

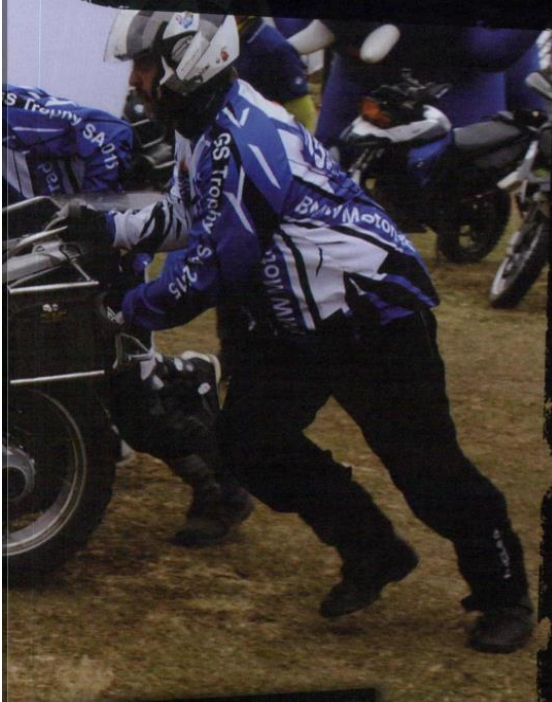
BMW SOUTH AFRICA GS TROPHY 2015

Drakensville

Finally we crack the nod to attend this BMW event... Only three days before the weekend. Our Clive Strugnell went along...

What do you get when you get almost 900 BMW GS riders together in a BMW "village" in the middle of the most awesome riding country over a weekend? One of the best motorcycling weekends ever! BMW Motorrad South Africa, under the leadership of its' new(ish) General Manager Alexander Baraka, invited everyone who rides any BMW GS model to gather over the second weekend of September to watch the finals of the 2015 BMW GS Trophy. This is a team event held throughout the year where competitions are held in each province to choose a three man team to take part in the final. The final was held in a paddock at the Drakensville ATKV resort on the Friday and Saturday afternoon.

Drakensville, a resort belonging to the ATKV (Afrikaanse Taal en Kultuur Vereeniging), was turned into "BMWville" by the enthusiastic BMW staff led by Cora Forsmann. Like any good General, Cora made sure the planning and execution of the event was run with military precision, with the emphasis on team work. By the time the first rider arrived at the resort on Thursday an incredible amount of work had been done. A massive Bedouin-style tent spanned an area the size of a rugby field. Inside the covered area was a dining room easily capable of seating the almost 900 riders and pillions that had registered. Scattered about the front of the tent were casual tables and benches, as well as several leather lounge suites and cushions. Colourful umbrellas and awnings provided shelter from the sun, or occasionally on Saturday, light drizzle. Several TV



OCTOBER 2015 35