

# SOUTH ISLAND FORMULA FORD



COMMITTEE : A.Robertson, R.Toshach, M.Smit, S.Spencer-Bower, M.Collins, M.Elder, R.McKenzie, R.Low, D.Christensen, R.Noble, S.Paterson, M.Butchart, D.Wilson, I.McKeown (Technical subcommittee)  
October 2020

Hi Everyone, And here we go with October's newsletter, and on the eve of our first meeting at Mike Pero Motorsport Park, Ruapuna, October has been a great month for Kiwi drivers. Earl Bamber (right) winning the 24hour race at Spa-Francorchamps in



Shane Van Gisbergen (right) finally taking a long overdue and well received Bathurst win after an excellent drive, and Scott



McLaughlin winning the Supercars title for the third time and off to Indycars for a fulltime drive next season.

Belgium, Nick Cassidy (left) winning in the massively challenging Japanese Super Formula (how come this guy isn't in Indy cars or Formula 1).



And to top it off from a New Zealand perspective, Scott Dixon winning his sixth IndyCar title at St. Petersburg. Twenty one years competing in the States and still at the top. Simply phenomenal and a tribute to his commitment and work ethic. The photo shows Scott #35, and Greg Tulett #93, competing at Manfield in 1996. Scott was sixteen at the time and went on to win the national Formula Ford title, whilst Greg won it in the seasons either side.



No summation of overseas racing could ignore Lewis Hamilton first equalling, then, again in Belgium, surpassing Michael Schumacher's 91 Grand Prix wins record. We are simply witnessing the world's best driver in combination with currently the best team absolutely dominating. Together they are a class above the rest and there is no sign of a change any time soon

V8 SUPERDRIVE





# SOUTH ISLAND FORMULA FORD

At home, the October 4<sup>th</sup> meeting at Pukekohe not only coincided with the first Formula Ford, or Formula C as it was known then, race in NZ fifty years prior, but it also saw the biggest turnout of cars for a North Island round for a long time. The effort of NIFF and NZFFA to muster a grid



of 23 cars is absolutely excellent, and in sharp contrast to recent turnouts. The potential for the category to grow in the North Island is considerable, and hopefully this meeting is a forerunner of things to come.

Back on the mainland, as I said at the start, we are getting psyched up for our first meeting where the Wigram Cup is at stake. The current holder, James Penrose is out to retain it, and people like current SIF1600 Champion Jack Noble-Adams, Zac Christensen, Ethan Anderson, Cameron Freeman, Ryan Low and Steve Donaldson (although he will probably kill me for saying that), are going to do their best to make sure he doesn't. At the moment the entry list sits at 35. Ruapuna have given us the garages, which is brilliant. It will be a squeeze though which brings to mind last year's situation. We had 3 or 4 spare garages, and 3 or 4 were operating out of John Crawford's place, so I went and asked John to send them down to the garages to fill them up. That didn't suit our John so the answer was no, and to say I was pretty miffed would be an understatement! Well this year there are 4 operating out of John's place, and I'm perfectly happy about that otherwise we would run out of garages. Funny how things work out sometimes.

One week after Ruapuna we have Levels, and we have a full grid of 30. Again it should be a great meeting. As Race Co-ordinator though I'm going to have stern words to say about driver behaviour going into those esses after the start, so if you are a driver, be warned!

One thing we are all looking forward to is the appearance of several cars that are new to the scene or have been undergoing a refurbishment. Believe it or not there are 13 in this category. Here are some photos of just a few.



Zac Christensen Ray GR20

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# SOUTH ISLAND FORMULA FORD



Dave Arrowsmith's exUK Van  
Diemen RF88



Elden MK 8 Hayden Cox



Andy Down's ex-Heffernan Stealth



Steve Donaldson & Ray GR20

Ray GR08, Ryan Low

# **SOUTH ISLAND FORMULA FORD**

We had a session tyre testing recently. This is Andy Robertson's baby and here are his comments :

Day 1 of testing

Unfortunately testing was limited to just one car, Swift SC94. Yokohama was the choice of the day running 205-60 on the rear and 185-60 Front.

Dry Day, 14 Degrees,

With a camber adjustment -2.5 on the front and -2. On the rear.

Set out in 18 psi cold. Come in 22.3 to 22.9.

Temperatures were recorded inside mid and outside of all tyres, first session was 12 laps.

Note gear ratios as per Avons used.

A further 6 sessions were carried out throughout the day, two of which were shortened due to red flags,

Pressures were lowered during the day (16 cold) camber reduced 2.25 in the front.

In all 38 laps were completed by the three drivers, Dom Robertson, Royce Bayer and Jack Noble-Adams

Reports from the drivers,

Grip level good on cold Tyre,

Grips level high on hot Tyre,

Tyre holds on (12 lap longest session)

Braking performance very high.

