Media Release

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Legendary BMW 745i Winfield race cars make a special appearance at the BMW M media track experience in Port Elizabeth, South Africa.

**Port Elizabeth, South Africa** – The legendary BMW (E23) 745i Winfield race cars made a special appearance at the BMW M media track experience held at the Aldo Scribante Raceway in Port Elizabeth on 31 May and 1 June 2017.

It was in 1985 when the late Tony Viana and mechanic, Kobus van der Watt, decided to embark on a project to build the world’s first ever BMW 7 Series race car. Their objective was to utilise the powerful 3.0i litre (M88) engine of the BMW (E23) 745i engine. It worked and Viana went onto win the 1985 Group One Championship, making it the first ever BMW 7 Series race car in motorsport worldwide.

In 2006 the[**Evolution 2 Motorsport**](http://www.evolution2.co.za/services/race-car-building) team, led by experienced BMW technician Alec Ceprnich, restored the car to its former glory for motor racing connoisseur and former team mate of Tony Viana, Paolo Cavalieri. The car attracts enthusiasts who remember Viana power sliding the BMW 745i around Sunset Corner at the old [**Kyalami**](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Kyalami-Grand-Prix-Circuit/101095476630959) Raceway, beating the likes of Alfa Romeo and Ford to victory.

Although currently driven by Cavalieri, the Viana machine lives true to its heritage of remaining immaculate and a great tribute to BMW’s local racing achievements. This can be attributed to the precision and pride shown by the Evolution 2 Motorsport crew through their efforts in preparing and presenting the car at race events.

**Technical Highlights:**

**Year Raced:**

1985

 **Owner:**

[**BMW South Africa**](http://www.bmw.co.za/)

 **Built and prepared by:**

Tony Viana

 **Engine:**

M88 Type 3.6 litre Straight Six, 24 Valve DOHC, 450 BHP

**Power Output:**

340kW **at Flywheel @ Sea Level**

 **Top Revs:**

7500 rpm – 8250 rpm

 **Gearbox:**

Getrag 5-Speed Dog-leg Close Ratio

**Differential:**

Standard type 3.64:1 Limited Slip Differential

**Fuel Tank:**

Standard 70 litre. Standard Bosch fuel pump with surge tank.

 **Brakes:**

Front: 300mm AP Racing Discs and Calipers with Performance

Friction Brake Pads and Braided Hoses
Rear: Standard Discs and Brake Pads
Standard Braking and Steering Hydraulics (ABS and Power Steering Pump)

**Suspension:**

Springs: H&R Springs all round

Shocks: Bilstein all-round, front upgraded by Mark Sacks with additional

Canisters

**Exhaust System:**

Branch and exhaust system made by[**Van Der Linde Systems**](http://www.vdlsystems.com/VDLSYSTEMS.HTM)

**Wheels:**

Front 10x16 3-Piece 5 Stud Split Rims (Compomotive and BBS 5 Hole)

Rear 11x16 3-Piece 5 Stud Split Rims (Compomotive and BBS 5 Hole)

**Weight with Driver:**

1550kg

**Restored:**

In 2006, by Evolution 2 Motorsport

**Current Owner/ Driver:**

Paolo Cavalieri of[**Pablo Clark**](http://www.pabloclark.com/)

**Interesting Facts:**

* Homologation special by BMW SA Motorsport
* Built by Tony Viana and Kobus van der Watt
* Competed in the Group One Championship, driven by Tony Viana
* South African Champion in 1985
* Raced against Alfa GTV, Ford Sierra XR8 and Mazda RX7
* Lap Times: Kyalami: 1:56.80; Zwartkops: 1:10.00

For more information visit [www.evolution2.co.za](http://www.evolution2.co.za)

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**The BMW Group**

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In 2016, the BMW Group sold approximately 2.367 million cars and 145,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax was approximately € 9.67 billion on revenues amounting to € 94.16 billion. As of 31 December 2016, the BMW Group had a workforce of 124,729 employees.

The success of the BMW Group has always been based on long-term thinking and responsible action. The company has therefore established ecological and social sustainability throughout the value chain, comprehensive product responsibility and a clear commitment to conserving resources as an integral part of its strategy.

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