

Media Release

# SALMA



South Australian Late Model Association Inc.  
"The Greatest Show on Dirt"

## Strong Late Model field target \$10,000 payout at Mildura



**ABOVE :** The always spectacular Jamie Oldfield has enjoyed a standout 2011/12 season and would like to cap it with victory in the inaugural Cross Roads Holiday Park Mildura Easter \$10,000. Photo by Peter Roebuck.

The inaugural Cross Roads Holiday Park Mildura Easter \$10,000, to be contested at The Edge Hotel Motel Timmis Speedway Mildura on Good Friday April 6, and Easter Sunday April 8, has attracted a quality field of racers.

With a huge \$10,000 cheque awaiting the winner of Sundays big 50 lap A Main, and excellent prizemoney on offer right down the field, many of the nation's finest left hand drive V8 exponents are calling Mildura 'home' this Easter.

Headlining the entry list is multi Australian Late Model Champion Brad Blake from Bunbury Western Australia. Blake will once again be driving the Marc Zimmer owned Rocket that has propelled him to plenty of success on the East Coast the past few years, including a National title victory at Mildura last season, and the inaugural Victorian Championship earlier this season.

Another leading West Aussie chasing the big dollars is Jamie Oldfield in the #51. Oldfield has been in superb form, as shown by his runner-up position in the Australian Championship held at Parramatta in January. Oldfield has been a contender in every race he has contested this season, and it would be no surprise to see him on the top step of the podium and \$10,000 richer.

Craig Vosbergen is another 'heavy hitter' from WA who is making the journey over. Vosbergen, who has spent the past few Australian off-seasons racing in the United States, is coming off a highly successful 2011/12 campaign on the West Coast. He is hoping to sell his immaculate Rocket while on the East Coast, and what could be a better selling point than victory in the \$10,000 to win Mildura race!

Jason Moyle and Mark Matthews are also making the long haul from WA. Moyle has shown that he can be a front runner, while Matthews is a guy that really loves his Late Model racing.

Queensland is represented by just three racers, but it is a quality trio.

Kev Stow and Matt Ingrey are a father and son team that don't mind travelling to support the major races. Both have the potential to run at the pointy end of the field and can be relied upon to put in a strong performance.

The 'dark horse' of the Cross Roads Holiday Park Mildura Easter \$10,000 however, could be Ashley Barron in the #44. Barron is a seasoned Modified Production Sedan racer, who only has top line equipment. Despite few laps in his new ride, Barron is expected to do well, given that the car is a fully imported ex GRT house car that was driven by NASCAR star Jeff Gordon in a 'Prelude to the Dream' race.

NSW is sending a strong contingent across the border hoping to lift \$10,000 off their southern counterparts.

Leading the NSW charge is another father and son team in Ross and Ben Nicastrì. Ross has been in fine form this summer, and can count two Queensland Series Round victories amongst his accomplishments. Son Ben has been coming on gangbusters, and looked sharp in several races this season, including the Victorian title, where he finished 2<sup>nd</sup> to Brad Blake, and ahead of his father! The Nicastrì Motorsport team have plenty of work to do this week though, after Ben's car destroyed an engine at a Sydney race meeting on Saturday night.

One driver looking to atone for his performances at recent Mildura starts is Hunter Valley hard charger Nathan Disney in the #11. A renowned 'drive it like you stole it' type of racer, who only knows one speed, 'fast', Disney has waited all season to get an A Main victory and finally broke through in Sydney last weekend. Although luck has sometimes deserted Disney in big races, he is one of the real crowd favourites, and definitely a contender.

On the opposite side of the fence to Disney is Darryl Grimson, a quietly spoken calculating racer who lets his performance behind the wheel do his talking. Grimson is a consistent, solid driver, who often finds his way to the podium come A Main time.

Nathan Smee in the immaculate Rocket owned by Mark Cooper is another competitor to watch out for. The Speedcar racer adapted to the powerful Late Model exceptionally well in this year's national title, where he finished 5<sup>th</sup> in esteemed company. It was Smee's first race meeting in the car, and made a statement that a race driver is a race driver regardless of the machinery under his control.

