

PORSCHE

CARRERA CUP GREAT BRITAIN

Welcome

20 April 2011

Welcome to the fourth issue of the Porsche Carrera Cup GB news update for 2011. The new racing season is now in full swing, with early season wins for Euan Hankey, Stephen Jelley and Michael Meadows.

In Pro-Am1, Rory Butcher, Jonas Gelzinis and Ahmad Al Harthy have taken Pro-m1 wins, while George Brewster and Andrew Shelley have been Pro-Am2 winners. Amazingly, from the 25 drivers to have taken part in the championship so far, 16 of them have visited the podium.

Next on the schedule is Thruxton (April 30/May 1) before a four-week break before the season resumes at Oulton Park on June 4/5.

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Carrera Cup Scholars shine at Donington Park



Current and former Porsche Carrera Cup GB Scholarship drivers had a fabulous weekend at Donington Park (16/17 April) in rounds three and four of the championship. Race wins for Euan Hankey and Michael Meadows and a fifth place for Ben Hetherington underlined the value of the Scholarship in bringing new young talent into the championship.

For 2010 Scholarship racer Hankey, victory in round three backed up his win in the opening race of the season at Brands Hatch to mark him as a major title contender. The Taunton racer now lies third overall in the championship points heading for rounds five and six at his home track of Thruxton.

Meanwhile Meadows, who was also a 2010 Scholarship winner, had the best weekend to date of his Carrera Cup career to score his first win in the championship during round four. The Banbury driver now lies second in the overall points' standings, just four points behind his team mate James Sutton.

Then, 2011 Scholarship winner Hetherington (Hulme Walfield, Cheshire) took his best result so far with fifth overall in only his third Carrera Cup race. Hetherington bounced back from the illness that hindered his opening weekend at Brands Hatch to show that he will soon be challenging for the podium as his Carrera Cup experience grows. "I had a really good race and I'm very happy with that result," said 19 year-old Hetherington after a strong performance.

"This has been an excellent weekend for Scholarship drivers," said championship manager Marion Barnaby. "Race wins for Euan and Michael and a very good result for Ben underline the value of the Carrera Cup Scholarship programme."

Superb TV package for Carrera Cup GB

The Porsche Carrera Cup GB will have an unrivalled television package in 2011, with live coverage of up to 11 of the season's 19 races during broadcasting of the BTCC race days on ITV4 and extensive coverage in the 'Motorsport UK' series on both ITV1 and ITV4.

The TV package for the Carrera Cup works hand-in-hand with the outstanding TV arrangements for the BTCC, which will feature extensive coverage on ITV4 during a live programme on each of the season's race days. Whilst this coverage focuses on the BTCC races, much of the support race action, including the Carrera Cup GB, will again feature within this major broadcast, which runs for up to seven hours on each race day. Programmes will typically start at 11am and run through until the end of racing at around 6pm.

'Motorsport UK' will cover the BTCC support races in a run of over 30 hour-long programmes, and will benefit from two prime time slots on ITV4 and a late night screening on ITV1. In total, Motorsport UK will have three hours of broadcast per programme.

The live BTCC programmes on ITV4 commonly attract over one million viewers and for 2011 the coverage will also be available in high definition (HD). The

Carrera Cup will enjoy over seven hours of live coverage in 2011.

Details of TV coverage of the Porsche Carrera World Cup at the Nurburgring on 25 June, round nine of the Carrera Cup GB, will be released at a later date. Exact transmission dates and times, along with the schedule of which races will be covered in each programme, will also be announced in due course.



Michelin continues Carrera Cup support



Michelin has continued its support of the Porsche Carrera Cup GB into a ninth consecutive season.

Having been the control tyre supplier for the Carrera Cup GB since the championship was created in 2003, Michelin is once more supporting the teams and drivers with the award of a complete set of slick racing tyres at each event. Before the start of testing, a name is drawn from a hat to receive the tyres, with a value of more than £1000.

The winner of the Michelin prize draw ahead of the first two rounds of the Porsche Carrera Cup GB at Brands Hatch was Michael Meadows from SAS/Redline. Meanwhile, at Donington it was Rory Butcher (Celtic Speed) who won the set of tyres.

"Michelin has supported us throughout the history of the Carrera Cup GB and I am delighted that once again they are giving away 10 sets of tyres across the season," said championship manager Marion Barnaby.



