

# NEWS from TOYOTA

June, 1988

## MESSAGE:

TOYOTA MOTOR CORPORATION will enter the 56th Le Mans 24 Hour Race scheduled for June 11 and 12 by supporting TOYOTA TEAM TOM'S (TTT), as it did last year. This entry marks the company's fourth since Le Mans in 1985.

This year Toyota will enter two cars with the sponsorship of Minolta Camera Co., Ltd. and another sponsored by Taka-Q Co., Ltd. The TOYOTA 88C was developed for Le Mans from TOYOTA 87C which was entered in six domestic endurance races in 1987, taking 1st place in the Fuji 1,000 km and Suzuka 1,000 km race. It mounts a 2,140cc engine with a twin-entry turbo which is the smallest engine for "C-class". In combination with aerodynamic body and chassis to match, it has outstanding performance, economy and durability.

TOYOTA TEAM TOM'S has enlisted drivers with endurance race experience such as Le Mans backed up by an excellent team of mechanics and other staff members.

We expect that TTT's efforts will result in excellent results competing against other tough contenders, such as Porsche, Jaguar and Benz.

## TOM'S CO., LTD. AND TOYOTA TEAM TOM'S

TOM'S Co., Ltd. was established by former Toyota driver Nobuhide Tachi and Kiyoshi Ohiwa in 1974. The company continues to grow steadily, providing engine tune-ups for touring cars and development and sales of racing parts.

Supported by TOYOTA MOTOR CORPORATION, the company has boasted an excellent racing record in Japan and overseas since its founding. With TOM'S' wins at the Macao and Malaysian Grand Prix respectively, the company established itself as a force to be reckoned with in the GP field.

In 1980, in its first partnership with DOME Co., Ltd., TOM'S participated in a number of Group C endurance races, including the Sebring 12 Hour Race and the Riverside 6 Hour Race in which the company raced the jointly-developed DOME CELICA turbo.

Since 1982, TOM'S cooperation with DOME has continued to produce Group C cars powered by Toyota Racing:

- TOYOTA DOME CELICA C (1982)
- TOYOTA TOM'S 83C (1983)
- TOYOTA TOM'S 84C (1984)
- TOYOTA TOM'S 85C (1985)
- TOYOTA TOM'S 86C (1986)
- TOYOTA 87C (1987)
- TOYOTA 88C (1988)

TOYOTA MOTOR CORPORATION in 1987 established TOYOTA TEAM TOM'S as a factory team. The team proved its strength immediately, winning twice in domestic endurance races.

This year, the team will enter Le Mans 24 Hour Race with TOYOTA 88Cs that mount proven 3S-GT engines.

Nobuhide Tachi (Born 1947)



After his racing debut in the Toyota Publica at the age of 18, in 1970 he became an exclusive Toyota driver. In 1974 he established TOM'S Co., Ltd., which has been consistently successful in tuning up Toyota cars. He has proven to be a talented director of racing teams.



## CHALLENGING THE WORLD AT LE MANS--TOM'S AND TOYOTA TEAM TOM'S

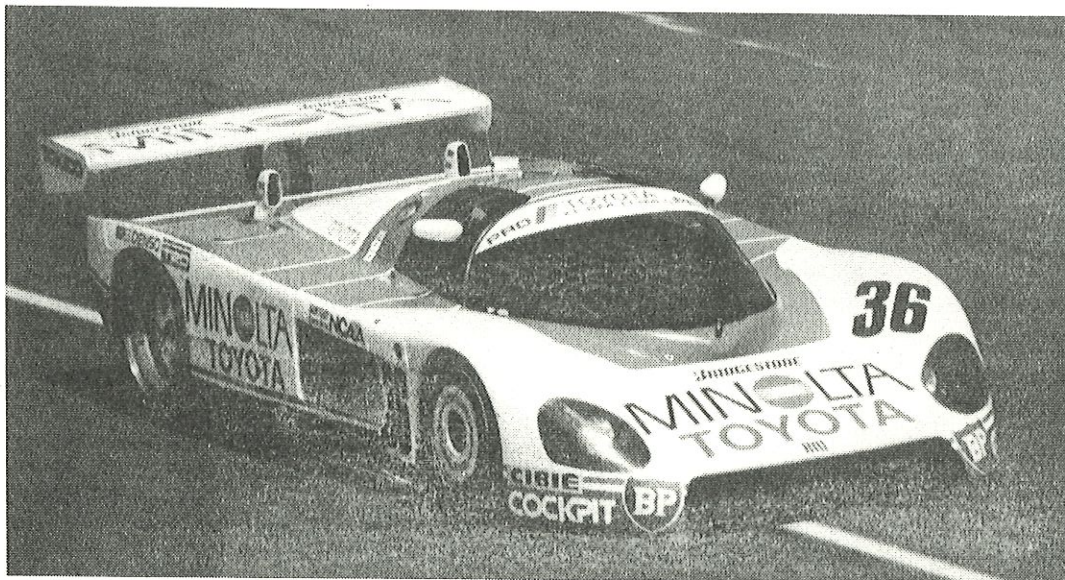
1980...Test run at Le Mans with the Celica Turbo developed with DOME

