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LIFELONG DREAM DRIVES TREVOR



New Beith man in
bid to set land
speed record



For many men the backyard shed is a refuge, a place to spend Sunday afternoon. For Trevor Slaughter, the backyard shed is the place he goes to build SV3 (pictured left) in a bid to realise a long held dream to set a land speed record. As the car nears completion, Trevor is closing in on his dream. Read his inspiring story on pages 6 & 7.

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Trevor in bid to set

The key targets

- To break the world land speed record of 552km/h for a three litre engine car.
- To break Donald Campbell's long standing Australian record of 648km/h for a wheel-driven vehicle.
- To break Don Vesco's world land speed record of 737km/h, thus being the fastest wheel driven vehicle in the world.
- To be the first Australian to hold a world land speed record.

'More people have been to the moon than have gone over 400 miles per hour on Earth.'

The man who inspired Trevor's journey

DONALD Campbell was a man who dared to dream big.

A well-known figure in the world of land speed records, Campbell is the first and only person to set both land and water speed records in the same year.

On July 17, 1964, Campbell drove Bluebird at 648km/h, and although at the time he set the overall land speed record, he was disappointed as he had built the car to reach speeds of 690km/h.

On the final day of 1964, he also set the world water speed record at Lake Dumbleyung near Perth, reaching 444.71km/h.



Donald Campbell.



Bluebird.

Campbell's land speed record did not stand long however, with jet-propelled vehicles gaining popularity, leading to Spirit of America to break Bluebird's record.

Campbell died in 1967 while attempting a world water speed record.

By Brenton Waters

editor@jimboombatimes.com.au

IN 1964, Britain's Donald Campbell realised a lifelong dream as he drove his wheel-driven car Bluebird at more than 648 kilometres per hour across the salt flats of Lake Eyre in South Australia, setting a new world land speed record.

That same year, a 10-year-old Trevor Slaughter sat in Bluebird, and so a passion for motorsport and going fast was kindled.

Forty-six years later, Mr Slaughter is inching closer to realising his own dream as he attempts to set a new land speed record and claim the title of having the fastest wheel-driven car in the world.

Mr Slaughter has been slowly but surely building the Slaughter Motorsport Streamliner in a shed at the back of his New Beith home. Although construction has taken four years so far, the journey towards realising his dream started long ago.

Mr Slaughter began researching what he would need to set a land speed record in 1985 and spent four years designing a car.

"I've always been interested in drag racing and at the time while I was playing around with dragsters I wondered what they could do if they just kept going and didn't stop after 400 metres. So I started doing some research to find out what I would need to do to set a land speed record," he said.

Wondering turned to action four years ago when, with the help of a handful of supporters, Mr Slaughter began building the Streamliner, also known as SV3 because it is the third version of his design.

The Streamliner is a three litre wheel-driven car which when complete should weigh about 1727kg, measure about 8.7m long,



An artist's impression of SV3

have 1500 horsepower and eventually, with the right engine, surpass speeds of 740km/h.

Mr Slaughter plans to first run the car with a Toyota 2JZ engine but will eventually install a GE T58 turbine engine, as used in military helicopters.

The current overall world land speed record is held by Britain's Andy Green who drove the jet-propelled ThrustSSC car to 1228km/h. Mr Slaughter's car will not have to match that feat however as there are several categories for land speed records.

The record Mr Slaughter hopes to break is for wheel-driven cars - those without jet propulsion technology - and is currently held by American Don Vesco's Turbinator, which was clocked at 737km/h.

It is a goal Mr Slaughter is confident he can achieve, although the magnitude of the task is not lost on him.

"More people have been to the moon than have gone over 400 miles per hour (643km/h) on Earth," he said.

Mr Slaughter said since starting work on the Streamliner he had been asked many times why he was chasing a land speed record. His response is simple.

"The challenge. People say 'Why do you want to do it' but why do people want to climb Mt Everest, ultimately it is the challenge. More importantly though is to do it in something which I have designed and built myself, with the help of friends," he said.

Mr Slaughter said he hoped to begin system tests on the car later this year and hoped to have the car hitting the salt flats of South Australia in early 2011.

Follow Trevor's progress at:
www.slaughtermotorsport.com

www.cobblepatch.com.au

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land speed record



Trevor Slaughter has been working on the Slaughter Motorsport Streamliner, the car he hopes will help him to set a new world land speed record, for the past four years.



A work in progress: Trevor Slaughter's Streamliner, at his New Beith home.

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