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DTM

Andy Priaulx in profile.

Munich, 15th July 2011. Andy Priaulx (GB) considers himself a very lucky man. How many triple world champions, who have achieved the ultimate in their chosen sport, suddenly find a new exciting challenge that will test them to their limits? Well this is what has happened to him. Priaulx forms part of the 2012 BMW Motorsport line-up for the return to the DTM – and he can hardly fight the first race.

He has been behind of the wheel of almost every kind of racing machinery since he took up karting at the age of 11. His father, Graham, was his idol and so it was not surprising he followed in his footsteps and took up hillclimbing, a form of motorsport synonymous with the Channel Islands where he grew up. This was where he scored his first "perfect ten" winning every round of the 1995 British championship.

However, not everything has always been easy for Priaulx. There was just one way to pursue the only career he ever considered, and that was to leave his beloved Guernsey and move into a caravan at Silverstone (GB). This was hard for the newly married driver, but, as with everything he has done in his adult life, he was totally supported by his wife, Jo.

Priaulx will readily admit Formula 1 was his goal. Formula 3 with Renault Spider Cup Racing, where he scored his second perfect season with wins in every race, were the next steps for the impecunious driver. However, unlike many aspiring drivers, he had the foresight to look past single-seaters to touring cars. This change of direction brought him in the sights of BMW. In 2003 a driver was needed for BMW Team Great Britain, so Priaulx, who had already driven in the British Touring Car Championship as well as the iconic Bathurst 1000 in Australia, seemed a safe pair of hands. The rest is history.

His results in BMW cars speak for themselves – European Touring Car Champion, triple World Touring Car Champion, winner at the Nürburgring 24-hour and Sebring 12-hour races, as well as a podium position at the Le Mans 24 Hours. All his efforts were also officially recognised in 2008 when he was awarded an MBE (Member of the British Empire) in the Queen's Birthday Honours List. Obviously the last years of racing for Priaulx have seen some amazing achievements. But he is hungry for more.

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Facts and figures - Andy Priaulx.

Born: 8th August 1973/Guernsey (GB)

Residence: Guernsey (GB)
Marital status: Married, two children
Website: www.andypriaulx.com

Career.

1984 1985–1990	Karting Motocross
1990	1 st place Motocross 250cc Championship (Channel Islands)
1991–1995 1995	Hillclimbing 1st place RAC MSA British Hillclimb Championship
1996	Formula Renault
1997	British Formula 3 Championship scholarship
1998	Renault Spider Cup
	2 nd place Formula Palmer Audi Winter Series
1999	1 st place Renault Spider Cup, 13 wins from pole
2000	British Formula 3 Championship (Renault)
	Formula 3 races in Macau and Korea
2001	British Formula 3 Championship
	2 nd place from pole in the F3 Super Prix in Korea
2002	5 th place British Touring Car Championship
	Bathurst 1000 and in Queensland 500 (Holden TWR)
2003	3 rd place FIA ETCC (BMW 320i), BMW Team Great Britain
	1 st place BMW Sports Trophy
2004	1 st place FIA ETCC (BMW 320i), BMW Team Great Britain
	24h race Spa-Francorchamps (BMW M3 GTR)
2005	1 st place FIA WTCC (BMW 320i), BMW Team UK
	1 st place 24h race Nürburgring (BMW M3 GTR)
0000	Formula 1 tests with BMW WilliamsF1 Team
2006	1 st place FIA WTCC (BMW 320si), BMW Team UK
2007	1 st place FIA WTCC (BMW 320si), BMW Team UK
2008	4 th place FIA WTCC (BMW 320si), BMW Team UK
2000	Awarded MBE by Queen Elizabeth II
2009	4 th place FIA WTCC (BMW 320si), BMW Team UK
2010	4 th place FIA WTCC (BMW 320si), BMW Team RBM
2011	1 st place GT class 12h race Sebring (BMW M3 GT), BMW Team RLL
	3 rd place GTE class 24h race Le Mans (BMW M3 GT),
	5 place GTE class 2411 face Le Ivialis (Divivi IVIS GT),

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Team BMW Motorsport