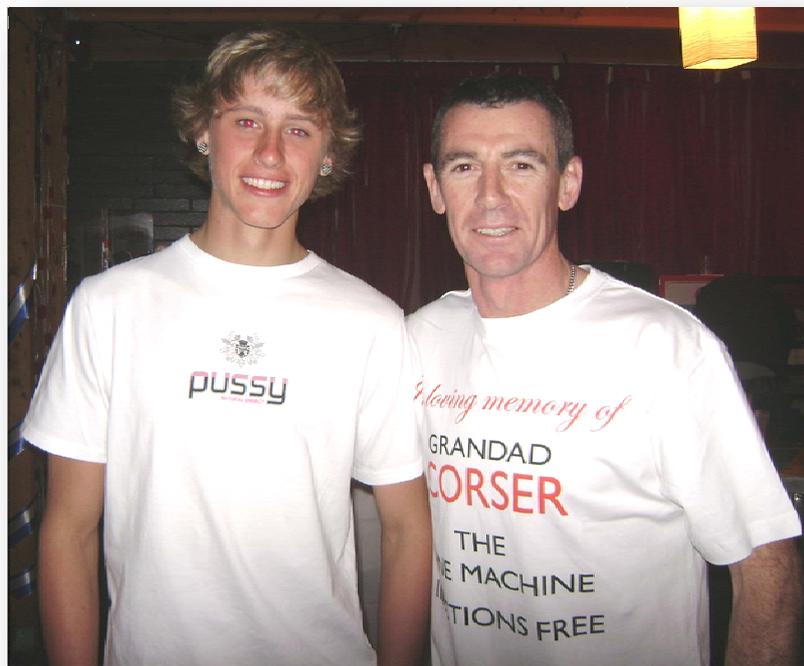




# ***THE REECE BANCELL SCHOLARSHIP***

## ***RYAN DYMOND***

### ***Round 1 Phillip Island, Feb 2010***



Late last year I was the very proud recipient of the Reece Bancell Scholarship – an award I'll always consider as one of the greatest achievements in Australian motorcycle road-racing.

Kev Marshall and his team at Yamaha had generously prepared a new 2010 Yamaha YZF-R6 for me to compete on this year. A week before Phillip Island I attended a test session at Eastern Creek for my first ride on my new beast – it was awesome! The R6 is a wicked bike; it's smooth, has a really stout mid-range power delivery and handles unbelievably well.

Unfortunately though, at the end of the day, I must have made an epic balls-up on turn three and lost the front end. The bike let rip with a cartwheel which inflicted a good dose of damage on the bike's sub-frame and swing-arm.

Yamaha had organised the parts, and on Thursday and Friday morning at Phillip Island, my dad and my Pussy Energy Drink sponsor, Mick, got the bike back together; although we missed practice and qualifying. The officials granted me permission to start from the rear of the grid, and I was still confident I could extract a decent result from there.

When I returned to the bike, however, Frank Pons told me that my geometry was out by 30mm, and was therefore unsafe to ride. It was really disappointing that the problem couldn't be resolved at the circuit, but as everyone keeps telling me, 'That's racing.' Most of all I feel really sorry for the Bancell family and the Scholarship's partners' – I feel like I've really let them down. I'm hoping to make it up to everyone at Hidden Valley.

With every down-side, there's a positive. I walked the circuit with Jill Bancell on Friday collecting donations for the Reece Bancell Association and we collected over \$600. The Association puts these much needed funds into things like medical equipment for the riders.

I also got to hang out with Troy and Sam Corser on Sunday night with the BMW Team which was a real blast.

I'd like to express my sincere appreciation to the Scholarship's partners for their fantastic support:

***Ryno # 3***

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