

UP TO SPEED: MEDIA COVERAGE

FRIDAY 05 JULY

 QATAR AIRWAYS
FORMULA 1
QATAR AIRWAYS
BRITISH
GRAND PRIX
2024

SILVERSTONE

05 - 07 JULY 2024



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I overreacted to Verstappen clash – Norris

Formula 1

Molly Hudson Motor Racing Reporter

Lando Norris has admitted he overreacted to the collision with Max Verstappen during the Austrian Grand Prix that cost them both a chance of victory.

The pair collided on lap 64 while battling for the lead, and the contact resulted in both suffering punctures.

Verstappen limped back to the pits and eventually finished fifth, after being given a ten-second time penalty by the stewards for being “predominantly” at fault for the incident, while Norris was forced to retire due to the damage to his McLaren. George Russell, the Mercedes driver, claimed victory.

After the race, Norris said he would “lose a lot of respect” for Verstappen if he did not accept responsibility for causing the collision.

“I definitely think I overreacted, but it’s a new thing for me in many aspects too,” Norris said. “Honestly, I don’t think he needed to apologise. Some of the things I said in the [media] pen after the race was because I was frustrated.

“It was tough. It was a pretty pathetic incident, in terms of what ended both of our races. It wasn’t like a hit. It was probably one of the smallest bits of contact you can have, but with a pretty terrible consequence for both of us, especially for myself.”

Verstappen and Norris have been friends for several years and have also competed in simulator racing together. When Norris secured his first Formula 1 win in Miami this season, the pair partied long into the night.

“The only thing that I cared about is maintaining my relationship with Lando, because we are great friends,” Verstappen said. “We agreed with 99 per cent of everything. I said to Lando, when you go for moves up the inside, outside, you can trust me that I’m not there to crash you out of the way. The same the other way around.”

Several drivers have called for more clarity on the rules on close racing after the incident, specifically what does or does not result in a penalty or points on their super licence.

Verstappen and Norris are likely to be the favourites for victory at the British Grand Prix at Silverstone this weekend, with the Red Bull driver adding that he does not care if British fans boo him. “I’ve had that already before,” he said.

● The British teenager Oliver Bearman has signed a multi-year contract with Haas, securing a Formula 1 seat next season. The 19-year-old took the place of Carlos Sainz at the Saudi Arabian Grand Prix in March after the Ferrari driver was struck down with appendicitis, finishing seventh.

The Daily Telegraph

Interview 'It's the dream of my life to earn Hamilton's seat at Ferrari'

Oliver Bearman, Britain's teen prodigy, will drive for Haas next year but already has his eyes on being a red champion

By Tom Cary
SENIOR SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

When Oliver Bearman dons his fire-proof underwear and race suit before stepping into his Haas F1 machine at Silverstone today, to take part in his latest scheduled free practice session as one of that team's reserve drivers, it will be the first time he does so safe in the knowledge he has a seat waiting for him in motorsport's top category next season.

After months of speculation, Haas finally confirmed yesterday morning, ahead of this weekend's British Grand Prix, that they have signed the 19-year-old Ferrari academy product from Chelmsford in Essex to a "multiyear" deal to drive for the team from next season.

It will be a big moment for Bearman. The teenager has already stepped in for Carlos Sainz in Jeddah, after the Spaniard was struck down with appendicitis, and impressed everyone by becoming the youngest Briton to race in Formula One and the youngest driver of any nationality to score points on debut.

But things are different now. In a sense, Bearman had no pressure on him in Saudi Arabia. That he finished the race at all was a bonus given he only had an hour or two's notice. Now the eyes of the world, not to mention the hundreds of thousands of fans at Silverstone all desperate to get behind a new British driver, will be upon him. The pressure is growing.

Already, some have expressed doubts about Bearman's rapid rise. They have looked at his results for Prema in F2 this season - Bearman sits 14th after seven rounds, although there are mitigating factors, not least the fact he was hauled out of F2 to race in F1 in Jeddah - and written him off as overhyped.

It is reassuring, then, to find Bearman has no time for any of that. In fact, he is already thinking bigger. Much bigger. Specifically, he is eyeing up Lewis Hamilton's seat at Ferrari in a few years' time.



Hot seat: Oliver Bearman impressed the Ferrari hierarchy with his calm F1 debut at the Saudi Arabian GP in March

"Yeah, I mean that would be ideal right?" he says. "If the stars align then that's exactly what will happen. I guess I'm looking at the short term, which is F2. The medium term, which is F1. Then the long term..."

"Obviously, I want to win a world championship. And to do it with Ferrari. It would be the dream of my life to drive for Ferrari."

We are sitting in the Haas motorhome in Imola, the morning after another of Bearman's F1 sessions, which *Telegraph Sport* was invited to watch from the back of the Haas garage. It is always impressive to watch a F1 driver absorb the amount of information they are required to take on board and still have the bandwidth to actually drive the car. All the more so when they are in their teens and their

every move is being tracked by Netflix cameras.

Bearman is hit with a mountain of information. He would have had good reason to feel a little anxious

Verstappen not worried
'All cleared up with Lando'

Max Verstappen says he is unfazed about the prospect of being booted at this weekend's British Grand Prix after his collision with Lando Norris in Austria last Sunday.

Norris was initially furious about the incident

but yesterday admitted he had overreacted. Verstappen said: "For us everything is cleared and that's the most important. So long as I'm OK with Lando that's the only thing I'm concerned about."

Tom Cary

on this particular day. In F2 practice earlier, he had a heavy shunt at Tamburello, a crash he concedes that "put him on the back foot, especially mentally, for the rest of the day." But if he is nervous, he does not show it. Blocking out the noise and multitasking appears to be Bearman's greatest skill.

By all accounts he aceed the Ferrari academy tests, achieving the highest scores of any driver they have had on the programme. "I'm not too sure about that," Bearman says. "But yeah, we do a lot of reaction tests and memory tests at the academy. I find it fun. I guess I'm quite smart? I went to a good school and stuff [King Edward VI, a grammar school in Chelmsford]. I was educated well. I think that counts for a lot."

Initially homesick, Bearman now

Teenagers to score points in F1

-  **Max Verstappen**
(17 years, 180 days)
7th place, 2015
Malaysian Grand Prix
-  **Lance Stroll**
(18 years, 225 days)
9th place, 2017
Canadian Grand Prix
-  **Oliver Bearman**
(18 years, 305 days)
7th place, 2024 Saudi
Arabian Grand Prix
-  **Lando Norris**
(19 years, 135 days)
6th place, 2019
Bahrain Grand Prix
-  **Daniil Kvyat**
(19 years, 324 days)
9th place, 2014
Australian Grand Prix
-  **Sebastian Vettel**
(19 years, 349 days)
8th place, 2007
US Grand Prix

speaks fluent Italian and hosts his own YouTube channel, *The Bear Necessities*, which shows him engaged in such non-motorsport pursuits as shopping for perfume, discussing his music playlists, rolling out pasta and learning how to cut Spanish ham. Very much the modern F1 driver.

The Ferrari team principal, Fred Vasseur, was full of praise for the way Bearman handled things in Jeddah. "He was very calm in his approach," Vasseur noted. "I was impressed."

Enough to give him a seat at Ferrari once Hamilton is ready for his pipe and slippers? Bearman is not one to hide his ambitions. "I was only two when Lewis made his debut," he says. The fact he came up and congratulated me after Jeddah was... incredible."

FORMULA ONE

JONATHAN McEVOY

reports from Silverstone

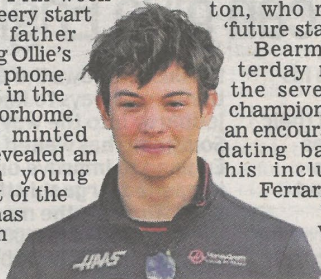
Ollie eyes 'dream' Ferrari move after joining Haas

AND now there are four. Ollie Bearman completed the quartet of British drivers in Formula One when he was unveiled yesterday as a Haas driver for next season.

At 19 years old, the Essex-born racer joins Lewis Hamilton, Lando Norris and George Russell on the grid.

The announcement made at a chilly Silverstone got the British Grand Prix weekend off to a cheery start — his proud father David capturing Ollie's unveiling on his phone from a balcony in the US team's motorhome.

For a newly minted rookie, Ollie revealed an old head on young shoulders, part of the make-up that has accelerated him to this position



at such a young age. Another helpful factor, as he admitted, was replacing appendicitis-afflicted Carlos Sainz in Jeddah earlier in the season.

Seventh place in a Ferrari, on one of the fastest and most dangerous tracks in the world, won him the acclaim of Max Verstappen and Hamilton, who rhapsodised a 'future star'.

Bearman (left) yesterday revealed that the seven-time world champion once sent him an encouraging message, dating back to before his inclusion in the Ferrari Academy.