Al Harthy scores debut success at Donington Park

Ahmad Al Harthy scored his first victory in the Porsche Carrera Cup GB at Donington Park (Sunday 17 April) when he won Pro-Am1 in round three of the championship and says that the victory is his most significant result to date.

The Omani racing driver is contesting his second season in the Carrera Cup GB and runs in the Redline/Oman Air team, reflecting the extensive support he enjoys from his home country.

That is my first win in the UK and I'd never managed to stand on the top step of the podium before," said Al Harthy. "Words can't express how happy I am and I'm so happy to have scored my first win in a Porsche. It's a great day for me."

Al Harthy paid tribute to the support he receives from Oman, where he is the country's only prominent racing driver. "I want to thank everyone who helped me to get there as well as my sponsors and my family."

He will resume his Carrera Cup GB programme at Thruxton on 30 April/1 May for rounds five and six of the championship, fresh from a trip home straight from the Donington event.

Hankey stars on Carrera Cup GB return

Euan Hankey burst back into the Porsche Carrera Cup GB to win the opening race of the season at Brands Hatch (Saturday 2 April). With a last minute deal to race this year, the 24-year old scored his first Carrera Cup win and the first race win for a Carrera Cup Scholarship driver.

"It is awesome to be back," said Hankey after securing a very late deal to rejoin Team Parker Racing for the season. Hankey made his Carrera Cup debut in 2010 as one of the Carrera Cup GB Scholarship drivers and had worked all winter to secure a budget for a second season in the championship.

"It was extremely last minute," said the Somerset racer. "I've been working on this

since last October and massive thanks are due to the team for pulling it together." Key support comes from the Ecko clothing brand.

"This is a real championship charge," said team boss Stuart Parker. "We can build on last year's experience and he's going to be a serious title contender. This weekend has been a great start to his season. I've got to thank Marion Barnaby and Rob Boakes at Porsche for turning the car around in record time. We did the deal on Monday lunchtime, we picked the car up from Reading at 3pm and Euan shook it down at Brands Hatch on Tuesday," explained Parker. "The lads in the team did a great job to get it all sorted out in time."



Carrera Cup GB on-line at Origin

Internet coverage of the Porsche Carrera Cup GB has stepped up a gear for 2011. The Porsche Origin website is now carrying an increasing amount of news, information and insight into the championship as well as the teams and drivers contesting the fastest one-make race category in Britain.

Already on-line are season preview film clips, shot and edited at Brands Hatch as the new season kicks off with a stunning 25-car field. Unrivalled behind the scenes footage will give fans the chance to really get the inside story about the Carrera Cup GB and will dovetail perfectly with the extensive live and recorded race footage broadcast on ITV4 and ITV1.

The new exposure is also a major boost for teams, drivers and their commercial partners, sponsors and supporters, opening up the exposure of the championship to tens of thousands of Internet viewers. The place to find out all about the Carrera Cup GB is: www.porsche.co.uk/origin

origin.porsche.com



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Shelley gets new backing



Andrew Shelley has unveiled new backing for his 2011 campaign in the Porsche Carrera Cup GB with Redline Racing and celebrated by taking his first Pro-Am2 victory in round three at Donington Park (Sunday 17 April).

North Yorkshire-based Shelley is being backed by Park House Healthcare Limited for his assault on the Pro-Am2 category and lies second in the division after the opening four races of the season. Race commentator Alan Hyde described the Park House 911 GT3 Cup as the best looking car on the Carrera Cup grid. Shelley contested a part-season in the Carrera Cup GB in 2004 and then returned to the championship in 2010, finishing seventh in Pro-Am1. He started the 2011 season with a visit to the Pro-Am2 podium at Brands Hatch and then took his first win at Donington Park, one of his favourite tracks.

"I'm delighted that Park House is supporting us this season," said Shelley, who has raced Porsches for more than a decade. "Stephen Owens, Managing Director of Park House, is a great Porsche enthusiast and I hope Stephen and his staff will be closely involved in our programme." Owens commented on the partnership: "I've known Andrew for many years, and having an obvious interest in Andrew's results, we've followed the Porsche Carrera Cup GB for some time. We take great pleasure in supporting Andrew and being associated with the race team. Good luck to Andrew and all the team!"

