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BRITISH GP 2012 PREVIEW SPECIAL

JENSON, LEWIS & PAUL TARGET GLORY



London Grand Prix Why it won't happen



Glorious Goodwood Festival of Speed action



DTM crackerGreen's last-lap
pass steals win









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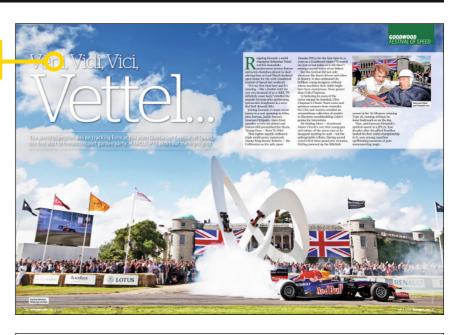
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DRIVE THE CHANGE



*The range of the Renault Mégane dCi 110 Stop & Start on a combined fuel consumption cycle is 1,065 miles. According to viamichelin.com distance between Margate and Monaco is 831 miles. **Source: KWIKcarcost data – April 2012.

The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (I/100km) for the Mégane Coupé GT Line dCi 110 Stop & Start are: Urban 72.4 (3.9); Extra Urban 88.3 (3.2); Combined 80.7 (3.5). The official CO₂ emission is 90g/km.

****AUTOSPORT**

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Get ready for a British Grand Prix thriller



THIS SUNDAY'S BRITISH GRAND PRIX AT

Silverstone has all the potential for a truly classic encounter. Formula 1 2012-style has been an entertaining feast of wheel-to-wheel action, and there's little reason why Silverstone – one of the world's most testing challenges of man and machine – won't serve up a stormer.

Following another fabulous Goodwood Festival of Speed, the British Grand Prix neatly bookends

National Motorsport Week, and what better prospective climax to that than a home win on Sunday?

With Lewis Hamilton, Jenson Button and Paul di Resta, there's plenty to cheer for. And with another four world champions on the grid – Michael Schumacher, Fernando Alonso, Sebastian Vettel and Kimi Raikkonen – you could argue that the quality at the sharp end of the grid is better than ever. There's

also the renaissance of Williams to throw into the mix, as Sir Frank aims to add another victory where his success story really began in 1979.

There's a plethora of reasons to get excited about this weekend. Whether you're there in person or watching on TV, enjoy it.

CHARLES BRADLEY EDITOR charles.bradley@haymarket.com

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BAMBER'S WEEK



LONDON GRAND PRIX? LOOKS LIKE A LOAD OF BANKERS TO ME!







London GP plans unrealistic



The prospects of a London Grand Prix happening are remote, despite talk about such a project recently inspired by Santander's street-circuit promotion and the mooted Olympic Stadium track.

Even if it could secure a place on the F1 calendar, the chances of a track being successfully created are negligible because of the myriad obstacles to be overcome. Here, AUTOSPORT outlines the issues.

GOVERNMENT APPROVAL

In order for any form of motorsport to be staged on public roads in the United Kingdom, an Act of Parliament is required. This is because such events on the mainland



have been banned since 1928.

The MSA has been working towards an Act of Parliament to allow rallies to be held on public roads (the Isle of Mull in the Inner Hebrides is the only place in the United Kingdom to benefit from such an Act), but has found progress slow.

It could take years for a London project to work through the lengthy process of getting an Act passed, with no guarantee of success.

TRACK WIDTH

FIA regulations dictate a minimum circuit width of 12 metres. While there are exceptions to this that can be agreed with the FIA (such as the Anderson Bridge in Singapore), such reduced widths are rare. Modifications would be required to roads and even buildings to fulfil this requirement. Road 'furniture' such as bollards, traffic lights and pavements would also have to be removed, which would be both costly and inconvenient.

ROAD SURFACE

Holding a street race usually requires extensive resurfacing of roads. The majority of roads feature a pronounced crown, meaning that the highest point is in the middle and it drops away to each side for drainage. Racing cars on such roads are prone to 'tramlining,' whereby the car straddles the crown and is destabilised as only the inside edge of the tyres are making contact with it.

This means that roads would need to be resurfaced either with a limited crown, as in Singapore, or, more likely, as crossfall, where the road surface has one side higher than the other and water drains in one direction.

TRAFFIC IMPACT

Closing roads for a sporting event would inevitably have a big impact on traffic throughout London.

While the likes of Monaco and Singapore are on the coast and have limited throughflow of traffic, London is not. Its road network is reliant on major arterial bridges across the River Thames and the knock-on effect of a grand prix could be significant, particularly given the inevitable local objections.

SAFETY

While it is possible to use roads at intersections as run-off areas, there

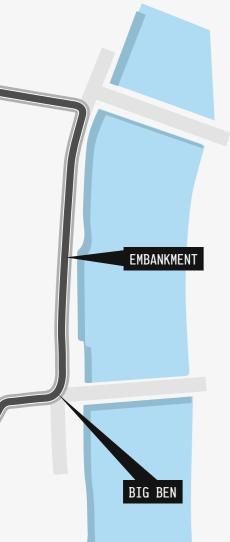
"Getting agreement from two, three or more parties for safety provisions would be a serious stumbling block"

would be problems with creating the requisite escape roads in London.

For example, on Santander's mooted route, there may not to be sufficient space at the Victoria Memorial outside Buckingham Palace to re-align the track to create the escape roads. In addition to dealing with the government authority responsible for the roads, communication with private landowners and agencies responsible for public amenities would be necessary. Getting agreement from two, three or more parties for safety provisions could be a serious stumbling block.

COST

The £35 million cost that has been suggested for the Santander track is realistic for year-on-year operation, which includes the difficult logistical challenge of storing the barriers and other track furniture when not in use.











Rio Ferdinand dribbles round track

But the cost of creating the track in the first place is significantly higher.

It would likely cost £110-140 million to create a London circuit, which includes the construction of a pit complex, earthworks, electronics installation, crowd provisions and road modifications. On top of that, there would be the race-hosting fee, which could make the event prohibitively expensive even if all other obstacles were overcome. Government funding would be required, something that is very unlikely to be signed off.

OLYMPIC LONG-SHOT

The idea of creating a circuit around the Olympic Stadium is a sound one in principle, but given that it was originally designed without a motor racing application in mind it may be too late for such a project.

Details of the plan are sketchy, although Bernie Ecclestone has said that he would consider such a project if presented to him. Until more details emerge, the sport is sceptical about what appears to be a speculative project being given the green light and raising the money to go ahead with it.





AUTOSPORT SAYS..

EDD STRAW F1 EDITOR

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ritain doesn't need a London Grand Prix and neither does Formula 1. Even with the means and the opportunity to stage one (both desperately unlikely), the motive for doing so would be utterly wrong-minded.

For starters, while Silverstone is not without its shortcomings, it remains one of the most successful venues on the calendar. Recent investment has brought it up to standard and it must remain the focal point of F1 in this country. Even a European Grand Prix in London would serve only to damage Silverstone. From London's perspective, it already has all of the prestige it needs and tourists it can accommodate. So where's the benefit to justify the cost?

On the other side of the coin is F1 itself. Street races in famous cities are great box office - just look at what Singapore has brought to

F1. But they work best in immature grand prix markets - such as New York, for example. If such events become ten-apenny, they will lose their lustre.



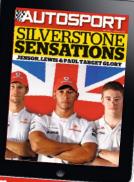
A London Grand Prix would also

become a political hot-potato, at the mercy of the whims of the British electorate and liable to be struck from the calendar at any moment. Add to that the fact that it will be expensive and inconvenient to Londoners and you have the ingredients to paint F1 as even more of a money-sapping, elitist, anti-green sport than it is already considered in some quarters.

It's a nice dream - and a wonderful PR stunt – but that's all it can ever be.

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Williams: no risk, no gain

After the worst season in its history, Williams is a winner again heading to its home race this weekend – the British Grand Prix. Frank Williams explains the story behind that turnaround

or the first time in nearly a decade, Frank Williams is taking his eponymous team to this weekend's British Grand Prix as a real contender for victory thanks to a 'risky' full-scale overhaul of his squad last winter.

Following its all-time worst
Formula 1 campaign in 2011,
Williams underwent a major
reshuffle of key personnel behind
the scenes. That has helped the
team turn its fortunes around, with
Pastor Maldonado scoring its first
victory for nearly eight years in
May's Spanish Grand Prix. Ahead
of the British GP, Williams says the
emotions of racing at Silverstone
are as great as seeing his team
making big progress on track.

"For me it's the home of British motor racing and it is very important," Williams told AUTOSPORT. "It's emotional almost, but I'm not getting tearful about it.

"There is something special about competing on your own home turf, with your own factory of people around you, and the public as well. It's

not something that Hollywood wants to talk about, but it's a significant weekend for every British team."



New technical director Mike Coughlan and chief operations engineer Mark Gillan lead a fresh wave of bright aerodynamicists that helped Maldonado to his Barcelona victory.

Williams has admitted that there was no guarantee that such a sweeping change would pay off, but the team needed to do something dramatic.

"No risk, no gain," he said. "We had to take a risk."

The strong performances this year are a world away from the nightmares of 2011, when the team scored just five points, with a best result of ninth.

"I once read a book about the war, and one of the remarks made was that it was amazing how the human mind can close itself off to truly painful memories," Williams added. "A little bit of that happens in my head sometimes.

"But having said that, most of my memories, even of difficult and bad races, are good memories. We are racing — what a privilege. And some of the bad races you could have led for 10 laps.

"All in all, I don't look at
Silverstone coming up and say,
'Wow, let's look to the good old
days.'I suppose I worry, which isn't
helpful particularly as I cannot
contribute technically, but if the car
is going to be competitive we have
to watch this space — and maybe
we can get a podium."

Although the Williams team is delighted to have produced a car that has been

competitive on all types of track this season, some F1 insiders

Williams has thirst for more success



"Pastor is very talented. How bright I don't know, as we don't do IQ tests!"

Frank Williams on his top driver

have questioned whether Maldonado and team-mate Bruno Senna have got the best out of the Renault-powered FW34.

ERRORS PREVENT MORE GOOD RESULTS

Maldonado in particular has thrown away some good opportunities, including his collision with Sergio Perez in Monaco practice, a clash with Lewis Hamilton in Valencia, and his crash in qualifying in Canada when he was on course to make Q3.

Williams is mindful that Maldonado has scored no points in the three races since the Spanish GP, while team-mate Senna has scored just two in that period.

"What is Williams's biggest deficit?" he said. "Well, the car is not a regular winner yet, so you could say probably aero. You might say it's horsepower, you can't say it's tyres. We don't have Vettel in the car or Schumacher, so there might be a

slight deficit there. But we don't have £10 million to buy that deficit."

Yet Williams is far from unhappy with Maldonado's performance this year, and says the feedback from engineers is positive.

"A young guy like him can have a reputation for having a lot of money and being a bit wild, one-race-a-year hero sort of thing, which I hope is not the case," he said. "But you begin to realise he's very talented. How bright I don't know, as we don't do IQ tests!

"Manifestly he is very, very fast. He would surprise me if he won the British GP, but we have to go there and try to."



WILLIAMS:
BRITISH GP
FORM SINCE
ITS 1997 WIN

Charting its best finishers each year in a barren 15-year Silverstone run

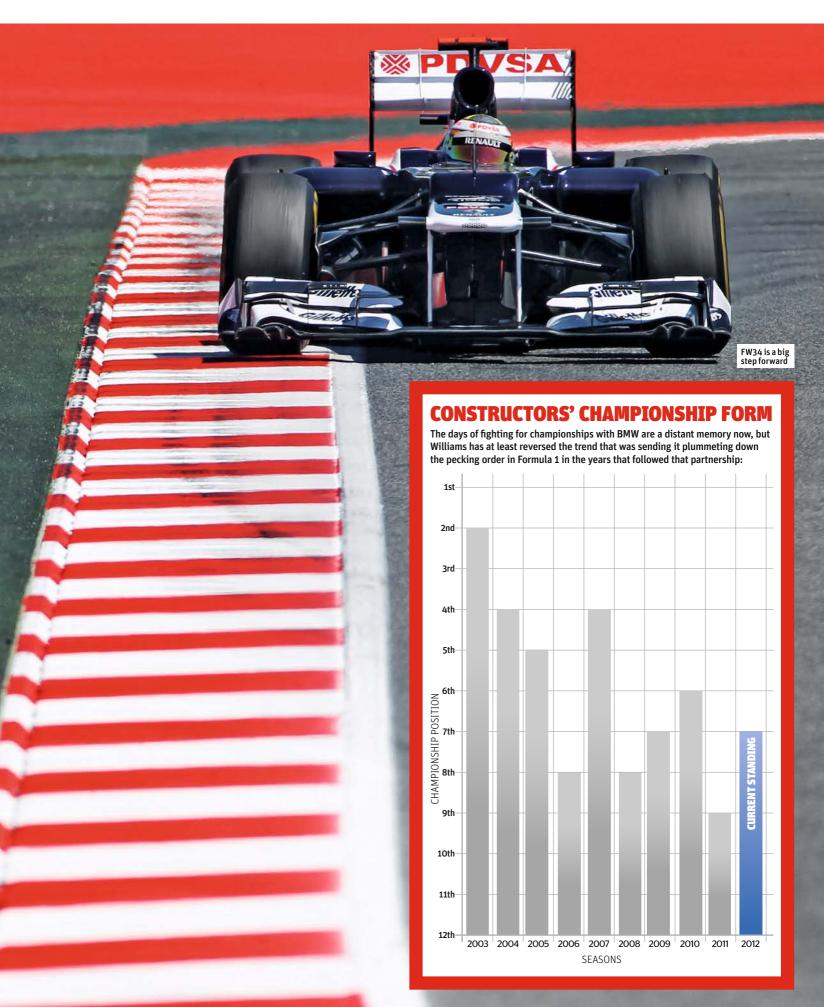
2011: 13TH Rubens Barrichello 2010: 5TH Rubens Barrichello 2009: 5TH Nico Rosberg 2008: 8TH Kazuki Nakajima



Nakajima bagged a point in 2008 British GP

2007: 12TH Nico Rosberg 2006: 9TH Nico Rosberg 2005: 11TH Mark Webber 2004: 5TH Juan Pablo Montoya 2003: 2ND Juan Pablo Montoya 2002: 3RD Juan Pablo Montoya 2001: 4TH Juan Pablo Montoya 2000: 4TH Ralf Schumacher 1999: 3RD Ralf Schumacher 1998: 7TH Jacques Villeneuve 1997: 1ST Jacques Villeneuve







TARGET THE MACHINERY

There are many ways to cut costs in Formula 1, but there's no question that the most effective will be to tackle the cars themselves. This will create a level playing field and remove the need to audit teams. Ideas such as banning tyre blankets are not the answer. It is reckoned that this could save £300,000 a season, but

this would probably mean that one extra warm-up lap would be needed on each car's 11 sets of tyres over each of the 20 weekends. That adds up to an extra £1.5 million of running.

HOMOLOGATION CYCLES

Every race, teams arrive at the track with countless modifications. This is a hugely expensive process. For

example, a front wing can cost £120,000 to manufacture and that adds up to a huge amount of money, particularly when you take into account the intensity of development in 2012 and the fact that teams sometimes have to discard upgrades when they do not work.

The solution could be to introduce homologation cycles, so that the package brought to the first race of the season has to be used for the first six events. In a 20-race season, that gives a framework of updates every six races, along with two wildcard changes. These would allow tweaks to solve car problems, or best tailor a car for a particular run of circuits.

The area of the car governed by the homologation could extend back from the front edge of the rear tyre, and forward from the rear edge of the front tyre, and would cover all



"There is no reason why there cannot be in-season testing, with the option to stay on after races"

areas over an imaginary reference plane drawn 500mm above the floor of the whole car. This would therefore include the sidepods, rear and front wing, gearbox, suspension, diffuser, floor, brake ducts and uprights.

It will be easy to police and there will be no shortage of teams



Cost cuts were talk of Valencia paddock

A BRIEF HISTORY OF COST-CUTTING

Saving money has been a major aim in F1 over the past decade. Here are the most effective changes to be introduced:

Two-way telemetry banned.

2004

One-engine-per-raceweekend rule introduced.





Each car allowed only one engine for two race weekends.

Testing limit of 30,000km is introduced.

Four-race gearboxes introduced.

2009

In-season testing is outlawed. Each car allocated eight engines for use during the whole season, with teams allowed a further four units for testing.





In-race refuelling banned. F1's first Resource Restriction Agreement comes into force. Among the measures are a limit of 45 personnel connected to the operation of the cars during a race weekend.

Gearbox life extended to five races.



sending photos to the FIA if they

suspect a rival of deviating from

There are no reasons why there

cannot be in-season testing, perhaps with the option of staying on at

venues after races for more running.

their lodged design.

TESTING OPTIONS

That way, there is no extra travel cost, and it would be logical for this to tie in with the introduction of new homologation packages. But it is important that testing remains tightly controlled – a return to the situation that existed before the cutbacks would cause expenditure to skyrocket.

COMMON PARTS/EQUIPMENT

There is a huge number of parts and team equipment that could be standardised to control costs. For example, there is a spec tyre, but why not a spec wheelrim? This could be allied to common pitstop equipment.

Theoretically, there is no limit to what can be done in terms of control parts. F1 must remain a prototype formula, but there are areas on the car where there are tiny advances costing a lot of money that make no difference



to the fans. It is these areas where costs could be cut.

PERSONNEL COUNT

Further reductions in team personnel are unnecessary - the required savings can be achieved by cutting back on the waste that makes little difference to the show.

What F1 needs to do is return to how it was around 15 years ago, when the cars were still updated regularly but not to the excessive degree they are now. Cut back on the waste, and it will all add up to significantly reduced expenditure.

THIS WEEK IN F1



CLOS GETS SILVERSTONE RUN



Dani Clos will return to action for HRT during Friday-morning practice at Silverstone. He will take over Narain Karthikeyan's car for the second time this season after making his debut at Barcelona.

FRIJNS TO DRIVE 2010 RED BULL

Formula Renault 3.5 racer Robin Frijns will drive a 2010 Red Bull RB6 at the next World Series meeting at Moscow Raceway (July 13-15). The Dutchman's run is a reward for being the highest-placed driver in the FR 3.5 standings not tied to a rival F1 team. Sam Bird, who leads Frijns in the table on countback, is ineligible as he is reserve driver for Mercedes.



ALTERNATOR WOE TRACED The alternator problems that forced Sebastian Vettel and Romain Grosjean out of the European GP were caused by overheating, according to Renault. Changes are being made for this weekend's British GP to

ensure that there is no repeat.

"In the last few races the results haven't been as strong as I've wanted.



We've finished well but I'm disappointed not to have a win yet"

Kimi Raikkonen is ready to win again in Formula 1

VETTEL: NO SAY IN TEAM-MATE

Sebastian Vettel insists that he has little input into the identity of his team-mate at Red Bull amid ongoing speculation about Mark Webber's future. "It's Christian [Horner's] call and the team's call, not my call," Vettel added. "I could say what I would like but I don't know if that would be taken into account."

DE VILLOTA INJURED IN CRASH

Marussia test driver Maria de Villota was in a "stable" condition as AUTOSPORT closed for press after being taken to hospital with head and facial injuries following a crash during a straightline test on Tuesday morning.

The accident happened as the 32-year-old was returning to the team's 'pit' area during the test at Duxford Airfield, when she struck the tail-lift of a team transporter. It was at low speed, but reports indicate that de

Villota's helmet bore the brunt of the impact.

De Villota, who was trapped in the car for some time, was transported to Addenbrooke's Hospital with what were initially described as "life-threatening injuries" by a spokesman for the East of England Ambulance Service.

FOR THE LATEST ON MARIA DE VILLOTA GO TO



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TO CELEBRATE Formula 1 coming to the UK from 6 – 8 July we have joined together with Silverstone to offer readers the opportunity to win a chance of driving a Single Seater racing car at the Home of the British Grand Prix. The Formula Silverstone Single Seater is expertly engineered to give motorsport fans the experience of

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Who won the 2011 British Grand Prix?

- a. Mark Webber
- b. Lewis Hamilton
- c. Fernando Alonso

Closing date is midnight July 15, 2012. For more information on Silverstone Driving Experiences and Events please visit www.silverstone.co.uk

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MARK HUGHES GRAND PRIX EDITOR

What's the difference between Red Bull's recent improvements in Valencia and an escapologist dog? Surprisingly, not a lot...

he list of things my dog has taught me about Formula 1 isn't very long. But last week, as I was pondering whether Red Bull's massive recent upgrade would translate to the rest of the season the way it had in Valencia, he gave me a valuable reminder.

My train of thought on the RB8's realigned bodywork 'tunnel' was rudely interrupted by general family panic: Baxter was 'gone'. He'd been let out into the back garden — walled in by privet hedges and fences — but was no longer there. We discovered him in the overlooking garden, merrily trying to join in with their tennis match, and soon thereafter we discovered the hole (or slot) he'd dug beneath the plastic fencing in front of the separating hedge.

After retrieving him we reinforced the area with chicken wire and I got back to contemplating those RB8 upgrades. For the previous two seasons, with exhaust-blown diffusers, Red Bull had led the way on harvesting the aerodynamic advantages of running the car with a lot of rake. Those blowing exhausts had effectively sealed the sides of

the diffuser, so you could run with a big ride height at the rear without the gap between the diffuser and the ground leaking all that negative pressure away. This effectively increased the height of the diffuser, making it more powerful, and the nose-down stance allowed: a) the negative pressure forward of the diffuser to increase dramatically; and b) the front-wing endplates and leading edge of the floor to run in ground-effect, dramatically increasing their aerodynamic efficiency. You could take fuller advantage of point b if you could lay up the carbonfibre in such a way as to allow a very accurate amount and arc of flex of the nose/wing/floor beyond a certain load, but still meet the flexibility tests when measured stationary. Red Bull mastered this better than anyone else.

The FIA spent the best part of two seasons trying to limit the effect, and finally seemed to have succeeded at the beginning of this year through the effective ban on exhaust blowing and yet-tougher front-wing flexibility tests.

That's about as far as I got before my train of thought was interrupted once more: Baxter was in the neighbour's garden again. The new constraints hadn't deterred him and he'd simply dug deeper to find what was ultimately the same route as before.

Ah, of course! Once something is discovered, you cannot unlearn it. No matter what restrictions are put in place to prevent something you want, the knowledge that it's still there to be had means you just need to find a different way of doing it. Baxter had just done what Adrian Newey and his aero team have been doing all year.

Their initial path around the exhaust-blowing ban was itself banned before testing even began, and the car first appeared with a very standard-looking rear end. But by the first race, the first attempt at the 'tunnel' was on the car. It wasn't as powerful as full-blown exhausts but it sought to recapture as much of that as possible. The downward flow coming off the top of the sidepods brought the regulation upward-pointing exhaust flow down with it and took it around the sides of the diffuser walls, sealing it, albeit not as effectively as with a direct exhaust blower.

To give this flow half a chance of making it that far, the flow coming off the bottom of the sidepods was sent through a tunnel, so as not to interfere with the upper flow and to create some downforce of its own by exiting through the air-starter hole. Unfortunately the tunnel did not generate enough negative pressure to pull the flow through at low car speeds – hence the disconnect in handling traits between low and high-speed corners that Sebastian Vettel and Mark Webber talked about. Hence the improvement when the tunnel was blocked from Bahrain onwards.

But they hadn't given up on the idea. It just needed a reworking of the bodywork and the components beneath it to better align the tunnel with the flow off the sidepods. At Valencia, after qualifying on pole by 0.5s, Vettel was able to make his first stop without losing the lead. It is still there to be had. Just requires a bit of digging...

As I then made a much more substantial blockage to Baxter's hole, I realised just how Charlie Whiting must feel every race.



"Once they are discovered,

you cannot unlearn things"



FORMULA 3

British F3 skirts Berger plan

UK-based series pledges international status as immunity to FIA 'national' push. By MARCUS SIMMONS

The British Formula 3 International Series is to play up its 'international' title in response to FIA Single-Seater Commission president Gerhard Berger's declaration that national F3 championships should stay within their own borders.

Berger said at the Norisring last weekend that he wants to establish "a strong FIA European F3 Championship next year.

"My opinion is that national championships should be national

- that is the goal and that's what probably is going to happen." he said.

British F3 has four of its 10 rounds based outside the UK this year, and is looking to expand this further in 2013 (see AUTOSPORT, June 14).

Series manager Benjamin Franassovici said: "We are British F3 International, and we go to the major tracks in Europe. What is important is that the foundations of F3 are better for our teams and our drivers.

"The Euro Series goes to different countries, and so do we."

The majority of British teams believe the international circuits are essential to attract drivers. Fortec Motorsports boss Richard Dutton said: "I understand what he [Berger] is saying, and agree that we have to try to bring costs down, but we've outgrown some of the British circuits.

"The downforce an F3 car produces, and the power from the new engines for 2013, mean it needs to be on the best circuits. To produce Formula 1 drivers you need to go to F1 tracks."

NEW ENGINES CONFIRMED FOR 2013

Berger also declared that the FIA's new engine formula will be introduced for 2013.

"We are still fiddling around to optimise the rules," he said. "There will definitely be new engines."

He added that, even though Mercedes and Volkswagen missed the FIA's March 31 cut-off for declaring an intention to build new engines, "clearly the goal is to keep them in with other tuners. The confusion is soon going to stop".

Even so, Mercedes sports boss Norbert Haug told AUTOSPORT the company would not have a new F3 engine for 2013, raising the prospect that the Euro Series — and by implication the FIA European championship — could admit the current units for one more year.

While most British squads are happy to link up with tuners such as Neil Brown Engineering, top team boss Trevor Carlin believes that manufacturers are essential. "They bring a lot to the sport and help drivers who wouldn't necessarily have had the money — like Jamie Green and Paul di Resta."

Rene Rosin, head of top Euro Series team Prema Powerteam, added: "Manufacturers can help drivers in their careers, tuners can't. Without Mercedes, we would not have Roberto Merhi last year or Dani Juncadella this year. I really hope the FIA will find an agreement to keep them in."



P38 NORISRING REPORT

FORMULA 3



Carlin eyeing Norisring appeal

TOP FORMULA 3 TEAM CARLIN

is investigating ways to appeal the result of last weekend's Norisring race – in which nobody was declared as the winner.

The team is furious that its
F3 Euro Series/FIA European F3
Championship racer Will Buller, who
finished second, was not promoted to
victory when on-the-road winner
Daniel Juncadella was excluded
for his part in two incidents.

Representatives from Germany's motorsport federation, the DMSB,

explained that there is a precedent whereby an exclusion for a sporting infringement (rather than a technical matter) does not mean that drivers finishing behind are automatically moved up in the results.

This previously happened at the Norisring in 2009 (see bottom right).

Buller's team boss Trevor Carlin said: "In my 25 years of racing I've never heard of a race without a winner. We are taking advice on it. There may be a course of action – we're waiting to find out. We hope

that common sense prevails."

Carlin was one of many paddock members angered by €1000 fines handed out to drivers from British F3 for being late to their briefing when they found circuit-access points closed off, as well as €3000 for unapproved engine changes.

"They [the Euro Series] want to encourage the series merging [with the British], but they are shooting themselves in the foot," he said. "This is a junior series yet they impose Formula 1 fines."

AUTOSPORT SAYS...

MARCUS SIMMONS CHIEF SUB-EDITOR

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aren't cheap

t was somehow fitting that in the old Nazi rally grounds of the Norisring, there would be grumbling from the British contingent over the future of Formula 3. Had Captain Mainwaring been around, he might have called it "a shabby German trick".

Gerhard Berger wants national F3 series to remain national, yet to adopt the new FIA engine regulations and live as one big happy family, contesting the European Championship rounds (and he makes no bones that it would continue to have its basis in DTM supports) that suit them.

It's a lovely idea to a purist, and reminiscent of when Berger was an F3 ace of 1983-84, but is it time to accept that the world has moved on?

British single-seater F3 engine leases:

British single-seater insiders are only too aware that Formula Renault UK was canned for 2012 because only six drivers signed up, while the Eurocup — which is more expensive in conjunction with an NEC or

ALPS programme — is drawing 40. Drivers want to race on F1 tracks, so wouldn't it be a similar story in F3?

And as far as a universal adoption of the new engines is concerned, there isn't much motivation for that when, for example, the existing Fiat in Italian F3 can be leased for around a third of the cost of the FIA's plan for the new powerplants.

If Berger really wants to bring back an old tradition that would give F₃ the biggest possible shot in the arm, he could always reinstate the Monaco GP support race...

FORMULA RENAULT 3.5

Drivers back reduced DRS use at Nurburgring

FORMULA RENAULT 3.5 DRIVERS

have backed the decision to significantly reduce the amount of Drag Reduction System use that is permitted in races.

Unlike in Formula 1, drivers are free to use the rear wing device at any time during a race. The only restriction is a time limit, which until last weekend's Nurburgring races had been too generous to force drivers to use DRS strategically. But the limit was slashed to seven and a half minutes (for a 45-minute race) at the Nurburgring.

Race one winner Jules Bianchi said: "It was the first time all

season I used up all the DRS.

Before we used it everywhere, now you really have to think about it.

It's more strategic, and it's good for the mental side of racing."

Renault Sport circuit technical manager Benoit Dupont added that the series will continue to make the DRS use more of a challenge.

"We have been reducing it race by race," Dupont told AUTOSPORT. "We don't want the drivers to be idly pressing the button all the time, we want to give them something to think about."







FORMULA RENAULT 3.5

Podium hope for da Costa

NEW RED BULL JUNIOR TEAM

member Antonio Felix da Costa believes that he can fight for podiums in Formula Renault 3.5 despite Arden Caterham's torrid start to the season.

The Portuguese racer joined Red Bull's scheme in place of Lewis Williamson, with the energy-drinks firm citing disappointing results as the reason for the switch. AUTOSPORT understands that da Costa was recommended to Red Bull by Carlin team boss Trevor Carlin, who has close links to the junior scheme.

Da Costa, who outqualified Arden Caterham team-mate Alexander Rossi for both races on his FR 3.5 debut, told AUTOSPORT: "Things weren't as bad as I had been told here, and there is a lot of potential. Later in the year we can be fighting for top fives and podiums."

REMEMBER WHEN...



...a disqualification didn't affect the order?
F3 Euro Series driver Stefano Coletti was
excluded from third place at the Norisring
for punching Jules Bianchi behind the

podium. Nobody else inherited the spot.



LE MANS

LMP safety changes discussed

Davidson's Le Mans accident provides catalyst for lifting drivers off monocoque floors. By GARY WATKINS

series of safety measures are under discussion for the Le Mans Prototype classes in an attempt to prevent the kind of injuries sustained by Toyota driver Anthony Davidson in last month's Le Mans 24 Hours.

The Briton broke two vertebrae when his Toyota TSo30 HYBRID slammed down on the track after taking off at Mulsanne Corner following contact with a GTE-class Ferrari. Le Mans organiser the Automobile Club de l'Ouest and the FIA, which jointly write the rules for LMP1 and LMP2, are looking at a number of ways of insulating drivers from the forces of such an impact.

ACO sporting manager Vincent Beaumesnil said: "We know what happened to Anthony and we are working on some things. We have involved the correct experts and they are looking at a number of solutions.

"It is not something that can be fixed in a couple of weeks. It needs a proper study and that will take time."

Former grand prix driver Davidson, who is recovering from his Le Mans injuries at home, called



for changes to be made to the seating position in LMP machinery.

"My impact with the barriers was only 10g, but the impact on landing on the track was 35g," he told AUTOSPORT. "That's when I injured my back and it has made me think that it's ridiculous that we're pretty much sitting on the floor of the monocoque, and all

the forces in that kind of impact go straight up our backs."

Davidson believes that he was fortunate as his seat insert, required because he is significantly shorter than Toyota team-mate Alex Wurz, lifts him in the cockpit.

"I sit on maybe four inches of two-part foam," he continued. "I'm sure that saved me from much worse injuries."

The 2014 LMP1 rulebook will, Davidson suggests, provide the perfect opportunity to raise a driver's body in the car, because an increase in the height of the driver's head in a slightly-raised cockpit will be mandated to improve peripheral vision.

Beaumesnil explained that this was one option but that other measures were under evaluation, including some for next season.

