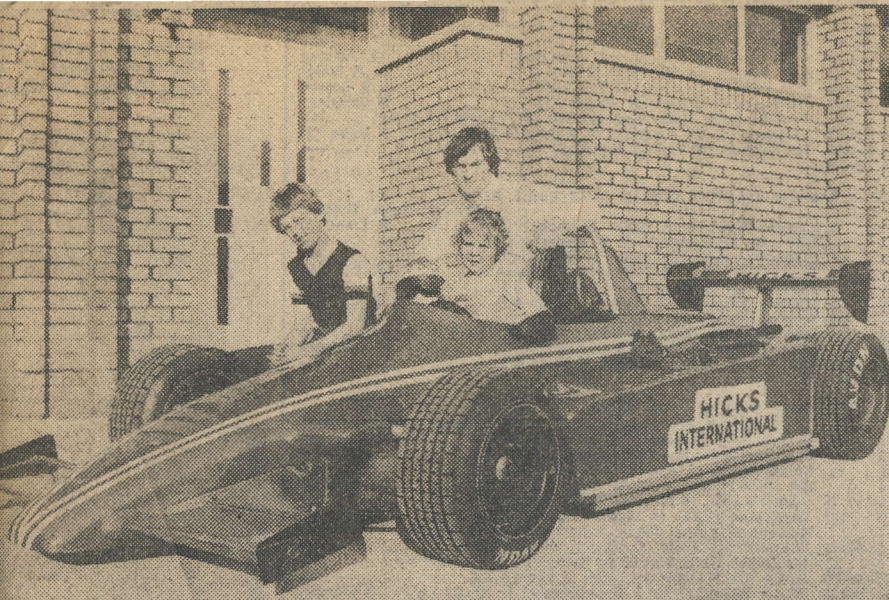


# Breakthrough for Kempe

by David Facey



Phil Kempe, with his Formula Three racing car, was a big attraction with the youngsters who went along to Newbridge RFC where it was on display. Seated in the car is six-year-old Richard Simmonds, of Ebbw View, Newbridge, and the other lucky youngster is Jonathan Westwood, ten, son of Newbridge RFC coach Keith Westwood.

GWENT racing driver Phil Kempe has made the breakthrough into Formula Three racing, the traditional stepping stone to the Grand Prix circuit.

Kempe has landed a sponsorship deal which will allow him to compete in five Formula Three races, including the support race to the British Grand Prix at Brands Hatch on July 18.

Kempe, of Rhiwderin, will have his first Formula Three outing at Silverstone on May 31. Yesterday he was showing his former Newbridge Rugby Club teammates the car he will be driving in the race.

"I am being sponsored by Hicks International Transport of Rhiwderin for a five-race series and hope I can do well enough to interest another sponsor to take me through the rest of the season," said Kempe.

Kempe, the reigning Formula Ford champion,

will be driving for the Eddie Jordan team. The car is a Ralt RT3 with a Toyota engine.

He will be driving as number two to the experienced James Weaver, who is currently in second place in this year's Formula Three championship.

"This is an important step for me and I owe Hicks a lot. Their sponsorship could be worth around £20,000 over the five races they are backing me for.

"But they agree with me that if I can get out on the track and do well in the early races I should have no trouble in getting a sponsor for what remains of the twenty race series."

Kempe drove a trial for the Eddie Jordan team at the start of the month and reported that the car handled well and said he was confident of a high finish in his opening race.

"On the evidence of my trial they accepted me as second driver in place of a Brazilian who started the series with them. I just hope I can justify their confidence in me," added Kempe.

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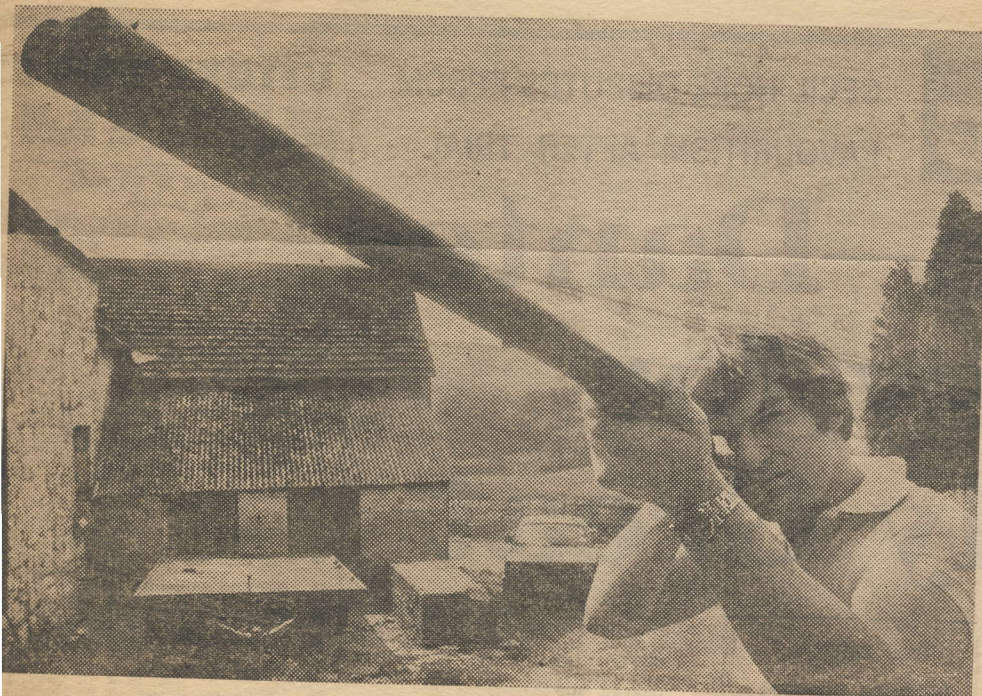
## MOTOR RACING

