

UP TO SPEED: MEDIA COVERAGE

FRIDAY 04 JULY

04-06 JULY
#BRITISHGP

 Silverstone



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**BRITISH
GRAND PRIX**

2025

The Daily Telegraph

Interview 'I was an awe-struck Williams fan, now I run the team'

James Vowles might be called 'The Reverend' by rivals but heads to British GP preaching the return of his iconic outfit

By Tom Cary

James Vowles remembers the first time he went to Silverstone as if it was yesterday. He and his friend Luciano, with whom he grew up in Geneva, went on what he calls "something of a pilgrimage" to the circuit. By chance Williams were testing that day.

"I remember the sound, I remember the feeling, I remember the vibrations in my chest," Vowles says. "We stood there for half an hour, on the fence, just in awe. This would have been 1996 or 1997, when I was 17 or 18. It was basically that famous Rothmans Williams car. That's what we were looking at and it was fantastic. I've still got the photos somewhere."

It is funny how life turns out. What would Vowles have said if someone had told him that nearly 30 years later he would return to Silverstone for the British Grand Prix as team principal of Williams, charged with returning the once-great team to former glories?

"I simply wouldn't have believed you," he says. "I couldn't even come to terms with the fact that I was seeing a Formula One car, let alone come to terms with the fact that I might one day work in the sport. As for running Williams..." Vowles laughs at the absurdity of it.

The 46-year-old had an unusual entry to the sport. Growing up in Switzerland, he attended the International School of Geneva, and speaks fluent French.

The sliding doors moment came when Vowles returned to Britain to read maths and computer science at the University of East Anglia. "I woke up one day and realised I was not happy. I wanted to change my direction of travel," he recalls.

He applied to all 11 F1 teams at the time, and received 11 rejection letters, all of which he pinned up on his wall. Crucially, two of those rejection letters – from BAR and Williams – came with explanations. "They basically said that I had an interesting background but I needed engineering as well to be employable."

He promptly applied to Cranfield University and did a master's degree in Motorsport Engineering and Management.

The rest is history. From BAR, to Brawn GP, to Mercedes, where Vowles was a key figure in a team who won eight consecutive constructors' titles and seven drivers' titles, and now finally Williams.

"It's been an incredible ride and I consider myself so fortunate," he says. "Even five years ago, I don't think I believed I would be a team principal. I trusted Toto [Wolff]. Toto was the one who really



WILLIAMS: GETTY IMAGES

directed me and said 'You will be a team principal'."

Listening to Vowles, you cannot help but be struck by his earnestness. He can actually be very funny, but you suspect that it is this earnestness, this reputation as straitlaced and boffiny, which has made him an unlikely fans' favourite.

His famous radio message when he was at Mercedes – "Valtteri, it's James" – which always spelt doom for Finnish driver Bottas when he was about to be used as a sacrificial lamb for Lewis Hamilton, has become a meme. Comedian Jack Whitehall, meanwhile, had great fun at this year's season launch at the O2, calling Vowles "Jimmy V" and "the rizzmaster", and saying he could not wait to do espresso martinis with him at the after-party.

"Jack is hilarious... he warned me beforehand and I found it very funny." When Whitehall visited the Miami race they had espresso martinis together. "His was laced with alcohol, mine was not."

Vowles does not even object to Christian Horner calling him "The Reverend Vowles" in the Netflix series *Formula 1: Drive to Survive*. What was that about? "I have no idea," Vowles smiles, before admitting he suspects it might have to do with his verbosity and mannerisms.

"Do I think, at times, I over-explain answers? Yes. That's a negative trait and something I probably need to work on. And the second part of it is, yeah, I do try to act with a virtue. I will do things with honesty

and transparency. But I didn't take it as an insult."

It is an endearingly earnest response, which both makes Horner's point and shows Vowles in a positive light.

Whatever the reason, as we arrive at Silverstone this weekend, one can feel the goodwill of fans towards both Vowles and Williams. They want this to work. They want the return of a British icon to the top. What a story it would be.

Vowles describes himself as a "competitive psychopath" and you can feel that when he talks about his plans for taking Williams to the front of the grid, the hours he is prepared to put in, even his relationship with his wife Rachel, a surgeon. He recalls their first date



Driven man: Williams team principal James Vowles (left) describes himself as a 'competitive psychopath'; Carlos Sainz Jr guides the Williams FW47 around Spielberg last week (above)

in 2019. "I was like, 'I've got to warn you, my work is my life, and I work really long hours'. And she was like, 'No, I work really long hours. And I was like, 'No, no, no. I work really long hours'. We actually went through it. And to be fair, Formula One still trumps it, but only just."

