

BORN TO RIDE

Toby Price



TOBY Price is a name young motocross fans, particularly in Griffith and surrounding areas, are familiar with. Just 25 years of age, this young man has followed his dream of reaching the top echelons of the motocross sport with an ardency that is commendable. The Area News chatted with Mr Price about where his dream began, where it has taken him and where he hopes it to lead.

When did you know you wanted to be a Motocross racer?

I had goals of becoming a Motocross rider when I was between 10 and 12 years of age. I was winning races and I was eager to keep going.

What was your mum's reaction?

Like any other mother's. She just wanted to make sure I came home safe. She was scared of what I wanted to do – she's still scared, but she knows how much I love it.

What was it that attracted you to motorbikes in the first place?

I lived on a big property near Hillston. That was about the only thing you could do. I had my first ride when I was two and my love for it just grew bigger as time went on.

Accidents are considered a given when racing bikes. Can you remember the first time you took a tumble?

I think the first time I took a tumble was the first time I was on a bike, when I was two. My major tumble when I was younger was probably the time I broke both my wrists on the farm practising.

What was your biggest tumble?

I had a couple of good ones. The one I broke my femur in 2004 pretty well slowed me down. In 2003, I broke both my wrists. I had a big surgery on my arm that left a decent scar. That's the worst part of it. The first week, you're down about and then when you start healing you're bursting to get back on the bike. You just want to get back on the bike and keep winning races.

What's the secret of your success?

You've got to put the hard work in on and off the bike. You've got to try to stay fit and healthy. You'll have a few broken bones along the way, but try to avoid them. I try to improve on areas that I think are weak.

Tell us about your family.

There's my mum and dad. My brother used to race as well, but he stopped much younger. My sister was disabled. She had cerebral palsy and was blind, but the family still cruised along. My sister passed away last year. That's life. My family has been very supportive. If it wasn't for my parents, I wouldn't be doing what I do. It's a pretty expensive sport and I'm very grateful for everything they've done. I just hope I can repay them some day.

Who is your favourite rider?

Ricky Carmichael

What is your favourite track?

Local track Condobolin or any type of sand track – like Dunedoo

What is your favourite ride?

KTM 500 EXE definitely

What is your favourite race?

The FINKE. It's such a well recognised race and it only comes around once a year, so you only get one shot at it. It's fast – you can reach speeds of up to 170 to 180km/h, which is pretty good for a bike.

What do you consider your career highlight?

My 2010 season, definitely. It's been my best year by far. I won the AORC outright in E2 class. I won the A4DE in class and outright. I won the FINKE Desert race on my first time. There have only been three people to do that and the last time was in 1987, the year I was born. I also won the Hattah Desert Race on my first try. That's my senior career. For my junior, it would have to be my last year in the juniors when I won both the top divisions in the Australian Motocross Championships (15 Years 125cc class and the 13-16 Years 250cc 4-stroke).

What advice would you give to up-and-coming riders?

To never give up. The sport is definitely not easy and if you want to do well, you have to really want it. Injuries happen, but try to stay injury-free. Give it everything.

What's your next race?

The International Six Day Enduro in Germany. I'm hoping for a better result this year. I got fourth in the E2 class and eighth over all. (Only six riders, out of all the riders in Australia, are chosen to represent their country.)



THE 6th ROUND OF THE GOLD WHEELS DIRT TRACK ON THIS SUNDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER 2012



DAVID GRAS AUTO ELECTRICS PTY. LTD.

On-Site Electrical & Air Conditioning SALES & REPAIRS

29 COLLIER STREET GRIFFITH PO BOX 5110 Griffith 2680

Telephone: (02) 6962 6162

Mobile: 0427 212 189

Email: davidgrase@iinet.au



YOUR RIVERINA YAMAHA DEALER

Layby your minibikes for Xmas and SAVE HUNDREDS of promo dollars! plus you will receive a free camping pack worth \$200* promotion ends 25 January

ATV deals and C-Dax sprayrigs now available.

Dixon Zero Turn Lawnmowers now in-store just in time for perfect summer lawn!

We do pink slips and motorcycle insurance for one stop bike shopping!



Remember to check out our genuine parts prices BEFORE you buy online!

ATV | AG | MX | ROAD | ENDURO Sales • Servicing New & Used Bikes • Accessories Monday to Friday 8:30am - 5:00pm • Saturday 9:00am - 1:00pm 188 Wakaden Street Griffith 2680 T: 02 6964 1880 E: sales@kirkmanmotorcycles.com W: kirkmanmotorcycles.com.au Find us on Facebook