

Motorsport News

International Edition – January 2019



South Africa

Bravo!

Sponsored by FUCHS for eight years Marc Glead and Wiltas Leeuwner of the Arrow Yamaha #M2 team won 2nd place in the famous 2018/2019 Trans Agulhas Race and also in the renowned 2018 Thundercat Racing SA Championship in the modified class. // Page 5.

France

First year, first title!

Romain Locmane and Alexis Misbert fervently celebrated the title of champion of France SSV at the end of a tough and thrilling season, dotted with challenges. New adventures with the rally-raids in the Moroccan and Turkmenistan desert will spice up the 2019 season of the Quad Bike Evasion team. // Page 6.



Belgium

GPR MX team confirm riders for 2019

James Carpenter, Rob Van de Veerdonk and Cameron Durow of the GPR MX team will contest the EMX championships, Dutch Masters of Motocross and the ADAC MX Masters Championships with Husqvarna bikes. // Page 8.



Germany

FUCHS PETROLUB Racing team takes part in legendary charity race

FUCHS PETROLUB Racing team was selected to participate in the Rossfeld Race, a legendary racing and charity event. The competition is held every two years at Obersalzberg and in 2018 all revenues were donated to charitable causes.

The drivers of FUCHS PETROLUB Racing team, Christian Loch, Tobias Klaes and Patrick Morgenstern, climbed the 10 km of this mountain race trail with their 1957 Porsche 356 A. Starting in 1958, the Rossfeld Race was an international event and from 1961 the race was part of the European Mountain Race Championship. Renowned racers such as Sepp Greger, Edgar Barth, Gerhard Mitter, Johannes Ortner and many others won this International Alpine Mountain Race Prize. Today, connoisseurs refer to the race as the Goodwood of Germany.

Peter Bauer, member and mechanic of the FUCHS PETROLUB Racing team, commented: "It is always a highlight to watch these precious vehicles with their drivers competing. We are proud to be a part of this glamorous race and hope to be back again in two years."



Germany

Good luck to the new competitors of the FUCHS PETROLUB Racing team

The Fall Rally hosted by the Oldtimerfreunde Heidelberg always concludes the classic car rally season in the Rhine-Neckar region. This event, conducted by a professional organization, gives the rally a serious touch and includes challenging tasks for drivers and co-drivers. FUCHS PETROLUB Racing team uses this race to test modifications and to improve the car but also to train new competitors for the next season. During this 2018 event, the Porsche 356 of the FUCHS PETROLUB / Penske Sportwagenzentrum team was driven by Jörg Sassmann, mechanic at the Porsche Zentrum Mannheim and his co-driver Nils Loch.

Stages of the former Vorderpfalz Rally, a race of the German Rally Championship in the sixties and seventies, were used for this race that was held in the Palatinate region.

Competing for the first time, Jörg Sassmann and Nils Loch did really well and finished 15th in their class of this tough competition against 130 teams from amongst the best ones in Southern Germany.



Photo: sports code images

Germany

24H Series, 24H Dubai 2019

Team BLACK FALCON completed the opening event of 2019, the Hankook 24H Dubai, with one of their two Mercedes-AMG GT3 entries coming home 15th after a challenging and exciting race. The team were unlucky with some Code 60 safety periods early in the race, with both BLACK FALCON AMG entries losing out at times, but the drivers fought back and both AMGs would take turns leading the race overall throughout the night.

Unfortunately, subsequent unconnected technical issues hit both cars and caused long visits to the pits. One AMG was forced to retire, but the second car returned to the fray and battled right to the end, eventually completing 579 laps after a tough 24 hours.

The team's two Mercedes-AMG GT3 were entered in the top-line A6-Pro class. The #2 BLACK FALCON AMG's driver squad included three of the four drivers who won in Dubai in 2018, Abdulaziz Al Faisal (Saudi Arabia), Hubert Haupt (Germany) and Yelmer Buurman (Netherlands), who were joined by Saud Al Faisal (Saudi Arabia)

and the vastly experienced Adam Christodoulou (United Kingdom). The second AMG, Abu Dhabi Racing BF #3, was driven by Luca Stolz (Germany), Khaled Al Qubaisi (UAE), Jeroen Bleekemolen (Netherlands), Ben Keating (USA) and Manuel Metzger (Germany). With both cars having run so strongly in testing, the problems were undoubtedly disappointing – but the team could take heart in the strong pace demonstrated in the desert. This bodes well for the team's next outing, which is in the very different environment of Mount Panorama in Australia, one of the most difficult races in the world.





Germany

BLACK FALCON teamed up with Craft-Bamboo Racing for the Bathurst 12 Hour

BLACK FALCON and Craft-Bamboo Racing teams was proud to announce a one-off joint partnership for the 2019 Intercontinental GT Challenge Bathurst 12H (Australia). This event took place on the famous Mount Panorama circuit near Sydney, legendary for its 1,000km. The Mercedes-AMG Team Craft-Bamboo BLACK FALCON included a single Mercedes-AMG GT3 entry with an all-star Mercedes-AMG factory line-up, consisting of Maro Engel (Germany) and Luca Stolz (Germany) alongside 2018 DTM champion Gary Paffett (Great Britain).