'I received a video from Lewis in 2015

Ollie gets his big F1 chance

He will join Haas on £300k a year



Scoop: our story last month

or 2016 and he said, "Keep pushing and hopefully you can make it to Formula One day", he revealed.

'Lewis met one of my mum's friends and she got him to make a video. It was the most amazing day of my life. Now here I am. It is crazy to share the track with these guys. It is a pinch-yourself-moment.'

Bearman will continue to carry '87' on his car. 'It is the number I have used since the beginning and the one my dad

raced with because I was born on May 8 and my brother on August 7, so 87 it is.'

Bearman lives near to the Scuderia's factory in Maranello, northern Italy, and has picked up the local accent that mixes with his Chelmsford tones.

He will maintain his links with Ferrari, for whom Haas effectively act as a junior team, but is undecided where he will live next year.

His goal is to land a permanent seat at Ferrari. 'It is every boy's dream,' he smiled. And what about a seat possibly opening up if Hamilton retires over the next few seasons?

'It is hard not to think about that, but I am not thinking about it,' he said.



F1 BRITISH GRAND

SILVER LINING

Norris and Verstappen pals again after Austria smash

By ISABELLE BARKER

LANDO NORRIS started at Silverstone with a U-turn to bury the hatchet with Max Verstappen - for now.

The Brit and the world champion held peace talks this week after their furious bust-up in Austria, ahead of Sunday's British Grand Prix.

McLaren star Norris was forced to retire following a collision with the Dutchman as he tried to take the lead at the Red Bull Ring with seven laps to go.

Red Bull's Verstappen finished the race in fifth place, holding his position despite a ten-second penalty for the Norris clash.

Norris says he "over-reacted" after branding his rival "stupid, reckless and desperate", accusing Verstappen of driving into him and demanding an apology.

The Dutchman got a furious backlash from Norris fans in the wake of the incident but he says he does not "give a s***" about it.

He said that his priority was getting his relationship with Norris back on track.

But the Brit added: "Honestly, I don't think Max needed to apologise. Some of the things I said in the pen after the race was more because I was frustrated at the time.

"A lot of adrenalin and emotions and I probably said some things I didn't necessarily believe in, especially later in the week.

"It was tough. It was a pretty pathetic incident. It was probably one of the smallest bits of contact




WHEEL DEAL... Littler and Norris during lap at Silverstone

Luke laps it up as Max joins arrows

LUKE LITTLER hit one hundred and eighty — in a supercar spin around Silverstone with fellow Brit Lando Norris.

The teen sensation hopped into the passenger seat of a McLaren 750 for a hot lap before an impromptu game of darts in the paddock.

Norris accelerated to 180mph with wonderkid Littler, 17, loving every second ahead of Sunday's British Grand Prix.

Littler posted a snap of the duo on social media with the caption: "Teaching Lando how to drive."

He then showed off his skills with the arrows as he took to the oche, facing Norris, Red Bull duo Max Verstappen and Sergio Perez, plus Haas star Niko Hulkenberg. The Silverstone lap record is 1min 24.3sec set in 2020 qualifying, so they were challenged to score as many points as possible in that time.

Littler showed them how it is done, scoring 395, although deadeye Perez was just ten points behind, with Verstappen third on 367.

Elsewhere on the Silverstone circuit, Hollywood icon Brad Pitt (right) filmed scenes for his forthcoming FI blockbuster.

By ISABELLE BARKER



... And this bloke was in the Pitts!

PRIX

Sunday
3pm

sky sports 



you can have but with a pretty terrible consequence for both of us, especially for myself!"

Stewards ruled Verstappen was at fault but he still extended his lead over second-placed Norris in the drivers' table to 81 points.

McLaren have been working around the clock to get the car ready for Silverstone following the crash.

Norris added: "We've spoken about it, we've talked about it, and we're both happy to go racing again."

"I definitely think I over-reacted in some way but it's a new thing for me in many aspects, too."

"We spoke Monday and we spoke yesterday. What we spoke about is between us. But business as usual between us."

The pair have known each

other since their karting days in 2013 and now they are fighting fiercely at the top of the grid.

Verstappen has previously described the McLaren driver as his "best friend on the grid", a statement Norris agreed with.

They also often share flights to races, while they partied on the Brit's two-day bender after his Miami Grand Prix win in May.

Three-time world champion Verstappen said: "Everyone can have an opinion but I only look at my relationship with Lando. I don't give a s*** about the criticism. I go home, live my life."

"The only thing I cared about was my relationship with Lando. I just said that we have to just let things cool off a bit."

"We'll look at the footage and that's what I did with Lando."

That's the only one that I care about because whatever anyone else said, that's not for me."

Seven-time world champ Lewis Hamilton has also been dragged into the feud.

McLaren team principal Andrea Stella saw comparisons to the tussles between Verstappen and Mercedes star Hamilton when they battled ferociously for the 2021 title.

But Hamilton said: "I don't agree with that. I was more concerned about my race and enjoying the team's win."

Asked if he had advice for Norris about racing Verstappen, Hamilton said: "I don't think I need to. They have raced each other for many years. It's nothing to do with me."



Norris and Verstappen clear air after collision

Pair are still 'great friends' despite the heated aftermath to their crash last weekend

Giles Richards

Lando Norris has revealed he met Max Verstappen to clear the air after their angry clash at last week's Austrian Grand Prix but while the British driver says the pair are still "great friends" the Dutchman has insisted he will not be changing his driving style.

Norris, who had to quit the race after being hit by Verstappen at the Red Bull Ring during a battle for the lead, was furious in the aftermath and accused Verstappen of being reckless and desperate, and demanded that the Dutchman apologise to him.

But speaking before this weekend's British Grand Prix, Norris said he had spoken to Verstappen twice this week and felt his reaction had been in the heat of the moment.

"Some of the things I said after the race was because I was frustrated. There was a lot of adrenaline, lots of emotions and some of the things I said I don't necessarily believe in," he said. "He doesn't need to apologise and I don't expect an apology. It was good racing, at times close to the edge, but we have spoken about it and we are happy to go racing again."

Verstappen, who was penalised but managed to continue to finish fifth, extending his lead over Norris by a further 10 points, made it clear that coming to a rapprochement

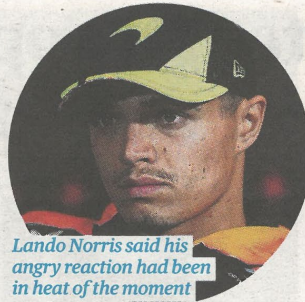
with his friend had been of paramount importance. "The only thing that I cared about is maintaining my relationship with Lando because we are great friends," he said.

"After the race I said we had to let things cool down because emotions run high. We spoke on Monday and came to the conclusion that we really enjoyed our battle."

Verstappen also said both drivers would welcome another close fight at Silverstone this weekend but that he would not temper his driving style.

"We go at it flat, that's what we agreed to, that's what we like to do and that's what's good for F1 as well."

▼ Max Verstappen and Lando Norris clashed on the 64th lap in Austria
IMAGO/MK/AVALON



Lando Norris said his angry reaction had been in heat of the moment

he said. "Like how you design a car, you try to go to the edge of the rules, maybe find some grey areas here and there and that's the same how you race. Otherwise you will never be a top driver."

Norris did, however, agree with the comments made by his McLaren team principal, Andrea Stella, after the incident in Austria. Stella stated unequivocally he believed Verstappen had been emboldened to drive as he does because he had not been punished for it in the past.

"I think Andrea's got a very good

amount of sensibility with how he talks and the things he talks about, so definitely I think certain parts are true," he said. "On the whole, I agree with what Andrea says."

Norris said he was disappointed that a relatively minor incident had cost him the race but noted that he knew he would have to adjust his style in future when going wheel-to-wheel with Verstappen.

"It was a pathetic incident in that it ended both of our races. It was a small bit of contact, but with terrible consequences for both of us," he said. "There are things I need to do differently but he is not going to change too much."

Lewis Hamilton, who was on the receiving end of some of Verstappen's controversial manoeuvres during the pair's battle for the 2021 world championship, declined to become involved in the debate over Verstappen's driving style when asked about it at Silverstone.

Going into this weekend's grand prix, the 12th round of the season Verstappen leads Norris by 81 points in the world championship.

Bearman is F1's latest Brit

Teenager Ollie Bearman will become the fourth British driver in Formula One after it was announced he will race for Haas in 2025. The 19-year-old, who impressed as a last-minute stand-in for Ferrari's Carlos Sainz at the Saudi Arabian Grand Prix in March, joins Lewis Hamilton, Lando Norris and George Russell on the F1 grid next year. "To say out loud that I will be a Formula One driver for Haas makes me so proud," said Bearman. "To be one of the very few people who get to do the thing that they dreamed of as a child is something truly incredible." PA Media



FORMULA ONE

Norris: Verstappen does not need to apologise but we need some clarity

By Philip Duncan
AT SILVERSTONE

Lando Norris has urged Formula One's stewards to rein in Max Verstappen's driving or risk "something easily going wrong".

