

2008 Mt Buller Sprint

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Media Release

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Tasmania's Joint 2008 Tarmac Challenge Winner
Tony Longhurst will contest Mt Buller Sprints Nov, 1-3, 2008



October 4 – 5, 2008 - Tony Longhurst (Above) Ties with Tasmania's
Jamie Vandenberg to WIN Tasmania's Tarmac Challenge

Tony Longhurst, A twice Bathurst 1000 winner (winning the event in 1988 and 2001) and only one of three drivers to win Bathurst driving both a Ford and Holden (the others being Criag Lowndes and Steven Richards). Tied, with local Tasmanian driver Jamie Vandenberg to WIN, Tasmania's 2008 Tarmac Challenge Rally, run over the immensely demanding and spectacular mountain and valley tarmac roads of the Apple Isle's North West Coast across the weekend of October 4 - 5.

Longhurst, a former Australian Champion Water Skier and one of Australia's most respected Touring Car Championship and V8 Super Car Series drivers, announced his retirement from competitive circuit racing after 2005's Bathurst 1000. *continues*

However the lure of tarmac rallying has captured his attention since retirement. Longhurst commenting - *' I enjoyed circuit racing when I was in the prime of my career in the 1990's, the last few years, driving around a circuit hundreds of times became quite stale, which is quite different to tarmac rallying which I'm enjoying the challenge of'*

The epitome of perfection and clear focused determination Longhurst's unassuming and intensely methodical style allowing him to record the highest race win percentage score of any of his peers during his successful years competing in the Australian Super Touring Championships between. 1994 – 2001.

And if results are any indication of the Queenslander's Tarmac rally driving ability since entering the fray, the sport of tarmac rally, can only gain further momentum. Especially with down to earth character 's like Tony Longhurst, whose record in just three short year's of selective competition already includes a fourth and third outright in the nation's premier tarmac rally Targa Tasmania together with a fifth and third outright in the major pre-cursor tarmac rally to Targa Tasmania Rally Tasmania. Particularly when you consider, as he says himself, *'he's still getting used to driving on pace-notes with a co-driver'*

Moving forward one things for sure, the arrival of Tony Longhurst at the Mt Buller Sprint, competitions across November 1 – 3, 2008, in just three (3) weeks time is going to mean the *urgency to get 'UP'* Mt Buller's sixteen (16) kilometre tarmac hill climb is going to be ON from the word GO.

So Don't MISS the Action – Come Nov 1-3, 2008

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