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**TOP SPEED:** Leigh Drennan (left) with Aaron Suffolk and the sprintcar that Aaron will now race competitively starting with his first race in October at Yandina.

# Sprint to success

By JANE GARDNER  
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IT'S a classic story of the diamond in the rough — where the ageing legend puts the onus on a younger version of himself, confident in the belief they'll continue the dream.

After 30 years in the hot seat sprintcar driver Leigh Drennan has decided to take a back seat and hand the proverbial keys over to up-and-coming Ballina speedway star, Aaron Suffolk.

The seat may be small, but

the position is a big one to fill, however, Aaron isn't phased in the slightest.

"I don't get nervous," he said. "I've only been out in a sprintcar once, but it was awesome."

At just 28-years-old, Aaron has been competing in speedway racing for five years and reckons sprintcars won't be too much of a stretch.

He has stars in his eyes and aspires to eventually make big money overseas.

Being given a sprintcar to play with is just the beginning,

according to Leigh, who is his unofficial manager.

Aaron and his father, Graham, rebuilt engines for Leigh's car, a fitting task for the man who would one day race it.

"I'm just too old for the wear and tear of it all," said Leigh. "I wanted to give a young person a go and a chance to make it into the big league," Leigh said.

"When you're in the limelight it tends to open up doors and he may just make it to full-time paid driving."

The recently re-painted

sprintcar is worth around \$50,000 and is 'not cheap' to maintain. It can cost a further \$50,000 just to rebuild the engine.

Aaron recently married his high school sweetheart, Rarchelle, who has always supported his desire to race overseas.

"I'd love to get into the big time and this year is the opening for both of us," Aaron said.

■ Aaron expects to race at 28 meetings this season with his first race in the sprintcar October 8, in Yandina.

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**\$21,995**

**8/2002 HOLDEN VU S-PACK UTE**

3.8 litre V6, auto., air and steer, cruise control, 17" alloys, sport bar, tint, one owner, 35,000km. Glamour! AMR-23X.



**\$22,995**

**4/2003 SUBARU FORESTER X**

2.5 litre, 5-speed, air, steer, cruise, power windows, ABS, dual airbags, racks, tint, towbar, one owner, books, in silver. S/N 7722.



**\$10,995**

**10/1997 TOYOTA COROLLA SECA**

1.6 litre, 5-speed, air and steer, central locks, inland owner, full books, 71,000km. A ripper! WJN-945.



**\$9995**

**05/2001 HOLDEN BARINA XC 3-DOOR HATCH**

1.4 litre, man., air-cond., power steer, dual airbags, CD, remote locks, one owner 106,000km. ZDN-933.



**\$16,995**

**01/2001 MITSUBISHI TJ EXECUTIVE WAGON**

3.5 litre V6, auto, air-cond., power steer, airbag, CD, remote locks, Frola racks, cargo barrier, one owner, 48,000km. Glamour! AE-40-UI



**\$14,995**

**01/2003 HYUNDAI ELANTRA GL SEDAN**

1.8 ltr., manual, air-cond., power steer, power windows, ABS, air bag, CD, alloy wheels, spoiler, sold new 2004. One owner, 15,000 km, as new! ZCC-872.



**\$11,995**

**12/1997 HOLDEN VT ACCLAIM SEDAN**

V6, auto., air, steer, cruise, ABS, dual bags, traction control, CD, 16" alloys, spoiler, 106,000km. XVW-334.



**\$11,995**

**8/1996 TOYOTA HILUX 2WD DUAL CAB DIESEL**

2.8 litre diesel, air-cond., power steer, canopy, towbar, 172,000km, good original vehicle. S/N 7709.



**\$35,995**

**4/2003 NISSAN PATROL DX WAGON**

3.0L intercooled turbo diesel 4-spd auto, a/c, p/s, airbag, roof bar, towbar, wide wheels, clocking and factory wty. One owner, with a full history. 68,000 km. YRU-299.



**\$11,500**

**10/2000 KIA RIO LS HATCH**

5-spd, air, steer, CD, 15" alloys, body kit, leather sports trim, tint, 80,000 km, books. A real head turner! XHU-344



**\$15,995**

**6/2002 FORD AU FALCON FORTE WAGON**

4.0 litre EFI, auto., air-cond., p/steer, dual bags, ABS, power front windows, CD, remote locks, tint, log books, one owner. Original 79,000 kms. YBB-615.



**\$17,995**

**02/1997 MITSUBISHI NK GLS PAJERO 7-SEATER**

3.5 litre V6, man., air-cond., power steer, cruise cont., power windows, one city owner, 123,000km. Immaculate!! QUS-942.



**\$19,995**

**12/2002 FORD BA FUTURA SEDAN**

4 litre sport shift auto., air, steer, ABS, cruise, power windows, CD, spoiler and alloys, log books, mercury silver, 63,000km. ACT-27Y.



**\$17,995**

**6/2000 HOLDEN RODEO SPACE CAB 4WD**

2.8 litre turbo diesel, 5-speed, air-conditioning, power steering, bullbar, towbar, alloy tray, one owner inland truck, 154,000km. WTD-964.



**\$17,995**

**11/2003 NISSAN PULSAR ST SEDAN**

1.8 litre auto, air, steer, cruise control, airbag, CD, remote locks, rear wing. One owner. 29,000 km. S/N 7673



**\$26,995**

**7/2003 FORD BA XR6 FALCON**

182kw motor, tiptronic automatic, premium sound, new tyres, 1 owner, 56,000km, full log books, unmarked mercury silver duo, lovely car. S/N 7705.



**\$14,995**

**08/1999 MITSUBISHI EXPRESS MWB TELSTRA VAN**

2.4 litre EFI, man., air-cond., power steer, dual side doors, full racks and shelving, log books, 99,000km. AB-26-HO.



**\$29,995**

**05/2003 NISSAN PATHFINDER ST 4WD WAGON**

3.3 ltr V6, auto, air cond, power steer, power windows, cruise cont., dual airbags, ABS, cargo barrier, towbar, one owner, 65,000km, factory warranty! YSJ-270.



**\$12,995**

**2/2002 HYUNDAI ACCENT 5 DOOR HATCH**

1.5 litre twin cam, 5-speed, air-cond., power steer, airbag, CD, remote locks, 1 owner, 46,000km, 2 year warranty. ATR-57A.



**\$21,995**

**8/2002 HOLDEN VY COMMODORE EXECUTIVE WAGON**

V6 automatic, air-conditioning, 17" alloys power steering, dual bags, ABS, CD, remote locking, one owner, log books, 61,000km. Delt blue duo. Outstanding! S/No. 7648.



**\$18,995**

**03/1998 TOYOTA HILUX 4WD TRAY**

3.0 litre dsl, air-cond., power steer, bullbar, towbar, heavy duty tray, one owner 124,000km. Top truck! VLM-487.



**\$32,995**

**4/2002 TOYOTA HZJ78 LANDCRUISER TRAYBACK**

4.2 litre diesel, 5-speed, air, steer, dual tanks, snorkel, roof bar, towbar, wide wheels, new alloy tray and service books. One owner and a ripper! 108,000km. XYY-149.



**\$14,995**

**01/1997 TOYOTA RAV WAGON**

2.0 litre, auto., air-cond., power steer, remote locks, tint, towbar, log books 131,000km. QTC-527.



**\$30,995**

**3/2004 FORD BA XR6 TURBO SEDAN**

Sport shift auto., air, steer, front and side airbags, ABS, premium brake package, CD, tint, reverse sensors, power windows etc. One owner and balance of new car warranty. Refined performance. 34,000km. ZGC-360.

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