

Zedfest & M-Power Festival

Words by By Duncan Parker

26th to 28th July 2013

I do not for one minute think I will get this right for everyone but I have agreed to try and pull it all together. Ian Conuel will be providing co-ordination across "Z" forums. John Safe, Steve Miller and Darren Teagles are doing the co-ordination with Goose the Silverstone classic organisers. For the time being Darren Teagles is the nominated co-ordinator for the M-Power members.

As members may have read in the November edition of *Straight Six*, for Zedfest 2012 I co-ordinated a hotel for about 40 cars. We progressed in convoy to the event at the track on the Saturday, a cruise of about 25 miles – many wanted it slightly longer. The BMW Car Club for the 2013 Zedfest have asked me to do the same but to publicise it to all the forums more actively and to make sure that we clarify that this is open to ALL Zeds. In addition because we are extending the event to the M Power fraternity I have been asked to facilitate for other members as well. Horewood House Hotel which we used last year and was large enough to cater for the expected numbers is unfortunately not available this year. That would have made my life a lot easier! Some members may (hopefully) have already read about what is happening on the forums but for those who do not frequent the forums here is where we are.

ZedFest and M Power Festival 2013

On the basis that we had 312 cars at the event in 2012. We think that we might get about 150 Zeds who want to stay in hotels. In addition "IF" I am able to pull off the cruise to the event we have to have a meeting point that could handle more than 150 cars so that some local cars can join in the "cruise". A few Zeds did this for the 2012 cruise as we drove along.

I have been in touch with one of the police forces (Buckinghamshire) and they have asked me to keep them informed and they will let me know should I need to take positive action with any other "Authorities". I have not yet been in touch with Northamptonshire to ensure the same response but will in the coming months. The cruise according to Google maps from any of the hotels is less than 30 miles including diversion to the central Northampton Holiday Inn Express Hotel.

Locations

As some members wish to have a hotel South of Silverstone and many from the North I got

an allocation of 75 rooms at the Holiday Inn Express Northampton and 75 rooms at the Holiday Inn Express Milton Keynes. These can be booked on the link(s) identified below. Please do not contact the hotel directly and try and gain the rate we have negotiated as it is for online booking only.

ZedFest and cruise arrangements

So what is the "Hotel" deal for Zedders this year? I began in the north and was chatting to the General Manager (Sarah) at Northampton who said that she could not handle 150 rooms but they had a sister hotel (the same franchise owner) which was the Milton Keynes Holiday Inn Express and was sure she could match the offer she was prepared to make to me for Northampton. Sarah came back with a combined offer of £67 a night per room including breakfast. I thought that would be worth following up. So the idea is that we split between the two hotels which are one junction apart on the M1. For the cruise, the Milton Keynes group set off a little earlier and arrive at the Northampton Hotel to join up for one large cruise to the event. This means that the Milton Keynes group get a slightly longer cruise by about 20 minutes according to locals. I will verify the cruise details and timings before the event. The breakfast will be early enough in both Hotels to allow sufficient time for breakfast and to set up the cars before being escorted by Motorcycle outriders (hopefully, as I yet have to find the outriders) to the track.

M Power Festival

What I have done on behalf of the M Power members so far is that I have spoken to the Holiday Inn at Crick, an establishment again near the motorway and about the same distance from the Northampton Holiday Inn Express as the Milton Keynes one is. The offer we have from them is "similar" in that they are offering a standard room at £40 per night or £56 per night for an executive room both with a £10 per person per night breakfast as long as it is booked simultaneously with the room through the link below. We have no knowledge of numbers likely for the M Power Group, I have gained an allocation of 36 Standard Rooms and 24 Executive rooms and we are suggesting that this is also used by the general membership who wish to hotel with other members.

Disappointments

We understand that many Zed participants wish to all be in one hotel and that some would like the Zed forums together. This year getting all the Zed's in one establishment is not going to be feasible because the hotels that I found that could cater for the potential numbers anticipated, were more expensive

and wanted us to put money up to hold the rooms.

At the moment I have no ideas of scale and no history to base a call on. I am also aware that some members will ask why I did not use something like Travel Inn/Travel Lodge or Premier Inn the answer to this is that all three establishments will no longer do an allocation and then individuals book and be responsible for their own bill. I went to great length with these establishments to try and use them only to be frustrated.

Togetherhness

I would advise that where a forum(s) want to try and all be together decide within your forum which of the hotels and book in early to avoid the allocations expiring before your

memberships have all booked and please get someone to liaise with me so that every forum does not choose the same one.

Future Communications

I will attempt to try and keep the membership aware of what success, or otherwise, I am having as time progresses with regular updates on Zroadster.org which will be communicated to the other forums thanks to Ian Conuel (myredzed).

In addition I can be reached direct on email address duncan@Zroadster.org

I am also aware of a rumour that the Z3M Coupe fraternity are trying to get a record number together sometime in 2013 and it would be good to know if this planned to coincide with Zedfest or is a separate event – but it would certainly add to the sense of occasion if it was to be at Silverstone!



Duncan Parker – setting the ball rolling for the 2013 ZedFest and M Power Festival at Silverstone Classic



The Club are returning to Silverstone Classic in July for the second ZedFest



210 rooms have been reserved and can be booked at a very special Club rate – they must be booked on-line only using the links below



Hotels have been reserved at Milton Keynes, Northampton and Crick



The Links

For the Zedfest Holiday Inn Express Milton Keynes the link is: <http://www.hiexpress.com/hotels/us/en/milton-keynes/mlkep/hoteldetail?groupCode=BMW>

And for Zedfest Northampton please use the link <http://www.hiexpress.com/hotels/us/en/northampton/orngpp/hoteldetail?groupCode=BMW>

Finally for the M-Power and general members Holiday Inn please use the link <http://www.holidayinn.com/hotels/us/en/northampton/rugnh/hoteldetail?groupCode=M4M>

Contributors

Duncan Parker – Zroadster.org rep. for the hotels and hopefully the Cruise to the "Event".

Steve Miller – Club General Manager. Co-ordinating the National Committee's desire for Zedfest and M-Power festival.

Ian Conuel – Z register chair and co-ordinating the cross Z forum communications for both the event, hotel information and the cruise

John Safe – Vice President of the BMWCC GB and co-ordinating with the Silverstone Organisers:- Goose

Darren Teagles – M Power point of contact

Calendar

December 4th 2012 – Zedfest Hotel Bookings Open

December 6th 2012 – M-Power Hotel Bookings Open NOW. Discount Silverstone Tickets available using booking code C13225

July 26th – First Day of the Silverstone Classic

July 27th – Cruise to the Event and Silverstone main Zedfest and M-Power day

July 28th – Final day of Zedfest/ M-Power 2013



Breakfast times have been arranged to allow sufficient time for a mass cruise to the circuit



Will the 2013 ZedFest be the home of the record breaking gathering of Z3M Coupes?



An M Power Festival will also feature at this year's Silverstone Classic



www.bmwcarclubgb.co.uk



Ian Conuel – Z Register Chair coordinating Zed activities