

Port Macquarie racer ready for Wittitrin 200

Port Macquarie accountant Chris Browning is set to once again tackle the hills and paddocks at the back of Kempsey May 29/30 when he competes in the annual Wittitrin 200 Off Road Race.

Originally from Kempsey, Browning has a passion for motorsport, and has competed in a long list of Off Road races in the Macleay Valley, going as far back as his youth.

His target in recent years has been to do well in the Wittitrin 200, a race covering over 200 kilometres of bush tracks, paddocks, and rough terrain.

After finishing 20th outright and 4th in class in 2008, last year Browning almost upstaged many of his more fancied rivals when he finished 5th outright and 1st in class. He may well have won the event outright had it not been for a steering problem in Heat 1 that cost him 13 minutes in time.

Against all odds, Browning had dominated the five minute Prologue course (used to determine the event start order) by finishing more than 40 seconds ahead of his closest opponent.

What makes Browning's 2009 efforts even more remarkable are that he was competing in the Sportsman Class for buggies under 1300cc, whereas the majority of his outright rivals were running V8 or turbo charged engines.

In 2010 Browning will once again face the starter behind the wheel of his trusty Rivmasta buggy powered by a Suzuki engine, with the support of Macquarie Business Accountants. Dean Mavin will be riding in the navigator seat.

Chris Browning has unfinished business with the Wittitrin 200, and maybe 2010 will see his perseverance rewarded.

The Wittitrin 200 is held on private property to the west of Kempsey. Full catering is available on the ground, with spectators admitted free all weekend. For full details of the event visit www.kempseyoffroadracing.net



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11 Murray St
(Cnr Clarence & Murray Sts)
Port Macquarie