Sportscar driver and safety expert Jim Downing, one of the inventors of the HANS Device, explained that it would be problematical making changes to existing machinery.

"Making retrospective rule changes would make it hard to mandate this kind of rule unless you say a driver can only be five-foot-five," he said. "One solution is laying the driver down more in the cockpit, but this makes it more dangerous in a head-on impact. It's not a black-and-white problem.

"Ideally there should be a big chunk of foam, the same stuff that the surround of the seat around the driver's head is made from, under the driver's butt." FIA GT1 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

Chinese GT1 rounds to be scrapped

THE TWO CHINESE ROUNDS OF THIS

vear's FIA GT1 World Championship will be cancelled.

Series boss Stephane Ratel has told his teams that the two events in China, set for the Beijing Goldenport circuit in August and Ordos in September, will not take place. He has yet to officially confirm the move but has stated that there will be a reorganisation of the second half of the series

Ratel said: "There will be a serious reshuffle of everything for the end of the season and there is the possibility that there will be fewer rounds. I have made a proposal to the FIA, but I cannot communicate more at this moment."

Ratel is known to be looking for at least one replacement race in Europe to add to the remaining events at Moscow Raceway in September and the Buddh circuit in India in December.

The reasons for the cancellation of the Chinese races are unclear, but Ratel is struggling to reach the 18 cars he is



contractually obliged to provide at the races outside Europe. There will again be just 15 cars at this weekend's round at the Algarve circuit in Portugal.

A deal for the Aston Martin Racing-run Valmon Team Russia squad to return to

the series with two Vantage GT3s borrowed from teams already racing the new-for-2012 car in Europe fell through last week. There will again be only one Ford GT run by the Spanish SUNRED Engineering squad.

NASCAR

Roush takes blame for Kenseth departure

JACK ROUSH BELIEVES THAT HIS

decision to focus on the engineering side of his eponymous NASCAR squad, rather than on relationships with his drivers, was instrumental in 2003 champion Matt Kenseth's decision to guit the team.

Sprint Cup points leader Kenseth, who has spent more than a decade with the Ford team, announced last week that he will switch to a rival squad - believed to be Joe Gibbs Racing - next year.

Roush, whose team has run Kenseth's #17 Ford to all of his 22 Cup wins and the '03 title, said that he failed to give his drivers the attention they deserved over the past few years.

"If I had been as vigilant and diligent with the personal side of the business as I was on the technical side, then I might have been able to stop it," Roush said. "I hope Matt hasn't lost respect for me."

Roush named reigning Nationwide Series champion Ricky Stenhouse Jr as the "heir apparent to the #17 programme", and hinted that 2011 Daytona 500 winner Trevor Bayne, who is also on the team's roster, would take over Stenhouse's drive in NASCAR's second-tier series next year.



P43 KENTUCKY REPORT





FIA WORLD ENDURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP

Buemi wants to race Toyota in more events this year

EX-FORMULA 1 RACER SEBASTIEN BUEMI

says he will make sure he is available to race Toyota's TSO30 HYBRID again this year if the chance arises.

The Japanese firm, which entered two of its LMP1 racers at last month's Le Mans 24 Hours, is competing in the rest of the FIA World Endurance Championship with one car. But it has been suggested that a second car could be added before the end of the year, and Red Bull F1 reserve driver

Buemi is determined to be available if the chance arises.

"They may go with two cars somewhere before the end of the year," said Buemi, who shared with Anthony Davidson and Stephane Sarrazin at Le Mans. "If the second car is racing, I will make sure I can be in it. I don't get many chances, so as soon as I can drive something I drive. At Le Mans Toyota fought with Audi, so it's a great chance."

IN BRIEF



LOTUS UPGRADES FOR TORONTO

Lotus is scheduled to introduce the second phase of updates aimed at getting its IndyCar engines closer to the pace of rivals Chevrolet and Honda at Toronto this weekend. The first updates were set to be tested by HVM Racing and Simona de Silvestro at Mid-Ohio this week.

PUSH-TO-PASS RETURNS

IndyCar has confirmed plans to reintroduce a push-to-pass system at this weekend's Toronto round, as predicted by AUTOSPORT (April 5). The system will be adjusted for each circuit.

DEMPSEY BACK IN LIGHTS

Irishman Peter Dempsey returns to Indy Lights action at Toronto this weekend with Belardi Auto Racing, and plans to contest the rest of the season. He was part of the Younessi squad at Indianapolis and Detroit.

GP3 DEBUT FOR REGALIA

Auto GP regular Facu Regalia will make his GP3 Series debut with Jenzer Motorsport at Silverstone this weekend as the team increases its effort back up to three cars The 20-year-old Argentinian will partner Robert Visoiu and Patric Niederhauser.

HARYANTO'S GRID PENALTY

GP2 racer Rio Haryanto will start Saturday's race at Silverstone with a five-place grid penalty. The Carlin driver's punishment is for hitting race leader James Calado in the second race in Valencia.

SUPER TC2000 RACE CANCELLED

Last weekend's planned Super TC2000 round at Salta was cancelled with less than a week to go because the Argentinian governing body declared the track's run-off areas insufficient.

HAMLIN EXTENDS GIBBS DEAL

NASCAR star Denny Hamlin will remain with Joe Gibbs Racing beyond the end of 2013 after signing a multi-year contract extension. Hamlin's deal means that Joey Logano is the only current Gibbs Cup driver not confirmed for next year.





NEWS <u>PIT & P</u>ADDOCK

IN BRIEF



MONJE MAKES WTCC SWITCH

Recently-crowned European Touring Car Cup winner Fernando Monje will stay with the SUNRED SEAT team as he completes the year in World Touring Cars. The Spaniard made his WTCC bow at Valencia earlier in the year.

BLACK SWAN QUITS ALMS

The Black Swan Racing LMP2 squad has withdrawn from the American Le Mans Series. The team, which fielded a Lola-HPD B11/80 in the first three rounds of the series has cited a lack of snares in the wake of Lola's move into administration.

ENGE REPLACEMENT NAMED

Slovakian Stefan Rosina will continue with Reiter Lamborghini in the FIA GT1 World Championship at the Algarve this weekend. After driving with Darryl O'Young last time out, he will now replace Tomas Enge in the sister car until the Czech's han is lifted

WEIGHT REVISIONS FOR GT1

The BMW Z4 and McLaren MP4-12C have been respectively hit with 10kg and 20kg of ballast ahead of the Algarve GT1 World Championship round. The Audi R8 LMS ultra has been given 15kg but also gets a larger-diameter air-restrictor.

BRUNDLE SR BACK TO WEC

Martin Brundle will contest the Silverstone round of the FIA World Endurance Championship in August. He will drive the second LMP2-class Greaves Motorsport Zytek-Nissan Z11SN together with son Alex and Lucas Ordonez.



Tarquini tipped for Honda

Former champion strongly linked with Japanese manufacturer for 2013 Civic

onda is close to announcing drivers for its World Touring Car Championship entry amid speculation that tin-top superstar Gabriele Tarquini will race one of its Civics in 2013.

The Japanese manufacturer is believed to have agreed terms with the two drivers that will lead its first full-factory attack on the WTCC next season. Contracts are understood to be in the process



Tarquini is set to leave Lukoil SEAT for Honda

of being finalised and an announcement is due ahead of the shakedown of latest-generation Civic later this month.

Former WTCC champion Tarquini, who is racing a Lukoil SEAT Leon run from the factory this season, is strongly rumoured to be one of the two drivers who has agreed terms for next year. The 50-year-old Italian has close links with Honda after racing its Super Touring Accords in 1997-2001, which included a stint driving for the Italian JAS organisation that is masterminding the Civic WTCC programme.

Tarquini told AUTOSPORT on Monday: "We have talked and I know I am on their list, but there is no deal yet. All I know is that I want to be with a manufacturer next year."

JAS Motorsport boss Alessandro Mariani explained that an announcement is imminent.

"We will start testing at the end of July and we plan to announce our two drivers for next year before then," he said. "Gabriele is my friend and he is a friend of Honda. We all hear the rumours, but we cannot comment."

Mariani added that of the two drivers scheduled to be announced this month, one will contest the final three rounds of this year's WTCC by way of preparation for 2013. This cannot be Tarquini, who is contracted to the Lukoil squad for the full 2012 season.

The first Civic is due to be shaken down at the Vairano test track near Milan this month before JAS begins its test programme in earnest at Vallelunga. Two more tests are scheduled in Europe ahead of the car's race debut at the Suzuka WTCC round in October.

Mariani said that there was a chance that Honda could field three Civics in the 2013 WTCC.

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GLOBAL RALLYCROSS

Gronholm 'focused' prior to crash

Former World Rally Champion injured while preparing for X Games showdown with Sebastien Loeb

arcus Gronholm's team manager Andreas Eriksson says the Finn was more focused on winning than he had ever been prior to crashing heavily in practice ahead of last weekend's much-anticipated X Games battle with Sebastien Loeb.

Gronholm remains in hospital this week, having suffered concussion and internal injuries in the shunt, which happened in Los Angeles on Saturday.

Eriksson, whose OMSE team runs Gronholm's Ford Fiesta, said everybody had been looking forward to Loeb's arrival in the event's Global Rallycross section.

"This race against Loeb was the dream battle," said Eriksson, "and I think it would have been a different result if he [Gronholm] had been in the game, I have never seen Marcus so 100 per cent focused to win."

Gronholm doesn't remember what happened in the crash.

"He landed from the jump and hit the concrete thing," said Eriksson. "This we can see from the YouTube clip. Maybe he was trying to cut the corner a little too much. It was a big impact and a big stop."

Eriksson added that Gronholm's crash definitely ruled him out of the next Global Rallycross round in New Hampshire next weekend.

"We can't say anything really about what he will do for the rest of this season," Eriksson said, "but



he won't compete on the next round. I'm pretty sure he wants to race, but at the same time he has a family and he has to talk with them. He knows the risks, this is not the first time he has been to the hospital.

"He is stable in hospital and he is getting better. We have all the specialists to make sure nothing is

missed, so he'll be in hospital a while, but he's talking and, you know, he's frustrated about it."

Loeb, who won the X Games gold on his US debut, said: "I'm really pleased to win the gold medal, but I must admit I'm finding it hard to really enjoy it when my 'best enemy' Marcus is in hospital after his crash. We were both very much looking forward to racing against each other here and it's a shame it didn't happen. I hope he's OK."

Gronholm's countryman and fellow Fiesta driver Toomas Heikkinen was expected to leave hospital earlier this week after he broke his left ankle in a crash at the jump section of the temporary LA circuit.

WRC

Sordo back on Citroen's radar

DANI SORDO'S FUTURE COULD REST ON

a return to Citroen, but only if the French marque's eight-time world rally champion Sebastien Loeb decides to retire from the sport at the end of the season.

The 29-year-old Spaniard, who is also in the frame to replace the Volkswagen-



bound Jari-Matti Latvala at Ford, said he had made no decision about next season, adding that his priority was to find out the plans of his current employer Prodrive.

Sordo will compete on Rally Germany and Rally GB in a Mini WRC prepared by the Prodrive WRC Team – and he hopes to tackle a full WRC programme with the Banbury-based outfit next season.

"I want to wait first for the plans of Mini," said Sordo. "This is my team now, I will listen to what Mini is doing – I love this team and these guys. There is so much experience at Prodrive, everybody knows what they are doing. At the moment there is no news for me for next season.

"I hear a lot: Latvala is moving and so is Loeb – I hear something like this every day. But I want to know Mini's plans."

IN BRIEF

ONLY TWO VWs ON 2013 MONTE

Volkswagen Motorsport director Jost Capito has confirmed that only two new Polo R WRCs will start next year's championshipopening Monte Carlo Rally. His predecessor Kris Nissen had hinted that up to five of the new machines could be present.

CAVE WINS IN THAILAND

British Rally Championship leader Tom Cave took his first win off home soil on



Rally Thailand last weekend. Cave, who was driving a factory Proton Satria Neo S2000, won the event, which is aiming for Asia-Pacific Championship status next year, by over 10 minutes.

ABBRING AT THE RACES

Volkswagen junior driver Kevin Abbring made his circuit racing debut at the Norisring last weekend. The Dutchman qualified and finished fourth after topping free practice.

ROBERTS' FUNERAL HELD

Around 400 people attended co-driver Gareth Roberts funeral near Carmarthen in Wales last Wednesday. Roberts, 24, was killed on the Targa Florio Rally while competing with Craig Breen last month. A selection of the cars in which Roberts competed were displayed outside.





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Veni, Vidi, Vici, Market State of the Control of t

The world champion was on cracking form at the 20th Goodwood Festival of Speed, his first visit to the motorsport garden party. MARCUS PYE picks out the highlights



eigning Formula 1 world champion Sebastian Vettel and his immediate predecessors Jenson Button and Lewis Hamilton played to their adoring fans as Lord March declared open house for the 20th Goodwood Festival of Speed last weekend.

"It's my first time here and it's amazing — like a funfair with the cars you dreamed of as a child. I'll definitely come back," extolled the popular German after performing spectacular doughnuts in a 2011 Red Bull-Renault RB7.

Joining Formula 1's most recent heroes in a cast spanning 15 titles, John Surtees, Jackie Stewart, Emerson Fittipaldi, Alain Prost (another to love his debut) and Damon Hill personified the theme 'Young Guns — Born To Win'.

That tagline equally embraced triple world 500cc motorcycle champ 'King Kenny' Roberts — the Californian on his 1981 750cc

Yamaha OW31 for the first time in 31 years as a Goodwood virgin ("it scared me just as bad today as it did then") among a record roster of ace bikers.

But the Festival did not only showcase the finest drivers and riders in history. It also celebrated the brilliant young designers without whose machines their skills might have been anonymous. None greater than Colin Chapman.

In fanfaring 60 years of the Lotus marque he founded, Clive Chapman's Classic Team Lotus and privateer entrants from Australia, the USA and Austria corralled an extraordinary collection of models to illustrate swashbuckling Colin's genius for innovation.

Sir Stirling Moss — Goodwood Motor Circuit's very first young gun and winner of the 500cc race at its inaugural meeting in 1948 — led the unforgettable tribute. Having scored Lotus's first three grand prix victories, Stirling motored up the hillclimb



course in his '61 Monaco-winning Type 18, running without its lower bodywork as on the day.

That, and Emerson Fittipaldi's spirited ascent in a JPS 72, four decades after the gifted Brazilian landed his first world championship in it, were among countless spellbinding moments of pure motorsporting magic.





LOTUS 60TH ANNIVERSARY

Just as the Lotus marque boxed above its weight on track in Colin Chapman's lifetime, affection for it has always far outweighed car numbers. Disciples the world over still yearn to own and use classic Lotuses, and their modern cousins continue to be genuine driver's cars.

'Chunky,' who died in 1982, would have been moved by an awesome tribute to 60 years of free-thinking Lotus design, relentless engineering innovation and performance. Certainly his widow (and company co-founder) Hazel was overwhelmed as their children and seven grandchildren led the celebration.

Reigned over by a 28-metre installation on Goodwood House's carriage turning circle - Gerry Judah's masterpiece holding six 'crown jewel' Lotus racers in a beautiful continuous twist reminiscent of Dutch artist Maurits Escher's extraordinary work

 the history pageant on the ground was equally compelling.

"We are fortunate that people have always had a huge affection, a special place in their hearts, for Lotus," said Clive Chapman. His Classic Team Lotus operation, woven around legends like mechanic Bob Dance who joined Colin's team in 1960, brought 24 cars to the Festival and ran half of them.

Team Lotus entered Formula 1 at Monaco in 1958 with its little Type 12s and Michael Bennett brought Graham Hill's car - immaculately restored - from Adelaide, South Australia, reuniting it with period spannerman Merv Therriault, who at 83 made the pilgrimage from Canada. "If I could stop time I'd choose about now," beamed Bennett.

As flashes of green, red and gold, black and gold and yellow traced Team Lotus' successive F1 fortunes through



Moss and 1961 18 racer: classic Team Lotus line-up

different eras on course there were poignant moments aplenty to augment Stirling Moss's runs in Stephen Bond's 'air conditioned' Rob Walker Racing 1.5-litre 18, in which the maestro famously slayed the sharknose Ferraris at Monaco in '61.

Clive Chapman shot Innes Ireland's '61 US GP-winning 21 (owned by Dan Collins) up with considerable elan, while CTL right hand man Chris 'Doc' Dinnage – there to pilot twin-chassis 88B and Ayrton Senna's Renault V6-powered 97 turbocar - "ticked another box" with a guest shot in Manfredo Rossi's Martinistriped Type 8o.

Even happier was Emerson Fittipaldi who relived his F1 debut, maiden win and first world title by driving Gold Leaf 49C and 72 (from Austrian Jo Willenpart's Vintage Security stable) and JPS 72 respectively. "The 72 was the best car I drove in my whole career. Colin was a genius. I am very proud to be a small part of Lotus history," said the Brazilian.





It's 1970 all over again:

Emmo and Gold Leaf 72

FANTASY FORMULA 1

Festival debutant Sebastian Vettel and regulars Ienson Button and Lewis Hamilton were the centre of attention on 'Super Saturday', but six teams were accessible to F1 fans a week before the British GP.

As a self-confessed history nut, double world champion Vettel who turned 25 on Tuesday (July 3) was always going to be in his element. His run in the Red Bull RB7 drew roars of approval. "The track is quite difficult to do doughnuts on, but it was nice to see so many people [on the way up]," he said.

Homegrown heroes Hamilton and Button did a run apiece in a McLaren-Mercedes MP4-26. "It's a whirlwind experience," said Jenson of his 13th visit. "The car is my Canada [2011] winner which holds happy memories. While I'm racing



in F1 I'll always come to Goodwood."

Mark Webber took over the Red Bull on Sunday, when Nico Rosberg shrieked up in last year's Mercedes MGP Wo2 adorned with a version of the current car's stepped nose. While Marc Gene did a series of scorching runs in a 2009 Ferrari F60 over the

weekend, and Heikki Kovalainen delighted in his Caterham-Cosworth T127, the unofficial award for most spectacular F1 climb went elsewhere.

Young Belgian Jerome d'Ambrosio displayed the 2010 Lotus-Renault R30 with a staggering quadruple toe loop while waving to the crowd.







SPORTSCAR SUPERSTARS

Fresh from its ground-breaking Le Mans 24 Hours victory, the extraordinary technical tour de force that is Audi's R₁8 e-tron quattro was wonderfully demonstrated by German Andre Lotterer, winner at La Sarthe for the past two years.

Despite a torrid time in France less than a fortnight before, Toyota's gallant TSo30 HV-R challenger was in action too, Stephane Sarrazin launching it silently before its conventional engine kicked in.

Johnny Cocker and Paul Drayson fired the latter's remarkable Lolabased electric prototype away in a flurry of wheelspin, giving onlookers a glimpse into what may be a sustainable future for endurance racing.

Porsche, Jaguar and Sauber-Mercedes Le Mans winners of the 1980s, '90s - from the evocative 30 years of Group C set - still look amazingly fresh, like the timeless Ford GT40 of the '60s and 2003-winning Bentley Speed 8.

Spotlighting the 1970s though, Damon Hill and especially son Josh unleashed V12 horsepower in a sister Matra-Simca MS670 to that which father/grandfather Graham won Le Mans in '72, starting a three-year streak for the French aerospace manufacturer.

Jaguar C and D-types climbed in formation with Bob Tullius's famous Group 44 'E' and the F-type



Hill pere et fils shared wailing V12 Matra sportscar



Le Mans-winning Audi R18 hybrid lit up Goodwood

prototype in disguise. Going back further, Tim Birkin's 1930 'blower' Bentley and the Lagonda M45R in which 22-year-old Luis Fontes won in '35 were exercised briskly.

Of the modern GT cars Michael Krumm's world-title winning Nissan GT-R GT1 looked the most muscular. Alexander Sims had fun in McLaren's patriotically liveried MP4-12C GT3, as did Toyota's CEO Akira Toyoda in the hot GT86 Gazoo.

MIGHTY SALOONS

Tin-tops don't come mightier than NASCAR stock cars and Patrick Friesacher's Festival return in the Red Bull Toyota Camry thrilled the audience anew - when they could be seen through the smoke of tortured Goodyear Eagle slicks.

The fans' favourite newcomer, though, was Klaus Ludwig's stunning '81 German Group 5 title-winning Zakspeed Ford Capri, the caricature tubeframe turbocar restored specially.

"We don't normally run museum cars, but thought the best place in the world to do this was Goodwood," said Peter Zakowski.

Other saloons to delight included Harin de Silva's ex-Roger Mears '79 AMC Spirit – retired to a museum having been excluded from Pikes Peak hillclimb victory for being underweight - and Philip Gallant's ex-Dan Gurney Boss 302 Mustang from the States.

At opposite ends of the noise spectrum, Renault's V6 Megane Trophy racer (extrovertly shown off by Nicolas Navarro) and the completely silent zero emission all-electric Nissan Leaf Nismo RC demonstrated by Michael Krumm were both pacy.





RALLY STAGE

Less than a week after he'd mastered the legendary Kiwi roads on Rally New Zealand, Citroen star Thierry Neuville found himself facing a whole new challenge for the first time: chalk.

The Belgian was utterly bemused by a stage surface quite unlike anything he'd found previously in his DS3 WRC. Neuville learned the road and loved the Festival.

"It's incredible!" he smiled. "I did some donuts on the hill and people seemed to like them."

And between the trees?

"I went out first time and did a time which was like 2m47s or something like that," he said. "I thought: "Wow, that is slow!" The next day I went out and it had rained some more and I was one minute slower! It's been fantastic to be here - what an atmosphere."

There's nothing like a first-timer to wake us up to just how good it gets for rally fans in West Sussex.

Beyond new boy Neuville, Skoda UK fielded a Fabia S2000 and four drivers (Andreas Mikkelsen, Robert Barrable, Jan Kopecky and Juho Hanninen) to show off the hardware.

Yesterday's glories were recalled with Hannu Mikkola in a Quattro Sport, Jimmy McRae in a Subaru Legacy RS and Stuart Larbey outdoing them both with the aural delight that is a Metro 6R4.

Visually, the sight of Jean Ragnotti sliding his Renault 5 Maxi Turbo backwards up the hill, all four wheels locked, post-180, rivalled anything during another perfect weekend.



Neuville donutted Citroen to the crowds' pleasure

TOP 20 SHOOTOUT

Despite being headed in qualifying for the televised Top 20 Shootout by Gary Ward's 45.74s charge in Patrick Morgan's Leyton House CG901B F1 car, perennial Festival star Justin Law's experience under pressure made him odds-on favourite with the mighty Silk Cut Jaguar XJR-8/9.

But the cards didn't fall that way, for former winner Kiwi Rod Millen brought out red flags when he smote the bales heftily having bucked his 1000bhp turbocharged four-wheeldrive Toyota Tacoma Pikes Peak



Reid's Chevron GR8 charged to timed shootout win

monster down the grass out of the tricky Molecomb left-hander.

With cement dust now on the slippery track, Michael Bartels outpaced impressive youngster Daniel Lloyd (Porsche 911 GT3 Cup) to go top in the Maserati MC12 coda lunga of 2004, then Michael Krumm failed to erase his German arch-rival's mark with the thuggish Nissan GT-R GT1.

That left three to go, and Anthony Reid – on the strength of only three sighting runs in the shared Chevron GR8 GT3 - unleashed a peach of a 46.46s shot in the Langford V6engined prototype, leaving rivals reeling. "That took total commitment. The Flint Wall was awesome, I shaved it on both sides and had to be flat through the final corner to stand any chance," said the Scot, visibly pale.

When Law cut 47.05s, pulling 142mph over the finish with a typically gung-ho effort, only Ward could deny Reid. Quickest in sector 1 he wavered in the middle part of the course, stopping the clocks in 46.80s for a gallant second.







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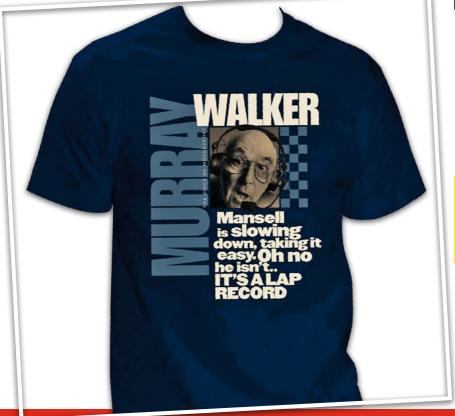
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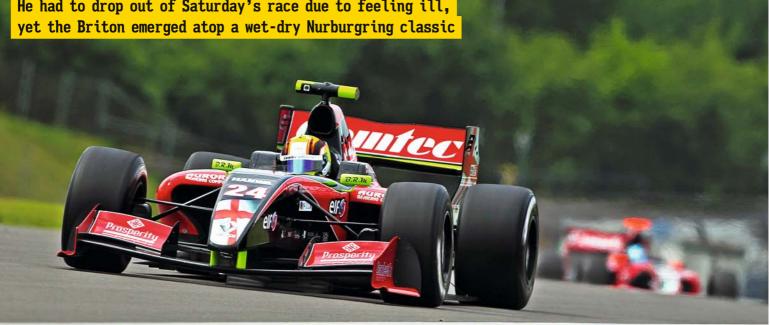
AT A GLANCE

- -> Race 1 Jules Bianchi
- -> Race 2 Nick Yelloly
- Poles Bianchi/Frijns
- -> Fastest laps Bianchi/Aleshin



Yelloly under, and on top of, the weather

He had to drop out of Saturday's race due to feeling ill,



Yelloly held his nerve on slicks mid-race

YOU HAVE TO BE BRAVE TO

declare that all you need for a good result at the Nurburgring is a bit of rain. But Nick Yelloly made that claim on Saturday, having abandoned before the end of the race due to his car's poor handling in the dry and the fact that he was feeling ill.

A day later the rain came and the Briton delivered on his promise, in the process becoming the first twotime winner of the season.

Yelloly's win was down to three things: a mega first lap that took him from 14th to seventh; his wet-weather prowess; and a perfect pit strategy that meant he was one of only three drivers to make just one stop in changeable conditions.

"At the start I was straight on the wet-weather lines and overtaking people," he said, referring to the fact that rain started to fall at the end of

the formation lap. "Then it was a case of calling it right. I could see the rain coming in, so I just stayed out until it was stupid to be on slicks any longer."

There were shades of Johnny Herbert's 1999 European Grand Prix win about the way Yelloly judged his strategy, watching the clouds and refusing to panic as others dived in and out of the pits in a desperate attempt to be on the right tyre at all times. With the exception of third-place finisher Andre Negrao and last-lap spinner Jake Rosenzweig (who was just behind the Brazilian at the time), everyone else opted for two or three stops in a race hit by two big showers.

Marco Sorensen was well clear of Yelloly in the first stint but opted to pit one lap before the Comtec driver. In the time between their stops the heavens opened, forcing the Dane to pit again and settle for a distant second.

The championship intrigue came courtesy of the two drivers now tied at the top of the standings. Race two poleman Robin Frijns had snatched the points lead away from Sam Bird on Saturday and, as the pair went wheel to wheel in the early laps on Sunday, it was clear that both knew the significance of their scrap. Unsurprisingly they had different views on the fight, with Bird hinting that Frijns, robust in his defence of the

lead, has set a precedent for the rest of the season.

But Fortec Motorsport ace Frijns had no problem with upsetting his title rival. "I know he was not happy I was so aggressive, but that's normal," he said, before admitting he lacked the confidence in his car in the wet to continue the fight as both recovered from slow pitstops. "Sam was faster than me but I know he is battling me in the championship so I made life hard for him. That's racing."

Bird's fourth place, just ahead of the Dutchman, was enough to get the ISR-run ex-GP2 ace back on level points in the standings.

It was another weekend of mixed fortunes for Ferrari protege Jules Bianchi. A dominant pole position was converted into a dominant victory in race one in his Tech 1 Racing car, and another good qualifying meant he was part of the early scraps for the lead in race two. But, after being the first of the leaders to make a conventional slicks-for-slicks stop, which was the right call at the time, he skated off the track on his out-lap, ruining any chance of points. So far, the only weekend where the Frenchman has not had any misfortune this season is Monaco. But you can bet your life that if there had been a second race around the Principality it would have gone horribly wrong...

"These moments in the



RACE RATING

Conditions on Sunday helped make up for race one, where even the drivers were bored

•• When you've raced in Formula Renault UK you get used to it raining when you're driving on slicks. I think that played a part today by

Nick Yelloly on where he learned his wet-weather skills

ĪŪRBURGRING

GLENN FREEMAN reports





start of the season have been quite hard for me," he admitted. "Too many problems – it has not been so easy." And his response to getting a first win? "Finally!"

Behind Bianchi, Nico Muller had frustrated Frijns by getting into second at the start and then not giving him a sniff of a chance to get through. It was a faultless drive from the Swiss GP3 graduate, who has managed an impressive points haul so far despite Draco's earlyseason difficulties.

For Frijns, both races could have panned out better. So despite leaving Germany equal on points with championship leader Bird, and even though he has a Red Bull demo run in his pocket (see This Week in F1), he was still struggling to stretch to a smile.

"When I wake up tomorrow I'm sure I'll think

it's pretty cool," he said of the demo run, which he will get next time out in Russia. "In race one my only chance was a do-or-die move on Nico, but I have a championship to think about. Then today we had a bad pitstop and didn't have the pace in the wet. There's always something else going wrong."

Frijns did at least accept that others - he highlighted Bianchi – are having their fair share of problems too. But his regular references to the championship fight are at odds with the approach of Bird, who is his main rival at the moment.

"I haven't looked at the standings and I'm not going to," said the Briton. "Not until I need to."

Neither Bird nor Frijns may want to look too closely just yet, as Yelloly is putting up a dogged fight to stay on their tails.

FORMULA RENAULT EUROCUP

Stoffel's as good as waffles

Stoffel Vandoorne rammed home his status as the form man in Formula Renault 2.0 at the moment by taking a double victory at the Nurburgring for the second weekend running.

The Belgian, who won both Formula Renault NEC races at the German track a week before, followed that success with another double, taking his first Eurocup wins and the series lead in the process.

Race one was a tense affair, which Vandoorne managed to control from pole position under huge pressure from Norman Nato. Eventually the Frenchman's challenge wilted, leaving the leader clear to take a relatively straightforward win.

Sunday's race was a bit more action-packed, mainly due to the fact that it started on a drying track. Sitting on pole, Vandoorne took slick tyres while many of the frontrunners started on wets, but it proved to be an inspired decision.

Once early leaders Daniil Kvyat and Oliver Rowland had come to blows on their wets, Vandoorne easily dispatched Mikko Pakari for the lead, and then cleared off into the distance to win by 10 seconds.

"I decided to trust my German team in Germany," he said of his Josef Kaufmann crew, who made the call on tyres. "You can't do better than two poles and two victories, and to be top of the standings as well makes it a perfect weekend."

A change at the top of the table seemed unlikely heading into the weekend, as Red Bull-backed Kvyat held a commanding 27-point lead over Vandoorne. But the Russian could only manage fifth in an uneventful first race. While he tangled with Rowland while fighting for the lead in race two, both were doomed as they had started on wets.

While Vandoorne took the plaudits on Sunday, he had to share the limelight with Melville McKee, who charged through the mayhem from 32nd on the grid on his slicks to take second place.