David Robertson is another 'top shelf' NSW racer who has the talent and equipment to get the job done in any major race. Robertson won a Mini Feature at Mildura last season so should not be taken lightly by his rivals.

Other NSW racers who have nominated include Lyle Dicker, in one of the oldest cars in the field, and Barry Kelleher, the oldest competitor in the field!

South Australia is represented by five racers.

The quintet has formed the 'backbone' of South Australian Late Model racing in season 2011/12. Although Mat Crimmins (#10) has the best qualifications, having finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 2011 Australian title at Mildura, it is David Hartman (#15) who has shown plenty of pace all season, and apart from a few minor race incidents, has been in dominant form. Luke Raymond (#5) had been off the pace, but the team has been working hard behind the scenes, and their perseverance has recently been rewarded with a Feature win. Stuart Hill will drive the Crimmins Racing Warrior lease car and is once again expected to do well. The 'dark horse' amongst the South Australian contingent is Michael Ffrench in the #24. Ffrench is not afraid to race hard, and has impressed since joining the division from the AMCA Nationals ranks.

Four Victorian racers round out the field.

Rod Edwards (#21) has been in good form, as has Darren Forrest (#055). Both have plenty of experience to draw on, with Forrest being a top Modified Production Sedan racer until putting his backside in the seat of a Late Model this past 6 months. While Edwards makes up for a horsepower deficit with driving ability, Forrest has the added bonus of racing 'state of the art' machinery, a fully imported Rocket.

Gary Bryans (#19) has proven to be a solid performer, while David Mentiplay will be at the wheel of the second Dicker prepared car from NSW.

The full field for the Cross Roads Holiday Park Mildura Easter \$10,000 reads :

**W0 Brad Blake** (Blake Auto Centre)

**N3 Ross Nicastrì** (Frank's Auto Parts / American Tires / Genesis Shocks)

**X4 David Robertson** (Torque Diesel Gas / J N Proctor Builder)

**S5 Luke Raymond** (Auto Techniques / Crane Services / S McLay Mechanical /

Hurley Maid Of Auckland / Chad Signs / ULX 110 / Preferred Finance / KLM Engineering / Hoolgators All American Di Cast)

**W6 Jason Moyle** (Moyle Engines)

**N4 Lyle Dicker** (Dicker Glass)

**W8 Craig Vosbergen** (Worldwide Construction Machinery / Valvoline / Royle Wolf Containers / Watsons Express Transport / Empire Graphic / Racin Tyres & Accessories / Genesis Shocks / R2C Filters)

**S10 Mat Crimmins** (Cross Roads Holiday Park Mildura / FUCHS / Auto Pro Murray Bridge / De Conte Chiropractic / Top Class Tiling / Toledo / Hytek Concrete Australia / Gardner Bearings / J & J Ruston Engineering / Christies Beach Auto Centre)

**N11 Nathan Disney** (Adamstown Car Doctors / Travis Kern Race Engines / Safe N Sound Self Storage / Pit Crew / Steve Smith Race Engines / Kendall Racing Oil)

**N12 Darryl Grimson** (United Acreage Marketing / Stahl Willie / Mastersbilt Race Cars Australia)

**N14 David Mentiplay** (The Plaster Mob)

**N15 Nathan Smee** (Race Safety Equipment)

**S15 David Hartman** (Solid Service / Vehikool / Signs On Para / Lucas Oils / Sprint Auto Parts Salisbury / Collins Industrial Distributors / Real Port Traders / Savage Shots / DNA Growth / South Side Industrial Radiators / C & M Engines / Spandex)

**Q17 Kev Stow** (Stow's Transport Pty Ltd)

**V19 Gary Bryans** (Fountain Gate Plasters & Cartage / CB'S Bin Mob)

**V21 Rod Edwards** (Lake Eildon Houseboat Sales / Finline Building Projects / Eildon Bakery Café / Eildon Service Station)

