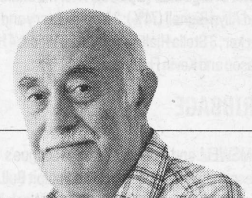


Kasia's a class above as Stephen seals success

Written by

Arthur Debenham

✉ sport@buryfreepress.co.uk
📧 @buryfree



RALLYING

Last weekend there was yet another brilliant performance from local teenage driver Kasia Nicklin when, along with co-driver Emma Morrison, she contested the Centenary Stages Rally at RAF Barkston Heath, near Grantham.

This event, organised by the Sheffield and Hallamshire MC, offered 53 miles of competitive action contained in its seven special stages.

This was Kasia's second event, having moved up from the Junior Championship, and she was once again at the wheel of her 1400cc Nissan Micra.

In a large entry of 86, our crew were seeded at 82.

In a day when, boosted by her recent A-level results, Kasia again turned in a great performance to bring the car home 35th overall, second in class.

She also went away with the overall award for best lady driver.

Her next outing will be the Mark Ellis Motorsport Woodbridge Stages, held at RAF Woodbridge, on September 22.

MOTOR RACING

When the organisers (MSVR) decided to put the competitors of the Project 8 Racing Saloon Series and the Ma-

rangoni Tyres Production BMW Championship together, they produced a field of 56 cars for two races at Silverstone last weekend.

In dry conditions, Chedburgh's Stephen Pearson put his BMW E36 M3 on pole position, just 0.5 seconds ahead.

This series does not have a green-flag lap, so tyres are cold as the race gets under way.

Stephen uses Kumho tyres, which need to warm up before they really come good.

This saw him drop back to third as the race got under way, but as the grip arrived, so did Stephen and, having taken the lead on lap three, he went away to secure victory to the tune of nine seconds.

Race two told a similar story.

Cold tyres, position four on lap one, again having started from pole.

Then he hit the front on lap five, which resulted in another

comfortable victory.

With these results, it looks certain that overall victory in the Project 8 Series has been achieved.

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Following a lengthy summer break, the 750MC scene comes alive again at Silverstone this weekend.

Although both Steve Lumley and Matt Ellis have taken in rounds of the MR2 and Stock Hatch events, our most regular competitors are found in RGB and Formula Vee Championships.

Spire GT3 cars hold the top three positions in RGB and here John Cutmore has a real fight on his hands.

Currently sharing second overall with Alistair Boulton, he finds himself 30 points down on leader Matthew Higginson.

The Contour of Paul Rogers is seventh, with the AB Performance Sabres further back.

It has been a year of mixed fortunes for Keith Farrance in Formula Vee. From outright victory at Snetterton to retirement at Brands Hatch, this leaves him in ninth position in the points standings.

RALLYCROSS

As far as National Rallycross

is concerned, August Bank Holiday weekend at Lydden Hill is very much the flagship meeting.

It always attracts a large crowd and competitors always try to make it one they do not want to miss.

However, there is no doubt that costs are playing a major role and entry lists are smaller than many would want to see.

One category currently growing is the Ripla Retro Rallycross Challenge.

I have written before about the work that Shirley Gibson has put into this and it seems to be taking off.

It is, of course, for the older cars and Shirley tells me that, with 17 competitors, it is the best-supported section of this weekend's meeting.

The cars will be found in a section of the paddock to be known as the Haynes of Maidstone Retro Village.

Haynes have a long history of rallycross involvement, going back to the early days when they supported John Taylor as he won the very first European Championship in 1973.

Local honours in the retro category will rest with James Harrold in his VW Beetle (original version).

Former World Hot Rods champion Barry Lee will be there signing copies of his biography, *The Other Side of Winning*.

DIARY DATES

Rallycross. Lydden Hill, LMC, Sunday, 12.30pm, Monday, 9am.

MSA British Championship; Ripla Retro Challenge.

Short Circuit. Mildenhall Raceway, Saturday, 6.30pm.

Ministox; Reliant Robins; Bangers.

Great Yarmouth, Sunday, 5.30pm.

Superstox; Stock Rods; Bangers.

Foxhall Raceway, Monday, 2pm.

2.0 Hot Rods; Lightning Rods; Bangers.

Great Yarmouth, Tuesday, 7.30pm.

Rookie Rods; Bangers.

Motor Racing. Snetterton, BARC, Sunday and Monday.

Track racing, plus Legends and Pick-ups.

Oulton Park, HSCC, Sunday and Monday.

Races include Historic FF2000; Classic Racing Cars; Historic Road Sports.

Silverstone, 750MC, Saturday and Sunday.

Races include Formula Vee, RGB, Stock Hatch.