"My wife is unbelievable. She's one of the best surgeons in the UK. A double first from Oxford who then worked in A&E in Whitechapel, then trained in plastics and breast cancer. So quite a unique individual in that she can diagnose breast cancer and then do the mastectomy and a rebuild afterwards. Honestly, it's life-changing stuff. I just work in F1. She's the clever one."

The couple, who live in Oxford, have a daughter Elodie, who arrived 19 months ago. They are expecting their second child this week, which could mean an emergency dash from Silverstone. "As you can imagine with me, I have contingencies," he says. "I've got plans upon plans upon plans... so we are sorted, including helicopters on standby and all sorts!"

Nothing, though, will stop him returning Williams to the top. Although the Grove team are still behind F1's biggest beasts in terms of infrastructure, change is coming. Williams have the backing of American private investment firm Dorilton Capital, and Vowles sees no reason why they cannot be winning races by 2028.

He rejects talk that Williams are no longer Williams, with co-founder Sir Frank now gone and no one from his family involved. "The DNA is absolutely still Williams. And while I'm here we will not lose the family feel. That is really important to me."

What if his mentor Wolff wants him back at Mercedes? Or Ferrari or McLaren come calling? He considers the question. "I really feel this is where I'll end my career," he says. "It was the proudest moment of my life walking through the door at Williams. I have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity in a team with legacy beyond pretty much every team, to bring it back to the front. I'm happy looking everyone in the eyes and saying, 'This is where I want to be. This team can be world champions. And I'll be here when we do that.'"

'I have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity in a team with a legacy beyond pretty much every team'

FRIDAY 04 JULY – IN PRINT

The Daily Telegraph

Russell: Verstappen will not replace me this year

FORMULA ONE

By Tom Cary
SENIOR SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

George Russell says the chances of him not being a Mercedes driver next year are "exceptionally low", adding he expects Kimi Antonelli to remain as his team-mate.

The Englishman, 27, is understood to have been assured by Mercedes team principal Toto Wolff that a new contract is on the way. "The likelihood I'm not at Mercedes next year is, I think, exceptionally low," Russell said on

Thursday. "I personally think things will continue as they are. But again, until the contract is on the table on my side, and also for Kimi, you can never be sure."

Russell was speaking ahead of this weekend's British Grand Prix, where he will attempt to make it two wins in two years for Mercedes following Lewis Hamilton's triumph 12 months ago.

Paddock intrigue ahead of the race has once again focused on a story which has been bubbling away for months, but which really exploded in Austria last week after Russell implied the hold-up to his contract extension was because

Mercedes were investigating the possibility of signing Verstappen.

Russell all but confirmed on Thursday that he would be staying. Whether his deal will be just a one-



Comfortable seat:
George Russell is
confident he will still
be a Mercedes driver
in 2026

year extension for 2026, leaving the door open for Verstappen to join in his place in 2027, or whether Verstappen comes in for Antonelli next

season or the season after, to form what would be a blockbuster partnership with Russell, remains to be seen. Russell added yesterday that he would have no issue in going up against Verstappen.

"I wouldn't be surprised if he comes," he said. "And if he comes I'd welcome him as a team-mate. But I don't think he will be at Mercedes next year. I'm not scared of Max. He's obviously an amazing driver in the same way Lewis [Hamilton] was an amazing driver."

The two have had their differences in the past, with Verstappen calling Russell a "loser" and Russell saying Verstappen was a "bully".

But Russell said they could work together. "We're professionals," he said. "I don't think you need to be best friends to be team-mates. You just need to be amicable."

Verstappen, for his part, played down reports that he wanted to leave Red Bull. The Dutch driver is believed to have a break clause in his contract – which officially runs until 2028 – allowing him to leave if he is outside of the top three come the summer break.

"I am happy and comfortable where I am at," he told Sky Sports F1. Asked if he might take a sabbatical next year, Verstappen was emphatic: "No, no, for sure not."

GEORGE MUST PUT HIS FOOT DOWN

GEORGE RUSSELL should show Toto Wolff the big two fingers and walk away.

