

750 Formula Driver Profile: Mark Glover



Hi, my name is Mark Glover. I am a chartered aerospace engineer living and working in Derby, UK, (you'll have to guess which global aerospace company I work for). My interest in motorsport was kindled in the mid-eighties I but didn't think that participating would be a possibility through lack of funds, space and knowledge and I harboured an ambition for many years until I came across Ron Champions "How To Build A Sportscar And Race It!". This coupled with the Fifth Gear review of Locost racing with Vicky Butler-Henderson driving Tim Grays car convinced me that it could be a possibility. Tim raced a Stuart Taylor Motorsport chassis, and as they were just up the road from me I paid them a visit to scope out whether it really was for me and came back home to tell my partner that I had putdown a deposit on a chassis and bodywork. 6 months after taking receipt of the chassis I was lining up for my first race at Snetterton in March 2003 after a few long nights and weekends. I raced in the 750MC Locost championship until 2011, winning a couple of races and having some great fun learning how to engineer a car and drive it. Locost racing was very close, with slipstreaming being the norm with large groups of cars pulling each other along, unfortunately this also meant that contact and crashes were fairly frequent events. It taught me a lot about close, wheel to wheel racing and I only had one significant crash, at Donington in 2008. A car span in front of me and the ensuing

T-bone ended up with me breaking my left wrist. The medical crew at the circuit were great, within 30 minutes I had been x rayed and was the proud owner of a temporary cast. My wife wasn't so pleased, the birth of my second child was only a couple of months away and now I couldn't drive and was facing surgery to screw my wrist back together. The surgery needed a couple of attempts to get it to work and scuppered my 2008, 2009 and 2010 seasons and gave me lots of time to think whether I wanted to move away from Locost

I felt that it was time to try something new and, and with guidance from Rod Hill and with the advent of the transverse engine class in the 750MC 750Formula championship and the birth of the Racekits Falcon kit decided that this was the direction I would move in.

I met Martin Kemp and saw the Falcon at the National Motorsports Show in November 2011 and quickly placed an order and started receiving parts in June 2012. Once again I threw myself into it and after a busy 8 months a Falcon was born. I recorded the build in a blog <http://racekitsfalconbuild.blogspot.com/> which has now had over 30,000 views (296 so far this month – Jan 2021) and it has been great to talk to people in the paddock that have followed and appreciated it. Racing took over from blogging in 2013 and the blog has lain dormant for a number of years, my New Years Resolution is to update it to capture the adventure over the last 8 years.

It has been an adventure. The car was pretty good out of the box and is a great credit to Martin's engineering skill. Transitioning from Locost with no aero and little grip to a true slicks and wings formula with the ability to corner at 1.8g took a little while to gain confidence, particularly in high speed corners, but once I got there it was great and I gradually improved my driving, the cars reliability and handling, resulting in a steady climb up the final championship positions every year, culminating in winning the championship in 2018 and 2019. I am incredibly proud to be able to say that I have been champion of, perhaps with a little of bias, what is the longest running and best club racing formula in the world. The depth of engineering and driving talent is immense, the number of champions regularly racing in the championship must be at the top of the league table for retaining champions and the competition is fierce, but driving standards are very high and standard of racing exceptional. Having said that, there is lots of knowledge and experience that the paddock is willing to share and if designing and building a car is beyond someone's capability then there are cars for sale and, of course, the excellent Racekits Falcon kit is a proven race and championship winning package and is available from Martin Kemp at [Racekits](#).



I am looking forward to continuing to race in the formula, continuing to develop myself and the car and hope I can stay near the pointy end of the grid and challenge for race wins and championships.

I will never forget my first taste of going through Gerards at Mallory without lifting the throttle, or weaving the car through the mountain at Cadwell, racing a 750Formula car really does make life worth living.