RACE 1 1 Stoffel Vandoorne,

14 laps in 27m48.353s; 2 Norman Nato, +1.174s; 3 Paul-Loup Chatin; 4 Nyck de Vries; 5 Daniil Kvyat; 6 Alex Riberas. RACE 2

1 Vandoorne, 12 laps in 28m22.382s; 2 Melville McKee, +10.786s; 3 Pierre Gasly; 4 Chatin; 5 Jordan King; 6 Steijn Schothorst. Points 1 Vandoorne, 110;

2 Kvyat, 97; 3 Nato, 70; 4 Chatin, 56; 5 Gasly, 36; 6 de Vries, 30.



RESULTS Formula Renault 3.5 Series, round 4 of 9, Nurburgring (D), June 30-July 1

RACE 1 G	RID
1 BIANCHI	
1:40.537	2 FRIJNS
	1:40.915
3 PIC	
1:41.437	4 MULLER
	1:41.555
5 GRUBMULLER	
1:41.579	6 MAGNUSSEN
	1:41.592
7 SORENSEN	
1:41.607	8 BIRD
l	1:41.608
9 RAMOS	
1:41.612	10 ROSENZWEIG
	1:41.785
11 DA COSTA	
1:41.852	12 HUERTAS
	1:41.869
13 NEGRAO	
1:41.890	14 STEVENS
	1:41.892
15 KORJUS	
1:42.097	16 FORESTI
17 N'LITSKIY	16 FURES 11
1:42.261	1:42.130
1.42.201	18 ALESHIN
19 AMBERG	1:42.395
1:42.406	
11-12-1-100	20 ROSSI
21 YELLOLY	1:42.477
1:42.645	22 1101/5
	22 MOVE 1:42.750
23 MARTSENKO	1:42.730
1:43.092	
	24 CUNHA
OF UPUTUDANT	1:43.185
25 VENTURINI 1:43.336	
1:43.336	26 CUTDELLT

RAC	E 1 - 27 LAPS, 86.368	BMILES		
POS	NAME	TEAM	TIME	GRID
1	Jules Bianchi (F)	Tech 1 Racing	46m55.016s	1
2	Nico Muller (CH)	International Draco Racing	+9.725s	4
3	Robin Frijns (NL)	Fortec Motorsports	+10.468s	2
4	Arthur Pic (F)	DAMS	+11.513s	3
5	Kevin Magnussen (DK)	Carlin	+25.057s	6
6	Marco Sorensen (DK)	Lotus (Gravity-Charouz)	+28.187s	7
7	Walter Grubmuller (A)	P1 Motorsport	+34.083s	5
8	Sam Bird (GB)	ISR	+35.356s	8
9	Antonio Felix da Costa (P)	Arden Caterham	+36.257s	11
10	Will Stevens (GB)	Carlin	+42.100s	14
11	Jake Rosenzweig (USA)	ISR	+44.640s	10
12	Cesar Ramos (BR)	Lotus (Gravity-Charouz)	+50.390s	9
13	Mikhail Aleshin (RUS)	Team RFR	+53.947s	18
14	Kevin Korjus (EE)	Tech 1 Racing	+54.519s	15
15	Daniil Move (RUS)	P1 Motorsport	+55.727s	22
16	Zoel Amberg (CH)	Pons Racing	+1m05.767s	19
17	Yann Cunha (BR)	Pons Racing	+1m06.320s	24
18	Alexander Rossi (USA)	Arden Caterham	+1m06.776s	20
19	Andre Negrao (BR)	International Draco Racing	+1m07.585s	13
20	Anton Nebylitskiy (RUS)	Team RFR	+1m09.516s	17
21	Nicolay Martsenko (RUS)	BVM Target	+1m26.866s	23
22	Giovanni Venturini (I)	BVM Target	+1m43.548s	25
	Carlos Huertas (CO)	Fortec Motorsports	-1 lap	12
	Nick Yelloly (GB)	Comtec Racing	19 laps-handling	21
R	Lucas Foresti (BR)	DAMS	11 laps-spin	16
R	Vittorio Ghirelli (I)	Comtec Racing	1 lap-spin	26

RACE 2 G	KID
1 FRIJNS	
1:39.991	
	2 SORENSEN 1:40.101
3 BIANCHI	1:40.101
1:40.115	
11-101115	4 PIC
5 RAMOS	1:40.417
1:40.441	
1.40.441	6 MAGNUSSEN
7 BIRD	1:40.487
1:40.513	
1.40.313	8 NEGRAO
9 ALESHIN	1:40.782
1:40.795	
1:40.793	10 GRUBMULLE
11 ROSENZWEIG	1:40.873
1:40.975	
1.40.773	12 MULLER
13 KORJUS	1:41.021
1:41.091	
1.41.071	14 YELLOLY
15 HUERTAS	1:41.112
1:41.116	
	16 ROSSI
17 N'LITSKIY	1:41.196
1:41.393	
	18 STEVENS
19 DA COSTA	1:41.475
1:41.585*	20 MOVE
	1:42.042
21 GHIRELLI	
1:42.248	22 VENTURINI
23 MARTSENKO	1:42.392
1:42.410	
1:42.410	24 CUNHA
	1:42.468
25 AMBERG	
1:43.726	26 FORESTI
	1:51.469

RAC	E 2 - 21 LAF	S, 67.175 MILES	5
POS	DRIVER	TIME/REASON	GRID
1	Yelloly	46m27.491s	14
2	Sorensen	+27.123s	2
3	Negrao	+30.076s	8
4	Bird	+31.088s	7
5	Frijns	+34.593s	1
6	Aleshin	+48.087s	9
7	Move	+49.463s	20
8	Magnussen	+53.218s	6
9	Rossi	+1m00.540s	16
10	Foresti	+1m22.090s	26
11	da Costa	+1m26.223s**	19
12	Bianchi	+1m27.105s	3
13	Stevens	+1m32.809s	18
14	Venturini	+1m36.536s	22
15	Grubmuller	+1m38.609s	10
16	Nebylitskiy	+1m56.650s	17
17	Rosenzweig	20 laps-spin	11
18	Amberg	-1 lap	25
R	Muller	13 laps-lost wheel	12
R	Pic	12 laps-spin	4
R	Martsenko	9 laps-spin	23
R	Korjus	5 laps-puncture	13
R	Ghirelli	2 laps-damage	21
R	Huertas	O laps-damage	15
R	Ramos	O laps-accident	5

O laps-accident

R Cunha

	AMPIONSHIP TABLES	
POS	DRIVER	PTS
1	Bird	86
2	Frijns	86
3	Yelloly	76
4	Sorensen	71
5	Bianchi	61
6	Magnussen	57
7	Muller	50
8	Pic	27
9	Rossi	27
10	Korjus	24
1	Fortec Motorsports	99
2	ISR	94
3	Tech 1 Racing	85
4	Lotus	79
5	Comtec Racing	76
6	Carlin e1Winner's average spee	74

** includes 25-second penalty.



AT A GLANCE

- -> Winner Jamie Green
- -> Pole Gary Paffett
- -> FL Green
- -> Points leader Paffett



Paffett beat Green and Farfus to pole in the dry



Merc sings to Green's day

Clinching victory on the last corner of the race, much to Tomczyk's distress, makes it four out of five here for Green

THE GERMANS DON'T CALL

Jamie Green 'Mr Norisring' for nothing. The Brit proved that in the best way possible at the Nuremberg street track as he closed down a seemingly-insurmountable deficit to the BMWs of Bruno Spengler and Martin Tomczyk to snatch the most unlikely DTM victory of his career at the very last corner of a very damp race.

Such a result was unthinkable with 15 laps to go as Green trailed the second-placed Schnitzer M3 of Spengler by five seconds and Tomczyk's RMG-run machine by more.

But as time wore on, the pace of Green's silver C-coupe became

increasingly relentless and brought its occupant onto the tail of his rivals.

After nailing Spengler under braking for the final corner, Green began what turned out to be the penultimate lap 1.9s behind Tomczyk, who sensed his first win for BMW. That became 1.2s next time round and from a promising position approaching the final Dutzendteich Kurve, through he went in a move reminiscent of Laurent Aiello of Audi's famous last-lap pass on Bernd Schneider in 2002. That was the last time a Mercedes failed to win at the Norisring, incidentally.

"If I'd known it was the last lap, I'd have defended

more," said champion
Tomczyk, who had expected
one further lap to be run in
order to take the race to its
75-minute time limit (had
Green crossed the line just
0.006s sooner, there would
have been an additional
tour). "And it's quite hard
to take when you're leading
for so long and lose it on
the last corner. It's the
worst thing that could
have happened."

Green didn't seem to mind about ruining Tomczyk's day though.

"The message came across on the radio that I was quicker than Martin and Bruno; a second quicker even, so I just got my head down. The car was working so well that I was

just able to reel them in on that set of tyres; in fact, Martin asked me if I was on slicks, I had so much grip."

Green's win was his fourth in five years at the Norisring and left his rivals wondering what makes him so good around the point-and-squirt 1.4-miler.

"I don't think it's any one thing in particular," said the former McLaren AUTOSPORT BRDC Award winner. "I guess you need to be very accurate with your car positioning, which I usually am, and you need to have luck on your side. I had it today. No magic formula really."

Last Sunday's race was a demonstration event for Mercedes' crack HWA squad as its three other drivers; Gary Paffett, Ralf Schumacher and Christian Vietoris could, had circumstances transpired



RACE RATING ****

Scintilating from start to finish. And what a climax!

MILESTONE

Best career DTM finishes for Coulthard. Wickens and Werner



JAMIE O'LEARY reports





differently, have been spraying the bubbly on the top step of the podium.

Paffett, who started from pole position, was tipped into a spin by Green at the first corner, a legacy of a chain reaction really which kicked into gear when Augusto Farfus slammed into the back of Mattias Ekstrom and pushed the Abt Audi driver into Green.

Paffett, who completed the first lap in 20th spot, proceeded to show the quality that has helped him dominate the season thus far by hauling himself up to fourth by the chequered flag. Most impressive was the pace he showed towards the end of a mammoth 57-lap first stint on increasingly worn Hankook wets. Even with as much as 28 laps more on them than the likes of Green, Tomczyk and Spengler, Paffett was regularly able to lap more than o.6s quicker than the trio. It was this, coupled with a fairly clear track that the then leader was gifted by leaving his stop so late, that helped him gain so much ground.

Not that this was of much consolation to him afterwards. "Wet or dry, that's a pretty easy win down the drain, and our pace was proof of that. And I wasn't even pushing that hard," said Paffett. "I was fuming when I got spun; the team had to calm me down during the safety car."

While Paffett would not blame one individual - not publicly, at least -Ekstrom was in no doubt what caused it.

"It's not difficult to avoid contact," he said. "We all have a brake pedal and a

steering wheel. I touched Jamie a little, but only a little. I don't think it affected him much, but then Farfus smashed into me and destroyed my rear. And then I was a passenger."

That shunt allowed the third HWA car of Schumacher into the lead, and the ex-F1 driver looked comfortable as he opened up a decisive one-second lead over Tomczyk.

But on lap 17 he suddenly came over the line fourth; a legacy of an electrical glitch that struck through Turn 4 and brought him almost to a standstill without power. A quick reset got him going in fourth, but when the glitch struck again 20 laps later, he called it quits.

And Vietoris? Well, had the track tried out a little quicker, then his switch to slick tyres at his final stop could have paid off. Instead, he fell from fifth to eighth. Such is the way of DTM.

Angst for Audi but top DTM finish for DC

Audi's quest for a first win at the Norisring in over a decade continues after a disastrous race that could potentially have turned out very differently had Mattias Ekstrom - generally the fastest man in the 50C track temperatures on Friday and Saturday - turned his Q2 and Q3 advantage into pole position.

He didn't - and he had no idea where the pace went either - and that was the beginning of the end for the two-time champion when his Abt A5 was the major victim of the first-corner chaos.

With his team-mate Timo

Scheider nowhere all weekend (and then used as a guinea pig for an early switch to slicks), Adrien Tambay struggling to warm his front tyres and receiving a few punts from Roberto Merhi, and Spielberg winner Edoardo Mortara getting delayed by the spinning Paffett, the baton was passed to Mike Rockenfeller, who took his Phoenix car to sixth from 11th on the grid. He wasn't particularly impressed.

Rivals BMW and Mercedes had much better days, especially the latter's Mucke Motorsport outfit. Robert Wickens and David Coulthard both looking likely to finish

in the top six. Wickens, who had driven supremely after losing bags of time blocked by the spun Paffett at the start, grabbed the upper hand midway through the race, but slipped back to ninth by the flag with fading rubber.

Coulthard (for whom fifth was his best result in the DTM), finished ahead of Rockenfeller with Andy Priaulx taking his first top 10 starting and finishing spots since the Hockenheim season-opener for the RBM BMW team.

Behind Vietoris, who was passed by all three during the final stint, were Wickens and first-time points scorer Dirk Werner (Schnitzer BMW).



RESULTS DTM, round 5 of 10, Norisring (D), June 30-July 1

GRID	
	1 PAFFETT
2 GREEN	49.139
49.171	
47.171	3 FARFUS
	49.255
4 EKSTROM	47.233
49.369	
	5 SCHUMACHER
6 TOMCZYK	49.023
49.049	
471047	7 SPENGLER
8 VIETORIS	49.100
49.156	
49.100	9 PRTAULX
	49.186
10 MORTARA	47.100
49.195	
	11 R'FELLER
12 TAMBAY	40.029
40.038	
	13 A'OUEROUE
14 COULTHARD	40.091
49.130	
49.130	15 HAND
	49.135
16 WERNER	47.133
49.297	47 UTOVENO
	17 WICKENS 49.248
18 MERHI	49.246
49.348	
-,,,,,,,	19 WOLFF
20 MOLTNA	49.378
49.466	
471400	21 SCHETDER
	49.525
22 FREY	
49.539	

70	ADG 400 (33 NT) EG				
	LAPS, 108.677 MILES				
POS	DRIVER (NATIONALITY)	TEAM	CAR	RESULT	GRID
1	Jamie Green (GB)	HWA	Mercedes C-Coupe	1h15m00.005s	2
2	Martin Tomczyk (D)	RMG	BMW M3	+0.687s	6
3	Bruno Spengler (CDN)	Schnitzer Motorsport	BMW M3	+2.335s	7
4	Gary Paffett (GB)	HWA	Mercedes C-coupe	+14.666s	1
5	David Coulthard (GB)	Mucke Motorsport	Mercedes C-coupe	+36.861s	14
6	Mike Rockenfeller (D)	Phoenix Racing	Audi A5	+37.062s	11
7	Andy Priaulx (GB)	Phoenix Racing	Audi A5	+44.529s	9
8	Christian Vietoris (D)	HWA	Mercedes C-coupe	+46.236s	8
9	Robert Wickens (CDN)	Mucke Motorsport	Mercedes C-coupe	+49.254s	17
10	Dirk Werner (D)	Schnitzer Motorsport	BMW M3	+49.301s	16
11	Filipe Albuquerque (P)	Team Rosberg	Audi A5	-1 lap	13
12	Miguel Molina (E)	Phoenix Racing	Audi A5	-1 lap	20
13	Roberto Merhi (E)	Persson Motorsport	Mercedes C-coupe	-1 lap	18
14	Joey Hand (USA)	RMG	BMW M3	-1 lap	15
15	Adrien Tambay (F)	Abt Sportsline	Audi A5	-2 laps	12
16	Timo Scheider (D)	Abt Sportsline	Audi A5	-2 laps	21
17	Rahel Frey (CH)	Abt Sportsline	Audi A5	-3 laps	22
R	Ralf Schumacher (D)	HWA	Mercedes C-coupe	45 laps-electrics	5
R	Edoardo Mortara (I)	Team Rosberg	Audi A5	41 laps-radiator	10
R	Susie Wolff (GB)	Persson Motorsport	Mercedes C-coupe	20 laps-front axle	19
R	Augusto Farus (BR)	RBM	BMW M3	15 laps-acc damage	3
R	Mattias Ekstrom (S)	Abt Sportsline	Audi A5	O laps-acc damage	4

CHAMPIONSHIP TABLE					
POS	DRIVER	PTS			
1	Paffett	95			
2	Green	69			
3	Spengler	58			
4	Tomczyk	54			
5	Ekstrom	47			
6	Rockenfeller	39			
7	Mortara	31			
8	Vietoris	24			
9	Farfus	16			
10	Scheider	16			

Winner's average: 89.178mph. Fastest lap: Green, 54.451s, 94.488mph.

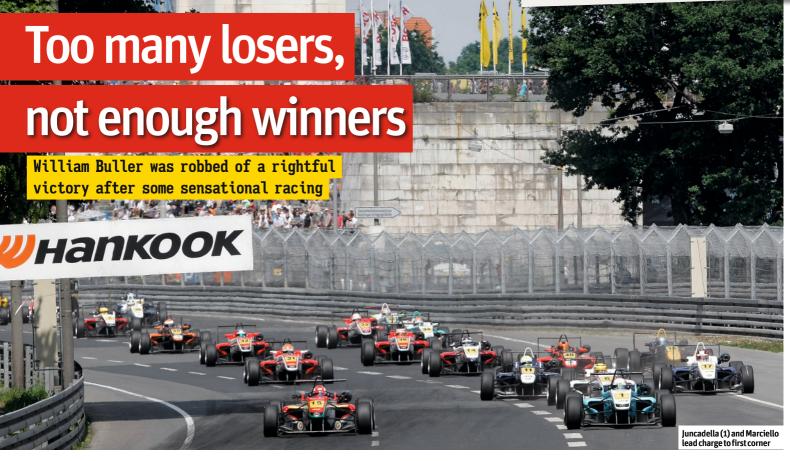




AT A GLANCE

- → Wins Tincknell/Marciello
- -> Poles Marciello/Wehrlein
- Fastest laps Marciello/
 Buller/van Asseldonk





LUDICROUS DECISION-

making and races that were needlessly truncated rather soured a weekend where some thrilling battling should have allowed Formula 3 to burst back into the sunshine as the world's number-one junior category.

This was F3's best field of the year: there were 28 cars at the Norisring, with the 15 regulars from the F3 Euro Series joined by 13 additional runners from the British F3 International Series, and the two main races also counted for FIA European F3 Championship points.

And what did we get? One main race without a winner, and the other with only half-points awarded. That was a huge shame, for the racing was the best action in

junior single-seaters anywhere this year.

We will tell you right now that William Buller won the first race. The results table shows him second, but the results must be a lie, because they leave first place vacant. And whoever heard of a race, in any sport, with no winner?

Buller, whose spectacular, attacking style in qualifying made him the man to watch through the S-Kurven behind Hitler's Steintribune, had been running in fourth place three laps before the race was red-flagged.

It was on the 40th lap that the controversy kicked off. Long-time leader Daniel Juncadella had lost the advantage to Pascal Wehrlein a few laps earlier when he ran wide at the final turn, the car skipping out of shape as he braked on the bumps. He tried to rescue the situation by diving down the inside into the hairpin, but he crashed into the Mucke Motorsport Dallara-Mercedes, knocking its left-rear suspension askew.

While Wehrlein crabbed his way back into action (his hobbled machine was seventh behind the safety car when the race was halted), Juncadella immediately came under attack from the sister Prema Powerteam Dallara-Merc of Raffaele Marciello into the S-Kurven. The two collided and Marciello crashed out of action.

Now Juncadella led from Buller's Carlin Dallara-Volkswagen, with Anglo-Dane Emil Bernstorff holding off top British F3 runner Pietro Fantin for third. Few expected Juncadella to escape sanction for the Wehrlein clash, and he was excluded for both this and the Marciello snafu — although that one was more debatable.

A sensible decision would

"I took a risk that
I shouldn't have
- I will learn
from this"
Contrite Juncadella
took out Wehrlein

have been to give Juncadella a drive-through penalty (as Jack Harvey was, for inadvertently punting Carlin team-mate and British F3 title rival Jazeman Jaafar), but it was too late for that as the race had been red-flagged. So how about a time penalty in lieu of a drive-through? Nope. It was exclusion, with no-one declared as winner. There is precedent for this (see News), but that doesn't make it any less daft.

Juncadella (who in hindsight admitted "I took a risk that I shouldn't have — I will learn from this") and Prema team boss Rene Rosin sportingly walked up the paddock to hand the trophy to Buller's team boss Trevor Carlin. A nice touch, although Buller was away at the time, watching DTM

qualifying with his driver coach Adam Carroll.

Prema enjoyed some redemption from its Saturday misery in Sunday's finale, when the 36C heat of Friday and Saturday was replaced by a thunderstorm. Marciello dived inside poleman Wehrlein when the field was unleashed after running a few laps behind the safety car, but Buller slithered into Wehrlein, putting the German out of the race and earning himself a drivethrough penalty - on top of a pitstop to replace his front wing. "I didn't want to brake too early and risk being hit from behind," said Buller. "It's a massive shame."

Juncadella therefore moved into second and pursued Marciello, but only a few laps of racing were run before the safety car emerged again, and the race was subsequently halted as the rain continued. With less than 75 per cent of the distance covered, this would count for only half-points in the Euro Series and European



RACE RATING

Fantastic racing, but too many safety cars and race stoppages for five stars

MILESTONE Van Asseldonk, yet to win, has now taken three fastest laps



REPORT BRITISH/EURO F3 NORISRING

MARCUS SIMMONS reports





championship, but the cut-off in British F3 is 50 per cent, so Felix Serralles, third on the road, took his full quota of points.

"He did a good job," admitted Juncadella of his young team-mate Marciello. "I was hoping to have a chance to pass him on the restart, but stopping the race made sense."

Well, it may have to him, but not all the drivers agreed, and there were some who felt that the temporary end had robbed them of the chance to make up places.

In some ways, Juncadella's best performance came in the reversed-grid race. He started 20th on a 28-car grid (another application of illogical German rules) and

Fantin, Tincknell and Serralles top BF3

There was a new variation on the British F3 theme for 2012 as Pietro Fantin, Harry Tincknell and Felix Serralles stood atop the Norisring podium.

Fantin, who had reigning champ Felipe Nasr and Pedro Lamy along to support him, planted his Carlin Dallara-VW fifth in qualifying. He drove a solid first race to beat Serralles, and then Tincknell did the business to win the reversedgrid event outright.

In the third race, Fantin lost his advantage by sliding wide at the first corner, but continued after a minor bump with fellow Brazilian Pipo Derani to take third in the BF3 classification.

Up ahead, Fortec men Serralles and Hannes van Asseldonk drove stormers, the **Dutchman taking fastest lap** overall after the team had carried out a last-ditch engine change in 37 minutes ("big respect to the team," he said).

It was a nightmare weekend

for pre-Norisring leader Jazeman Jaafar and main rival Jack Harvey, Jaafar had to pit for repairs in race one, after being pushed into Alex Lynn when Harvey hit him at the start.

Harvey then redeemed himself with a storming opening lap in the reversed-grid race, giving him third in the BF3 rankings. With Jaafar unable to extricate himself from the midfield mire, the Lincolnshire man moved to the top of the points. In race three, Harvey



crashed out at the start when he ran into Sven Muller in the wall of spray, while Jaafar broke a pushrod when he ran over Will Buller's discarded front wing.

It was even worse for Carlos Sainz Jr, who after a tough June hoped to rally in Nuremberg. lust three points came his way on an eventful weekend.

carved his way to 11th, while team-mate Marciello, who was also at the back due to an engine-change penalty, made little progress.

This race was won by Harry Tincknell, who'd earned reversed-grid pole by taking eighth in race one, for which the Carlin boys removed the upper planes from his rear wing in a

straight-line-speed quest. He kept Serralles – who had a fantastic weekend in his Fortec Dallara-Merc – at bay, the Puerto Rican having demoted Mucke men Wehrlein and Felix Rosenqvist on the first lap.

The very presence of the British F3 brigade was an olive branch extended to the Euro Series-organising ITR

and the FIA, one that even meant that a series backed by Cooper Tires was being run on Hankooks for the weekend. But swingeing penalties (eye-watering €1000 fines for missing driver briefings and a €3000 hit for an 'unscheduled engine change' for Jaafar) grated. And it was lucky the track broke up on Friday,

delaying qualifying until Saturday – some of the BF3 contingent said the Hankook men had run out of time to fit a field that had swollen to double its normal size.

Combined with a race with no winner and lame stoppages, no wonder some were questioning whether the FIA's planned revival of F3 is in safe hands. M

FIA European Formula 3 Championship, round 5 of 10, British Formula 3 International Series, round 6 of 10, Formula 3 Euro Series, round 4 of 8, Norisring (D), June 30-July 1

GRID		F
	1 MARCIELLO 49.254	P
2 WEHRLEIN 49.271		
49.271	3 JUNCADELLA 49,273	
4 BULLER	49.213	
49.327	5 FANTIN	
6 BERNSTORF	_49.376 F	
49.500	7 SAINZ	
8 ASSELDONK	49.567	
49.571	9 DERANI	
10 LEWIS	49.578	
49.580	11 SERRALLES	
	49.582	
12 JAAFAR 49.631	13 LYNN	_
	49.684	
14 HARVEY 49.727		
49.121	15 TINCKNELL 49.743	
16 MULLER		_
49.746	17 BLOMQVIST 49.758	
18 RODA	47.130	
49.819	19 ILYAS	
20 UHRHANE	49.866	
49.889	21 McBRIDE 49.922	
22 ROSENOVIS		
49.959	23 WOLF	
24 ZELLER	50.114	
50.174	25 SA SILVA	
24 511 70	50.318	
26 ELLIS 50.599	27 GODDARD	
	51.506	
28 PAD'CHEE		

EX	Daniel Juncadella (E)	Prema Powerteam	DMB F312	37m11.584s	3
2	Will Buller (GB)	Carlin	DVW F312	+1.854s	4
3	Emil Bernstorff (GB)	Ma-con Motorsport	DVW F312	+2.963s	6
4	Pietro Fantin (BR)	Carlin	DVW F312	+3.574s	5
5	Felix Serralles (USA)	Fortec Motorsport	DMB F312	+4.868s	11
6	Felix Rosenqvist (S)	Mucke Motorsport	DMB F312	+6.152s	22
7	Pascal Wehrlein (D)	Mucke Motorsport	DMB F312	+13.241s	2
8	Harry Tincknell (GB)	Carlin	DVW F312	+13.671s	15
9	Sven Muller (D)	Prema Powerteam	DMB F312	+13.949s	16
10	Tom Blomqvist (GB)	Ma-con Motorsport	DVW F312	+14.538s	17
11	Sandro Zeller (CH)	Jo Zeller Racing	DMB F308	+20.855s	24
12	Geoff Uhrhane (AUS)	Double R Racing	DMB F312	+21.832s	20
13	Nick McBride (AUS)	T-Sport	DN F312	+22.399s	21
14	Jack Harvey (GB)	Carlin	DVW F312	+22.637s	14
15	Luis Sa Silva (AO)	Angola Racing Team	DMB F312	+23.242s	25
16	Andrea Roda (I)	Jo Zeller Racing	DMB F312	-1 lap	18
17	Spike Goddard (AUS)	T-Sport	DMH F308	-1 lap	27
18	Jazeman Jaafar (MAL)	Carlin	DVW F312	-1 lap	12
19	Alex Lynn (GB)	Fortec Motorsport	DMB F312	-1 lap	13
20	Hannes van Asseldonk (NL)	Fortec Motorsport	DMB F312	-1 lap	8
21	Duvashen Padayachee (AUS)	Double R Racing	DMH F308	-2 laps	28
22	Raffaele Marciello (I)	Prema Powerteam	DMB F312	39 laps-acc	1
R	Philip Ellis (GB)	GU-Racing	DMB F312	17 laps-damage	26
R	Fahmi Ilyas (MAL)	Double R Racing	DMB F312	7 laps-damage	19
R	Michael Lewis (USA)	Prema Powerteam	DMB F312	7 laps-damage	10
R	Pipo Derani (BR)	Fortec Motorsport	DMB F312	6 laps-acc	9
R	Carlos Sainz Jr (E)	Carlin	DVW F312	1 lap-damage	7
R	Lucas Wolf (D)	URD Rennsport	DMB F312	O laps-acc	23

DRIVER	TEAM	CAR	TIME	GRID	POS	DRIVER	TIME	GRID
Daniel Juncadella (E)	Prema Powerteam	DMB F312	37m11.584s	3	1	Tincknell	20m10.193s	1
Will Buller (GB)	Carlin	DVW F312	+1.854s	4	2	Serralles	+0.419s	4
Emil Bernstorff (GB)	Ma-con Motorsport	DVW F312	+2.963s	6	3	Wehrlein	+2.102s	2
Pietro Fantin (BR)	Carlin	DVW F312	+3.574s	5	4	Rosenqvist	+4.715s	3
Felix Serralles (USA)	Fortec Motorsport	DMB F312	+4.868s	11	5	Buller	+4.840s	7
Felix Rosenqvist (S)	Mucke Motorsport	DMB F312	+6.152s	22	6	Blomqvist	+5.049s	10
Pascal Wehrlein (D)	Mucke Motorsport	DMB F312	+13.241s	2	7	Harvey	+7.098s	14
Harry Tincknell (GB)	Carlin	DVW F312	+13.671s	15	8	Fantin	+8.522s	5
Sven Muller (D)	Prema Powerteam	DMB F312	+13.949s	16	9	Lynn	+9.059s	19
Tom Blomqvist (GB)	Ma-con Motorsport	DVW F312	+14.538s	17	10	van Asseldonk	+13.053s	20
Sandro Zeller (CH)	Jo Zeller Racing	DMB F308	+20.855s	24	11	Juncadella	+14.037s	29
Geoff Uhrhane (AUS)	Double R Racing	DMB F312	+21.832s	20	12	Zeller	+15.460s	11
Nick McBride (AUS)	T-Sport	DN F312	+22.399s	21	13	Lewis	+16.926s	24
Jack Harvey (GB)	Carlin	DVW F312	+22.637s	14	14	Jaafar	+16.938s	18
Luis Sa Silva (AO)	Angola Racing Team	DMB F312	+23.242s	25	15	Uhrhane	+18.904s	12
Andrea Roda (I)	Jo Zeller Racing	DMB F312	-1 lap	18	16	Derani	+19.895s	25
Spike Goddard (AUS)	T-Sport	DMH F308	-1 lap	27	17	Marciello	+20.496s	28*
Jazeman Jaafar (MAL)	Carlin	DVW F312	-1 lap	12	18	Sa Silva	+22.182s	15
Alex Lynn (GB)	Fortec Motorsport	DMB F312	-1 lap	13	19	Roda	+22.425s	16
Hannes van Asseldonk (NL)	Fortec Motorsport	DMB F312	-1 lap	8	20	Wolf	+22.843s	27
Duvashen Padayachee (AUS)	Double R Racing	DMH F308	-2 laps	28	21	Ellis	+38.530s	22
Raffaele Marciello (I)	Prema Powerteam	DMB F312	39 laps-acc	1	22	Goddard	+40.608s	17
Philip Ellis (GB)	GU-Racing	DMB F312	17 laps-damage	26	23	Padayachee	+51.078s	21
Fahmi Ilyas (MAL)	Double R Racing	DMB F312	7 laps-damage	19	24	McBride	-1 lap	13
Michael Lewis (USA)	Prema Powerteam	DMB F312	7 laps-damage	10	25	Sainz	18 laps-driveshaft	26
Pipo Derani (BR)	Fortec Motorsport	DMB F312	6 laps-acc	9	R	Muller	6 laps-accident	9
Carlos Sainz Jr (E)	Carlin	DVW F312	1 lap-damage	7	R	Ilyas	1 lap-acc damage	23
Lucas Wolf (D)	URD Rennsport	DMB F312	O laps-acc	23	R	Bernstorff	O laps-accident	6

	GRID		F
RID		1 WEHRLEIN	F
1	2 MARCIELLO	49.100	
4	49.120	3 BULLER	
2		49.238	
3	4 JUNCADELLA 49.262	5 FANTIN	
7		49.328	
10	6 BERNSTORFF 49.493	7 SERRALLES	
14		49.494	
5	8 DERANI 49.501	9 LEWIS	
19		49.506	
20	10 ASSELDON 49.522	11 SAINZ	
29		49.559	
11	12 BLOMQVIST 49.571	13 JAAFAR	
24		49.613	
	14 LYNN 49.664	15 TINCKNELL	
18		49.687	
12	16 MULLER 49.694	47 HADVEY	
25	47.074	17 HARVEY 49.715	
28*	18 RODA 49.778		
15	49.116	19 UHRHANE 49.817	
16	20 ILYAS		
27	49.834	21 ROSENQVIST 49.864	
22	22 McBRIDE		1
17	49.869	23 SA SILVA 49.901	1
21	24 ZELLER		;
13	50.071	25 WOLF 50.074	
26	26 ELLIS		
9	50.346	27 GODDARD 51.434	
23	28 PAD'CHEE		
6	51.805		

		, 30.012 MILES	ODT
POS	DRIVER	TIME	GRII
1	Marciello	26m22.376s	2
2	Juncadella	+0.731s	4
3	DOTTALLOD	+1.194s	7
4		+2.783s	6
5	van Asseldonk	+3.715s	10
6	Fantin	+5.632s	5
7	Blomqvist	+9.081s	12
8	Lewis	+9.409s	9
9	Lynn	+9.780s	14
10	Tincknell	+11.027s	15
11	Muller	+11.388s	16
12	Ilyas	+11.708s	20
13	Roda	+14.617s	18
14	Rosenqvist	+16.343s	21
15	McBride	+19.313s	22
16	Sa Silva	+20.992s	23
17	Goddard	+25.529s	27
18	Buller	-1 lap	3
19	Sainz	-1 lap	11
20	Padayachee	-1 lap	28
21	Derani	-2 laps	8
22	Wolf	-2 laps	25
23	Zeller	-3 laps	24
R	Ellis	13 laps-accident	26
R	Uhrhane	13 laps-accident	19
R	Jaafar	9 laps-hit debris	13
R	Wehrlein	8 laps-acc damage	1
R	Harvey	7 laps-accident	17

BRIT	TISH CHAMPIONSHIP	
POS	DRIVER	PTS
1	Harvey	186
2	Jaafar	182
3	Serralles	170
4	Lynn	14

EUR	O SERIES	
POS	DRIVER	PTS
1	Juncadella	122
2	Marciello	116.5
3	Buller	105.5
4	Wehrlein	92

FIA	EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIE)
POS	DRIVER	PTS
1	Marciello	149.5
2	Juncadella	124
3	Sainz	96
4	Buller	78

D=Dallara; VW=Volkswagen/Spiess; MB=Mercedes-Benz/HWA; MH=Mugen Honda/Brown; N=Nissan/ThreeBond. grid penalty for engine change

Race 1 Second place's average: 96.75mph. Fastest Jap: Marciello, 49.138s, 104.70mph. Race 2 Winner's average: 93.53mph. Fastest lap: Buller, 49.250s, 104.47mph

INTERNATIONAL RACES & RESULTS

BLANCPAIN SERIES Paul Ricard (F) Rd 3/6

OUICK RESULTS

- Winners Haase/Mies/Ortelli
- Pole **Daniel Zampieri** Fastest lap **Mirko Venturi**
- Pro-Am Bertolini/ Hommerson/Machiels

RACE RATING Action and attrition meant survival was key

BLANCPAIN ENDURANCE SERIES PAUL RICARD (F), JULY 1, RD 3/6

Ortelli guides Audi to victory at Paul Ricard



A MEASURED DRIVE BY

Stephane Ortelli gave Team WRT its first Blancpain Endurance Series win of 2012, despite its Audi R8 LMS ultra being marginal on fuel for the last two laps.

