

August 24

2010

SCHOLARSHIP NEWSLETTER

Dear supporters,

Wow! Suzuki Swift Sport Cup here I come!

After an unbelievable weekend I am delighted to announce I am the winner of the 2010/11 Castrol Suzuki Swift Scholarship.

It was a tough day and started with some grueling fitness tests at a gym near the Latimer Hotel. I did reasonably well in these considering most of the competitors were around the 18 to 20 year old age bracket and had a huge physical advantage.

After this at 9 o'clock we had breakfast and briefed on the days programme, this was where the judges announced that John McIntyre would mentor the winner. The opportunity includes

- Time with John to talk through the circuit, race tactics, or anything else required at each race meeting
- NZV8 test at the end of the season at Taupo Motorsport Park, including personal tuition with John.

I was very excited by this and I couldn't wait to get out to the track. I was first up in the car and I had Andy Knight as my instructor. He gave me some great tips. The car felt good and I was feeling confident.

Next up I had an interview with the judges – Paul Burborough (Winger Suzuki), Darren Stevens (Suzuki NZ), Jayne McEwan (Castrol NZ), Shane Drake (Chicane Race wear), and Martin Rotteveel (Punch Media and LG). I think they were impressed by my attitude and my C.V. presentation. After this Shaun Summerfield from TV3's Gillette Motorsport show, tested me on my media skills. I felt comfortable in front of the camera, which was good, and I reckon I answered all the questions properly.

I had about an hour's wait before the 'pressure cooker' two-lap shoot-out which was to be 60% of our mark.

I allowed myself some quite time while all the other drivers were having their shoot-out laps. By the time the mechanic, Mark Pilcher called me up for my turn in the hot seat I was rearing to go. My first flying lap was cautious but my second was much faster, I didn't push too hard as I didn't want to spin out and lose any chance of winning. It was a clean, fast lap although I did brake a little too early at turn 1 and at the hairpin.

I was very nervous heading into the awards dinner and the Judges did their best to drag it out until after the meals. I was starting to get the shakes as Paul Burborough began to announce the winner.

"And the winner of the 2010 Castrol Suzuki Scholarship is..... Tom Barker!" said Paul.

I was absolutely over the moon, all the effort I had put in had finally paid off. I got up the front and I was speechless, I couldn't believe it. Darren from Suzuki NZ said the look on my face was priceless!



August 24
2010

SCHOLARSHIP NEWSLETTER

It is a brilliant opportunity and I can't wait for the first round at Pukekohe. A huge thank you to all my supporters for making this opportunity possible.

Big thanks to:

Michael Morton, Paul Kelly, Shane McKillen, Marc Spring, Craig Baird, Daniel Gaunt, Todd Bickerton, and Ian McNabb from the Triple X Motorsport group.

Andy Neale, Michele Neale, and Ryan Charles from the Canterbury Motor Racing School.

Steve and Hayley Pirie from Fernatics.

And other personal supporters Ken Smith, Chris Hyde, Mike Pero, Shane Person, and my family.

Without your support, I wouldn't have this exciting opportunity

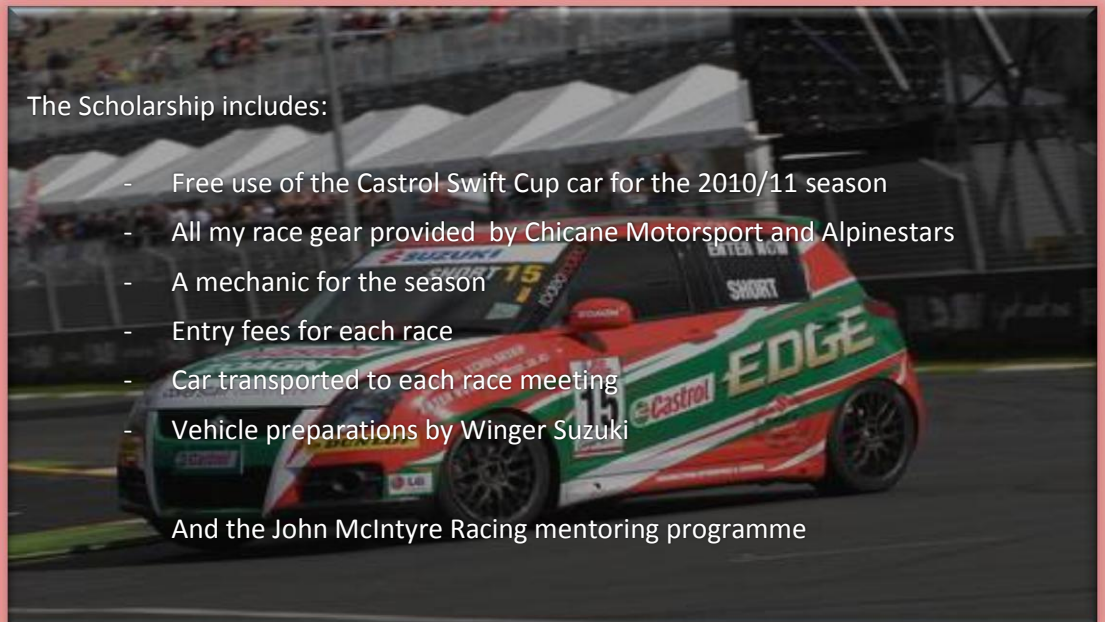
Best regards,

Tom Barker

The Scholarship includes:

- Free use of the Castrol Swift Cup car for the 2010/11 season
- All my race gear provided by Chicane Motorsport and Alpinestars
- A mechanic for the season
- Entry fees for each race
- Car transported to each race meeting
- Vehicle preparations by Winger Suzuki

And the John McIntyre Racing mentoring programme





EDGE



I will be racing this brand new Castrol backed Swift Cup car this season

THE MAD BUTCHER

BEST PRICE **BEST QUALITY**

established 1971

PUNCH
ADVERTISING

TRINITY
media group

paul kelly motor company

CANTERBURY MOTOR RACING SCHOOL

chicane
racewear

Castrol

Fernatics

WINGER
SUZUKI

LG
Life's Good