Norris was speaking ahead of his home race at Silverstone this weekend, and just four days after his collision with Verstappen in the closing stages of the Austrian Grand Prix.

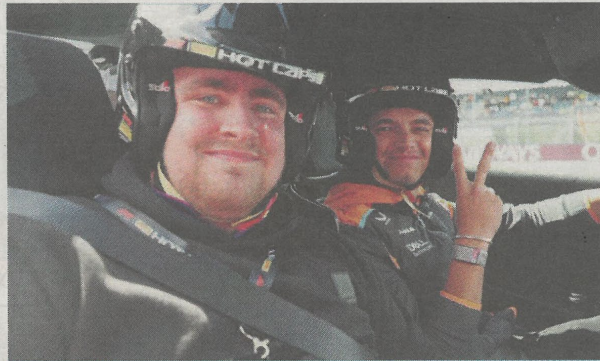
The 24-year-old British driver called Verstappen "reckless, stupid and desperate" in the wake of their dramatic coming together as they duelled for the lead.

But despite rowing back on his demand for Verstappen to apologise – after the two drivers staged clear-the-air talks on Monday – Norris said the Dutchman's defensive tactics should not slip under the radar.

"Max has a very different way of racing compared to others and that is one of the reasons he is a world champion," said Norris, who is 81 points behind Verstappen ahead of Sunday's British Grand Prix.

"It is clear how he races. It is tough, on the limit, and what I love. There are things I need to do differently but he [Verstappen] is not going to change too much. Could we have avoided the crash? Definitely. I could have used more kerb.

"There are things from both sides we could have done better or in a different way. Avoiding an incident from moving under braking is the



Lando Norris (right) takes darts sensation Luke Littler for a spin at Silverstone while Max Verstappen has a go on the arrows (below) GETTY IMAGES

biggest part of it. There could very easily be an incident that comes from such a thing and we have to be careful of that.

"That is something the stewards and the FIA need to be aware of because something could easily go wrong.

"To a certain point you are defending, being aggressive and that is OK, but there is a point where there is a limit and that needs to be defined in a better way."

Norris' McLaren team principal Andrea Stella claimed that his driver's race-ending collision with Verstappen was a result of the stewards being too lenient with the Red Bull man in his championship duel against Lewis Hamilton in 2021.

Seven-time world champion Hamilton, sharing the same sofa as Norris at Silverstone on Thursday, did not want to be drawn on Verstappen's driving and claimed he did not concur with Stella's position.

"I am sure Lewis would have agreed with it

Some of the things I said after the race was because I was frustrated. There was a lot of adrenaline

three years ago," said Norris with a smile. "One hundred per cent.

"I am always going to stand up for Andrea. He is sensible with what he talks about. Certain parts are true, and on the whole I agree with him."

Norris had called on Verstappen, who was penalised with a 10-second sanction for being predominantly at fault for the collision in Austria, to say sorry. But yesterday he added: "Some of the things I said after the race was because I was frustrated. There was a lot of adrenaline, lot of emotions and some of the things I said I don't necessarily believe in.

"He doesn't need to apologise and I don't expect one. It was a pathetic incident in that it ended both of our races. It was a small bit of contact, but with terrible consequences for both of us, especially for myself.

"Yes, I complained and said certain things on the radio, just as every driver would. But we don't want to take away wheel-to-wheel racing and have too many rules.

"I have overreacted in a way, but clarity over certain things is what is needed. It was good racing, at times close to the edge, but we have spoken about it and we are happy to go racing again."



LANDO HOPE FOR GLORY



LANDO NORRIS has been pinpointed by his fellow Brits as the nation's best hope for a home victory at Silverstone this weekend.

McLaren driver Norris, left, has been the one taking the fight to Max Verstappen.

He heads into the British Grand Prix weekend just days after he collided with the Dutchman while fighting for the

By **Daniel Moxon**

lead in Austria last Sunday. George Russell picked up the pieces to record only the second win of his career, and admits he will need more luck to get the better of the pair at Silverstone.

The Mercedes driver said: "Lando and Max are probably going to be the two guys out at the front - they've looked

really fast in the high-speed corners at the last couple of races and at Silverstone there are a lot of high-speed sections.

"Those guys will be the favourites, but I don't think we'll be too far behind. It's going to be a good fight again."

Lewis Hamilton agreed that Mercedes still aren't able to compete on an even footing

TURN TO PAGE 54, COLUMN 1

WORLD OF SPORT

Home hopes rest on Norris at Silverstone

FROM BACK PAGE

but that he was proud of the progress the Silver Arrows have made.

He said: "On pure performance I think we are in the same place as we've seen in the last couple of races. We're not that far behind and I think we've seen some huge strides forward."

Norris demanded an apology from Verstappen after their collision that forced the Brit to retire.

But he backtracked yesterday after two phone chats with his rival and admitted:

"Honestly, I don't think he needed to apologise."

"Some of the things I said in the pen after the race were more just because I was frustrated at the time. A lot of adrenaline, a lot of emotions."



VERSTAPPEN

"I probably said some things I didn't believe in, especially later on in the week. It's

tough, it was a pretty pathetic incident in terms of what ended both our races."

Verstappen said he told his new rival over the phone: "You can trust me that I'm not there to try and crash you out of the way."



FORMULA ONE

BEST OF LUKE

Brits back Norris to take it to the Max



TIME TO RELAX: Britain's Lando Norris takes on teen darts ace Luke Littler

LANDO NORRIS has been backed by his fellow Brits as the nation's best hope of a home victory at Silverstone this weekend.

Norris and McLaren have been the ones taking the fight to Max Verstappen in recent weeks.

And Norris heads into the British Grand Prix weekend days after he collided with the Dutchman while fighting for the lead in Austria last Sunday.

The 24-year-old looked relaxed as he played darts in the paddock with Luke 'the Nuke' Littler before taking the teenage sensation for a spin around the Silverstone track yesterday.

Littler said: "Giving F1 drivers a crash course on how to play darts was a fantastic experience. I was surprised by how good some of them were."

"They even gave me some tips for my driving lessons, so it's time to see if I'm better at driving than the drivers are at darts!"

Lando's fellow Brit George Russell picked up the pieces at the Red Bull Ring to record only his second F1 win but admits he'll need more such luck to get the better of Norris and Verstappen at Silverstone.

The Mercedes driver said: "It's going to be a good fight again."

"Lando and Max are probably going to be out at the front - they've looked really fast in the high-speed corners and at Silverstone there are a lot of high-speed sections."

"Those guys will be favourites

■ by DANIEL MOXON

but I don't think we'll be too far behind."

Lewis Hamilton admitted he was proud of the progress the Silver Arrows have made. He said: "On pure performance, I think we are in the same place as in the last couple of races."

"We've seen some huge strides forward. It's great that we're getting closer to the front-runners."

Norris furiously demanded an

apology from Verstappen in the aftermath of the collision that forced him to retire from the Austria race.

But he backtracked yesterday after two phone conversations with his rival this week and said: "Honestly, I don't think he needed to apologise."

"Some of the things I said in the pen after the race were more because I was frustrated."

"I probably said some things I didn't necessarily believe in,

especially later on in the week. It's tough, it was a pretty pathetic incident in terms of what ended both our races."

Verstappen said he had told his rival in their phone calls: "You can trust me that I'm not there to try and crash you out of the way."

■ OLIVER BEARMAN will become the fourth British driver on the Formula 1 grid next season, after signing to race for the US-based Haas team.



TWO OF A KIND: Top Brits Norris and Littler go for a drive round the track

FORMULA ONE

**BRITISH GRAND PRIX
SILVERSTONE**



CHECK OUT US TWO!
Darts ace Littler with Norris ahead of a Hot Lap around the circuit yesterday

LANDO CAN HIT THE BULLSEYE

Luking good for Norris to arrow in on home-soil win

BY DANIEL MOXON at Silverstone
LANDO NORRIS has been backed by his fellow Brits as the nation's best hope of a home victory at Silverstone.

Norris and McLaren have been the ones taking the fight to Max Verstappen in recent weeks.

And he heads into the British Grand Prix weekend just days after colliding with the Dutchman while fighting for the lead in Austria.

George Russell picked up the pieces to record only his second F1 win, but admits he will need more such luck to get the better of the pair this weekend.

The Mercedes driver said: "It's going to be a good fight again."

"Lando and Max are probably going to be the two guys out at the front - they've looked really fast in the high-speed corners at the last couple of races.

