

Ingliston — Jim Forsyth (64) disputes territory with FF1600 winner Louis di Resta



Ingliston — Richard Dobson's Citroen AX was uncatchable in the 1300cc Road Saloon race

McMonagle profits as Kane falters

KIRKISTOWN, Apr 25:

Jonathan Kane learned a painful lesson in luck in the opening round of the Northern Ireland FF1600 Championship.

Having put his Van Diemen RF91 on pole and grabbed the lead from the similarly mounted Bryan McMonagle halfway round the opening lap, the Co Down teenager seemed to have everything firmly under control. Even a sudden downpour failed to spoil his balance and by the halfway point in the 19-lap race he had a lead of four seconds over McMonagle and looked uncatchable.

But, on lap 14, he came up on a group of slower cars to lap them, their spray drowned his engine, and Kane coasted to a disappointed halt on the back straight.

A grateful McMonagle, who had his mirrors full of Owen McAuley's Van Diemen RF92 in the early stages, cruised home to head a Van Diemen one-two. Dubliner Shaun Magill took third spot for Reynard after a race-long battle with George McAlpin's similar car and John West's Mondiale, while John Ferguson survived several moments in Colin Lees' Mondiale to complete the top half dozen.

The Pre-'88 B class went to Formula VW champion Chris Paul's Reynard from the Crossles of Raymond Pyper (55F) and Laurence Martin (25F). Paul repeated the feat in a very wet Pre-'85 race at the end of the day, this time from Martin and Alistair Galloway (Crossle 32F).

Formula VW saw Stephen Pyper (Scarab) continue the family tradition in the class with a win from the Sheanes of a slow-starting Alaster McKerr and Simon McCallister.

Just four cars appeared on the grid for the Formula Libre race, and since one of them was the beautiful ex-Derek Daly Chevron-Hart B42 of Bill Gowdy the final

result was never really in doubt.

However, David Wright, driving the lone Formula Vauxhall Lotus car led for much of the distance which helped to keep things interesting. Arnie Black's venerable Crossle 19F took third spot.

A team event for Thoroughbred Sports cars saw Ian Woodside storm away from the rest with his unique Vauxhall-powered NE Midget. Jackie Cochrane's rumbling Sunbeam Tiger was a lonely second ahead of Garth Maxwell's MGB.

■ Richard Young

Louis sails to soggy victory

INGLISTON, Apr 26: Sparse grids and atrociously wet conditions characterised Ingliston's opening meeting of the season.

In the FF1600 race Jim Forsyth, on pole, made a determined start. However, Louis di Resta flew away from the second row and squeezed ahead of Stuart Thorburn before latching on to Forsyth. The battle continued until lap 10 when Forsyth missed a gear and

was nudged off.

Colin Low thus inherited second place after disposing of Thorburn who was left to a skirmish with David Taylor and a recovering Forsyth.

Leading Junior Peter Mabon finished a fine sixth fending off a subdued Gordie Taylor and Scott Ramsay.

In the Road Saloons no one could match Richard Dobson's pace as he stretched his Citroen AX Sport away from the Nova of James Ritchie. Third placed Warren Dunbar was embarrassed by the power of his Escort in the conditions. Andrew McKinna maintained a solid fourth, and while Gary White passed Jimmy Patrick to take fifth.

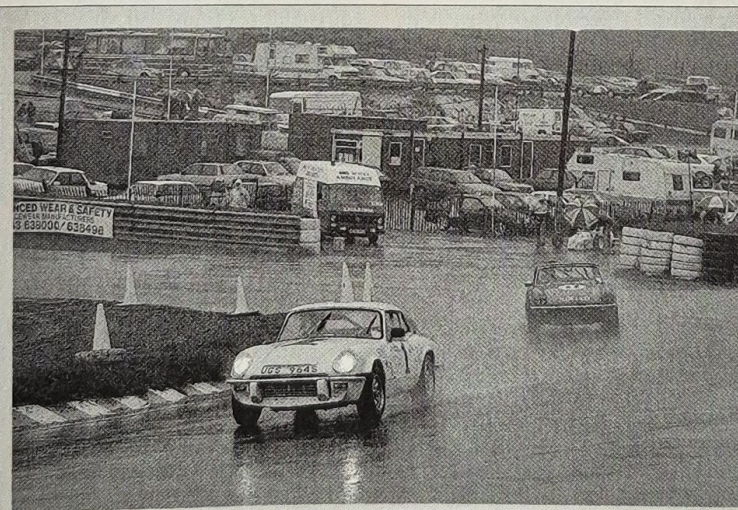
Neil Gammie continued his domination of the Kit and Road Sport ranks in his Westfield, building up a four second cushion over the Porsche of Ken Thomson. Jim Grant annexed third place, overwhelming Dave Milse after Ed Chester retired his neat Sutol with fuel starvation.

