



Edinburgh Festival Ingliston

By BILL HENDERSON

THE Edinburgh Festival meeting on Sunday last at Ingliston, organized by the Scottish MRC, was successful in that, despite the ever-present threat of rain, the strong wind kept the track dry, while efficient organization kept the meeting up to time. Eight races were laid on, mostly of ten laps duration, with a 40-lapper, the longest race at this circuit so far, for *formule libre* cars, and a 25-lap affair for the fastest saloons which proved the reliability of the Imps and Chamois over the Minis; 109 entrants contested these races.

The first event, the up to 1200 cc saloon 10-lapper, started on a high key in gusty but dry weather when Ian Ower and Ken Allen in their Mini-Coopers stormed off the line side by side, neither giving way. On reaching Bankers on the second lap the cars touched, Allan coming off better as Ower's car contacted the barrier and dropped to last but one before continuing. Meanwhile Allen had Sedric Bell in the Barton Mini swallowing up the gap, with J. Sime (Mini-Cooper) a respectable third, then the Imp of J. E. Howden leading a batch comprising D. C. Gay (Mini-Cooper), R. M. Caig (Borgue Anglia), Colin Livingstone (Renault) and R. J. Scott, howling his Mini's tyres. The main interest now settled on Ower's progress back through the field; he picked off a car per lap to finish fourth, after Bell all but caught Allen on the line and Howden pitted his Imp after eight laps.

ON HIS WAY TO VICTORY IN THE MAIN EVENT Willie Forbes in the Lotus-BMW 35 takes Vets Corner at full chat (top). THE REAR WHEEL of John Blanckley's 1800 A40, half-shaft protruding, about to hit Ronnie Mackay's Imp, which is spinning to avoid the BMC car at Gardiners (below).



Hutchinson (Sprite) and elbowed past on the top straight, mainly on the grass, while A. Souter (Fairthorpe) took things calmly ahead of S. Dunsterville (Lotus 7) after G. Whittingham pulled off at Vets. Heerey never let up, and knocked 0.2 sec off the sports car record.

The second up to 1200 cc saloon race renewed the Birrell/Morrison Chamois battle, the latter making a perfect start to hold off Birrell's challenge for eight laps, until a back marker got in the way and Birrell snatched the advantage to lead and Morrison over the line by 2 sec. All was not at peace behind, however: G. Douglas spun his Shannon Imp on lap 1 in the midst of the pack, collecting Tony Charnell's potent Croall Chamois, leaving R. J. S. Haining (Cooper) upholding Mini honours in third spot; he had Ronnie Mackay trying to squeeze past on all sides in his third race with his Shannon Imp, but without success.

The main race of the day, followed, for the Jock McBain Trophy, the 12 single-seaters being started by Jackie Stewart. Rollo Feilding (Brabham BT21) and Geoff Oliver (BT10) did not appear. Jock Russell hurled his big Russell-Ford into a thundering lead ahead of Andrew Fletcher (BT18) and Willie Forbes (Lotus-BMW); Chris Williams, driving as impeccably as ever, followed, heading Graham Birrell (Ecosse-Imp), John Romanes (Lotus 35), John Millar (BT13), Tony Charnell (Lotus T55), then a gap to Graham McWilliam (Merlyn 1860), Ed Labinhoh (Ecosse Imp), Bill Turnbull (Cooper) and bringing up the rear the rather outclassed Saab JW4/4 driven by the Swede S. Johansson.

Willie Forbes was out for championship points after his bad luck at earlier races this season and the car was going well; he stormed by Fletcher on lap 6, but waited until lap 18 before he set about Russell. Fletcher followed him through two laps later while Chris Williams moved his BT21 up to look down the big Ford's exhausts, but lacked the steam to get past. Tony Charnell had pushed past Millar, the others holding station to the chequered flag, giving Forbes a well-deserved victory and Williams a first in the up to 1000 cc class and fourth overall.

