



Newsletter - October 1st 2011

Read on! 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.

King Kenny to defend title in Ongais Lola - Evergreen New Zealand racing veteran Ken Smith will defend his MSC New Zealand F5000 Tasman Cup Revival Series title this season behind the wheel of a new car, an ex Danny Ongais Lola T332. Since his move to the series in 2007, Smith - who turned 70 earlier this month and who has won the annual trans-Tasman MSC series for the past three years - has been driving a Lola T430. It was in an earlier model T332 Lola that the three-time New Zealand Grand Prix winner enjoyed much of his success in the category first time around (in the 1970s) however, and he has had an eye out for a good one since his return. Word of such a car reached him 18 months ago and he and long-time crew members Barry Miller and Phil Richardson bought it from the widow of its original owner soon after. "The 332 was the best of the 5000s and this one's been in a museum in Los Angeles for 31 years," said Smith. "It was an Interscope car which Danny Ongais drove. It was absolutely original when we bought it." Despite that the team have spent the past year stripping and completely rebuilding the car. This season's series kicks off at

Recycled sponsorship - tasty!



January and 27-29 January 2012.

Warsteiner were long-time sponsors of the BMW Motorsport 'works' cars run by the highly successful Schnitzer team in many countries including Europe, Australia and New Zealand. The Schnitzer team won the gruelling Nissan-Mobil 500 street race in Wellington many times in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

"The association with Warsteiner and the Festival at Hampton Downs in 2012 will bring back pleasant memories for many as they witness great racing recreated by cars from that era," commented Barclay. The BMW Motorsport Festival will include a feature race class to be named the 'Warsteiner Group A & Historic Touring Cars'.

Included in these races will be a former genuine Warsteiner liveried Schnitzer BMW M3 team car now belonging to Australian, Bill Cutler. Bill (*pictured*) will race his Warsteiner BMW M3 with many other Touring Cars and drivers from the 1970-1990 era.

Company Director, Peter Aickin of IMPEX International Trading Ltd www.impex.co.nz, importers of Warsteiner beers together with a wide range of European food, said the brand was excited to be associated with the BMW Motorsport Festival in 2012.

"It will be great to see these fine touring cars back on the track, and I am delighted that the famous Warsteiner brand will once again be associated with the equally famous BMW Motorsport brand of touring car in the 1987 BMW M3 of Bill Cutler. Patrons should come to the Festival to see the Warsteiner car, as well as try a drop of Warsteiner of course!"

NZ Festival of Motor Racing Chairman, Jim Barclay, has confirmed that Warsteiner, the iconic brand of German beer, will be naming sponsor for a major race class at the BMW Motorsport Festival www.nzfmr.co.nz to be held at Hampton Downs on 20-22

Christchurch's big Wigram Revival meeting at Ruapuna Park's Powerbuilt Tools Raceway on the first weekend of November with subsequent rounds at Manfeild, Hampton Downs, Powerbuilt Tools Raceway again, and Phillip Island in Australia.

Early Bird tickets- *Early Bird tickets are now available for both weekends of the 2012 event. These tickets offer a very worthwhile discount for early purchase and will be available throughout the month until October 31st after which they will revert to standard prices. So if you are planning to come or even just thinking about attending, then check out the offers and make some valuable savings!*
www.nzfmr.co.nz

Sponsors coming on board -
As well as Warsteiner coming on board with the 2012 BMW themed event, Apparelmaster have also confirmed they will be the naming sponsor of the Classic Trials event which is scheduled for the second weekend of the event. Apparelmaster is New Zealand's leading provider of fully managed workwear and laundry solutions, with branches all over the country.

Three Lyons return - *We hear that Frank, Judy and Michael Lyons will once again be bringing their fabulous collection of Formula 5000 racers from the United Kingdom for the headline F5000 races, which are now established as two of the biggest weekends on the annual calendar for these classic monsters. Also back for more will be Greg Thornton in his ex-Peter Gethin Chevron B24 and Monaco resident Peter Dunn with his small and incredibly rapid March 73A.*

South Island invasion -
Rumours are out there of no fewer than thirteen very

BMW Motorsport in New Zealand

Back in July 1967 Ross Jensen, of Ross Jensen Motors, then located at 52 Remuera Road in Newmarket, Auckland, signed the Importers Agreement with BMW in Germany to import and sell BMW motorcars in New Zealand. It



was not surprising that BMW cars would, in turn, be used in motorsport competition in New Zealand because Ross Jensen himself had been heavily involved. He was a former NZ champion including winning the 1956/57 Gold Star using Ferrari Monza and Austin Healey sports cars. He was also the 1957/58 Gold Star Champion driving the ex Stirling Moss Maserati 250F single seater. In 1961 Ross was the NZ Saloon Champion driving a Jaguar Mk2 3.8.

The First Decade – the 1970s....

