



**MARTIN DOXEY RACING**

## Doxey is Australian GTP Production Car Champion

Twenty seven year old Martin Doxey, of Martin Doxey Racing Bilstein Holden Astra Team, in Benalla wrapped up the seven round series of the Australian GTP Production Car Championship on the weekend. Martin who runs the Holden Astra SRI team for Holden Motorsport and Bilstein Shock Absorbers has chased this dream for eleven years.

“It is great to finally make my dream come true” said Doxey “This shows all the people that doubted me that if you never give in you can achieve your goals. The suspension on my car made the difference, without the Australian distributor, Quadrant Suspensions; I wouldn’t have had the set-up to do it”

Quadrant Suspension sent Technicians Jim Doxey, Darren Rexter and Dave Bath to each round of the series in their mobile Bilstein workshop bus. At each round the technicians tuned Doxey’s Bilstein Shock Absorbers to take pole position at a number of rounds.

“The set up changes the boys performed to the rear of my car at Phillip Island put me on pole position and won me race one, without their knowledge the team wouldn’t have the Championship.”

The Martin Doxey Racing (MDR) Holden Astra Team had a dream run in the last round of the GTP Production Car Championship at Phillip Island on the weekend. Doxey in the Holden Astra took pole position, was first in race one and second in race two which gave the team the round victory and the Australian GTP Production Car Championship touring cars.

The weather man forecast rain for the weekend but the drivers were greeted with blue skies and sun when they went out for qualifying on Saturday afternoon. The Martin Doxey Racing Holden Astra team worked hard with technicians from Quadrant Suspensions to tune the cars over the weekend. Doxey took pole position from Steven White in the Proton, while Dave Mertens in the MDR Holden Vectra was fourth.

In race one on Sunday, Doxey and White battled fiercely right from the green light. White lead into turn one for the first time but the two swapped positions for the lead

many times. The crowd came to their feet as the White lead Doxey out of the last turn, however Doxey got him by a nose to win race one.

“Steve and I had a fantastic duell in race one. We went over Lukey Heights side by side a couple of times without even touching. That is what we need more of, good close racing.” said Doxey.

Mertens in the MDR Holden Vectra battled with David Runkel in the Proton. The pair swapped positions for third place a number of times with Runkel eventually taking third.

In race two Doxey beat White into turn one for the first time but the Proton driver went around the Astra in turn two. Doxey fought back to lead the remainder of the first lap.



*Martin Doxey in the Martin Doxey Racing Bilstein Holden Astra*

“I know that I definitely like chasing rather than being chased.” said Doxey “Its hard to keep your rhythm up when your having to watch your mirror all the time, but I could sure get used to leading a lot more”

White eventually got by Doxey at turn two and it was up to Doxey to chase again. Doxey lost a bit of ground when he locked a brake going into Honda corner but he soon made up the ground.

The race was brought under Safety Car when Toyota Celica driver Aaron McGill had a coming together with another competitor and was stranded coming off Lukey Heights corner.

Meanwhile Mertens in the Vectra had got the better of Runkel and was sitting in third behind Doxey. The Safety Car lights went out and White got the jump on Doxey as the field took the green flag. White took the win from Doxey and Mertens but Doxey took the Phillip Island round victory and the Championship.

“It was truly a fantastic weekend for the team. Everyone has put in such a huge effort to get me here this season especially Mum and Dad, Dave and Trish Mertens and Holden Motorsport Manger John Stevenson. It is not my Championship it is the teams and the sponsors Championship, without them I wouldn’t have had the chance to make my dream come true.”



*Dave Mertens in the Martin Doxey Bilstein Holden Vectra*

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