1985...With this the first time actually competing in the 24 Hour Le Mans, the new TOYOTA TEAM TOM'S 85C-L with an improved Toyota Racing 4T-GT engine challenges the best in the world. The result is a solid first-time finish of twelfth, the best for an all-Japanese car manned by Japanese drivers.

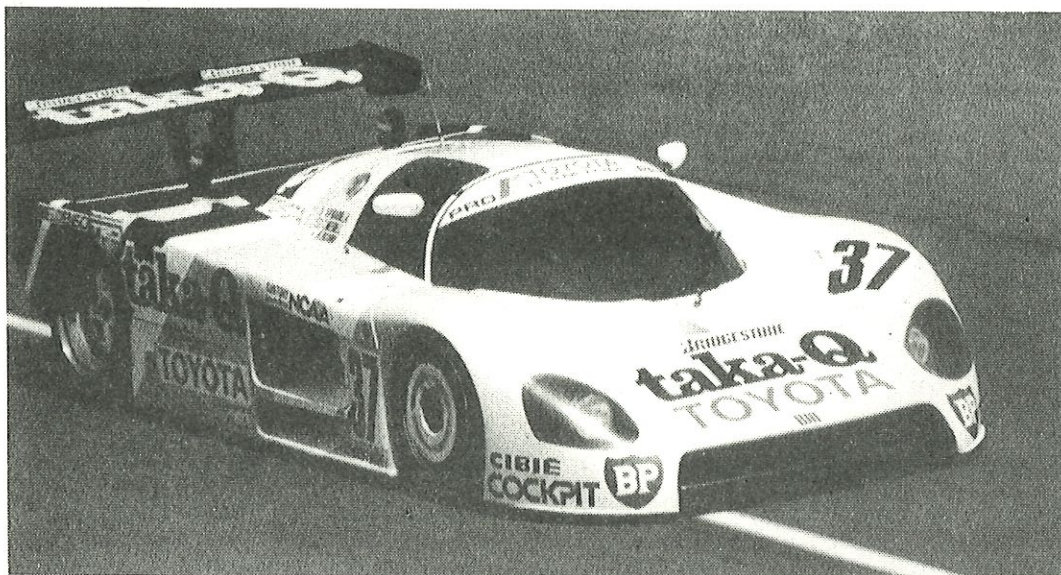
1986...The re-designed TOYOTA TEAM TOM'S 86C-L, the successor to the 85C-L, goes its limit at Le Mans 24 Hour Race, yet fails to finish.

1987...TOM'S in cooperation with TOYOTA MOTOR CORPORATION established TOYOTA TEAM TOM'S. The team participates in the Le Mans 24 Hour Race with two Toyota 87Cs mounting modified Toyota 3S-GT racing engines, but failed to finish.

1988...This year TTT aims to finish in high position at the Le Mans 24 Hour Race with two proven and well-developed 88Cs.



