



James Baker

JACK PERKINS

JACK BACK IN THE BOX SEAT

JACK PERKINS will return to the Dunlop Series at Barbagallo this weekend, with the former series runner-up hopeful of sticking around for the remainder of the season.

Perkins will drive for Eggleston Motorsport alongside Daniel Gaunt in the ex-Jonathon Webb Tekno Autosports VE Commodore.

"It all costs a lot of money so we need to make sure we've got the funds to get through the year," Perkins told *Auto Action*. "That's the intended plan.

"I don't enjoy sitting on the sidelines and I'm always looking at various options to go racing, and this is a good opportunity with some excellent equipment.

"I haven't driven a V8 Supercar since Bathurst. The equipment is good; Tekno performed really well in Perth last year, so we're going to go out and do the best job we can and hopefully that's in the top two or three." **LI**



Perkins may have been out of V8s for six months, but he's confident of a strong return

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DUNLOP SERIES

OWEN ENCORE

LEWIS ISAACS

STEVE OWEN has been officially confirmed as Chaz Mostert's replacement at Dunlop Series team MW Motorsport, with the veteran driver making a comeback to the series he dominated in 2010.

Owen, who will drive with Will Davison at the enduros, says his FPR links played a large role in cementing the seat at the front-running feeder team.

"Basically after they lost Chaz they had to put someone in, and with the FPR connection, losing one driver, getting another one was the logical deal," Owen told *AA*.

Owen has worked with the Finance Ezi team in a driver-coaching role since his departure from Dick Johnson Racing, and despite racing against the team, will continue mentoring young guns Josh Hunter and Andre Heimgartner.

"They (MW Motorsport) called me up and asked me if I could do it, and I've been helping the Finance Ezi team, which I'll continue to do – I'll just be on the grid at the same time as those guys," Owen continued.

"I'll have some real information on the day and hopefully that can help them out."

Owen has kept his seat time up after testing the Finance Ezi cars, but will not get his first run of the FPR-built MW Motorsport car until opening practice. And while he's still confident of challenging at the front of the pack, he remains cautious regarding a championship charge.

"It's going to be a little bit of a weird deal because we're a round behind, so we're probably not looking at winning the championship," he acknowledged. "But we'll get some miles for the enduros as best we can. "It's a lot more fun going to the enduros in the right car than in your own car trying to beat those cars. I had that experience in 2010."

MW Motorsport boss Matthew White says Owen's reputation helped seal the deal as Mostert's replacement.

"I've raced against him for a lot of years and rate him highly and he shouldn't be out of a seat," White explained to *AA*.

White also poured water on suggestions Owen could make a championship assault despite his experience.

"It's unlikely," White continued. "I'd like for him to be up there, but that means we'd need some misfortune (for other people) for that to happen."

While Owen will also race at Porsche's Rennsport event in May with James Koundouris and remains hopeful of another Australian GT drive, Matthew White praised Ant Pedersen, who was also a candidate for Mostert's seat.

"We tested Ant Pedersen and were rapt with the job he did and there might be some involvement there in the future," said White.

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STEVE OWEN



Twigg will race alongside Youlden at the prestigious Porsche event

PORSCHE PILOTS PILE IN

RENNSPORT

THE PORSCHE Rennsport lineup continues to take shape, with Luke Youlden joining Max Twigg and Rodney Jane signing with Nick Percat.

Jane joins fellow Dunlop Series regular Geoff Emery in the prestigious event, while Youlden says the race is an opportunity to get valuable miles in ahead of the V8 Supercar enduros.

"We've got a pretty good shot at winning with Max," said Youlden,

who works for the Porsche Driving School and still has hopes of racing in the Dunlop Series later this year. He also backed the Pro-Am format that gives them both a chance for overall victory.

"I'm looking forward to getting more miles in – I love these cars," he said. "The GT cars are just awesome to drive and you can really attack them. A track like Eastern Creek is really fast and flowing and these cars are really suited to it." **LI**