



Fiat's Classic Carr

Greg Carr and FIAT make a return to rallying at the OTAGO Classic International Rally in New Zealand

([PRWEB](#)) July 14, 2005 -- In the middle of May the eyes of the rally world turn to the Otago Rally in New Zealand, an event which has fast gained a reputation of the best classic gravel rally in the Southern Hemisphere. Leading the contingent of Australians is former national champion, Greg Carr, who will resume his relationship with Fiat driving a Replica Abarth 131, for the MMG Rally Team.

The opportunity to drive the car was enough for Carr to be lured out of retirement and being a driver of his caliber we are sure to see some of the old style return real quick; in Greg's own words "I want to win!" MMG have instituted a three year plan for the Otago Classic Rally, with the intention of this year finishing in the top 10 of the rally and spend the next two years attempting to win it. "When Bill Dunn put this plan to me I knew that he was a realist, those who think you can come out of retirement and win this rally first up are living in dreamland!"

Ross Smith of Fiatorque in Granville, has assumed the position of head mechanic, and observed that there has been much development work carried out over the summer, and whilst it is the same car that Shawn Urquhart used to great effect in last years ARC events (constantly running inside the top 20), it has had a full refit, and the development work has netted considerable gains on track. Ross is confident that the team can achieve their objectives in Otago. This project reunites the partnership of Smith and Carr who together have won two Australian Rally Championships previously; "to be honest if Ross was not on the team, I wouldn't have got involved, you must have faith in your mechanic and must be able to work together if you are going to develop the car."

The MMG replica Fiat Abarth 131 is modeled on Greg's original Abarth, which is one of five remaining factory built cars for the World Rally Championship. Whilst the replica is as true to the original as possible, many of the components have had to be custom made, as they are no longer available. The car is much stronger than the originals, and utilizes modern suspension and brake components.

Carr will face stiff opposition in Otago with the return of last year's winner Passi Hagstrom and four-time world champion Juha Kankkunen. The quality of the field reinforces the Otago rally's growing status worldwide. The event will be conducted over two days utilising the famous forestry and public road stages south of Dunedin. Saturday morning commences with a run through the popular "Whare Flats" on the outskirts of town, before traversing stages on the Otago Coast and the Berwick Forests. Sunday's route will be even more demanding; starting at "Waipori Gorge" then running through Cinibar, Taieri Beach, and Kuri Bush, before returning to the Berwick Forest and the final Super Special Stage in the heart of Dunedin.

In the build up to the event, we will follow the team and keep you updated on their progress. We now look forward with great anticipation to once again seeing Greg go head to head with the world's best rally drivers.

###

**Contact Information****Bill Dunn**

CARTORQUE MOTORSPORTS

<http://www.cartorquemotorsports.com.au>

61 2 62808067

Online Web 2.0 VersionYou can read the online version of this press release [here](#).