



September 2011

EAST GRINSTEAD COLLEAGUES TRIUMPH IN GO KART RALLY

A group of work friends have rallied together to build their own homemade kart – and triumphed in a local Go-Kart competition.

Clinching first and second place, Tom Johnstone, 29, and Daniel Belfort, 23, dominated the Sussex heat of the Screwfix Go-Kart Rally, which was held at the Haredown outdoor activities centre near Chichester.

The ‘Southern Testing’ team built their kart over the space of three days, following a plan from the competition organisers, Screwfix and Evolution power tools. As the team’s drivers, Daniel and Tom mucked in, but it was colleagues Neil Burrows and Peter Sugden that did the technical build work, as Neil explains:

“We all work together at Southern Testing, producing geotechnical and environmental solutions, so thought we might have a good chance at building a fairly successful kart. Using scrap bits and bobs, we built our ‘A-Frame’ kart over three days and it was great fun!”

Tom, who came in with the fastest time and scooped first place, said: “We’ve competed in bathtub racing before but never anything on wheels! There was a mixed selection of karts there at the heat but we thought we’d be in with a good chance. Of course I’m thrilled to have won it and now be through to the final!”

The team took to the grass hill track on Sunday 11th September, battling against other racers to record the fastest times, and now both men have made it to the Grand Final of the competition, to be held near the International Rally Championship in Scotland in October.

The intrepid colleagues from East Grinstead saw the competition advertised on the Screwfix website, who ran the rally in association with power tool brand Evolution and Peugeot.

Daniel, who came in second place, said: "Tom and I were neck and neck with times the whole day, and then he just beat me by one second in his last run! My driving plan was to be confident and lean around the corners, but he just pipped me to the post"

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 pair will also get complimentary tickets to watch the IRC rally. Both also received Screwfix gift vouchers.

Screwfix's John Mewett said: "It was great to see the karts turn out for the Go-Kart Rally in Sussex – 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 and friends getting out in the fresh air, and working together on projects - so it's great to see the team from Southern Testing having done so well in the competition."

For further details on the Go-Kart Rally 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