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June 2011 - Newsletter

A BIG HI to all our sponsors, supporters and interested followers, welcome to our June Newsletter.

What a HUGE month we have just had with some really positive progress on our car. We have met and started to work with some great new sponsors and professional people, all of which are who are donating their time and services to our ground-breaking project.



<http://www.advanced.net.au/>

V8 Supercars - We started the month with an appearance at the V8 Supercars with our good friends and sponsors Advanced Electrical Equipment. We had on display our Megaboom rocket motor and some promotional signage. This was an exciting weekend with a great atmosphere and fantastic racing.



Great view of the racing from Advanced Electrical Equipments corporate area





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Alex Blain our Sponsorship and Marketing guru held the fort on the Saturday as I attended a wedding. Alex spoke about our project to anyone that would listen and plenty did. I was there on the Sunday and had a ball with Advanced Electrical Equipment bosses Peter and Gavin, a truly great and enjoyable weekend.



Pictures from the great day at the V8 Supercars at Barbagallo Raceway

“V” Underside - Mike Annear has been working overtime designing the 7 forward tapered frame sections on our cars underside. This section tapers the cars underside inwards after the nose and front suspension. It is the last section that needs completing before we can turn the car over and hopefully we will not see the car upside down again, especially if I am driving it.



<http://www.fielders.com.au/>



<http://www.dicandilo.com.au/>



roweandsons@three.com.au



Mike again came up with the goods, completed CAD drawings on time and they looked spot on. Next we forwarded the drawings to **Di Candilo Steel City** for the seven frames to be cut out via their plasma cutter. Peter Walsh was straight onto the job and had these done overnight. Great work guys.

Rowe and Sons receive the frame from us and get straight to work

We then asked our mate Dave Flynn at **Fielders** to bend up our side rails which were quite complex because of the tapering angles. Dave folded these rails for us overnight and the following day Pete Taylor, Chris Demunck and I tack welded this complete framework together. Once completed we delivered this to **Rowe and Sons** who professionally sheeted this for us in six sections and what an enormous undertaking. Not only did they brilliantly form the sheets but the fastening angles alone were a week of tedious work, thank you all so much.



Fastening angles took a week of work





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The Rowe & Sons team. After me L to R is Oliver Rowe, Mark Meares, Richard Rowe, Darren Rowe & Nick Rowe



<http://www.weldingtraining.net.au/>

Once we had the frame back with all the shaped panels, we then needed to find a professional welding team to align and weld this section to our cars mainframe. After talking to our friends at Gentronics we were put in touch with **ENRYB International Welder Training**. I met with Stuart Byrne and Lawson Fresher and a decision was made to assist us with the welding work on our beast. Lawson, Nick White and team member Steve Sugden arrived at the workshop two days later and spent all day prepping welding and grinding this section into place, it is a work of art and I thank all involved for their great skill and effort.



Looking down the mainframe you can see the great work by everyone involved with this section completed





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Steering Update - We recently had a setback with our steering plans, we had always planned on using 2 x hydraulic rams to steer our car via a steering wheel pump or helm pump as the boaties refer to it. The design criteria for this took a very long time with lots of design ideas and changes along the way, so much so that it all got too hard.



<http://www.majormotors.com.au/>

After speaking with team member Keith Lovatt and our good friend Steve Blackwood at Major Motors, we decided to take a look at the new NLR-200 Isuzu truck power steering rack. This rack turned out to be not only robust and compact but it also uses a "V" drive gearbox with a slightly overdrive ratio. This combination looked exactly what we were after and by using 2 "V" drives we able to link the rack directly to the steering wheel and will connect the power/hydraulics via an onboard hydraulic powerpak.

Thank you Bob, Frank, Michael, Steve and the crew at **Major Motors**, very much appreciated.



<http://www.scitech.org.au/>

Because of our extremely busy workload with Mark Read continually responding to requests for technical information on our car and a number of requests for appearances by myself to present to schools, clubs, community groups and companies, we decided we needed help in this area as it is becoming a lot bigger part of what we were doing.