Minolta TOYOTA 88C



Taka-Q TOYOTA 88C

TOYOTA TEAM TOM'S PARTICIPATING STAFF

Vehicles: TOYOTA 88C (two)

Drivers: No. 36; Minolta TOYOTA 88C:  
Geoff Lees  
Masanori Sekiya  
Kaoru Hoshino

No. 37; Taka-Q TOYOTA 88C:  
Paolo Barilla  
Tiff Needell  
Hitoshi Ogawa

Staff: General Director: Nobuhide Tachi  
Team Manager: Kiyoshi Ohiwa  
(car No. 36)  
Team Manager: Yutaka Imanishi  
(car No. 37)  
Chief Mechanic: Jun Yamada  
(car No. 36)  
Chief Mechanic: Takehiko Watanabe  
(car No. 37)



## PROFILES OF MINOLTA TOYOTA 88C DRIVERS

Geoff Lees

Born: 1/5/1951; age: 37; nationality: British

Geoff Lees began racing at the age of 20 in a Formula Ford. By 1975 his record showed a truly amazing 33 wins out of the 40 races he entered through to his fourth season.

In 1976 he competed in the F-3 category, and in 1978 he drove in the European F-2 Series as well as the Can Am. In 1979 he entered the German F-1 Grand Prix for the first time, and in 1980 he performed in the World F-1 Grand Prix as a member of the Shadow Team and the Theodore Team.

The next year he raced in the European F-2 Series again with the Ralt Work's Team, and his resounding effort was rewarded with Europe's 1981 F-2 Championship.

In 1982 Lees returned to F-1 series driving for the Theodore Team and the Lotus Team, and for the first time raced in the Le Mans 24 Hour Race behind the wheel of an Aston Martin.

During his stay in Japan in 1983, this extremely capable driver won the Japanese F-2 Championship Series.

He joined TOYOTA TEAM TOM'S in 1986 participating in Japanese endurance races and the Le Mans 24 Hour Race. In 1987, he triumphed in the Japanese F-3000 Series. Victory was also his in the All Japanese Sports Prototype Car Championship Fuji 1,000km race and Suzuka 1000km race as a member of TOYOTA TEAM TOM'S.

As a number one driver, this year he will participate in domestic endurance car race and touring car race and also in the Le Mans 24 Hour Race.

Masanori Sekiya

Born: 27/11/1949; age: 38; nationality: Japanese

Masanori Sekiya was initiated into the world of professional racing at the age of 22 in the 1971 Fuji 500km race. He had already had much experience, however, having driven in touring car events.

In 1977, he achieved recognition by winning the Fuji Touring Car Championship, and by 1979 was driving for the Mazda Factory team. Two years later he went to England to race in the Formula Atlantic Races and won five out of six, marking a clear start toward an international racing reputation.

He joined TOYOTA TEAM TOM'S in 1983, and competed primarily with Group C cars. He drove in the Le Mans 24 Hour race twice in a row in 1985 and 1986, sharing twelfth place in the 1985 race with team-mate Kaoru Hoshino. The two drivers were the first Japanese to ever complete the race.

In 1987 he drove for TOYOTA TEAM TOM'S in the All Japan Sports Prototype Car Championship and added the Fuji 1000km race to his list of wins. The same year, he once again took the checkered flag at the Suzuka 1,000km race.

He also participated in the Le Mans 24 Hour Race; the day before the race he held a wedding ceremony in the circuit which was widely covered by the media.

This year will be his fourth Le Mans race.

Kaoru Hoshino

Born: 21/9/1947; age: 40; nationality: Japanese

Kaoru Hoshino received his spurs as an auto-sports driver at the age of 20. He quickly established himself as a top touring car driver, and won the Fuji Touring Car Championship in both 1978 and 1984 driving Toyota cars.

He joined TOYOTA TEAM TOM'S in 1982, proving his worth in touring car events and behind the steering wheel of Group C cars. He established a reputation for a dynamic driving style, and in 1985 he raced the TOYOTA TEAM TOM'S 85C-L in the Le Mans 24 Hour race. In this demanding trial of skill and nerve, he shared with Masanori Sekiya the distinction of being the first Japanese driver to complete the event, coming in at respectable twelfth. The same year he also entered and won the All Japan Touring Car Championship for the Trapio Team.

His major activity in 1987 was the All Japan Touring Car Championship.