Further testing to be carried out mid November with these tyres, 185 175 Yokohama and Kumho tyres also to be tested.

Testing will also be done in the wet.

Another couple of pieces of knitting. We met with our scrutineers recently, and discussed the head gasket corner cutting rule that comes in this season. They are happy for this to be done when the head is off for a freshen up. They are also happy to undo the hose clamp to take a fuel sample, so a Jiffey valve isn't absolutely necessary. Having said that the valve is a good idea safety wise, and we need to find a readily available cost effective option.

From time to time we have a piece on our previous champions and their car. For this month the year is 1984 and the Champion is for the second time, John Crawford in a Reynard. These are really good cars but how they corner so well beats me. They have an enormous gap between the rear cockpit bulkhead and the engine, and you would



think they would handle like a VW Beetle, but no. JC of course has had a massive involvement in our category and motor racing in general. There aren't too many places in the world where you can order the bits for your Lola T332 or McRae GM1, or indeed get the whole car built, but John's business, Motorsport Solutions, is one.





# **SOUTH ISLAND FORMULA FORD**



That will do for this month. To all of you that will race in our series, have a great season, and .....  
Stay Lucky,

Derek.

## **Classifieds**

### **VAN DIEMEN RF05**

New motor by Graham Cook. Hitech exhaust, Ohlin shocks, Aim dash, spare set of rims, lots of suspension and setup book.

\$40,000

Contact Wayne on 0274 324 771



### **VAN DIEMEN STEALTH**

New belts, new nose cone, 2 spare radiators, 3 sets rims

Ratios for all tracks except Hampton Downs

Unused spare suspension arms, comprehensive spares

Rebuilt Ohlins 2-way (front), \$1721, invoice provided

Ohlins on the rear. Car is race ready

\$39,500 contact Kerry Ross 021 605 360



### **CARBURETTOR and DISTRIBUTOR PROBLEMS ?**

Formula 1600s a specialty. Make twenty-five years of experience work for you!

Contact Ian McKeown 021 641 681

email [ijmck@orcon.net.nz](mailto:ijmck@orcon.net.nz)



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100mm x 100mm 12 volt 36 LED Rain Light. Exactly the same as fitted to Andy Downs' car. Very good lights that easily exceed MSNZ requirements, and look at the price.....\$45.00 incl

Phone Hornby Auto Electrical : 03 344 0170 or Malcolm : 0274 315 170

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# SOUTH ISLAND FORMULA FORD

## VAN DIEMEN RF01Z

Ex Perth very good condition, motor one season old

NZ spec cam to be fitted, Ohlins 2-way shocks

Australian spec Yokohamas

Spare set Oz wheels, MOTEC dash

\$32,000 Contact Gary on 027 407 7879



## VAN DIEMEN RF02Z

Again ex Perth as above, two races on the motor

NZ spec cam will be fitted

2-way Ohlins, Motec dash, spare set Oz wheels

Yokohama tyres

\$33,000 Contact Gary on 027 407 7879



## HOTWIRE CENTRELOCK WHEELS

2 x 7" class 3 rears 2 x 5.5" fronts

\$600

Contact Grant on 021 637 610



## TITAN WHEELS

4 x original Titan steel wheels

\$300 for the set

Contact Grant on 0274 637 610



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# SOUTH ISLAND FORMULA FORD



## VAN DIEMEN BODY PARTS

2 X LH side engine covers \$90 each

1 x bonnet \$100

1x engine cover \$25

Parts available ex Auckland and Ex Christchurch.

Contact Shane on 0274 739 406



CAR STARTING TO JUMP OUT OF GEAR? Rebuilding those worn dog rings and gears is a very economical option to buying new.

Further enquiries to Justin Neill Engineering

Ph 03 323 9900 Mob 027 228 0050

Email [justinneill@xtra.co.nz](mailto:justinneill@xtra.co.nz)

10 Langston Lane, Papanui, Christchurch

KONI DOUBLE ADJUSTABLE DAMPERS : 265mm between the eyes, complete with springs

\$2500

Contact Richard Bethune 021 595 007



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# SOUTH ISLAND FORMULA FORD



SEAT MOLD to suit Van Diemen RF90-92. Anyone wanting to make their own seat is welcome to borrow this mold. Contact John Sloane 0274 519 994

## VAN DIEMEN RF91

A front to back eighteen month restoration

Beautifully finished. A must see.

\$36,000

Contact John Sloane 0274 519 994



RAY GR20 Motorsport Solutions has secured an arrangement to import new GR20 Rays in kitset form, and is seeking expressions of interest. The kits are imported minus the motor, and are VERY attractively priced. Spares availability has also been arranged, again at attractive prices.



