

# NEWSLETTER

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With the GFC and the downturn in the Australian and particularly the Queensland economy, high end items like high performance sports cars and boats have suffered a significant reduction in sales.

DRB Sportscars have not been immune from the financial crisis and over the last eighteen months there has been a significant reduction in sales of GT40's, Cobra's and DRB540's. During this period, DRB have taken the opportunity to restructure and streamline the operation to improve the efficiency of the business, including the fabrication, composite and assembly/maintenance shops. During the last few months sales have significantly



improved, particularly in the USA, where our dealer **Cary Gressinger**, in Portland, Oregon, has ordered four GT40s consisting of body-chassis units plus all the components to build the cars. The included photos show the first two body-chassis units being packed in the container for shipment to the USA. The design team have been busy over the last two months modifying the DRB540 chassis cabin area to allow the donor vehicle A/C – heater

unit to be fitted and also moving the rear wall to enable the seat to be moved back to allow very tall drivers to fit more comfortably in the cabin.

The most important project undertaken on the DRB540 is the development of the roof. **Gary Skaines** has now com-



pleted the plug and making the mould and mouldings can now be undertaken. Photos and the details are on page two.

**Peter Ransom**

## DRB CARPARK BEAUTIES....

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## LATEST ON THE EVER POPULAR DRB 540!



*DRB 540  
UPDATE*



We are making excellent progress with the development of the hard/soft top for the DRB540. **Gary Skaines** is making a plug out of timber, plywood and fibreglass sheet that is exactly the same shape as the final fibreglass roof. When completed, a fibreglass mould is taken off the plug. The mould will consist of a number of sections with flanges around the perimeter that bolt together to form a female mould of the roof. The mould surface is then prepared and the production roof is made in the mould by hand laying fibreglass and resin.

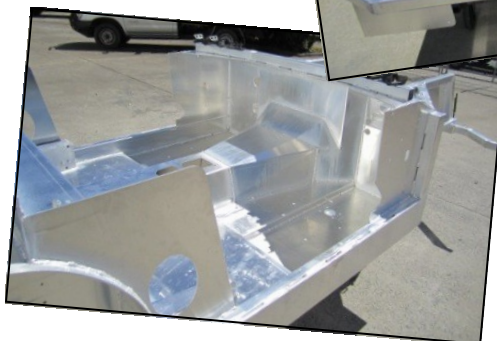
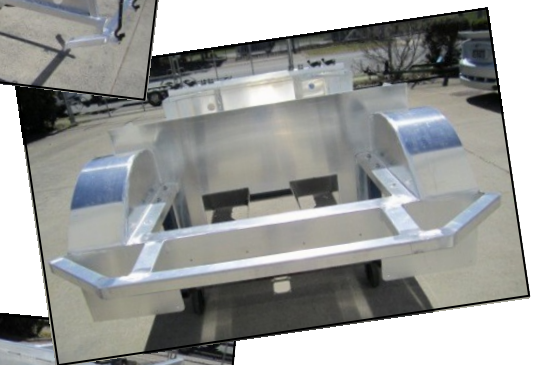
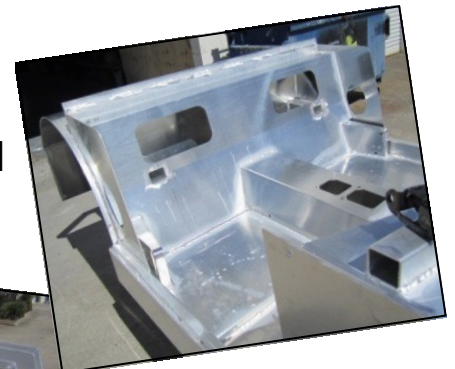


We are now at the stage where the plug has been completed and is being prepared for the next step of taking off a mould. Photos show the hard/soft top plug with the rear quarter and back window marked out.

## DRB 540 CHASSIS CONSTRUCTION

The chassis of the 540 could not be assembled with such ease and precision without the invaluable contribution of Barry's Laser Cutting in Molendinar. **Scott Watling** and his team are very experienced in CAD design. With their LVD Axel-S laser cutting system they are able to produce incredibly accurate panels for the 540 with very short lead times. Access to these facilities has enabled DRB to efficiently produce components for other projects that in the past were difficult to make using traditional methods.

