

FIRST AUSSIE ROAD TEST: HONDA CBR1000RR

A U S T R A L I A N

MOTOR CYCLE

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SUPER FREAK!

SUZI'S 6 CYLINDER HAYABUSA

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FANGED BMW F 800, R 1200 S
TURBO-DIESEL TWIN SCRAMBLER

PLUS ROADCRAFT
KING WALLY FASTEST INDIAN

MOTOGP:
LORIS
KICKS OFF!
FULL REPORT





AUSSIES CONQUER BHUTAN

Australians Mike and Denise Ferris have become the first motorcyclists to cross the country of Bhutan on two wheels.

With a new entry/exit point recently opened in the strictly protected Himalayan realm, travellers — who still need an exclusive government entry pass — can now get from the

original West Bengal border to the new post on the eastern side at Assam.

Located between India and China, Bhutan is sandwiched between the two most populated countries in the world.

Ambassador Lhatu Wangchuk confirmed the pioneering feat: "This has

never been done before, not by foreigners nor locals.

"Motorcycling is not such a common pastime in our country but is certainly an exciting area of tourism growth we are eager to support."

Mike and Denise are owner-operators of Ferris Wheels Motorcycle Safaris.



'06 SYDNEY SHOW'S A GO

The organiser of the Sydney Motorcycle Show, the Federal Chamber of Automotive Industries (FCAI), has announced that the 2006 event will be held from Friday, November 17 to Sunday, November 19 at the Sydney Showground at Sydney Olympic Park, Homebush.

After the successful re-location of the 2005 event to the

site, the show returns to the same venue for 2006.

"The overall reaction to the 2005 show was very positive, and in consultation with the motorcycle industry, we are planning a show for 2006 that is increasingly in tune with the wide variety of today's motorcyclists," said Peter Sturrock, chief executive of the FCAI.

"The 2006 Sydney Motorcycle Show will reflect this growing diversity by appealing to sportsbike riders, off-road riders, tourers, cruisers, first-time buyers and female riders."

The 2006 Show will feature extended hours due to feedback from exhibitors and visitors, allowing greater flexibility for those wishing to attend.

FREE F1 RIDE

Joe Rocket Honda race team manager Paul Free is man who likes his speed, so much so that he recently rocketed to over 300km/h in a two-seater Formula 1 car. Driven by 2004-5 F1 driver Zsolt Baumgartner, Free was treated to the wild ride courtesy of the F1x2 program owned and operated by ex-Minardi team owner Paul Stoddart. "There wasn't much grip on the tarmac so we were sliding around a fair bit," said Free. "But we got up to some pretty quick speeds, which was a buzz."

HARLEY-DAVIDSON?

Harley-Davidson has officially appointed its first ever official dealer in China. Beijing dealer Feng Huo Lun, who runs rider training programs, organised rides and events, is set to open the new Harley-Davidson section of the dealership in April. The US firm expects entry to the Chinese market to be a gradual process.

NOT SO FAST!

A recent article in a UK magazine has revealed that not all hand-held speed detection devices are accurate. Tested on a stationary Honda CBR1000RR, one gun, the LTI 20.20 TSM 'marksman', recorded the stationary Fireblade's speed at 58km/h.

BMW R&D

While AMCN Ed Matho was on his way back from the recent launch of BMW's R 1200 S in South Africa, rumours were already circulating that BMW was putting the bike through track testing in Spain, alongside the new F 800 S and ST. BMW is seemingly taking the track component of the new models somewhat seriously.

BIKE NUT HOPKINS

Anthony Hopkins, star of *The World's Fastest Indian*, has revealed that at heart he is actually a huge motorcycle fan. Even though he hadn't ridden a bike since doing compulsory national service a few moons back, he revealed riding the 1920 Indian replica in the film was far easier than mastering Burt Munro's Kiwi accent.