

Lombank Trophy Ingliston

By BILL HENDERSON

FOR their Lombank Trophy meeting at Ingliston on Sunday, the Scottish MRC had assembled their best entry of cars and drivers so far to appear at this circuit. Unfortunately as the wind dropped the rains came just as the meeting was about to start, curtailing the Red Arrows display, and in the atrocious conditions drivers were given three exploratory warming-up laps prior to each event on the streaming track.

First to sample the conditions were the Vees, saloon driver Brian Muir taking the front row after giving Nick Brittan's lap record a knock by 0.6 sec down to 42.0 s in practice, with Bill Dryden (Austro-Vee) 0.1 sec slower, but it was Mike Haysey (Beach) who held the advantage from the start tailed by Dryden and Gerry Birrell (Beach). Jenny Nadin spun at Vets and immediately retired to the handy paddock, while Scottish Vee Championship leader Nick Brittan, not having practised, was in seventh place on lap one, followed by J. Singh Bacchu (Beach), but none could challenge Dryden while Birrell held off Muir to the flag with Mike Hayselden (Monaco) fourth.

The second event, the over 1200 cc saloon race, suffered from non-starter trouble, a mere seven cars taking the off, with Alec Poole (Hornet) disappearing in his spray from Ronnie Morrison (1293S), who successfully held off Roy Pierpoint's Falcon for the ten laps. K. Robertson (1300S) found the conditions to his liking and headed John Milne (1293S), well ahead of Tom Sleigh whose Jaguar out-accelerated Ken Ayers (1293S) from the corners.

The Lombank Trophy event for single-seaters was run in two parts, the second being reduced to 15 laps compared with the 25 of the first part, both being run in an absolute downpour. The first part found Willie Forbes (Lotus-BMW 35) determined to show the flag for the home drivers, but the car took charge at Merchants and from the ensuing furor John Miles emerged in the lead with the F3 Lotus Components Lotus 41, ahead of Chris Lambert (Brabham-FVA BT21B/23) and Morris Nunn (F3 Lotus 41). Miles kept the right foot hard down in a sparkling display of wet-weather driving as others slithered about, Nunn taking second place from Lambert after 12 laps. Forbes ploughed on most unhappy in the spray, some way behind the battling Dave Berry (Lythgoe F3 BT21) who was hounding Robs Lamplough (BT21A twin-cam); the Lythgoe driver slipped past on lap 22, both with Julian Gerard (Cooper T73) being two laps in arrears at the chequered flag.

The second part, cut to 15 laps, suffered even more from non-starters. Eight cars set off, headed by a very determined Lambert, who despite never letting up could not make up his aggregate single lap deficit from Miles. Forbes, looking unfamiliar in borrowed helmet and goldfish-bowl visor, was now happier and going well in third place, while Lamplough turned the

tables and kept Berry at bay, followed by Julian Gerard. Mo Nunn dropped from this group with fuel blockage troubles.

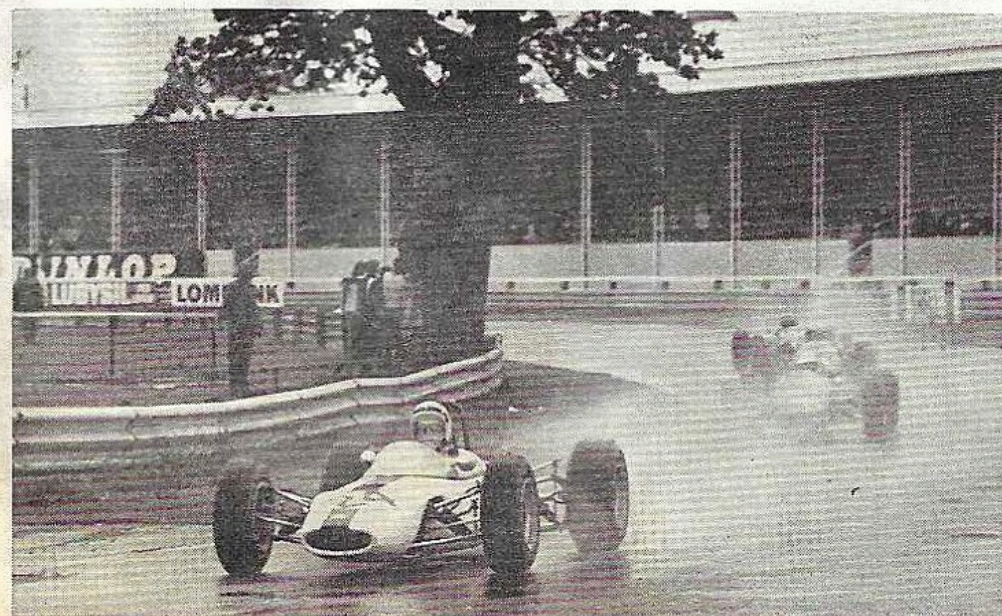
The Daily Record Cup for 1000 cc single-seaters was also cut to 15 laps and also had a 50 per cent field, John Miles repeating his Lombank Trophy form to finish five seconds ahead of Geoff Oliver (Brabham BT10) after Mo Nunn had held sway for the initial five laps before a boob dropped him to sixth. Graham Birrell had the Ecosse-Imp well in hand to finish third, Nunn taking fourth at the end, with Ed Labinjoh in the other Ecosse-Imp the only other finisher.