With Ross Jensen's strong interest in motor sport he gave the early support of Ross Jensen Motors to Rodger Anderson's new model 1969 BMW 2002 Ti Alpina. Such was his outstanding success in the BMW 2002 Ti Alpina (pictured) throughout the 1969/70 summer season that Rodger won first place in the 1001cc-4200cc NZ Touring Car class of the New Zealand National Touring Car series. Rodger was joined in 1970 national saloon races by fellow BMW 2002 racers Dr Dick (Doc) Langley and Paul Adams.

Adams was well known for his rally driving skills as well as his circuit racing in his BMW 2002. With co-driver Don Fenwick, Paul won New Zealand's premier rally event, the 1970 Silver Fern Rally driving his BMW 2002 Ti Alpina. Also entered in that rally was Jock Freemantle driving the very first BMW 2002 to be brought to New Zealand in late 1968. It is interesting to note that both the Rodger Anderson BMW 2002 Ti Alpina and the Paul Adams BMW 2002 Ti Alpina are still with us today – the ex Anderson car is now owned by former BMW Club President Alan Walker, and one of the ex Adams cars by Grant and Jo Clegg.

It is hoped that both cars will be at the 'NZ Festival of Motor Racing celebrating BMW Motorsport' to be held at Hampton Downs 20th-22nd January and 27th-29th January 2012. Other drivers selected the BMW 2002 in its various forms to race including Steve Millen who, in 1972, fitted an American Rajay turbocharger to his BMW 2002 Ti Alpina - this was at least one year before the BMW 'works' fitted their own KKK turbos to a limited run of BMW 2002 turbos.

Long distance touring car racing became popular in New Zealand in the 1970s and the great reliability of BMW cars saw them featuring strongly in many results including that of Paul Adams who took out 2nd place in the 'Shell 100 Production Car 100 lap feature race held at Levin on 6 October 1974.

Having secured the right to import BMWs to New Zealand, Ross Jensen set up a dealer network in New Zealand in 1972 and not surprisingly the dealerships went to his fellow former motor racing driver friends including Tony Shelly of Shelly Motors in Wellington and Ray Archibald of Archibalds Garages in Christchurch. Both Tony and Ray had raced

special Group A and Touring Cars being prepared to attend the 2012 Festival - we hope to bring you much more information on these in the next issue!

Trade area expands - *There will be greater opportunity for exhibitors and trades folk to show off their products at the 2012 event, with more competitive stand pricing and more availability. Anyone wishing to enquire should contact Melissa Morgan at melissa@nzfmr.co.nz for further details and pricing.*

Blast from the past - As well as attracting plenty of machinery from the halcyon days of BMW and touring car racing in New Zealand, the 2012 event is also generating lots of interest from former drivers - both the ones still out there competing and those who have hung up their helmets...until now at least. Jim Richards will race a former JPS 1984 BMW 635CSi and is likely to be joined by several other names from the era! Again, we'll keep the information rolling out to you as we hear more and plans are firmed up!

After hours - *There will be plenty to do after the racing at the 2012 festival with several events and receptions being planned for the event. More details to follow so watch this space!*

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

against Ross in the 1950s and early 1960s. Together with other BMW dealers in Gisborne, Havelock North and Invercargill, and service support dealers in Tauranga, Rotorua, Taupo, Palmerston North and Nelson, BMW motorsport drivers throughout New Zealand were now given professional support for their BMW race cars.

In January 1976 Brian Redman (from the UK, but based in USA) took part in the 1976 NZ Peter Stuyvesant International series. Twice a winner of the L&M Championship for Formula 5000 cars run in USA, Redman drove the new Fred Opert owned Chevron B29 F2 car fitted with a BMW M-Power 2000cc engine. Sponsorship in the NZ series included that from Ross Jensen Motors. New Zealander, Dick Bennetts (later to achieve fame in UK and global motorsport with his West Surrey Racing team) was Redman's mechanic.



The small Chevron BMW was the only 2.0 litre car up against a much more powerful grid of V8 engined Formula 5000cc cars but Redman finished in a very credible 4th place in the 1976 NZIGP held at Pukekohe. He was also 2nd at Manfeild and qualified 6th at the Lady Wigram Trophy race in Christchurch but retired from the race with a very rare engine problem. At Teretonga he qualified 7th and when vying for second place with two-thirds of the race run, he was forced to retire with a loose rear wheel. In the 1976 NZ series, Redman showed that with a nimble car with the reliability of a BMW M-Power engine, good results were possible against much more powerful opposition.

Next....the 1980s....

Talon sharpens F5000 field

SAS Quality Automotive Parts owner David Banks' new F5000 car - a Talon MR1 sourced from the United States and completely rebuilt to an amazingly high standard in New Zealand - broke cover recently at the Hampton Downs Icebreaker meeting. It's always quite an occasion when one of these takes to the track, and on this occasion the driver emerged with bigger smiles than the spectators!



The car had been in a museum stateside for 30 years and was just too much for Banks to resist after he had run Peter Burson's similar TR1A for some demonstration laps at the Chris Amon Festival earlier this year. A crowd puller and a crowd favourite at the 2012 event?

You bet.