in the passenger's seat for his first go in an event. We fastened a hose clamp on the offending button on the steering (its not going anywhere this time) and with the car still running on two cylinders all day ,Simon and Andrew brought it home 17th outright and 3rd in Super 1650 Class. Just goes to show, persistence does pay.

I would like to thank Mr Super Boot, Peter Calvert, for his help with our suspension and LENLORD 4WD SALES at Richmond for their sponsorship that got us there to have some fun. It was great to have the family playing together!

The HOGS BREATH CAFE VW of Warren and Tania Irons came in 13th outright and 2nd in Extreme 2WD Class.



The HEDWELL 2009 MILBRODALE MOUNTAIN CLASSIC saw a lot of families participating in the racing. The event sponsors had both their daughters in a Pro Class buggy, 1st Outright Buddy Crowe was navigated by Buddy junior, with wife Kerry pointing the way for daughter Alisha in her own Sportsman car (for the first time). Grant Walker with son Tim in the 352 Sportsman Buggy, Jeff Cripps with son Raymond in the 17 Pro Buggy (coming in 9th outright) and other son Laurence bringing his super 1650 machine home 18th outright. The list goes on: the Attards in separate trucks, the Spokes boys, the Eveleigh family, Dale and Marnie Chadburn, Kevin and daughter Lauren, the Simpson clan, dad Garry with son Glenn

and daughter Samantha, brother and sister Brad and Kylie Bishop, Brian and Debbie Hardie with son Gary in his own car, Dick and Kristy Allport, Paul and Charmaine Tuck-Lee, the Austins, the Barnacoats, the Horsfalls, the Batchelors, the Guys, David Nikiforoff and Maria in separate cars, with Maria in the 181 of Steve Taylor coming home 2nd in the Prolite. And so the list went on.....

Congratulations to Buddy Crowe on a top drive and to the others that kept him honest, Terry Rose in 2nd, and Scott McNeil in the giant killer Super 1650 (3rd outright).