

All rosy for Gardner 18.9.85

WITH NO manufacturer involvement this time, Scottish Motor Racing Club's penultimate meeting at Ingliston was a normal-length, eight-race affair. The only hiccup in a slickly-run programme was a delay of forty-five minutes when Mike MacPherson and Kenneth Brown became too intimate at the start of the FF1600 final and the former's Van Diemen ended up entwined in the armco, which required close attention after MacPherson had been extricated.



ANDY SIM (55) didn't manage to hold off Cameron Binnie (69), the latter taking the championship.

The second party in the above incident, Kenneth Brown, had started the day well with a win in the qualifier. Energetic driving kept him ahead of Alex Knox and Alec Fraser, while even more brio brought Neil Gillanders up to fourth from the back of the grid — unfortunately not good enough to make it to the final, though.

There then followed the best road saloons up to 1600cc race all year, despite the effective absence of regular winner Olly Ross due to clutch problems. Glen Mortimer's Avenger, an unfamiliar sight on pole position, romped into the lead followed by Bruce Lyle's Sprint Tyres Fiesta and Iain Gardner's Peugeot 205GTI. Apart from Gardner's brief spell in second after passing Lyle round the outside of Clock, that was the order this closely-bunched group held until the last lap, when Lyle took the lead along the back straight. It was Gardner, though, who set fastest lap, which may or may not have been consolation for the fact that he was docked 10 seconds for cutting corners.

The attractions of Zandvoort had claimed John Fyda and Kenny Allen, leaving the sports car race in the hands of Frank Lethbridge's Mallock Mk25, with Bill Drummond's older-model Drummond Plant Hire car a close second.

No doubt to the chagrin of drivers in swish new cars, Tom Brown won the FF1600 final in his Van Diemen

RF80, passing Andy Sim's JBMSL Reynard at the hairpin on lap two. Willie Rose and Cameron Binnie in Reynard and Silverscreen Van Diemen performed some merry japes in the dice for second, which Rose won. But Binnie probably wasn't too worried — third place was good enough to give him the 1985 Scottish FF1600 title.

Once again Ziggi's Lotus 7 showed almost embarrassing road sports car dominance in the hands of Iain Gardner, who drove as hard and flamboyantly as ever despite the lack of opposition. Allan McGregor dropped from second to nowhere on the first lap in the Restore-A-Stone Caterham but fought his way up to fourth on lap 10 and was climbing all over third-placed John Mackie's Elan right up to the flag. Surrounded by small-capacity cars, Graham McCallum's Strata Bit Porsche was a decisive over 1600 cc class winner in second place.

In a race rather fittingly sponsored by his father, ex-racer Walter, Stephen Robertson was first of the FF2000s home. Harry Minty set off in second place, but was passed going into the hairpin on lap six by Ecurie Ecosse driver Dave Duffield, who had had a new engine fitted after practice. Duffield set fastest lap and was within half a second of Robertson by the flag.

Jim McGaughay's Forth Electrical Lancia was back on form in the GT race, winning easily after Ron Cumming retired his Esprit at the end of the first lap. Bill Paul was second throughout ahead of class winner Eric Munnoch in the Uniform Davrian.

A very good start by Hugh Chalmers in his Sunbeam Lotus and a wheelspin-ridden one by Jim McRae in the Ecurie Ecosse Chevette set the scene for the large road saloons race, in which Chalmers held on to a two-second lead from McRae, who had the best dice of the day with Ian Bruce in the Beacon Sunbeam Lotus.

D.F.

FF1600 Qualifier — 12 laps: 1. K. Brown (PRS 78/79), 11m 01.3s (67.29 mph); 2. A. Knox (Van Diemen Irwin); 3. A. Fraser (Crossle 50F); 4. N. Gillanders (Van Diemen RF84); 5. G. Csonka (Van Diemen RF82); 6. K. McCormick (Spartan FF80/81). Fastest lap: Gillanders, 53.6s (69.18 mph).

Road Saloons up to 1600 cc — 12 laps: 1. B. Lyle (1.6 Ford Fiesta), 12m 30.1s (59.32 mph); 2. G. Mortimer (1.6 Hillman Avenger); 3. D. Dawson (1.3 MG Metro); 4. J. Irvine (1.6 VW Golf GTi); 5. J. Fleming (1.6 Toyota Celica); 6. I. Gardner (1.6 Peugeot 205GTI). Fastest lap: Gardner, 61.2s (60.59 mph).

Sports Cars — 12 laps: 1. F. Lethbridge (1.7 Mallock Mk25), 10m 09.6s (72.99 mph); 2. B. Drummond (1.7 Mallock Mk20); 3. A. Smith (1.6 Vision V84B); 4. B. Ness (2.0 Lola); 5. K. Bowmaker (2.0 Lola 492); 6. M. Upton (1.6 Mallock). Fastest lap: Clubmans B. Smith, 50.9s (72.85 mph); Sports 2000, Ness, 51.2s (72.42 mph).

FF1600 Final — 12 laps: 1. T. Brown (Van Diemen RF80), 10m 34.9s (70.09 mph); 2. W. Rose (Reynard SF84); 3. C. Binnie (Van Diemen); 4. A. Sim (JBMSL Reynard); 5. R. Low (PRS 81F); 6. N. Cochrane (Lola T644E). Fastest lap: Brown and Rose, 52.1s (71.17 mph).

Road Sports Cars — 12 laps: 1. Gardner (1.6 Ziggi's Lotus 7), 11m 41.9s (63.39 mph); 2. G.

McCallum (2.7 Porsche 911); 3. J. Mackie (1.6 Louts Eilan); 4. A. McGregor (1.6 Caterham 7). Over 1600 cc: 1. McCallum, 12m 13.8s (58.70 mph); 2. H. Ogilvie (1.7 Caterham 7); 3. D. Anderson (1.8 MGB GT). Fastest lap: McCallum, 60.1s (61.69 mph). Up to 1600 cc: 1. Gardner; 2. Mackie; 3. McGregor. Fastest lap: Gardner, 57.6s (64.38 mph).

FF2000 — 12 laps: 1. S. Robertson (Reynard SF84), 9m 56.5s (74.60 mph); 2. D. Duffield (Mondiale); 3. H. Minty (Van Diemen RF83); 4. A. Mutter (Van Diemen); 5. C. Chisolm (Van Diemen RF82); 6. K. Le May (Van Diemen RF83). Fastest lap: Duffield, 48.3s (76.77 mph).

GT Cars — 12 laps: 1. J. McGaughay (2.0 FES Lancia), 9m 57.0s (74.55 mph); 2. B. Paul (2.0 AC3000ME); 3. E. Munnoch (1.0 Davrian); 4. K. Coleman (1.5 Lotus Esprit). Over 1000 cc: 1. McGaughay; 2. Paul; 3. Coleman. Fastest lap: McGaughay, 47.0s (78.89 mph). Up to 1000 cc: 1. Munnoch; 2. R. Gauld (1.0 Davrian Mk7); 3. M. Dunn (1.0 Davrian Mk7). Fastest lap: Munnoch, 51.1s (72.56 mph).

Road Saloons over 1600 cc — 12 laps: 1. H. Chalmers (2.2 Sunbeam Lotus), 11m 48.8s (62.78 mph); 2. J. McRae (2.2 Vauxhall Chevette); 3. I. Bruce (2.2 Sunbeam Lotus); 4. R. McDowall (2.2 Sunbeam Lotus); 5. H. Fowler (3.0 Ford Capri); 6. A. Gray (2.0 Ford Escort). Fastest lap: McRae, 58.1s (63.82 mph).