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JCT600

British cycling champion rides in JCT600's Tour de France Golf at Otley Cycle Races



As part of the cycling mania gripping Yorkshire ahead of next year's Tour de France, JCT600 has joined forces with Welcome to Yorkshire to enable champion cyclist Jonny Clay and race organiser Giles Pidcock to ride in style at The DM Keith Skoda Otley Cycle Races.

Jonny, a silver medallist at the Commonwealth Games and director of British Cycling, was a passenger in one of JCT600's specially liveried 'Grand Départ' Golf Cabriolets which the Bradford-based motor retailer has provided to the tourism agency as part of the Tour de France publicity caravan.

As the best of Britain's cyclists gathered in Otley for the annual races, Jonny was amongst the celebrities in the vehicles following the riders. Jonny enjoyed a professional cycling career during which he had the rare honour of representing his country at Elite level in the World Championships of three disciplines – road, track and mountain bike. A Bronze medal at the Sydney Olympics, a World and Commonwealth Games Silver medal, plus many national titles were amongst key highlights. After retiring from competitive cycling in 2000, he was appointed as British Cycling's Regional Talent Manager for the North East, having sat on British Cycling's Board for the last five years of his cycling career. In 2004 he took



media relations and profile

over management of the membership department before being appointed to his current role as cycle sport and membership director in 2009.

This year Otley Cycle Races is again hosting the opening round of the British Cycling Elite Circuit Race Series and an elite women's event has been added to the program. Now in their 28th year, over 100 riders will be competing on the legendary Otley circuit and former winners include 'the fastest man on two wheels' former world champion and current national road race champion Mark Cavendish.

John Tordoff, chief executive of JCT600, said, "Otley Cycle Races is one of the high points of the UK cycling year and is even more poignant ahead of next year's Grand Depart in Yorkshire. It's great to be playing a part in the build up to the Tour de France 2014, when the eyes of cycling enthusiasts worldwide will be on the region."

Gary Verity, chief executive of Welcome to Yorkshire, said: "Yorkshire's Grand Départ moment has already begun. Tour fever has gripped the county, cycling mad locations like Otley will have a big part to play as we build towards next summer as will JCT600 who are already playing a starring role in the official caravan of the Tour de France."

Next year, the six specially decorated cars from JCT600 will join around 140 others from the Tour's many sponsors to create a spectacular cavalcade which will criss-cross the length and breadth of France. They will also be a feature of the Tour de France during the Grand Depart in Yorkshire in 2014 and the 2015 Tour.

- Ends -

Picture shows (L to R): JCT600's 'Grand Depart' liveried car at Otley Cycle races with race organiser Giles Pidcock, Gary Verity of Welcome to Yorkshire, champion cyclist Jonny Clay and Nigel Shaw of JCT600

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