The 1200 cc saloon 10-lapper promised well, with Tony Lanfranchi in the Fraser Imp challenging Gerry Birrell's Chamois supremacy in this event, and in the sodden conditions the Fraser car pulled away. Logan Morrison (Fraser Chamois), after holding third initially, dropped back after a spin at Merchants, well-worn tyres not helping his wet road holding. Bill Borrowman took third in his Mini-Cooper S with Bob Haining's similar car fourth.

The special GT event looked to be a cracker

TREVOR TAYLOR in the Team Elite Lotus 47 leads John Miles in the Lotus Components car and John Hine in Chris Barber's 47 through Foresters on lap 1 of the special GT race (top). IN THE Lombank Trophy event, run in two parts, Miles drove the Lotus Components Lotus 41 to overall victory over Chris Lambert (Brabham-FVA BT21B/23); here, at Farmers, he chases Lambert in the second part, ahead of Mo Nunn (Lotus 41) and Robs Lamplough (Brabham BT21A t/c) (below).

Photos: Francis Penn



despite the non-appearance of Bill Dryden's Lotus 47. However the three other 47s of Trevor Taylor, in the Team Elite car, John Miles (Lotus Components) and John Hine, driving Chris Barber's pea-green version, made the running, with the Elite car showing fantastic speed to lead throughout. Andrew Cowan was in his element in fourth place in the wet driving the Marcos-Volvo, making up for a disappointing drive in the Haggis-Imp, well ahead of John Nicholson (Lotus 23B GT), while behind them Mark Konig (Nomad GT) had to work hard to keep Ernie Blackadder (Elan) at bay.

The final event on this miserable day was for the Hartley Whyte Trophy, contested by the dozen fastest saloons, and only the super-enthusiasts remained to brave the even heavier downpour which prevailed. Lanfranchi again led in the Fraser Imp ahead of Gerry Birrell (Chamois), with Alec Poole splashing along in third place. Logan Morrison (Chamois) was sixth behind Borrowman (999S) and Ronnie Morrison (1275S) and had to finish ahead of Birrell to challenge for the Trophy. A spin dropped Birrell from the reckoning for points as Morrison clawed up to third after a joust with Borrowman, while Pierpoint's Falcon showed evidence of contact on the passenger door. However as the rain worsened most slowed, except Poole, who stormed into the lead three laps from the flag, and Borrowman who re-took the Morrison Chamois.

So the meeting ended with visiting drivers taking away most of the loot except in the Vee race. However, Nick Brittan holds the Scottish Vee Championship from Gerry Birrell, while Andrew Fletcher (drive shaft trouble prevented his Brabham from competing) still won the Daily Record Scottish Racing Car Championship, with Willie Forbes second.

RESULTS

Formula Vee (15 laps): 1, W. N. Dryden (Austro-Vee), 12 m 7 s, 56.43 mph; 2, G. H. Birrell (Beach); 3, B. Muir (Beach). **Fastest lap:** M. Haysay (Beach), 57.52 mph. **Saloons over 1200 cc (10 laps):** 1, A. K. Poole (1.3 Wolsley Hornet), 8 m 16.0 s, 55.16 mph; 2, R. F. Morrison (1.3 Mini-Cooper S); 3, R. F. Pierpoint (Ford Falcon). **Fastest lap:** Poole, 56.76 mph. **Lombank Trophy (Part 1, 25 laps):** 1, J. Miles (F3 Lotus 41), 21 m 4.6 s, 54.07 mph; 2, M. Nunn (F3 Lotus 41); 3, J. C. C. Lambert (F2 Brabham-Cosworth-Ford BT21A/23 FVA). **Fastest lap:** Miles, 57.24 mph. **Part two (15 laps):** 1, Lambert, 11 m 4.8 s, 62.50 mph; 2, Miles; 3, W. Forbes (2.0 Lotus-BMW 35). **Fastest lap:** Lambert, 64.23 mph. **Aggregate:** 1, Miles; 2, Lambert. **Racing cars up to 1000 cc (15 laps):** 1, J. Miles (F3 Lotus 41), 11 m 37.8 s, 58.84 mph; 2, G. Oliver (F3 Brabham BT10); 3, G. B. Birrell (Ecosse Imp). **Fastest lap:** M. Nunn (F3 Lotus 41), 60.53 mph. **Saloons up to 1200 cc (10 laps):** 1, A. Lanfranchi (1.0 Fraser Imp), 8 m 33.8 secs, 53.22 mph; 2, G. H. Birrell (1.0 Shannon Chamois); 3, W. Borrowman (1.0 Mini-Cooper S). **Fastest lap:** Lanfranchi, Birrell and Borrowman, 54.72 mph. **Special GTs (10 laps):** 1, T. Taylor (Lotus 47), 7 m 33.2 s, 60.37 mph; 2, J. Miles (Lotus 47); 3, J. Hine (Lotus 47). **Fastest lap:** Taylor, 62.18 mph. **Hartley Whyte Trophy (15 laps):** 1, A. K. Poole (1.3 Wolsley Hornet); 2, A. Lanfranchi (1.0 Fraser Imp); 3, W. Borrowman (1.0 Mini-Cooper S). **Fastest lap:** Poole, 59.22 mph.