

1974 Pontiac Trans Am 455

The Trans Am was owned by a mate of mine, we were best mates back in the late 1970's and early 1980's. As the late 80's dawned we slowly but surely lost touch with each other. But I still consider Tony as one of the best mates I've ever had, and one of the most trustworthy and honest people I have ever known.



Anyway Tony bought this T/A in the late 1980's, and at this time we were losing touch with each other. I have no idea of the cars history prior to this, but if anyone who sees this article knows or remembers the car, then please get in touch with me.

Prior to owning the T/A Tony had one of the toughest six cylinder street registered HR Holden Utes in Sydney back then, the old blue HR with the 192 ci motor had been known to pull a front wheel off the ground under the right conditions, when it could get some traction on the rear tyres. I was playing around with Valliant's at the time, and owned a few different Val over the years powered by everything from hot 225 slant sixes, to 265 Hemi's, and 340 V8 motors.



When Tony originally purchased the car it had 41,000 miles on the odo, I have no idea whether this was the original mileage as the car was 16 years old back then. Up until about 1996 he used the car fairly regularly, but not as a daily driver, and the mileage was up to 56,000. It was about then that the car was parked at his mums place under a carport, and stayed there. He went off and did other things and lost interest in it. I saw him in around 2001 and the car still had not moved. He was now into Harleys in a big way and the car had basically not moved at all from the carport at his mums until I purchased it in 2005.



It was very early in January 05 when I received a phone call out of the blue from my old mate. He said that he was moving to the country and was I interested in buying the T/A. HELL YEAH!! This was one of my

dream cars from a very young age back in the '70's. After some serious negotiating, the car was mine



with some hesitation and regret from my mate. I know he loved this car and didn't really want to sell, but I guess he took solace in the fact that it was going to a mate and a good home. Next day it was on the back of Towie's tilt tray www.towie.com, headed to my place.

Anyway here are some pictures of the car taken on 10th January 2005. As you can see from the pictures the car was parked and not touched at all for 10 years. It was totally neglected and in need of some serious attention.

After getting the car to my place, the first thing that the car desperately needed was a major wash and a total cleanup. There was dirt, spider webs, spiders, and piles



of leaves and garbage absolutely everywhere. This was the dirtiest car I have ever seen in my life and I spent 3 full days just cleaning it. Even then there was still lots more cleaning to be

done. Once the initial cleanup was completed I felt much better, the car was beginning to look the way I remembered it 15 years ago.

The Trans Am was pretty much original and as it had left the Pontiac factory in 1974 when I bought it. Cameo white in colour with white interior, matching numbers 455 engine, and Turbo 400 transmission. It also has an original steel electric sunroof, which is an extremely rare option. The sunroofs were installed by G.M. contractor "A.S.C." (American Sunroof Company), and are very neatly done.