He's stuck in an impossible position, with his boss publicly flirting with Max Verstappen.

Mercedes have wanted the Red Bull star for years and the only way Russell, right, can add doubt to that is by winning the world championship.

But even if the Silver Arrows create a title-winning machine, they'll still go after Max.

Russell is no longer Mercedes' golden boy and

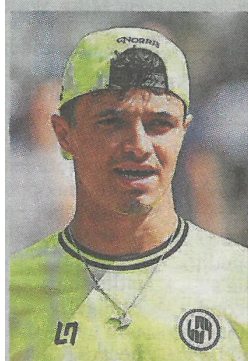
it can't be easy knowing his boss is spending time looking for a replacement, rather than putting 100 percent into this season.

He can leave with credibility and his head held high if it's on his own terms.

But without a serious title bid on his CV, the 27-year-old risks being thrown on

the Formula One scrapheap if he's fired.

Plus, if Russell ruffles Wolff's feathers he will put himself in Christian Horner's good books at Red Bull – where there would be a vacant seat.



NORRIS: British hope

Home win would top the lot for Norris

LANDO NORRIS would happily swap all seven of his grand-prix wins for a taste of Silverstone glory.

The McLaren title-chaser has victories in Miami, Melbourne and Monaco to his name.

But none of those wins would compare to the feeling of taking the chequered flag in front of his adoring home fans on Sunday.

Norris said: "It's tough to put something above Monaco, but if I

FORMULA ONE By Daniel Moxon

could swap all my race wins for one, it would be for a win here.

"So that's the plan. Silverstone is my home race and the one that puts the bigger smile on my face.

"Since I was a kid watching Formula One, it is the one I have wanted to win the most."

Norris is Britain's best hope of a home hero this weekend, with

McLaren dominant. George Russell's preparations have been overshadowed by claims Red Bull's Max Verstappen could replace him at Mercedes next season.

Russell said: "I want to continue with Mercedes into the future and Toto [Wolff, team principal] has never let me down.

"For me, it's nothing to worry about because I don't think I'll be going anywhere."

Merc Russell up a deal

GEORGE RUSSELL claims he is all set to sign a new Mercedes deal, silencing speculation he could be dumped for Max Verstappen.

The Brit, 27, is out of contract next year and his boss Toto Wolff confirmed in Austria he had held talks with four-time world champion Verstappen about a move.

But SunSport understands a new offer will be presented to Russell before next month's Belgium Grand Prix.

Russell believes that team-mate Kimi Antonelli would be the driver to make way for

By ISABELLE BARKER

Verstappen in the unlikely event that the Dutchman is to leave Red Bull for Mercedes.

Ahead of Sunday's British GP at Silverstone, Russell (*far right*) said: "I want to continue with Mercedes into the future. Toto has never let me down, has always given me his word."

"He's also got to do what's right for his team, which includes me and the thousands of people who work for Mercedes."

"For me it's nothing to worry about, as I don't think

I'll be going anywhere, and whoever my team-mate is doesn't concern me either, so I'll just focus on the driving."

"It'll happen when the time is right. I expect in the next couple of weeks. But we'll need to wait and see."

"There hasn't been a lack of interest, let's say. But I've been focused on my side, I am loyal to Mercedes."

"The likelihood I'm not at Mercedes next year is exceptionally low."

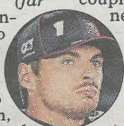
There had been talk of Verstappen (*inset*) taking a year out from F1, as well as being

linked with Mercedes and Aston Martin.

He became a new dad in May and has been dipping his toes in other areas of motorsport like GT3.

But Verstappen, 27, who denied he would take an F1 sabbatical, said: "I'll race F1 for sure and I'll try, in the future, to combine it with any kind of other racing that is possible, that I can prepare for."

"I do want to explore a bit out of F1 which I'm already doing with testing, but eventually also racing."



LAW OF LAND...
McLaren's Norris signs autographs at Silverstone



**BRITISH
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SUNDAY, 3pm

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SILVERSTONE



MEET & GREET

Lando Norris meeting fans at his home Grand Prix at Silverstone

LANDO'S HOPE OF GLORY

Norris: I would gladly trade my F1 wins for victory at home GP

BY DANIEL MOXON

LANDO NORRIS has admitted he'd happily swap all seven of his Formula One race wins for a taste of Silverstone glory.

The McLaren title-chaser has victories in Miami, Melbourne and Monaco to his name.