# Farmer's boy Kempe to make hay on the track

WORDS: JIM HILL

PICTURE: MICHAEL STROUD

ANY resemblance between homely Newbridge Rugby Club in Gwent, and the international appeal of Silverstone's Grand Prix circuit is not normally noticeable.



Aiming high... new Welsh hope Phil Kempe

# Kempe in surprise call-up

PHIL KEMPE of Rhiwderin, had a surprise recall to the world of Formula 3 racing following a telephone call from team boss Eddie Jordan offering him an outing at Silverstone on Monday.

Kempe got away to a good start in the twenty lap Marlboro Formula 3 championship race. He had worked his way up to sixth place, and looked likely to score his first championship points when the race was stopped because of the heavy rain.

It was eventually restarted after the worst effects of the rain had disappeared, but Kempe could not maintain his position over the five lap sprint finish, and he crossed the line in eighth place.

At Mallory Park, brothers Barry and Phillip Reece of Caerphilly were involved in a bizarre race. Phillip was supposedly only entered to make the numbers up but he led for most of the 850 Special Saloon race after Barry had spun off.

Phillip later had to pull over to allow his brother — the championship leader — to pass him and take the crucial points for a win.

## Rain dashes Kempe's hopes

Rain ruined Phil Kempe's formula three motor-racing come-back at Silverstone on Sunday.

The twenty-lap round of the Marlborough British championship was held on a drying track and Kempe finished eleventh.

He hopes it will be dry for the second round of the championship at Thruxton next Sunday.

South Wales A  
7-7-82

## Kempe in big race build-up

PHIL KEMPE, the 1981 Dunlop/Autosport Star of Tomorrow champion, is busy building up his strength with some special exercises at his home on Sunybank Farm, Rhiwderin, in preparation for the Formula Three supporting race to the Marlboro British Grand Prix at Brands Hatch on July 18.

Kempe had a test run last week and confessed that the aftereffects of his bout of glandular fever had left him very weak. However, he should be fitter for his last scheduled run with sponsors Hicks International Transport.

This race is an important one, with over 150,000 people expected over the three days at Brands Hatch. A substantial number of Welsh fans are expected to make the trip to the meeting and Kempe should be well prepared after testing at Mallory, Brands Hatch and Oulton Park, and running in a fresh engine.

He hopes that more sponsors will step in to help him through the rest of the season as his deal with Hicks begins to run out. "We still have plenty of spaces left on the car and some are going for £1,000 or less. The deal will include the grande prix," he said.

Continuity is almost as important as experience in Formula Three and Kempe needs to keep in the race in order to improve. He could be involved in a major deal involving a new engine for 1983.

## Race ace Phil finds backer

A SOUTH Wales farmer's son is about to follow in the tyre-tracks of Wales' late Grand Prix ace, Tom Pryce.

Philip Kempe, aged 27, of Sunnybank Farm, Rhiwderin, Newport, raced for three seasons before winning the British Championship Dunlop Star of Tomorrow series last year.

Now he has been backed by local hauliers Hicks Transport International for five Formula 3 races in Britain, including the supporting race to the British Grand Prix in July.

By Robin Roberts,  
Motoring Correspondent

Money earned from instructing has been ploughed back into his racing and now it is beginning to pay off with the sponsorship from Hicks.

Sponsorship is vital in top-flight motor racing and Phil expects to get through £4,000 a race in his Formula 3 car.

He drives for the Eddie Jordan Ralt F3 team and his British F3 series will take him to all the country's major circuits. He hopes to do a few European events as well.

## Ploughed

Phil, who started in motor sport with karting, became an instructor with the Brands Hatch racing drivers' school when he left college four years ago.

"When I started I paid for my own racing with a little family support but F3 is very expensive and I'm glad to secure a local sponsor. I hope other companies will be able to help this year as well," said Phil.