

WESTERN DESERT RACERS

# ARB Pinjarra Engineering Hyden 400 2007

Round 1 2007 Australian  
Off-Road Championship  
Round 2 2007 West Australian  
Off-Road Championship

6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> April 2007 (Easter)

January 2007

To all,

HAPPY NEW YEAR AND ALL THE BEST IN RACING; you'll need all the help you can get.

## **HYDEN 2007 GUARANTEED DUST FREE RUN**

Yes, big call but we can back it up. The committee is absolutely delighted with the re-signing of **ARB** (National) and matched dollar for dollar, **BRAD COOPER** from **PINJARRA ENGINEERING**.

In a meeting before Christmas, Ian and Jon French flew to Melbourne for a meeting with **MR ANDY (ARB) BROWN** to discuss the company's involvement in off-road racing nationally and the direction the sport is trying to head in. Andy, who is a strong competitor in off-road and 4WD specialist, was extremely supportive and recommitted **ARB'S** support, not only through the state but nationally. It is a fantastic step and although Andy is one of the off-road family, he still is a businessman on an international scale and a fairly astute one at that. He supports the theory that the sport is on the brink of taking the next step into the public eye and is happy for **ARB** to come along and assist that and be seen with the sport in public. So now its up to the competitors to further support **ARB** and for a start, turn up to the events that comprise the national round, look good, compete hard and fair and enjoy the sponsorship provided by the various companies.

So what's Andy got in the shed? "There's a buggy that could develop into a project this year. I'd like to compete at a few national rounds but also am committed to Condo and the Australian Safari". We only hope we can see Andy over in the wild west to show us what his Class 7/8 can do.

On returning to Perth, Ian and Jon conducted a meeting with Mr Brad Cooper, a very strong Class 1 state competitor here in Western Australia who committed dollar for dollar with ARB's input. Brad entered the sport from drag racing, approximately four years ago, and has been a very strong state competitor in Class 1 and 2 both at long and short course.

Last year Brad took the fairly innovative steps of importing a BAT buggy from South Africa and with some fairly aggressive driving, strong sponsorship and crew support, bagged the WA Off-Road Championship title. Brad has been a minor sponsor at state championship and national championship level and has been a keen sponsor of the Harvey Short Course and it's very encouraging for him to step up into as a major sponsor of the national round. Brad's engineering firm, **PINJARRA ENGINEERING**, supports the ALCOA Alumina Project and Brad spends part of his time offshore sourcing various technical equipment to fulfill his contracts.

I hope we can get Andy Brown and Brad Cooper down to Hyden, not just to compete but to present the trophies on the night.

While you guys have been fighting bushfires in the east, we've been competing with floods and the hardest working committee in off-road racing in Australia hasn't had much of a break over Christmas. The Smith family have been clearing the paddocks from all that pesky wheat so we can get out there and run around at Easter. It's been an absolute hive of activity in Western Australia with plenty of old cars being revamped and new cars having the finishing touches being put on them to ensure that WA is more than represented at this year's round of the national championship. By all indicators, we are expecting an absolute bumper field both at national and state level and I can guarantee there'll be a few new cars in the field that will probably be taking on the Hyden national round.

**KEVIN HOOD** from **STATEWIDE DEMOLITION** has been a major sponsor and supporter at Hyden for as long as I can remember. He's been a great contributor and through his business, Statewide Demolition, has provided not only the resources but also time, manpower, hardware, tools and construction advice for many of our projects. Kevin is taking a step backwards from the major limelight and focusing his time, energy and resources on his racing. He's hoping to build on his successes from last season but still insists on remaining a sponsor for the national round. It's that sort of commitment and support that off-road needs at national level to ensure that we can maintain a professional standard throughout the series. We thank Kevin on behalf of all off-roaders for his generosity, support and vision and wish him well.

The generosity of other sponsors stepping up and keen to be a part of a professionally run event once again this year include:

**GRAEME REEVES FROM MADISON CEILINGS** who've thrown a wheelbarrow full of cash at us to try and get the top ten shoot out a real top ten shoot out which was hotly contested last year and very exciting to watch.

**ERIC PHILLIPS** from **PHILLIPS ENGINEERING** who achieved a very credible third in the Australian Off-Road Championship for his first year at it, **MERIDIAN INVESTIGATORS**, **SHELL TRAVEL STOP**, **ODIN ROAD HARDWARE**, **KERR RACE ENGINEERING**

**DRUGSCREEN AUSTRALIA, FLASH FOTOS AND GRAPHICS, GREAT SOUTHERN FUELS, RACER IMPORTS, SEARLE RACING EQUIPMENT, WHEELS OF WANNEROO, WORKS AUTOMOTIVES, DIRT COMP MAGAZINE, HYDEN HOTEL AND YOKOHAMA** have already signed on as trophy sponsors and the CAMS office is very busy ticking and flicking our documentation so we can this race underway.