"At Silverstone, there are a lot of high-speed sections. Those guys will be the favourites, but I don't think we'll be too far behind."

Lewis Hamilton agreed that

Mercedes still aren't able to compete on an even footing, but was proud of the progress the Silver Arrows have made.

He said: "We're not that far behind and we've definitely seen some huge strides forward."

Norris furiously demanded an apology from Verstappen (playing darts against Luke Littler, below) after their collision, which forced him to retire from the Austria race.

But he backtracked yesterday after two phone calls with his rival earlier in the week and admitted: "Honestly, I don't think he needed to apologise."

"Some of the things I said in the pen after the race were just because I was frustrated. A lot of adrenaline, a lot of emotions. "I probably said some things I didn't necessarily believe."

Norris didn't want to discuss what was said on the phone, but Verstappen was more forthcoming and said he had told his rival: "You can trust me that I'm not there to try and crash you out of the way."



OLIVER WON'T BE WINGING IT

BY DANIEL MOXON
LEWIS HAMILTON is adamant Oliver Bearman will not need his help when the British teenager joins the Formula One grid next year.

Bearman (below) has been confirmed as a Haas racer, having signed a multi-year contract with the American team.

He remains a Ferrari junior driver and the Italians are grooming the 19-year-old to make the step up when Hamilton retires.

Hamilton, 39, said: "I haven't been asked to (take Bearman under his wing) and it hasn't been a thought. I don't think he needs me to - he's a sharp enough lad."

"As one of the older drivers here, my door is always open if anyone has any questions or if advice is needed."



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WHEN WILLIAMS MADE AN F1 BREAKTHROUGH

How the British team struck gold 45 years ago, **p30**



LANDO'S HOME HOPES

Why the McLaren man can deliver on Sunday, **p22**

HOW TO ENJOY THE EXPERIENCES AT SILVERSTONE

The 24 reasons why the race is the best, **p26**



WHO WILL TURN HEADS FOR THE BRITISH FANS?

We assess the chances for the full line-up, **p24**



Leaders' fracas in Austria allows Mercedes man to climb to top step

RUSSELL PICKS UP GLORY AS MAX AND LANDO GO TO WAR



Max and Norris came together in Austria



Brit Russell was in the right place to claim a win

By Matt James

Lando Norris has branded rival Max Verstappen "desperate" after a controversial collision ruined both drivers' victory chances at the Austrian Grand Prix on Sunday and handed the win to Mercedes star George Russell.

The leading Red Bull was put under pressure by Norris's McLaren in the latter stages and the pair both ran off track twice but the third time the Briton tried to overtake, there was contact that gave them both a puncture.

Norris was forced to retire while Verstappen was handed a 10-second penalty and was classified in fifth place. The incident allowed Russell to push through to a second career win.

After the flag, Norris fumed: "Three times [he was] doing stuff which can easily cause an incident. And in a way [it was] just a bit reckless—he seemed a little bit desperate from his side."

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MOTORSPORT NEWS

WRC REPORT

ROVANPERA BACK TO THE TOP IN POLAND

Toyota man shows his class with glory on WRC return, **p16**



READERS' Q&A

READERS' Q&A: FREDDIE HUNT

James's son talks about his career and racing passion, **p34**



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COMMENT

Photos: Motorsport Images, Red Bull Content Pool



The gloves are now fully off in the battle between Lando Norris and Max Verstappen

THE EXTRA SPICE THAT F1 NEEDS

Last weekend's Austrian Grand Prix was a belter. It had two of the sport's prime talents going toe-to-toe for supremacy, and it ended in a controversial collision that will keep the national newspaper headline writers well fuelled in the build-up to this weekend's British Grand Prix.

Lando Norris is the pretender, and Max Verstappen is the established king whose domain is coming under threat. Off-track they are pals and they are the best of the new generation. Both of them have brought Formula 1 racing to a new audience and both of them are rightly revered as heroes.

Those are just some of the elements that make this fight so interesting. They are young lions clawing at each other, as Mario Andretti once said.

It is not lost on anyone who watches their battles that Max has a sour taste in his mouth after being, as he described it, "dive bombed" by Lando three times during the Austrian Grand Prix. The moves that Norris pulled on Max were exactly the same moves that the Dutchman introduced to grand prix racing during his breakout season in 2016.

Back then, the established benchmark Lewis Hamilton questioned this new ultra-aggressive upstart and his tactics. Hamilton felt he had been dive bombed. Now, Verstappen is making very similar remarks that were levelled at him back then about Norris.

All of this intrigue just adds to the anticipation of this weekend's British Grand Prix at Silverstone. It is the UK's headline event and the chances of a Norris victory should have fans pouring through the turnstiles. It's Max vs Lando round two, and there is no better backdrop for it to happen on.

In MN this week, we look ahead to the Silverstone race with our bumper special preview, and we hope that you enjoy the weekend. It is something to be treasured.

We also report on Rally Poland where World champion Kalle Rovanpera once again showed his class with a win. Maybe MN has missed a point here, but the Finn is only engaged in a part-time programme with his Toyota paymasters.

It's not the way any driver would want to win but, for the greater good, why did the team not ask him to move aside for title-chasing full-timer Elfyn Evans? The same situation occurred in Croatia in April too when Toyota Gazoo's other part-timer Sebastien Ogier beat Evans. If the Welshman had finished first in those rallies instead of second, he would be ahead of Hyundai's Thierry Neuville now. Some things in motorsport remain a mystery.

Matt James
Editor, Motorsport News
matt.james@kelsey.co.uk



RACING NEWS



Max is looking forwards

VERSTAPPEN DOUBLES DOWN ON RED BULL COMMITMENT

World champion Max Verstappen has put a halt to rumours linking the Dutchman to a move away from Red Bull Racing for 2025.

The three-time title winner was said to be destabilised by the controversy surrounding team boss Christian Horner at the start of this year that has subsequently led to the departure of ace designer Adrian Newey.

Mercedes would be a logical destination for an unsettled Verstappen as it seeks to replace the departing Lewis Hamilton and Silver Arrows boss Toto Wolff has spoken of his admiration for Verstappen.

Speaking ahead of the Austrian GP, the 26-year-old racer calmed any speculation of a switch. He said: "Naturally, of course, people are talking but it is most important that we have a very competitive car for the future."

"I have got a long contract with the team, I'm very happy where I'm at and we are focusing on next year already with things we can implement on the car. So I guess that should say enough of where I am driving next year."

NORRIS AND VERSTAPPEN TO HOLD TALKS AFTER AUSTRIAN CRASH

Dutchman wants to talk out crash ahead of this weekend's British Grand Prix

By Matt James

World champion Max Verstappen says he will hold a meeting with Lando Norris before this weekend's grand prix at Silverstone to clear the air after the pair made contact while battling for the lead at the Red Bull Ring on Sunday.

Norris had made two attempts to wrest the lead from the Red Bull driver in the latter stages of the grand prix before they made contact at the approach to Turn 3 on lap 64 of 71. Both cars suffered a puncture and the McLaren driver was forced out of the event with damage. Verstappen copped a 10-second penalty for his part in the incident and was classified in fifth place.

After the race, Norris slammed his rival for what he said were "desperate" moves and claimed his foe had been "reckless".

Verstappen, who heads the points going into the round at Silverstone on

Sunday, said: "A few of those moves were really late dive bombs [from Norris], so it's a bit of just sending it up the inside and just hope the other guy steers out of it."

"It is not always how you race, but I think it is just the corner here lends to that as well. I have been in the other position where you just go for it and it is just the shape of the corner."

"I think the move where we got together was something I didn't expect. I saw him coming, of course, so I defended the inside a little bit. Then, under braking, we touched rear tyres and we both got a puncture, which is something you don't want to happen."

Verstappen said he thought his 10s penalty was out of proportion for the contact, but added that he and Norris would remain friends.

"We will talk about it, but not [right] now," he said. "It is not the right time but we are racing drivers. We will move on [from this]."

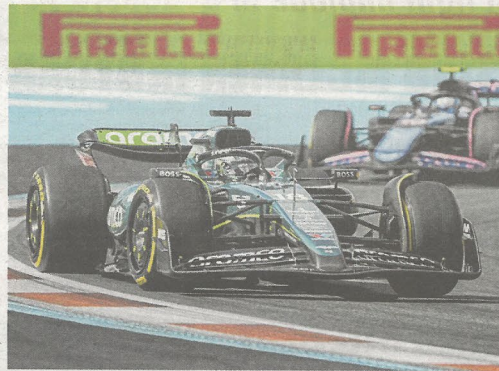


Let's talk: Norris and Verstappen



Battle royal: Verstappen was surprised by the attacks from McLaren man

Photos: Motorsport Images



Stroll and Gasly will be back on track again next season in F1

GASLY AND STROLL SEAL F1 DEALS FOR NEXT SEASON

There are just six seats remaining on the Formula 1 grid in 2025 as Alpine and Aston Martin confirmed respectively that Pierre Gasly and Lance Stroll will remain their drivers for next season.