But none of those wins would compare to taking the chequered flag in front of his adoring home fans at Silverstone on Sunday.

Norris said: "It's tough to put something above Monaco."

"But if I could swap all my race wins for one, it would be for a win here. So that's the plan."

"Silverstone is my home race and the one that puts the bigger smile on my face."

"Since I was a kid watching Formula One, it is the one I have wanted to win the most."

Norris knows he is Britain's best hope of a home hero this weekend with McLaren dominant.

But he knows he has a long way to go before being the country's top racing superstar with Lewis Hamilton a nine-time winner at Silverstone.

He said: "From a British perspective,

I have the best chance of winning the race and of course I am the one that is most likely to be fighting for the championship this season."

"Am I the British No.1? I don't know. I don't know how much you have to take into account history."

"If you do, then Lewis is quite convincingly at the top."

Norris' main threat will be teammate Oscar Piastri who insists he's not out for revenge despite the Brit's victory in his hometown Melbourne in March.

He said: "Silverstone is a track I've always enjoyed and the crowd has always been actually quite nice to me."

"But I'm more just focused on trying to get another win on the board."

Meanwhile, George Russell's (inset) preparations have been overshadowed by claims Max Verstappen could replace him at Mercedes.

The Red Bull racer refused to comment yesterday but the Brit he could replace remains confident he'll land a contract extension.

Russell said: "It's nothing to worry about because I don't think I'll be going anywhere."





F1 ace ... Hamilton

Curry fan Sir Lewis fasting to go faster

By **ANDY ROBINSON**

F1 great Sir Lewis Hamilton is racing to lose weight before the weekend after scoffing a curry.

The seven-time world champ admitted he ate too much after discovering food chain Dishoom.

He is now fasting to hit his 74.5kg (11st 10lb) target ahead of the British Grand Prix.

On Wednesday the Ferrari star launched the House of Peroni Nastro Azzurro 0.0% beer in London's Covent garden.

When he was offered a pizza, vegan Lewis, 40, declined it, making his curry admission and saying: "I have to weigh myself every morning and there are panic days.

"I get on the scales and my engineers are judging me! So then I have to do a 20-hour fast."

Radio's Nick Grimshaw teased him: "Are you just going to smell this pizza?" Sir Lewis said he would tuck in after Sunday's race at Silverstone.

Formula One British Grand Prix

Russell says he 'won't be going anywhere' amid Verstappen talk

Mercedes driver confident of new contract as FIA president faces a rival in re-election bid

Giles Richards
Silverstone

George Russell believes he "won't be going anywhere" and is likely to have a new contract confirmed with Mercedes as he played down suggestions that he could lose his seat to Max Verstappen.

As he prepared for this weekend's British Grand Prix, Russell, whose contract with Mercedes has yet to be renewed, said he thought the chances of him not being with the team next season were "exceptionally low". Verstappen, in turn, flatly refused to comment on the matter.

The speculation came on a day when there was more flux at the top of the sport as a challenge emerged to the authority of the president of the FIA, Mohammed Ben Sulayem, with the news that the former FIA steward Tim Mayer will stand against the president in elections later this year.

On Wednesday, there were unconfirmed reports that Verstappen's talks with Mercedes have intensified and that a deal was close to being confirmed. However, it is understood this remains entirely speculation and that Mercedes are still conducting consideration of advances made toward them from the Verstappen camp.

Russell was considered more likely

to lose his seat than his teammate Kimi Antonelli were a deal to be done with Verstappen, but at Silverstone the Briton was bullish about his position. "I've been focused on my side, I am loyal to Mercedes, so at the end of the day, everything will work itself out," he said. "And the likelihood I'm not at Mercedes next year, I think is exceptionally low."

"For me it's nothing to worry about as I don't think I'll be going anywhere and whoever my teammate is doesn't concern me either, so I'll just focus on the driving. There's a lot of conversations behind the scenes that are not public and I know where their [Mercedes's] loyalty lies. I'm performing better than ever, it's as simple as that, performance speaks for everything."

Mercedes are unlikely to announce any decision until the summer break after the Hungarian Grand Prix on 3 August, which is the point when potential exit clauses in Verstappen's contract would become applicable. The Dutchman did not deny the talks were taking place but declined to make any further comment.