Olly Ross took a stylish victory in his Nova over the massed Fiesta entry of up to 1600cc saloons. Ian Hay surprised Robert Mitchell to take second place, leaving Mitchell to fend off Raddy Sarafilovic.

Ron Cumming's Stratos continued its winning habit in the GT race despite blowing out its coolant in practice. Alaster Cunningham gave vain chase, his Manta over 40 seconds behind at the flag. Mike Upton finished a lap down in the lone Clubman entry, but was almost caught by Neil Fisher who battled his fleet Imp through from the back.

The 2CVs provided the most determined racing on a streaming track. Graham Harper snatched the lead, but immediately came under pressure from Nicholas Runcie, the pair pulling out about six seconds on the trio disputing third place. Cameron Ritchie held the advantage for most of the 10 laps despite assaults by Norman Taylor, who squeezed out Andrew Timpson.

■ Bill Henderson



Race winner Kevin Ginger leads challenger Andy Schulz through the gloom into Pits Bend

Ginger unbeaten as rain stops play

Persistent rain caused the BARC (L & HCC) to cancel their Lydden meeting on Sunday after only one race, won by Kevin Ginger. It is the first time in the circuit's history that a motor racing event — apart from a winter rallycross — has been cancelled because of the weather.

Practice was suspended for 15 minutes, and although eventually every competitor was able to practise just the one race was completed.

The Triumph Sports Six competitors were the first to brave the elements, and Adrian Boyle claimed pole position by a clear margin in his Vitesse, over Colin

Pendle (V8 TR7) and Ginger, whose road going Spitfire was 1.5s slower.

Ginger made a splendid start, but Boyle was gaining rapidly, darting about alarmingly as he hit the standing water in the braking areas. It was no surprise when he aquaplaned off the circuit at the start of lap two, along with the similar car of John Sadler. The Spitfire of Andy Schulz took up the chase and he steadily pulled away from Colin Pendle's V8 TR7 as he began to gain on the leader.

With three laps to go Schulz attempted to sneak inside Ginger at the hairpin, but the tail of his car snapped round and he spun harmlessly on to the infield. Pendle splashed home in second place, and Peter Stock's GT6 was third.

■ Kerry Dunlop

INGLISTON, Apr 26

Tom Brown Racing Drivers' School FF1600 (12 laps)

1, Louis di Resta (Van Diemen-Scholar RF92), 12m11.71s, 60.81mph; 2, Collin Low (Swift-Auriga 88), 12m17.80s; 3, Stuart Thorburn (Reynard-Auriga RF89), 12m32.02s; 4, David Taylor (Van Diemen-Polestar RF91), 12m32.49s; 5, Jim Forsyth (Van Diemen-Auriga RF91), 12m32.82s; 6, Peter Mabon (Van Diemen RF87), 12m51.09s. **Fastest lap:** Low, 59.96s, 61.84mph.

Abercromby Motor Group Scottish Road Car Championship (12 laps)

Overall: 1, Richard Dobson (1.3 Citroen AX Sport), 12m59.92s, 57.05mph; 2, James Ritchie (1.3 Vauxhall Nova), 13m06.17s; 3, Warren Dunbar (1.7 Ford Escort), 13m11.71s; 4, Andrew McKinna (1.3 Vauxhall Nova), 13m14.20s. **Up to 1300cc:** 1, Dobson; 2, Ritchie; 3, McKinna. **Fastest lap:** Ritchie, 1m03.79s, 58.13mph. **1300cc-1600cc:** 1, Dunbar; 2, Colin Gallie (2.0 BMW 2002 Tii), 14m01.03s; 3, Charles Campbell (2.0 Vauxhall Astra), 11 laps. **Fastest lap:** Dunbar, 1m04.77s, 57.25mph.