**S24 Michael Ffrench** (Rendition Homes / Solid Service / Spandex / Werners Solid Plastering / Texture Coating / Signs On Para / Crimmins Racing)

**W30 Mark Matthews** (Hepburn Agri Center Swan Hill Racin)

**Q44 Ash Barron**

**W51 Jamie Oldfield** (UltraTune Morley / Supatilt Transport)

**Q54 Matt Ingrey** (Stow's Transport Pty Ltd)

**V055 Darren Forrest** (Boronia Towbars / Atco Structures / Metro Tow)

**S64 Stuart Hill** ((Cross Roads Holiday Park Mildura / FUCHS / Auto Pro Murray Bridge / De Conte Chiropractic / Top Class Tiling / Toledo / Hytek Concrete Australia / Gardner Bearings / J & J Ruston Engineering / Christies Beach Auto Centre / Crimmins Racing / Hills Rural Contracting)

**N65 Barry Kelleher** (United Acreage Marketing / Jack Hiller Mars Crash Repairs / Think Lab Signs / DMH Transport / Williams & Wood Autos / Mecray Service)

**N99 Ben Nicastrì** (Frank's Auto Parts / American Tires / Genesis Shocks)

All of the action in the Cross Roads Holiday Park Mildura Easter \$10,000 commences Friday evening April 6 with three Rounds of Heats. A social function will be held at the track Saturday night (Spit Roast - \$10 a plate : Bar open : all welcome), while Sunday night April 8 will see the final Round of Heats , a Pole Shuffle , B Main (if required), and the all-important big-dollar 50 lap A Main.

Heat sponsors of the Cross Roads Holiday Park Mildura Easter \$10,000 are :Cross Roads Holiday Park Mildura, Surfside Custom Systems, Guage Works, Signs On Para, J & J Ruston Engineering, UltraTune Morley (Oldfields), NDRA Inc, and Lake Eildon Houseboat & Sales.

Lap sponsors are : 1. Metro Tow 2. Christies Beach Auto Centre 3. Surfside Custom Systems 4. NDRA Inc. 5. Raymond Family Motorsport 6. Surfside Custom Systems 7. Guage Works 8. Guage Works 9. 900 10. Crimmins Racing 11. Universal Metal Cleaners 12. J & J Ruston Engineering 13. J & J Ruston Engineering 14. KLM Engineering 15. Signs On Para 16. Cross Roads Holiday Park Mildura 17. Cross Roads Holiday Park Mildura 18. Lonsdale Competition Tyres 19. Lake Eildon Houseboat & Sales 20. Lake Eildon Houseboat & Sales 21. Ronnoc Transport 22. CBS Bins 23. Scotcher Race Fuels & Oils 24. John Williams 25. Signs On Para 26. Scotcher Race Fuels & Oils 27. Universal Metal Cleaners 28. AAA Mortgage Solutions 29. Hoolagators 30. NDRA Inc 31. Signs On Para 32. Signs On Para 33. UltraTune Morley 34. Steve Smith 35. UltraTune Morley 36. S McLay Mechanical 37. ozlatemodel.com 38. NDRA Inc 39. Ronnoc Transport 40. CBS Bins 41. Mildura Speedway 42. Mildura Speedway 43. Cross Roads Holiday Park Mildura 44. Hytek Concrete Australia 45. Hytek Concrete Australia 46. Hytek Concrete Australia 47. Hytek Concrete Australia 48. Hytek Concrete Australia 49. Gardner Bearings 50. Hills Rural Contracting

For all the latest news on the event visit [www.salma.com.au](http://www.salma.com.au)

For information on The Edge Hotel Motel Timmis Speedway visit [www.milduraspeedway.com](http://www.milduraspeedway.com)



**ABOVE : Nathan Disney has just won his first A Main of the season, and would like to add to that with victory in the Cross Roads Holiday Park Mildura Easter \$10,000. Photo by Gary Reid.**

*Ends Release*

2<sup>nd</sup> April 2012 : Media Release by Rod Thurgood : [www.ozmotorsportpromotions.com](http://www.ozmotorsportpromotions.com)