The announcements were made in the build-up to last weekend's Austrian Grand Prix. Alpine had already confirmed it will be parting ways with Esteban Ocon for 2025 and was keen to maintain consistency by hanging on to one-time grand prix winner Gasly for a third term with the French team.

"I feel very much at home in this great team," said the 28-year-old racer. "I enjoy being part of both the Formula 1 project and the wider Alpine Cars vision."

"I've been officially here for 18 months and it was always the plan to build a long-

term project with the team. While on track it has been a challenging season so far, I remain faithful to the project and I am not going anywhere."

There has been no confirmation on Ocon's replacement but sources have linked Carlos Sainz to the cockpit.

Aston Martin confirmed an extension to Stroll's contract to maintain his stay "for 2025 and beyond" at the team owned by his father Lawrence. The Canadian driver Stroll Jr said: "It's amazing to see how far we've come in the last five years. We have grown so much as a team and there is still so much more to look forward to."

Aston Martin had already confirmed Fernando Alonso's deal with the team at least until the end of 2026.

WILLIAMS RAMPS UP BACKROOM STAFF

The Williams F1 team has recruited six key fresh personnel which it says will help the beleaguered squad return to the front of the grid.

Matt Harman joins the Dorilton Capital-owned operation from Alpine and will assume a role as design director after the summer break in August. He has previously worked at Mercedes and Renault and also had a role at Mercedes powertrains. Fabrice Moncade will be the chief engineer for computing science and has experience from Ferrari, BMW Sauber and McLaren.

New chief aerodynamicist Juan Molina will begin his job on July 15 and comes with a background at Red Bull, while another former Red Bull man,



Vowles is happy

Steve Winstanley, will take up a role as chief engineer, composites and structures.

Richard Frith will take up his position as head of performance systems in 2025 after 25 years in the sport that has included spells at Jordan, Force India and McLaren among other teams. Former Hewlett Packard Enterprise employee Sorin

Cheran will also join Williams as chief information and analytics officer.

Williams team principal James Vowles said he was delighted with the staff expansion. He said: "We are on a mission to fight our way back to the front and being able to attract experienced, championship-winning talent from other teams demonstrates huge belief in the journey we are on."

RICCIARDO COULD FACE EXIT IN SUMMER BREAK

Bosses of the RB team are considering a change of driver after the summer break in August and could ditch Daniel Ricciardo in favour of Liam Lawson, according to rumours.

Ricciardo was brought into the RB fold late last year when the team fired Nyck de Vries, but the Australian was then forced onto the sidelines by a practice shunt in the Netherlands where he broke his hand. Liam Lawson deputised and impressed the team's top brass.

Ricciardo was given the RB drive on a full-time basis in 2024 but has been

underwhelming, often outperformed by his Japanese team-mate Yuki Tsunoda. Recent negative comments from parent company Red Bull's driver consultant Helmut Marko have heaped more pressure on Ricciardo.

RB boss Peter Bayer said in Austria: "We are not in a hurry to make a decision on next year's line-up. We have confirmed Yuki for 2025 and all our focus is on the current car."

"Yuki has stated very recently that he keeps learning from Daniel. But the decision on the second seat [for 2025] will be taken quietly."



Ricciardo could soon be waving goodbye

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BRITISH GRAND PRIX PREVIEW

THE VOICE OF BRITISH MOTORSPORT

MOTORSPORT NEWS

THE WILLIAMS SUCCESS STORY BEGINS AT HOME

We reflect on Clay Regazzoni's landmark success in 1979, p30



Our guide to this weekend's Formula 1 extravaganza at Silverstone

THE BRITISH GRAND PRIX PASSION



INSIGHT

LANDO NORRIS READY TO THRILL THE UK

Why this season is McLaren man's chance to shine, p22



FORM GUIDE

THE STAR MEN WE ASSESS THE F1 LINE-UP

Our guide to the runners and riders at Silverstone, p24





WHY THIS IS LANDO'S BEST SHOT TO SCALE THE HEIGHTS AT SILVERSTONE

Matt James looks at the prospects for a home success for McLaren on the hallowed Tarmac this weekend



Home town heroes: Norris (l) and Hamilton

LANDO'S RECORD ON THE SILVERSTONE GRAND PRIX CIRCUIT

WHEN	CATEGORY	TEAM	RESULT
May 14, 2016	Formula Renault 2.0 Northern European Cup	Josef Kaufmann Racing	DNF
May 15, 2016	Formula Renault 2.0 Northern European Cup	Josef Kaufmann Racing	1st
June 11, 2016	BRDC British Formula 3	Carlin	DNF
June 12, 2016	BRDC British Formula 3	Carlin	2nd
April 15, 2017	FIA European Formula 3	Carlin	1st
April 16, 2017	FIA European Formula 3	Carlin	9th
April 17, 2017	FIA European Formula 3	Carlin	5rd
July 7, 2018	FIA Formula 2	Carlin	10th
July 8, 2018	FIA Formula 2	Carlin	3rd
July 14, 2019	F1 British Grand Prix	McLaren	11th
August 2, 2020	F1 British Grand Prix	McLaren	5th
August 9, 2020	70th Anniversary Grand Prix	McLaren	9th
July 17, 2021	F1 Sprint Race	McLaren	5th
July 18, 2021	F1 British Grand Prix	McLaren	4th
July 5, 2022	F1 British Grand Prix	McLaren	6th
July 9, 2023	F1 British Grand Prix	McLaren	2nd



Second GP track win came in Norris's F3 campaign in 2017



Reaching the big time: Norris's maiden British GP

In the last 10 British Grands Prix, the Union flag has flown from the top step of the rostrum on seven occasions. That, in itself, means that the home fans have never had it so good.

All of those victories belong to Lewis Hamilton. The seven-time World champion took four in a row between 2014 and 2017 and then another hat-trick from 2019 to 2021, all of which came at the wheel of a Mercedes.

When Hamilton took his first of eight victories at the airfield venue in 2008, Lando Norris was still in short trousers. The primary school kid, who would go on to become a grand prix winner in 2024, remembers cheering on Hamilton, then in a McLaren, from the sidelines and it had a profound effect.

Given the ebb and flow of the relative capabilities of the teams at the top of grand prix racing, Norris is now the man most likely to succeed at Silverstone as Hamilton's chances, along with those of his British team-mate George Russell, have receded.

"I was seven [when I first saw Hamilton at Silverstone]," Norris recalls. "It's what made me want to be a racing driver."

"Little did I know Lewis would still be here and still going strong. It's an honour to be able to race with these drivers who have created history and be some of the best drivers ever to come through F1."

"I want to be someone who can join in and create some of my own history. It's an honour and a privilege and exciting at the same time."

Creating history is something that Norris has seemed destined to do since he joined the grand prix grid in 2019. It was something of a punt for McLaren to sign up the inexperienced Briton. He was a driver with only five seasons of car racing behind him, but immediately stood toe-to-toe with then-team-mate Carlos Sainz.

Norris and McLaren fell in love with each other and the young British driver signed a long-term deal to remain with the Woking squad, which has since been extended in a "multi-year" contract to keep him at the team until beyond 2026.

That fresh extension to his initial deal came about after a stellar season last term. McLaren's star was on the rise in 2023. The papaya machines had started the campaign on the back foot compared to the rest and were on the fringes of the top 10 for the opening eight races of the year. However, once the circus reached Austria, upgrades transformed the performance of the MCL60 and Norris went on a run that included seven podium positions

as he clawed his way to sixth in the standings. Among that flurry of rostrum finishes was a battling second place at the British Grand Prix at Silverstone in July.

The prospects for 2024 were more promising for the Mercedes-powered MCL38 chassis, which was able to keep pace with the Red Bulls and Ferraris, but it wasn't until an upgrade was made in time for Miami in early May that it really set down its credentials.

The tweaks were designed to improve the overall package with a particular emphasis on how the chassis looked after its rear tyres. The results were spectacular for Norris and his team-mate Oscar Piastri.

Norris's breakthrough win on the specially designed track in Florida was a real feel-good story for Formula 1 and it was hugely popular up and down the pitlane with not only his own Zak Brown-operated team but with rivals too.

