

## Bathurst 12 Hour

Unfortunately, the challenge of Mount Panorama proved too much for us this year. With constant bad weather making conditions on the mountain unpredictable, it was always going to be a case of survival and luck on the mountain in this year's 12 hour race.

Tim Poulton started the race in the awkward early morning light amid tricky, damp conditions. While doing an excellent job in the unpredictable environment, an exhaust problem forced an unscheduled repair stop. Following a short delay the car was back out on the track with Rob Thomson behind the wheel and bad weather closing in. After some fast laps in the dry, the rain came down quite heavy and although the car felt very good, the conditions were difficult to drive in.

On lap 55, after a safety car restart, the Lotus was caught behind a number of slower cars going up the Mountain, and visibility behind the cars was extremely poor. Whether due to oil on the track or losing traction on a white line the car had significant snap oversteer moment that was completely unexpected, it was so quick there was no chance of reacting and the car hit the wall, damaging the LHS suspension. Soon after the conditions were deemed unsafe and the Safety Car was again deployed.

Although the car was able to make it to pit lane the damage was too severe to be repaired. Unfortunately, rookie Bathurst driver Richard Shillington from WA was unable to get a drive in the race and the team was very apologetic for that.

Again it was a monumental effort from the team to get to Bathurst and the crew were fantastic support all weekend. Thanks have to go to the following team members for their support. Rjay Electrical, Majer Tiles, Kumho Tyres, Sherry's Termite Protection and Planbuild Homes. We plan to be back next year for another crack at this challenging event. The entire crew are looking at a new car for next year's race and for other racing events on the calendar to facilitate more flexibility with promotional activities. The team at queenslandhouseandland.com racing team are all eager for a podium finish in next years Bathurst 12 hour.



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