

Media release

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## “Life is measured in achievement, not in years alone”: Bruce McLaren

- McLaren marks 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Bruce McLaren with a private ceremony at the company’s headquarters in Woking, Surrey, UK
- Daughter Amanda McLaren unveils life-sized statue of her father in commemoration of his life and achievements
- The pioneering racing driver and engineer was killed aged 32 on June 2, 1970, while testing a McLaren M8D Can-Am race car at the Goodwood Circuit in West Sussex, UK
- Renowned as a winner of Grands Prix, Can-Am championships and the 24 Hours of Le Mans as a driver and the founder in 1963 of Bruce McLaren Motor Racing Ltd – the foundation for today’s McLaren

McLaren today remembers the life and achievements of Bruce McLaren, who in 1963 founded Bruce McLaren Motor Racing Ltd, the company that has evolved through almost six decades to become today’s McLaren.

June 2, 2020, marks half a century since the death of the pioneering racing driver and engineer, who was killed in 1970 while testing one of his Can-Am racing cars at the Goodwood Circuit in West Sussex, UK. In commemoration of her father, Amanda McLaren – a McLaren Automotive brand ambassador – unveiled a life-sized statue of Bruce McLaren during a short private ceremony at the McLaren Technology Centre (MTC) in Woking, Surrey, UK.

Fifty lighted candles were also placed around a 1970 McLaren M8D displayed at McLaren’s headquarters. The ‘sister car’ to the M8D in which Bruce McLaren was killed, it was driven to championship victory in the 1970 Can-Am race series by Bruce’s team-mate and fellow Kiwi racer, Denny Hulme. This was the second time Hulme had secured the championship, McLaren himself taking the honours in 1967 and 1969. The McLaren team dominated Can-Am racing from 1967 for five consecutive years.

*“It is an honour to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Bruce McLaren by unveiling this wonderfully crafted statue to commemorate his life and achievements. When my father died in June 1970 – just 12 years after coming to the UK from New Zealand – he had already done so much to realise his ambitions, but the best was still to come. McLaren’s accomplishments over more than 50 years in Formula 1, the landmark victory at the 1995 24 Hours of Le Mans race and the supercars and hypercars designed, developed and built under the McLaren banner, all stand as his legacy.*

*“June 2 is always an emotional date for us and that’s particularly true this year. Having ‘Dad’ looking out over McLaren is incredibly moving and I know that he would have been so very proud of the achievements made in his name.”*

Amanda McLaren, daughter of Bruce; McLaren Automotive Ambassador

The bronze statue of Bruce McLaren was created by painter and sculptor, Paul Oz. Globally recognised for his motorsport-inspired art, Oz was previously commissioned by McLaren Racing to produce a sculpture of Ayrton

Senna that is also at the MTC. Senna drove for McLaren for six years, winning all three of his Formula 1 World Championships at the wheel of a McLaren in 1988, 1990 and 1991.

Bruce McLaren himself debuted the newly formed McLaren team in Grand Prix racing in 1966, competing in Monaco. He also delivered the maiden McLaren Grand Prix victory, winning in 1968 at the Spa-Francorchamps circuit in Belgium. This was Bruce's fourth Formula 1 victory, adding to the three he recorded driving for Cooper.

The team that still bears his name has since achieved a total 182 race wins, bringing 12 Drivers' Championships and 8 Constructors' Championships to become the second most successful team in Formula 1. McLaren also has three Indianapolis 500 victories to its name and earlier this year the team returned to full-time IndyCar competition for the first time in 40 years.

While Bruce McLaren himself never produced road cars in any number, the McLaren name was further cemented in automotive history with the introduction in 1992 of the McLaren F1, the car famously going on in race guise to win the 24 Hours of Le Mans endurance race in 1995 at the team's first attempt.

McLaren Automotive, today the largest part of the McLaren Group, was formed in 2010 and now produces a portfolio of GT, supercar and hypercar models for the road, with competition cars in the GT4 and GT3 classes and equivalent supported by McLaren Customer Racing.

Further tributes will be shared on the McLaren website today at 12:19 BST – the time that Bruce left the Goodwood circuit pitlane for the final time on Tuesday June 2, 1970 – and can be found at

<https://cars.mclaren.com/en/latest/post/bruce-mclaren-50th-anniversary>

Further information about McLaren is available at [mclaren.com](http://mclaren.com).

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Notes to editors:

A selection of high resolution images accompanying this release is available to download from the McLaren Automotive media site – [cars.mclaren.press](http://cars.mclaren.press)

**About McLaren Automotive:**

McLaren Automotive is a creator of luxury, high-performance supercars.

Every vehicle is hand-assembled at the McLaren Production Centre (MPC) in Woking, Surrey, England.

Launched in 2010, the company is now the largest part of the McLaren Group.

The company's product portfolio of GT, Supercar, Motorsport and Ultimate models are retailed through over 95 retailers in more than 32 markets around the world.

McLaren is a pioneer that continuously pushes the boundaries. In 1981, it introduced lightweight and strong carbon fibre chassis into Formula 1 with the McLaren MP4/1.

Then in 1993 it designed and built the McLaren F1 road car - the company has not built a car without a carbon fibre chassis since. As part of the Ultimate Series, McLaren was the first to deliver a hybrid hypercar, the McLaren P1™.

In 2018, the company launched its new £50m McLaren Composites Technology Centre in the Sheffield region in the North of England that will see it produce the next generation of lightweight carbon fibre ‘tubs’ that are at the heart of all McLaren cars.

2019 saw McLaren launch the 600LT Spider as well as the new GT, the track-only Senna GTR and unveiled the 620R and the McLaren Elva.

To support the development, engineering and manufacture of its range of innovative sportscars and supercars, McLaren Automotive partners with world leading companies to provide specialist expertise, technology and solutions. These include AkzoNobel, Ashurst, Dell Technologies, OnePlus, Pirelli, Richard Mille, and Tumi.

**McLaren Group:**

The McLaren Group is a global leader in luxury automotive and technology and comprises three businesses: Automotive, Racing and Applied.

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