It also became clear yesterday at Silverstone that Mayer will announce his candidacy to oppose Ben Sulayem for the FIA presidency this morning in a press conference. The 59-year-old American was a long-serving FIA steward, well-liked and respected until he was sacked last November after a dispute between the governing body and the organisers of the US Grand Prix, for whom Mayer was working in an independent capacity.



▲ George Russell said he was 'performing better than ever' before the British Grand Prix

KYM ILLMAN/GETTY IMAGES

'He's still upset and decided to fire me ... I got a text from his assistant'

Tim Mayer
Former FIA steward

Mayer claimed the dismissal had taken place because Ben Sulayem personally took umbrage at him and he was highly critical of how it had been handled. "In spite of the matter being resolved quietly and amicably, he's still upset and decided to fire me," he said. "After 15 years of volunteering my time as a steward, a decade teaching other stewards and hundreds of hours volunteering in other roles, I got a text from one of his assistants." The FIA denied he had been told by text message.

Mayer, the son of the McLaren co-founder Teddy Mayer, has enjoyed senior roles in Champ Car, the International Motor Sports Association

and the American Le Mans Series, and was a chair of FIA's stewards.

His standing presents a credible threat to Ben Sulayem's position. The Emirati has overseen four years of highly controversial governance at the FIA but has already announced his intention to stand for re-election, the voting for which will take place on 12 December.

It is understood Mayer already has the requisite selection of senior figures who would join him in key positions, which is required by any candidate, and now faces the serious task of winning support from the motor sport associations that will decide the vote in December.



FORMULA ONE



George Russell and Max Verstappen have a rocky history

Russell brushes off Verstappen to Mercedes

By Scott Hunt

AT SILVERSTONE

George Russell says he “won’t be going anywhere” as he played down suggestions that he could lose his Mercedes seat to Max Verstappen.

Mercedes team principal Toto Wolff again opened the doors last weekend to luring the four-time world champion away from Red Bull and hinted he could be eyeing up an explosive Verstappen-Russell pairing.

Speculation has increased throughout the week, with talk turning to the 27-year-old Russell being the man under pressure. Both Russell and his 18-year-old team-mate Kimi Antonelli do not have contracts in place for next season but, speaking ahead of his home Grand Prix, the British driver was adamant that he will be driving for Mercedes in 2026.

“Of course there’s lots of conversations, lots of rumours. All of these are being pointed towards me, but from my side that isn’t really going to be the case,” Russell said at Silverstone.

“I want to continue with Mercedes into the future. The fact is, Toto has never let me down. He’s always given his word but he’s also got to do what’s right for his team.

“For me, it’s nothing to worry about because I don’t think I’ll be going anywhere. Who my team-mate will be doesn’t concern me either, so I’ll just focus on the driving.”

Russell has had an impressive season, highlighted by his victory in Canada, and sits fourth in the drivers’ standings.

Verstappen and Russell have a rocky history, embroiled in a vicious war of words in Abu Dhabi last December before the Dutchman accelerated into his rival at this season’s Spanish Grand Prix.

“Every team has two seats available and it’s normal that every team is considering what the future holds,” Russell added. “I don’t take that personally.”



SMILE PLEASE:
Norris poses with fans at Silverstone

PROMISED LANDO

Norris chasing his dream win

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■ by DANIEL MOXON

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"Am I the British No.1? I don't know how much you have to take into account history."

"If you do, then Lewis is quite convincingly at the top - he has a lot more wins, poles and championships than anyone else put together."

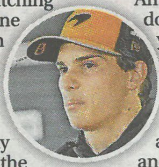
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George Russell's preparations have been overshadowed by claims Max Verstappen could replace him at Mercedes, although the Brit remains confident he will land a contract extension.

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NEWS

SILVERSTONE'S MUSIC DRIVE: 'WE'RE A SERIOUS VENUE'

Ahead of this week's F1 British Grand Prix festivities, chief commercial officer Nick Read reveals the circuit's huge concert goals

By James Hanley on 01 Jul 2025



https://www.iqmagazine.com/2025/07/silverstone-were-a-serious-music-venue/?mc_cid=50eb348740&mc_eid=98874e5350

Silverstone is stepping up its ambitions to become a standalone music venue as it gears up for this weekend's 2025 Formula 1 British Grand Prix.

The famous Northamptonshire motor racing circuit is staging four huge nights of live music between 3-6 July, featuring an all-British lineup headlined by Sam Fender, Raye, Fatboy Slim and Becky Hill. Support will also be provided by Blossoms, Jade, Mabel and Idris.

