



NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

- **This weekend, European and British Radio Controlled Car champions get set to race into Aberdeen for radio controlled car GP-**

This weekend as Jenson and Lewis gear up to fly the flag at the Chinese Grand Prix in Shanghai, over 80 radio controlled car competitors from across Europe are preparing to race into Union Square, Aberdeen.

Using the latest in radio control car technology, the drivers will be lining up to take part in the UK's first ever Shopping Centre Grand Prix on Saturday the 17th and Sunday 18th of April. The weekend also sees the Union Square Stig making a pit stop at the centre for the two day event.

The 61 metre track will be set up in the atrium area of the new shopping centre and will see the 81 racers, battling sweeping turns, chicanes and hairpins to take home the winner's trophy.

Top class professional radio controlled racing drivers will be in attendance, including current European champion Juho Levanen and previous World & European champion, Andy Moore. Joining competitors from across Britain and Ireland will be grand prix enthusiasts who have travelled from as far as Finland to take part in the coveted competition.

The competitors will compete with two separate classes of vehicle, one being rear wheel drive machines with aerofoil bodyshells, a 12th of the size of a regular car and also 4WD scale saloons, a 10th of the size of a regular car. These cars, which can reach up to 60 miles per hour, are governed by motorsport rules which state that they must resemble models such as the Mazda 6 or Alfa Romeo 156. Under the body lies the high-tech race engineered chassis which have names like 'Hot Bodies Cyclone', 'Team Associated TC5R' and 'TOP Photon'.

As well as some of Europe's top competitors, Union Square shoppers will also get the chance to take part, using similar versions of the racing cars, which are sponsored by Union Square tenants.

Penny Godfrey, marketing manager for Union Square said:

"We are really looking forward to welcoming the competitors to Aberdeen this weekend and to the atmosphere that will be created by the event.

"As well as seeing the drivers in action, those who come down to the centre will get the chance to get into the driving seat during the public racing slots.

"It's definitely going to be a fast and furious weekend at Union Square!"

Daniel Rowlands, organiser of the Union Square Grand Prix said:

"We are so excited about the Union Square Grand Prix. It's the first of its kind in the UK and is creating a real stir in the world of radio controlled car racing.

"We look forward to seeing the crowds cheering on the drivers and to see the cars in action and our professional race commentator will keep everyone informed on the state of play throughout the weekend."

The qualifying heats for the Union Square Grand Prix will take place on Saturday 17th April, with the finals held on Sunday 18th April.

Ends

Issued on behalf of Union Square by Grayling. For further information please contact Lisa McGhee on 0141 416 3696 / 07900 056 835 / lisa.mcghee@grayling.com or Kirsty Grant on 0131 226 2363 / kirsty.grant@grayling.com.

Notes to editors:

Union Square

Union Square is a new retail and leisure quarter in the centre of Aberdeen. Developed by Hammerson, the centre includes around 50 retailers across the main mall and shopping park, a variety of restaurants and cafés, a 203 bed Jurys Inn hotel and 10 screen multiplex Cineworld cinema, Aberdeen's largest cinema. The scheme also provides visitors with a new civic square.

Union Square is Aberdeen's most accessible retail and leisure offer with 1,700 car parking spaces, easily reached from all major routes and integrated with the city's bus and rail stations - providing a gateway to the region and encouraging sustainable travel to the city.

www.unionsquareaberdeen.com.

