

# Motorsport News

International Edition – March 2020

## Germany

### Ready for an exceptional season

For the first time in its history, BLACK FALCON enters two Mercedes-AMG GT3s into the Endurance and Sprint Cups of the GT World Challenge Europe. The team is taking part in five endurance races in the Pro class and five sprint race weekends in the Silver Cup class. The 2020 season started on March 13 in France and will finish in November in Spain. // Page 2.



## Great Britain

### A triumph for Courtney Duncan at Matterley Basin

For 2020, FUCHS Silkolene is sponsoring Dixon Racing Team Kawasaki and riders Courtney Duncan and Wilson Todd. The debut of the season took place at Matterley Basin. Courtney Duncan made her mark by winning the first two races in the FIM WMX Women's Motocross World Championship. A promising start to the season for the New Zealand rider. // Page 3.

## Portugal

### FUCHS supports the 2020 RallySpirit Altronix

For the second time in a row, FUCHS Portugal is sponsoring the RallySpirit Altronix, which will take place in the region of Porto and northern Portugal over three days. Every year, this rally welcomes around 100 teams, with famous champion drivers racing in legendary cars from the 80s. // Page 5.





## Germany

### BLACK FALCON looking forward to an exciting 2020 season

BLACK FALCON has extended its commitment to the 2020 GT World Challenge Europe with two Mercedes-AMG GT3s. This championship is divided into two categories, each with its own classification: the GT World Challenge Europe Endurance Cup and the GT World Challenge Europe Sprint Cup. The first challenge determines the best teams, drivers, and cars in endurance racing. This Cup consists of a 1,000-km race, three races over three hours, and the legendary Spa 24-hour race. In the GT World Challenge Europe Sprint Cup, the participants compete in five race weekends, each with two one-hour sprint races. To win the overall championship, which combines all the results from both categories, exceptional knowledge and outstanding performances will be required. The GT World Challenge Europe is considered as the most demanding sporting championship in GT3. BLACK FALCON will race with the Mercedes-AMG #4 for the endurance cup and the #5 for the sprint cup.

For all qualifying sessions and races, a comprehensive live streaming service with timing is available on the official website as well as on the GT World Challenge Europe YouTube and Facebook channels.

BLACK FALCON GT team principal, Sean Paul Breslin, said: "I am very pleased about the expansion of our GT World Challenge Europe program. We would like to demonstrate our competence in both categories – sprint and endurance – again this season. With luck, we can both fight for the championship in each category with the overall standings and, for the first time, challenge the overall standings in the Silver Cup class. An exciting year with many challenges lies ahead of us – we are well prepared and are looking forward to the first race of the season in April."

Racing calendar 2020 GT World Challenge Europe  
 March 12-13 – Official Test Days – Paul Ricard (France)  
 April 17-19 – Endurance Cup – Monza (Italy)  
 May 2-3 – Sprint Cup – Brands Hatch (UK)  
 May 9-10 – Endurance Cup – Silverstone (UK)  
 May 29-30 – Endurance Cup – Paul Ricard (France)  
 June 16-17 – Endurance Cup – Spa (Belgium)  
 June 26-28 – Sprint Cup – Zandvoort (Netherlands)  
 July 3-5 – Sprint Cup – Misano (Italy)  
 July 23-26 – Endurance Cup – Spa (Belgium)  
 September 4-6 – Endurance Cup – Nürburgring (Germany)  
 September 25-27 – Sprint Cup – Hungaroring (Hungary)  
 October 9-11 – Sprint Cup – Barcelona (Spain)







## Great Britain

### An overwhelming victory for Courtney Duncan

FUCHS Silkolene-sponsored Dixon Racing Team Kawasaki has committed riders Wilson Todd to the FIM Motocross World MX2 Championship and Courtney Duncan to the FIM WMX Women's Motocross World Championship.

The opening rounds of the season took place at Matterley Basin in Great Britain. Races 1 and 2 saw DRT Kawasaki face ever-changing track conditions. This didn't stop Courtney Duncan from taking her first wins in both rounds, showing that "number 1" was hers to defend.

Wilson Todd struggled with arm pump in race 1 and finished 21st. For the second race, despite starting near the back, Todd showed impressive racing skills to work his way past fellow MX2 competitors, eventually finishing in 13th place.

New Zealander Courtney said: "Everyone is always a little nervous for the first race of the season, but I couldn't ask for more than a 50-point maximum score! I have only been

back in Europe for a couple of weeks, so I haven't had much bike time and I'm still a little way off, but that was a solid start. It's my second year with DRT Kawasaki, and we already won the final three rounds of 2019 with the 2020 KX250, but we learnt a lot more this weekend. I was really happy with my starts and consistency; it can only get better from here."