*INTRODUCING  
BARRY'S LASER  
CUTTING*



# Mark Petersen

Mark Petersen's turnkey GT40 has been completed and registered and is ready for delivery to its new home in Rockingham City, WA.

Mark loved the classic GT40 shape, but wanted his car to have a modern look. His specification included super wide bodywork with 245/17 front and 335/17 rear Pirelli P-Zero tyres, Harrop brakes with 350 rotors and 4 pot callipers, twin headlamps, no NACA ducts, flush aircraft style fuel caps, air intake snorkels on the rear deck, exhaust outlets through the rear mesh side panels, Boss 5.4 350 kW motor controlled by a MoTec ECU with a Mil spec wiring loom, with heat exchanger and Accusump, Porsche 5 speed G50.52 transaxle with LSD, pump and oil cooler, leather and Domino Alcontara trimmed cabin with AIM digital dashboard and visual display unit.

Mark's GT40, painted by our master painter **John Rowe**, is finished in DuPont 2 Pack with a clear coat over Blood Orange with Bionic Blue stripes and black pin striping.



*CUSTOMER  
CAR OF  
THE MONTH*





29 Old Pacific Hwy  
Yatala QLD 4207

Phone: 07 3807 2480  
Fax: 07 3807 1923  
E-mail:  
admin@drbsportscars.com

We're on the Web!  
[www.drbsportscars.com](http://www.drbsportscars.com)

***DRB still produce the most popular kit in Australia!***

## OUR TEAM

### PROPRIETOR

Peter Ransom

### Engineering

Todd Ransom

### Assembly workshop

Gary Skaines

Scott Bartie

Murray Scoble

### Fabrication

Colin Menham

### Composites

Jason Stephenson (Manager)

Joel Morrison

### Administration

Suzy Wallace / Melinda Keighley

DHB Enterprises Pty. Ltd. had produced Kit Cars in Australia for over 25 years and produced the DRB Cobra replica in 1992 and the GT40 replica in 1997. The prototype DRB GT40 is now over 11 years old and has traveled in excess of 100,000 trouble free kilometres.

Peter Ransom, a civil engineer who had built up a consulting business and had a passion for sports cars and motor racing, purchased his first DRB GT40 body/chassis unit (number 21) together with a complete kit of parts about 11 years ago and built his own car. He was so impressed by the engineering and quality of the product and the attention to detail that when Denis Bedford decided to retire and sell the GT40 manufacturing business, he purchased it. Peter has now been trading as GT40 Australia for over 10 years, manufacturing GT40 body/chassis's over 100 units and kits of specialist parts. GT40 Australia have completed the construction of a number of 'turnkey' GT40's, hand built to suit each customer and have also developed export markets with DRB GT40's being sold in England, USA & New Zealand.

After GT40 Australia had been trading for 2 years, the opportunity of purchasing the DRB Cobra manufacturing business came about. The chance of being able to manufacture replicas of GT40's and Cobra's, that had won the hearts and minds of motoring enthusiasts World wide in the 1960's by wining LeMans and most other endurance races around the World could not be missed. With all the history of wining races, including the World Sports Car Championship, many enthusiasts consider that the two most outstanding sports cars ever built were the GT40 (Coupe) and the Cobra (Roadster). GT40 Australia purchased the moulds, jigs, templates and intellectual property and commenced manufacturing DRB Cobra replica's. Over 100 DRB GT40's and over 350 DRB Cobra body/chassis units and kits of parts have been sold. Body/chassis units, rolling chassis's and turnkey GT40's and Cobra's have been exported and these sports cars are now being driven in England, USA, Japan and New Zealand.

55 GT40's have been completed and registered in Australia, 9 in USA, 5 in NZ and 1 in England



Factory SAUSAGE SIZZLES **12th NOV 2010@ NOON**  
**11th DEC 2010 @ NOON**  
**8th JAN 2011 @ NOON**

**SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCES,  
BUILD TIPS AND TRICKS, AND LUNCH IS  
ON US!**

**ALL WELCOME**