The three-hour race was one of attrition with damage, accidents and mechanical

failures accounting for 30 per cent of the field.

The Audi, hurt by 50kg of extra ballast since Silverstone under Balance of Performance revisions, qualified 15th. But a spell behind the safety car at the end of the opening hour allowed many teams to duck in and change drivers. That allowed Christopher Mies to hand over to Christopher Haase with the car up to eighth, and Ortelli took over the lead at the final stops.

His advantage dwindled as the Marc VDS BMW squad unleashed Maxime Martin, who hunted down the Audi

despite being constrained by traffic and a car that was breathless on the Mistral Straight, Martin's pursuit was hampered by a marginal fuel load for the last two laps, which meant his deficit of 5.8 seconds was greater than it could have been.

Third were Davide Rigon/ Stefano Gattuso/Daniel Zampieri (Kessel Ferrari). Rigon led the first hour, but pitted after the safety car period and was badly compromised. Zampieri hustled the car into contention but was too far back from the top two.

Pro-Am Cup honours fell to Andrea Bertolini/Niek Hommerson/Louis Machiels (AF Corse Ferrari) after the sister 458 stopped in the last stint with a gearbox problem. Young Briton Dan Brown had done a tremendous job of leading during the middle hour.

It was his co-driver Giuseppe Ciro who was at the wheel when the car stopped, and the Italian had been earlier delayed when the car refused to fire up.

David Addison

RESULTS

1 Christopher Haase/Christopher Mies/Stephane Ortelli (Audi R8 LMS ultra), 85 laps in 3h01m48.120s: 2 Markus Palttala/ Bas Leinders/Maxime Martin (BMW Z4 GT3), +5.811s; 3 Stefano Gattuso/ Davide Rigon/Daniel Zampieri (Ferrari 458 Italia); 4 Andrea Bertolini/Niek Hommerson/Louis Machiels (Ferrari); 5 Marc Hennerici/ Xavier Maassen/Marc Goossens (Porsche 911 GT3-R); 6 Bert Longin/ Mike Hezemans/Henri Moser (RMW) Points 1 Palttala/Leinders/Martin, 68; 2 Haase/Mies/Ortelli, 48; 3 Laurens Vanthoor/Edward Sandstrom, 36; 4 Gattuso/Rigon/Zampieri, 35; 5 Hennerici/Maassen/Goossens, 26; 6 Karl Wendlinger/Koen Wauters/ Anthony Kumpen, 21.

GRAND-AM WATKINS GLEN 6 HOURS (USA) JULY 1, RD 8/13

Express hauls itself to head of the train

ACTION EXPRESS RACING HAS

been transformed into a bona fide championship challenger since shuffling its driver line-up at the beginning of last month.

Both of its two Pratt & Miller-built Coyote Corvette DPs are now regular frontrunners, with Darren Law and Joao Barbosa combining to claim a well-deserved second win of the season at Watkins Glen. Law thereby reclaimed third place in the championship standings, just seven points shy of reigning champions Memo Rojas and Scott Pruett. The team, meanwhile, vaulted into the lead of the three-race North American Endurance Cup. A canny strategic call

enabled Law to claim the bonus points for leading at the halfway stage, while a typically bold move by Barbosa enabled him to slip past Alex Gurney's Bob Stallings Riley Corvette while the American was trying to work his way through traffic with 16 minutes remaining.

Gurney set the fastest race lap as he tried to redress the balance in the closing stages, but had to settle for second place along with Jon Fogarty. The deficit to Barbosa at the finish was a scant 0.238s.

"That was pretty disappointing because the car was so good," said Gurney. "I just caught a GT at precisely the wrong point and Joao put a nice move on me and that was it."

Pruett and Rojas led the early stages and did extremely well to fight back to fourth after a stop to change a holed radiator on their Chip Ganassi Riley-BMW. Title rivals Enzo Potolicchio and Ryan Dalziel (Starworks Riley-Ford) inched two points closer after finishing third, thanks largely to the efforts of the

guesting Sebastien Bourdais.

Robin Liddell and John Edwards became the season's sixth different GT winners after a fine run in their Stevenson Motorsports Camaro GT-R, edging out the Turner BMW of Paul dalla Lana/ Bill Auberlen/Billy Johnson.

Jeremy Shaw

1 Joao Barbosa/Darren Law

(Coyote-Chevrolet), 182 laps in 6h01m34.427s; 2 Jon Fogarty/Alex Gurney (Riley-Chevy), +0.238s; 3 Enzo Potolicchio/Ryan Dalziel/ Sebastien Bourdais (Riley-Ford); 4 Scott Pruett/Memo Rojas (Riley-BMW); 5 Antonio Garcia/ Oliver Gavin/Richard Westbrook (Coyote-Chevy); 6 John Pew/ Oswaldo Negri (Riley-Ford). Points 1 Pruett/Rojas, 233; 2 Potolicchio/ Dalziel, 230; 3 Law, 226; 4 David Donohue, 220; 5 Pew/Negri. 216; 6 Westbrook, 216.



INTERNATIONAL RACES & RESULTS

SUPERSTARS Hungaroring (H) Rd 5/9

QUICK RESULTS

- → Race 1 Vitantonio Liuzzi → Race 2 Christian Klien
- Pole Liuzzi
- -> Points leader Liuzzi

RACE RATING Liuzzi's pole lap alone was worth the ticket price

REPORTSWORLD OF SPORT



SUPERSTARS SERIES HUNGARORING (H), JULY 1, RD 5/9

Red Bull old boys Liuzzi and Klien star

VITANTONIO LIUZZI'S WEEKEND at the Hungaroring might not have been perfect, but it wasn't far off. After all, with pole position, a win and a podium, the CAAL Racing

Mercedes driver came away

with the championship lead.

Professionalism was the key. In a sweltering qualifying session, he played the tyre-management card to perfection, emerging at

the last possible minute to decimate the field with a stunning lap. That set him up for a measured win ahead of former champion Thomas Biagi's Dinamic BMW.

In race two, when Liuzzi found himself lacking the pace to attack leader Camilo Zurcher, he let the Romeo Ferraris Mercedes go and focused instead on holding off a hard-charging Biagi.

The plan worked until the last lap, when a frustrated Biagi fired into the back of the Mercedes, sending both spinning and allowing Christian Klien (Swiss Team Maserati) to steal second. This became first when Zurcher was penalised post-race for tagging Domenico Ferlito's Jaguar. Still, an inherited second place – behind the man with whom he once shared a Red Bull F1 seat — was enough for Liuzzi to lead the points.

"We expected this to be one of our worst weekends," said Liuzzi, "but we've made some big changes to the car and it's really worked."

Johan Kristoffersson battled hard for fifth in race one, but the Swede's KMS Audi suffered an alternator failure on the formation lap for race two, the non-finish dropping him from first to third in the points.

Andrew van Leeuwen

RESULTS

Race 1 1 Vitantonio Liuzzi (Mercedes C63 AMG), 14 laps in

27m05.669s; 2 Thomas Biagi (BMW M3), +0.539s; 3 Norbert Michelisz (BMW); 4 Christian Klien (Maserati Quattroporte); 5 Johan Kristoffersson (Audi RS5); 6 Camilo Zurcher (Mercedes), Race 2 1 Klien, 14 laps in 27m20.926s; 2 Liuzzi, +9.777s; 3 Biagi; 4 Franco Fumi (BMW); 5 Stefano Gabellini (BMW); 6 Zurcher. Points 1 Liuzzi, 120; 2 Biagi, 114; 3 Kristoffersson, 112; 4 Andrea Larini, 78; 5 Francesco Sini, 71; 6 Gianni Morbidelli, 66.

IN BRIEF



GERMAN CARRERA CUP

Rene Rast won twice at the Norisring to take the series lead from Kevin Estre. A misfire meant Rast's Tolimit team-mate, Sean Edwards, could only add a sixth place to his third from race one.

EUROCUP MEGANE TROPHY

Albert Costa took an overdue first win at the Nurburgring for Oregon Team. In the second race, Bas Schothorst escaped a last-lap three-car collision with Tom Coronel and Niccolo Nalio to increase his points lead.

JK ASIA SERIES

Nabil Jeffri took the points lead away from his EuroInternational team-mate Aston Hare with a win and a second at Paul Ricard. Meritus driver Afiq Yazid Ikhwan beat Jeffri by 0.1s to win race two.

VW SCIROCCO-R CUP

Swede Ola Nilsson increased his series lead to more than 100 points over Adam Gladysz after beating the Pole to victory at a baking hot Norisring. Guest driver Nicola Larini was third.

FERRARI CHALLENGE

Ferrari Moscow's Alessandro Balzan took the points lead from team-mate Bjorn Grossman with a Hungaoring double. Alexey Basov won the 'Coppa Shell' races.

SUPERSTARS GT SPRINT

Andrea Palma increased his points lead with a Hungaroring double for Black Team Ferrari. He overcame a race-one jumped-start penalty to beat Ombra Ferrari's Mario Cordoni to the victory.



BRAZILIAN V8 STOCK CARS LONDRINA (BR), JULY 1, RD 5/12

Another good day for Bueno in Brazil



CACA BUENO CLOSED TO

within a point of his championship-leading team-mate Daniel Serra with a dominant lightsto-flag win at Londrina.

The Red Bull Chevrolet driver started from his third consecutive pole position

and was never headed after pulling clear of fellow front-row starter Luciano Burti away from the grid.

After establishing a four-second lead over the Itaipava Peugeot man, Bueno opted to ease his pace and save his tyres and brakes.

He crossed the line less than half that margin ahead of the ex-Formula 1 Jaguar and Prost driver.

Further back, Serra and Thiago Camilo had an intense scrap over third that went virtually the whole distance. Serra saved one last use of his 'push-to-pass' until the penultimate lap to get by and secure the place.

Recent resurfacing provided greater tyre wear than expected, and some - including Allam Khodair, who lost fifth to a late puncture - suffered badly towards the end of the race.

Among the others to feel the effects was title contender Atila Abreu. who finished way back in 13th place in his Pioneer Motorsport Chevrolet. Lito Cavalcanti

1 Caca Bueno (Chevrolet Sonic),

35 laps in 42m09.982s; 2 Luciano Burti (Peugeot 407), +1.659s; 3 Daniel Serra (Chevy); 4 Thiago Camilo (Chevy); 5 Ricardo Mauricio (Chevy); 6 Valdeno Brito (Peugeot). Points 1 Serra, 87; 2 Bueno, 86; 3 Mauricio, 75; 4 Brito, 65; 5 Atila Abreu, 60; 6 Julio Campos, 57.

HIGHCLASS PERFORMANCE

DESPITE FACING STIFF COMPETITION, INCLUDING
13 NISSAN-POWERED ENTRIES, HONDA PERFORMANCE
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SCORE ITS SECOND FAMOUS LMP2 CLASS VICTORY
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Mobil 12 Hours of Sebrin Starworks Motorsport (HPD ARX 03b-Honda) (1st) LMP2 winners.



Le Mans 24 Hours. Starworks Motorsport (HPD ARX 03b-Honda)





Tequila Patrón American Le Mans Series at Long Beach. Muscle Milk Pickett Racing. (HPD ARX-03a-Honda)

(1st) Overall winners.



American Le Mans Monterey Muscle Milk Pickett Racing. (HPD ARX-03a-Honda)

(1st) Overall winners.



Tequila Patrón American Le Mans Series at Long Beach. Level 5 Motorsports. (HPD ARX-03b-Honda)

(1si) LMP2 winners.



American Le Mans Monterey Level 5 Motorsports (HPD ARX-03b-Honda)

(1st) LMP2 winners.





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Form guide, stats, facts, TV times and expert analysis ahead of the 46th British Grand Prix



DAVID COULTHARD SPEAKS P9

The two-time British GP winner explains why he thinks Lewis Hamilton is well-placed to add to his 2008 home win for McLaren



SIR FRANK'S FAVOURITES **P10**

The Williams team founder looks back on his squad's memorable British GP moments



BEST OF BRITISH P16

Lewis Hamilton, Jenson Button and Paul di Resta will fly the flag for Britain this weekend. We look at their previous form at Silverstone



MERCEDES MOTHERSHIP P24

The secrets behind the three-pointed star's powerplants motivating our British F1 heroes



VITAL STATISTICS P26

Don't head off to Silverstone without our spotter's guide to the 24 drivers – and the timetable of what not to miss this weekend







BRITISH GP PREVIEW

FACTS, STATS, TRACK GUIDE, TV LISTINGS AND MORE



Magical season resumes at Silverstone

Alonso won in Valencia. He won here last year. But, dare we hope for a British win at the recently revised track?

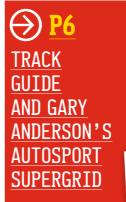
Silverstone has been transformed of late. Two years ago, the new track configuration from Abbey through to Brooklands made its debut, while in 2011, the new pits complex dubbed the 'Silverstone Wing' was used for the first time. The racing produced has been good, but it takes a little getting used to.

"I loved the layout of the old circuit," says Jenson Button. "The new circuit is a different challenge, but I really liked the flow of the old one. It reminded me of the old days watching 'Nige' winning there.

"It does change the circuit and it does change how you set up the car.

But we can still race well there, with good opportunities to overtake. You still have the exciting corners like Copse, Becketts and Stowe, so it remains a special place."

The start, in particular, is more testing than before. Not so much because of the first corner, but because of what follows. Turns 1 and 2 aren't so much the problem — it's when the cars concertina up at the slow Turn 3 that things get interesting. And with Wellington Straight following the sequence of slow/medium corners, it will be a spectacular half-lap before everyone sorts themselves out.





Silverstone team wins

Ferrari 13



McLaren 12



Williams 8



Lotus 3



Red Bull 2





Winning drivers

Jim Clark 3; Jose Gonzalez 2; Alberto Ascari 2; Jackie Stewart 2; Jacques Villeneuve 2; David Coulthard 2; Fernando Alonso 2; Kimi Raikkonen 1; Lewis Hamilton 1; Sebastian Vettel 1; Mark Webber 1; Ayrton Senna 1; Nino Farina 1; Juan Manuel Fangio 1; Peter Collins 1; Jack Brabham 1; Peter Revson 1; John Watson 1; Damon Hill 1; Johnny Herbert 1; Mika Hakkinen 1; Rubens Barrichello 1; Juan Pablo Montoya 1; James Hunt 1; Emerson Fittipaldi 1; Clay Regazzoni 1

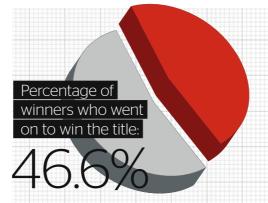
Races at Silverstone: 45

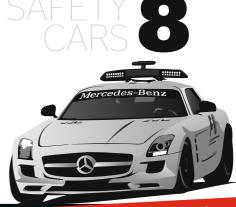


AVERAGE NUMBER OF FINISHERS

14.2

Average winning margin: 30.575s
Biggest: 111s (1952); smallest: 1.360s (2010)





SILVERSTONE GP TV AND RADIO LISTINGS

■ FRIDAY JULY 6

0945-1155 Free Practice 1

LIVE (Sky Sports F1)

0955-1135 Free Practice 1

LIVE (BBC Red Button/
online/5 Live Sports Extra)

1345-1555 Free Practice 2

LIVE (Sky Sports F1)

1355-1535 Free Practice 2

LIVE (BBC Red Button/
online/5 Live Sports Extra)

■ SATURDAY JULY 7
0945-1110 Free Practice 3
LIVE (Sky Sports F1
0955-1105 Free Practice 3
LIVE (BBC Red Button/online)
1200-1435 Qualifying LIVE
(Sky Sports F1)
1210-1430 Qualifying LIVE
(BBC2)
1300-1410 Qualifying LIVE

(BBC Radio 5 Live)

■ SUNDAY JULY 8

1130-1615 Race LIVE
(Sky Sports F1)
1205-1255 Pre-race LIVE (BBC1)
1255-1530 Race LIVE (BBC2)
1300-1500 Race LIVE
(BBC Radio 5 Live)

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Valencia, Fernando Alonso's poor performance in qualifying drops him báck into the clutches of Kimi Raikkonen and Pastor Maldonado.

101%

Despite winning

from 11th in

Alonso 100.959



Raikkonen 101.061



Kobayashi 101.295

100%

Hamilton 100.220

Lewis Hamilton has consolidated his position at the head of the field after qualifying in second position at Valencia. Vettel's pole and Webber's 19th has meant they have swapped places on the supergrid.



Vettel 100.606



Schumacher 100.722



Webber 100.768



Button 100.777





Hulkenberg 101.466



Di Resta 101.483



Massa 101.512



FLASHBACK

ALONSO TRIUMPHS OVER THE ELEMENTS

Fernando Alonso took his only win of 2011 in changeable conditions. Jenson Button retired after being released from the pits with his front-right wheel unattached and Lewis Hamilton could only finish fourth in fuel-saving mode. Sebastian Vettel was followed home by Mark Webber who was unhappy after being told not to attack Vettel in the closing stages.

Sebastian Vettel (Red Bull)

Mark Webber (Red Bull)



SUPER-SOFT



Ricciardo 101.703

Senna 101.824

10

SOFT

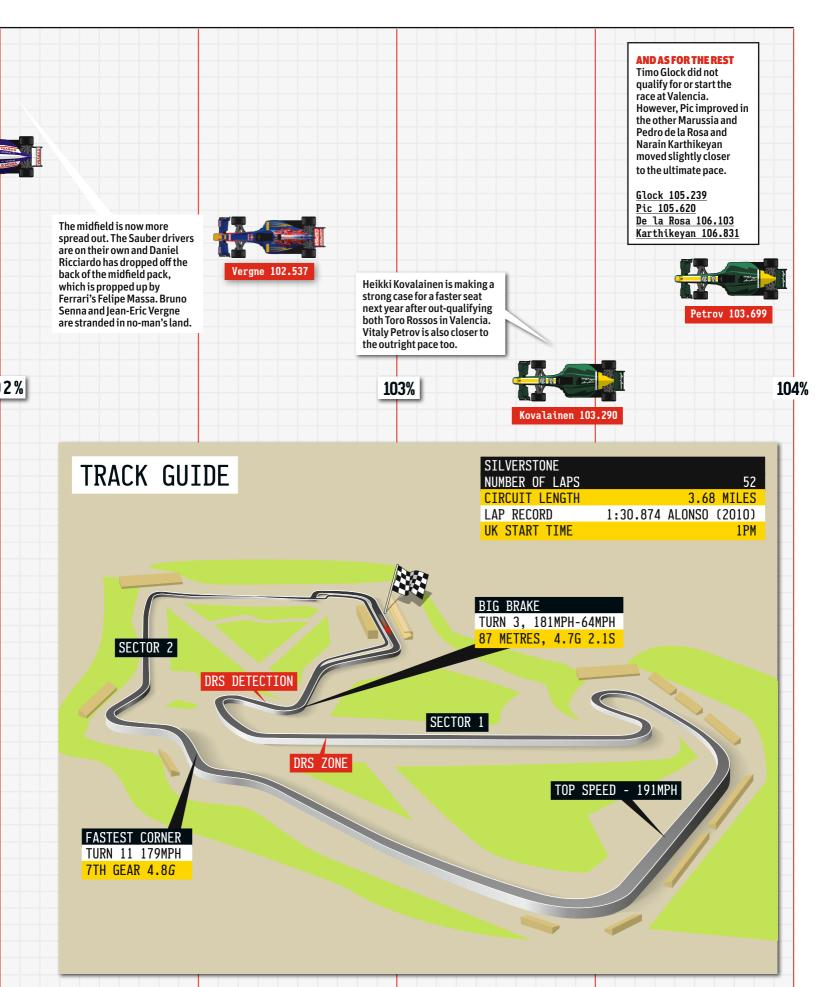


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STRAIGHT TALK DAVID COULTHARD

13-time GP winner and 2001 world title runner-up

Our two-time British GPwinning columnist knows all about the pressure of racing 'at home' and feels Lewis Hamilton is our best bet for a British victory

ancy a British winner at Silverstone this weekend? Well, you shouldn't look any further than Lewis Hamilton then, because he's got a reasonable chance of adding to his 2008 win.

Jenson Button, on the other hand, has had wretched luck at Silverstone over the years and has never finished on the podium in his home grand prix; although he was looking pretty damn strong last year before McLaren forgot to attach his front wheel properly at the pitstop.

Don't forget young Paul di Resta either. He's not in a position to win with Force India, but that team was dangerous at Valencia and he could have done even better than seventh had the safety car not come out mid-race. He's gaining a fair old following from the British crowd now, so that should spur him on.

COPING WITH THE PRESSURE

I took part in a few British GPs myself and was fortunate enough to win it twice. As former world champions, Lewis and Jenson will be the centre of attention.

I never used to prepare for Silverstone any differently to any other race if I could help it. Yes I'd get more media work to do in the weeks leading up it, but living outside the UK for a long time I wasn't really exposed to the coverage, which helped me to stay focused and not get carried away with the idea of it being a special race that I had to win.

You can't help but be a little taken back by the sheer level of support once you're at the circuit though. The British fans are just so enthusiastic, and very fair too; much more so than some other nationalities I could mention... I remember feeling particularly bad in one of my McLaren years for having a bad qualifying, and there was a little sense of having let down the fans who had come to see me stick it on pole. That was strange, because the burning ambition to win the British GP wasn't really there. At the back of my mind maybe, but not right there in my consciousness.

I wanted to win, yes, but no more so than any other race. They were all worth 10 points after all...

CRUNCH TIME FOR LEWIS'S FUTURE

It's always a difficult time for a driver when you're not quite sure what the future holds for you. Looking at the situation Lewis seems to be in, he clearly has a decision to make which is whether a) he wants to drive for the team that's going to give him the best long-term chance of winning races and titles or b) he wants to make as much money as possible.

Sometimes the answer is the same for both, but if I were him I'd stay with McLaren. It's a wonderful team in many respects and Lewis is still young enough in his personal development process to gain significantly from that. Mercedes looks his only other option, and that's only if Michael Schumacher retires. But even if that happens, I still think that team's too young to be able to guarantee him that they could be a year-on-year equal of McLaren.

I spent nine successful years with McLaren and signed a number of contract extensions during that period. There's no secret to dealing with Ron [Dennis] and Martin [Whitmarsh] at the negotiating table. In fact, they're very straightforward to deal with. They never let a contractual situation get in the way of a personal relationship and simply present you with a contract with their terms and conditions, spelling out what they think you're worth. And you either sign it or you don't. To not sign it, you'd want to have a pretty good option elsewhere. **



IC. TEE/I A

"Fancy a British winner? Then

look no further than Hamilton"



Hone favourite

Williams has been a hugely successful team, but its victories have never tasted sweeter than at the British Grand Prix. *TONY DODGINS* caught up with Sir Frank to take a look back

wins, 127 pole positions, nine constructors' championships and seven drivers' titles. The team has been successful all over the globe, but there is still a special affinity with the British Grand Prix at Silverstone.

A 16-year-old Frank Williams first hitchhiked to the Northamptonshire track in 1958, where he saw Peter Collins win for Ferrari.

"It was captivating," he remembers, "a fantastic atmosphere. Over the years it has always been the same — a great race track and always with a very knowledgeable and supportive crowd. The British fans don't only get behind the British drivers and teams, they are true fans of the sport as a whole.

"And it's our home race obviously, so we like to get as many people as possible from the factory to Silverstone, to be part of the event."

Back in '58, little did Frank know that 21 years later he would be sitting with wife Ginny in a small white caravan in that Silverstone paddock, such as it then was, on Saturday July 14, 1979, trying to take in what had just happened...

Williams Grand Prix Engineering had just taken its first pole position with Alan Jones and won its first grand prix with Clay Regazzoni. Frank and Ginny didn't want to leave the circuit. They sat together in that caravan with their arms around each other and watched the sun go down.

As Virginia Williams said in her book *A Different Kind of Life*, "drivers' and constructors' championships were to follow but nothing, nothing at all, would ever compete with that day".

Back then, Colin Chapman's ground effect Lotuses had pushed back the boundaries of achievable performance when Mario Andretti won the championship in 1978, but Patrick Head's Williams FW07 raised the bar yet higher the following year.

The car did not make its debut until race five and was clearly pretty special. Another tweak just before Silverstone turned it into a rocket ship.

Head and Frank Dernie wanted to tidy up the floor around the engine. When they made a fairing that kept the airflow attached, Dernie witnessed the biggest single improvement he ever saw in a windtunnel. They got it made in the factory the week of the grand prix and in Thursday practice Jones blew everyone away.

Bear in mind that in the previous race at Dijon, Jean-Pierre Jabouille had just won the first GP for the Renault V6 turbo and many predicted that

"Everyone was staring at their stopwatches. I'll never forget the look of despair on their faces"

Williams recalls July '79

the blown car would fly around Silverstone's wide expanses.

But, at a time when most of the opposition was still lapping in the 1m14s, Jones suddenly stopped the clock in 1m11.88s! He was pinching himself to believe the speed at which he could turn the car into Copse, Stowe and Club. The Renault couldn't get within half a second of him.

"I'll always remember how it was when we saw that time on the watch," Frank says. "Just unbelievable, but a lovely warm feeling! The pitlane seemed to go very quiet. I was busy checking to see that nobody else was doing those times, but everyone else was staring at their stopwatches even more intently than we were. I'll never forget the look of despair on their faces. It was as if God had given us a miracle, but it was actually something they'd found in the windtunnel."

In the race Jones simply disappeared

until, cruelly, 38 laps into the 67, he appeared in the pitlane, tell-tale white smoke from the engine signalling the end of his afternoon. Throughout the 18 months he had been with the team, the Australian had developed a close bond with Williams and Head and this was a very sad moment.

In the second car, though, Regazzoni had passed the Renaults and went on to cross the line almost 25s clear of Rene Arnoux to score that historic first Williams win.

"It was a tremendous day, of course," Williams recalls, "but we were all upset for Alan, who had to wait until the following year to win the British GP at Brands Hatch in his championship year, which was compensation of sorts."

There was then a five-year interlude before Williams triumphed again on British soil, again at Brands Hatch in the European Grand Prix.

"That was another landmark win — not for us this time but for Nigel [Mansell]. It was his first grand prix win and, boy, didn't he go on to give us some excitement!"

Mansell's repeat victory at the same circuit in the British GP just nine months later was, however, a landmark for Williams. It was just four months after the paralysing car accident, returning from a pre-season test at Paul Ricard, that so nearly claimed his life.

Having got home from hospital just six weeks previously, it was the race that Williams somewhat ambitiously targeted for his grand prix return. In reality it was too soon, but determination should be Williams's middle name and he would not be denied.

On the Friday he was collected from the lawn of the family home by Bernie Ecclestone's helicopter, a young Claire Williams (now a member of the Williams board) joining her brothers in waving a white sheet to show the pilot where to land!

At the track Williams bravely hosted

◀ a press conference, saw the 'Welcome Back Frank' banners in the grandstand and was back where he felt he belonged. On Saturday he did it all again and by the end of the day was exhausted, deferring to medical advice to watch Sunday's race from home.

Williams is old-school, not prone to outward displays of emotion, no matter that internally those feelings must undoubtedly have been there. Very stiff-upper-lip.

"It was good to be back," he says. And that's all he says.

On Sunday, the biggest ever race-day crowd to watch a British GP - 115,000 - saw Mansell, in the spare car, brilliantly overcome Williams teammate Nelson Piquet to score a one-two as the boss watched from home. The team persuaded a reluctant Ginny to go up onto the podium and accept the constructors' trophy.

If anyone thought that Mansell could not top that Brands performance, they were wrong. Silverstone '87 was one of the classics as a delayed Mansell chased down Piquet and sold him a famous dummy at Stowe to take the lead and the most dramatic of victories. That year Williams achieved his aim of attending every race, the team having bought its first private jet.

But still Mansell wasn't finished. At Williams for the second time, he won at Silverstone with the FW14 in 1991 and with the fabulous active-ride FW14B the following year.

"Nigel was a fantastic, charging, tremendously determined driver," Williams says, "and those home wins were him at his best, tremendous to watch."

In a sense, Mansell and Williams were bringing F1 to the masses, the crowd that invaded the track in the wake of the '92 success, being more Wembley than Wimbledon, sparking a safety review at Silverstone.

The active FW14B was in a different



THREE OF THE WORST...

1979 An epic, historic day for the team as Clay Regazzoni scores its first win. but also sadness as Alan Jones retires after taking pole and leading effortlessly. A cracked weld on a Williams-modified Cosworth water pump is the culprit. 1983 The last year with the Cosworth DFV before the switch to Honda, and the FWO8C has been left behind by the turbos. Reigning champion Keke Rosberg qualifies 13th, 4.3s off pole(!), and Jacques Laffite is 20th. They finish 11th and 12th, two laps down. The Honda can't come soon enough. 1995 Damon Hill misjudges a bid to pass Michael Schumacher at Silverstone and both crash out (above). Frank Williams issues a statement: "Press reports that I labelled Damon Hill a prat and apologised to Benetton are totally erroneous..."

league, but to extract the maximum from it you had to be brave.

"Nigel talked about a Silverstone crowd being worth a second a lap and I think he almost meant it," Williams smiles. "Certainly that pole position in 1992 was quite extraordinary and it had [team-mate] Riccardo [Patrese] shaking his head and complimenting Nigel on the size of certain parts of his anatomy!

"The active car did not always give the driver feedback in real time, what with all the computer-controlled software. The grip was always there, but sometimes it did not feel that





way when you turned in. You had to have blind faith and commitment and that was Nigel."

For the record, Mansell's '92 British GP pole was 1m18.965s, Patrese's time in the same car 1m20.884s, and that was still good enough for second...

When Mansell left Williams at the end of the season, annoyed that the team had signed Alain Prost and failed to meet his monetary demands as the new world champion, Prost lost no time in giving the squad a Silverstone hat-trick when he won the race in '93.