It was a strategic decision to form this partnership which combines the strengths of both teams. On one hand, BLACK FALCON is the reigning champion of the Blancpain GT Series Endurance Cup. The team has been racing with AMG GT3s for almost a decade and won countless races with this car in sprint and endurance events around the world. On the other hand, Craft-Bamboo Racing recently announced a brand-new partnership with

Mercedes-AMG. It has had a history of success on the daunting Mount Panorama circuit, which saw them on the podium in 2015 as well as coming close to victory in the final moments of the 2018 race before a late red flag ended the challenge. The joint team partnership combined with Mercedes-AMG's factory drivers and technical expertise, merged the strengths of both parties together to form a formidable team.

Maximum attack was the mission of the team in the 12 Hours. With their elite drivers setting a qualifying time that put them on the front row of a 38-strong field, the team put everything into the race and a strong opening phase saw them lead overall. However, the team were one of many to fall victim to the tight confines of the circuit: during the eighth hour their Mercedes-AMG GT3 was pushed off track and blocked radiators caused engine overheating. This hobbled the AMG and soon after the team were forced to retire.



South Africa

An outstanding 2018 season for the Arrow Yamaha team

The departure of the 31st Trans Agulhas Race – the World's Toughest Inflatable Boat Challenge – took place at Plettenberg Bay. From 28th December to 1st January, this five-day race of 700 km welcomed 40 inflatable boats battling it out on the waves. This year, this inflatable boat event attracted more than 100,000 spectators at the various beaches. The Arrow Yamaha #M2 team sponsored by FUCHS won 2nd place in the modified class of this event but also outdid themselves in the 2018 SA Thundercat Racing Championship with 2nd place in their class.

The driver Marc Gleed and his co-driver, Wiltas Leeuwner, said: "This five-day race runs through rough sea conditions with strong head winds and waves. We had to change our strategy every day according to the stage. One day, we chose to run close to the shoreline. Another day we used "short cuts" through the various

reefs and kelp beds which saved valuable time but runs the risk of getting stuck in the kelp beds or hitting a reef. To do this we had to run for approximately two minutes at full throttle with no cooling water supply to the engine before we could stop to clear the water intakes. It was amazing that our Yamaha race engine suffered absolutely no damage at all and this pays testimony to the outstanding capabilities of FUCHS lubricants!"

A huge effort was put into the 2018/2019 Trans Agulhas by the entire team, with no less than 2,000 km of hard training prior to the event as well as extensive equipment development and the Yamaha 50hp race engine performed faultlessly running on FUCHS lubricants. "Thanks to FUCHS for all the assistance received over the 2018 season. We are proud to represent this brand."

Janet Kerr from FUCHS South Africa said:

"FUCHS has been instrumental in giving this team a competitive advantage in powerboat racing for over eight years now."



France

Big ambitions for the Quad Bike Evasion Team

FUCHS customers for many years, Romain Locmane (31-year-old) and his father Vincent (58-year-old) are fans of Quad, SSV (side by side vehicle) and competitions. In 2012, Romain joined the family business, Quad Bike Evasion – official dealer of quads, SSV and Spyder brand Can-Am. Founded in 2009, the company was voted 'Best European Dealer Can-Am' in 2018.

On the competition side, Vincent Locmane celebrated his title of SSV Cross-country Rally champion of France in 2015, while Romain won the title of French Cross-country champion in quad, from 2013 to 2016. In 2017 Romain changed his cap and after one year of apprenticeship, was taking part in the France SSV Championship. His talent combined with the know-how gained by assisting his father on the TT rallies, allowed him to win the title of champion in his first season of this discipline with his co-driver, Alexis Misbert. Romain said: "I tested a new generation of SSV and was fascinated. The lower center of gravity, the 172 hp, the 3-cylinder engine, the compressed turbo, all that gives great sensations and a competitive vehicle."

In the same configuration as a rally, the SSV stages take place on paths and in the woods.

The Quad Bike Evasion technical team assists its customers on prestigious events while the team is involved in the adventure. During the Africa Eco Race, three cars were configured by QBE and won the 2nd, 3rd and 4th place in SSV. The team is now excited to prepare for the M'hamid Express Rally to be held in Morocco. "Our goal is to get our customers to the final line and improve our own 2018 score." In May, the team will face the Turkmenistan desert for seven days during the Turkmen Desert Race rally-raid. "It will be necessary to understand all the subtleties of this demanding rally. We discover the course progressively over the kilometres. We have to drive fast and by sight." Romain and Alexis will be fighting to keep the title of SSV French champions in 2019.

"Our goal is to win the title for the second year, to confirm our reliability and our performance. This is a good brand for the store and workshop."



