

# PORSCHE

## CARRERA CUP GREAT BRITAIN

### Welcome

19 July 2011

Welcome to the seventh issue of the Porsche Carrera Cup GB news update for 2011. After the challenge and excitement of racing on the Nurburgring Nordschleife during the Porsche Carrera World Cup at the end of June, the series has enjoyed a mid-summer break.

Now we are preparing for the start of the second half of the season at Snetterton over the weekend of 6/7 August and I hope to see you all at the Norfolk track.

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# Harvey masters Nurburgring in Carrera Cup GB



Tim Harvey called on all his racing experience and wet weather prowess to win the Porsche Carrera Cup GB element of the Porsche Carrera World Cup race on the Nurburgring Nordschleife at the end of June.

The race, over six laps of the toughest circuit in the world, ran in truly challenging conditions that caught out many drivers, but Harvey (Nationwide/Motorbase) drove a superbly measured race to win after

working ahead of Stephen Jelley (Team Parker Racing). Rory Butcher (Celtic Speed) was a tremendous fourth to win Pro-Am1, while Richard Denny (Parr Motorsport) drove the race of his life to win the Pro-Am2 category.

Steady rain before the start of the race left the 14-mile track very wet and slippery for the 98-car field contesting the biggest one-make Porsche race in history. The grid was split into three groups of 911

GT3 Cup cars for the rolling start, with race results determined on elapsed time and sitting in 98th place on the grid was Richard Plant (Team Parker Racing) after gearbox problems in qualifying.

The opening lap delivered many incidents and accidents and the drama claimed four of the five cars from Red Line Racing as James Sutton, Ben Hetherington, Ahmad Al Harthy and Keith Webster all crashed out. Meanwhile, Michael Meadows (SAS/Redline) lost his front splitter as he battled in the lower reaches of the first grid with Jonas Gelzinis (Juta Racing).

Starting near the front of the second grid proved beneficial to Jelley and Harvey who had a clearer track ahead of them and less spray as they quickly moved into the lead on race times. Harvey was content to sit behind Jelley over the first couple of laps as they explored the amount of grip available, but was then able to move ahead as the track became slightly less wet. After six truly demanding laps, Harvey was top of the Carrera Cup pack and 13th overall among the best 911 GT3 Cup racers in the world.

“That’s the one you want to win,” said an elated Harvey. “This was the big one and it is a wonderful feeling. It was about being

safe on the first lap because I’d never driven a racing lap here in the wet. The car from Motorbase was easy to drive and once I got past Stephen I was able to pull away. It’s been a fantastic event and one of the best race meetings I can remember.”

Jelley chased hard, but was reeled in and passed on the final lap by Butcher. However, a 30s time penalty for a yellow flag infringement later cost Butcher two places and he ended the race fourth and first in Pro-Am1. “There were so many unknowns,” said Jelley of the opening laps. “But it was very challenging and a great event. That’s probably the best race I’ve ever done.”

With Butcher’s penalty, Sam Tordoff (Team Parker Racing) completed the overall podium after a tremendous drive in the toughest of conditions. “The first aim was to get to the finish,” said Tordoff. “This is the best track in the world in the dry and the scariest in the wet, and you do have to respect it.”

For the second race running, Butcher excelled in wet and slippery conditions and was unfortunate to drop from second to fourth with his time penalty. “I love the way the car is in the wet and I don’t think I



# Continued

could have asked for much more. I love this track and I just enjoyed the whole thing.” Taking fifth overall and second in Pro-Am1 was Derek Pierce (Dextra/JD Pierce by Parker) after another starring performance. “There’s not even a scratch on the car,” he said. “That was the toughest race I’ve ever had.”

Meadows and Gelzinis battled home for sixth and seventh, both losing out in the early laps by running in the chaos and spray of the first pack. Having started 98th and dead last, Plant drove a stunning race to battle through to 35th overall and eighth in the Carrera Cup GB and earn the ‘driver of the weekend’ award. Alex Martin (Dextra/JD Pierce by Parker) had an excellent run to ninth place to ensure all five Team Parker Racing cars in the race reached the finish. That achievement earned the squad the ‘team of the weekend’ award.