Abercromby Kit and Road Sports Scottish Road Car Championship (12 laps)

1, Neil Gammie (1.6 Westfield SEI), 13m09.91s, 56.33mph; 2, Ken Thomson (Porsche 911), 13m14.17s; 3, Jim Grant (1.6 Lotus Elan), 13m27.19s; 4, Dave Muse (1.6 Sylva Striker), 13m42.33s. **Kit Cars:** Gammie; 2, Muse; 3, Andrew Simmers (1.6 Westfield). **Fastest lap:** Gammie, 1m04.77s, 57.25mph. **Road Sports:** 1, Thomson; 2, Grant; no other starters. **Fastest lap:** Thomson, 1m04.61s, 57.39mph.

Abercromby Road Saloons up to 1600cc (12 laps)

1, Olly Ross (1.6 Vauxhall Nova), 13m17.19s, 55.82mph; 2, Ian Hay (1.6 Ford Fiesta XR2), 13m20.75s; 3, Robert Mitchell (1.6 Ford Fiesta XR2), 13m22.64s; 4, Raddy Sarafilovic (1.6 Ford Fiesta XR2), 13m28.66s; 5, Bill Ewing (1.6 Ford Fiesta), 13m42.96s; Mark Splers (1.6 Hillman Avenger), 13m51.41s. **Fastest lap:** Mitchell, 1m02.94s, 58.91mph.

Knockhill Racing GTs, Modsaloons, Sports &

Clubmans (12 laps)

1, Ron Cumming (2.0 Lancia Stratos), 11m31.06s, 64.39mph; 2, Alaster Cunningham (2.3 Opel Manta), 12m10.30s; 3, Mike Upton (1.6 Mallock Mk20B), 11 laps, 11m59.29s; 4, Neil Fisher (1.0 Hillman Imp), 11 laps. **GT:** 1, Cumming; 2, Eddie Beerman (1.8 Skoda Coupe), 10 laps, 12m32.12s; no other starters. **Fastest lap:** Cumming, 55.72s, 66.55mph. **Modsaloons:** 1, Cunningham, no other starters. **Fastest lap:** 59.34s, 62.49mph. **Clubmans:** 1, Upton; no other starters. **Fastest lap:** Upton, 1m03.62s, 58.28mph. **Sports:** Bill Carr, 11 laps, 55.89mph; 2, Reg Forrester-Smith (1.7 Vision), 11 laps; no other starters. **Fastest lap:** Carr, 1m04.94s, 57.10mph. **Special Saloons:** 1, Neil Fisher (1.0 Hillman Imp), no other starters. **Fastest lap:** 1m02.30s, 59.52mph.

Citroen 2CVs (10 laps)

1, Graham Harper, 13m04.70s, 47.25mph; 2, Nicholas Runcie, 13m09.30s; 3, Cameron Ritchie, 13m15.31s; 4, Norman Taylor, 13m18.11s; 5, Andrew Timpson, 13m19.19s; 6, Allan McGregor, 13m35.75s. **Fastest lap:** Runcie, 1m17.06s, 48.12mph.

LYDDEN, Apr 26

Triumph Sports Six Club Championship (8 laps)

Overall: 1, Kevin Ginger (1.3 Spitfire), 8m18.6s, 57.76mph; 2, Collin Pendle (3.5 TR7), 8m55.4s; 3, Peter Stock (2.0 GT6), 9m00.05s; 4, Peter Whiteman (1.3 Spitfire), 9m07.8s. **Class A:** 1, Ginger; 2, Stock; 3, Whiteman. **Fastest lap:** Andy Schulz (1.3 Spitfire), 59.3s, 60.70mph. **Class B:** Colin Bird (1.3 Spitfire), 7 laps. No other finishers. **Fastest lap:** Bird, 1m05.0s, 55.38s. **Class D:** Pendle. No other starters. **Fastest lap:** 1m05.5s, 56mph.

MONDELLO PARK, Apr 19

Golden Pages Star of Tomorrow FF1600 (10 laps)

1, Mark O'Connor (Van Diemen RF88), 10m08.0s, 68.09mph; 2, Chris Paul (Reynard 84FF), 10m11.7s; 3, Paul Holmes (Van Diemen RF88), 10m12.4s; 4, Stephen O'Connor (Reynard BBFF); 5, David Collier (Reynard 91FF), 10m20.0s; 6, Colin Berwick (Van Diemen RF88).