The annual series expanded to four nights last year and reconfigured its music arena layout with an increased capacity of 60,000, solidifying itself on the UK outdoor calendar.

"Music is an absolutely integral, non-negotiable part of our weekend now," Silverstone's chief commercial officer Nick Read tells *IQ*. "We've gone from a three-day to a four-day motorsport and music festival, and you can see [the impact] on our attendance. Last year, we had a record attendance of over 480,000 and this year, we'll probably be closer to 500,000."

The music programme, which was headed by Stormzy, Kings of Leon, Pete Tong and Rudimental in 2024, is provided at no extra cost to GP ticket-holders, although Thursday evening concert tickets are available from £60 (€70). Silverstone curates the content internally and uses an external booker for the headline artists.

"THE MUSIC IS INCLUDED IN OUR TICKET PRICE, SO THE FANS GET BETTER VALUE"

"We're a serious music venue, and we can effectively give sellout audiences to those artists," says Read. "The music is included in our ticket price, so the fans get better value. We can guarantee to the musicians they will get between 50,000 to 60,000 people to perform to."

Each night will also include an Afterparty headliner: Eats Everything, DJ Luck & MC Neat, Sub Focus and Mike Skinner of The Streets. Separately, Hill will perform the National Anthem before the start of Sunday's Grand Prix, with Fatboy Slim also set to play on the grid prior to the race.

"It's the 75th anniversary of the British Grand Prix so I'm delighted that all of the acts across the weekend will be British, but it's really just about musicians who can connect and engage with the crowd," says Read. "Last year, Stormzy gave one of the most amazing performances I've ever seen and two years ago, we had **Calvin Harris**, who was also incredible."

"A lot of circuits tend to have their headline music acts towards the Saturday or Sunday of an event. What we've done is turn it on its head. Music is so important to us now that we have extended our festival to four days. We want artists that have strong recognition and a broad appeal, acts that deliver energy and production at scale."

Read credits the Netflix documentary *Formula 1: Drive to Survive* for introducing the sport to a new demographic.

“You’ve got an evolving audience,” he says. “Fans want more than racing now, and we want to increase the dwell time to give maximum value for money but you’ve got this cultural shift from things such as *Drive to Survive*. That has generated a much broader, younger audience. People want to be entertained throughout the day, and not just through the motorsport.”

That new fanbase is very much influenced by the music. For example, you can buy just a Thursday ticket just to come along and see the concert, and we sell thousands of those.”

“WE CAN DO A STANDALONE FESTIVAL, OR SEVERAL NIGHTS OF SHOWS, SO THAT’S REALLY OUR NEXT STAGE – MUSIC, WITHOUT MOTORSPORT”

He continues: “When we promote Formula 1 now, we’re not just promoting it as the British Grand Prix. We’ve got 16 acts on our main stage this year and have now introduced a second stage with capacity for 12,000 people. We’ve got to be relentless in what we’re striving for, whether we go from four days to five days – another standalone day of music could be a possibility. Maybe we can bring more artists in through the day. We keep thinking big.”

Library Productions, which manages Glastonbury’s Pyramid Stage, created bespoke staging for the expanded music arena. And aligning with Silverstone’s vision to be a 365-day sport, business and leisure destination, Read is hopeful the race track can become “not just known for motorsport” but as a regular, seasonal concert venue beyond the F1 weekend.

“We are an incredible motorsport circuit, but also have this incredible infrastructure right in the heart of England,” he says. “We can do a standalone festival, or several nights of shows, so that’s really our next stage – music, without motorsport.”

F1 was acquired in 2017 by Live Nation shareholder Liberty Media, which **spun off its LN stake** into a new live division last year. The After-Race Concerts have long been a key part of the festivities at F1’s Abu Dhabi Grand Prix weekend, which has confirmed Benson Boone, Elyanna, Post Malone, Metallica and Katy Perry for Yas Viceroy Hotel from 4-7 December. Meanwhile, performances by the likes of Usher, Major Lazer Soundsystem and Jennifer Lopez lit up April’s Saudi Arabian Grand Prix festivities in April.

“As circuit promoters, we’ve taken inspiration from within the F1 fraternity,” adds Read. “The Middle East has big artists, but also look at Austin in America – they’ve also been early adopters of music within Formula One. I talk to the other promoters, and we’ve all seen the benefit of embracing music and integrating it into our festivals.”

