



August 2011

LOCAL LADS TRIUMPH IN GO KART RALLY

A family of Evesham brothers have rallied together to build their own homemade kart – and triumphed in a local Go-Kart competition.

Taking home first, second and third prizes in the Junior category, Christopher, Eliot and Oliver Hartwell proved victorious at the Gloucestershire heat of the Screwfix Go-Kart Rally, which was held at the Bugsboarding track in Maisemore.

'Team Hartwell', from Harrington, built their kart entirely from parts and scrap over three days, inspired by a project at school and their love for off-road racing.

The boys took to the grass hill track on Sunday 7 August, battling against four other racers to record the fastest time, and now all three have made it to the Grand Final of the competition, to be held at the International Rally Championship in Scotland in October.

Christopher, age 15, who took home the first prize, said: "Our dad owns a scrapyard, so dismantling cars and working with tools is something we've all grown up with. It's the first time we've ever built a go-kart, so we made sure we followed the instructions from Screwfix closely but we're really proud of what we've ended up with.

"We didn't know how the kart would go on the track, so to win the junior category is really exciting!"

Joined by younger brothers Eliot (13) and Oliver (12), the trio of intrepid racers learnt about the Go-Kart Rally, in association with Screwfix, power tool brand Evolution, and Peugeot when visiting the Evesham Screwfix branch with their father.

The competition required entrants to design and build their own gravity-powered go-karts, and in addition to racing in the Grand Final, the lucky Hartwell brothers will also get complimentary tickets to watch the IRC rally.

Screwfix's John Mewett said: "As the first of the heats, it was great to see the karts turn out for the Go-Kart Rally in Gloucester – and they certainly didn't disappoint!

"We have noticed a real trend for people wanting to get back to those 'lads and dads' days of old, which is why we created the Go-Kart Rally tournament to celebrate just that - families getting their kids out in the fresh air, and working together on projects - so it's great to see the Hartwells having done so well in the competition."

"We're also looking for the Best Designed Go-Karts – so if you can build a great kart but can't get to a heat just upload video footage of your go-kart to the Screwfix facebook page."

The boys' mother, Clare Hartwell added: "Building the kart has been great for the boys to do over the summer holidays. They've worked on go-karts as part of a school project, so to see them now make and race their own is really great."

AJ Watkins, owner of Bugsboarding said: "Go-karting is something that touches every grown-up's heart as well as exciting the kids, so having the Gloucestershire heat here was a real pleasure. There really is nothing like hurtling down a hill on a go-kart or soapbox.

"We offer mountainboarding, which is a cross between snowboarding and skateboarding, BMXing and grass sledging here at Bugsboarding, so the Go-Kart Rally was something similar, but different, for us!"

Further heats will run across the country throughout August and September.

And for those that have missed out on the heats, it's not too late to enter the 'Best Designed Go-Kart' competition online by simply uploading footage of your go-kart to your You Tube page and sharing it with the Screwfix Facebook page or alternatively upload it straight to Screwfix's Facebook Page before 30th September . For further details on the Go-Kart Rally or information on entering the Best Designed Go-Kart please visit www.screwfix.com/rally

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Further Information

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Note to editors

About Screwfix:

Recognised as being “where the trade buys” and promising a fast, reliable service, Screwfix is the UK’s leading multi-channel supplier of thousands of high quality screws, fixings, hand tools, power tools, plumbing and electrical supplies. Combining trade prices and a massive range of leading brand name items, Screwfix offers over 18,000 products and is fully committed to customer care and support.

About Go-Kart Rally:

In association with Screwfix Peugeot and Evolution, the Go-Kart Rally will pit amateur racers in home-built go-karts against each other at a series of regional heats.

The top three karts from each heat will go through to the Grand Final of the competition, to be held near the IRC stage in Scotland on 9th October.

The Best Designed Go-Kart competition is also running. To enter, simply upload video footage of your kart to www.facebook.com/screwfix by 30th September 2011.

The following factors will be taken into consideration:

- Aesthetics: the overall look of the kart build, chassis and body shell
- Usability: How fit for purpose the kart is overall for the event. Think Functionality, tyres, ride height, weight and so on.
- Livery: What decals and designs have been applied to the kart?
- Action: Video the go-kart in action to show just what it can achieve

Visit www.screwfix.com/rally or email rally@screwfix.com for more information