



## ALEX BUNCOMBE

Date of birth: August 28, 1981  
Place of birth: Taunton, Somerset, UK  
Nationality: British  
Languages: English  
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Once described as “Nissan’s secret weapon,” Alex Buncombe has played a vital role in the success of Nissan’s GT Academy program since its launch in 2008. ‘Al’ has been the professional teammate to each of the graduates, providing invaluable guidance with his extensive racing experience and calming influence. Most recently, he mentored Sir Chris Hoy in the British GT Championship.

After Alex drove alongside Lucas Ordenez in the 2009 Dubai 24 Hours, the pair raced a full season in the European GT4 Cup in a Nissan 350Z, finishing a close second in the championship but securing the team’s title with a win and three second places. He went one better in 2011 when he and Jordan Tresson took the Nissan 370Z to the GT4 title in the 2011 Blancpain Endurance Series.

In 2012, Alex teamed with 2011 GT Academy winner Jann Mardenborough to drive the Nissan GT-R NISMO GT3 race car in the fiercely-contested Blancpain Endurance Series and British GT Championship. When British GT travelled to the renowned Nürburgring GP track, Alex and Jann claimed a podium finish. They then went on to win the Brands Hatch round just two-hundredths of a second ahead of the No.007 Aston Martin Vantage GT3. The pair recorded a further podium at Snetterton, and they came very close to winning the British GT Championship in what was meant to be a development year for the new car.

During the last two seasons Al has continued to race the Nissan GT-R NISMO GT3, taking another Blancpain Championship win in 2013 and narrowly missing out on a GT300 Super GT win when he made his Japanese debut in the Fuji Sprint Cup.

He took another Blancpain win at Silverstone in 2014, but it was his performances at Monza and the Nürburgring that drew the most attention. After a technical issue in qualifying at Monza, he had to start from the back but managed to move from 32nd to 17th on the opening lap! He then proved this wasn’t a one-off when he went from 13th to first during his opening stint at the Nürburgring 1000kms later that year.

## CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

### 2014

- Full season in **Blancpain Endurance Series** in the Nissan GT-R NISMO GT3. Took the **pro-am win at Silverstone** with Florian Strauss and Nick McMillen.
- Regular teammate to Sir Chris Hoy in the **British GT Championship**.
- **Nürburgring 24 Hours** with Florian Strauss and Nick Heidfeld. Finished 11th in class after a bump in the night for Heidfeld.
- Competed in the **Bathurst 12 Hours**, alongside Wolfgang Reip, Rick Kelly and Katsumasa Chiyo.

## 2013

- Raced the Nissan GT-R NISMO GT3 in the Blancpain Endurance and FIA GT Series. A **winner in the Pro-Am class at the Blancpain race at Silverstone**, Alex helped his fellow NISMO Athletes win the **Pro-Am team's championship**.
- Competed in the **Dubai 24 Hours** alongside Sabine Schmitz, Peter Pyzera and Steve Doherty, taking ninth in class in a Nissan 370Z NISMO GT4.
- **Raced a Super GT GT300 Nissan in the Fuji Sprint Cup**, narrowly missing out on victory.

## 2012

- **British GT Championship** – pole position and podium finish at Nürburgring. Win at Brands Hatch, podium finish at Snetterton.
- **Blancpain Endurance Championship part-season**.
- **Petit Le Mans, Atlanta – fifth in LMP2 class** in Nissan-powered Greaves Motorsport car, alongside Alex Brundle and Tom Kimber-Smith.

## 2011

- **Blancpain Endurance Series GT4 Champion**, including class win at Spa 24 Hours.
- Nürburgring 24 Hours in RJN Nissan 370Z GT4 car, finishing sixth in Class.

## 2010

- Raced in the GT4 European Cup with RJN Motorsport.
- Competed in Spa 24 Hours, Silverstone 24 Hours and Nürburgring 24 Hours.

## 2009

- **Competed in the Dubai 24 Hours alongside Johnny Herbert, Rob Barff and Lucas Ordonez. Finished ninth in class.**
- Raced in the GT4 European Cup with RJN Motorsport. **Finished second in Driver's Championship and first in Team's Championship.**
- Also competed in Nürburgring 24 Hours and selected VLN races.

## 2008

- Competed in Nürburgring 24 Hours and Dubai 24 Hours with RJN Motorsport Nissan 350Z.
- Raced in GT4 European Championship – **second in Driver's Championship.**

## 2007

- **Raced in four FIA GT4 races, taking two wins and two second places.**
- Silverstone 24 Hours competitor.
- FIA GT3 race at Silverstone in a Porsche 997 GT3 – seventh overall – highest-placed Porsche. Winner of Porsche GT3 Cup.