Scitech and Learning Program - Mark Read and Alex Blain set about working out how we could best address this. They talked to a very well known and respected local resource in Perth called **Scitech**. They have some fantastic facilities and travelling shows which educate kids in the STEM subjects, Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.

Mark, Alex and I met with the Simon Carroll, Jason Boudville and Claire Patterson at Scitech and were shown around this amazing facility. Scitech have invited us to be part of their **WA Young Innovator of the Year 2011 Program**. As part of the program, 14-16 year-old participants attend an afternoon launch event on Sunday July 3 to meet real innovators and engineers.

Mark Read has been looking for a WA science teacher to run this side of the project. We have someone already wanting to take this on and help us develop material that can be taught in a fun





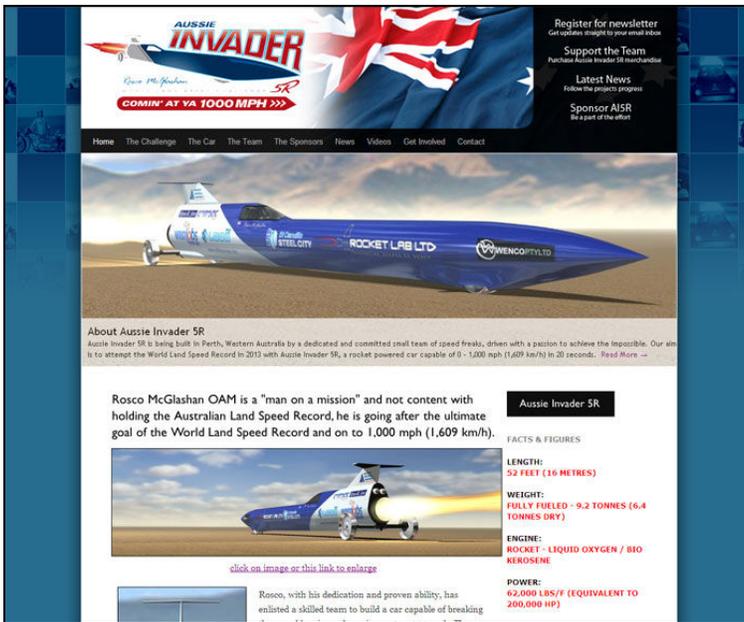
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way and also downloaded from the website for schools, kids and the WA community.

We know our friends and rivals in the Bloodhound team perform this role with great success in the UK and have over 4,000 schools and universities involved, with the UK government backing the program. We have found ourselves moving towards this by sheer weight of interest in what we are trying to achieve, let's hope our government wants to be involved too.

It is early stages and will let you know more about this very soon but our plan is to establish an educational aspect of our project to excite and motivate all of Australia and get people thinking about a career or further education in one of the STEM subjects.

This all takes time, money and resources and we will be looking for corporate partners to help fund this, so if your company would like to get involved, please email alexb@aussieinvader.com.



Visit the new website at <http://www.aussieinvader.com/>

The website has undergone a complete rewrite and update, which Mark Read and Kieran Molloy have spent many hours over. This was needed as the project is changing so fast and the new site will be far easier to maintain and update.

New content is still being added and transferred over from the old site, but we wanted this up as soon as possible.

There are some great videos on the new site and we have a new section called "Get Involved". This will be where we will launch our new education section for schools and kids, have our merchandise and newsletter registration, etc.

<http://www.aussieinvader.com/the-merchandise/>

Spark Models - Whilst we are on the subject of merchandise, I was approached by Clive Rigby of Spark Models who wanted to make a model of Aussie Invader III. After some discussion it was agreed that they would make a limited edition model of Aussie Invader 5R and Aussie Invader II also.

Spark Models are a leading specialist producer of high quality collectors' models. They have already produced a series of record cars including Thrust 2, Thrust SSC, Blue Flame and the British Steam Car. I shall update you as the development progresses but as you can see from the images shown these



Aussie Invader 5R in the initial design stage





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will be great models and collectors' items.



View more models at <http://www.sparkmodel.com/>

Thank you all for your continued support and until our next newsletter, be your very best.

Rosco McGlashan

Rosco McGlashan OAM
Fastest Aussie on Earth

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