A narrow defeat by Max Verstappen's Red Bull at Imola and a runners-up



First victory came in Miami in May

"I want to be able to create history"

Lando Norris

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Photos: Motorsport Image

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

The top 10 F1 drivers' popularity on Instagram

RANK	NAME	FOLLOWERS
1	Lewis Hamilton	57.1 million
2	Charles Leclerc	15.9 million
3	Max Verstappen	12.3 million
4	Carlos Sainz	10.1 million
5	Daniel Ricciardo	9.2 million
6	Lando Norris	8.6 million
7	Fernando Alonso	7.0 million
8	Sergio Perez	7.2 million
9	George Russell	5.5 million
10	Pierre Gasly	5.0 million



Lando Norris: Socially savvy



McLaren hit the front at Silverstone last year



Team works: Norris and boss Zak Brown

position in Canada have thrust Norris to second in the points. If he is able to capitalise when Red Bull has its bad weekends which the team's coffins have predicted are coming – then Norris could be the biggest thorn in Verstappen's side as he aims for a fourth straight F1 drivers' title.

The upswing for McLaren means Norris is coming to Silverstone on the crest of a wave and he has targeted winning his home event as a tick box on his career development, just like his hero Hamilton did in 2008.

"I remember watching Lewis win, just thinking like how crazy it would be if I got the chance to stand here on the podium," Norris said at last year's race.

"I dreamt of it actually the night before I almost got pole position. I was starting P2. We didn't have the expectation that I would be standing here [on the podium] after the race, but there was always a chance and I ended up standing here in front of all the British fans.

"They were all chanting my name and shouting my name which made it even more special. It's such a unique feeling, it's hard to describe to people what it's like to stand here and everyone coming to support you."

And the Union flag will be out in force among the always-passionate crowd at Silverstone. There will be huge support for Hamilton, Russell, Norris and Alex Albon and Norris says the British drivers themselves will notice the backing they are getting, which can spur them on to greatness.

There is something special about

Silverstone and the home town heroes that has been evident in the past: just think back to the days of Nigel Mansell.

Amid Hamilton's struggles with a recalcitrant Mercedes in recent seasons, he is always able to turn it on at the British Grand Prix. He hasn't been off the podium at the super-fast track since 2013 despite some less-than-favourable chassis.

That extra impetus added by racing at home hasn't quite rubbed off on Russell, who only has one points-paying finish at the track to celebrate with a fifth place last term. Albon has finished in the top 10 at Silverstone on three occasions with a best of fifth in the 70th Anniversary Grand Prix in the Covid-affect 2020 season when he was driving for Red Bull.

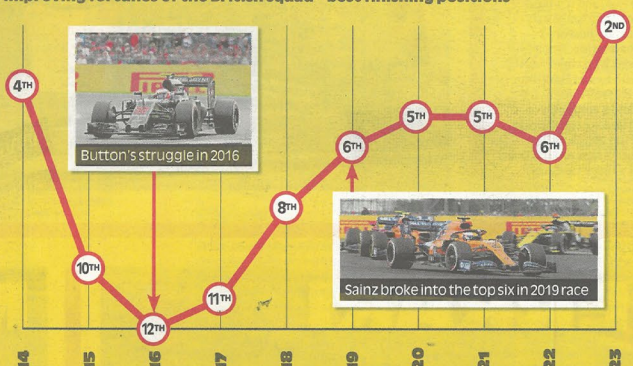
Norris, on the other hand, has plenty to celebrate as he heads home, and he also has very strong prospects. Last season's run to second place and leading the race away for the opening period away from the start gave him a glimpse of the joy that can spread around the track when he is at the top of his game.

"[The support is] by far the best experience I've had in Formula 1 and one I really look forward to trying to repeat again in the future. It's pretty special to be in that position," concludes Norris. "My heart was racing a bit more than normal [last year] and I was watching the crowd."

There will be joy unbounded among the home crowd should Norris manage to land his dream result on Sunday and it will lay down a true marker that he has come of age as a grand prix driver. The stage is set for what could be the 24-year-old's seminal moment. ■

MCLAREN AT THE BRITISH GP

The improving fortunes of the British squad – best finishing positions



Drivers: Jenson Button (2014 and 2016), Fernando Alonso (2015 and 2018), Stoffel Vandoorne (2017), Carlos Sainz (2019), Lando Norris (2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023)



Lando's first points at Silverstone came in '20

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BRITISH GRAND PRIX PREVIEW

Photos: Motorsport Images

TIMETABLE

British Grand Prix 2024 Friday, July 5

TIME	SESSION
0840-0925	FIA Formula 3 practice
0930-1045	FIA Formula 2 practice
1230-1330	Formula 1, free practice one
1540-1555	Historic F1 car demonstration
1410-1440	FIA Formula 3 qualifying
1520-1535	FIA Formula 2 qualifying
1600-1700	Formula 1, free practice two
1740-1825	Porsche Supercup practice

Saturday, July 6

0920-1005	FIA Formula 5, sprint race (18 laps or 40 mins plus 1 lap)
1015-1030	Historic F1 car demonstration
1130-1230	Formula 1, free practice three
1315-1405	FIA Formula 2, sprint race (21 laps or 45 mins plus 1 lap)
1500-1600	Formula 1, qualifying
1645-1715	Porsche Supercup, qualifying

Sunday, July 7

0820-0910	FIA Formula 5, feature race (22 laps or 45 mins plus 1 lap)
0955-1100	FIA Formula 2, feature race (29 laps or 60 mins plus 1 lap)
1110-1125	Historic F1 car demonstration
1155-1230	Porsche Supercup (14 laps or 30 mins)
1300-1350	Formula 1 drivers' parade
1500-1700	Formula 1 British Grand Prix



George acknowledges the fans



This fan has some real faith...



Selfie respect: the Haas drivers



Right crowd: BRDC clubhouse

FORMULA 2

THE RISING STARS WHO ARE DESPERATE TO IMPRESS IN F2

The stepping off point for Formula 1, the FIA Formula 2 category, entered a brave new era in 2024 with a brand-new car.

The Dallara-built, Mecachrome-powered machines were restyled and reworked at the beginning of this campaign to more closely mirror the current trends in grand prix racing.

It is ironic that in the highly competitive competition, the points are being led by a racer who has yet to claim an outright win. Estonian Paul Aron, who was third in F3 in 2023, has proved to be the model of consistency in his Hitech Pulse-Eight car. Seven visits to the podium have given him an advantage and he will be desperate to add outright wins to his account.

Red Bull-backed Frenchman Isack Hadjar has overcome two early-season feature-race shunts to put the pressure on in recent times. Barbados's fastest racer Zane Maloney had the perfect start to the

STANDINGS

FIA Formula 2 After 14/28 rounds

P	DRIVER	TEAM	PTS
1	Paul Aron (EST)	Hitech Pulse-Eight	117
2	Isack Hadjar (FRA)	Campos Racing	106
3	Gabriel Bortoletto (ITA)	Invicta Racing	85
4	Zane Maloney (GBR)	Rodin Motorsport	75
5	Franco Colapinto (ARG)	MP Motorsport	75
6	Zak Crawford (USA)	DAAMS	66

British drivers: Taylor Barnard (FRA), Ollie Seaman (Prema Racing), Zak O'Sullivan (ART Grand Prix)

season in his Rodin car with a double win but a nadir at Monaco with two collisions has taken the wind out of his sails.

Brit Oliver Bearman has had a tough time with Prema but won last time out in Austria. Taylor Barnard dominated the sprint race in Monaco – still one of his only two points finish of the campaign – while Zak O'Sullivan used a cute strategy to claim a race in Monte Carlo but has been patchy elsewhere.



Paul Aron will be aiming to climb onto the F2 top step at Silverstone

FORMULA 3

BRITS IN THE MIX IN FORMULA 3 BATTLES



Prema Racing's Arvid Lindblad was a start-to-finish winner in the feature race at the Spanish Grand Prix

This will be a crucial weekend for the British drivers in the hunt for the tense battle for the Formula 3 title in 2024. Luke Browning brings his Hitech Pulse-Eight car to Silverstone on top of the points with two wins, while Prema Racing's Red Bull-backed star Arvid Lindblad has also taken victory and is right in the fight.

The 2022 GB3 champion Browning is in his second season in the category and has mastered the tricks of the Dallara chassis and the 3.4-litre V6 motor. He dropped points after contact at Imola in May but has been bang on the pace elsewhere, including a win in Austria last weekend. Lindblad's season has been punctuated by a crash that ruled him out in Monaco, but he added to his opening-round Bahrain win with a finely judged victory in Spain in June to keep up the pressure.

Gabriele Mini, who is a one-time winner in his Prema car, is hot on Browning's coat-tails. ■

STANDINGS

FIA Formula 3 After 12/20 rounds

P	DRIVER	TEAM	PTS
1	Luke Browning (GBR)	Hitech Pulse-Eight	106
2	Gabriele Mini (ITA)	Prema Racing	95
3	Leonardo Fornara (ITA)	Trident	86
4	Orto Begovic (GBE)	Prema Racing	80
5	Christian Mansell	ART GP	78
6	Arvid Lindblad (GBR)	Prema Racing	77

Other British drivers: Joseph Loake, Callum Voisin, Cian James, Jared Hedley (Monaco only)

PORSCHE SUPERCUP

CAN SILVERSTONE CROWN A NEW BRITISH KING?

