

Welcome to the July edition of the Mondello Park newsletter. Following all of the build-up to the British Superbikes and the preceding weeks' UK car racing event, the circuit seems very quiet at present. Of course event wise there is no let up with July's calendar containing two car race meetings and a Clubman bike event. Track day activity in July is confined to the two wheeled variety with three days available, one run by the circuit and two by UK Track Day operator 'No Limits'. The next Car Track Day takes place in early August

Last months British Superbike weekend was unfortunately marred by the tragic death of Supersport rider Guy Sanders who succumbed to injuries, sustained at the circuit, on the Sunday night of the event. The other two riders involved in the incident Steve Neate and Jamie Hamilton are thankfully out of danger. Mondello Park's staff would like to extend their condolences to the family and friends of Guy Sanders and to all of the wider BSB community.

This month we have the first news of our 2007 Modified Car Show 'Jap-Fest' which takes place in September, two new initiatives on the car racing front and an opportunity for motorcycle riders to try out the KTM On Road range courtesy of Motomax the Irish KTM distributor.

Fergus Brennan
Mondello Park Newsletter Editor

JULY & AUGUST DATES

Sunday July 22nd - Irish Championship Car Races
Wednesday August 1st - Motomax Motorcycle Track Day
Sunday August 5th - Irish Championship Kart races
Monday August 6th - Open Car Track Day

'JAP-FEST' - IRELANDS FIRST JAPANESE CAR SHOW
Mondello Park - September 9th 2007

Ireland's premier motoring venue 'Mondello Park' and leading Modified Show promoters 'Xtreme Promotions' have combined again to promote the biggest modified car show of the year. Drawing on the theme of their highly successful 'Overdrive' shows they will this year promote Ireland's first 'Jap-Fest'.

Xtreme's status as market leaders in the modified show market and the unique features of Mondello Park will combine once again to offer an exciting combination of trade displays and on-track action. The exhibition will showcase the best of Japanese motoring and motorsport including Drifting, Time Attack, Drag Racing and Track sessions for individual Japanese car marques.

Alongside the track action the Mondello Park paddock will house static displays from Japanese car tuners, motor clubs, importers and many other attractions.

Jap-Fest will be a single day show taking place on Sunday September 9th at Mondello Park making use of the Co. Kildare venue's 100 acre site to present the most comprehensive Japanese car show yet seen in Ireland. The unique layout of Mondello Park allows the organisers to showcase all of the attractions on one day, which would ordinarily be forced to run at separate events.

With a huge number of entries expected for all sections of the show, 'Jap-Fest' will have lots to see and do for show visitors as well as offering a unique opportunity for businesses and car clubs operating in this sector to reach their target market.



SPORTSCAR ENDURANCE RACING, July 22nd - Mondello Park

This initiative is being introduced at Mondello Park's July 22nd Car Races to test the water in respect of running a number of similar races next year.

Eligible Cars - Must be open top with bodywork/wings covering the wheels. Eg: Radical, Global, Crosse 9S, Stryker, Ninja & Juno, or similar and as currently racing in Northern Ireland Sportscar Championship and Irish Libre series.

Drivers - One or two drivers per car. There will be a compulsory pit stop in each race, where each car will have to switch off engine and remain in the pits for a minimum set time. This is to equalise the one/two driver change-over and refuelling scenario, as some cars will need to refuel and others won't.

Races - 2 X 45 minute races with a single 30 minute qualifying session.

Entry Fee - €600 per car (regardless as to whether one or two drivers)

JUNE COMPETITION

As our June prize was such a special one we wanted it to go to a true Superbike fan, so for the first time ever the quiz answer was not included somewhere in the newsletter. This gave rise to some answers which were very wide of the mark and our smallest ever number of correct entries. Anyone who answered, Philip Neil, John Reynolds Bruce Anstey or Tom Sykes needs to brush up on their BSB knowledge.

The lucky winner was Tadhg Moran from Celbridge Co Kildare. Tadhg was one of the few who went for Cal Crutchlow rather than Chris Walker and his signed Rizla Suzuki team polo shirt is currently winging its way to him.

JULY COMPETITION

This month we are giving away five pairs of tickets to the 'Jap-Fest' modified car show on September 9th. To be in with a chance to win just email your answer to the following question, to fbrennan@mondellopark.ie with competition as the subject.

"What Japanese motorsport which involves driving sideways will be one of the main attractions at 'Jap-Fest'?"

Entries close on Friday 27th July at 5:00pm. Please include a phone number with your entry as the winner will be notified by phone and email.

The competition winner will be published in the next issue of the newsletter. There are five prizes consisting of a pair of 'Jap-Fest' tickets each. The prize cannot be exchanged for any other Mondello Park product.



