



John Miles' visit to the circuit paid handsome dividends yielding three wins. Here his GLTL Lotus 41X leads Willie Forbes' Lotus-BMW 35.

Miles' treble Scotch

By BILL HENDERSON

AFTER a week of almost continued downpour, the Scottish Motor Racing Club had their prayers answered last Sunday at Ingliston, with almost perfect weather. The club had assembled what was probably the best entry so far, with the Gold Leaf Team Lotus entourage notching up three wins with John Miles. The 12,000 crowd witnessed some very close and exciting races to settle the ownership of the various trophies.

The first event saw Peter Wright storm away in his 1.3 Janspeed Mini, after poleman Andy Tobias succumbed to fan belt trouble on lap 3, letting Lou Emslie (1.3 Elf) claim second spot, fractionally ahead of Geoff Breakell (Alfa Romeo GTA). Breakell stuffed Tom Clapham's Alfa into the barrier at West Gate having shot past Emslie under braking.

The first 20 lap heat for single-seaters promised to be a John Miles benefit but it was Willie Forbes (2.0 Lotus BMW 35) who held the lead for 3 laps, being overtaken by the GLTL 41X, which thereafter cruised around. Forbes dropped out on lap 15 when a water hose burst, while poor Richard Scott fiddled away with an ailing fuel pump on his F3 Lotus 41. This let Andrew Fletcher, driving his BT18 t/c very smoothly, take second place, followed by the squabbling trio of Simon Saye (F3 BT21), Ronnie Mackay (F3 BT15) and Graham Birrell (1.0

Ecosse-Imp). Kinny Lall (BT21) was some way behind watching, tailed by the Vixen F4/4s of Bernard Unett and Keith Norman, both seeming well-suited to the circuit. Birrell stormed through three laps from the flag to third, while Saye held Mackay at bay.

Probably the best dice so far took place in the up to 1000 cc saloon 10-lapper which followed, as Logan Morrison (1.0 Chamois) took his customary lead from the start with a determined Andy Barton (1.0 Mini) and similarly mounted Sedic Bell circulating as if tied together. Eric Howden (Chamois) was a lonely fourth. Bill Borrowman dropped from the fray with transmission trouble. J. A. J. Currie (1.0 Cooper) hit a tree after the Esses and was removed to hospital with both ankles broken.

The Formula Ford 15 lapper followed. The first lap saw John Walkinshaw (Lotus 51A) in command, a position which he held for six laps. Harry Gilbert had a nonsense at Bankers, putting the car out of the race on the barrier. This let Tony Roberts' Lotus 51A in second place behind Dave Walker's Russell-Alexis, with Gerry Birrell fighting back to third in the Centro-Scot FF, after a slight coming together with Walker earlier. Ted Clark's 51 annexed fourth, with Walkinshaw finishing next ahead of Andy Goodfellow's aged but well driven Fireball, Walker making sure of the Kings Cup from lap 10 onwards.



Logan Morrison's Chamois just holds off the Mini-Coopers of Andy Barton and Sedic Bell at Merchants.

A bellow of sound announced the second big saloon race was under way, with the 1.8 Perdal Escort driven by Graham Birrell showing the way around to a very forceful Borrowman (1.3 Cooper S). John Handley in the Don Moore car could find no opening, after he had overwhelmed Jim Dryden's Cooper S, which was awarded a 30 secs penalty for persistent verging. Gerry Birrell (1.2 Chamois) had Roy Pierpoint's Falcon rumbling in his ear, but this trailed a gradually thickening cloud of steam, a legacy of shunting Jimmy Veitch's 1.3 Cooper earlier, eventually causing both cars to retire. The Escort won from Borrowman with Handley third despite a locking brake causing him to go straight on at Ploughmans on the final lap.

A fine field of special GT cars followed, with John Blades hustling his 1.6 Chevron-FVA into the lead for nine laps, from Miles in the GLTL Lotus 47, while Tim Schenken in a similar car pitted after two laps. Geoff Breakell was making up for his earlier prang, treating West Gate with respect in his Chevron, followed by John Calvert's Lotus Europa. John Nicholson after damaging his Lotus 23GT suspension in practice, had the lot screwed together and elbowed his way into fifth place ahead of the first up to 1150 cc class winner George Silverwood (1.1 Mercury GT).

