



Newsletter - November 22 2011

### Early Bird tickets special -

With the RWC being so busy and so successful, we have decided to extend our early bird ticket offer through until the end of November. That means there's still another ten days to get in on the action at the NZ Festival of Motor Racing for less than the normal price of tickets. There's some great bargains to be had so just visit the ticketing area of the web site at [www.nzfmr.co.nz](http://www.nzfmr.co.nz) and take your pick of what's on offer. You won't be disappointed with the prices but you'll still need to be quick!

### Autocar and Top Gear promotions

- As the build up to the festival continues we are delighted to announce that if you are avid readers of Autocar or Top Gear, our organising colleagues at BMW have set up two competitions where you can win tickets for the first weekend of the festival on January 20/21/22. Make sure you get your copies now and if you don't win, it's a great read anyway!

**BMW unveils new M5** - The BMW M5 has long been regarded as one of the finest - if not the finest - vehicles in its class in the world. We were excited to hear that BMW New Zealand plan to use the festival to launch the new M5 to the NZ public for the very first time. It will be on display for both weekends and some of BMW's very knowledgeable staff will be on hand to give you the low down on what is sure to be another major Five Series hit.

Talking of BMW - the

## Three JPS 635 CSi's set to appear

*One of the stars of the event on the driving side will be former BMW ace - and the oldest ever winner at Bathurst - the legendary Jim Richards. Jim will be in attendance at the festival over the first weekend of the event and will be reunited with one of the classic black and gold JPS branded 635 CSi cars.*



*And Jim isn't coming just to do a few demonstration laps, he will be racing the car. In what will be a throwback to the halycon days of touring car racing in new Zealand and indeed the racing world, Richards' racer will be joined by no less than two other genuine ex-works JPS CSis including the Adrian Brady owned car pictured.*

*The ex-Crichton/Wilkinson car now owned by Alan Drinkrow is for demo only, however. The ex-Denny Hulme Benson and Hedges M3, which has featured heavily in the pre event promotion, is also set to race as are a number of very significant other BMW cars. Not only that, but festival chairman Jim Barclay has been able to assemble a presence at the event by 22 of the former 30 BMW Motorsport drivers who drove the brand in New Zealand and Australia.*

*In addition to having Jim Richards racing at the festival, other BMW drivers of the 70s, 80s and 90s who will be there at various times include Paul Radisich, Craig Baird, Neville Crichton, Wayne Wilkinson, Ed Lamont, Ken Baigent, Neil Lowe, Graeme Crosby, Tony Lawrence, Phil Mhyre, John Sax, Keith Sharp, Bernie Gillon, Steve Millen, Rodger Anderson, Paul Adams, Chris Amon - and the list goes on...*

## Aussie muscle heading our way

The past two festival events have both proved appealing to international racers and this event is proving their equal with a large contingent confirmed from across the Tasman.

manufacturer will have a festival focussed range of BMW Motorsport and BMW merchandise for sale in its festival marquee. The range will cover everything from wallets and key rings right through to NZ Festival of Motor Racing celebrating BMW Motorsport event shirts and caps - well worth a look at least! The merchandise stand will be open for both weekends of the festival.

**Ian back for more** - Ever popular motorsport commentator Ian Derbidge will be back at both weekends to once again front the on site festival reporting, with live commentary, interviews with the key drivers and close up examinations of some of the great cars that will be racing or on display.

**Legend in the Herald** - Keep your eyes out for an interview with BMW racing icon and the oldest winner of Bathurst Jim Richards, who will be reminiscing on great events as well as looking forward to getting back into the racing saddle in one of the three ex-works JPS 635 CSI's down to race.

**Bikes back for more** - After their 2011 showing was curtailed by the tropical weather that bighted the first weekend of the festival this year, the historic and classic motorcycle racers are back for more. The NZCMRR will hopefully bring a great field and our spectators can look forward to some action like this - [Click Here](#)

**And the SuperTourer** - we are also hoping to have one of the first public demonstrations of the exciting new cars from the V8 SuperTourer series during our demo laps sessions that will give the crowds a taste of the exciting future of V8 racing in New Zealand. The series has attracted huge names like Craig Baird, Johnny McIntyre and Greg Murphy as well as other drivers and top teams that can boast over 100 titles between

Festival organisers have confirmed that thanks to the efforts of Historic Muscle Car founder Dale Mathers, between four and six cars from the Queensland based Trans Am group will be racing with the fledging series at the festival.



Mathers is in no doubt this will add spice to the meeting, explaining: "The arrival of these amazing Australian machines will definitely reignite the old Trans Tasman rivalry from days gone by!"

His group will race under their own Australian Trans Am rules and will have some differences from the New Zealand HMC cars - though these will be minor and completely in keeping with the theme of the Historic Muscle Cars register. The 69 Australian Trans Am Camaro owned by Colin Warrington pictured, for example, is built exactly to HMC rules.

"At the end of the day these two groups are very similar and have a lot in common, so with this Trans Tasman event we want to really get in and promote it for the future and the directors of Australian Trans Am are very keen to work with us. I also must point out that like HMC, Australian Trans Am is NOT a professional racing class and like us only race for the fun factor."

## Kenny's king-sized F5000 shunt

Legendary Kiwi racer Ken Smith – who boasts one of the longest competitive motor racing careers of any driver anywhere in the racing world – suffered an accident bigger than anything he could remember when his beautifully restored Lola T332 speared off hard left into the pit lane barriers at Manfeild during the rolling start of the second race at the Tasman Revival meeting recently.



The car was heavily damaged and is facing another long rebuild. The McRae of series front runner Jay Esterer also suffered serious damage in the shunt. Kenny was taken out of the car and checked over and appeared initially to be fine, though a broken foot was later diagnosed. Everyone in the Festival organising group would like to take this opportunity to wish Kenny (and the car!) a speedy recovery and return to the tracks.

It's too early to say whether the seventy-something legend will be back on the grid for the festival – perhaps in the Lola T430 he has campaigned so successfully in recent seasons – but we are all keeping our fingers crossed.

them. The noise and the aggressive looks of the car will be worth the entry fee alone. Bring it on!

**Follow us on our NEW Facebook page** - We are once again going on the new media trail with a special Facebook page that will give everyone who 'Likes' it the first look at some of the star cars confirmed for the event. So if you want to be right up to the minute with the VERY latest news and pictures, then [CLICK HERE](#) to visit the page and click on 'LIKE'

**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 [chris@nzfmr.co.nz](mailto:chris@nzfmr.co.nz)**

## Like the new safety car?

*Like the new Safety Car for the 2012 festival? With a strong BMW theme it seemed only appropriate to have something new and shiny from the brand to be our Safety Car over the two weekends and BMW have done us proud with an amazing NZFMR branded X6.*



*This car has been doing lots of promotional work with journalists recently and will be appearing on TV and in the press in the coming weeks - complete with it's big NZFMR graphic!*

*It's a fabulous car. Packing turbocharged six- and eight-cylinder engines connected to a new eight-speed automatic transmission, the X6 is remarkably quick for its size and weight. BMW estimates that even the six-cylinder will go from zero to 100kph in a rapid 6.3 seconds. On this model, that six-cylinder is all-new and its fuel economy has been improved thanks to a new turbocharger design and other improvements.*

*The X6 is also relatively fast around corners, too, with controlled body motions and highly communicative steering - which will make it perfect for high speed responses to any incidents on track.*

[WWW.NZFMR.CO.NZ](http://WWW.NZFMR.CO.NZ)

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