With George Brewster (Celtic Speed) out at the first corner after a knock from another car, Denny clinched his first Pro-Am2 category win. “It was unbelievable; crazy and amazing,” said Denny. “There was almost zero visibility at the start. That’s the toughest race I’ve done by a long way!”



## Barker to race in Carrera Cup GB

Australia-based British racer Ben Barker will join Parr Motorsport for the Snetterton (6/7 August) and Knockhill (3/4 September) rounds of the Porsche Carrera Cup GB during a mid-season break in the schedule for the Porsche Carrera Cup Australia.

After winning the 2010 Australian Formula 3 title, Barker (20) has been impressive in the Carrera Cup Australia with Team BRM, taking pole position at round two in Perth and is currently sixth in the championship standings. Barker, originally from Cambridge, started his racing in karts and then contested the 2009 British Formula Ford Championship before switching his career to Australia.

"I'm very excited to be returning to the UK during the break in Porsche Carrera Cup Australia," said Barker. "I haven't raced in the UK since my first year in car racing back in 2009, so after some decent seat time in Australia, I'm confident I can show my pace and produce some good results in the Carrera Cup GB. I'm looking forward to the challenge.

"The main aim is to get my name a little more known back in Europe," said Barker. "It will also keep me on my toes for the Australian series when I return to Phillip Island. In only my third year in car racing, I

need to drive as much as possible; the more experience I get, the better driver I'll become."

After competing in the Carrera Cup GB, Barker will return to Australia for round four of Carrera Cup Australia at the L&H 500 at Phillip Island, Victoria in mid-September.

"We're excited to have Ben on board," said Paul Robe of Parr Motorsport. "He's been identified as a rising star in British motorsport so we're optimistic that he can produce some good results and mix it with the front runners. He's got some experience in the car and of the circuits and with some testing we feel that he'll do well. We're looking forward to working with him."



## Sutton chases top 10 finish in Silverstone Supercup race

James Sutton was the top finisher of the seven drivers from the Porsche Carrera Cup GB to contest the Porsche Mobil1 Supercup race supporting the British Grand Prix at Silverstone on Sunday 10 July.

Team SAS/Redline racers Sutton and Michael Meadows used their previous experience of the race to finish 11th and 13th in the 26-strong field, with Sutton racing with former Supercup champion Patrick Huisman and 2011 title contender Sean Edwards in a bid for a place in the top 10. Meadows, meanwhile, was one of the stars of the race as he battled back to 13th after being boxed in at the start.

The other drivers from the Carrera Cup GB all enjoyed an incredible experience, with Sam Tordoff finishing 15th and Ben Hetherington 16th. Ahmad Al Harthy was unfortunately sidelined by a mechanical problem on the opening lap, while Carrera Cup Pro-Am2 racers Keith Webster and Andrew Shelley finished 23rd and 24th. The weekend started in challenging style for the Carrera Cup racers when free practice on Friday ran in very wet conditions. "That put us on the back foot," said SAS/Redline team boss Simon Leonard. "Qualifying was more like testing as the drivers got used to the Formula 1 rubber

on the track." Despite the challenge, Sutton qualified an excellent ninth, just seven-tenths of a second away from the pole position time for the two-minute lap around the Silverstone Grand Prix circuit. Meadows was only a tenth of a second slower in 11th place as the SAS cars sandwiched Edwards.

Unfortunately, Sutton and Meadows didn't get good starts and Meadows in particular lost out as he got boxed in on the run to the first corner. While Sutton shadowed Huisman and Edwards, Meadows battled back up to 13th after passing four cars during the race. "Michael had a fantastic race," said Leonard. "Both the SAS boys did well; they were in with the best in the world."

In such tough company, both Tordoff and Hetherington drove excellent races on their first experience of the Porsche Supercup, finishing ahead of established Supercup racers Alessandro Zampedri and Mathias Lauda. Having started 20th on the grid, Tordoff drove very well to work through to 15th in a race largely devoid of retirements.