Damon Hill, unlucky the year before, kept the momentum going with a

AND SIX OF THE BEST FOR WILLIAMS AT HOME



1979 Clay Regazzoni scores the first grand prix win for Williams in the FWO7 after team-mate Alan Jones takes pole position, leads, then retires.



1985 In the European Grand Prix at Brands Hatch Nigel Mansell claims his first win at the 72nd time of asking in the Williams-Honda FW10.



1986 Back at Brands Hatch again, Mansell breaks a driveshaft off the grid but takes the restart in the spare FW11 following Jacques Laffite's accident and overhauls team-mate Nelson Piquet to delight a huge home crowd.



Apopularfirst winfor Williams

837632 WILLGP G
311773 SHAD S G

14 JULY 79

CONGRATULATIONS TO FRANK, CLAY, PATRICK, GEPFOFF, FRANK
IN AND EVERYBODY AT SAUDI WILLIAMS ON FIRST EVER AND WELLIN AND EVERYBODY AT SHADOW RACING+

ROM EVERYBODY AT SHADOW RACING+

837632 WILLGP G
3117 SHAD S G

memorable victory in 1994. It was an awful time for the team, just after Ayrton Senna's fatal accident at Imola, and that was not lost on the crowd that day, as Damon stood on the top step of the podium.

"Damon handled himself very well and that was important for the team," Williams says. "I think Silverstone was a particularly poignant moment for him, winning the British Grand Prix, an achievement that had always eluded his father."

In fact, the only '90s Silverstone grand prix that Williams failed to win between 1991 and '97 was '95,

as Jacques Villeneuve followed up with back-to-back victories in 1996 and '97.

Since then, it's been a long, barren spell. And not just at home. Pastor Maldonado's Barcelona win was the team's first victory since Juan Pablo Montoya won the Brazilian Grand Prix in 2004.

It means that for the first time in a long while, Williams can head for Silverstone knowing that the team has a genuinely competitive car. Dare he hope for another win?

"That would be nice," he says,
"but failing that we'll take a bagful
of points!" Are you listening, Pastor?



1987 Another charging drive from Mansell at Silverstone as he thwarts Piquet (leading, above) again, repeatedly smashing the lap record and diving inside Nelson at Stowe with two laps to go as the FW11B dominates.



1992 Mind-blowing qualifying lap and win at Silverstone from Mansell in the dominant active-ride FW14B. He qualifies almost 2s quicker than teammate Riccardo Patrese, who's still second, and 2.74s quicker than Ayrton Senna's third-placed McLaren!



1994 After a traumatic start to the season and 'finger trouble' in practice at Silverstone as both Damon Hill's top wishbones pull out of their mounting on the first lap out of the pits(!), Hill takes his second win of the year in the FW16 to set up a title challenge.



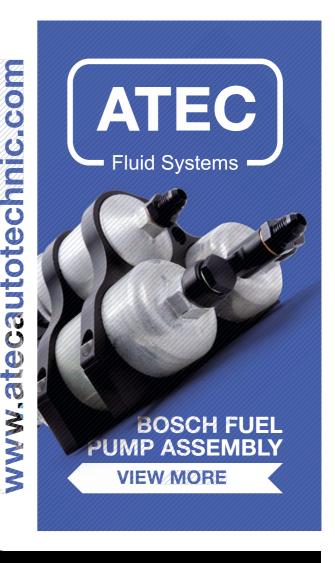


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◀ Force India driver Paul di Resta is heading into only his second home grand prix. Last year, he qualified an astonishing sixth, one place behind Button and four clear of Hamilton and the crowd reaction is still with him.

"It was a feeling I've never experienced," says di Resta. "Even when I walked out of the garage after Q3 to get weighed, the crowd erupted. You don't get that sort of acknowledgement from the fans anywhere else. It was a real eye-opener for the support F1 has in the UK. The drivers' parade, the atmosphere around it, gave me goosebumps.

"The weekend all-round for me was good in difficult conditions. We performed nearly to the best of our ability and it was probably going to be our best grand prix. It would be nice to repeat that performance and I've got every reason to believe we can do that again.

"Second time around, I know a bit more about what to expect, so hopefully I will be able to enjoy it a bit more. To beat the success we had last year will be a challenge in itself."

Di Resta was on course for a finish in the top seven when he was called in for his pitstop. Team-mate Adrian Sutil picked up a puncture at a similar moment, but the message to stay out got to di Resta too late. When he reached his box, the wrong tyres were there and he lost 20 seconds. His race ruined, he later

BRITISH
GRAND RIX

SIL

wis celebrated as the stuff of legend

hit Sebastien Buemi while trying to recover and came home 15th.

It's clear that the first home race leaves an indelible mark. Button picks out his maiden British GP driving for Williams in 2000 as the standout moment. As well as being the most memorable, it's perhaps his best Silverstone drive and was only his fourth grand prix — for this was the year of the infamous April race when the car parks were largely closed down on qualifying day and mud prevailed.

"I've never been on the F1 podium in Britain, so I don't know how that feels," says Button. "But my first year there was a lot of fun. I started sixth, overtook Michael [Schumacher] into Turn 1 and ran most of the race on nine cylinders. It was a great race to come home fifth, so that was probably one of my best memories. Also great was 2010, fighting

"It's a feeling I've never experienced. The crowd erupted. The atmosphere gave me goosebumps"

Di Resta remembers 2011

my way through from 14th and finishing fourth."

Last year, things didn't go so well for Button. After 39 laps, he was released from a pitstop with three wheels on his wagon and had to stop.

Perhaps he can learn a little from his team-mate when it comes to top-three finishes at Silverstone. Including his win, Hamilton has three British GP podiums in five starts and has only had one race there that could be described as bad. That was in the 2009 McLaren, a poor car on high-speed tracks, although he did get the crowd on its feet with a brilliant overtaking manoeuvre on Fernando Alonso on his way to 16th place. The post-race donuts also went down well and showed his desire to entertain the fans even after a disappointing result. As he's less interested in entertaining





















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ALL THREE OF BRITAIN'S HOME HEROES RACED AT SILVERSTONE DURING THEIR IUNIOR CAREERS. HERE'S HOW THEY GOT ON...

It's no surprise given his stellar junior career that Hamilton won at Silverstone in every class of car he raced there. The first win was in June 2003, starting a run of 10 victories in 11 races that netted him the Formula Renault UK crown. He didn't return until 2006, when he took a rare double victory on a GP2 weekend. During the sprint race, he pulled one of the greatest overtaking moves seen in the category by diving around the outside of

both Nelson Piquet and Clivio Piccione at Maggots. Hamilton dominated GP2..





Despite what you may conclude from his F1 record, Button has had his share of Silverstone success. He claimed his first British Formula Ford Championship race win there in April 1998, returning in September to clinch the title in a tense shootout with Derek Hayes and win the second race of the double-header. He was also a winner in British F3, claiming the penultimate round in October 1999 prior to his surprise

Next stop F1 for F3 ace Button



The Scot started only three races at Silverstone before reaching F1. On his debut competing in Formula Renault UK in June 2003, he couldn't qualify because of car problems and came through from 29th to 13th. The next year, he managed a pole and a second place, but was T-boned by Westley Barber at the Abbey hairpin in a move that came close to taking di Resta's head off! He does at least have

at Silverstone prior to F1.

wins at Brands Hatch in F3 Euro Series and the DTM (twice) to prove it's not all bad luck at home.





■ with reminiscences of his day of days in 2008, it's worth looking back at that race to remind ourselves of just how great a drive it was. Of Hamilton's 18 grand prix wins, this is probably the best and stands shoulder-to-shoulder with the most remarkable wet-weather wins of all time. Following a disappointing qualifying, ending up fourth after first a mistake and then a conservative lap during O3 while team-mate Heikki Kovalainen claimed his first pole, he wasted no time recovering. A perfect getaway meant that he had dispatched Kimi Raikkonen's Ferrari and surprised front-row starter Mark Webber's Red Bull by Copse. He almost got Kovalainen at Copse, but the Finn capitalised on the extra grip in the wet available on the outside line to reclaim his lead, the pair making contact in the process.

On lap five, Hamilton passed Kovalainen with ease at Stowe. By the end of that lap, he was 1.8 seconds clear. By lap 10, he was six ahead of

Raikkonen, who had also overcome Kovalainen. While the Ferrari challenge fell by the wayside after Raikkonen was left on worn wets at his first stop in anticipation of drying conditions



Hamilton made the podium in '07 debut

only for the rain to return with a vengeance a few laps later, Hamilton's drive was remarkable. On a day when it was easier to catalogue those that didn't have an off rather than those that did (Felipe Massa famously had five separate rotational incidents), Hamilton barely put a foot wrong, save for a brief grassy moment at Abbey.

As Mark Hughes put it in his AUTOSPORT report: "There are technical reasons that go some way to explaining how Lewis Hamilton pulled off such a stunning wet-weather victory and why his winning margin was well over a minute. They are to do with tyre choice and performance, wrong calls by Ferrari etc. But they don't account for everything. The gap between them and what transpired is only explained by the human factor — and a drive of such virtuosity that it will in time be spoken of in the same breath as Barcelona '96 or Donington '93.

"Hamilton produced a mesmerising performance, locked in a groove that left his rivals spinning all around him."

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BRITISH GP STATS

33.9%
Win rate for
British drivers
on home soil
in the world
championship era

7Most consecutive races without a British win

45Number of British
GPs held at
Silverstone

210Record number of laps led by Jim Clark at Silverstone

6 Number of Silverstone fastest laps claimed by Nigel Mansell

14 Number of McLaren British GP wins, two less than Ferrari ■ It wasn't unusual for Hamilton to describe it as his best victory, as we've heard that kind of thing plenty of times. But in this case he was right. What's more, he was struggling for visibility even by the standards of so wet a race.

"I was having big problems with my visor, I couldn't see a thing," he said afterwards. "The right side especially was fogging up, so always between Turn 1 and Turn 2 I would have to put the visor up and clean it on the inside and then put it down. Then I would have to do it again before Stowe."

It was an incredibly disciplined performance from a driver who had been under fire after clattering Raikkonen's Ferrari at a red light at the pit exit in Canada, and for thinking he would get away unpenalised with passing Sebastian Vettel after short-cutting a chicane in the French Grand Prix.

"It took an incredible amount of energy to stay focused," said Hamilton. "I needed to be 100 per cent, no more and no less. I had a lot of pressure on me today. I would have been happy with just getting a point and with that approach, I just remained relaxed. It was really important that I had three Cs: cool, calm and collected."

Inevitably, the crowd went wild and stood to herald his victory on his final lap. Hamilton said after the race that he was aware of the support, although in the years since he hasn't quite managed to repeat that victory to recapture that



adulation. After the debacle of 2009, he claimed a second place to Vettel in 2010, which given the superiority of the Red Bull he couldn't have bettered, while last year he was fourth.

Arguably, this is Hamilton's best chance of claiming a second victory. He certainly has to be considered the best hope of the three, given that Button is struggling and has banked only six points in the last five races. Certainly, if he was looking for a confidence boost, Button's Silverstone record gives him little encouragement. After points in his first race, he has endured poor cars (notably with Benetton in 2001 and Honda in 2007/8), reliability problems and tyre troubles.

Fortunately, he has one thing in common with di Resta in terms of winning at Silverstone — both won in the McLaren AUTOSPORT BRDC Award, based upon driving assessments conducted at the track. Di Resta, who won in 2004, describes it as his "most memorable moment" and it led to his

first taste of F1 in a McLaren there. Button, too, had his maiden F1 test at Silverstone as part of his prize in November 1999.

But each will hope that their happiest memories are to come. Certainly, Silverstone holds a special place in their hearts and gives a unique opportunity to get a little closer to the most dedicated fans in the world. The British Grand Prix is all about atmosphere, and whatever happens to Hamilton, Button and di Resta, that will be magic this weekend. It's certainly no normal weekend for them, as di Resta explains.

"I stay at the track in the BRDC campsite," says di Resta. "It's the only chance I get all year to stay at the track. It's great to be able to do that and soak up the atmosphere."

On an F1 calendar where there are too many races with sparse crowds, that's all too rare a thing. The British fans remain the best in the world and you can be sure that the home drivers will do everything they can to deliver on Sunday.





1965: BRITAIN'S GREATEST DAY

The best possible result for British drivers on Sunday would be a clean sweep of the podium. It wouldn't be unprecedented, for it has happened four times. In 1963 and '64, it was just a rostrum lockout, while in 1958, Peter Collins, Mike Hawthorn, Roy Salvadori and Stuart Lewis-Evans

"A dozen of the 20 starters were British, so the dice were loaded in their favour"

swept the top four. But the day of days for home heroes came at Silverstone in 1965.

Granted, a dozen of the 20 starters were British, so the dice were loaded in their favour. But even so, it's a unique achievement in world championship history. No surprise that it was Jim Clark, winner of the previous three British GPs, who led the charge. From pole position, he claimed the lead on the opening lap from Honda driver Richie Ginther and began to pull away.

During the final 20 laps, BRM's Graham Hill began to cut into Clark's

lead. The Climax engine in his Lotus 33 was losing oil pressure and he started to nurse it, taking it easy in the corners, dropping it into neutral and trying to preserve his lead over Hill. Realising that he had a chance, Hill started to push hard, setting fastest lap along the way. In the end, Clark crossed the line just 3.2s clear.

Behind the pair, John Surtees (Ferrari), Mike Spence (Lotus) and Jackie Stewart (BRM) rounded out the top five after the demise of Ginther's Honda. Brabham driver Dan Gurney was the sole foreign interloper in the points, the American finishing sixth.

BRITISH GRAND PRIX HOME WINNERS

YEAR	I DKIVEK	I IEAMS
1955	Stirling Moss	Mercedes
1957	Stirling Moss/Tony Brooks	Vanwall
1958	Peter Collins	Ferrari
1962	Jim Clark	Lotus
1963	Jim Clark	Lotus
1964	Jim Clark	Lotus
1965	Jim Clark	Lotus
1967	Jim Clark	Lotus
1969	Jackie Stewart	Matra
1971	Jackie Stewart	Tyrrell
1977	James Hunt	McLaren
1981	John Watson	McLaren
1986	Nigel Mansell	Williams
1987	Nigel Mansell	Williams
1991	Nigel Mansell	Williams
1992	Nigel Mansell	Williams
1994	Damon Hill	Williams
1995	Johnny Herbert	Benetton
1999	David Coulthard	McLaren
2000	David Coulthard	McLaren
2008	Lewis Hamilton	McLaren



Jackie Stewart won in 1969 (above) and 1971



ritain and Germany are traditionally fierce sporting rivals, yet motor racing bucks this trend. If you want to support the British drivers in their home grand prix, as well as a Union Flag you might also take a Mercedes banner to show your allegiance, for Lewis Hamilton, Jenson Button and Paul di Resta are all propelled by its metal.

Around 20 miles north of Silverstone is Mercedes High Performance Powertrains in Brixworth, the heart of the engine programme and perhaps F1's lowest-profile facility despite a staff of over 400 people.

The alliance between British drivers and Mercedes machinery dates all the way back to 1902, when ET Stead became the first to compete in a Mercedes driving a Simplex 40 PS. Dick Seaman famously won the German Grand Prix driving for Mercedes in 1938 and when the marque returned for two years post-war, Stirling Moss triumphed in his home race in 1955.

In recent years, British success and

Mercedes power have gone hand-inhand. Not since Button's Hungarian Grand Prix victory in 2006 has a British driver won without a Mercedes engine. Before that, you have to go back to 1999, with Eddie Irvine for Ferrari and Johnny Herbert's Ford-propelled Nurburgring victory for the Stewart team. Only Ford has propelled British drivers to more victories, all the

more reason to wave the flag for the Anglo-German alliance this weekend.

Considering that, 1954-55 aside, Mercedes has only built F1 engines since 1994, this is an impressive achievement. After a toe-in-the-water effort with engine partner Ilmor in 1993, supplying Sauber, the powerplant was dubbed a Mercedes in 1994 prior to becoming McLaren's engine partner

BRITISH DRIVER F1 WINS BY ENGINE FORD 50 MERCEDES 43 RENAULT 39 CLIMAX 27 FERRARI 19 HONDA 15 BRM 14 VANWALL 9 MASERATI 3 MUGEN-HONDA 1



from the start of the 1995 season.

early in 2006, and the facility has

contributed to making Mercedes

arguably the best engines in F1 -

system regularly in 2009.

although you can make a strong case

for Renault having that accolade – as

well as heading up its successful KERS

development project. So successful was

the latter that McLaren was one of two

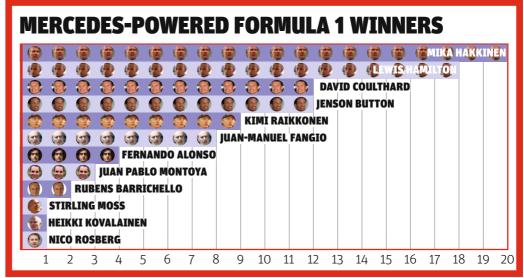
teams, alongside Ferrari, to use the new

David Coulthard's victory in the 1997

Australian GP opened the floodgates.

Construction at Brixworth started





engines (the Mercedes units are lifed at 2500kms), it's easy to underestimate the amount of work that goes into building, maintaining and monitoring the powerplants. It's easy to see why Mercedes needs so large a facility.

As well as the 48 race engines needed for its six race cars through the season, there are also additional units for testing. Mercedes is coy about total engine build numbers, but it's safe to assume that there are also a surprising number of additional units built for testing.

It's likely that should an engine in a car's race pool exhibit a problem, this will be replicated on a unit on the dyno to get an idea of life and how to manage the problem. On top of building up engines that include around 3000 parts (and around 1000 individual different ones), powering an F1 car still requires a huge amount of effort.

Work is also well-advanced on the new-for-2014 1.5-litre turbocharged V6. Not only is this a dramatic change of direction from the current 2.4-litre V8s, but there's the added challenge of incorporating beefed up energy recovery systems, including new-to-F1 concepts such as turbo compounding.

Given the quality of Mercedes's facility and its track record, don't be surprised if it produces one of the most sought after V6s straight out of the box. **



TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER -FROM F1 TO THE ROAD

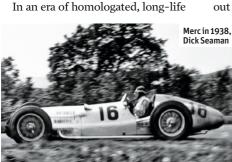
KERS is easily dismissed as an expensive white elephant. But not at Brixworth, which harnessed know-how gained from designing, building and operating the energy recovery system used in F1 to create the 550bhp electric propulsion for the Mercedes-Benz AMG SLS E-Cell.

This was no in-house vanity scheme: Mercedes-Benz High Performance Powertrains had to tender for the project and then design, build and put into product the drivetrain. The quartet of electric motors, lithium ion battery technology and the weight-saving techniques all have their roots in F1 know-how, and the same people who developed

the Mercedes KERS in 2009 ran this project.

Efficiency is vital, as well.
The F1 unit is reckoned to be
80 per cent efficient and there's
no question that the competitive
imperative in grand prix racing
as accelerated understanding of
the technology at Brixworth.

The result is a car that will go into production next year that Mercedes reckons will be able to lap the Nurburgring Nordschleife in under eight minutes. With technology also trickling down to other Mercedes cars, including energy recovery and cylinder cut mechanisms, the link between racing and car manufacturing remains strong.









ENTRY LIST



































PASTOR **MALDONADO BRUNO SENNA**



HEIKKI KOVALAINEN **VITALY PETROV**



PEDRO **DE LA ROSA** NARAIN KARTHIKEYAN



TIMO **GLOCK CHARLES PIC**





Smokin': Red Arrows



Banking on a thriller







Alonso starred last year

TIMETABLE

FRIDAY	JUL	Y 6
TIME		EVEN

FRIDAY JULY 6		
TIME	EVENT	COVERAGE
0700	Gates and grandstands open	
0830-0915	GP3 practice	
1000-1130	F1 free practice 1	BBC Red Button/Sky Sports F1
1155-1225	GP2 practice	Sky Sports F1
1240-1315	Historic F1 practice/qualifying	
1400-1530	F1 free practice 2	BBC Red Button/Sky Sports F1
1600-1630	GP2 qualifying	Sky Sports F1
1700-1745	Porsche Supercup practice	
1745-1955	Live entertainment on main stage	
2000	Venue closes	

SATURDAY JULY 7

EXTOREM COLT		
TIME	EVENT	COVERAGE
0600	Gates and grandstands open	
0845-0915	GP3 qualifying	Sky Sports F1
1000-1100	F1 free practice 3	BBC Red Button/Sky Sports F1
1125-1155	Porsche Supercup qualifying	
1300-1400	F1 qualifying	BBC2/Sky Sports F1
1440-1545	GP2 feature race (29 laps)	Sky Sports F1
1620-1655	GP3 race 1 (14 laps)	Sky Sports F1
1725-1800	Historic F1 race (12 laps)	
1730-2100	Live entertainment on main stage	
2100	Venue closes	

SUNDAY JULY 8

TIME	EVENT	COVERAGE
0600	Gates and grandstands open	
0815-0850	GP3 race 2 (14 laps)	Sky Sports F1
0930-1020	GP2 sprint race (21 laps)	Sky Sports F1
1045-1120	Porsche Supercup race (12 laps)	Eurosport 2 at 2145-2230
1130	F1 drivers' parade	
1200	The Red Arrows	
1300-1500	British Grand Prix (52 laps)	BBC2/Sky Sports F1
1530-1645	BBC post-race forum on main stage	
1645-2000	Grand Prix party, featuring	
	drivers & pop acts on main stage	
2000	Venue closes	



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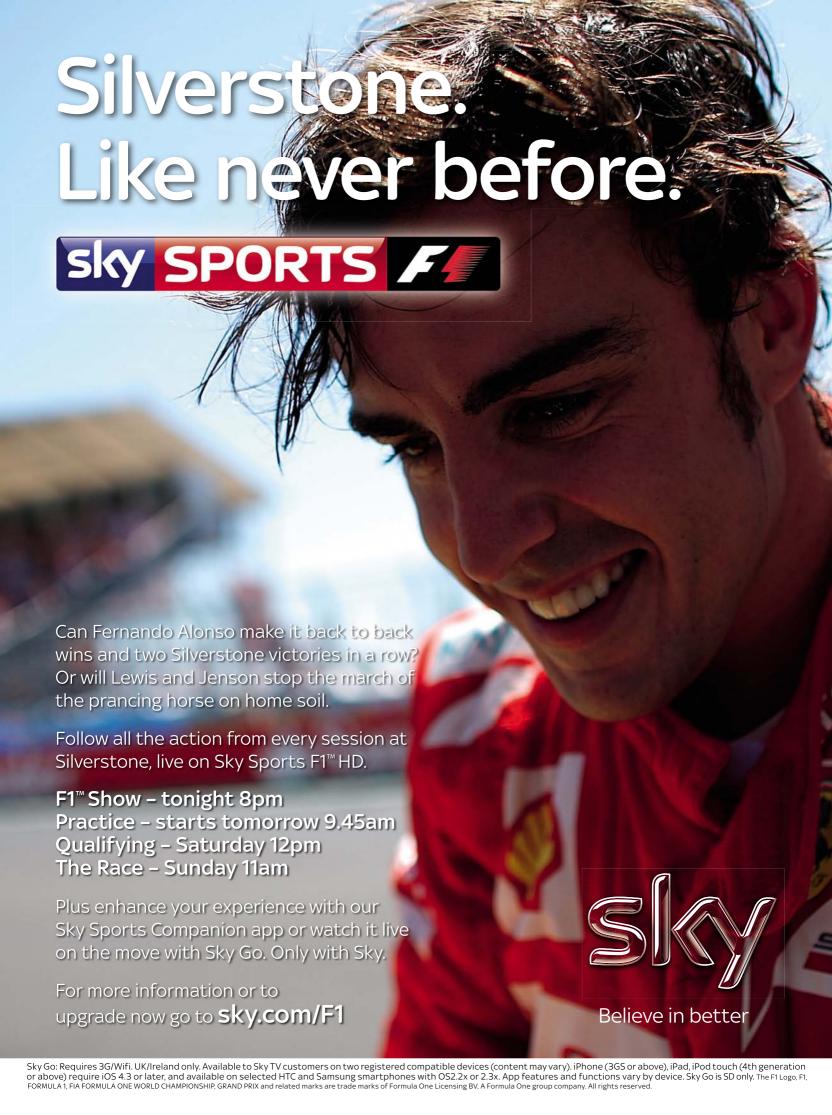


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INTERNATIONAL RACES & RESULTS

NASCAR SPRINT CUP Kentucky (USA), Rd 17/36

QUICK RESULTS

- -> Winner Brad Keselowski
- -> Pole Jimmie Johnson
- Laps led Kyle Busch
- -> Points leader Matt Kenseth

RACE RATING At least Kahne's late charge diluted tedious fuel-saving

REPORTSWORLD OF SPORT



BRAD KESELOWSKI BECAME

the first NASCAR Sprint Cup driver to win three races this season with a well-judged run to victory in Kentucky.

The Penske Dodge racer was the only driver who could match the pace of early leader Kyle Busch. And, when the Joe Gibbs Racing driver took his Toyota out of contention with a hefty whack against the wall, Keselowski took over at the front.

By then darkness had descended and a new challenger had emerged in the shape of Busch's team-mate Denny Hamlin, helped by some great pitwork and his choice of taking only two fresh tyres.

Together with polesitter Jimmie Johnson (Hendrick Motorsports Chevrolet),

these three were the class of the field, but a long green-flag run to the finish meant it was fuel consumption rather than ultimate pace that paid.

A cut tyre took Johnson out of the equation, and Keselowski was able to pull away from the field while at the same time making sure he had enough fuel to get to the flag. It was an amazing turnaround for Keselowski, who wrecked his race car on the opening lap of free practice, forcing him to drive a back-up Charger.

"It's not how you start, it's how you finish," said Keselowski. "And our start to the weekend was crap. It was a gutsy showing from our team. To get a back-up car ready and up to pace where we could fight for the win took

some really hard work."

Second place fell to the Hendrick Chevy of Kasey Kahne. A loose wheel forced him to pit off sequence, but this meant that while the others were fuel saving over the closing stages he was running flat-out. As a result he breezed by team-mate Dale Earnhardt Jr and Hamlin and into second.

He had three laps to make up over four seconds on Keselowski, but fell well short. Roush Ford's Carl Edwards was running third, but a late splash-and-dash dropped him to 20th, the first of the lapped runners.

Points leader Matt Kenseth had a solid run to seventh in his Roush Fenway Ford, but Earnhardt is now just 11 points behind after a solid run to fourth.

Connell Sanders Jr

TRUCK CHAMPION BREAKS NATIONWIDE DUCK IN KENTUCKY

Richard Childress Racing driver Austin Dillon took his first Nationwide win and grabbed the points lead in the process. Kurt Busch (Kyle Busch Toyota) was second.



RESULTS 1 Brad Keselowski (Dodge

Charger), 267 laps in 2h45m02s: 2 Kasey Kahne (Chevrolet Impala), +4.399s; 3 Denny Hamlin (Toyota Camry); 4 Dale Earnhardt Jr (Chevy); 5 Jeff Gordon (Chevy); 6 Jimmie Johnson (Chevy); 7 Matt Kenseth (Ford Fusion); 8 Martin Truex Jr

(Toyota); 9 AJ Allmendinger (Dodge); 10 Kyle Busch (Toyota).

Points 1 Kenseth, 633; 2 Earnhardt, 622; 3 Johnson, 610; 4 Greg Biffle, 608; 5 Hamlin, 565; 6 Kevin Harvick, 565; 7 Clint Bowyer, 557; 8 Truex, 556; 9 Tony Stewart, 545; 10 Keselowski, 537.



3 Lewis Hamilton <> 19,867

4 Fernando Alonso > 19,645

5 Jenson Button

\$ 17,448

Ranking the world's best drivers

WHAT HAPPENED THIS WEEK

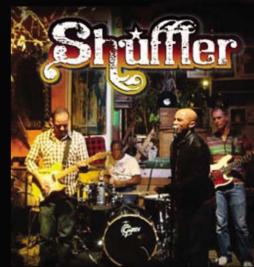
Brad Keselowski has reached an all-time high of 16th after claiming his third win of the season in Kentucky. Runner-up Kasey Kahne (21) jumps two spots. Jimmie Johnson moves up to ninth, replacing Tony Stewart as the highest-ranked American.

To see the full list, visit castroldriverrankings.com









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INTRODUCING RAFFAELE MARCIELLO

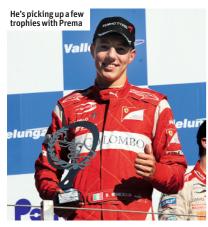
He's Italian, he's a Ferrari protege - and he's winning lots of races in Formula 3



t's been a long time — 27 years in fact — since an Italian won a grand prix for Ferrari. And it's been nearly 60 since a home-grown driver, Alberto Ascari, last won the title for the Scuderia.

The Prancing Horse has never stopped looking for the next Italian superstar. But where Ivan Capelli and Giancarlo Fisichella, to name just two, have failed, there's a genuine belief that Ferrari Driver Academy member Raffaele Marciello can succeed.

He's only 17, but already Marciello has won one of the most prestigious – and difficult – Formula 3 races of them all, the Pau Grand Prix,



and leads the revived FIA European F₃ Championship.

Marciello, who was born in Zurich, started karting in Swiss events at the age of six (Italy's ASN makes youngsters wait until they are eight). He quickly developed into an accomplished racer, and it wasn't long before Ferrari came calling.

"Luca Baldisserri, the boss of the Ferrari Driver Academy, came to speak to me at a karting event at Fasano in 2009. He told me he thought I was a good driver and that Ferrari was interested in doing something. It's all moved on from there."

Ferrari backing brought a 15-yearold Marciello into Formula Abarth in 2010, and he won races on his way to claiming third in the championship. He switched to Italian Formula 3 last year with Prema Powerteam and was third again. Then an experiencegaining stint in New Zealand's Toyota Racing Series during the European winter got him ready for the demands of a Euro Series campaign with Prema.

But while his reversed-grid win at the opening round at Hockenheim was not a huge surprise, nobody could have anticipated his domination of the FIA European championship round at Pau, especially after practice.

"I was trying to find the limit of the

Cooper tyres and I crashed," he says, sounding reminiscent of a certain Ferrari legend by the name of Gilles Villeneuve. "But I knew I couldn't do that again. For the rest of the weekend I just tried to be as consistent and as fast as possible, so to win and get my name on a list with Clark, Rindt and Fangio... Amazing feeling."

While most youngsters with hopes of an F1 future laud heroes such as Ayrton Senna, Michael Schumacher or Fernando Alonso, Marciello is trying to model himself on the man many expected would move to Ferrari next year.

"For me, the best driver was Robert Kubica [who drove for Prema in 2003]. Every race he was very fast, whether he had a good car or a bad car. He never stopped trying to get the maximum. But Alonso I also think is very good because he can stay so consistent in a race."

Now domiciled within a mile of Ferrari's Maranello HQ, and with one of the Scuderia's own – Francesco Pon – as a permanent engineer, Marciello has set himself high standards.

"At the start of the season I wanted to be in the top three," he states categorically. "Now, after the start I've had, and seeing how strong Prema is in the Euro Series, top two is the aim."

MARCIELLO CV

Born Dec 17 1994
Nationality Italian
2012 F3 Euro Series
– currently second
(5 wins);
FIA European F3
– leading (6 wins);
9th in Toyota Racing
Series (1 win)
2011 3rd in Italian



F3 (2 wins, below)
2010 3rd in Italian
Formula Abarth
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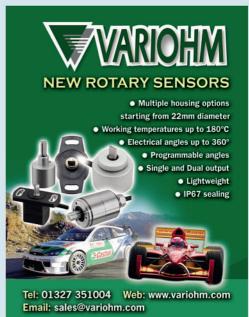


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FRENCH MANUFACTURER Renault has less than two months to devise a plan to revive its single-seater category in the UK, or face losing its place on the country's premier TOCA race package.

Renault UK and Renault Sport Technologies pulled the plug on Formula Renault UK on the eve of the 2012 season (see AUTOSPORT, March 22) after receiving just six full-season entries. The decision came with a view to returning the category to full health in 2013. AUTOSPORT understands that Renault's existing contract means it has first refusal on taking up the vacant slot on the TOCA package, but it must come up with a firm proposal, guaranteeing a viable number of entries, by September 1.