Team Manager, Steve Dixon, explained: "Winter was difficult for Courtney after an accident gave her headaches. She did a fantastic job taking two wins at Matterley Basin. Wilson split his pelvis bone at his last supercross in Australia, which delayed his prep. His style is quite different from our past riders, so we're adjusting the engine to suit him. In the second round, he made an impressive charge through the pack from 30th to 13th place, showing long-term potential for the 20-round season. It was good to see our newest sponsor, FUCHS Silkolene, at our home GP, we look forward to working with them this year."





## Great Britain

### FUCHS proud to sponsor the new Classic Mini Challenge

FUCHS LUBRICANTS, in association with Clitheroe and District Motor Club, is continuing to support a championship for classic minis. Formed to fill a void left by other championships, coordinator Chris Woodcock has devised a format with a simple class structure and the highest quality asphalt rallies around the United Kingdom for contenders to demonstrate their skills and abilities.

The first round of the season was the LDV Donington Rally on March 15, run by Dukeries Motor Club. Jim Brindle showed his years of experience by setting a first-stage time over a minute faster than Martin Melling, with Louise Thomas a further seven seconds behind. Barry Stenhouse had to stop for electrical issues but recovered and restarted on SS3. On SS2, Brindle pulled a further minute away from Thomas after Melling spun off and dropped 31 seconds. On SS3, Barry Stenhouse caught up with Louise Thomas, whilst Martin Melling was only six seconds behind. Jim Brindle was still way ahead with a one-minute-and-twenty-two-seconds advantage on this test.

In the afternoon, Louise Thomas pushed ahead, leaving Martin Melling and Barry Stenhouse behind and cementing her 2nd place.

Results: 1st: Jim Brindle-James Squires; 2nd: Louise Thomas-Heidi Woodcock; 3rd: Martin Melling-Lewis Griffiths; 4th: Barry Stenhouse-Andy Hutchinson



## Great Britain

### FUCHS Silkolene joins the Army Karting Team

FUCHS Silkolene is supporting the British Army Motorsport Karting Team. Having started in 2011 with one kart, the team now runs five and is hoping for a strong 2020 season. FUCHS Silkolene is proud to back the team and has provided a selection of high-quality products to see them through the season.





## Portugal

### FUCHS upholds the RallySpirit Altronix

FUCHS sponsored the 5th edition of the RallySpirit Altronix, one of the most prestigious European rallies of 2019. Over three rain-drenched days in the region of Porto and northern Portugal, thousands of spectators watched this revivalist show bring together over 100 teams to evoke the history of rallying.

The biggest highlight was the participation of several legendary Group B rally cars of the last generation, like the Peugeot 205 T16, MG Metro R4, Lancia 037, Lancia Stratos, Alpine A110, and Renault 5 Turbo, made the crowd cheer. There were also several famous drivers such as former rally world champion Stig Blomqvist, driving an Audi Sport Quattro S1.

FUCHS driver Eduardo Veiga and navigator Justino Reis raced the same Ford Escort RS Mk2 with which they won in 2016. Eduardo had a lot of work driving to finish in the top five.

He admitted: "The 2019 edition was one of the most difficult rallies of my career. The conditions were very hard for a rear-wheel-drive car and we also made the wrong choice of tires on Sunday when we thought the weather would be dry. It wasn't easy to keep the car on the road, every turn was a scare, and maybe we skidded more than I wanted to."

In 2020, FUCHS is again sponsoring the RallySpirit Altronix, which is becoming more and more popular in Portugal and abroad. It will be part of the 'Slowly Sideways' calendar along with the renowned Valles Pasiegos Rallye Festival (Spain), the Eifel Rallye Festival (Germany) and the Vosges Rallye Festival (France).





## France

### A major challenge for Dany and Nadège Bernard

Dany and Nadège Bernard will participate in the 30th edition of the Rallye Aïcha des Gazelles du Maroc (Gazelles Aïcha Rally of Morocco), which will take place from September 25 to October 10, 2020. A unique race, this one-hundred-percent female, off-road rally-raid brings together 436 women. Racers from all over the world, aged from 18 to 71, will test themselves for nine days in the Moroccan desert between Dar Kaoua and Fomzguid. Equipped only with the coordinates of the beacons, maps dating from the 60s, and a compass, the teams must choose the best route and strategy. Whilst respecting checkpoints, the aim is to reach the most beacons in the shortest distance rather than the shortest time.

In 2017, for her 40th birthday, Nadège Bernard challenged her mother-in-law Dany to race the thrilling Cap Fémina Aventure – a united off-road rally-raid in the Morocco desert. “After this experience, Dany wanted me to take up a larger challenge and to race the Rallye Aïcha des Gazelles du Maroc. She has already done it five times, the last one with her daughter for the 15th edition. I am very excited to try this experience with her.”

The two women took a training session required by the organizer Maïenga agency, learning to chart a course, analyze a map, and identify sandy dunes, wadis and rocky mountains. In February, they will complete their

preparation with a supervised training course in the Moroccan desert. They learn to observe the terrain.

