

## **A Cowboy and his Mustang**

*NRL Legend Johnathan Thurston accomplishes lifetime goal being the new owner of a super rare 800hp American Classic Car purchased at auction recently for over \$400,000.*

One of NRL's greatest legends has found himself the winning bidder of a legendary classic car, that recently went under the hammer at Lloyds Classic Car Auctions.

"Lloyds Auctions were honoured to partner with Johnathan Thurston to help him achieve one of his lifelong goals of owning an Eleanor Mustang" said Bill Freeman Head Auctioneer at Lloyds Auctions.

The classic car market in Australia continues to grow from strength to strength following on from our recent multi-million-dollar sales in Australian classic cars; American and European classic cars are following closely behind with strong international interest adding to Australia's love of classic collectables.

"The market is stronger than ever" commented Mr. Freeman. "With most people buying due to a long-held passion, or as in Johnathan Thurston's case a life-long goal." he continued.

Over the past 12 months in particular, Classic Cars have continued to dominate the market, with the value of these cars continuing to rise. A large factor that has contributed to this growth, is the celebrity interest and association that has become increasingly more frequent.

In June this year a Ford GTHO Phase III which was once owned by Australia's Fastest Bowler, Jeff Thomson sold for over 1 million dollars.

There is a clear trend if you look at the number of records broken over the last six months in particular. The people buying these cars are hard-working Australians looking for a reward but also looking for something to invest in. Cars in original condition, with chrome bumpers, celebrity affiliation or prominent history are the ones that are rising in value first as we have seen time and time again," said Mr. Freeman.

This 1967 Shelby Mustang is one of only 43 Supersnake's originally ordered from Unique Performance in the USA.

Bill stated that this Shelby Mustang is truly special, being only one of two cars made in right hand drive in the world.

"This car is not only an incredible piece of USA Muscle, but is also in immaculate condition both inside and out and it is great to see such a legendary NRL player tapping into the Classic Car scene," said Bill.

"Classic Cars have great history with many stories to tell. Now Johnathan gets to add to that history and create memories with the car of his own," he continued.

"Johnathan has worked extremely hard to earn the reputation as one of the greatest footballers in Australian history and has worked for this moment to reward himself and own a classic car," continued Mr. Freeman.

(ENDS)

Footage of Johnathan Thurston seeing his Mustang for the first time:

[https://www.dropbox.com/sh/z16ea5a16i1bc0u/AAAVGBT3Yw3t8Uicnl\\_zr2Uya?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/z16ea5a16i1bc0u/AAAVGBT3Yw3t8Uicnl_zr2Uya?dl=0)

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