

PRESS RELEASE



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NGK - TOM WOOLLEY

NGK Spark Plugs (UK) Ltd is helping a teenage motor-cycling ace reach the top of his sport.

The company is supplying spark plugs to 17-year-old Tom Woolley who competes in the sport of Flat Track racing, which is described as a cross between Speedway and MotoCross.

Tom works as an apprentice for Speedway parts distributor Joe Hughes International of Derby – an NGK distributor – and recently came second in the FIM World Flat Track Championship Open at Lonigo in Italy.

Former international Grasstrack, Sandtrack and Ice Speedway rider Joe Hughes, who is senior-partner in the company that bears his name, said: “Tom has done really well since he started competing in the sport, which was formed four to five years ago. He has proved very successful since he took it up and in Italy was competing against some riders much older than himself.

”His father, Andrew, was a customer of ours and Tom now works for us as an apprentice. He is very enthusiastic and we are pleased that we can help him in the sport.”

Tom competes on a Honda CRF450 MotoCross bike, supplied by Pidcock Honda, of Long Eaton, and modified by Joe Hughes International, which supplies parts to customers all over the globe – including Australia, the USA and Russia - from its purpose-built headquarters in Derby.

He said: “It was great to do so well in Italy. NGK and everyone at Joe Hughes have been really supportive. I have won some events in the UK already, but it was great to do so well in an international competition like this. There were about 20 other riders taking part and most of the riders were older than me so I feel very proud to come second. I really enjoy the sport and want to concentrate on it for a few years before I might think about moving on to Speedway.”



Tom Woolley (centre) is flanked by father-and-son Joe Hughes (left) and Morgan Hughes, who are distributors for NGK Spark Plugs (UK) Ltd

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Tom Woolley in action in Italy where he came second

At the Italian event, Tom took two seconds and two thirds in the heat races before finishing second in the semi-final. In the final he fought back from fifth place on the first lap to finish on the podium behind eventual winner Italian Marco Belli.

Morgan Hughes, son of the founder of the company, said: "We are very proud of what Tom has achieved so far and look forward to him doing even better in the future. He has fitted in well since he started working with us and I am sure with NGK's and our help he is destined to achieve great things in the future."

Tom is not the only member of the Woolley family to be making a name for himself; his 12-year-old brother Sam also competes in the sport.

For more information visit www.ngkntk.co.uk

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