



Newsletter - July 14th 2011

Welcome to the new-look newsletter

Welcome to the new look NZFMR newsletter. As we build towards the very exciting 2012 events, we will be bringing you news on confirmed cars and drivers, details about the event and special offers as we get close to the two big weekends. So keep reading and make sure you pass it on to any historic racing car owner, or BMW enthusiasts that you might know.

Von Bayern confirmed

Royal racer Prince Leopold von Bayern - one of the top works drivers in the 1980s BMW touring car programme - will be on hand at the NZFMR Celebrating BMW Motorsport. An esteemed and Royal guest, the Prince is an infectious enthusiast of all things BMW and will also be demonstrating some of the key cars around the Hampton Downs track. Prince Leopold is scheduled to make his appearance during the second weekend of the Festival between January 27-29.

And Richards too

Closer to home, New Zealand and Australia BMW racing legend Jim Richards has confirmed he will be at the event over the weekend of January 20-22.

Another BMW and touring car living legend, Richards plans to race as well as demonstrate

The cars are the stars at 2012

NZFMR

The 2012 New Zealand Festival of Motor Racing dates have been confirmed for January 20-22 and January 27-29 2012 at the superb Hampton Downs circuit and the third edition of the hugely popular event will celebrate a car maker for the first time.



The 2010 and 2011 New Zealand Festivals of Motor Racing celebrating Bruce McLaren and Chris Amon respectively caught the attention of the domestic New Zealand motoring and motor racing communities and proved to be the biggest motor sport events in the country in those years after the Hamilton V8 Supercar event. For 2012 the festival organisers have decided to focus the spotlight on German manufacturer BMW, one of the great motoring brands in New Zealand and the world.

The event – the NZFMR celebrating BMW Motorsport - will feature some amazing cars from BMW's racing history, many of which have raced in New Zealand. Legendary BMW racers Jim Richards and Prince Leopold von Bayern of Bavaria are already confirmed and more big names are set to join in the action.

A feature class will be the 'Group A and Invited Touring Car Challenge' where classic BMW 635CSi and BMW M3s of the 1980s will once again battle other Touring cars including Ford Sierra Cosworth, Jaguar XJS, Holden Commodore, Rover SD1, Toyota Corolla and Toyota Corona cars. Many of these cars raced in the Nissan-Mobil 500 series at Wellington and Pukekohe in the 1980s and 1990s.

With its stellar racing history in New Zealand, BMW was always the preferred theme for the third festival, as Festival Chairman Jim Barclay explained. "In common with other major motorsport festivals like the Goodwood Festival of Speed and the Goodwood Revival held in UK, we have an annual theme and as we want to celebrate cars and marques that have made an impact domestically and internationally as well as drivers, what better place to start than BMW – which has a rich history in motorsport. "The brand also has a long and successful history in New Zealand not only as a car that many aspire to but as a highly effective racing machine that many of the greatest racing drivers have sampled. For us, choosing BMW as the subject for the third festival was an easy call, and it's great to be able to confirm that we have the full support of BMW in New Zealand and Germany as we work to make this the best New Zealand Festival of Motor Racing to date. Those weekends in January at Hampton Downs will be unmissable."

some of the famous cars he drove.

Big fields expected across the entry

It's not just the BMW and F5000 classes that will be big draw cards. In the past two years, around 150 drivers and classic racing cars from other countries have come to New Zealand and Hampton Downs to race and be part of the event.

With the theme BMW Motorsport for 2012, and BMW's still incredibly popular racers both in this country and abroad, it could be the biggest of the three Festival events to date.

Follow us on Facebook

We'll be launching a brand new Facebook page - *NZFMR 2012 - the Official Site* - very soon and you will be able to get up to the minute updates on what is happening and post your views and responses. We will also be advertising the Facebook page throughout the social network as we aim to get a real buzz going in the motorsports community.

The Important dates

Lock them in your diary now and don't miss out on what has been the biggest motorsports event outside of the Hamilton V8s in New Zealand during 2012. Hampton Downs race track - January 20 - 22 and January 27 - 29. Can you afford to miss it?

Earl Bird tickets

Want to get ahead of the crowds and get the best seats in the house for the 2012 event? Starting very soon, we will be running special Early bird ticket offers throughout the Winter and right up until October 31st 2011. For information about these, please visit the NZFMR web site at www.nzfmr.co.nz

Kiwi F5000s roar into the UK



Young gun Michael Lyons (Lola T400) was unchallenged in winning both MSC F5000 category races at the Classic Sports Car Club's classic race meeting at Oulton Park in the UK recently, starting each from pole and setting the fastest race lap on the way to the chequered

flag.

In the first, fellow front-row starter Neil Glover (Lola T330/332) and Greg Thornton (Chevron B24) disputed second position with the nod going to Glover as Thornton struggled through the latter stages with gear selection problems, while in the second, young Auckland driver Andrew Higgins (Lola T400) stormed home to claim second from Lyon's Jnr's father Frank (Gurney Eagle) and Blenheim's Russell Greer (Lola T332).

Higgins and Greer were two drivers of a seven-strong group of MSC New Zealand F5000 Tasman Cup Revival Series drivers contesting two meetings in the UK this Northern Hemisphere summer, with the group enjoying mixed results at the Classic Sports Car Club's annual Oulton Park International circuit meeting. Christchurch driver David Abbott (Lola T430) was a non-starter, having damaged his car in practice on Friday, while Aucklander Peter Burson (McRae GM1) fell foul of the strict noise regulations in force at the Cheshire circuit.

Andrew Higgins was the best of the Kiwi contingent in qualifying but was forced out of the first race with what turned out to be contaminated fuel. Russell Greer, who qualified eighth, was also forced out of that race, in his case by gear selection problems. Both drivers were able to address the issues between the two MSC series races, however, and go on to card their top four finishes in the second race. Compatriots Stan Redmond and Warwick Mortimer, however, were not so lucky, Redmond pitting early in the second race on the mistaken belief that a black flag was for him, then crashing heavily once he was back out on the track, and Mortimer - who in the first race had impressed in his older Class A car in a three-way scrap for eighth place with Aaron Burson and Frank Lyons - tangling with local driver Mike Sidgwick.

The New Zealanders now head south to the Brands Hatch circuit in Kent (near London) for the Derek Bell Trophy races at the Historic Sports Car Club's annual Superprix meeting.

CSL set to star

For further information

For any further information on the event - be it general information of specific information about ticketing, hospitality or car parking, please email info@nzfmr.co.nz



One of the many iconic cars set to grace the two weekends of the 2012 NZFMR Celebrating BMW Motorsport as a static display is one of the brand's most prized historic racing cars - the works 3.0 litre CSL 'Batmobile' that was driven by legendary Kiwi Chris Amon.

This version of the iconic racer was homologated in July 1973 along with an aerodynamic package including a large air dam, short fins running along the front fenders, a spoiler above and behind the trailing edge of the roof, and a tall rear wing. Interestingly, the rear wings were not

installed at the factory, but were left in the boot for installation after purchase. This was done because the wings were illegal for use on German roads. The full aero package earned the racing CSLs the nickname "Batmobile".

Kiwi legend Chris Amon partnered Hans Stuck to win the Nürburgring 6 Hours Race in 1973 with the CSL while Toine Hezemans won the European Touring Car Championship in a 3.0CSL and co-drove a 3.0CSL with Dieter Quester to a class victory at Le Mans. Works drivers Hezemans and Quester had driven to second place at the 1973 German Touring Car Grand Prix at Nürburgring, beaten only by Amon and Stuck.

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