France

Great visibility for FUCHS Silkolene on the dunes of a coastal circuit

For the second year in a row, FUCHS has chosen to be the official partner of the GURP TT, the fifth round of the French Motorcycle and Quad Bike Racing Championship, which took place on the Atlantic coast. This legendary event of the championship, very popular with the riders, took place over 15 km of sandy dunes at Grayan-et-L'Hôpital.

900 riders started on the beach, giving them a taste of Le Touquet Enduropale, the next stage of the sporting calendar. 2,000 passionate spectators enjoyed more than two-and-a-half-hour of show between sea and forest and were able to appreciate the performance and endurance of these outstanding drivers during a fast-paced and technical race. More than 180 volunteers participated in the organization and security of the site.

"We thank the organizer (Moto Club des Esteys), the North Europe Racing team, all the drivers (Espoirs, Quad and Moto) and especially the large public," said Dinis Cunha, FUCHS Marketing Manager.

During this race, FUCHS Silkolene was represented by the Belgian driver Jeffrey Dewulf of the North Europe Racing team (see information on page 8) who took 2nd place in this event.



France

Jeffrey Dewulf: the sand racing expert

Although new to the FUCHS Silkolene sports family, Jeffrey Dewulf is a renowned Belgian driver, well known to all motorcycle racing enthusiasts. Vice-champion of the ADAC MX1, (Elite category, Germany), several times nominated in the Belgian championships, he also showed potential during the MX1 Grand Prix, particularly with a 13th place in the Assen GP.

In 2018 he excelled with 2nd place in the GURP TT, 3rd in the Beach Cross of Berck and a superb 2nd place in the Ronde des Sables de Loon. It is good omen for the biggest race at Le Touquet.

Jeffrey would like to exploit his know-how and experience against the 1,200 competitors who will take part in the Enduropale at Le Touquet. He will benefit from the advice and experience of the coach and team manager, Arnaud Demeester (seven times winner of Le

Touquet), to perform during this world event.

The Bulgarian Petar Petrov is a new comer on the sand and a very famous driver in the MX2 World Championship. He also joined the North Europe Racing team in the Sands Championship with a KTM 450 SX-F, specifically to compete in the legendary race at Le Touquet 2019.

“It is a very new team but very motivated and that’s important. I benefited from very good mechanics with a lot of experience and the talent of Arnaud Demeester. Of course, it has been some time since I’ve been on a KTM. However, I must say I really like the bike and its power,” said Petar. “It is really hard to drive a beach race. Three hours on the bike, it’s not that easy but it’s very good practice. You have to use your brain a bit more, but I enjoy it.”



Belgium

An exciting 2019 season for the GPR MX team

New rider of the team, James Carpenter, joined Rob Van de Veerdonk and Cameron Durow with the objective of getting the best result during the 2019 sporting season to promote the Dutch GPR MX team and the FUCHS Silkolene brand. Looking backwards to 2018, the GPR MX team learnt a lot from an exciting year. "We had a few ups and downs but as we expected our race results were steadily going up. We would like to thank the whole FUCHS Silkolene team for their advice and support. Our team, managed by Robbert Van de Veerdonk and Gunter Peeters, is getting more and more professional now. James Carpenter has extra motivated our riders," said the team manager. James Carpenter will represent the team on the ONK 250, the Dutch Masters of Motocross, the EMX250 Championship and the ADAC Youngsters. "I'm excited to ride for the GPR MX team and very happy of this new opportunity! I aim to score points in the EMX250 and the Dutch Masters of Motocross. My goal is also to class in the top 3 in the ONK, where I had three podiums and a race win last season and in the top 10 in the ADAC MX Masters," said James. Rob Van de Veerdonk hopes to class in the top 3 or

5 of the ONK 125. He wants to be in the top 10 overall of the famous ADAC Masters and Dutch Masters and to qualify and score many points in the EMX125. "I feel comfortable in the team as we have already been working together since I rode on a 65cc. They've helped me during good and bad periods and they've always kept believing in me," said Rob. "We gained a lot of experience in 2018, so we put all the best in for 2019. We're working hard and the results will follow."

Cameron Durow will also do his best to obtain his goals. For 2019, the rider wants to qualify for the EMX125 and to score as many points as possible. In the ADAC Masters, he is aiming for the top 10 as well as in the Dutch masters. As the other drivers of the team, he would like to class between 3rd and 5th in the ONK. "I stay with the team, because I have always been with them when I have been overseas and it's a very friendly family, they really help and support me. It's myself and Rob in the 125cc class and we train and live together in Holland, so we are really going to push each other and do some great things in the class."

FUCHS lubricants: Silkolene PRO 2, Silkolene COMP GEAR, Silkolene PRO 4 10W-60 XP, Silkolene PRO CHAIN, Silkolene ALL-IN-ONE, Silkolene BRAKE & CHAIN CLEANER SPRAY, Silkolene PRO PREP SPRAY, Silkolene WASH-OFF