John Nicholson, his Lotus 23B now sporting GT bodywork, ran off with the up to 1200 cc race for sports and special GTs, but John Absalom (Ginetta G4) had to work hard to hold off Andy Barton's Mini-Marcos for nine laps, the latter taking to the banks to get past on the penultimate lap.

After a slight delay to clear oil off the track, the 10 fastest saloons came out for the final 25-lap event, counting towards the Hartley Whyte Trophy. Again Logan Morrison made a copy-book start in his ex-Fraser Chamois to lead Gerry Birrell's Chamois, who seemed content to bide his time; both were comfortably ahead of Jim Dryden and Davy Muter (Mini-Coopers), while Ronnie Morrison snatched fifth at Gardiners, taking Fisher's Cortina on the inside. Blanckley's A40 shed a wheel at the same spot, hammering it off Davy Muter's Mini-Cooper, the latter's rear wheel (Mini), Morrison (Mini) and Fisher (Cortina) were at it hammer and tongs until the Cortina was parked. Then Dryden pulled off on lap 14, as Muter's Mini went off song, while Gerry Birrell dropped almost a lap reconnecting his coil on the back straight. Labinhoh made a nonsense of Merchants, collecting the corner board, as Ronnie Morrison moved up to second ahead of Muter, both cars sounding rough. Gerry Birrell hurled his blue Chamois through the corners to equal his class record and pull up to fourth as Logan Morrison took the flag, his Chamois sounding healthy as always.

RESULTS

Saloons up to 1200 cc (10 laps): 1, K. Allen (Mini-Cooper), 7 m 49.0 s; 2, G. Bell (Mini); 3, J. Sime (Mini-Cooper). **Fastest lap:** Bell, 45.1 s, 60.56 mph. **Formula Vee (10 laps):** 1, N. Brittan (Beach), 7 m 18.8 s, 62.33 mph; 2, G. Birrell (Beach); 3, J. Nadin (Beach). **Fastest lap:** Birrell, 41.2 s, 66.41 mph (record). **Saloons over 1200 cc (10 laps):** 1, J. Dryden (Mini-Cooper), 7 m 20.8 s, 62.11 mph; 2, E. Labinhoh (Mini-Cooper); 3, D. Muter (Mini-Cooper). **Fastest lap:** Dryden, 42.8 s, 63.93 mph. **Sports and special GT cars over 1200 cc (10 laps):** 1, W. J. Heerey (Chevron), 6 m 54.4 s, 66.00 mph; 2, W. Dryden (Lotus Elan); 3, J. Cochrane (Lotus 7). **Fastest lap:** Heerey, 40.2 s, 68.00 mph (record). **Saloons up to 1200 cc (10 laps):** 1, G. Birrell (Singer Chamois), 7 m 19.8 s, 62.26 mph; 2, W. L. Morrison (Singer Chamois Sport); 3, R. J. S. Haining (Mini-Cooper). **Fastest lap:** Birrell, 42.6 s, 64.23 mph. **Jock McBain Memorial Trophy for fastest five cars (20 laps):** 1, W. J. Forbes (Lotus-BMW 35), 26 m 54.8 s, 67.71 mph; 2, A. D. T. Fletcher (Brabham BT18); 3, J. Russell (Russell-Ford); 4, C. M. M. Williams (Brabham BT21). **Fastest lap:** Forbes, 18.7 s, 70.69 mph. **Sports and special GT cars up to 1200 cc (10 laps):** 1, J. Nicholson (Lotus 23B), 7 m 33.6 s, 60.37 mph; 2, A. Barton (Mini-Marcos); 3, J. Absalom (Ginetta G4). **Fastest lap:** Nicholson, 42.0 s, 63.14 mph. **Hartley Whyte Trophy for saloons (25 laps):** 1, W. J. Morrison (Singer Chamois Sport), 18 m 21.4 s, 62.05 mph; 2, R. F. Morrison (Mini-Cooper); 3, D. Muter (Mini-Cooper); 4, G. Birrell (Singer Chamois). **Fastest lap:** Birrell, 42.4 s, 64.53 mph.