## Available from Motorsport Solutions



Ivey Valves -  
Formula Ford -  
Intake \$29 + GST  
Exhaust \$39 + GST

Air Filter Kit  
\$225+ GST



To keep up to date on our latest products, visit - [www.motorsportsolutions.co.nz](http://www.motorsportsolutions.co.nz)

Email: [motorsportsolutions@xtra.co.nz](mailto:motorsportsolutions@xtra.co.nz)

Phone: 03 349 3600

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# SOUTH ISLAND FORMULA FORD

## VAN DIEMEN RF84

A car with history. Ashley Stichbury's first Formula Ford. Prior to coming to NZ, this car was one of two owned by McLaren and used as rising driver training cars. The owner has the second chassis and bodywork too, which is in very good condition. as well as a photo of Nikki Lauda sitting with both cars in the McLaren factory. Very cool.

Everything for sale \$20,000  
Contact Ian Reilly : 0274 437 190



LOLA T340 Covid -19 has meant the UK owners have decided to put this very nice 1973 Lola on the market. The car is well documented from its UK and US days. New radiator side pods plus two new nose cones as well as a range of smaller spares.

Selling on behalf \$23,000 on the trailer .

Contact Derek : 0275 001 735

A piece of advice from Malcolm Yardley. On these distributors the cover over the module can short out. Insulation should be fitted in the side cover. The terminals should also be insulated and possibly bent over. For any further advice phone Malcolm 0274 315 170



## SWIFT FB91

Ready to race with spares including 1x set of wheels and tyres, 8x gear ratios, uprights, nose and some body moulds. May trade with cash either way a racing saloon or a road car.

\$22000.

Contact Ross Cameron, 0272215204  
or [rbcameron@xtra.co.nz](mailto:rbcameron@xtra.co.nz).



# SOUTH ISLAND FORMULA FORD

Track Tec Racing has started an "Accelerate to the Podium" program and will have two brand new GR20 Rays available for arrive and drive packages in the SIF1600 and NZ National F1600 Series .

For further information please feel free to contact Track Tec Racing at [matt.tracktecracing@gmail.com](mailto:matt.tracktecracing@gmail.com) or via social media



VAN DIEMEN RF90 Complete frame strip and sand blast last winter. Crack tested, extra gussets and strengthening, new stainless steel floor. Essentially everything refurbished right down to the fire extinguisher cable. 2-way adjustable Konis Henshaw engine, 1 season old, head refurbished 1.04.5 around Teretonga with a novice driver. Complete set of spare front suspension \$28,000

contact Mark at [mark.elder@cdhb.govt.nz](mailto:mark.elder@cdhb.govt.nz) or 021 104 0698



IVEY modified aluminium head, complete with valves and springs. One race meeting only plus some dyno work at Motorsport Solutions \$5,500  
Contact Richard on 021 595 007



Discount prices for SIFF members

- Small carbon-look mirrors, **\$89.10**, as per <https://www.classiccaraccessories.co.nz/collections/mirrors/products/carbon-look-racing-mirrors>

- Small black mirrors, **\$76.50** as per <https://www.classiccaraccessories.co.nz/collections/mirrors/products/black-lightweight-racing-mirrors>

- Small carbon mirrors, **\$202.50** as per <https://www.classiccaraccessories.co.nz/collections/mirrors/products/carbon-fibre-racing-mirrors>



For the discounted price please use the following link : [www.classiccaraccessories.co.nz/formulaford](http://www.classiccaraccessories.co.nz/formulaford)

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## INFO

**TRW VALVES:** These may be deleted from the options list in Schedule SIF in '21-'22. Let the SIFF Technical people know if you still use them and can get them. [technicalsisff@gmail.com](mailto:technicalsisff@gmail.com)

**RACE NUMBERS:** Numbers are issued to drivers, not cars. The exceptions are the SIFF scholarship cars, and the NIFF HAG car, simply because of the "rental" nature of the respective arrangements. Double -ups are avoided. If you need a number, the Numbers Register is managed by Karen Gillard [sandk.gillard@gmail.com](mailto:sandk.gillard@gmail.com) and Derek Wilson [adw0398@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:adw0398@yahoo.co.nz)

**SIM RACING:** Keen to have a go ?? Contact [siffsimracing@gmail.com](mailto:siffsimracing@gmail.com) for advice and information.

**APPAREL:** For your dress shirt orders contact Simon Spencer-Bower [simon@wanakahelicopters.co.nz](mailto:simon@wanakahelicopters.co.nz)

**CALENDAR :**

RUAPUNA	31/10 & 1/11/20
LEVELS	7/11/20
TERETONGA	5/12 & 6/12/20
TERETONGA	16/1&17/1/21
LEVELS	30/1 &31/1/21
RUAPUNA	27/3 & 28/3/21

**HAVE A GO DAY :-** 12/5/21. (Wednesday). Want to take the next step? Contact Derek [adw0398@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:adw0398@yahoo.co.nz) or Andy [jap4x4parts@gmail.com](mailto:jap4x4parts@gmail.com)