Miles took command of the second *libre* race in the 41X, ahead of Fletcher's BT18, and with Graham Birrell a fine third in the Ecosse Imp. Unett's Vixen held fourth initially, but had to give way to Forbes. He rushed through to second on lap 5, gradually creeping up on Miles, and then on lap 13 unaccountably dropped back. Unett joined battle with Birrell for seventh place. Meanwhile Saye's BT21 had passed Mackay, driving beautifully in his BT15 to take fourth spot.

The final saloon race was over 20 laps and held promise of a close finish, but the main contestants were eliminated immediately after the start when Morrison's Chamois, Borrowman's Mini and Dave Muter (1275 Mini) and Birrell's Chamois met and contacted hard objects. Graham Birrell's Escort and Handley's Mini renewed their joust, neither giving way nor making any mistakes throughout the complete distance. Barton's Mini took third place from the battling pair of Ron McCutcheon (1.3 Mini) and Howden's Chamois, the remainder being classed as non finishers.

Saloons over 1000 cc race one (10 laps): 1. P. V. Wright (1.3 Mini-Cooper S), 10 m 35.0 s, 58.37 mph; 2. R. M. Caig (1.6 Anglia); 3. D. Huntley (1.6 Ford Anglia t/c). **Fastest lap:** A. J. Tobias (1.3 Mini-Cooper S), 62.2 s, 59.61 mph.

Saloons over 1000 cc race two (10 laps): 1. G. B. Birrell (1.8 Ford Escort TC), 9 m 58.2 s, 61.98 mph; 2. W. Borrowman (1.3 Mini-Cooper S); 3. J. Handley (1.3 Mini-Cooper S). **Fastest lap:** Borrowman, 58.4 s, 63.90 mph.

Saloons up to 1000 cc (10 laps): 1. W. L. Morrison (1.0 Singer Chamois), 10 m 12.1 s, 60.59 mph; 2. A. Barton (1.0 Mini-Cooper S); 3. S. Bell (1.0 Mini-Cooper S). **Fastest lap:** Barton, 59.9 s, 61.90 mph.

Lombank Trophy for formule libre, part one (20 laps): 1. J. J. Miles (F3 Lotus-Holbay 41X), 18 m 15.8 s, 67.66 mph; 2. A. D. T. Fletcher (1.6 Brabham-Ford BT18 t/c); 3. G. B. Birrell (1.0 Ecosse-Imp); 4. S. Saye (F3 Brabham-Lucas BT21). **Fastest lap:** Miles, 52.4 s, 70.76 mph.

Lombank Trophy for formule libre, part two (20 laps): 1. J. J. Miles (F3 Lotus-Holbay 41X), 18 m 19.9 s, 67.42 mph; 2. A. D. T. Fletcher (1.6 Brabham-Ford BT18 t/c); 3. G. B. Birrell (1.0 Ecosse-Imp); 4. R. M. Mackay (F3 Brabham-Cosworth BT15). **Fastest lap:** W. Forbes (2.0 Lotus-BMW 35) and Fletcher, 53.0 s, 69.96 mph.

Formula Ford (15 laps): 1. D. Walker (Russell-Alexis), 14 m 59.2 s, 61.85 mph; 2. A. Roberts (Lotus 51A); 3. G. H. Birrell (Centro-Scot FF). **Fastest lap:** Walker, 57.8 s, 64.15 mph.

Special GT cars (15 laps): 1. J. J. Miles (1.6 Lotus Europa 47), 13 m 51.3 s, 66.90 mph; 2. J. H. Blades (1.6 Chevron-FVA GT); 3. G. H. Breakall (2.0 Chevron-BMW GT). **Fastest lap:** Blades, 53.9 s, 68.79 mph.

Saloons (20 laps): 1. G. B. Birrell (1.8 Ford Escort TC), 19 m 47.4 s, 62.46 mph; 2. J. Handley (1.3 Mini-Cooper S); 3. A. Barton (1.3 Mini-Cooper S). **Fastest lap:** Birrell, 57.2 s, 64.83 mph.