# Motorsport UK TV slot for Porsche Carrera World Cup

The biggest Porsche race in history will enjoy extensive TV coverage after contenders in the Porsche Carrera Cup GB took part in the Porsche Carrera World Cup race at the Nurburgring on 25 June. A dedicated hour-long programme in the Motorsport UK series will focus on the Carrera Cup GB racers as they tackled the incredible 14-mile track in Germany in the first 'away' race in the history of the Carrera Cup GB.

Motorsport UK, which is shown on ITV1 and ITV4, will show a special feature on

this unique race, including on-board footage from what is widely regarded as the finest track in the world.

The Motorsport UK series, which features hour-long programmes, is covering all of the Carrera Cup GB action again this season and the Nurburgring programme is provisionally scheduled for transmission on ITV4 on the afternoon of 9 August, with repeats on ITV4 on Saturday 13 August and on ITV1 on the night of Sunday 14 August.



## In brief



Parr Motorsport developed a website specifically to cover the Porsche Carrera World Cup at the Nurburgring and Richard Denny's experience as he took Pro-Am2 victory in this amazing race. The site can be found at <http://www.parratnurburgring.co.uk/>

During the mid-season break, several Carrera Cup drivers have been out in other cars, including Michael Caine. He was due to race the 1973 Osella sports-racing car owned by Grant Tromans, but engine trouble in qualifying at Brands Hatch in early July forced them to miss the Martini Trophy races. Michael should be sharing an AC Cobra with Grant this summer as well.



Tommy Dreelan has made his historic racing debut this season in the first Spice Group C chassis. Tommy has acquired Spice SE86 chassis number one and is contesting a selection of Group C races this season, fitted around his Carrera Cup campaign. The car won the C2 title in 1986 and 1987 with Gordon Spice and Ray Bellm and won C2 at Le Mans in '87. Now fully rebuilt, it is being run by Celtic Speed and is being shared by Aaron Scott in longer races. They were on the podium at Brands early in May.



# Provisional 2011 driver championship points positions

## After round 9, Nurburgring 25 June 2011

1	James Sutton	151
2	Stephen Jelley	144
3	Michael Meadows	140
4	Euan Hankey	112
5	Jonas Gelzinis	87
6	Richard Plant	83
7	Sam Tordoff	71
8	Michael Caine	70
9	Tim Harvey	66
10	Rory Butcher	64
11	Ben Hetherington	53
12	Ahmad Al Harthy	49
13	Derek Pierce	38
14	Alex Martin	21
15	George Richardson	20
16	Daniele Perfetti	11
17	Kieran Vernon	10
18	Michael Leonard	6
=	Andrew Shelley	6
=	Richard Denny	6
21	George Brewster	5
20	Steve Parish	0
=	Tommy Dreelan	0
=	Tautvydas Barstys	0
=	John Taylor	0
=	Keith Webster	0

## Pro-Am1 category

1	Jonas Gelzinis	99
2	Rory Butcher	65
3	Ahmad Al Harthy	51
4	Derek Pierce	39
5	Alex Martin	21
6	George Richardson	20
7	Daniele Perfetti	11
8	Michael Leonard	6

## Pro-Am2 category

1	Andrew Shelley	74
2	George Brewster	66
3	Keith Webster	65
4	Richard Denny	58
5	Tommy Dreelan	43
6	John Taylor	38
7	Steve Parish	34
8	Tautvydas Barstys	26

## Provisional 2011 team championship points positions After round 9, Nurburgring 25 June 2011

Pos	Team	Total points	Scoring drivers
1	SAS/Redline	291	Meadows and Sutton
2	Parker with Juta	256	Hankey and Jelley
3	Team Parker Racing	154	Plant and Tordoff
4	Nationwide/Motorbase	146	Caine and Harvey/ Vernon
5	Redline/Oman Air	102	Al Harthy and Hetherington
6	Juta Racing	87	Gelzinis and Barstys
7	Celtic Speed	69	Brewster and Butcher
8	Dextra/J&D Pierce by Parker	59	Martin and Pierce
9	Motorbase Performance	31	Perfetti and Richardson
10	Parr Motorsport	12	Denny and Leonard
11	Redline Racing	6	Shelley and Webster

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