

Cruzin the Salt

DRY LAKES RACING with Norm Hardinge

DLRA Speedweek dates are coming up fast. 29th of February to 4th of March 2016 at Lake Gairdner, South Australia. If you haven't got your entry in yet do it now and save 150 bucks. Numbers are building. The race surface on the lake is looking hard and fast. The early hot weather and promise of very little rain this summer means there is no reason for this to change.

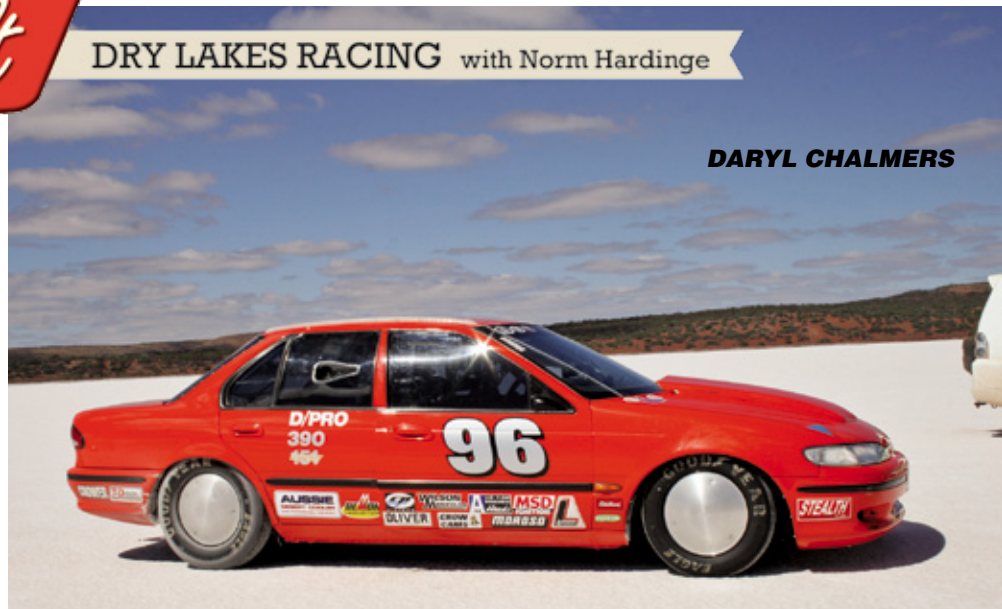
We will be running two tracks again this year with improved timing practices and equipment. The guys should be able to move things along faster than ever before. The less time waiting in line, the better! If you are planning to come along as a spectator you will be more than welcome but make sure you are prepared for the Aussie Outback and be prepared to camp. Bring extra water, a hat and good quality sunglasses.

If you are coming and you want to be part of hot rodding history, volunteer! Salt lake racing is still an amateur sport and therefore we need volunteers to make it all happen. Need more information, check out www.dlra.org.au.

Due to the salt season wash out in the States this year, Australian salt is looking real good to the Yanky race teams. There are whispers of some very fast yanks joining the fun at Speedweek 2016 but this is yet to be confirmed.

Rod Hadfield intends to retire from driving after 25 years of racing on the salt. Rod is the only driver to have competed at every DLRA Speedweek. Rods race car, the Bronze Aussie Commodore, after a bit of a nitrous enhanced engine meltdown last year, was headed for a life in Rods museum, but Rod was convinced by his fellow driver Lionel West and engine builder Leo Nankervis to give the car another crack at 300mph. Lionel West will be driving. These guys are determined to succeed!

After breaking four Australian records all at 209mph and 7500 revs, the Big Knob roadster is getting some minor tweaking. Mat Lagoon from Engine Action Echuca is giving the Big Block Ford a freshen up then moving the rev



DARYL CHALMERS



BIG KNOB RACING

limiter up by 1000 revs to 8500 revs. Mat keeps telling me "this motor will rev to 9000 all day long". After four records with a very reliable motor, and knowing how it sings at 200+ mph, I believe him and certainly willing to give it a crack – actually can't wait! We are also working on some weight balance changes. The roadster has always been very stable, we're hoping that further attention to the weights will keep that trend going at higher speeds. Higher speeds, that is, at about 232

mph which just happens to be the current USA Bonneville record.

Norm Bradshaw's Taxi has been getting ready to race. After 48 high speed passes, the team thought it best to give the Windsor some new rings, bearings and valves. The Taxi has performed well at Lake Gairdner and at Bonneville and holds an Australian record at 251mph. This year Norm and his two sons intend to bump the record upwards.

This month I checked on Craig Rogers'



NORM BRADSHAW



LOVE / ROSEWARNE



HADFIELD / WEST

progress. He was covered in Cruzin the Salt a few months back. He is working some long hours to get his well built streamliner to Lake Gairdner. Craig tells me he only has paint and exhaust on the race car, wiring on the trailer, and and andI hope he makes it and all goes to plan.

Daryl Chalmers' Falcon holds the Australian record in its class at 214mph. Daryl is working on adding another 40 horse power to his tough little Windsor. This combined with a

taller diff ratio should push the Falcon past the Bonneville record of 224mph. Good luck mate! New Zealand's Mark Love and Dave Rosewarne are racing against the clock to get their Camaro into a container and on its way to Australia. They are confident of being at Speedweek and they claim the car is the fastest door slammer in Australasia!

These guys are worth keeping an eye on. Their MO goes like this - Mark runs a 259 mph record then his 572 Big Block is yanked

out and Dave's 427 Small Block stroker is slammed in, ready to race again in no time. As you would expect, these guys always have a great time at Speedweek and this year they again are looking forward to catching up with their Aussie mates.

The latest news concerning Speedweek is available at www.dlra.org.au or check DLRA out on facebook.

See you at the salt

Norm Hardinge.

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