RST recently announced a revised car, built by Tatuus, would take over from the current Barazi-Epsilon design in its Eurocup, NEC and ALPS championships in 2013 (see AUTOSPORT, June 7). It also expressed hope that this car would form the basis of a revived UK series.

Renault UK communications director Jeremy Townsend said the British arm of the manufacturer would consult with race teams before coming up with a proposal ahead of TOCA's autumn deadline.

Townsend said: "We're still discussing things internally and with TOCA. We're doing some research with the teams to see what's possible. We're keen to get something done, but what form it's going to take I can't say."

FORTEC'S VIEW

Fortec Motorsports was due to run four of the six cars entered for FR UK before the plug was pulled this year. Team boss Richard Dutton remains sceptical that the championship can be made financially attractive to enough squads to make it viable again.

"It's a great championship and we would support it if it went ahead, but I don't think there are enough teams out there with the budget to buy new cars," Dutton told AUTOSPORT. "People like Mark Burdett would probably do it again, but Manor have gone abroad and Atech Reid have gone abroad.

"The cost of running cars keeps going up and I don't think the teams will have the money to invest. Renault could put some money behind it, but in the current economic climate it's going to be a tough one to sell. I'm concerned there would

"I think it's more likely the NEC championship will have a round or two in the UK [next year]."

WAITING IN THE WINGS

AUTOSPORT understands British Formula Ford representatives met with TOCA boss Alan Gow recently to discuss the possibility of filling FR UK's slot on the package next season.

The championship is considering becoming a slicks-and-wings category with its latest EcoBoost design in 2013 (see AUTOSPORT, May 24) and it is believed the championship would be keen to take up a place on such a high-profile TV package.

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WILL FORMULA RENAULT UK

make a comeback in 2013? The noises coming out of Boulogne (and its British subsidiary) suggest it will, but it's difficult to see how the French manufacturer could make it happen.

As Richard Dutton points out, the prevailing economic conditions are not conducive to coercing teams to invest in new equipment - squads that will likely be more nervous than ever given the fiasco of the spring.

Several British teams had already left for the continent - following drivers enticed to race in Renault's burgeoning European series by their strong calendars and attractive ultimate prize - and had not been replaced by the time Renault pulled the plug. It's difficult to see those teams coming back (or the squads currently competing in the healthy BARC series stepping up) without a massive financial incentive.

It's been all quiet on the Renault UK front since March's suspension of the championship, which doesn't inspire confidence that a firm plan has been drafted to revive it.

Renault Sport HQ made positive noises when it announced Tatuus will update its latest single-seater for next year, but noise will not be enough to appease TOCA boss Alan Gow - especially when he has other options waiting in the wings.

Extra contact details

Kevin Turner, features editor kevin.turner@haymarket.com

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Minassian to race 905 at Classic

Former Peugeot factory sportscar star will drive '92 Le Mans pole winner at Silverstone

SPORTSCAR STAR
Nicolas Minassian will
become the first driver
to race both a Peugeot 908 and
its early-1990s predecessor when
he takes to the wheel of a 905 in

this month's Silverstone Classic.

The 39-year-old Frenchman, who drove both iterations of the 908 turbodiesel in 2007-11, has been invited to drive a 905 Evo 1 bis in the

Group C/GTP Racing races at Silverstone by car owner Rupert Clevely. The Chamberlain-Synergy squad will run the Peugeot in the event on July 20-22.

Minassian said: "When I was at Peugeot, I used to walk past the 1993-winning car under a sheet in a corridor. Sometimes I would pull back the sheet and just look at the car. It is a thing of beauty.

"I'm doing this for myself and not taking it too seriously. If I win, that's good, but if I don't I won't be upset."

Minassian won't be the first driver to sample both the 905 and the 908. Eric Helary, who formed part of Peugeot's 1993 Le Mans-winning line-up, was test and reserve driver in the first year of the 908 programme in 2007.

Series boss Bob Berridge welcomed

a 3.5-litre Group C car coming into the championship for the first time.

"They are true Group C cars and the spectators are going to love them," he said.

A total of 24 cars are on the entry list for the Group C/GTP event at Silverstone. That number includes three Martini-liveried Lancia LC2s, to be driven by Clevely, Roger Wills and Duncan McKay.

Classic F3

Barilla back to Brands in F3

FORMER GRAND PRIX RACER AND

Le Mans winner Paolo Barilla returned to Brands Hatch for the first time in 24 years last weekend.

The Italian was racing his Martini MK34 for the second time after making his comeback in the Monaco Historique earlier this year.

Barilla, winner at Le Mans in 1985, was last at the Kent track for the 1988 Formula 3000 race. "I always like Brands," said the 51-year-old, who was fourth in last weekend's Classic F3 race. "I was dreaming to come back here." Some friends, including his former



Barilla finished fourth in Martini Mk34

team manager, have rebuilt the Martini that he raced to third in Italian F3 in 1981 and he has returned to racing after more than a decade away. His main career ended in 1990 after a troubled F1 season with Minardi.

"Last year we decided to start the engine and go testing for the first time," he added. "The feeling was like when I was 20, so we decided to get going."

British G

Heemskerk targets British GT

FORMERSINGLE-SEATER ACE

Melroy Heemskerk wants to move to British GT after a successful Lotus test earlier this month.

The 23-year-old was Benelux Formula Ford champion and a Formula Palmer Audi race winner before switching to the SPEED Euroseries. He tested a Lotus Sport UK GT4 Evora at Brands Hatch and will now race the car with fellow Dutchman Marth de Graaf in the Dutch GT4 event supporting the Zandvoort Formula 3 Masters.

"This is our step up into the world of GT racing," said Heemskerk, who

could appear in British GT before the end of 2012. "Our focus is obviously on the Masters weekend, but it forms part of a bigger picture.

"British GT is my aim for next year. For now we are looking to upset the contenders in Holland and, with the package we have, that is possible."



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Sportscar

Murphy Prototypes launches young-driver development plan

GREG MURPHY, THE MAN BEHIND

the Murphy Prototypes European Le Mans Series LMP2 programme with the RLR ORECA-Nissan 03, has launched a new young-driver scheme.

The project will support sometime Britcar Mazda racer Jade Paveley, testing her in Formula Ford and F3 machinery this season with a view to placing the 19-year-old in a sportscar programme for 2013.

"When I set up the team in November 2011 it was also my intention to set up a young-driver programme to quide and



mentor young racers on a career path to endurance racing," said Murphy.

"When Jade approached us earlier this year we decided to take the next step and commence with the youngdriver programme immediately.

"Her foresight to contact Murphy Prototypes and her focus to succeed in sportscar racing made her an attractive candidate for our longterm development plans. I was also impressed by her tenacity and determination at such a young age."

The programme is only supporting Mazda UK driver Paveley at present, but Murphy said it could be rolled out further depending on progress.

"Endurance sportscar racing is what my team does," Murphy added. "We have had successful outings at Spa and at Le Mans this year so far, and so it seemed logical to start a programme to assist young drivers like Jade, who wish to make sportscar and endurance racing their career goal."

European Rallycross

Andersson wants more rallycross

PROTON RALLY DRIVER PG

Andersson wants more rallycross outings after making his European championship debut in his native Sweden last weekend.

Andersson was invited to take part by event organiser Finnskoga MK and was provided with a Skoda Fabia by local team Hedstroms Motorsport. Driving the older of the two Fabias owned by former ERC champion Olle Arnesson (the new 'MkII' version was raced by team boss Peter Hedstrom), Andersson outqualified Hedstrom for sixth on the grid for the A final. He ran second before driveline

Andersson enjoyed his ERC debut in Skoda



failure forced him out.

"The Supercars are fun to drive and the racing is great - I would definitely do more rallycross," he said. "The Skoda I raced here is a good car but I don't think it's a winning one. If I did this regularly I would like a top-class car."

Hillclimb

Pikes Peak postponed due to fires

THIS YEAR'S PIKES PEAK

hillclimb - which should have run this weekend - has been postponed due to the fires that have been spreading through the state of Colorado.

The organisers of the 90th running of the event are determined it will go ahead later in the summer, but no date has yet been fixed for the US's second-oldest motorsport fixture, behind the Indy 500.

The organisers met with officials from the Forest Service and other agencies last week and, while the race

itself was not scheduled until Sunday (July 8), the competitors and officials would have been arriving in the area over the preceding week. With the unpredictable nature of the then still-spreading fire, the decision to postpone was taken.

Colorado Springs mayor Steve Bach said: "We are committed to making sure it takes place this year and that we carry on the tradition. We are disappointed, but our first concern is our city, its residents, their homes, businesses and public safety."

MARCUS PYE HUMBLE PYE

The voice of club motor racing



Irom 25,000 spectators at the inaugural Goodwood Festival of Speed weekend of 1993, to 180,000 over four days (kicking off with the third Moving Motor Show on Thursday) this time, Lord March's vision quickly became a phenomenon. I have attended all 20 editions, and would unquestionably rank last weekend's '60 years of Lotus' celebration among its finest elements to date.

With apologies to the sainted Ferrari, no other marque captures the spirit of ingenuity and competiton quite like Colin Chapman's. Much of this is down to his wonderful little Eleven sports-racers and Type 14 Elites – both powered by lightweight Coventry-Climax engines – which were accessible to reasonably resourceful amateurs and enabled them to take on the world.

Team Lotus entered Formula 1 in 1958 (the year I was born), so it was great to see one of the original spindly Type 12s - Graham Hill's chassis 353 - heading an incredible cavalcade of Lotuses on the hillclimb course. Not to mention Clive Chapman enjoying the factory squad's first winner, Innes Ireland's 21 of '61. With the exception of the Frank Costin-bodied Type 16, JPS 78 (of which I've been privileged to drive two of the four) and achingly

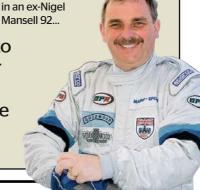
With apologies to Ferrari, no other marque captures the spirit of ingenuity quite like Colin Chapman's"

beautiful JPS 81 to spotlight Elio de Angelis's '82 Austrian GP win - the last witnessed by Colin Chapman -I don't recall much of significance missing from the line-up.

Lotus's 1972 world champion, Emerson Fittipaldi - the youngest until Fernando Alonso came along - was charming as ever in his warmth for the Chapman family, their great cars and veteran crewmen. Seeing 'Emmo's helmet in a 1970-spec Gold Leaf 72 again was particularly special for many.

Lord March has taken many of the world's most iconic racers up his garden path over the years, and our host added the Colin Chapman/ Maurice Philippe 72 'wedges' in both red-and-gold and black-andgold JPS flavours to his enviable CV during the event. His Sunday run in tandem with Jo Willenpart in a 49C was a moving tribute to Fittipaldi, and memorial to Jochen Rindt.

Somebody else to experience the 72E for the first time was 17-year-old Chris Middlehurst, son of Classic Team Lotus regular Andy. The National FF160O champion, who has only had a driving licence since the spring, described it as "the best day of my life" and then made his dad doubly jealous by getting a shot





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IN BRIEF



Crowell's Elden was reduced to wreckage

HISTORIC FORMULA FORD RACER

John Crowell sustained breaks to his arm and wrist, as well as cuts to his head and cheek, after a severe crash on the run to Hawthorns at Brands Hatch last weekend. His Elden clashed with Dick Dixon's Lotus, sending both cars into the barriers and delaying the meeting while marshals attended the scene. Dixon escaped without serious injury.

FORMER PORSCHE 924 CHAMPION

Steve Cheetham made his Porsche Club debut at Donington Park last weekend in a brand new Boxster. "I'm very rusty as I haven't done anything since 2007, plus the car is being modified from a road car," he said after taking 17th and 13th in his two outings.

THE HISTORIC FORMULA 1 SUPPORT

race to this weekend's British Grand Prix has been moved to 1725 on Saturday. Among the 33 entries, representing nine nations and 16 chassis marques, is Group C racer Tommy Dreelan in a March 761.

THE NEW 'JXR' JUNIOR RALLYCROSS

Cup had its first event alongside the Swedish round of the European Rallycross Championship at Holjes last weekend, but was hit by reliability woes. One of the seven starters did not run at all, only two made the final, and winner Kevin Hansen broke down after the flag.

FORMER GT RACER DAN EAGLING

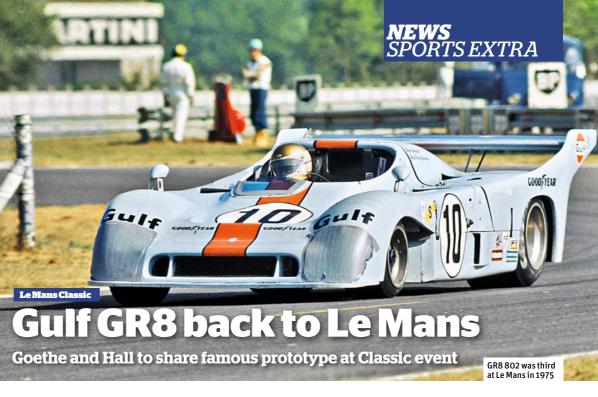
has turned to historic racing with his preparation business Lifetime Racing. He shared the TVR Griffith of Andrew Marler to a Guards Trophy class win at Brands Hatch last Saturday. Eagling is tending the TVR and now wants to add more historic cars to his stable.

FORTY YEARS AFTER THE CAR LAST

raced in the UK, the rare Pygmee MDB17 appeared at Brands Hatch last weekend in the hands of Gerard Gamand. "I have had the car for three years and it's had a ground-up restoration," said Gamand of the car built by Marius Dal Bo. "It was in a terrible condition when we found it."

Rare Pygmee was 10th in second F2 race





GULF RACING COLLECTOR ROALD

Goethe and modern sports-prototype racer Stuart Hall are taking the Gulf GR8 that scored podium finishes in three successive Le Mans 24 Hour races back to the Circuit de la Sarthe this weekend for the Le Mans Classic.

Vern Schuppan and Jean-Pierre Jaussaud drove the second of two built by the Gulf Research Racing Company, chassis 802, to third place in 1975. Its sister car, 801, won the French enduro with Jacky Ickx and Derek Bell. Subsequently sold to USA-based Ferrari dealer Harley Cluxton, the Cosworth DFV-powered chassis finished second at Le Mans in '76 with Francois Migault/Jean-Louis Lafosse.

Reconfigured with a turbocharged two-litre Renault V6 engine and Hewland TL200 transaxle it was again runner-up in '77, with Schuppan and Jean-Pierre Jarier driving.

It finished 10th with Schuppan/ Jacques Laffite/Sam Posey as a Mirage M9 in 1978, and retired on its final outing in '79 - as an M10 - when reverted to Cosworth V8/ZF gearbox spec.

Rebuilt by WDK Motorsport, the car - for which period Gulf team manager John Horsman has supplied documents - was shaken down at Pembrey last week ahead of its return to France.

• Fresh from winning the Goodwood Festival of Speed Shootout in the Chevron GR8 GT3, former BTCC and Group C racer Anthony Reid is to make his Le Mans Classic debut this weekend in Nigel Webb's Jaguar D-type.

Formula Junior

Formula Junior to honour Hulme



FORMULA JUNIOR WILL TAKE

centre stage as 1967 world champion Denny Hulme's life and career are celebrated at the fourth New Zealand Festival of Motor Racing at Hampton Downs in January 2013.

Capacity grids of 37 cars are expected for the retrospective of the class, in which Hulme raced when he ventured to Europe in the early 1960s. Following success in Brabham cars, Hulme graduated to F1 with the works team in '65.

More than 50 enquiries have already been received from prospective entrants from the UK, USA, Australia and continental Europe, as well as from Kiwi car owners, according to Festival chairman Jim Barclay.

The mix of Junior chassis set to compete in New Zealand will include the locally-built FMZ, Australian marques CWG, Donford, Elfin and Nota, plus the American Jocko Special and a strong contingent of British and Italian cars.

The double-header event also features Can-Am cars - Hulme was champion of the no-holds-barred challenge series with McLaren in 1968 and '70 - and the world's largest gathering of Formula 5000s in the long-established MSC Tasman Revival Series.

Silverstone Classic

Strong line-up for Gethin races

FORMULA 5000 CARS SHOULD

comprise one third of a 40-plus entry for the Peter Gethin Memorial Trophy at the Silverstone Classic later this month.

The event, named in honour the multiple F5000 title winner, has already attracted 44 cars for the July 20-22 historic extravaganza.

Morgan ace Matthew Wurr returns to Mark Longmore's ex-Gethin McLaren M10B for the Trophy races, favourites for which are Michael Lyons (ex-Al Unser Lola T400) and Simon Hadfield (ex-John Watson Trojan T101).

The Chevron B24 in which Gethin uniquely beat the F1 cars in the 1973 Race of Champions at Brands Hatch was destroyed – with the ex-Sam Posey Surtees TS11 – in a fire at Greg Thornton's workshop last month.

Determined not to miss the event, Thornton has bought a March 75A one of the few F5000s fitted with Ford's 3.4-litre GAA V6 engine instead of a stock-block V8. His renamed Phoenix Titan Historic Racing team is working around the clock to prepare it in time.

The race also features a strong entry of 1600cc and two-litre F2 cars from the HSCC's pan-European championship.

NATIONAL RACES & RESULTS HSCC SUPERPRIX BRANDS HATCH GP

MARTINI TROPHY QUICK RESULTS

- → Race 1 Silvio Kalb
- Race 2 David Gathercole

"I feel very sorry for John. He drove a brilliant race"

Kalb had sympathy for Burton's misfortune



EVEN BEFORE THE

start of qualifying, David Gathercole reckoned he had a chance of beating all the winged cars in the Martini Trophy with his wingless Lola T212. True to his word, 30 hours later the engine builder scored a gritty win when rain made the early laps supremely treacherous for the slick-tyred cars.

Even so, Nick Fleming deserved more after fighting his Chevron B36 to the front in a consummate display of car control. Sadly, an increasingly debilitating misfire hobbled Fleming's car and Gathercole swept ahead. As Fleming plummeted down the order on a fast-drying track, Silvio Kalb wriggled to second in his March 76S.

Kalb had already taken a classy win on Saturday, but only after a wonderful duel with friend and rival John Burton ended when a backmarker sent Burton's Chevron skittering across the gravel at Paddock.

The veteran got it back on track, but was swamped by a tussling group comprising Gathercole, Doug Hart and Michele Ligouri. Fleming had been busy joining the party after a shocker of a start when an electrical gremlin set in and slowed him.

Gathercole, with a misfire of his own, charged through to second from Hart and Burton.

"I feel very sorry for John," said the sporting Kalb. "He drove a brilliant race and it wasn't his fault."

Martin Stretton stamped his authority over the Formula 2 pack when he boldly went around the outside of Darwin Smith at Paddock on the second lap of the opening race. "All credit to him," said the Irish racer, duly impressed.

"You've got to push to keep ahead of Darwin," countered Stretton after establishing a decisive advantage, and then easing back to conserve some rubber for Sunday's race. It was nearly wets for the second race, but Stretton tippy-toed around the early laps on slicks after a rain shower to outdistance Martin O'Connell's Chevron B40. With too much work to do on customer cars, O'Connell had missed the first race, but was the only driver to stay on the same lap as Stretton on Sunday as the pair blitzed the conditions.

Picking his way through backmarkers with the precision of a surgeon's scalpel, Michael Lyons dominated the Derek Bell Trophy opener in his ex-Rupert Keegan Hesketh 308E. But for the flying Andrew Smith, Lyons would have been a minute clear. But, thanks to pitching his F2 March into Paddock at a stunning pace, Smith kept the Hesketh's winning margin to 10s.

Mark Dwyer topped the F5000s to complete the podium, his task eased when James Hagan put his ex-Chris Amon Ensign N177 off at Dingle Dell, moments after passing Dwyer for third.

Lyons wrapped up the double on Sunday with another masterclass, and Smith, second again, was just as impressive.

With his ex-Bob Birrell Brabham BT6 on the limit of adhesion, David Methley flew in the opening Lurani Trophy Formula Junior contest and escaped as his rivals battled furiously for second. James Murray just about always held second, but it was close as Andrew Hibberd and Peter Morton made it a glorious three-way fight.

Hibberd had to attack Murray while fending off Morton, and it was Morton who saved his best until last, dragging alongside Hibberd on the dash to the flag. Morton's Lightning Envoyette got the nod by a thousandth of a second. "Absolutely amazing," said Morton. "Quite a race."

Methley was another driver to complete a weekend double in the second race as Jonathan Hughes came through to bump the struggling





Hibberd back to third.

Paul Conway had to earn 70s Road Sports victory after running his Morgan Plus 8 fourth in the early laps. One by one he picked his way past his rivals, including father and son Charles (Datsun 240Z) and Julian Barter (TVR 3000M). Conway's final victim in the closely

MARTINI TROPHY (BOTH 12 LAPS)

1Silvio Kalb (March 76S); 2 David Gathercole (Lola T212) +12.697s 3 Doug Hart (March 75S); 4 John Burton (Chevron B26); 5 James Dodd (Chevron B31); 6 Nick Fleming (Chevron B36) Class winners Gathercole; Jonathan Loader (Crossle 42S); Keith Norris (Lola T492). Fastest lap Kalb 1m27.528s (94.63mph). RACE2 1 Gathercole 2 Kalb +4735s: 3 Hart: 4 Michele Ligouri (Lola T296); 5 Dodd; 6 Burton. **CW** Kalb; Loader; Kevin Cooke (Lola T492). FL Kalb 1m28070s (9405mph).

HISTORIC F2 (13 LAPS) 1 Martin Stretton (March 742); 2 Darwin Smith (March 722) +5.569s; 3 Hans Peter (Ralt RT1); 4 Andrew Higgins (Chevron B25); 5 Mark Dwyer (March 742); 6 Peter Williams (March 782). CW Robert Simac (March 712); Chris Sharples (Chevron B29). FL Stretton lm23.637s (99.04mph). **RACE 2 (14 LAPS)** 1Stretton; 2 Martin O'Connell (Chevron B40) +23241s: 3. James Claridge (Brabham BT38); 4 Jamie Brashaw (March 782) 5 Simac; 6 Max Blees (March 752)





matched quartet was Peter Shaw in his TVR Tuscan. As oversteer set in, Shaw was jumped by Barter Jr's TVR for second.

A shortened Guards Trophy race wrapped up Saturday as the curfew arrived, but after twothirds of the planned distance James Dodd was comfortably clear of the Chevron pack with the family's Ginetta G16. The early halt was manna for James Schryver, as his B8 cut out terminally 200 yards beyond the flag.

The Historic FF1600 result was finally declared after just two laps following two racestopping shunts. The second one was the more serious and sent John Crowell to hospital by air ambulance after his Elden rolled on the run to Hawthorns. Both times, Rob Wainwright's Elden

CW Simac; Sharples. FL Stretton

DEREK BELL TROPHY (11 LAPS)

2 Andrew Smith (March 742) +10.699s;

3 Mark Dwyer (Lola T400), 4 Neil Glover

(Lola T330/332); 5 Hans Peter (Ralt RT1); 6 Mark Charteris (Mallock Mk20/21).

CW Smith; Dwyer; Peter; Charteris; Paolo

Barilla (Martini MK34); Adam Simmonds

1 Michael Lyons (Hesketh 308E);

(Lola T142). FL Lyons 1m22 294s

(100.65mph). RACE 2 (15 LAPS)

1MLyons; 2Smith +19.005s; 3Dwyer

4 Peter; 5 Frank Lyons (McLaren M26):

6 Mike Bletsoe-Brown (Chevron B27).

Greg Thornton (Titan Mk10); Simmonds.

LURANI TROPHY FORMULA JUNIOR

(Brabham BT6); 2 James Murray (Lola

Mk5A) +6.281s; 3 Peter Morton (Lightning

Envoyette); 4 Andrew Hibberd (Lotus 22);

5 Pierre Tonetti (BT6): 6 Jonathan Hughes

(BT6). CW Alex Morton (Ausper T3); John

Delane (Lotus 18); Justin Fleming (Elva

CW Smith; Dwyer; Charteris; Barilla;

FL M Lyons 1m22.782s (100.06mph).

(BOTH 12 LAPS) 1 David Methley

1m24.903s (97.56mph)

had taken immediate control from the Merlyn of Callum Grant.

The Historic Touring Car counter also had to be restarted after the Imp of John Orr dumped its oil in the braking area for Druids. Mike Gardiner, under pressure from Dan Cox, was one of the first to find it with his Ford Falcon and slithered into the tyrewall as he avoided the Imp.

While Cox's Cortina romped clear at the re-run, Gardiner was mighty as he charged the patched-up Falcon from 28th and last on the grid to third in four laps, and was second in the aggregate result.

Historic Road Sports, Historic FF2000 and Classic Racing Cars all went with form as Paul Tooms, Nelson Rowe and Ian Iones extended their 2012 winning sequences. Paul Lawrence

100): Ash Waller (PM Poggi) FL Methley 1m40.761s (82.21mph). RACE21 Methley; 2 Hughes +12.509s; 3 Hibberd; 4 Tonetti;

5 Richard Smeeton (Wainer); 6 Philip Buhofer (Lola Mk5A). **CW** A Morton; Charles Cook (Envoy Mk1); Fleming Waller. FL Methley 1m41.510s (81.60mph). 70s ROAD SPORTS (11 LAPS)

1 Paul Conway (Morgan Plus 8); 2 Julian Barter (TVR 3000M) +0.377s; 3 Peter Shaw (TVR Tuscan): 4 Charles Barter (Datsun 240Z); 5 Oliver Ford (Lotus Europa); 6 John Thomason (Triumph GT6). CW J Barter; Ford; Thomason; James Nairn (Alfa Romeo); Chris Alford (MG Midget). FL Conway 1m48.227s (76.53mph). **GUARDS TROPHY** (16 LAPS) 1 James Dodd (Ginetta G16); 2 James Schryver (Chevron B8) +27.008s; 3 Charles Allison (B8); 4 Richard Piper (Brahma B2); 5 Niki Faulkner/George Tizzard (Lenham Spider); 6 Daryl Taylor (B8). CW Piper; Faulkner/Tizzard; Nick Fleming (Lotus Elan); Chris Scragg (Jaguar E-type); Mike

Malone (Elva Mk7S); Andrew Marler/Dan

Eagling (TVR Griffith 400); Steve Hodges/

(MGB); Neil Daws/George Daws (Merlyn Allan Ross-Jones (Triumph TR4) FL Dodd 1m37.851s (84.65mph)

HISTORIC FF1600 (2 LAPS) 1 Robert Wainwright (Elden Mk8); 2 Callum Grant (Merlyn Mk2OA) +2.355s; 3 Stuart Baird (Merlyn Mk11A); 4 David Wild (Lola T200); 5 Pertti Kiiveri (Kvantti Mk1): 6 Michael Grant-Peterkin (Brabham BT21). **CW** Julian Pierce (Macon Mk8). FL Wainwright

HISTORIC TOURING CARS (7 LAPS) 1Dan Cox (Lotus Cortina); 2 Mike Gardiner (Ford Falcon) +8.606s; 3 Tim Davies (Cortina), 4 Jon Wolfe (Falcon), 5 Simon Benoy (Hillman Imp); 6 David Heale (Imp). CW Gardiner; Davies; Benoy; John Pugsley (Ford Anglia); Roger Phillips (Mini Cooper S); Colin McKay (Jaguar S-type); Colin Kingsnorth (BMW 1800). FL.Cox 1m48.002s (76.69mph)

1 Paul Tooms (Lotus Elan); 2 Andy

CLASSIC F3 BRANDS HATCH, JUNE 30-JULY 1

Simms loses wheel, and win to Brashaw

WITH THE ANNUAL Gallic influx from its French counterpart, the Classic F3 counter was full of fierce racing, but out front was British pacesetter Benn Simms.

The March driver had it won until the final lap, when a failing stub axle finally broke and threw a wheel away.

On paper, Simms was not in for an easy time as Tom Bradshaw (ahead of what should have been his first F3 race for five years) planted his dad's Argo JM6 on pole by the thick end of a second. Sadly, the sportsprototype aspirant was absent from the grid after electrical gremlins struck.

With the front row to himself, Simms fired away and outpaced championship leader Jamie Brashaw to build a comfortable lead until

disaster struck. Brashaw knew the luck had been his. "I'd given up on chasing Benn; it was a fortuitous win," said the March racer.

French points leader Valerio Leone (Ralt RT3) headed the cross-channel contingent, with the best battling behind as Keith White (Ralt RT1) fended off Le Mans winner Paolo Barilla (Martini MK34) as Barilla recovered from being tipped into a half-spin at Druids.

RESULTS (13 LAPS)

1 Jamie Brashaw (March 793);

2 Valerio Leone (Ralt RT3) +11.403s; 3 Keith White (Ralt RT1): 4 Paolo Barilla (Martini MK34); 5 Patrick d'Aubreby (Ralt RT3); 6 Hugh Price (Chevron B38). CW Leone; Jonny Dimsdale (Van Diemen RF78); Graham Kiddy (Dastle Mk10). FL Benn Simms (March 803B) 1m30.813s (91.21mph).



Will Hodges (Jaguar E-type); Peter Aylett/ Steven Farrall (Diva GT); Julian Bricknell Mk6A); Paul Latimer/Pat Gormley (MGB);

1m40.107s (82.74mph).

HISTORIC ROADSPORTS (11 LAPS)

Shepherd (Lotus Seven) +7495s: 3 Alan Harper (Elan); 4 Roddie Feilden (Morgan Plus 8); 5 Vicky Brooks (Elan); 6 Jim Gathercole (Elan Plus 2). CW Feilden; Brooks; Colin Sharp (Triumph TR5); Tony Davis (Austin Healey Sprite); Richard Owen (Triumph TR2); John Shaw (Porsche 911). FL Tooms Im47.018s (77.40mph). HISTORIC FF2000 (11 LAPS)

1 Nelson Rowe (Reynard SF79); 2 Andrew Park (SF79) +9379s 3 David Wild (SF79), 4 Simon Toyne (SF79);5 Andy Huxtable (Lola T580); 6 Colin Wright (SF79). CW Jonny Dimsdale (Van Diemen RF78); John Bowles (Royale RP9).

FL Rowe 1m35.756s (86.50mph) CLASSIC RACING CARS (9 LAPS)

1 Ian Jones (Lotus 59); 2 Martin Anslow (Brabham BT21) +11.079s; 3 Mike Freeman (Brabham BT14), 4 Michael Scott (Brabham BT28); 5 Paul McMorrar (Crossle 12F); 6 Tim Kary (BT28). CW Kary; David Brown (Brabham BT23C): John Elliott (Lotus 18), Lincoln Small (Brabham BT10). FL Jones 1m38.697s (83.93mph).

- -> Race 1 Mark McAleer
- Race 2 Richard Ellis

"It was building up so I just had to get by" McAleer made the right move





PORSCHE CLUB DONINGTON PARK, JUNE 30-JULY 1

McAleer wins Porsche epic before Ellis strikes back

IT WAS HONOURS EVEN between Mark McAleer and Richard Ellis in Porsche Club, with one win apiece.

Ellis's 993 qualified on pole for the first outing and just held off McAleer's 996 into Redgate at the start.

Andrew Purdie soon pressed for second, but had Peter Morris on his tail too and was edged out at the Craner Curves on lap three.

Purdie stayed close as it became a four-car lead train, and by the end of lap six Mark Proctor had made it five at the front.

McAleer was first to break order, grabbing the lead on lap seven. "I just had to get by as it was all building up behind," he said.

Having retaken Morris for third at the Craner Curves, Purdie took Ellis for second at the chicane and began to attack for the lead, while Proctor further demoted Morris at Redgate.

It was still any one from five when Purdie dived ahead at the chicane on lap 10. "I held it for a few yards and then missed a gear," explained Purdie, as McAleer took charge again.

McAleer managed to make a telling break, with Ellis and Purdie exchanging before Proctor ousted them both on consecutive laps to grab second in his 993.

Morris had followed Proctor through and was looking to improve when he outbraked himself and ran into the chicane gravel. Purdie therefore claimed third from Ellis, with Ben



Demetriou (who won a racelong duel with Marcus Carniel) promoted to fifth after Chris Dyer was penalised.