Terry Rogers from **TERRY ROGERS SIGNS** has been burning the midnight oil in an effort to tell some of you people where to go and Hayden Tatnell's wife has been on the phone from Tasmania to see if Hayden can come over early and practice.

**FRENCH BROS RACING**, in conjunction with **BLACK OLIVE PRODUCTIONS** and **MERIDIAN INVESTIGATORS**, have produced a promotional CD once again this year which will be available shortly for your further encouragement and enjoyment.

The success of the sale of the DVD produced last year and the efforts put in by **RANDY** at **DIRT COMP MAGAZINE**, the **PIT STOP BOOKSHOP** and the **ARB** outlets has seen an unprecedented success in sales and has encouraged the committee to once again commission Black Olive Productions and Jandakot Helicopters to come down and video record the excitement of the event. Those of you who have enjoyed American DVD's through Racer Imports, we have asked Black Olive to try and emulate a bit of the American flavour in the next production. Tolley will be flying around Australia in February recording some pre-event interviews for his motor sport show. Stand by.

## **THE REAL NEWS**

The event will be a 400km off-road race comprising of Round 1 of the 2007 Australian Off-Road Championship and Round 2 of the WA State Off-Road Championship.

The event will be comprised of three sections, including section 1 being a point-to-point race from start/finish line at Smithy's Place through 20km+ of track and on to the Hyden township, run some 30km, park for lunch for an hour and a half and a return leg back to the start/finish line at Smithy's Place. The entire length of section 1 will be approximately 100km.

Section 2 will comprise of three laps of a circuit around Smithy's Place conducted on Sunday morning, with a lap distance of approximately 47km.

Section 3 will comprise a further three or four laps around Smithy's Place on Sunday afternoon, depending on competitors challenging the Australian Off-Road Championship or the WA Off-Road Championship.

## **EARLY ENTRY COMPETITION (FREE ENTRY TO THE WINNER)**

Entries open on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2007 (that's Australia Day, wave the flag).

Once again we will be running an early entry competition. Entries (including payment) received by 14<sup>th</sup> February 2007 (that's Valentines Day because we love yous) will go in the draw to have their entry fee refunded.

Normal entries close 1<sup>st</sup> April 2006. (That's April Fools Day because you would be a fool not to enter).

## **EVENT SCHEDULE**

### **THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2007**

Competitors are free to arrive and set up camp (Smithy's Place).  
The Legends Bar will be open as will the shop.

### **FRIDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2007**

The track will be open for free reconnaissance, the shop and bar will be open.  
Scrutineering will commence at 3.00 p.m. By 9.00 p.m. we hope to have scrutineering complete and during the day we may see some action from the quad bikes.

### **SATURDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2007**

The shop will be open again, prologue will commence in the morning around early daylight.  
The bar will be open at about 12.00 p.m. and after a top ten shootout we will kick off with section 1 at about 12.30 p.m.  
There will be a stop over conducted in the parking area at the centre of the Hyden township, a light lunch will be served compliments of the Hyden Hotel (without alcohol). Once the track is cleared, there will be a run back to Smithy's Place.  
A cocktail party at the Legends Bar at around 7.00 p.m. will round off the day till about midnight.

### **SUNDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2007**

The shop will be open at 8.00 a.m. for breakfast, will kick off with section 2 at about 8.00 a.m. and stop for lunch for an hour, kick off with section 3 after lunch at about 2.00 p.m.  
At 6.00 p.m. we will have pre-dinner drinks at the Legends Bar and commence the formal/semi-formal bush dinner at 7.30 p.m. at the event tent to the rear of the Legends Bar.  
There will be a trophy presentation which will go through till about 10.00 p.m. then some social activities.

At the track, there are plenty of videoing opportunities and spectator vantage points to take some great still shots, some within walking distance, some you can drive a sedan or 4WD to various points of the track through clearly marked access roads.

The Saturday morning section the race truck runs adjacent to the tar road running into Hyden and crews and teams leaving Smithy's Place and heading down the tar road will easily arrive at the Hyden township prior to the race vehicles arriving. There are many viewing points en route.

The Hyden township is 19km west of **SMITHY'S PLACE** and we hope to be running a shuttle service with the local shire bus back and forward, one, to allow transport access and two, obviously for the drink driving situation.

There is a 24 hour BP fuel outlet (wholesaler card access) and a Shell service station/roadhouse kind of affair that does serve Shell ultra fuel.

