

LUCAS DUMBRELL MOTORSPORT



Australian Grand Prix Support Races - Albert Park, VIC



A testing time at Grand Prix for Gulf Western Oil Racing

With no championship points on offer the Australian Grand Prix support events provided a great opportunity to try some different set-ups in the Gulf Western Oil Racing Commodore.

With test days severely limited to contain costs the GP meeting provided a fantastic opportunity to get the car far closer to driver Warren Luff's liking, as the team had been struggling in a few areas of set-up across

the opening rounds of the championship series.

A raft of changes were made to the Gulf Western Commodore on the Thursday and this translated into a much more competitive race car during the first of three races on Thursday evening.

Luff started 28th and on the soft tyre and progressed through to an incredible ninth position until he pitted to make his compulsory pit stop on lap 12.

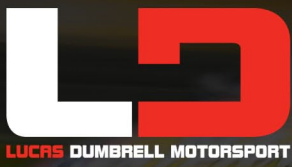
Rejoining in 24th, Luff managed to pick off another couple of positions in the second half of the race to finish in 22nd.

"We have finally started to make some progress with the car," smiled Luff.

"Even though we were on the soft tyre and most of the field were on the harder control tyre it was still nice to be passing people early in the race.

"We found the direction we





needed to go to make the car a lot nicer to drive so we will push it a little further in the same direction for race two and see where that gets us.

“It’s nice to have these races to get some more experience with the car when there’s no championship points to worry about.

“I’m hoping to make up some more positions in race two, we’ll definitely be giving it our best shot,” he added.

After gaining six spots during the Friday race the team made some more changes on Saturday morning and were confident of an even better showing during the second race on Saturday evening.

Starting from 22nd on the grid Luff was turned around by Tim Slade in a typical midfield skirmish on the opening lap of race two and from there on his race was compromised.

Add to the fact that Luff’s blinding start was adjudged just a little too fast and he was served with a 10 second penalty and his 24th finishing position was not too disheartening. In fact the lap after being spun Luff turned in what was at that stage the fastest lap of the race.

Luff was encouraged by the increase in competitiveness of the Gulf Western car over the weekend.

“It was nice to be able to set some decent lap times on both

the hard and soft tyres,” Luff said.

“The team have done a great job this weekend to find some more pace before we head to New Zealand for the next round of the championship.

“With no championship points on offer this weekend we’ve had the opportunity to try different things with set-up and it’s really paid dividends for us.

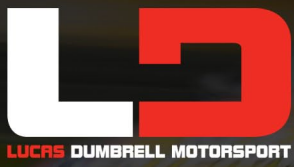
“I can’t wait to get into the car for race three and see how much better the car is after the last batch of changes we made,” he added.

But race three didn’t go according to plan for the Gulf Western Oil Racing crew.

Hot Pies!

Collingwood premiership hero Travis Cloke (pictured here with team owner Lucas Dumbrell) had the ride of a lifetime aboard the Gulf Western Oil V8 Supercar on the Thursday morning of the Grand Prix. Cloke was thrilled with the opportunity and full of praise for the skill of driver Warren Luff and of the performance of the Gulf Western Oil Commodore.





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Starting from 24th position on the grid Luff made a solid start and was looking to make up further positions on lap one when an incident towards the front of the field eliminated five cars, including the Gulf Western Commodore.

At the front of the field Craig Lowndes and Rick Kelly collided and partially blocked the track and resulting contact between Steve Johnson and David Reynolds, as they tried to work their way around the stranded Kelly and Lowndes cars, also involved Luff and James Courtney.

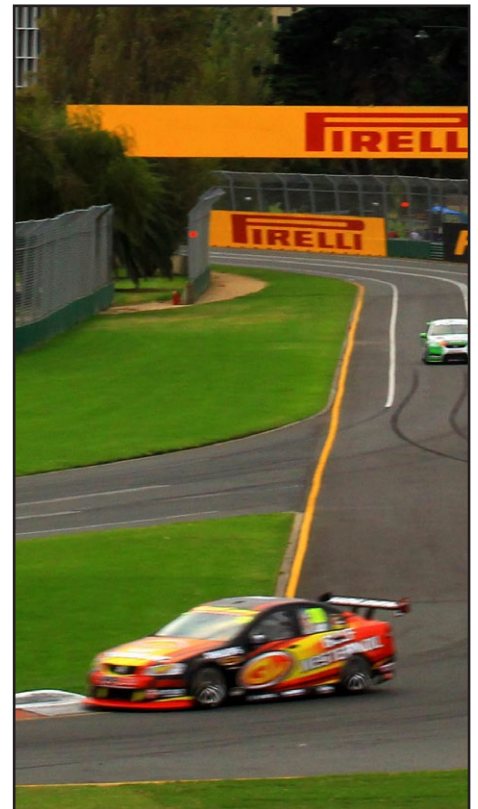
The Gulf Western Commodore was extensively damaged and once again the dedicated Lucas

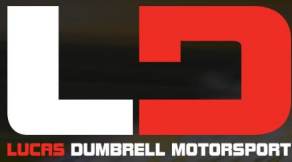
Dumbrell Motorsport team will be under the pump to repair the car in time for the next event.