Park House Healthcare is recognised as a market leading supplier of specialist pressure relieving and pressure reducing equipment, hospital beds and moving and handling solutions to the NHS, community and nursing home sectors.

Liz Linford – a resource for drivers

Liz Linford is a key part of the Carrera Cup GB support team and is available throughout race weekends to help drivers deal with any health or fitness issues that may arise. Liz takes on the role of being the championship's physio/chiropractor/health and fitness/counsellor and tackles anything else that gets thrown at her. Liz is there to help all the Porsche drivers and teams get the best out of themselves. Part of the race centre set-up is a separate unit where drivers can see her through the weekend. You don't have to have back or neck ache to see Liz; some drivers like to be checked over before the race, a bit like fine tuning the car, or to be stretched out before getting in the car. The physio unit is also a quiet place to get away from the noise and bustle of a race meeting if you just want somewhere to go to get your mind focussed on what you have to do that day.

Liz will be giving hand outs to drivers at each event, and if there is anything drivers do not understand or need help with, just ask as that's what Liz is there for. She also can supply a good energy drink that is not full of sugar and caffeine.

Liz has hand outs for: drivers own self-assessment; managers/technicians driver

assessment; the importance of fitness; lack of money/make it happen; new circuits; setting yourselves up for a win; driving plan; goal setting; your focus; positive thinking; effective testing; preparation for testing; benefits of controlled breathing; coping with the heat; lost your confidence; would you race your car without having it checked; how to be a professional driver; last chance and questions and answers.

News in brief

Another baby is due in the Carrera Cup paddock later this summer, following the excellent news that Simon and Amy Leonard are expecting a child in early September. The only problem for Simon is that the due date coincides with the Knockhill race weekend, which seems to be a case of bad planning on Simon's part. Best wishes go to them from everyone in the championship.

Drivers making their Carrera Cup debut at Brands Hatch were Richard Plant, Sam Tordoff, Ben Hetherington, Daniele Perfetti, Keith Webster and John Taylor. Derek Pierce returned after taking a year out of racing in 2010 and Rory Butcher joined the championship full time after racing twice at the Knockhill event in 2008 and 2010.



Provisional 2011 driver championship points positions

After round 4, Donington Park 17 April

1	James Sutton	70
2	Michael Meadows	66
3	Euan Hankey	61
4	Stephen Jelley	52
5	Richard Plant	42
6	Jonas Gelzinis	38
7	Sam Tordoff	35
8	Michael Caine	33
9	Ben Hetherington	28
10	Tim Harvey	26
11	Ahmad Al Harthy	24
12	Rory Butcher	17
13	Derek Pierce	13
14	Daniele Perfetti	9
15	Alex Martin	7
16	Michael Leonard	6
=	George Richardson	6
18	Andrew Shelley	5
=	George Brewster	5
20	Steve Parish	0
=	Tommy Dreelan	0
=	Tautvydas Barstys	0
=	John Taylor	0
=	Richard Denny	0
=	Keith Webster	0

Pro-Am1 category

1	Jonas Gelzinis	43
2	Ahmad Al Harthy	24
3	Rory Butcher	18
4	Derek Pierce	14
5	Daniele Perfetti	9
6	Alex Martin	7
7	Michael Leonard	6
=	George Richardson	6

Pro-Am2 category

1	George Brewster	41
2	Andrew Shelley	39
3	Keith Webster	28
4	Tautvydas Barstys	26
5	Richard Denny	19
=	John Taylor	19
=	Tommy Dreelan	19
8	Steve Parish	10

Provisional 2011 team championship points positions After round 4, Donington Park 17 April

Pos	Team	Total points	Scoring drivers
1	SAS/Redline	136	Meadows and Sutton
2	Parker with Juta	113	Hankey and Jelley
3	Team Parker Racing	77	Plant and Tordoff
4	Nationwide/Motorbase	59	Caine and Harvey
5	Redline/Oman Air	52	Al Harthy and Hetherington
6	Juta Racing	38	Gelzinis and Barstys
7	Celtic Speed	22	Brewster and Butcher
8	Dextra/J&D Pierce by Parker	20	Martin and Pierce
9	Motorbase Performance	15	Perfetti and Richardson
10	Parr Motorsport	6	Denny and Leonard
11	Redline Racing	5	Shelley and Webster

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