From: FJHRA
To: "FJHRA"

Subject: FJHRA Newsflash 2011/25

Date: 20 September 2011 18:34:39

## Dear FJHRA,

I started my last newsflash by saying; 'To all of you racing at Goodwood, we are sure you will do us proud, and show the world, that FJ racing really is about exciting but safe racing... '

Well boys, you did just that! Proud is exactly what you made Dad and I feel (and for that matter everyone involved in FJ), as we watched the marvel unfold – and as if the weekend couldn't' get any better for FJ, it was topped off to perfection, when Sam Wilson was very deservedly awarded 'Driver of the Meeting' for his wins in both the Earl of March Trophy (F3 500) and the Chichester Cup (FJ).

Here are our 3 podium winners (Jon Milicevic, Sam Wilson, Pierre Tonetti) just before prizegiving, but of course it was all of you out there that made the race memorable, even dear Bob! (see below).



Bob Birrell - his spirit is clearly still strong!

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Well, who's a lucky boy then? I've done most things in racing but I've never really destroyed a car and I've never hurt myself. Saturday saw these ambitions fulfilled in spades.

Actually being as the left hand front wheel & corner ended up where my feet and legs were, I've been so lucky to escape with a severed Achiles tendon on my left hoof. It proves the value of having lots of internal padding - sort of like a blubber airbag?

Apart from the good fortune not to be more seriously hurt there were so many good memories:

The customary great and professional abilities of the marshals - the photos show them running toward me with Fire extinguishers before the car had even stopped bouncing backwards sheding bits.

The fantastic medical arrangements at the circuit - the paramedic at the marshal post, Doctor Cottingham and his staff at the circuit medical centre and the swift transfer to Hospital.

- Does your head hurt?
  - No.
- · Did you hit your head?
  - Nο
- What about the tyre skid marks on your helmet?Ah!

The care and trouble taken by Mair who wouldn't leave the Hospital until Eileen arrived and sorted me out with a buggy on Sunday

Family Wilson who packed up my kit from the shelter, (it must have been some moment when Grant & Penny left the Ball in the small hours dressed in their finery - drove to my shelter and loaded up all my oily kit - Security? not seen!) put up with me when I escaped from the NHS and Grant who not only practiced his farrier technique on my plaster but loaded the remains into my trailer and will perform triage on it.

The memorable cheering and welcome I received from my very many FJ friends when I limped into the paddock on Sunday - I can't tell you how much it cheered me up.

Philip and Amanda Walker (my neighbours in Yorkshire) who drove me and my road car back on Sunday evening.

So, I'm in no pain at all, I was told that I couldn't drive for a bit - no problem I told them, I don't need to drive until Wednesday when I leave for Spa - sadly they have 2 - 3 months in mind - however I can't walk without crutches either.

Fear not, I will "get back on the horse" In any case I had intended to race my Lola Mk2 next year and rest the Brabham and that's exactly what I'll do - you haven't got rid of me yet!

AUTO MODELISME issue #164 Jan 2011 has a 2 page article of FJ Models by Jade Miniatures and one page of photos of Front engine FJs.

Jade models available;
OSCA, Terrier and Dagrada so far

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Kind regards,

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