

## MSCC Donington Race 2

### A report by Bob Bull

The grid for the second of the day's outings was arrayed in the finishing order of race 1, thus we had Andrew Thompson on pole with Philip Goddard alongside, in third place ... Oh you can work it out for yourselves!

Having made a right boo boo of his start first time around surely Philip G would not make the same mistake again! No he did not, this time he found third gear, and was swamped by the pack once more. With no Jerry Knight to bother him Andrew simply stormed away having almost the length of the straight on second man, Simon Baines after just two laps, and he continued to extend his advantage each time around. Tim Parsons held third as Philip had to repeat his efforts of race one and find his way past faster starting cars. While the ARV had pulled out a significant lead by the time the V8 was in a position to give it full beans, being a thirty minute affair meant Phillip's task was easier, and surely enough he caught Andrew with three laps to go as the crossed the finish line, however, there was little to choose between their respective terminal velocities before Redgate. Next time by the ARV6 was still very much in touch as they disappeared down the Kramer Curves and so it was as they entered the last lap. Coming into view down the Starkey Straight for the last time Phillip had managed to take a sufficient lead to be safe! But what do I know? Coming from a long way back Andrew made a desperate lunge for the inside of the Chicane forcing Phillip to make room to avoid a collision as the silver car locked it's brakes, squirming madly. While a rather 'last minute' manoeuvre it did cause the V8 to lose speed making it vulnerable to being out dragged to the flag and only a last gear change let the bigger car get there first. 0.154 seconds behind. Close or what?



Simon Baines took his second singleton third place, Parsons T improved his position from the first race aided by the demise of Dominic House who stopped when his engine started to object, and Phill Thomas therefore took the mandatory fifth place. Completing the top ten were Tony Hirst, Jack Bellinger, Brett Syndercombe, Craig Hamilton –Smith, and Tim Ayres. Kelvin Laidlaw, Greg Parnell finished a decent interval apart, but James Sumner, Peter Cole (again) and Simon Sherry were buddy, buddy at the flag. A few more people also completed the allotted task, but Stephen Lockett, Peter Rafter, Phillip Tisdall, Chris Bailey, and the aforementioned Dominic House failed to do so for a variety of reasons. (Probably). There was plenty of close racing to enjoy with a dramatic finish to add lustre to proceedings, so despite a rather disappointing number of absentees, all-in-all a grand day out. With the Bentley Drivers next up there is a lot to look forward to, so get those entries in for the Techniques Trophy, while I hear that there could be five of the new Clubsports in action in the Challenge.

Paddock Patter.

Tony Hirst was heard taking Phill Thomas to task over his Championship campaign accusing him of cynically 'banking points' in a class with weak opposition, and failing to live up to the ethos of the series, and telling him that he stood no chance of winning the 'Spirit of Morgan Racing' award.

Phill seemed unconcerned by the criticism, and replied that he had realised it was no use in racing faster cars so in future he would rein in his basic competitive nature, and .....”Bank points?” ....yes bank points!

Of course one might easily come to the conclusion that Tony himself was conducting a similar strategy.

All good fun, naturally.

Philip Tisdall admitted to using “Mr Palmer’s grass at Redgate, and Mr Palmer’s gravel at the Chicane” in his attempt to beat Tim Ayres in Class ‘C’.

Phillip Goddard explained that his efforts to catch Andrew in race one was not helped by having to pass Jack and James who were “All over the place”, which sounds about right for those two.

Philip was also at a loss to explain how he managed to find third when leaving the line in race 2: “I’ve never done that before”.

Most of the gentlemen were sporting a variety of shorts, and gaudy shirts when not sweating in overalls, while the ladies looked lovely as always, and Neil’s sausages are second to none. It was good to see Mr and Mrs Steve McDonald attending and looking splendidly healthy.

Roger Whiteside was watching tennis according to rumour, but that is a story best left to a night down the pub.

With the paucity of entrants not all classes had a full complement so the big points winners were:

Class ‘G’ Andrew Thompson, two wins and fastest laps

Class ‘R’ Tim Parsons.

Class ‘J’ Phil Thomas.

Class ‘E’ Ian Sumner.



A group of people.



Some more people.



Jamie contemplates, life, the Universe and a banana.

See you all at Silverstone. Hopefully.