British racer Harry King is no stranger to championship titles. The Ginetta Supercup, Porsche Carrera Cup GB and Porsche Carrera Cup Benelux conquerer has gone on the hunt on the biggest stage now in the Supercup and has turned heads already.

The 23-year-old finished third in the standings last term in his BWT Lechner Racing GT3 car and it this year going toe-to-toe with Dutchman Larry

ten Voorde, who is already a three-time Supercup race winner in 2024.

King followed his rival across the line in the opening three rounds at Imola, Monaco and Austria, but the pair have been the class of the field. King's experienced a podium at the British Grand Prix meeting in the Supercup with third two seasons ago. He will be aiming to climb on to the top step in 2024.

STANDINGS

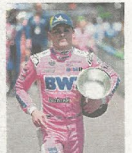
Porsche Supercup After 3/8 rounds

P	DRIVER	PTS
1	Larry ten Voorde (NLD)	75
2	Harry King (GBR)	60
3	Marvin Klein (FRA)	46
4	Keegan Masters (ZAF)	37
5	Kas Haverkort (NLD)	34
6	Robert de Haan (NLD)	27



Title leader ten Voorde, left

Britain's only hope Harry King, right



SPORTING LIFE

Dash for cash at Silverstone with 500,000 F1 fans

2

The British GP - being held at Silverstone on Sunday, - is one of only two races to have featured in every F1 World Championship since 1958. The other is the Italian GP.

By Simon Carter

simon.carter@nationalworld.com

4

Venues that have staged the race: Brooklands (x 2), Aintree (x 4), Brands Hatch (x 12) and Silverstone (x 59).

£349

Cheapest three-day admission price for the British Grand Prix (as of June 25). Ticket price includes admission to evening concerts headlined by Stormzy, Pete Tong & The Heritage Orchestra and Rudimental.

237

Max Verstappen's current points tally, putting him 71 ahead of Brit Lando Norris and on course for a fourth successive F1 World title.



1976

The year that James Hunt, (pictured left), won the event in July, only to be disqualified two months later and Niki Lauda awarded the victory instead. Hunt's crime - he had not completed a full lap of the track after being involved in a first corner crash, instead driving through an access road back to the pits.

7

Max Verstappen, (pictured left), is leading the 2024 Drivers' Championship after winning seven of the opening 11 races.

1970

Year that Jochen Rindt won his only British GP, at Brands Hatch. He was tragically killed at the Italian GP later that season. After winning five of the first 10 GPs, no-one could catch him in the three that remained and he was posthumously awarded the World title.



5

Jim Clark, (pictured left), (1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1967) and Alain Prost (1983, 1985, 1989, 1990, 1993) have each won the race five times.

1986

The last year the race was held anywhere other than Silverstone - at Brands Hatch.

1:27.097

Time of Max Verstappen's lap record, recorded in 2020.

1957

Year that Johnny Herbert's Silverstone win brought him his maiden World Championship success.

480,000

Estimated attendance over the whole British GP weekend in 2023, a new record.



8
Lewis Hamilton, (pictured below), has won the most British GPs (2008, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2019, 2020, 2021).

12
Number of British drivers to have won the race - Lewis Hamilton (8), Jim Clark (5), Nigel Mansell (4), Stirling Moss (2), Jackie Stewart (2), David Coulthard (2), Tony Brooks, Peter Collins, James Hunt, John Watson, Damon Hill, Johnny Herbert.

18
Number of times a Ferrari car has won the race - four more than next highest McLaren.

2034
Year in which Silverstone is contracted to stage the race.

190.2
Length in miles of the British GP (306.198 km).

3.66
Silverstone's track distance (5.891 km).

1948
Year in which Silverstone first staged the race, the circuit being marked out with oil drums and straw bales.

12
The race is the 12th out of 24 in the 2024 Formula 1 World Championship.

0
Crowd for the 2020 British GP, which was held behind closed doors due to the pandemic.

2
World Championship races staged at Silverstone in 2020, with a 70th Anniversary GP held the week after the British GP, also behind closed doors.

Pictures: Getty Images.

Grand Prix traffic disruption warning

Roseanne Edwards
roseanne.edwards@nationalworld.com

Highways bosses warn of traffic disruption between Brackley and Towcester over the annual Silverstone Grand Prix weekend.

National Highways is advising people heading to Silverstone for the Formula 1 Qatar Airways British Grand Prix this weekend to allow plenty of time for their journeys.

Some 480,000 visitors are expected over the course of the four-day event, from July 4-7, with 160,000 fans due on Sunday.

As in previous years a one-way system will be introduced on the main A43 between the Abthorpe Roundabout at Towcester and the junction with

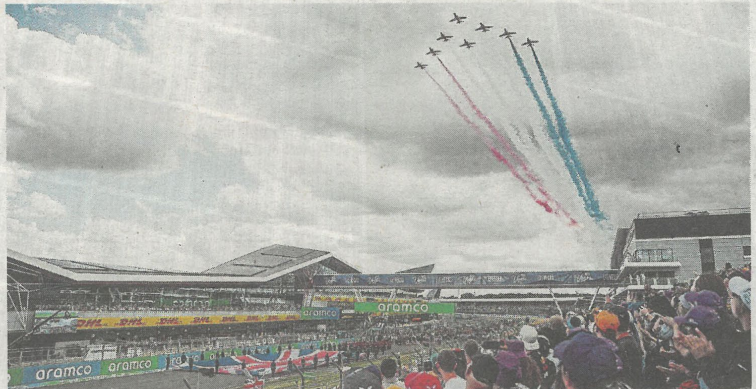
the B4525 interchange near Syresham on Saturday and Sunday.

From 5am to until around 2pm on both days the direction of traffic will be towards the circuit while from approximately 2pm to 11pm it will switch to take people away from the venue. This will be lifted earlier if possible.

Dadford Road to Silverstone circuit will also become one way on Friday morning, and all day Saturday and Sunday.

Those attending should follow the signs from the M1, M40 and on their car parking pass, rather than relying on sat navs as depending which car park they are in, they may need to leave the A43 by different slip roads.

Gates open at 11am on Thursday, 7.30am on Friday



The annual Silverstone Grand Prix weekend means up to four days of traffic disruption.

and Saturday (7am for Fast Track ticket holders) and 6.30am on Sunday (6am for Fast Track ticket holders).

Traffic is expected to be heavy in the area until Monday.

Traffic officers will be patrolling to keep traffic flow-

ing and clearing incidents as quickly as possible.

Anyone not travelling to Silverstone should avoid the area.

Aspiring star Zak gears up for Brit GP

Ian Gallagher
ian@wccms.co.uk
@Bucks_Herald

Britain's aspiring next Formula One star is gearing up to race in front of his home fans as the British Grand Prix rolls into the legendary Silverstone circuit.

Zak O'Sullivan, from Withington, near Cheltenham, is part of the historic Williams Racing team's driver academy and is racing in Formula 2 in 2024, the final rung on the feeder series ladder before F1.

Despite an at-times tough campaign at the wheel of his ART Grand Prix machine, 19-year-old Zak took a famous win at Monaco and is currently 11th in the drivers' championship standings.

Zak heads into Silverstone (July 5–7) after a solid weekend at the Red Bull Ring in Austria, where he outqualified and out-raced team-mate Victor Martins and took home two points for ninth place in the feature race.

The British Grand Prix is widely considered to be one of the showcase events on the Formula One calendar, with a weekend crowd of up to 460,000 people set to arrive in Northamptonshire at the former Second World



Zak O'Sullivan is preparing to race in front of a packed home support.

War bomber base.

Zak said: "It was at Silverstone where I first got the bug for Formula One, travelling to the Grand Prix with my dad. Now I am there racing in front of the huge British crowd, which is a really exciting prospect.

"This year has proved to be really challenging, as all the teams have had to get used to the new-for-2024 Formula 2 car and some have found it easier than others. Nevertheless, we have achieved some great results and I am very motivated to perform in front of one of the biggest crowds of the year."

Silverstone is a track where Zak has already made

some great memories, after taking pole position and finishing second in Formula 3 in 2022.

"The track has some incredible high-speed corners, some of the biggest challenges we face as drivers across the season. It rewards bravery and skill and pushes the car and driver to the limit.

"The likes of Lando Norris and George Russell fought it out for Formula 2 victories at Silverstone before making it to the very top.

"My ultimate goal is to reach Formula One, so I hope I can follow in their footsteps this weekend," he added.