**WE HAVE ORGANISED BP ULTIMATE ON SITE THROUGH GREAT SOUTHERN FUEL SUPPLIES AND WE WILL KNOW MORE ABOUT THE PRICE THE CLOSER WE GET TO THE EVENT.**

For those of you who are planning to make the trek by road, it's a great adventure and over the years, we've been travelling west-east and east-west and find that the sooner you start organizing, the more pain free the trip is. The best bet is to grab yourself a group of guys from your local off-road club or family, hire a five tonne truck from Thrifty, hook a trailer on the back and maybe get a Thrifty bus or the usual 4WD and head towards the common meeting place in the middle of the Nullarbor.

We will identify a hotel that should provide good comforts, swimming pool, etc and give you enough safe parking for your rig. If you've never seen central Australia, it's a great time to have a look around with the family and enjoy the experience. Your second stop could be gold city at Kalgoorlie which has a great lot of Australian history and a lot of activities for tourists. There's a back road from Norseman to Hyden which is about 300km or right at Kalgoorlie, probably puts another 150km onto your trip, but obviously once you get to the race site, you can definitely do the accommodation on a budget at Smithy's Place if you wish to.

The weather will still be fairly warm, high twenties, low thirties for an average and the chance of rain at about 1.00% and that will only be if we have cyclonic activity in the north west.

The committee is still working fairly hard to try and organise sponsorship and advantages to competitors and will keep you informed as we go.

**KEEP PLANNING TO GET TO HYDEN. IT WILL BE A FANTASTIC OFF-ROAD EXPERIENCE FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO DIDN'T ATTEND LAST YEAR AND SOMETHING THAT WILL BE TALKED ABOUT FOR YEARS TO COME. IF YOU HAVE ANY DOUBTS ABOUT HOW GREAT THIS EVENT IS, PLEASE RING DARIAN SMITH AND HE'S SURE TO TELL YOU.**

## **ACCOMMODATION**

A variety of accommodation is available for off-roaders for the weekend including....

**WAVE ROCK HOTEL** (19km from race venue) Phone (08) 9880 5852  
57 comfortable suites including three luxurious executive suites with spa  
In-house bar and private garden  
Billabong pool and gymnasium  
Coffee making facilities, fridge, phone  
Private facilities

**WAVE ROCK RESORT** (12km from the race venue) Phone: (08) 9880 5022  
A New development of quality accommodation at affordable prices  
14 colonial style, two bedroom cottages, all with private facilities  
Can accommodate families and up to six or eight people

**WAVE ROCK CARAVAN PARK CABINS** (10km from race venue) Phone: (08) 9880 5022  
30 powered sites in natural bush setting  
30 tent sites  
Close to Wave Rock  
On site vans

**ON SITE ACCOMMODATION AT SMITHY'S PLACE** (the greatest off-road venue in Australia)

Open paddock camping with facilities at the site including hot and cold showers, flushing toilets, the Legends Bar (open most hours), Desert Café (club shop), breakfast, lunch and dinner, good quality food reasonably priced (ugly waitresses).

This venue is designed so competitors can arrive at Hyden, unload their gear and stay on site all weekend.

Supplementary regulations and entry forms will be available soon.

Your Competitor Relations Officer is Mr Darian Smith, mobile 0427 801 608, who is one of a team of dedicated off-road enthusiasts who will answer your every whim (including finding excuses for your wife or employer).

I can't thank enough all of those members of the off-road family who have contacted me over the past 12 months endorsing our bid to run Hyden a second time and look forward to seeing you all there and seeing some new faces that didn't experience Smithy's Place last year. Watch this spot.

I thank [www.offroadracing.com.au](http://www.offroadracing.com.au) for their continued support of the sport, our club and this event, and can only advise you to watch this spot for more updates.

All in all, once again Hyden will strive to be the best off-road event in Australia so if you are only going to attend one event this year, do yourself a favour and make it Hyden.

Cheers

Ian French (Chairman)

ARB PINJARRA ENGINEERING HYDEN 400

ROUND 1 2007 AUSTRALIAN OFF-ROAD CHAMPIONSHIP

ROUND 2 2007 WEST AUSTRALIAN OFF-ROAD CHAMPIONSHIP

PS BAD NEWS IS BRIAN, BEAU AND TRAV ROBINSON ARE BACK IN THE STATES WITH A CHEQUE BOOK AND HAVE BEEN THERE FOR 6 WEEKS. WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN????

PPS OH, THE DUST FREE RUN.....THE HYDEN TO MT WALKER ROAD SECTION IS FAST, FURIOUS AND TARRED, NO DUST, JUST SMOKE, OIL, BITS OF BROKEN RINGS AND WHITE KNUCKLES.....ENJOY.