

HERRLIBERG / ZURICH SWITZERLAND TO THE MELBOURNE CUP AUSTRALIA

AN ADVENTURE IN A 1996 VOLVO POLAR STATION WAGON

Lukas Baumann departed his home in Switzerland on the 29th of March 2009 with one thing in mind to drive his 1996 Volvo Station Wagon across the world and end up at the Melbourne Cup in Australia.

Lukas and his current co-pilot Coralie Chanel from Broome made it into Halls Creek late last week and suffered radiator problems.

While in town we caught up with these adventurers to find out how the trip had gone so far.

Lukas who has had three co-pilots so far as his adventure has unfolded told some fantastic stories about the places he has been through and the amazing sites and experiences he

has had.

He even told us that he spent a night in prison in Pakistan for his own safety.

We asked Lukas why he is doing this journey, he said, "I want to drive my car from Switzerland (Herrliberg / Zurich) to Singapore and across Australia to visit people, relatives, friends, business relations, clients and colleagues."

To date, Lukas and his trusty Volvo have driven through Switzerland, Lichtenstein, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, Turkey, Iran, Pakistan, India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore and he is on his final stretch to Melbourne and hope to arrive in Melbourne on the 27th



Lukas Baumann and his current co-pilot Coralie Chanel with his 1996 Volvo Polar Station Wagon

of October just in time for the Melbourne Cup.

Lukas tells us, that the organisers of the cup are expecting him, so make sure you look for him on

Melbourne Cup day at Flemington.

There are a few more strings to his bow, as this is not only an endurance test for

Volvo, he is also testing other electronic items for manufacturers as he continues his journey.

We wish him and Coralie a safe journey.

SUSTAINABLE INTEGRATED INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING PROJECT FOR HALLS CREEK

An inadequate water supply and other critical infrastructure issues in one of Western Australia's fastest growing towns has led to a syndicate of infrastructure and non-infrastructure agencies funding a project that will take an integrated approach to sustainable infrastructure planning in Halls Creek.

The lead consultant for the project will be Syrinx Environmental Pty Ltd, a consulting Environmental and Design Company that has developed a methodology known as the Sustainable Infrastructure Decision Model.

The intention for the Halls Creek project is to develop an alternative way of approaching resource management (specifically water supply) and infrastructure service provision, and integrate this within a sustainable regional town masterplanning framework that will address

housing needs, water supply, associated power and other infrastructure. Water Corporation will be the lead agency for the water component of the project, and the other funding partners are the Shire of Halls Creek, Department of Indigenous Affairs, Department of Housing, Department of Planning, and Landcorp. As the integrated approach will also need to address energy and other needs, it is anticipated that Horizon Power, Department of Health and Department of Environment and Conservation will also be participating in the project.

Halls Creek's Shire President Cr Lynette ("Jim") Craig welcomed the news that, after some months of discussions over the constraint that lack of water is putting on development in the town, all the agencies had agreed to support the project. "Taking an integrated approach will be as welcome as it is novel," said Cr

Craig. "The traditional approach where agencies make infrastructure planning decisions in isolation from each other leads to blockages, inefficiencies, and to less than optimal outcomes".

The project has the potential to provide unique and exciting opportunities to make a positive change in both:

- The way in which infrastructure projects are being considered and delivered – progressive information sharing and agreement on the way forward between, and continuous involvement of different stakeholders; and
- The quality of the end product and its impact on the broader community – provision of the most appropriate infrastructure solution

which will also contribute to and facilitate the development of solutions for other critical issues in Halls Creek, such as housing typology and supply.

Halls Creek is on level 4 water

restrictions and, through the land use planning and development control process, the lack of water has been impeding the supply of land for industrial and residential use, and the supply of housing.

"Water Corporation has been looking for further water sources here, and we hope they find what they're looking for," said Shire CEO Warren Olsen. "But there must be contingency plans in case they don't, and longer term plans to develop a diversified and reliable water supply base for future growth to provide resilience and economic sustainability."

The project also aims to ensure that the unique natural and cultural values of Halls Creek are protected and enhanced, and that the sustainable solution includes equal consideration of social, economic and environmental requirements, and provides equity for the residents and service populations alike.