Motorsport Column

Kasia's in top gear for maiden first class win

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RALLYING

The success story surrounding teenage rally star Kasia Nicklin continues at full speed.

Last weekend, Kasia took in her third event since moving up from the junior category. This time it was at one of her favourite venues, MOD Woodbridge.

Here, Chelmsford MC were organising the Mark Ellis Motorsport Woodbridge Stages Rally, which had attracted 73 crews, of which Kasia was seeded 46th.

Once again, she was in the 1400cc Nissan, with Emma Morrison in the co-driver's seat.

The day did not get off to

the best start, as the car developed a leak from the water pump. Although some temporary repairs were taken, the car still needed water after every stage.

The girls also kept the heater on at full blast to help absorb engine heat — this on a hot day.

In addition to their own runfor success, the crew were also part of a three car team representing the Association of Eastern Motor Clubs, along with fellow drivers Peter Rayner and Stuart Cadman in an inter-association challenge.

Having completed the rally, Kasia and Emma had climbed up the results sheet to take their first class win in the senior category, achieve 20th overall and, as Ranger and Cadman had also won their respective classes, the trio went away with victory in the team challenge as well.

Looking at the results more closely, Kasia's time would have been good enough for second position in the 1600cc class, a truly superb result.

Their next outing will be the Lynn Stages, held at Sculthorpe on October 20.

OVAL RACING For their second UK meeting, the European Late Models Series, brought their big V8 engined saloons to Foxhall

Stadium. For Ixworth-based Revolution Racing, it was a welcome opportunity to compete close to home as they fielded their Pontiac Grand Prix and Chevrolet Monte Carlo cars.

For Chris Richardson, it had been a fight to get engine repairs completed, but he opened their evening in fine style to secure victory in the first heat.

Less fortunate were teammates Chris Mealin and Deme Cordell, who both suffered technical problems.

For Mealin, there was a repeat of clutch failure suffered recently at Venray and this would keep him out of the second heat.

A feature of heat two was the battle for the lead between Richardson and Keith Walley.

Try as he may, Richardson could not find a way through and lost out by less than half a car's length.

Meanwhile, Cordell followed him home in third.

The final saw all three cars line up and, as it got under way, Mealin was leading from Richardson, with Cordell in fourth place.

However, yet again the clutch failed on Mealin's car.

As he slowed, he was hit by Richardson, putting both them both into retirement. This was all to the advan-

tage of Cordell, who secured a second position he held until the finish.

The team will have to find the underlying problem causing Mealin's clutch failures. That apart, it was a good evening in front of their home fans. MOTOR RACING

As the season draws to a close, so the numbers contesting various championships begins to drop.

One competitor looking more to 2014, is Keith Farrance.

Farrance opted out of last weekend's 750MC meeting at Donington Park, and plans to end his year at the Formula Vee festival, to be held at Brands Hatch in October.

It could also mark the end of his FVee involvement.

The GAC is for sale and 2014 may well see him in either Historic Formula Ford or Formula Junior.

One driver who did make it to Donington was John Cutmore in the Spire GT3, contesting two rounds of the AB Performance-supported RGB Championship.

The Troston man's car is still not quite on the pace with that of fellow Spire drivers, but the team have improved the wayward handling that has blighted their season.

Cutmore qualified third for both races and, having held second at one point, eventually secured third in race one, with Paul Rogers bringing the Contour home fourth.

Race two saw two red flag situations, but when it was completed, Cutmore was in second position, with Rogers fifth.

SHORT CIRCUIT

Aldershot was the most recent oval to host the Safari Landrover Superstox Series, and with it the Southern Championship.

The meeting saw a continuation of the good form of Stanton's Matt Carberry, as he took victory in the all important final.

The first heat had seen him come home fourth, just two places ahead of Jason Cooper.

However, Cooper put heat two to bed with victory, while Carberry secured third spot.

DIARY DATES

Motor Racing. Brands Hatch, HSCC, Saturday. **Races include Classic Racing** Cars; Historic FF 2000; Historic Road Sports, with local competitors. Snetterton, VSCC, Sunday. Races include 500cc F3 Series, with local drivers. Donington Park, MSVR, Saturday and Sunday. Races include Project 8 Racing Saloons, with local competitors. Short Circuit. Foxhall Stadium, Saturday, 6.45pm. Legends British Championship; Stock Rods; Bangers. Mildenhall Raceway, Saturday, 6.30pm. BriSCAF2; Ministox; Bangers.

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