FRIDAY 04 JULY : LINKS TO ONLINE COVERAGE

Headline	Media	Link
Silverstone's music drive: 'we're a serious venue'	IQ Magazine	https://www.iqmagazine.com/2025/07/silverstone-were-a-serious-music-venue/?mc_cid=50eb348740&mc_eid=98874e5350
Chance I won't be at Mercedes next year 'exceptionally low' - Russell	Racer	https://racer.com/2025/07/03/chance-i-won-t-be-at-mercedes-next-year-exceptionally-low---russell
Tim Mayer's manifesto to re-empower FIA members	Racer	https://racer.com/2025/07/03/tim-mayer-s-manifesto-to-re-empower-fia-members
George Russell: Mercedes driver confident of remaining with team amid speculation over Max Verstappen joining from Red Bull	SkySports	https://www.skysports.com/f1/news/12433/13391776/george-russell-mercedes-driver-confident-of-remaining-with-team-amid-speculation-over-max-verstappen-joining-from-red-bull
Max Verstappen: Red Bull driver says it would be 'amazing' to spend entire F1 career with team despite Mercedes speculation	SkySports	https://www.skysports.com/f1/news/12433/13391786/max-verstappen-red-bull-driver-says-it-would-be-amazing-to-spend-entire-f1-career-with-team-despite-mercedes-speculation
Max Verstappen refuses to be drawn over Mercedes speculation	ESPN	https://www.espn.co.uk/f1/story/_/id/45658240/max-verstappen-refuses-drawn-mercedes-speculation
Red Bull left 'bamboozled' after Yuki Tsunoda data analysis	Planet F1	https://www.planetf1.com/news/red-bull-left-bamboozled-yuki-tsunoda-struggles-data-jolyon-palmer
Lewis Hamilton issues 'ignore you' warning over Ferrari strategy concerns	Planet F1	https://www.planetf1.com/news/lewis-hamilton-addresses-concerns-dont-want-to-ignore-you-ferrari-warning
How Sainz has helped raise Albon's image	BBC	https://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/formula1/articles/c8j1pjd_rwg1o
Piastri explains viral Alpine radio message from F1 Austrian GP	Autosport	https://www.autosport.com/f1/news/oscar-piastri-explains-viral-alpine-radio-message-dig-after-austrian-gp/10738923/
Alpine announces Nielsen as F1 team managing director	Autosport	https://www.autosport.com/f1/news/alpine-f1-confirms-steve-nielsen-as-managing-director/10739001/
Mayer: FIA president has not kept his promises and is centralising power	Autosport	https://www.autosport.com/general/news/mayer-fia-president-has-not-kept-his-promises-and-is-centralising-power/10738830/

FRIDAY 04 JULY : LINKS TO ONLINE COVERAGE

Headline	Media	Links
Russell some feathers - George Russell set for new Mercedes deal as he reveals what he'll do if Max Verstappen becomes his F1 team-mate	The Sun	https://www.thesun.co.uk/sport/35690452/george-russell-max-verstappen-f1-mercedes-future/
Max Verstappen rules out F1 sabbatical as future speculation grows	Crash.net	https://www.crash.net/f1/news/1075670/1/max-verstappen-rules-out-f1-sabbatical-future-speculation-grows
Isack Hadjar spills what he has heard about Sergio Perez F1 comeback	Crash.net	https://www.crash.net/f1/news/1075673/1/isack-hadjar-spills-what-he-has-heard-about-sergio-perez-f1-comeback
I don't want to have to ignore you' - Hamilton holds Ferrari strategy talks	The Race	https://www.the-race.com/formula-1/i-dont-want-to-have-to-ignore-you-hamilton-holds-ferrari-strategy-talks/
Alpine announces new team boss equivalent + another major signing	The Race	https://www.the-race.com/formula-1/alpine-announces-new-f1-leadership-figure-steve-nielsen/
Amidst the crisis, Alpine F1 secures a major sponsor and welcomes a new CEO	FormulaNerds	https://formulanerds.com/explainer/f1/amidst-the-crisis-alpine-f1-secures-a-major-sponsor-and-welcomes-a-new-ceo/
F1 British GP live: Practice start time and schedule as Hamilton eyes strong start at Silverstone	Independent.co.uk	https://www.independent.co.uk/f1/f1-british-gp-2025-live-updates-practice-qualifying-start-time-schedule-silverstone-b2781976.html
Lewis Hamilton returns to Silverstone in last chance saloon for first Ferrari year	Independent.co.uk	https://www.independent.co.uk/f1/lewis-hamilton-ferrari-f1-british-gp-2025-silverstone-b2782170.html
'A very special moment' – Lindblad hopes his FP1 chance at Silverstone is 'start of a new chapter'	Formula 1	https://www.formula1.com/en/latest/article/a-very-special-moment-lindblad-hopes-his-fp1-chance-at-silverstone-is-start.6gIOtU3JkTt8aqCUSwhCCb
Steve Nielsen announced as alpine managing director	Formula 1	https://www.formula1.com/en/latest/article/steve-nielsen-announced-as-alpine-managing-director.7K00OJgUAxzGGWjDGnSPns

