

Wheels Autotest –Owen Motoring Club 10th August 2008

A Moffatt wins overall while brother John wins Class

Alastair Moffatt celebrated turning 30 with another FTD on the Demon Tweeks BTRDA Autotest at Birmingham Wheels. Alastair now leads the Gold Star Championship with a score in hand. Richard Pinkney and Malcolm Livingston moved into second and third positions as previous Championship leader, Stephen Morten slipped to fourth place as he had to drop his lowest score.

A rare penalty on the first test, his first on an MSA Championship event this year, put Alistair under pressure from Stephen Wild in the ABS Freestyle. Stephen held the lead of 3.3 seconds at lunch as the two traded times; Alastair fastest on the first and third layouts and Stephen fastest on the second. Mike Sones laid out three tests around the Wheels Oval for the morning. After lunch parts of each test were joined together to provide a single long test around the oval. A hesitant gear change by Stephen on test 10 let Alistair into the lead by 0.3 seconds and he increased his lead on test 11. On the final test the leaders had equal times and Alastair took another step towards winning the Gold Star Championship.

The battle for the third podium spot was closely fought. Ashley Lamont came over from Northern Ireland for this MSA Championship event. Although not registered for the BTRDA Championship he still influences the BTRDA points. Ashley had a disastrous first test and dropped 14 secs to Richard Pinkney. However Richard was having gear selection problems with the Caterham and Ashley clawed back some time on the next two tests to be only 5.2 secs behind the initial class leader. A penalty on test 5 dropped Stephen Morten behind the other two sports cars. The battle continued to the end with Richard taking the class win. Ashley was second and Stephen third.

Malcolm Livingston drove smoothly in the Lindsay Special from the start on the slippery surface to split the leading sports cars. The Novas of John Moffatt and Gavin Dickson were never separated by more than a second in the morning and were level at lunch. John took the initiative on the long test after lunch to claim the class win and an excellent sixth place overall. Duncan Wild in the ABS he shares with Stephen recovered from an early shunt and penalty on test 2 to split the Novas.

Howard Everingham has maximum points in the Silver Star Championship, however this can be equalled by John Moffatt if he wins the class on the remaining three events.

Results

Organisers: Owen Motoring Club

Where: Wheels, Birmingham

Championships: MSA, BTRDA, AWMCM

Starters: 26

1 Alastair Moffatt (Mini Special) 613.3; 2 Stephen Wild (ABS Freestyle) 617.0; 3 Richard Pinkney (Caterham) 639.3; 4 Malcolm Livingston (Lindsay Special) 640.3.5; 5 Ashley Lamont (Westfield) 642.3; 6 John Moffatt (Nova) 659.4; 7 Duncan Wild (ABS Freestyle) 661.2; 8 Gavin Dickson (Nova) 663.5; 9 Steve Morten (RAW Striker) 664.8; 10 Lee Valentine (Nova) 671.8. Class Winners: Dave Goodlad (Mini) 780.9; Howard Everingham (Mini) 715.0; J Moffatt; Paul Fobister (Sylva Striker) 706.3; Pinkney; A Moffatt.