

ACADEMY RACE REPORT

GROUP TWO

GOODWOOD SPRINT – 28TH JUNE

Glorious Goodwood it was, the weather was very kind to us again, and it looked like we were in for another lovely day. Academy 2 were here for their second event in a row, having been at Lydden the Saturday before. Situated near Chichester in West Sussex, this classic circuit, famous for the very successful Revival Meetings and the Festival of Speed events now held each year. It is a very quick circuit, with the infamous St. Mary's, where Stirling Moss had his career ending accident. Madgwick corner, not for the feint hearted, and Lavant, this straight being crucial to getting a decent lap time.

We had an early start and it was great to see that some of you were prepared to brave the early morning and give yourselves time to prepare in good time for scrutineering, convoy runs and practice. My thanks firstly to Bonzo who came to my rescue with toothpaste and mouth wash, (yes I had done the unthinkable and forgotten to pack my toothpaste!)

There was a very full entry for this Sprint, so it was essential that we were all ready to go at the allotted times. Scrutineering, noise testing and Driver briefings over, it was time for the convoy run followed by practice. Unfortunately during the convoy run one of the other competitors managed to leak oil on the track. So out with the cement dust, which played quite a large part in proceedings last year!!

All seemed to be going well until Cliff Murphy came off at St Mary's a la Stirling Moss! Luckily the guys from Caterham Midlands were on hand to put things right, although I did have to drag them away from their lunch. And lo and behold, Cliff's car was back on track to take part in the timed runs. Practice over and Mike Richards was in front, followed by Nathan and Neil.

First timed run was fairly uneventful, Bill Addison was a little leery through the chicane, Mike Richards very fast and smooth on his run, Howard held well after a dodgy moment through the chicane. Results of this run being Nathan in front this time, with Mike second, Ben third and Jim (eat anything) Tatchell a surprise fourth.

It was great to see lots of support again in the form of family and friends, making the most of the lovely weather and the wonderful ambience of the venue. The Goodwood Flying Club was very busy, lots of little planes buzzing around the skies, and I have to say the food in the restaurant there was great, as most of you found out! Christian, please say a big thanks to your friend who runs it, tell her we will be back for more next year!

It's very difficult to write a report about a sprint, so sorry if this is boring you all. On to second timed run which was a little more interesting. Most of you improved on your first run, but others were obviously going for the win, Nathan had quite a moment at the

chicane, as did Neil, well held both of you, it could have been worse!! Funnily enough Neil improved on his first time, Nathan did not.....

Howard had a spin somewhere and actually came off coming into Woodcote, but luckily he was given a re-run as he was baulked earlier in his run.

So, another win for Mike Richards, who pipped Nathan at the post, followed by Ben in third place and managing to hold on to fourth was Jim!!! Neil had to make do with fifth on this occasion, which was ok as he had problems with his clutch.

Thanks to all who stayed for prize giving, which was somewhat eventful as we were almost forgotten..... However, all was well and the winners went home with their Trophies.

See you all at Harewood.....

Kim Denning