



November 2008 – Newsletter

Dear All,

### **Nurburgring 1<sup>st</sup> November**

On Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> November, thirteen Fun Cup cars from the UK competed in a six hour and ten minute race around the world famous Nurburgring circuit in Germany, for the 2008 World Cup round.

Eighty nine Fun Cup cars from all over Europe were competing for glory, but it was the British duet of Chris Hart and Phil Martindale, car 210 Trucks 2 Go, who took a fantastic overall victory to take the honour of being World Champions.

It was Chris Hart who started the race in the wet weather conditions and the random grid ballot proved to be a lucky one for the pair, who were drawn fourth on the grid. Chris had an average first stint and battled through the changing weather conditions to hand over to Phil in seventh place, after the first hour. With a car that was set up for the dry, Phil managed to push the car into third place during the next hour and handed over to Chris, who held position for his second stint.



***Trucks 2 Go – World Cup Champions***

The race, however, was a little different from usual, as it was stopped after the first three hours for a two hour lunch break. After this time, the race was resumed with the cars in the same order that they finished, after the first three hours.

Phil took the start after the lunch break and stormed into second place for a trouble free session. With only two hours remaining, Chris took over and temporarily fell to third place, but then had a superb drive, gaining thirty seconds on the leader and moving back into second place.



### ***Eighty nine teams competed for World Cup victory***

And so, the team's hopes for an overall victory were in Phil's hands, but he had it all do in his final stint. However, it became apparent that it was not going to be an easy run, as disaster struck and the throttle cable stuck open, forcing him through a gravel trap. Fortunately, the excursion miraculously fixed the problem and Phil then charged past the first and second place French and Belgian teams and even managed to pull away.

During the last five laps car 351, T.D.I. Blue Motion 1, which was several laps

down, passed Phil and splattered his windscreen in mud; with no water in the wipers, he had to peer under the right wiper blade to see the track. Adding to this, he went to switch the lights from main beam to dip for the Dunlop Kehre hairpin and hit the kill switch instead.

“The engine went off and I thought I had run out of fuel. The car stopped, so I turned everything off but thankfully I managed to restart the engine”, recalled Phil.

Luckily, he managed to hold his first place and it was there he stayed until the chequered flag was waved.

“It’s a fantastic result for us, we are delighted with our victory. The event presented us with every variable weather condition possible and the race was extremely chaotic, but we are thrilled to be World Champions”, said Phil.



### **Trucks 2 Go – First Place Overall**

Trucks 2 Go have won a free T.D.I. conversion for winning the race.

In second place overall was the Belgian team S.M.R., car 215 and third was the French team SPI, car 911.

Second for the UK and eleventh overall was car 1, Team Honeywell. Regular team mates Neil Plimmer and Geoff Fawcett were joined by the Belgian Fun Cup racer, Gilles Debrus.

It was car 212 Startracing.co.uk, driven by Andrew and George Martindale, who took the third place step on the UK podium, finishing in sixteenth overall.

A special mention goes to George Martindale, who displayed phenomenal potential to reach the UK podium with

Andrew, as he turned sixteen a mere three weeks ago and was competing in what was only his second ever motor race.

Ex touring car drivers Kelvin Burt and Tim Sugden also took part in the race. They teamed up with Phil Nuttall and Les Charneca in the 211 Track Torque car. Unfortunately, their race was hampered by a first corner crash combined with gearbox troubles, before the lunch break.



**From left to right: Phil Nuttall, Les Charneca, Tim Sugden and Kelvin Burt**

### **Nordschleife 2<sup>nd</sup> November**



### **Team Honeywell – First place Fun Cup team**

The legendary 15.86 mile Nordschleife circuit played host to a twelve lap sprint race on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, with over a hundred cars taking part, which were a variety of makes and models.

It was Team Honeywell’s Neil Plimmer and Geoff Fawcett who won the overall Fun Cup class, adding to the list of overall UK victories for the Fun Cup series. Congratulations to the pair for their achievement.

### **Test Dates – Oulton Park**

The following test dates are available for Fun Cup cars throughout the closed season. To book, please visit [www.motorsportvision.co.uk](http://www.motorsportvision.co.uk).

- Tuesday 2nd and Wednesday 3rd December 2008 – Semi Exclusive Testing (Max 12 cars)
- Tuesday 9th and Wednesday 10th December 2008 – Semi Exclusive Testing (Max 12 cars)
- Friday 30th January 2009 – General Testing (Only £145 for a whole day!)
- Tuesday 3rd and Wednesday 4th February 2009 – Semi Exclusive Testing (Max 12 cars)
- Tuesday 10th February 2009 – General Testing (Only £145 for a whole day!)

### **Classic Car Show**

If anyone is attending the Classic Car Show, we will have a Fun Cup car on display from November 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>.

### **Finally...**

If any teams/drivers are interested in any closed season testing/track days, there are different options available.

Firstly, we can arrange corporate track days for potential customers and staff etc. We have arranged several of these throughout the year and they all proved to be a tremendous success.

Anyone taking part in a corporate track day will simply need an ordinary driving licence. We will take care of all the arrangements and guests can even receive on-track tuition in one of the Fun Cup twin seaters. We can also provide crash helmets and overalls.

Secondly, if any drivers want to take part in any closed season testing/track days, or

have any friends etc who are interested in driving a Fun Cup car, we will be attending Oulton Park and Donington Park between now and the start of the 2009 season. You can book half a day, or a full day and will receive full circuit support.

For further information, please call myself, or Paul, on 01538 306921. Also, check the latest news section of [www.funcup.co.uk](http://www.funcup.co.uk) for updates on any track/test days.

I look forward to seeing you next season!

Kindest regards

*Roxie Marandi*

Roxie Marandi  
Race Co-ordinator