Eoin Murray's involvement in the BTCC resumes at Donington Park this weekend following his enforced layoff for the Oulton Park Round two weeks ago. Following an engine blow up at Croft a new engine has now been procured for the Arguscarhire.com Alfa Romeo and the team is confident of a strong showing at Donington.

"Sitting at home watching the Oulton Park race was a huge disappointment. So far this has been my worst season of racing to date with reliability problems but now I am determined to turn things around and finish with some strong results, it's not too late to sneak a few surprises!"

Eoin made a major impact in Donington Park last year, running as high as third place and is confident that he has a really strong package for the weekend as The Alfa Romeo is well suited to the high-speed Donington Circuit

TRACK DAY, MONDELLO PARK, August 1st 2007
'Taste The Orange Experience'

KTM



Bring your bike to the 'Taste The Orange Experience' Track Day on August 1st & enjoy a test ride on a range of KTM Motorcycles.

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 MOTORCYCLES

For bookings contact:
 Darragh or Trevor at Motomax
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Motomax is the sole Republic of Ireland KTM On Road dealer
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Calling all Saloon and Sports Car Racers.

Formula Libre has been one of the real success stories of Irish motor racing over the past few years with the large number and variety of single seaters being raced providing some of the most interesting and exciting grids seen in Ireland for many years. The class began with small grids four seasons ago but has quickly progressed to the point where it has already been split into up-to 2000cc and over 2000cc classes and if its growth continues separate races for each class may soon be required.

In the past, saloon and sportscar racing has always been just as, if not more popular than single seater racing in Ireland, and Mondello Park is now looking to replicate the success of 'Formula' Libre with the introduction of 'Saloon' Libre. The class will be open to all closed wheel saloon and sports cars, along similar lines to the highly popular Britcar series in the UK, with modified road cars and purpose built racers eligible. Alongside the regular sprint races these cars will also be suitable to run in the one hour endurance races scheduled for Mondello later this season.

So who are we aiming the new series at? Everyone with a closed wheel vehicle that they wish to drive competitively. So far a number of existing competitors have expressed an interest in running ex-touring car and one-make series cars, alongside the handful of GT and Sportscars which previously joined in with the Formula Libre grids. The new series should also be attractive to serious track day enthusiasts who wish to progress from the track day scene into full blown competition by upgrading their existing track day cars or by swapping to competition machinery.

As with Single Seater Libre Mondello Park will support the new Saloon class by guaranteeing to initially run the races irrespective of grid size, in order to promote the class. Following the endurance races scheduled for this season all 2008 Mondello Park race meetings will include a Saloon Libre race.

With so many interesting and exciting saloon and sports cars available to compete with and the opportunity to share the costs with another driver in the endurance races, Saloon Libre will surely follow in the footsteps of Formula Libre by becoming a firm favourite with drivers and spectators alike.



THE TAG Racing Team had a miserable weekend at Mondello Park's BSB round where they had such high hopes for the Supersport event. Following a handful of laps around Mondello the Wednesday prior to the event, as part of a BSB TV promo Supersport privateers cup favourite Jack Kennedy was still prepared to battle through the pain of his broken leg to compete. Following a meeting on Friday morning with the championship doctor however, a decision was made to miss out the Mondello event and the following race at Knockhill to allow the leg to heal properly.

Things got worse for the Dublin based team when their wild card rider, Robert Lanigan, who competes for the team in Ireland, fell off on the high speed exit of Parabolica. The unfortunate Lanigan was injured when the bike landed on top of him and will now also be out of action for a while.



Jonathan Fildes has had some better news of late in the British Touring Car Championship supporting Clio Cup where he had struggled through the early part of the season. Having failed to score a point in the first three rounds of the season he has since picked up a second place and a sixth at the last two.

The former Clio Cup and double Irish Supercar championship winner was expected to be one of the contenders for the title. The huge number of drivers competing has meant that qualifying races have been required in order to decide the line-up for the championship race and this race format has proved extremely tough for all competitors.

Fildes seems to have got the measure of the car and race format and should challenge for race wins for the remainder of the season. His recent good form has propelled him into tenth place of the forty four drivers but he is so far behind the series leaders that even with a strong second half to his season a top six championship position would be a massive achievement.



MONDELLO PARK UNIROYAL FUN CUP RACES ON TV

Anyone interested in checking out the recent Uniroyal Fun Cup races at Mondello Park can see them on Sky Sports on the following dates.

Thursday 19th July: 7.00pm (Sky Sports Xtra),
 Midnight (Sky Sports Xtra)

Friday 20th July: 2.30am (Sky Sports 3), 2.00pm
 (Sky Sports 2)

Sunday 22nd July: 6.00am (Sky Sports Xtra)