Ellis lost his early race two lead to Purdie at the Old Hairpin on lap two, but, after dropping back into Morris' clutches on numerous occasions, he upped his pace and regained the lead with five laps left.

Purdie just held off Morris for second, with Proctor fourth, after McAleer retired at mid-distance.

Peter Scherer

RESULTS (BOTH 19 LAPS) 1 Mark McAleer (996 C2); 2 Mark Proctor (993 C2) +0.429s; 3 Andrew Purdie (964 C2); 4 Richard Ellis (993 C2); 5 Ben Demetriou (Boxster S); 6 Chris Dyer (968 C2).

Class winner Paul Follett (968 CS). Fastest lap Peter Morris (996 C2) 1m19.646s (89.45mph).

RACE 21 Ellis; 2 Purdie +6.413s; 3 Morris; 4 Proctor; 5 Demetriou; 6 Dyer. CW Tim Speed (968 Sport). FL Ellis 1m19.287s (89.85mph).



NORTHERN FF1600 POST-89 DONINGTON PARK, JUNE 30-JULY 1

Cooper keeps calm, after a storm and 'lucky' Short win

MARTIN SHORT WAS

lucky to win Saturday's opening race when his Van Diemen JL012K's engine expired on the last lap.

Luke Cooper's Swift led from the start, but after two abortive challenges into the chicane it was third time lucky for Short on lap six.

David McArthur soon made it three for the lead and snatched second from Cooper into the chicane on lap 10. Cooper retook him with a similar move two laps later and they ran nose-to-tail, inches from Short's gearbox.

"I retook the lead on the outside of Redgate, but ran wide at McLeans and dropped back again," said Cooper. It continued just as close to the chequered flag.

With McArthur spinning at Redgate a lap from home, Ben Mitchell completed the podium and was only 0.3s behind Short.

Cooper gave a masterly performance in Sunday's

wet race. His superiority was never really questioned after taking John Murphy exiting McLeans on lap one.

McArthur took second from Murphy after early gear-selection problems.

Peter Scherer

RESULTS (16 LAPS) 1 Martin Short

(Van Diemen JLO12K); 2 Luke Cooper (Swift SC10) +0.170s; 3 Ben Mitchell (Van Diemen RF99); 4 John Murphy (Van Diemen RF90); 5 Felix Fisher (Van Diemen RF06); 6 Nick Jones (Spectrum 09). CW Murphy. FL Fisher 1m15.369s (94.53mph).

RACE 2 (13 LAPS) 1 Cooper;

2 David McArthur (Van Diemen LA10) +3.660s; 3 Murphy; 4 Fisher; 5 Austin Kimberly (Van Diemen FCM10); 6 Mitchell. **CW** Murphy. **FL** Mitchell 1m34.063s (75.74mph). NORTHERN FF1600 PRE-90 DONINGTON PARK, JUNE 30-JULY 1

Jones' frantic double

STUART JONES'

Reynard SF89 was a double winner, but was made to work hard.

Christopher Stones'
Van Diemen RF88 led the
first race to the chicane
on lap one, before Jones
slipped ahead. Nigel
Dolan's RF86 followed
a lap later, but Stones
immediately retook into
Coppice. Dolan tried
again into the chicane,
but went ploughing and
fell out of contention.
This delayed Stones,
allowing Ian Parkington's
Reynard to go by.

Stones fought back to second, while Parkington retained third. Mike Stewart lost fourth within yards of the finish, after his RF86 broke an engine mount and left him stranded, promoting a surprised Bruce Evans.

Jones admitted to "missing the lights" at the start of race two. Stones escaped as a queue formed behind Evans for second. It took until lap six for Jones (having worked his way back into contention) to break the deadlock, with Parkington following.

Stones' lead was soon eroded and places were traded before he spun at McLeans on the last lap. Jones won, while Simon Hadfield stole second before Stones recovered.

Peter Scherer

RESULTS (BOTH 16 LAPS)

1 Stuart Jones (Reynard SF89);

2 Christopher Stones (Van Diemen RF88) +4.376s; 3 Ian Parkington (Reynard FF84); 4 Bruce Evans (FF84); 5 Stuart Dix (Cooper Chinook); 6 Andrew MacGregor (Van Diemen RF86). CW Parkington; Dix. FL Stones 1m18.139s (91.17mph). RACE 2 1 Jones; 2 Simon Hadfield

(Van Diemen RF85) +15.737s; 3 Stones; 4 Evans; 5 Dix; 6 James Mitchell (Van Diemen RF88). CW Hadfield; Dix. FL Jones 1m17.091s (92.41mph). PICS: MICK WALKER, STEVE JONES

NSSCC CLASS A & E QUICK RESULTS

- -> Race 1 Colin Simpson
- Race 2 Bill Addison



Iones leads Stones in Pre-90 FF1600 Donington battle

NSSCC CLASSES A & E ROCKINGHAM, JUNE 30-JULY 1

Caterham and Marcos rule at the Rock



BOTH NSSCC CLASS A

and E races featured battles for the lead between Colin Simpson and Bill Addison. Simpson won race one, but Addison secured victory in a thrilling second race.

Simpson started on pole for the opening encounter in his Marcos Mantis, just three tenths faster than Addison's Caterham Superlight R400. However, the pair was more than six seconds quicker than the rest of the field.

At the start, Simpson got a terrible getaway and dropped to fifth, as Addison shot into an early lead. But, by the end of the opening lap, Simpson had already climbed to third when a safety car halted his progress.

Under the safety car,

Alan McPherson's Formula 27 kitcar was recovered from Yentwood. The caution period lasted just two laps and Simpson was into second by Deene at the restart. He set about catching Addison and passed him on the oval section with two laps to go to take the win.

Simpson dropped to third from second on the grid at the start of race two, behind the Caterham of Stuart Carr, but he was back ahead by Gracelands.

The Marcos quickly caught the other Caterham and on lap four Simpson passed Addison at Kirby.

That seemed to be that, but Addison soon closed back in and on the penultimate lap Addison retook the lead. Despite Simpson's best efforts,

Addison hung on to win a dramatic tussle by just two tenths of a second.

Simpson said: "There was lots of oil on the track and no grip on the infield, which caused our lap times to go up. But it was good fun and I'm happy with a class win."

Stephen Lickorish

RESULTS (BOTH 10 LAPS) 1 Colin Simpson (Marcos Mantis); 2 Bill Addison (Caterham Superlight R400) +0.338s: 3 David Botterill (Porsche 964 C2); 4 Stuart Carr (Caterham CSR); 5 Neil Claxton (Suzuki SC100); 6 Simon Mayne (Fisher Fury). CW Addison; Claxton; Mayne. FL Simpson 1m35.388s (77.43mph). RACE 2 1 Addison; 2 Simpson +0.160s; 3 Botterill; 4 Carr; 5 Claxton; 6 James Hamill (Teamtrain Saturn) CW Simpson-Claxton; Mayne. FL Addison

1m35.412s (77.41mph).

BRSCC IN BRIEF



Jenvey leads Oldershaw in \$2000

SPORTS 2000

Mike lenvey's Gunn battled ahead of Robert Oldershaw's in the first Donington race, but lost all but two gears in the latter stages. Oldershaw thus beat Jenvey. but only by 0.077s. Jenvey got his reward second time out, after an entertaining scrap with Oldershaw and Pat Sherrington.

PICKUP TRUCKS

Both races boiled down to a final lap fight between Carl Boardley and Nic Grindrod at Donington. They both outbraked themselves and charged the chicane gravel as Boardley took race one, but Grindrod had the edge later on.

ALFA ROMEO

Poleman Anthony George (156) claimed his first overall win of the season at Rockingham, after passing fast-starter Roger Evans (in his newly acquired 147 GTV) early on. Barry McMahon (156) was second, while points leader Neil Smith again won Class E.

MIGHTY MINI

This Rockingham race featured a thrilling seven-car battle for the lead. After much swapping of positions, Jonathan Lewis took his third consecutive win, with David Marcussen second despite having contact with fourth-placed Dan Palmer twice at Brook.

FORD FIESTA

Jason Cooper won the first Rockingham race and finished second to John Langridge in race two, after passing Nicholas Bowers out of the final turn.

EURO SALOONS

Paul Rose won both Rockingham races in his Saker from Gary Prehhle's Mitsuhishi. The first was halted early after heavy rain. Prebble pushed Rose hard in race two but couldn't get past.

Rose's Saker leads Prebble's Evo



SUPER MIGHTY MINI ROCKINGHAM, JUNE 30-JULY 1

Morgan's charge pays off as Stafford stumbles

DEFENDING CHAMPION

Elliot Stafford looked set to take victory at Rockingham, until a last-lap charge from Chris Morgan stole it by three tenths of a second.

Shortly after the start, poleman Stafford found himself in a lead train of four cars, with points leader Gary Patterson, Morgan and Jamie White. It looked like Stafford would just hang on as the others fought behind him, until Morgan overhauled Patterson for second at Deene on the final lap and quickly closed on Stafford.

With Stafford missing a gear at Pif-Paf, Morgan seized the advantage and passed him to take a hard-fought third win of the year.

Stafford hung on to second by a tenth from Patterson, with fourthplaced White just eight tenths behind the victor in a photo finish.

Stephen Lickorish

RESULTS (11 LAPS) 1 Chris

Morgan; 2 Elliot Stafford +0.298s; 3 Gary Patterson; 4 Jamie White; 5 Pat Ford; 6 Neven Kirkpatrick. FL Morgan 1m51.840s (66.04mph).





FORD FIESTA JUNIOR ROCKINGHAM, JUNE 30-JULY 1

Small grid; great racing

DESPITE HAVING ONLY seven cars on the grid, the Fiesta Junior drivers still produced two thrilling races with wins for James 'JJ' Ross and Jack Mitchell.

Ross maintained the lead at the start of race one from pole, while Mitchell passed Aiden Moffat for second at Deene on lap two. Mitchell could do nothing to stop Ross taking his first win of the year though.

Ben Wilcox completed the top three, from fifth on the grid.

It was even closer in the

second race. Ross kept the lead at the start, but Mitchell passed him at Tarzan on lap two.

The pair had a close battle for the rest of the race, and Mitchell won it by three tenths.

Stephen Lickorish

RESULTS (BOTH 9 LAPS) 1 James

Ross; 2 Jack Mitchell +2.297s; 3 Ben Wilcox; 4 Aiden Moffat; 5 Freddie Lee; 6 James Manning. FL Ross 1m46.234s (69.52mph).

RACE 2 1 Mitchell; 2 Ross +0.289s; 3 Wilcox; 4 Moffat; 5 Charles Ladell; 6 Manning. FL Mitchell 1m46.169s (69.57mph).

MINI CHALLENGE QUICK RESULTS

- → R1&2 Allen
- -> R3&4 Osborne/Whorton-Eales
- → Points lead Gilbert

"It's been a good first weekend!"

Whorton-Eales returned to Minis





MINI CHALLENGE SNETTERTON, JUNE 30-JULY 1

On-song Allen wins two before young guns rally

WITH FOUR RACES AND and a bucketload of points to fight over, the Mini Challenge provided some pulsating action.

It started in familiar fashion, with on-song Lee Allen soaking up everything Martin Depper and Sam Osborne threw at him to claim his fourth win this year, despite a late scare when a backmarker spun in front of him on the penultimate lap.

By contrast, for much of race two it looked like Depper had done enough to change the tune, leading into the first corner and holding off poleman Allen, Ant Whorton-Eales, Chris Smith and Osborne until the penultimate lap. But the pressure finally told with a

spin at Murrays, allowing Allen to win again.

Just as he was looking unstoppable, Allen's charge hit the skids in race three.

It started at the opening corner, when a duel with Whorton-Eales ended with both careering off. Teenager Osborne gratefully picked up the pieces, keeping his cool under Chris Smiley's constant attentions to claim his maiden Mini win.

Allen and Whorton-Eales surged back to third and fourth respectively, before Allen was excluded for overtaking under yellows.

Whorton-Eales ended his weekend on a high by grabbing the lead of race four and building a gap while polesitter Kevin O'Connor delayed the pack.



Smith was quickly up to second, setting fastest lap as he closed on the leader. He briefly nipped ahead with a smart pass at Montreal a lap from home, only for Whorton-Eales to respond with a great move through Coram and Murrays to clinch victory.

Oliver Timson

RESULTS (9 LAPS) 1 Lee Allen;

2 Martin Depper +0.219s; 3 Sam Osborne; 4 Chris Smith; 5 Chris Smiley; 6 Shane Stoney. Class winner Henry Gilbert. Fastest lap Smith 2m11.790s

(81.09mph).

RACE 2 (9 LAPS) 1 Allen; 2 Ant Whorton-Eales +1.949s; 3 Osborne; 4 Smith; 5 Smiley; 6 William Davison. CW Jonathan Brown. FL Smith 2m11.594s (81.22mph).

RACE 3 (9 LAPS) 1 Osborne; 2 Smiley
+6.209s; 3 Whorton-Eales; 4 Smith;
5 Stoney; 6 Kevin O'Connor.

CW Gilbert. FL Osborne 2m11.497s

RACE 4 (10 LAPS) 1 Whorton-Eales;

(81.28mph).

2 Smith +0.150s; 3 Allen; 4 Osborne; 5 Depper; 6 Stoney. **CW** Gilbert. **FL** Smith 2m11.171s (81.48mph).

Stutley dominated F3 races in his Dallara F399

F3 CUP SNETTERTON, JUNE 30-JULY 1

Stutley puts on another one-man show in F3 Cup

THERE WAS NO

stopping Linton Stutley in the entertaining and well-supported brace of F3 Cup races as the ex-Formula Ford star stamped his authority over the field both times.

In the first he simply drove away from David Scott's newer version of the ubiquitous Dallara chassis.

Scott secured a safe

second place and with it the Cup Class win.

Third overall and second in class went to Gino Ussi, who had swept brilliantly round the outside of Mark Harrison at Riches to claim the place on lap two before narrowly holding off his rival's attentions.

Stutley was in a world of his own again in race two, while Scott reprised his supporting role with a lonely run to second.

But all eyes were on a scintillating recovery drive by Louis Hamilton-Smith.

Having started from the back after starter-motor failure forced him to miss race one, he put on a thrilling show to surge up the order. Some stunning overtakes round the outside at Riches, Montreal and Coram helped him scythe through the pack to claim a well-deserved podium spot.

Having also lined up at the back after dropping out of race one before the start, Chris Dittmann shadowed Hamilton-Smith through the ranks and finished fifth.

Oliver Timson

RESULTS (11 LAPS) 1 Linton
Stutley (Dallara F399); 2 David
Scott (Dallara F399); 2 David
Scott (Dallara F305) +21.700s;
3 Gino Ussi (Dallara F307); 4 Mark
Harrison (Dallara F306); 5 Tristan
Cliffe (Dallara F307); 6 Chris
Needham (Dallara F302). CW Scott.
FL Stutley 1m48.556s (98.45mph).
RACE 2 (12 LAPS) 1 Stutley; 2 Scott
+19.052s; 3 Louis Hamilton-Smith
(Dallara F304); 4 Ussi; 5 Chris
Dittmann (Dallara F301);
6 Harrison. CW Scott. FL Stutley
1m46.954s (99.93mph).

GT CUP SNETTERTON, JUNE 30-JULY 1

Johnston takes a triple

AFTER BEING

outpaced in qualifying by Richard Chamberlain's awesome Porsche 935, Derek Johnston leapt on its reliability issues to win all three GT Cup races in his Ferrari 458.

Chamberlain rocketed into the lead of race one, before sensor problems caused his engine to cut out intermittently, restricting him to a distant second.

With gearbox failure eliminating Nick Whale's Porsche 997, and traction-control gremlins hurting Don Grice (BMW M3), Peter Smallwood's 997 took third.

Johnston was dominant again in race two, after the luckless Chamberlain retired with turbo failure.

Chamberlain was absent altogether for the finale, allowing Johnston to easily eclipse a much-depleted field.

Oliver Timson

RESULTS (ALL 13 LAPS)

1 Derek Johnston (Ferrari 458 Challenge); 2 Richard Chamberlain (Porsche 935) +20.356s; 3 Peter Smallwood (Porsche 997 GT3); 4 Don Grice (BMW M3); 5 Colin Broster (Porsche 996); 6 John Saunders (Ginetta G50) CW Smallwood: Broster. FL Johnston 1m55.138s (92.82mph). **RACE 21 Johnston**; 2 Smallwood 1m07.411s; 3 Saunders; 4 Chris Bentley (Porsche 996); 5 Broster; 6 Mark Cowne (Porsche 996). CW Smallwood; Saunders. FL Johnston 1m54.931s (92.99mph). RACE 3 1 Iohnston: 2 Broster +1m20 728s: 3 Smallwood; 4 Bentley; 5 Cowne; no other finishers. CW Broster; Smallwood. FL Johnston 1m55.693s (92.38mph).



ICS: RICHARD STYLES, BOURNE PHOTOGRAPHIC

- → Race 1 Mike Tovey
- Race 2 Tovey



PRODUCTION BMW SNETTERTON, JUNE 30-JULY 1

Tovey doubles up as BMW battle is joined at Snett



IT WAS HARD TO KNOW

where to look in a hectic pair of Production BMW races, as battles raged throughout the field.

At the front, reigning champion Mike Tovey and title rival Ben Winrow captured attentions, with Winrow determined to make up ground having lost the points lead to his rival last time out.

But it was Tovey who took the initiative from pole, before a slow-starting Winrow recovered to latch onto his bootlid and hound him for lap after lap.

With time running out, Winrow pushed too hard as they swept into Riches for the last time, drifting onto the grass but keeping it under control in time to salvage third, behind Toyey and Matt Parkes.

Meanwhile, former champion Liam Crilly won a race-long scrap for fourth with Stuart Waite, after Waite's late retirement at Agostini. Tovey escaped early in race two, while Winrow had to hustle his way out of the chasing pack to claim second.

By the time he'd battled past Parkes and set off after Tovey, Winrow was five seconds behind.

Despite setting fastest lap by almost a second, he couldn't get close enough to challenge.

Crilly also edged past Parkes to complete the podium finishers.

Oliver Timson

RESULTS (BOTH 7 LAPS) 1 Mike

Tovey (320i); 2 Matt Parkes (320i) +4.168s; 3 Ben Winrow (320i); 4 Liam Crilly (320i); 5 Jack Gabriel (320i); 6 Harry Goodman (320i). FL Tovey 2m25.277s (73.57mph). RACE 21 Tovey; 2 Winrow +4.114s; 3 Crilly; 4 Parkes; 5 Gabriel; 6 Goodman. FL Winrow 2m24.206s (74.11mph).

IN BRIEF



Wright's GEM inherited race one glory

MONO 1800/1600/MOTO

Poleman Dan Clowes battled back into the lead after outbraking himself into Agostini, but was forced out by electrical issues on his Jedi in race one at Snett, handing victory to Adrian Wright's GEM. Clowes narrowly beat an ever-present Wright in race two.

MONO 2000/CLASSIC

Malcolm Scott dominated the opening race at Snett, with Tony Bishop demoting Adrian Holey late on to claim second. Bishop went one better in the sequel, stealing victory when long-time leader Scott was delayed by a backmarker a lap from home.

RACING SALOONS

With poleman Robert Sadler's M3 throwing a rod in qualifying, Mike Dugdale's led all of a Bimmerdominated opener at Snett. He won again in race two, while Stephen Pearson pushed too hard in pursuit and spun down to third.

MSV TEAM TROPHY

Although a late safety car pegged back his lead, the BMW M3 of James Britton was always in control at Snett. William Lynch's SEAT Cupra came from mid-grid to win a three-way scrap for second.

SWINGING SIXTIES

With top qualifiers Mark Halstead/ Stuart McPherson (Ginetta G4) unable to start due to engine issues at Anglesey, John Muirhead took a straightforward success in his Lotus Seven. Andrew Davies produced the drive of the race to take third in his BMW 2002.

MAGNIFICENT SEVENS

Anthony Bennett and Grahame/ Rob Tilley took turns in front, but it was poleman Andrew Griffiths who took the win at Anglesey, with Pascal Green and Jonathan Gibbs the big gainers at the pitstops to fill the podium.



Griffiths topped the Caterham hordes

FUTURE CLASSICS/JAGUAR SALOONS ANGLESEY, JUNE 30

Evans defeats Chilton in Anglesey Porsche fight

A TIGHT FUTURE

Classics battle between Porsche protagonists Brett Evans and Mark Chilton was the highlight of the CSCC's annual jaunt to Anglesey last Saturday.

Both Evans and Chilton were hungry for their first success of 2012. After qualifying 1.2 seconds clear, it was 944 pilot Evans who led, with Chilton (928) quickly shaking off Nigel Ainge's 944 and Alan Price's Triumph TR7 to give chase.

Evans still led after the stops, but 2011 Anglesey winner Chilton fought tenaciously with a daring attempt round the outside at Rocket, which Evans repelled, before Chilton finally got the 928's nose in

front exiting Rocket on the penultimate lap.

But Evans pounced at Peel to reclaim the lead.

Jaguar interloper Paul Alcock was a lapped third, while Derek Pearce spun but pipped David Bye to win the Jaguar Saloon split.

David Goddard

RESULTS (29 LAPS) 1 Brett Evans

(Porsche 944 S2); 2 Mark Chilton (Porsche 928) +1.331s; 3 Paul Alcock (Jaguar D-type replica); 4 Alan Price (Triumph TR7 V8); 5 John Hammersley/Simon Taylor (Vauxhall Astra GTE); 6 Derek Pearce (Jaguar Mk2). CW Chilton; Alcock; Price; Hammersley/Taylor; Pearce; Alasdair McGregor (Jaguar X300); Rupert Bullock/Geoff Hanson (Porsche 924). FL Chilton 1m18.706s (70.89mph).





CSCC TIN TOPS ANGLESEY, JUNE 30

Late twist denies Tongue

BTCC GUEST ANDREW Jordan helped Nigel Ainge to his latest victory in his Honda Integra, but it only came after late-race heartbreak for Peugeot pilot Nigel Tongue.

Tongue had led early on and held his advantage after the stops, thanks to Ainge's previous successes meaning a longer stop for his Integra, but Jordan raced through from sixth to second following a late safety car period.

With just two laps to go, Tongue's car misfired and he coasted into the pitlane where he managed to bump-start the 306 back into life, but further problems restricted him to seventh. "That's the third time we've lost a race right at the end this year – we need the races to last 35 minutes!" said Tongue.

David Goddard

RESULTS (28 LAPS) 1 Nigel Ainge/ Andrew Jordan (Honda Integra

DC5); 2 Richard Woods (Ford Focus) +21.121s; 3 Mark Livens (Honda Civic Type R); 4 James Payne/Tony Hunter (Renault Clio); 5 Matthew Hammond (Ford Focus); 6 Stuart MacMaster (Honda Integra). CW Macmaster; Mike Nash (Peugeot 106); Lewis Williams (Ford Fiesta XR2); Kevan Hadfield (Honda Civic). FL Jordan 1m16.915s (72.54mph).



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HOLJES/MONDELLO PARK

ERC OUICK RESULTS

- Supercar **Timur Timerzyanov** Super1600 **Ulrik Linnemann**
- -> TouringCar Robin Larsson



EUROPEAN RALLYCROSS HOLJES, JULY 1

Timerzyanov extends lead with third victory

THE SWEDISH ROUND

of the European Rallycross Championship has been the biggest in the series for a while. This year, 22,500 witnessed championship leader Timur Timerzyanov take his third win of the season. The poor weather probably contributed to a crowd that was slightly smaller than usual, yet also helped to produce an event that was wide open and highly unpredictable.

Conditions changed quickly in the rain and that played into the hands of local racers, Stig-Olov Walfridson taking pole while rally driver PG Andersson and Peter

Hedstrom both made it to the A final, Hedstrom via victory in the B.

Walfridson's Renault Clio tussled with the Citroen of Timerzyanov at the end of the first lap, losing that fight and then second as Andersson took his chance.

Timerzyanov was now off the hook and built a lead that allowed him to take the Joker Lap section and remain ahead.

Andersson's brilliant run came to end with driveline problems on the last lap. As the Skoda dropped from second it handed the baton to team leader Hedstrom. who gained a personal best.

Walfridson was third on



the road but was bumped to fourth after the stewards upheld a protest from Alexander Hvaal concerning another incident. Hvaal thus gained third, and second place in the table.

Paraplegic racer Mats Ohman achieved his best result in a long career, entering the A final after placing second in the B, and then finishing sixth.

Tim Whittington

RESULTS A FINAL (6 LAPS)

1 Timur Timerzyanov (Citroen DS3); 2 Peter Hedstrom (Skoda Fabia II) +1.8s; 3 Alexander Hvaal (Citroen C4); 4 Stig-Olov Walfridson (Renault Clio III); 5 Michael de Keersmaecker (Ford Focus II): 6 Mats Ohman (Volvo S40 II). POINTS 1 Timerzyanov, 88;

2 Hvaal, 73; 3 Tanner Foust, 61; 4

Liam Doran, 56; 5 de Keersmaecker, 51; 6 Mats Lysen, 50.



FORMULA LIBRE MONDELLO PARK, JULY 1

Faherty wins twice but Crawford is Irish Jedi star

FERGUS FAHERTY

took a double in Formula Libre, but it looks like we have unearthed the perfect foil for the frontrunning Formula Renaults in the guise of the Suzukipowered Jedi of Mark Crawford. The diminutive black car should not be able to stay with the higherpowered machines but the nimble Jedi came close to a giantkilling victory.

Eamon Matheson did the early running in both races, but the Jekyll-and-Hyde nature of his Mission T5 soon dropped him back to mid-pack obscurity. Faherty was on hand each time to

take advantage but always had Crawford close. Despite posting fastest lap in race two, Crawford could not find a way past.

Paul Healy

RESULTS (15 LAPS) 1 Fergus Faherty (Tatuus Renault);

2 Mark Crawford (ledi Suzuki) +1.828s; 3 Martin Daly (Tatuus Renault); 4 Eamon Matheson (Mission T5); 5 John Daly (Lola T93/50 Holden V6); 6 Paul Heavey (Leastone Suzuki). Fastest lap Faherty 54.641s (75.74mph). RACE 2 (16 LAPS) 1 Faherty;

2 Crawford +2.335s; 3 M Daly; 4 Matheson; 5 J Daly; 6 Michael Roche (Dallara GM 391). FL Crawford 54.963s (75.30mph). IRISH GINETTA JUNIORS MONDELLO PARK, JULY 1

Irish double to Byrne

IT WAS A PERFECT

weekend for Jake Byrne, as he ignored the controversy around him to take two Ginetta Junior victories at Mondello Park.

Byrne's route to the first of these was helped by polesitter James Fleming fluffing his start, dropping to fourth. With his main competition gone, Byrne was free to open up a considerable gap that stood at six seconds by half-distance.

Behind Byrne, a tight race between Dylan Curley, Andrew Clarke and Fleming was brought to an end when Fleming spun at Dunlop corner. A string of quick laps, including the fastest of the race, brought him back into contention but his race was ended by a broken clutch cable. Despite running a second off the pace, Curley was able to place his car accurately to retain second from Clarke.

Under Ginetta Junior rules the grid for the second race is determined by lap

times from the first, meaning Fleming should have lined up on pole.

But having not completed the race it was contentiously decided that Fleming's fastest time did not stand. That meant Byrne would start at the head of the field. Again Byrne made good his escape and held a comfortable lead until the race was red-flagged.

Byrne held his nerve at the restart but Fleming, feeling a sense of injustice, jumped Jack Finlay to claim second. Try as he might Fleming could not get close enough to mount an attack for the lead, with Byrne able to peg the gap at two and a half seconds.

Paul Healy

RESULTS (14 LAPS)

1 Jake Byrne; 2 Dylan Curley +8.311s; 3 Andrew Clarke; 4 Jack Finlay; 5 Sophie Byrne; 6 James Huddlestone. FL James Fleming 1m07.312s (61.48mph).

RACE 2 (8 LAPS) 1 J Byrne;

2 Fleming +2.585s; 3 Clarke; 4 Finlay: 5 S Byrne: 6 Huddlestone. FL Fleming 1m07.352s (61.44mph).

MONDELLO IN BRIEF

IRISH FORMULA VEE

The Formula Vees might have only had a single race on the day but that did not stop the drivers putting on a great show. The 15-minute race had no less than two restarts and a brief period under a safety car. When the dust finally settled, Ray Moore emerged victorious ahead of Lee Newsome, with Kevin O'Hara (who passed three drivers on the final lap) third.

STRYKERS AND LEGENDS

It was a case of what could have heen for Dave Griffin as twice he battled with Alan Watkins for victory and twice it was snatched from him. He overcame a poor start in the first race by punching in fastest lap after fastest lap until mechanical trouble dropped him to fourth. With the safety car peeling off in the second race. Griffin was well positioned but overcooked it on the final corner and spun out.

Watkins leads the nack





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SPORTS EXTRA RESULTS ROUND-UP







Snetterton 300







BRSCC, JUNE 30-JULY 1

SPORTS 2000 (23 LAPS) 1 Robert Oldershaw (Gunn TS11); 2 Mike Jenvey (Gunn TS6) +0.077s; 3 Patrick Sherrington (MCR); 4 Craig Mitchell (Gunn TS11); 5 Clive Hayes (MCR); 6 Nick Bates (Lola B07/90). Class winners Hayes; Chris Snowdon (Tiga SC80); Mike Fry (Lola T86/90); Paul Streat (Swift DB2). **Fastest lap** Oldershaw

lm15,266s (94,65mph). RACE2 (21 LAPS) 1 Jenvey; 2 Oldershaw +2.300s; 3 Sherrington; 4 Mitchell; 5 Bates 6 Harry Chapman (TMS Lola). **CW** Paul Martin (MCR); Fry; Peter Needham (Tiga SC82); Streat FL Mitchell Im09.833s (102.02mph) record.

PICKUP TRUCKS (BOTH 14 LAPS) 1 Carl Boardley; 2 Nic Grindrod +0.431s; 3 Steve Dance; 4 Michael Smith; 5 Dave Longhurst; 6 David O'Regan. FL Grindrod 1m17.540s (91.88mph)

RACE21Grindrod; 2Boardley +1.000s; 3Smith; 4Longhurst; 5 Paul Tompkins; 6 O'Regan. FL Boardley 1m17.811s (91.56mph).

ROCKINGHAM BRSCC, JUNE 30-JULY 1

ALFA ROMEO (12 LAPS) 1 Anthony George (156 Turbo); 2 Barry McMahon (156) +27.724s; 3 Guy Hale (147 GTA);

4 Roger Evans (147 GTA); 5 Ray Foley (GTV); 6 Neil Smith (147 2.0 twinspark). CW Evans; Smith. FL George 1m41.015s

MIGHTY MINI (10 LAPS) 1 Jonathan Lewis; 2 David Marcussen +0.243s 3 Kelvin Fletcher; 4 Dan Palmer; 5 Chris Slade: 6 Adrian Tuckley FL Marcussen Im59648s (61.73mph).
FORD FIESTA (BOTH12 LAPS) 1 Jason

+2.047s: 3 John Langridge (ST): 4 Shaun Clay (ST); 5 Andrew Wilmot (ST); 6 Aaron Trigwell (ST). **CW** David Elsom (Si); Nikolas Barton (Zetec). FL Cooper 1m44.923s (70.39mph). RACE21Langridge; 2 Cooper +0.906s; 3 Bowers; 4 Wilmot; 5 Andrew Taylor (ST); 6 Clay. **CW** Chris Toumazos (Si); Ken Bateman (Zetec). FL Bowers 1m44 845s (70.45mph)

EURO SALOON & SPORTSCAR (10 LAPS) 1 Paul Rose (Saker Sportscar); 2 Gary Prebble (Mitsubishi Evo 9) +3.715s; 3 Steve Harris (Saker Sportscar): 4 Tim Wheeldon (Saker Sportscar); 5 Mark Burton (Saker Sportscar), 6 Ilsa Cox (SEAT Leon Cupra). **CW** Prebble; Cox; Dennis Crompton (BMW M3); David Hinde (Vauxhall Vectra); Chris Boon (Honda Civic Type R). FL Rose 1m30.669s (81.46mph). RACE 2 (13 LAPS) 1 Rose; 2 Prebble +31.161s; 3 Harris; 4 Wheeldon; 5 Burton; 6 Wayne Schofield (Suzuki Cappuccino). **CW** Prebble; Schofield; Cox; Crompton; Boon. **FL** Prebble 1m31.118s

NSSCC CLASSES B, C, D & H (BOTH 10 LAPS) 1 Mike Cutt (BMW M3); 2 Ken Hall (MG Metro 6R4) +13.318s; 3 Martin Addison (Peugeot 106); 4 Paul Moss (Citroen Saxo); 5 Myles Collins (Peugeot 205 GTi); 6 Pat Ford (Mini Miglia Clanker 1293). CW Addison; Brian Morris (Datsun 240Z); Gary Mitchell (BMW 318Si). FL Cutt lm42.210s (72.26mph).