This year, he is participating in touring car series' as one of our drivers, and will again participate in the Le Mans.

PROFILES OF TAKA-Q TOYOTA 88C DRIVERS

Paolo Barilla

Born: 20/4/1961; age: 27; nationality: Italian

Paolo Barilla debuted as a racing cart driver in 1975, and went on to become Italian champion in 1976. He moved up to the F-3 class in 1981, winning twice in the Italian Championship races.

The following year he was a contender for the F-2-class European Championship. Joining the Lancia team in 1983, he raced in the World Sports Prototype Car Championship, and built up an outstanding record for the Lancia Works team in 1984.

In 1985 he joined the Joest team, won the Le Mans 24 Hour Race and drove in the U.S. IMSA-GTP series. Last year he took part in the F3000 and tour the European circuit.

This year he became a member of TOYOTA TEAM TOM'S, played a major role in the All Japan Sports Prototype Car Endurance Championship and will drive in Le Mans.



Tiff Needell

Born: 29/10/1951; age: 36; nationality: British

Tiff Needell got his start in racing at the age of 19 by driving Formula Fords. In 1975, during his fourth season, he drove to victory in the Townsend Thoreson Formula Ford 1600 Championship, and one year later came within one point of taking the series title in the 2000cc class. By 1977 he was a professional member of the Unipart Team driving F-3s. He did well in the British Championship in 1978 coming in 4th in the series behind Nelson Piquet.

In 1979, he moved on to British F-2 series and finished second first time out. In 1981 he switched from formula to endurance racing, beginning with the Le Mans 24 Hour Race. As a member of the Kremer-Porsche team he placed 3rd in the Silverstone 1000km race in 1986. In the same year, he also drove in the World Endurance Championships for Aston Martin, Lamborghini and Toyota.

In Japan, Needell joined Team Le Mans in 1979 taking part in F-2 series racing, and in 1983 became a member of the DOME Team. During 1984-5, he drove endurance machines powered by the Toyota Racing Engine in the All Japan Endurance Championship for Team Ikuzawa, and took 3rd place in the Fuji 1000km race.

Last year he participated in the Le Mans 24 Hour Race as a driver for TOYOTA TEAM TOM'S.

This year, too, he drove in domestic endurance races and will drive in Le Mans again as a driver for TTT.

Hitoshi Ogawa

Born 15/2/1956, age 32. Nationality: Japanese

Ogawa debuted in 1979 at the Suzuka Silver Cup Race in the FL500 class. In 1981 he stepped up to the F-3 class, and later moved to the F-2 class in 1982.

As a member of the Ray's Racing Team, he participated in one endurance race in 1985, driving a Toyota 84C. In 1986 he raced in the C-class races and all of the All Japan Touring Car Championships, in a Corolla Levin. As a TOYOTA TEAM TOM'S member in 1987, he participated in an F-3 race in a Toyota Ralto RT31, placing 2nd in the series.

This year, he is driving in the F3000 and is playing an important role for TTT in various domestic endurance and touring races. This year's will be his first Le Mans challenge.

## Specifications for TOYOTA 88C

### [Engine]

Designation Type	Toyota 3S-GT (modified) In-line four-cylinder DOHC (16 valves)
Turbocharger	Toyota CT44ST
Bore and stroke	89.0 x 86.0mm
Total displacement	2,140cc
Fuel system	EFI
Compression ratio	7:1
Maximum output	680PS/8,500rpm
Maximum torque	65.0kg-m/5,500rpm

### [Body and chassis]

Dimensions		
	Overall height	1,040mm
	Overall length	4,625mm
	Overall width	1,990mm
	Wheelbase	2,700mm
	Tread (front/rear)	1,600/1,575mm
Curb weight		850kg or more
Fuel capacity		98.5 liters
Transmission		March 85T
Clutch		Borg & Beck triple-plate
Suspension	Front	Double wishbone/outboard coil spring
	Rear	Double wishbone (rocking arm type)/inboard coil spring
Brake	Front	14-inch ventilated disk (Lockheed)
	Rear	14-inch ventilated disk (Lockheed)
Tires and wheels		
	Front	320/30 R17
	Rear	340/40 R19