

27th March 2018

Putting a spring in their step - Mark Pedder joins Pedders Racing

Having been a key supporter and sponsor of the namesake Pedders Racing for more than eight years, Mark Pedder will this weekend step into the driver's seat of the Pedders 86 as part of the 2018 Bathurst 6 Hour.

Pursuing his own motorsport interests in autocross from the age of 14, Pedder has honed both professional and technical skills over three decades working within, and now at the helm as Managing Director of, the respected and proudly Australian automotive organisation, Pedders Suspension.

Watching his father's and late grandfather's automotive and motorsport journeys, the George Derrick Memorial in 1989 played host to a third generation of Pedder developing a passion for off road. Alongside brother Scott and father Ron, Pedder continues to guide the growth and success of Pedders Suspension, all the while allowing time for competitive involvement in rallying across Australia and the Asia Pacific.

Competing at state, national and international rally events over 27 years, Pedder is well known for his ten years in the Australian Rally Championship with many podium finishes, along with starring as a factory driver for Honda during the 2015 and 2016 seasons after returning from a season abroad in the FIA Asia Pacific Rally Championship, where he had achieved numerous outright podium finishes.

Recalling his fourth outright place in the 2010 Australian Rally Championship event in Tasmania, the first on tarmac, Pedder recently stepped across to experience the varied challenges of production car racing, in the Pedders 86 of course, explaining,

"I have spent so much of my life involved in the rallying scene here (in Australia) and overseas with both Scott (Pedder, brother) and I competing, so after Grant (Phillips) kept inviting me to take a drive in the 86, we decided that it was finally time to just make it happen.

"It only took a day on track for me to make the call and join Pedders Racing.

"Grant (Phillips), the students and teachers at Motorsports Training Australia and many of our Pedders network have been involved with this team for many years, and not only have they achieved great success in their time, they commit to returning value to the industry by training the next generation – that was all of us once.

"When you think about Bathurst, a place I have been so many times with the Pedders brand and with the family, anyone would be crazy not to use their skills and have a competitive drive at this internationally recognised circuit.

"I'm really looking forward to joining the Pedders Racing family, and having them show me why Pedders Suspension continues to support them.

"This team is all about having fun, playing fair, educating the future faces of motorsport and the automotive industry, so I'm counting down the days until I can finally get on board #86 and take on the mountain!"

Pedder will join Team Principal and long-time Pedders Racing driver, Grant Phillips, in Class D's #86 as the Motorsports Training Australia / Pedders Suspension student and volunteer crew tackle the challenges of Mount Panorama Circuit for a fifth time.

The Bathurst 6 Hour will be live across Australia on Fox Sports' channel 505 and live streamed via www.bathurst6hour.com.au/live for international audiences to enjoy this Easter Sunday 1st April. The full live stream coverage will then be made available in full for Australia to enjoy via the event website from Easter Monday 2nd April, ahead of a two hour highlights package on SBS on Sunday 15th April.

Pedders Racing is proudly supported by Pedders Suspension, Motorsports Training Australia, Evans Waterless Engine Coolant, Reliable Rack & Pinion, DBA – Disc Brakes Australia, Moro & Dooly Accident Repair Centre Bendigo, Ozygen Chemicals, Cosmic Performance, ssMEDIA, Total Tools Dandenong, Pitman Trucks, Borneo Bears Australian Rules Football Club, MSC Signs, Euro Truck Spares, J&A Logistics, CIMA Media, our families and our fans!

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Engage with Pedders Racing online via [Facebook.com/PeddersRacing](https://www.facebook.com/PeddersRacing), on Twitter as @PeddersRacing, Instagram as PeddersRacing or visit the team's official Pedders Racing YouTube channel.

For further information, images or interview opportunities, please contact Kat O'Shaughnessy, on 0421 962 571 or email kat@cimamedia.com.au