FRIDAY 04 JULY : LINKS TO ONLINE COVERAGE

Headline	Media	Links
Russell Plans to Stay at Mercedes F1 Team as Verstappen Rumors Grow	Autoweek	ps://www.autoweek.com/racing/formula-1/a65290759/russell-plans-stay-at-mercedes-f1-team-verstappen-rumors-grow/
Lewis Hamilton admits Red Bull regret in comment on Max Verstappen to Mercedes rumour	The Mirror	https://www.mirror.co.uk/sport/formula-1/verstappen-mercedes-hamilton-red-bull-35497326
George Russell 'ringing up' F1 teams as Nico Rosberg proven spot on about Mercedes star	The Mirror	https://www.mirror.co.uk/sport/formula-1/f1-george-russell-verstappen-mercedes-35494941
George Russell: I'm not worried by Max Verstappen's Mercedes link	The Times	https://www.thetimes.com/sport/formula-one/article/george-russell-not-worried-max-verstappens-mercedes-link-dvx73lq7g
Lando Norris: At British Grand Prix I know what it's like to be Harry Kane	The Times	https://www.thetimes.com/sport/formula-one/article/lando-norris-for-one-week-i-know-what-its-like-to-be-harry-kane-8bf7gsjk7
2025 british grand prix: F1 weekend gets underway at silverstone	Silverstone	https://www.silverstone.co.uk/news/2025-british-grand-prix-f1-weekend-gets-underway-silverstone
Lewis Hamilton and Martin Brundle in awkward moment at British GP - 'That's not true'	Daily Express	https://www.express.co.uk/sport/f1-autosport/2077344/Lewis-Hamilton-Martin-Brundle-British-Grand-Prix
Lewis Hamilton 'hoping and praying' at British Grand Prix as he aims for Ferrari first	Daily Express	https://www.express.co.uk/sport/f1-autosport/2077290/Lewis-Hamilton-British-Grand-Prix-Ferrari
Zak Brown scolded by driver as McLaren chief called out for Max Verstappen comments	Daily Express	https://www.express.co.uk/sport/f1-autosport/2077149/Zak-Brown-Max-Verstappen-Liam-Lawson-McLaren
Max Verstappen makes Red Bull declaration with 'grass is always greener' verdict	Racing News 365	https://racingnews365.com/max-verstappen-makes-red-bull-declaration-with-grass-is-always-greener-verdict

**FRIDAY 04 JULY :
LINKS TO ONLINE COVERAGE**

Headline	Media	Links
Tsunoda waiting for “full package” to raise his performance level closer to Verstappen’s	Race Fans	https://www.racefans.net/2025/07/04/tsunoda-waiting-for-full-package-to-raise-his-performance-level-closer-to-verstappens/
Round-up: Norris ‘can be own worst enemy’ says Button, Ben Sulayem to face rival and more	Race Fans	https://www.racefans.net/2025/07/04/round-up-4th-july-2025/
F1 News Today: Lewis Hamilton doomed by 'six months of darkness' as Brit reveals Red Bull regret	GP Fans	https://www.gpfans.com/en/f1-news/1054887/f1-news-today-new-ferrari-role-lewis-hamilton-legend-doomed-six-months-of-darkness/
Red Bull face damning Verstappen reality as rival boss reveals team switch verdict	GP Fans	https://www.gpfans.com/en/f1-news/1054860/red-bull-f1-max-verstappen-reality-future-rival-mclaren-boss-zak-brown-mercedes-team-switch/