(8106mph)

RACE 21 Cutt; 2 Hall +10.389s; 3 Addison; 4 Collins; 5 Mark Armstrong (Subaru Impreza); 6 David Cox (Peugeot 205GTi). CW Addison; Cox; Joe Parrington (MGB GT V8). FL Cutt 1m41.237s (72.96mph). SAKER CHALLENGE (28 LAPS)

1 Paul Rose (Saker Sportscar); 2 Steve Harris (Saker Sportscar) +0.138s; 3 Tim Wheeldon (Saker Sportscar), 4 Mark Burton/Eugene O'Brien (Saker Sportscar) 5 Darren Nelson (Chevron GR8); no other starters. CW Nelson. FL O'Brien 1m33.473s (79.02mph).

SNETTERTON 300 MSVR, JUNE 30-JULY 1

MONO 1800/1600/MOTO (8 LAPS) 1 Adrian Wright (GEM AW3); 2 Jason Timms (Speads RMO7) +7.296s: 3 Geoff Fern (JKS TFR 11); 4 Paul Britten (Van Diemen RFOO): 5 Ewen Sergison (Swift SC99Z); 6 Mike Reed (Jedi Mk6). CW Britten; David Parkinson (Reynard FF). FL Dan Clowes (Jedi Mk6) 1m54.626s (93.24mph). **RACE 2** (8 LAPS) 1 Clowes; 2 Wright +0.862s; 3 Timms; 4 Sergison; 5 Britten; 6 Reed. **CW** Sergison; Nigel Davers (Van Diemen RF89).

FL Clowes 1m53820s (9390mph) MONO 2000/CLASSIC (8 LAPS) 1 Malcolm Scott (Dallara F398); 2 Tony Bishop (Dallara F398) +9283s; 3 Adrian Holey (Dallara F301), 4 Jim Blockley (Ralt RT3); 5 Adam Lippit (Dallara F398); 6 Christopher Anstruther (Bowman BC3). CW Blockley. FL Watts 1m55.759s (92.33mph). **RACE 2** (8 LAPS) 1 Bishop; 2 Scott +0.683s; 3 Neil Harrison (Dallara F398); 4 Blockley; 5 Amnon Needham (Dallara F301); 6 Holey. **CW** Blockley. FL Bishop 1m52.530s (94.97mph).
RACING SALOONS (4 LAPS)

1 Mike Dugdale (BMW E36 M3); 2 Karl Cattliff (BMW E36 M3) +2.054s; 3 Stephen Pearson (BMW E36 M3); 4 John Willcocks (BMW E36 M3); 5 Julian Newman (BMW M5); 6 Mike Collins (BMW E36 M3). CW Willcocks; Ian Clark (Ford Capri GXL); Darren Stamp (BMW 325i); Alan Wileman (BMW 320); Colin Stubbs (Rover 216 GTi).

FL Dugdale 2m14.796s (79.29mph).
RACE 2 (7 LAPS) 1 Dugdale;

2 Cattliff +3.395s; 3 Pearson; 4 Newman; 5 Willcocks; 6 Nigel Innes (BMW E36 M3). CW Willcocks; Don Hughes (Peugeot 306): Clark: Stubbs: Wileman. FL Dugdale 2m14.001s (79.76mph).
MSV TEAM TROPHY (24 LAPS)

1 James Britton (BMW M3); 2 William Lynch (SEAT Cupra R) +13.430s; 3 William Burnett/Marcos Burnett (BMW M3) 4 Gary Campbell (Porsche 968): 5. Jody Halse/Cem Osman (BMW M3); 6 Kester Cook (Ford Fiesta), CW Burnett/Burnett Tom McHugh/Jamie McHugh (Porsche 944); Ashley Bird/Edward Platt (Ginetta G20). **FL** Ben Uren (SEAT Leon Cupra) 2m16.352s (78.38mph).

CSCC, JUNE 30

SWINGING SIXTIES (29 LAPS) 1 John Muirhead (Lotus 7); 2 Iain Daniels/ Ben Gough (Marcos 3 Litre) +46.061s: 3 Andrew Davies (BMW 2002 Ti); 4 Mark Potter/Bill Rawles (Austin Healey BN7): 5 Tim Cairns (Austin Healey Frogeye Sprite); 6 Andy Vowell (Triumph Spitfire Mk3). **CW** Daniels/Gough; Davies; Cairns; Glenn Canning (NSLLTT): Chris Blewett (Ginetta G4). **FL** Muirhead 1m19.397s (70.28mph).

MAGNIFICENT SEVENS (32 LAPS)

1 Andrew Griffiths (Caterham Hayabusa); 2 Pascal Green (C400) +12.008s; 3 Jonathan Gibbs (C400): 4 Grahame Tilley/Rob Tilley (CSR); 5 Anthony Bennett (R300); 6 Richard Green (C400). CW P Green; Tilley/Tilley; Rob Singleton/ Colin Watson (R500); Hugh Coulter (R400); Leigh Shardlow (RSA). FL Griffiths 1m11.978s (77.52mph)

DEUTSCHE MARQUE (30 LAPS) 1 Tom Houlbrook (BMW E36 M3); 2 David Ball (BMW M3) +13.513s; 3 Graham Knight (Porsche 944); 4 Mark Astall (BMW 323ti Compact); 5 David Dennett (Porsche 964 Carrera 2); 6 Adrian Lomas/Rob Smith (Porsche 944). CW Knight; Astall. FL Houlbrook

MONDELLO PARK CKMC, JULY 1

FORMULA VEE (6 LAPS)

1 Ray Moore (Leastone); 2 Lee Newsome (Sheane FV94) +0.099s; 3 Kevin O'Hara (Leastone); 4 Ian Campbell (Sheane FVO2); 5 Dan Polley (Formula Vee); 6 Kevin Grogan (Leastone). FL O'Hara 59.960s (69.02mph) record.

STRYKER SPORTSCARS (15 LAPS) 1 Alan Watkins; 2 Roger Weltrane +15.657s; 3 Stephen Ross; 4 Bill Griffin; 5 Brian Kingston; 6 Peter Aubrech. CW Patrick McKenna (Legend).

FL Dave Griffin 1m02.143s (66.60mph). RACE 2(14 LAPS) 1 Watkins; 2 Ross +1614s: 3 Aubrech: 4 Weltrane: 5 B Griffin: 6 Kingston. **CW** Mark McKenna (Legend). FL Watkins 1m02.863s (65.84mph)







OUTSMARTING THE OPPOSITION?

It's easy to scoff at a race series for Smart cars, but BEN ANDERSON found out that there's more to them than meets the eye

hey say you should never judge a book by its cover, but given how superficial we humans can be it's hard not to. To the casual observer, the idea of racing a Smart car sounds as bizarre as the little machines look, so it's easy to make a snap judgement and write off the idea of a race series from the outset. I mean would you want to race a Toyota Yaris or a Daewoo Matiz? Exactly.

I'll confess to falling slap bang into the pre-judgemental camp on this one, and almost reluctantly accepted a last-minute invitation to contest the fourth round of the 2012 Smart 4two Cup at Brands Hatch last month.

Whichever way you gaze at it, the Smart 451 just doesn't look like a racing car. The sight of 2010 Formula Palmer Audi champion Nigel Moore stripping a second seat from the passenger side of my steed — under the watchful eye of series co-founder Paul Bates — when I arrive at Brands does nothing to distort this impression.

"Me and James [Palmer, co-founder of the series] took a road trip to Germany to see BRABUS [the Mercedes-specialist aftermarket tuning company that builds Smarts] in your car last week," explains ex-Britcar racer Bates. "We'll pull the extra seat out and it'll be ready to go!"

Following a quick briefing on the car's controls (key in the ignition, push-button starter, guide the gear stick top left to engage drive, then paddleshift your way through the gears with no clutch) I'm off to the assembly





area for the qualifying session.

The track is damp and I'm told the Smarts usually swap their race brakes (which along with rollcage, dampers, road-legal Yokohama track-day tyres, and some ECU re-mapping, are about the only tweaks to the standard road-going 451) for road-pads when grip is low - because the brakes are sharp and easy to lock.

There isn't time to change mine, so Moore (whose family's Tockwith team runs three of its own as well as the Smarts 4you Racing hire cars) tells me to use my experience and "just get a feel for them". I reward the faith shown in me by locking up at Graham Hill Bend on my out-lap and flying straight off. I make it so far up the hill that I'm almost back in the pits before I slide back down the slope and rejoin the track.

A cautious display during the rest of the session results in a sixth and a

seventh on the grid for two 20-lap races — well off the pace of polemen David Moore and Jake Jackson (to the tune of almost three seconds!) but the dry races turn out a little better. After a tentative start to the first, I end up sixth in the

"I confess I fell into the

pre-judgemental camp

reluctantly accepting

the invite to compete'

Anderson on his Smart debut

on this one, almost

18-car field, which is bolstered by a bunch of drivers from the equivalent Belgian series for Smarts.

The perspective from inside one of these cars is odd, because it feels like you're in any normal tin-top racer, but of

course you don't really have any car sticking out fore or aft of the cockpit, so you can get much closer to those around you than you might think

around you than you might think.
I'm still almost two seconds off
the pace and struggling badly with



A SMART DECISION

MANY SERIES START BECAUSE SOMEONE

wants to race something they can't find a home for, or because a group of racers in one series fall out with another and break away, but the Smart 4two Cup is more about developing cars for the road, as co-founder Paul Bates explains.

"James [Palmer, co-founder] bought a BRABUS for the road – and loved it – but decided the brakes and suspension were shit," says ex-Britcar champion Bates. "He went looking for upgraded parts, but there wasn't a package out there."

The pair approached suppliers they'd worked with on their Britcar BMW and when they mentioned their project to Britcar boss James Tucker, he pushed for them to start a race series. It's now in its second season – helping Bates and Palmer develop aftermarket parts for their 'Smarts 4you' business.

Such a young series inevitably has creases to iron out, particularly with regard to eligibility scrutineering, but Bates says the project is still evolving. "When we first raced, the Britcar boys were laughing their heads off, but now we've got their respect," he adds. "It's about getting the belief that you can have some fun in them."

understeer — particularly on the exit of the corners — but can't help but enjoy myself. Because the cars aren't really evolved properly for the tracks yet, they don't quite do everything they're supposed to, which makes them more interesting to drive than you'd expect. And they go pretty well for something that weighs over 850kg and produces just 120-odd bhp.

Moore makes some tweaks to my set-up for the second race — altering the suspension platform to lower the front rideheight. The car is much more competitive (though some understeer remains and I'm still giving away a second to the leaders) and I spend the first half of the race chasing ex-Formula Renault BARC racer (and fellow Smart debutant) James Theodore, who later tells me there was a sat-nav mounted in his car!

It can't have been working too well

though, because he takes forever to find the pitlane after being black-flagged for failing to respect the track limits. His penalty leaves me lying fourth, but I start to struggle as the car begins to overheat and the gearbox starts to choose its own gears rather than letting me decide. I can see rapid Danish lady racer Maiken Rassmussen (who also competes in the VW Scirocco R Cup) closing, and she eventually demotes me to fifth on the penultimate lap.

"It's the silliest car I've ever raced!" I tell series boss Bates afterwards. "Good silly, though, right?" He asks me hopefully. "Good silly," I reply.

They might look ridiculous from the outside, but racing a Smart car is a bit like listening to cheesy pop music when you tell your friends you're into dubstep, or watching Disney films when you have no children. They're a guilty pleasure — but a pleasure nonetheless. **



IAI NRTVF LETTERS GEAR ON-TRACK ON-SCREEN PICS TECH ARCHIVE

YOUR SAY What you think of the motorsport news of the past week



Stewards need to get tough

When it was announced that ex-Formula 1 drivers would be part of the team of stewards for each race, it was regarded as a positive step. Now what the sport needs is consistency from the stewards.

In my view recent incidents have been allowed to develop as a result of weak decisions from the stewards. If several of the drivers involved in incidents in Valencia had been punished properly last year, we would not be in the situation we are now in one year later. Graeme Lovell, by email

EDITORIAL CONTACT mail@autosport.com

Unfortunately I was unable

to attend the Festival of Speed this year, but I've just seen the Lotus display to celebrate 60 years and I'm appalled that last year's Renault is there.

With all the real Team Lotus cars, who is responsible for this imposter? With all the wonderful Lotus designs that could have been chosen, especially the innovative Lotus 86 or the gorgeous 91, it's disgraceful! **Gary Dowsett**

By email

The Snetterton programme

for last weekend says the GT Cup has "become famous for large grids and close racing". Eight and five starters and a winning margin of almost a minute. Thank goodness the grid wasn't small!

Yes, the economy is bad, but if this is the best entry possible then can the race. Or is it entrants' perennial reluctance to travel to Snetterton? **Tim Barrett**

Hardingham, Norfolk

I see Bernie has said he is

open to customer cars being used in F1. He says this will make the smaller teams more competitive. If this happens we will end up, effectively, with GP1.

There will be, maybe, three chassis that dominate. It would be totally unfair to the established teams such as Williams and Sauber, who have spent years working hard to be competitive.

The whole point of F1 is that every team designs and builds its own cars. **Richard Hargrave** Hitchin

There were many stars in

Valencia at the European Grand Prix, which turned out to be the most thrilling race of the season so far. But for me the real stars are Paul Hembrey and his Pirelli team for providing the best tyres we have ever seen in Formula 1.

Let's not forget that F1 is in the entertainment business and uncertainty over tyres at each event provides just the right amount of excitement that the fans have been craving for years. **Duncan Sabiston**

Didcot

MAUTOSPORT.COM

TOP FIVE ON OUR WEBSITE

- 1. McLAREN: MALDONADO INCIDENT AVOIDABLE
 - 2. McLAREN BULLISH AFTER RECORD PITSTOP
 - 3. OVERHEATING CAUSED **RENAULT FAILURES**
 - 4. THREE TEAMS STILL ON **FOR SILVERSTONE TEST**
 - **5. McLAREN ADMITS TYRE** STRUGGLE IN VALENCIA

MAUTOSPORT.COM PLUS

TOP STORY ONLINE

To read this exclusive feature and many others like it, log on to autosport.com/plus and choose which package you'd like. A month will cost £5.50, a year £46. Includes access to Forix - the ultimate stats website.



ROAD ANGEL VANTAGE

This week's star letter will receive a Road Angel Vantage - a dedicated safety camera and blackspot locator that displays the legal speed limit of every road you drive, automatically and wirelessly updating its database every few minutes as you drive. For more details on Road Angel visit www.roadangelgroup.com

Please ensure that your full address is included on all correspondence.

CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

• Nick Pellett would like us to point out that the winning Alta in the Pre-War Brooklands 500 (June 28, p88) was a two-driver entry, as per the regs, although our results panel listed only Gareth Burnett. Pellett completed the first half of the race, and it is him shown in the picture.

It is the policy of AUTOSPORT to correct significant errors as soon as possible. Please note the issue date and page number when contacting us on autosport.editorial@haynet.com

THE LATEST GEAR

Desirable new releases for motor racing fans: books, DVDs, models, art and gifts





AUDI A4 DTM 1:18-SCALE £57.99

autosport.com/shop

The garish colours of Martin Tomczyk's Team Phoenix DTM squad adorn Norev's latest 1:18-scale diecast replica. This is a detailed copy of the Audi A4 DTM used by the German to win three races last year, as well as his first drivers' title, but it doesn't feature opening doors, bonnet or boot.

McLAREN F1 T-SHIRT

£33.95

autosport.com/shop

This 100 per cent cotton T-shirt, available in sizes S-XXL, is identical to the one worn by the team after Jenson Button or Lewis Hamilton wins a GP. It features all the usual team sponsors' logos and has appeared in many a post-win team photoshoot. Fingers crossed it appears again at Silverstone...



ISLE OF MAN TT DVD

£24.99 (Blu-Ray £29.99) dukevideo.com

If you missed any of ITV4's sensational coverage of the recent Isle of Man TT coverage, you can now relive motorcycle racing's annual, epic island adventure with Duke's official DVD. It's packed with great race action, on-board madness and interviews with many of the star riders.

HOT ON THE WEB THIS WEEK



SEARCH FOR: X Games 18 RallyCross Final FULL RACE HD Loeb Wins! (5:38) World rally champion Sebastien Loeb makes his debut in the Los Angeles-based X Games and wins the Rallycross finale. Sadly, he doesn't get to go up against former WRC nemesis Marcus Gronholm, who had earlier put himself in hospital.

WHAT'S ON...

Your guide to the best events taking place in the UK and around the world this week - plus TV and online

SILVERSTONE (BRITISH GP)

July 6-8

Admission: £60 (Friday), £80 (Saturday), £135 (Sunday), £155 (three-day ticket) Tel: 0844 3728200

 $Silverstone\ hosts its\ 46th\ British\ Grand\ Prix\ with\ GP2, GP3, Porsche\ Supercup\ and\ Historic\ Formula\ 1\ in$ support. Fernando Alonso goes into the grand prix with a 20-point lead over Mark Webber after becoming the first man to win two Formula 1 races in 2012. Meanwhile, Sebastian Vettel and Romain Grosjean will try to put their Valencia mechanical troubles behind them and Lewis Hamilton will want to bounce back $after\,he\,was\,unceremoniously\,removed\,from\,third\,position\,by\,Pastor\,Maldonado.$



BRANDS HATCH (BRSCC)

July 7-8

Admission: £13 (Saturday), £22 (Sunday) Tel: 01474 872331

 $Ma5da\,MX5s\,in\,Mk1\,and\,Mk3$ guises plus the MX-150R championship feature on Saturday, while the Modified Live Festival brings the European Drift Championship and the Time Attack Series to Brands Hatch on Sunday.

KNOCKHILL (KMSC)

July 8 Admission: £12 Tel: 01383 723337

The Scottish Formula Ford Championship, Scottish Legends, Scottish Mini Cooper Cup, Classic Sports and Saloons, modern Sports and Saloons, Scottish XR2 & Fiesta ST Championship and Radical Scottish Challenge Races head for their latest rounds at the scenic circuit near Dunfermline.

LYDDEN (SEMSEC)

July 7 Admission: £12 Tel: 01304 830557

SEMSEC brings the Saloon & Sports Car Championship, Sports Racing Cars & Kit Car Championship races, Open Single Seater Challenge races, South East Challenge race, Meridian 14/16 Challenge race, John Taylor Handicap race, Beetle Challenge, Guest/ Invitational race and the University/College race.

HAREWOOD (HILLCLIMB)

July 8

top12runoff.co.uk

Scott Moran leads the British Hillclimb Championship by 13 points from Trevor Willis, who leads a close battle for second. The Yorkshire venue also has numerous other classes in support of the main event for the big single-seaters.



NASCAR SPRINT CUP

Rd 18/36

Daytona, Florida, USA July 7 nascar.com

V8 SUPERCARS

Rd 7/15

Townsville, Queensland, Australia July 7-8

v8supercars.com.au

GT1 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

Rd 5/9

Algarve, Portugal July 7-8 gt1world.com

AMERICAN LE MANS SERIES

Rd 4/10

Lime Rock, Connecticut, USA July 7 alms.com

INDY LIGHTS

Rd 8/12

Toronto, Ontario, Canada July 7, indycar.com

Television

THURSDAY JULY 5

1500-1545 Sky Sports F1 LIVE British GP Drivers' Press Conference 2000-2100 Sky Sports F1 LIVE The F1 Show

FRIDAY JULY 6

0945-1155 Sky Sports F1 LIVE Formula 1: Silverstone First Practice 0955-1135 BBC Red Button LIVE Formula 1: Silverstone First Practice 1155-1230 Sky Sports F1 LIVE **GP2: Silverstone Practice** 1345-1555 Sky Sports F1 LIVE Formula 1: Silverstone Second Practice 1355-1535 BBC Red Button LIVE Formula 1: Silverstone Second Practice 1555-1635 Sky Sports F1 LIVE **GP2: Silverstone Qualifying** 1700-1745 Sky Sports F1 LIVE Team principals' Press Conference 2000-2100 Sky Sports F1 LIVE The F1 Show 2100-2235 Motors TV LIVE

Le Mans Classic: Day 1 SATURDAY JULY 7

0840-0920 Sky Sports F1 LIVE
GP3: Silverstone Qualifying
0945-1110 Sky Sports F1 LIVE
Formula 1: Silverstone Third Practice
0955-1105 BBC Red Button LIVE
Formula 1: Silverstone Third Practice
1200-1435 Sky Sports F1 LIVE
Formula 1: Silverstone Qualifying
1300-1430 Motors TV LIVE
FIA GT3: Algarve Race 1

1430-1705 Motors TV
NASCAR Nationwide: Daytona Replay
1435-1600 Sky Sports F1 LIVE
GP2: Silverstone Race 1

1615-1705 Sky Sports F1 LIVE GP3: Silverstone Race 1 2100-2235 Motors TV LIVE Le Mans Classic: Day 2

2330-0500 Premier Sports LIVE
NASCAR Sprint Cup: Daytona Race

SUNDAY JULY 8

0810-0900 Sky Sports F1 LIVE
GP3: Silverstone Race 2
0925-1030 Sky Sports F1 LIVE
GP2: Silverstone Race 2
1000-1130 Motors TV LIVE
FIA GT3: Algarve Race 2
1130-1615 Sky Sports F1 LIVE
Formula 1: British Grand Prix
1205-1255 BBC1 LIVE
Formula 1: British GP Pre-Race

1255-1530 BBC2 LIVE
Formula 1: British Grand Prix

1400-1530 ESPN LIVE
FIA World GT1: Algarve
1500-1650 Motors TV LIVE
Le Mans Classic: Day 3
1530-1630 BBC Red Button

Formula 1: Post-race Forum

1730-2000 Sky Sports 2 LIVE

IndyCar: Toronto Race

The Gordon Murray F1 Story

MONDAY JULY 9

2000-2100 BBC4

1800-1900 Sky Sports 2 NASCAR Sprint Cup: Daytona Highlights

Online

****AUTOSPORT.com Plus**

Coming up in our premium web content this week



BRITISH GRAND PRIX BUILD-UP

As the atmosphere builds for Silverstone, AUTOSPORT's expert team will be there to bring you the latest insight, with Mark Hughes, Edd Straw and Jonathan Noble, plus our half-term report on the drivers.

RELIVING GREAT

Throughout the week we'll be re-running AUTOSPORT's reports of Williams success in the British Grand Prix.



MANSELLMANIA: 20 YEARS ON

Peter Windsor recalls the 1992 British GP from within Mansell's Williams team.



REVVED UP OVER WHAT'S ON THE BOX

We cast a critical eye over the best and worst of this week's TV coverage



FOR SOME PEOPLE

normal life just isn't enough. Why go skiing when you can jump out of a helicopter straight onto some fresh powder on the north face of the Eiger and ski-sail your way down? Why cram yourself into a Rvanair seat when you can get yourself into a stratospheric balloon and jump out, using a flying suit to take you back to terra firma? Or, indeed, why watch some lovely old cars winding their way up Lord March's drive in boring old 2D when you can experience the sensation in 3D?

Yes, that's right, the Goodwood Festival of Speed was brought to us in the medium of dimmer colours, strange floating graphics and unusual bits of bodywork 'comin' atcha'. People, this is progress.

Quite why you'd want to sit in your living room wearing an uncomfortable pair of 'Harry Brown' glasses is beyond me and, to be honest, my wallet. So while the thought of watching the FoS with Keith **Huewen and Tony Jardine** literally in the living room with me was tempting, it wasn't enough to persuade me to shell out for a new telly and digibox (if Georgie was doing it, the balance may have been tipped!).

But even in poor oldfashioned 2D, Goodwood managed to serve up a visual treat. Watching
Nick Heidfeld thrash Mika
Hakkinen's championshipwinning McLaren up the
hill was almost worth
tuning in for on its own. As
were Jerome d'Ambrosio's
ear-splitting donuts
as Natalie Pinkham
tried to interview Nico
Rosberg. But for sheer
spectacle, you couldn't
beat Anthony Reid's fullycommitted charge in
the Chevron GT3.

Inevitably there's a heavy sense of deja vu underscoring proceedings as the usual suspects are wheeled out to be interviewed and some lovely, if overly familiar, old racing cars are paraded.

And even dear old Goodwood hasn't been immune to the burgeoning, attention-deficit-disorderpleasing world of the people jumping over stuff. All decked out in Red Bull stickers of course.

They can keep it.
I like my 2D life,
comfortable and boring
and predictable as it is.
Revved Up

"Why watch lovely old cars winding their way up Lord March's drive in boring 2D when you can get it in 3D"

THE WEEK IN PICTURES

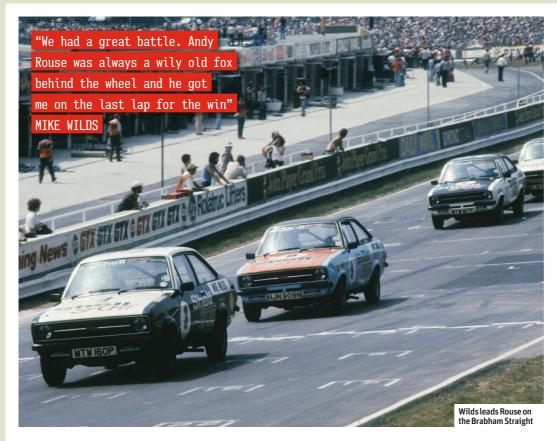
Our lensmen pounding the beat, from West Sussex to west Germany



FULL BRITISH GRAND PRIX REPORT ALL THE ACTION FROM SILVERSTONE DON'T MISS IT!

FROM THE ARCHIVE

ShellSport Ford Escort Challenge, 1976 British Grand Prix



WHILE THE 1976 BRITISH GRAND PRIX WILL GO DOWN IN

motorsport folklore as one of the key events in a classic year of Formula 1 racing, no-one's making any films about the races that supported the main Brands Hatch event that sunny Sunday in July.

A competition run by AUTOSPORT in the weeks leading up to the race gave readers the chance to nominate the 16 drivers they wanted on the grid for the ShellSport Escort Celebrity Race that would open proceedings on the Sunday morning.

The incentive to every reader was the offer of a racing drivers' course at Brands and a bona fide race in the Escorts later in the year to whoever picked the list that most closely matched the chosen 16. The only stipulations were that their selections must be British-based and not competing in the afternoon's Grand Prix.

With Derek Bell, Brian Henton, Tom Walkinshaw, David Purley, Tom Walkinshaw and Tony Lanfranchi among the drivers picked, the level was high. But none of them could $beat \, race \, winner \, Andy \, Rouse, \, who \, emerged \, triumphant$ after a titanic scrap with Mike Wilds. Just 0.47 seconds separated the squabbling duo after seven laps of racing around the Grand Prix loop.

Wilds, who had failed to qualify his privateer Shadow for

the GP, made a cracking start from the outside of the front row to launch himself into the lead, ahead of Rouse.

"We had a great battle," Wilds remembers. "Andy was always a wily old fox behind the wheel and he managed to get me on the last lap for the win. I could have had him off, actually, but I'm not like that.

"He had a bit more experience in that kind of car, having won the Escort Mexico title a couple of years earlier, but I found them to be nice cars to drive. They were all prepared by Jackie Epstein for John Webb at Brands Hatch. Rollcages, good handling. A little squirmy at the rear, but fun to drive."

Behind the leading pair all hell broke loose. Future European Formula 2 champion Henton, who started on the front row with Rouse and Wilds, ploughed into the Clearways banking when his car shed a wheel. Divina Galica, who was involved in the incident, went off later on, while the engines in the cars of Gerry Marshall, Lanfranchi and Rupert Keegan either blew up or cried off sick.

All of that turned the Bell/Nick Whiting scrap into one for third, and the pair entertained the crowd in much the same way as the leaders, the previous year's Le Mans winner coming out on top. Once again the battle was decided on the final lap thanks to Bell's move at Surtees. M

THIS WEEK IN...



JULY 6 1989

MARTIN DONNELLY STARRED IN

Formula 1 testing with Lotus at Silverstone this week in 1989, lapping more than one second faster than team regular Nelson Piquet, while another UK driver excelled as British Formula 3 visited Donington Park.

Allan McNish was the star of the weekend, taking his third consecutive victory to move to within three points of eventual champion David Brabham. The Scot jumped fellow front-row man Rickard Rydell at the start and was never headed, despite the best efforts of Steve Robertson, who finished little more than one second down the road.

Chaos at the first corner had scuppered Brabham's hopes, the Australian eventually finishing 22nd in a field that also boasted Mika Hakkinen, who was eighth, and fellow Finn Mika Salo, 10th.



CARLOS SAINZ

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■ Sanremo Rally ■ October 10-14, 1988 ■ Ford Sierra RS Cosworth ■ Taking the fight to a quartet of Lancias



THERE'S NOT A LOT THAT

can top my win on the 1000 Lakes Rally in 1990, but there is one: the rally that made my career take off in the first place — Sanremo '88.

I was driving for Ford at the time in a two-wheel-drive Sierra RS Cosworth, which everybody knew was not a match for the fourwheel-drive Lancia Delta Integrale, but because the first two days of the rally were on Tarmac, not gravel, I thought that I might just be able to do something.

There was an extra bit of determination because I knew that I'd been on the radar for Lancia for a car in '89, but they'd announced just before Sanremo - the day before the rally started I seem to remember – that my team-mate, Didier Auriol, would be their new driver instead. I was upset because Lancia was the best team and I thought that my chance of a very good car - one that would win on any surface – was gone. I wanted to, no, I had to, prove to [Lancia team boss] Cesare Fiorio that he'd made the wrong decision.

I went to sleep confident the night before the start, but when "Somehow - and I don't know how - we managed to lead for the first two days, helped by the fog that had taken away some of the advantage of the Lancias"

I pulled back the curtains in the morning, my heart sank. It was raining. The fight with four-wheeldrive cars would be impossible.

Somehow — and I don't know how — we managed to lead for the first two days, helped by the fog that had descended and taken

IN PROFILE

away some of the advantage of the Lancias. It was an amazing feeling to get to the regroup in Turin — at the Fiat factory — and put the Sierra into parc ferme before Miki Biasion, Markku Alen, Dario Cerrato and Alex Fiorio — all the Lancia guys.



AFTER WINNING THE SPANISH rally title in 1987, Carlos Sainz moved onto the world stage. Some initial impressive outings in Ford machinery netted him a move to Toyota, which paved the way for his WRC titles in '90 and '92. He also drove Lancia, Subaru and Citroen machinery during his career, winning 26 times in total. Since winning the 2010 Dakar Rally for Volkswagen, he has been the manufacturer's WRC test driver. His son, Carlos Jr, currently competes in F3.

When we moved onto the gravel for the last few days, it was obvious we couldn't keep the lead.

One-by-one the Lancias came past me with Biasion winning, but we still finished fifth, which was a result I was very happy with, especially as Auriol had crashed trying to keep up with me!

Without that rally, I don't know if I would have got the Toyota drive for '89. After the event, Ove Andersson, the Toyota team boss, said he'd like me to drive for him the following year because he'd been impressed with my speed on the Tarmac. In fact, he thought I could maybe be the best driver in the world on Tarmac.

I said, 'Mr Andersson, I'm going to be an even better gravel driver than I am a Tarmac one'. Ove didn't show his sense of humour much, but he did laugh at me when I told him that.

When I won the 1000 Lakes in the Celica about 18 months later [becoming the first non-Scandinavian to do so], I made sure I reminded him of that. & Carlos Sainz was talking to Jamie O'Leary



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Competition runs from 28th June until 26th July 2012. Terms and conditions apply. Rally runs from 31st August to 2nd September.









