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Long road to success at Silverstone

FOR most racing fans, taking a spin at Silverstone would be a dream come true. But for Phil Rowlands the experience was even sweeter knowing he had put together the car he was driving. The 22-year-old, from Prudhoe, has been involved in every step of the creation of the 115mph vehicle. And he even got to race the one-seater car on the world-famous track in the Formula Student competition. Phil built the vehicle as part of his Masters degree at Lancaster University. He and six other students had to squeeze in the project alongside coursework and exams – all while keeping the budget under \$25,000. Phil, who first became interested in mechanical engineering at Prudhoe Community High School, said: "It was great to be screaming around Silverstone knowing you'd been involved in building the car." The students were up against more than 100 teams as they took part in a number of events over a 22km circuit. The team came in 10th out of the UK entries and 32nd overall.



MEET THE TEAM: From left, Tom Schofield, David Richards, Alex Bartlett, Phil Rowlands (at the wheel of the racer), Kevin Metcalfe and Ryan Cefferty

