



IT'S ALL NEW IN 2009 FOR WPR RACING

12th March 2009

The start of the 2009 Yokohama V8 Ute Racing Series is just around the corner and the WPR Racing team can't wait.

The 2009 season will see some major changes for Wollongong Performance Racing. The most notable, team owner/manager Gary Carson jumping from the team manager role to that of Ute driver for the #13 Ford XR8 Ute.

Gary explains "We started up WPR 4 years ago now and during that time we've always had drivers racing for us in our cars and I've always had to play the role of team manager. This year, with the help of some great sponsors including our major sponsor Selectv I have been able to jump into the driver's seat, which is a huge challenge and something I'm really looking forward too. I've done a couple of seasons of racing in our older model Ute so when this opportunity came up I was determined to make it happen".

Gary's first round of the season will be at the Clipsal 500 in Adelaide from the 19-22 March.

"Clipsal is a great round, it always has such a great party atmosphere and the whole city really gets behind the event. This year Clipsal will be a big challenge for me, I've only had minimal time in the seat of the Selectv Ute and any street circuit is always going to be tough. Unfortunately too, we only get one practice session so I will need to get a feel of the track straight away" says Gary.

WPR Racing put the Selectv Ute through a shakedown test day at Wakefield Park yesterday and all involved were happy with the outcome. "The purpose of the shakedown was to iron out any 'gremlins' in the Ute, we had a few little issues across the day but all in all the Ute felt good and I'm confident heading to Adelaide" says Gary.

Throughout the season Carson will also be vying for another prize in the 2009 Racer Industries Rookie of the Year and the Ashley Cooper Memorial Trophy. These two awards go to the best performing Rookie of the Year.

"I have set myself a couple of goals this year and chasing the Rookie of the Year /Ashley Cooper Memorial Trophy is something I'm really hungry for. There are a few guys in the running for this and it won't be easy but I'll be doing all I can to win that title. Ashley raced for us in the Utes in 2006, and in that year became the V8 Utes first Rookie. After his accident at Clipsal last year the V8 Utes set-up the memorial trophy, I would love nothing more than to add my name onto the trophy" explains Gary.

WPR Racing will make final preparations to the Selectv Ute this week and will then make the trip south to Adelaide next week. The V8 Utes race schedule is listed below.

DATE	TIME	RACE
Thursday 19th March	9:05am	Practice 1
Thursday 19th March	1:30pm	Qualifying
Friday 20th March	4:15pm	Race 1
Saturday 21st March	9:00am	Race 2
Sunday 22nd March	11:20am	Race 3

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WPR Racing would like to thank the following commercial partners:

