



SPORTS and special GTs into Shepherds. The Lotus 11s of N. H. Morrison and D. Arnold lead Jack Fisher (Fisher GT), John Nicolson (Lotus 23), J. L. Alexander (Mini-Marcos) and John Milne (MG Midget).

Adam Wylie Trophy to Fletcher

By BILL HENDERSON

THE Scottish motor racing season opened last Sunday at Ingliston with the spring race meeting organized by the Scottish MRC. The dry but bitterly cold day attracted an attendance of some 14,000 spectators, many of whom departed before what was probably the best race of the day, the last event on the programme. This was the 15-lap Hartley Whyte Trophy race for the fastest saloons, which featured a high speed no-quarter dice of "Chimps" and big-engined Minis, with Logan Morrison (1.3 Mini-Cooper S) holding off Gerry Birrell (Shannon Chamois), Davie Muter (1.3 Mini-Cooper S) and Andrew Cowan's Fraser Chamois, these four finishing and slipstreaming 0.3 sec apart. Bob Smith pulled up to fifth to make fastest lap, these all well ahead of Tony Charnell (Chamois) who had Alistair Robertson's yellow Imp squatting on his rear bumper.

The first event, a 10-lap affair for 1200 cc saloons, was delayed due to a parachute demonstration, but Graham Carr was in no way delayed and hauled his rather tatty "Baronized" Mini-Cooper ahead of Jimmy Fowell, both drawing away from J. Sime and P. Henderson in similar cars. Bob Croan stuffed his Viva into the barrier at Shepherds, and meanwhile Fowell gradually closed on the fleeing Carr and made a desperate "on the grass" manoeuvre on the last lap to take Carr on the top straight. Trevor Twaites settled the sports and special

GT race from the outset in an immaculate drive in his Lotus 23B, despite a flying start by John Corfield (Divia), who held a secure second until his car gave out on the penultimate lap. Andy Barton's Mini-Marcos held third place until it vanished in its own smoke, blowing up on lap 5 and letting N. H. Morrison (Lotus 11) claim second ahead of Reg Forrester-Smith's similar car. Such was Twaites' pace that he finished almost 30 secs ahead of the second placeman and equalled the class lap record.

The Adam Wylie Trophy race, run in two 25-lap heats, established Andrew Fletcher as the man to beat this season in his Brabham BT18, although Willie Forbes was missing and the Ecosse Imps were in trouble with breakages of suspension parts. Graham Birrell broke a drive shaft on his in heat one and a front wishbone, causing his retirement, in the next heat, while Bill Dryden had something break in the rear end on the fourth lap of the second heat, the car sliding fortunately into an opening in the barrier. Geoff Breckell (Brabham BT8) had a good day, taking a line second in both heats, while John Millar (Brabham) was an overall third, but Mike Peel's 1967 Cooper just could not subdue Andy Goodfellow's new vintage FJ Cooper.

The over 1200 cc saloons were out next, but troubles weeded the field down to seven cars at the end. Davie Muter, having removed the guttering from his Mini-Cooper, found more

steam and headed Logan Morrison to the flag ahead of Bob Smith (Anglia). Robin Smith lived things up in fourth place with his handling of the Mustang on the narrow track, but Duncan Fisher did not live up to his practice promise, having troubles with the Peral Cortina.

The over 1200 cc sports and GT race added to Geoff Breckell's bag of gold as he got his BT8 ahead of Richard Scott in the ex-Wille Forbes Elva-BMW, which had been penalized 30 secs for beating the flag, while in the *Marque* car event Miles Hopperton (Midget) after a fine start was overwhelmed by Stuart Robinson (Healey 3000) followed by A. W. Hill's Elite, but Andrew Hutchinson really started motor racing and urged his yellow Sprite through to second behind the big Healey.

The second up to 1200 cc saloon 10-lapper looked like a battle between Gerry Birrell in the Shannon Chamois and Andrew Cowan driving Logan Morrison's ex-Fraser Imp, with Bill Borrowman and Dave Forsyth in the SportsTune Mini-Coopers not to be discounted. As it happened Birrell stormed off with Borrowman and Forsyth in furious pursuit; Cowan's car went on three cylinders on the start line, having stripped its third gear in practice. Alistair Robertson (Imp) was next up with Tony Charnell (Chamois) trying all he knew as Cowan breathed down his back. Then J. W. Pinkerton pulled a rear wheel off its studs on the exit from Shepherds and stopped in mid track; this confusion helped Andrew Cowan, now on full song, to snatch fourth spot, all others somehow managing to avoid the obstacle.

RESULTS

Saloons up to 1200 cc (10 laps): 1, J. Fowell (Mini), 57.23 mph; 2, G. Croan (Mini-Cooper); 3, J. Sime (Mini-Cooper). **Fastest laps:** Fowell, 59.49 mph.

Sports cars and special GTs up to 1200 cc (10 laps): 1, T. Twaites (Lotus 23B); 2, N. H. Morrison (Lotus 11); 3, R. Forrester-Smith (Lotus 11). **Fastest laps:** Twaites, 65.34 mph. **Adam Wylie Trophy heat one (25 laps):** 1, A. D. T. Fletcher (Brabham BT18), 67.12 mph; 2, G. H. Breckell (Brabham BT8); 3, W. Dryden (Ecosse Imp). **Fastest laps:** Fletcher, 68.91 mph. **Heat two (25 laps):** 1, A. D. T. Fletcher, 65.63 mph; 2, G. H. Breckell; 3, J. Millar (Brabham BT8). **Fastest laps:** Fletcher, 68.03 mph. **Aggregate:** 1, Fletcher, 68.03 mph; 2, Breckell; 3, Millar (48 laps).

Saloons over 1200 cc (10 laps): 1, D. J. Muter (Mini-Cooper S), 61.9 mph; 2, W. L. Morrison (Mini-Cooper S); 3, R. G. Smith (Ford Anglia). **Fastest laps:** Muter, 63.61 mph. **Sports cars and GTs over 1200 cc (10 laps):** 1, Breckell (Brabham BT8); 2, J. R. Ballantine (Divia); 3, T. E. Blackadder (Lotus Elan). **Fastest laps:** Breckell, 67.72 mph.

Saloons up to 1200 cc, race 2 (10 laps): 1, G. H. Birrell (Shannon Chamois); 2, W. Borrowman (Mini-Cooper S); 3, D. Forsyth (Austin Cooper S). **Fastest laps:** Birrell, 63.33 mph. **Clubman's cars (10 laps):** 1, L. Cochrane (Lotus 7); 2, M. McNeil (LWS). **Fastest laps:** Cochrane, 63.04 mph. **Marque car (10 laps):** 1, S. Robinson (Austin-Healey 3000), 56.81 mph; 2, A. W. Hutchinson (Austin-Healey Sprite); 3, M. Parkin (Lotus Elan). **Fastest laps:** Robinson, 58.71 mph. **Hartley Whyte Trophy (15 laps):** 1, J. W. L. Morrison (Mini-Cooper S); 2, G. H. Birrell (Shannon Chamois); 3, D. J. Muter (Mini-Cooper S). **Fastest laps:** R. G. Smith (Ford Anglia), 64.21 mph.