Silverstone all set to roar

North Buckinghamshire will echo to the sound of Formula 1 cars this week as the British Grand Prix takes place at Silverstone.

A near capacity crowd is set flood into the local track to witness what looks like being the most competitive round of the FIA F1 World Championship seen at the venue for many years.

Max Verstappen, the reigning world champion, leads the title race for the Red Bull team but following last weekend's Austrian Grand Prix at the Red Bull Ring, eyes, and cheers of

the partisan crowd, will be aimed towards George Russell who sensationally won his second Grand Prix and returned the Mercedes AMG Petronas team to the top step of the podium for the first time since Brazil Grand Prix in 2022.

Russell has endured a difficult 2024 season to-date at the wheel of an under-performing Mercedes, but he found himself in the right place at the right time on Sunday, when Verstappen and McLaren's Lando Norris, clashed near the end of the Austrian race.

Norris retired as a result

on the collision and Verstappen dropped to fifth, allowing Russell to sweep into the lead and score a well-timed victory - knowing full well that his next race would be a Grand Prix at the 'Home of British Motor Racing'.

Track action this weekend at Silverstone starts on Friday, with the Formula 1 Qatar Airways British Grand Prix then taking place on Sunday afternoon.

The 52-lap race around the 3.6-mile Silverstone Grand Prix Circuit is scheduled to start at 3pm.

All eyes focus on Silverstone

By Colin and James Beckett
James.beckett@nationalworld.com
@James_ChronNTEC

The British Grand Prix takes place at Silverstone this weekend, and a near capacity crowd is set to flood to the local track to witness what looks like being the most competitive race at the venue for many years.

Max Verstappen, the reigning world champion, leads the World Championship but eyes of the partisan crowd will be on George Russell following his sensational victory in Austria on Sunday.

Russell has endured a difficult 2024 to-date at the wheel of his under-performing Mercedes, but he found himself in the right place at the right time when Verstappen and McLaren's Lando Norris collided.

Celebrating his second Grand Prix win, Russell said: "You've got to be in it at the end to pick up the pieces, and that's what we were!"

Hamilton finished fourth and this weekend will be his final British Grand Prix as a Mercedes driver ahead of his move to Ferrari.

The Aston Martin cars of Lance Stroll and Fernando Alonso had a lacklustre race in Austria, both finishing outside of the points.

Track action this weekend



George Russell celebrates victory in Austria last weekend. Picture: Mercedes Media

at Silverstone starts on Friday with the main event on Sunday at 3pm.

>>> The Aston Martin Comtoyou Racing team won last weekend's CrowdStrike Spa 24 Hours when their Vantage GT3 took the lead within the final hour of competition. The Brackley-based Ga-

rage 59 team scored a best result of 11th while Silverstone's 2 Seas Motorsport managed to reach the finish of their first ever twice round the clock race, coming 42nd on the road.

>>> The Fanatec GT World Challenge Europe season continues in Germany later this month with back-to-back

Sprint and Endurance Cup races taking place at Hockenheim and the Nurburgring.

>>> Marc Gene will again represent Ferrari at the Goodwood Festival of Speed.

The former Buckingham University student will drive one of the team's F1 cars on the opening two days in West

Sussex next week, with young reserve driver Oliver Bearman also scheduled to make an appearance.

>>> A number of local motorcycle racers will be on-track at Mallory Park this weekend, taking part in races at the circuit's Bike Bonanza meeting.

FRIDAY 05 JULY: LINKS TO ONLINE COVERAGE

Headline	Media	Links
Oliver Bearman lands multiyear F1 deal with Haas	Autoweek	https://www.autoweek.com/racing/formula-1/a61501824/oliver-bearman-lands-multiyear-f1-deal-haas/
Verstappen & Norris 'both happy to race' after clash	BBC	https://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/formula1/articles/ckmgrlr36gro
F1's Austria track limits solution deployed at Silverstone too	Autosport	https://www.autosport.com/f1/news/f1s-austria-track-limits-solution-deployed-at-silverstone-too/10631397/
F2: O'Sullivan 'focused' on executing home race weekend as well as he can	FormulaNerds	https://www.formulanerds.com/news/f2-osullivan-focused-on-executing-home-race-weekend-as-well-as-he-can/
Bearman seals 'dream' F1 seat as fourth British driver on 2025 grid	Independent.co.uk	https://www.independent.co.uk/f1?CMP=ILC-refresh
Behind-the-scenes at Silverstone, Brad Pitt resumes F1 filming	Crash.Net	https://www.crash.net/f1/feature/1051684/1/behind-scenes-silverstone-brad-pitt-resumes-f1-filming
Lando Norris says Max Verstappen doesn't owe him an apology for 'pathetic' Austrian GP collision	Sky Sports	https://www.skysports.com/f1/news/12433/13162955/lando-norris-says-max-verstappen-doesnt-owe-him-an-apology-for-pathetic-austrian-gp-collision
F1 rivals don't see what Norris – Verstappen fuss is all about	ESPN	https://www.espn.co.uk/racing/story/_/id/40496421/f1-rivals-see-norris-verstappen-fuss-all-about
'I don't want to run that' – Verstappen's unusual Norris Stance	The Race	https://www.the-race.com/formula-1/max-verstappen-lando-norris-f1-friendship-collision/
Mick Schumacher F1 return would make Guenther Steiner 'very happy' despite uncle's claim	Talksport.com	https://talksport.com/sport/1950011/guenther-steiner-mick-schumacher-formula-1-return-alpine-haas/
Over the top or blown out of proportion? F1 drivers weigh in on Norris/Verstappen bout	RACER	https://racer.com/2024/07/04/over-the-top-or-blown-out-of-proportion-f1-drivers-weigh-in-on-norris-verstappen-bout/
Lewis Hamilton cool on MotoGP speculation	The Race	https://speedcafe.com/lewis-hamilton-cool-on-motogp-speculation/
Mercedes door remains open to Carlos Sainz with 'definitely still a chance'	Planet F1	https://www.planetf1.com/news/mercedes-door-carlos-sainz-chance-toto-wolff-f1-2025

FRIDAY 05 JULY: LINKS TO ONLINE COVERAGE

Headline	Media	Links
British Grand Prix practice betting tips: Close battle expected	Racing Post	https://www.racingpost.com/sport/motor-sports-tips/formula-1-tips/british-grand-prix-practice-betting-tips-and-f1-predictions-a5sno9F4ovL2/
Lando Norris claims Max Verstappen took 'easy' way out in Austria, blasts 'pretty stupid' F1 rule	Planet F1	https://www.planetf1.com/news/lando-norris-max-verstappen-austria-stupid-f1-rule
Ocon expects news soon on F1 future, not dependent on Sainz	Reuters	https://www.reuters.com/sports/formula1/ocon-expects-news-soon-f1-future-not-dependent-sainz-2024-07-04/
Alonso warns F1's penalty points system "takes away incentive to try to overtake"	Racefans.net	https://www.racefans.net/2024/07/04/alonso-warns-f1s-penalty-points-system-takes-away-incentive-to-try-to-overtake/
Verstappen responds to threat of British fans backlash	RacingNews365.com	https://racingnews365.com/verstappen-responds-to-threat-of-british-fans-backlash
Formula 1: Sauber driver's comments hint at lineup change	Beyond the Flag	https://beyondtheflag.com/posts/formula-1-sauber-driver-zhou-guanyu-comments-hint-lineup-change-01j1r2eqb83d
Lando Norris rudert zurück: Max Verstappen muss sich nicht entschuldigen	Motorsport-Magazine	https://www.motorsport-magazin.com/formel1/news-289498-norris-rudert-nach-formel-1-duell-mit-verstappen-zurueck-max-muss-sich-nicht-entschuldigen/
Paddock insider: 'I have a real opportunity'- Silverstone braces for Norris vs Verstappen: the sequel	F1	https://www.formula1.com/en/latest/article/paddock-insider-i-have-a-real-opportunity-silverstone-braces-for-norris-vs-2aBIBVS8Sgds3LiKKqTU5H
Lewis Hamilton has surprise stance on helping Oliver Bearman after F1 promotion	The Mirror	https://www.mirror.co.uk/sport/formula-1/hamilton-bearman-ferrari-haas-future-33169657
F1 live: Verstappen and Norris strike agreement as FIA hacked on eve of British GP	The Daily Express	https://www.express.co.uk/sport/f1-autosport/1919263/f1-live-verstappen-norris-british-gp
2024 British Grand Prix: Gates open to fans at Silverstone	Silverstone	https://www.silverstone.co.uk/news/2024-british-grand-prix-gates-open-fans-silverstone
Hamilton drops TANTALISING update about owning racing team	GPFans	https://www.gpfans.com/en/f1-news/1024613/lewis-hamilton-f1-update-owning-ducatti-moto-gp-team/