Racing will resume in three weeks time in New Zealand at the ITM 400 around the Hamilton street circuit and Luff is hoping that the gains made in handling performance over the Grand Prix weekend will push them closer to the front of the field.

"We have really come a long way with set-up this weekend, it's just unfortunate that race three was over way too soon," Luff said.

"But we'll still head to New Zealand with a lot of confidence because of all that we've learnt here."





2011 AUSTRALIAN GRAND PRIX - ALBERT PARK, MELBOURNE

RACE 1 - 150km

1. Jamie Whincup,
2. Garth Tander,
3. Alex Davison,
4. Rick Kelly,
5. Lee Holdsworth,
6. Jason Richards,
7. Mark Winterbottom,
8. Jonathon Webb,
9. Jason Bright,
10. Will Davison,
22. Warren Luff

TeamVodafone Holden VE Commodore Series II
 Toll Holden Racing Team Holden VE Commodore Series II
 Irwin Racing Ford Falcon FG
 Jack Daniel's Racing Holden VE Commodore Series II
 Fujitsu Racing GRM Holden VE Commodore Series II
 Team BOC Holden VE Commodore Series II
 Orrcon Steel FPR Ford Falcon FG
 Mother Racing Ford Falcon FG
 Team BOC Holden VE Commodore Series II
 Trading Post FPR Ford Falcon FG
 Gulf Western Oil Racing Holden VE Commodore Series II

RACE 2 - 150km

1. Garth Tander,
2. Jason Richards,
3. Alex Davison,
4. Jamie Whincup,
5. Rick Kelly,
6. Craig Lowndes,
7. Fabian Coulthard,
8. Jason Bright,
9. Shane van Gisbergen,
10. Will Davison,
24. Warren Luff

Toll Holden Racing Team Holden VE Commodore Series II
 Team BOC Holden VE Commodore Series II
 Irwin Racing Ford Falcon FG
 TeamVodafone Holden VE Commodore Series II
 Jack Daniel's Racing Holden VE Commodore Series II
 TeamVodafone Holden VE Commodore Series II
 Bundaberg Racing Holden VE Commodore Series II
 Team BOC Holden VE Commodore Series II
 SP Tools Racing Ford Falcon FG
 Trading Post Racing FPR Ford Falcon FG
 Gulf Western Oil Racing Holden VE Commodore Series II

RACE 3 - 100km

1. Jamie Whincup,
2. Greg Murphy,
3. Garth Tander,
4. Shane van Gisbergen,
5. Todd Kelly,
6. Michael Caruso
7. Tim Slade,
8. Fabian Coulthard,
9. James Courtney,
10. Jason Bright,
- DNF. Warren Luff

TeamVodafone Holden VE Commodore Series II
 Pepsi Max Crew Holden VE Commodore Series II
 Toll Holden Racing Team Holden VE Commodore Series II
 SP Tools Racing Ford Falcon FG
 Jack Daniel's Racing Holden VE Commodore Series III
 Fujitsu Racing GRM Holden Commodore VE Series II
 Lucky 7 Racing Ford Falcon FG
 Bundaberg Racing Holden VE Commodore Series II
 Toll Holden Racing Team Holden VE Commodore Series II
 Team BOC Holden VE Commodore Series II
 Gulf Western Oil Racing Holden VE Commodore Series II

NEXT EVENT - ITM 400 HAMILTON NZ 15 - 17 APRIL



Hamilton Street Circuit,
Hamilton, New Zealand

Circuit Length: 3.4km

Race Direction: Clockwise

A genuine street circuit in the heart of the Frankton business district in Hamilton, the 3.4-kilometre circuit is relatively fast and flowing with several good passing opportunities. The track runs alongside the Waikato Stadium – home of Rugby Super 14 team the Waikato Chiefs - and the international cricket ground at Seddon Park.



To keep up to date with the latest news from Lucas Dumbrell Motorsport and Gulf Western Oil Racing visit:
 Twitter: LD_Motorsport
 Facebook: facebook.com/LDMotorsport
 www.ldmotorsport.com.au