“We have to constantly choose between going around obstacles or over them, choosing the shortest distance without taking too many risks for the car. Sometimes, we have to get out of the Jeep to better understand the dangers we face,” said Dany and Nadège. They have also learnt to do essential repairs such as changing tires, filters, and the like.

The two competitors will take turns driving the Wrangler Jeep. “It’s very educational to alternate the roles of driver and navigator. It helps to understand the difficulties of each role.” Against high-level teams with several years of experience, they have set themselves an ambitious goal: to cross the finish line in the top sixty.

Didier, Dany’s husband, and Nicolas, their son and husband of Nadège, are Jeep dealers and FUCHS customers. Dany works as an accountant in the family business, while Nadège teaches physics and chemistry.

**FUCHS lubricants: TITAN GT1 PRO C-3 SAE 5W-30, TITAN ATF 4400, MAINTAIN FRICOFIN 50**



## South Africa

### **FUCHS Falcon team on the top of the podium**

In February, Zwartkops Raceway hosted the 19th Passion for Speed Festival, the first race of the 2020 season. Terry Wilford of the FUCHS Falcon team, racing in the V8 Supercars class, experienced technical difficulties, so the crew had to take apart the damaged engine for further inspection to see if there were any adverse issues. However, all the bearings, both crankshaft and conrod, were in perfect condition, which was no surprise considering the quality of the FUCHS TITAN RACE SAE 10W-60 used by the team. A new set of pistons was fitted to the engine, which was then re-assembled.

Terry Wilford said: "Our first opportunity to test the car was limited to March 6 – the day before the Extreme Festival race. But progress was made on the qualifying session on Saturday and we ended up 4th, which left us feeling reasonably happy."

Race day was a fierce, closely contested competition between all drivers and the tight circuit made overtaking virtually impossible. However, thanks to

skillful driving, the team won 3rd place, which contributed to their positive mood.

Having posted the fastest time in the first heat, the team had to start from the back row for the second heat. Thanks to an outstanding race with some superb driving from Terry, the car came from the back of the grid to lead the race and win 1st place. All the spectators roared their approval when the team crossed the finish line.

However, a loose gearbox shifter resulted in a missing gear, which cost them 1st place in heat 3, but they managed to clinch 2nd place after a great day's racing for the FUCHS team.

"We are geared for the next race at Zwartkops in April and the FUCHS Falcon team will be a force to be reckoned with!"

**FUCHS lubricant: TITAN RACE SAE 10W-60**





From left: Regan Wasmuth, Manu Bako, Emile Croisette, Daiyaan Manuel and Tristan Grainger



Daiyaan Manuel



Willem Krause

## Zimbabwe

### Daiyaan Manuel stormed to victory in the ProMini class

The first of the seven rounds of the 2020 South African National Motocross Championship took place at Rover in Port Elizabeth in February.

In this championship, FUCHS is once again represented by the Zimbabwean drivers Daiyaan Manuel, Manu Bako, Regan Wasmuth, Emile Croisette, Tristan Grainger and Willem Krause.

Thirteen-year-old Daiyaan Manuel competes in the 85cc ProMini class with a Husqvarna in the SA National Motocross Championship, and in the 85cc and 125cc classes in the Zimbabwe Motocross Championship. He has all the experience and determination for a highly successful season in both championships.

Manu Bako (13) races in the same championships as Daiyaan this year. He won the title in the 85cc ProMini class in the Small Wheel for the last three seasons, and this season he moved to the Big Wheel. He has the speed and true grit to challenge for top honors in both championships.

Regan Wasmuth (17) decided to move from the 125cc class to the seniors MX1 class with a KTM 450 SX-F. Emile Croisette (10), back from racing in Canada, races in the Yamaha 65cc class in both championships, while Tristan Grainger took part in the 125cc class.

Willem Krause will be competing for the first time in the 65cc class in the Zimbabwe National Motocross Championship with a KTM, after winning the title last year in the 50cc class. "We wish Willem all the best for the big jump up to the 65cc class. Willem will gain great experience in 2020, setting him up nicely for 2021," said Paul Marais of FUCHS Zimbabwe.

In Port Elisabeth, there was a strong field of 20 riders in the ProMini class on the most challenging sandy track of Rover. Daiyaan Manuel started his 2020 season on a high note when he emerged triumphant in the ProMini class with two victories and the overall podium. Junior motocross champion rider, Manu Bako, came 3rd overall.

In the 65cc class, against 25 riders, Emile Croisette finished in 14th place overall on his FUCHS Silkolene Yamaha. For his first time in the MX1 class, Regan Wasmuth did not show a ghost of doubt as he fought his way valiantly through the field to finish 8th. Tristan Grainger came 18th in the 125cc class against 20 riders.

The next race will take place in Cape Town, in Bloemfontein in May, and in Pietermaritzburg in July. The last three races have been slated for August, October, and November at venues to be announced later in the season.