Minicross Torque

The M.D.A. Newsletter

Edited by Jeremy Evans

June 2003

Minishop / Yokohama MDA Rallycross Championship 2003.

Rounds 2 & 3 – 29th & 30th March 2003.

Saturday 29th - Nutts Corner.

It was SUNNY!!! 1st heat or was it the 2nd - I can't remember, let's say 1st - this saw the 1st crash. Off the start into the 1st left hander, Trevor Stretch missed a gear causing Matt Roach to tap his bottom which sent him across the front of Wakeling (Mr not Miss) straight into Gary, who head butted the tyre wall and there he stayed with Matt. Red flag to the re-run. Richard retired due to knackered engine.

2nd heat:- Gary managed to start but his driveshaft broke causing another non-finish. As Gary hadn't got two timed runs he couldn't qualify for the final.

John Binks qualified as fastest and fastest he was by winning the Final.

Final results were 1st Free bus pass, 2nd applied for 3rd thinking about it!!
And translated:-

1st John Binks; 2nd Ralph Budd; 3rd Trevor Stretch; 4th Matt Roach; 5th Dave Brodie; 6th Danny Budd.

Sunday 30th - Mondello Park

SUNNY AGAIN!! Missed the 1st heat sorry. Couldn't get out of bed (well it was Sunday)

The heats saw another bundle involving Gary head butting the tyre wall (again) - this time it was a Binks and not a Roach who was involved, John managed to keep going and finished that heat. Gary's mini was a bit worse for wear on its arrival back to the pits but in true MiniX style everyone piled in to help and with a bit of duct tape and a few cable ties later it looked as good as new (well that was my contribution, I always thought MiniX cars were made with duct tape and cable ties and I was right!! Coz it worked well for the final.)

Gary had managed to finish TWO heats on Sunday!! So he qualified for the final. Unfortunately Trevor Stretch qualified 9th but couldn't race because they wasn't room in the final (he'd had too many pies Saturday!!). He didn't mind though - just meant he could get a head start on the Guinness race!!

JUNIOR DRIVERS MEETING

There will be a meeting of Junior drivers on Saturday evening 21st June at Anglesey Circuit to review the first half of the season and give an opportunity to discuss any technical issues.

The meeting will be held in the Scrutineering Bay at 6.30pm

We would like all drivers and parents to attend.

David Hobbs

Mondello (cont.)

Front row of the final was Binks, Ralph & Martin. Ralph made a blinder of a start and led 'til the finish. Mr Binks was hot on his heels but couldn't get close enough to pass. Martin Yates had a wicked race and held off Gary for 3rd place! Unfortunately Matt only did two laps because his drive shaft broke.

Final results:- 1st Ralph Budd; 2nd John Binks; 3rd Martin Yates;
4th Garry York; 5th David Brodie (again !!); 6th Danny Budd (again!!)

Richard Wakeling

YORK STRIKES BACK
Rallycross Championship - Round 4
Lydden Hill - 21st April 2003

Minicross Champion Garry York firmly got his Championship back on the road after taking victory at Lydden on Bank Holiday Monday. Garry put his Mini on pole, alongside Championship rivals Ralph Budd and John Binks, with Matt Roach and Martin Yates on row two. Completing the grid were David Brodie, Danny Budd and the 'B' final winner Richard Wakeling.

Danny's race lasted until Chessons on the first lap, as he retired with damaged steering, picked up from his previous race. Ralph took up the running until Garry dived up the inside at Paddock. Matt settled into third ahead of John Binks and Martin Yates. Martin made a move up the inside at the Elbow but John came back passing him down the hill, with Martin running off the course with another puncture! Garry then proceeded to drive away from the field and become the first double winner this year. Ralph held onto second, with Matt taking the other podium position. John Binks who had been struggling all race, then lost fourth as David Brodie passed him down the hill and then Richard went through on the inside at Paddock.

The 'B' final was an action packed race, with several drivers missing out on their final due to the points scoring this year. Most notable Andy O'Grady and Amy Binks who damaged her car in her last heat. Tristam Barden made the best start from the front row after severing a torrid time in the heats. There was then contact between his fellow front row starters Mark Collard and Charlie Whaley, which saw Charlie pay a visit to the infield. Tristam's car then went sick again! entering Chessons and Mark took over the lead from Richard Wakeling.

Mark lead until the final lap, when Richard pounced at the hairpin as Mark run wide and took his place on the back row of the 'A' final. Nigel Blanks and Scott Lawson who was debuting his new car, resumed their earlier battle, with Nigel holding on for third place. Charlie came through to fifth ahead of the excellent Andy Coombs and regular front runner Rod Stanniland had more problems, but finished ahead of the recovering Tristam.

Scott Lawson

Minishop / Yokohama Tyres Rallycross Championship 2003.

June 22nd	Anglesey
July 27th	Blyton
August 25th	Lydden
September 21st	Blyton
November 16th	Brands Hatch

All rounds run as part of the BRDA Rallycross Championship

Hoods Galore Allrounders Championship 2003.

June 7th	Abingdon	Sprint x
June 14th	Gurston Down	Hillclimb
July 13th	Anglesey	Rallycross
August 16th	Goodwood	Sprint
October 26th	Blyton	Rallycross

Best 6 results from 8 to count – 1 round per driver to be nominated as "joker round" with double points.

Joker must be nominated no later than 24 hours before the event.

MDA Fourway Challenge 2003.

22nd June	Anglesey
5th August	Lydden Hill

Best 4 results from 5 to count.

Your Committee.

Chairman	David Hobbs	01403 782317	david_hobbs100@hotmail.com
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Ralph, Danny and Sue Budd - 01322 297231

Matt and Alan Roach - 01233 732050

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Contact Adam Lashbrook on 0208 467 9090

THE HISTORY OF MINICROSS

Contribution from Dave Eastman.

After dabbling in Autocross in 1969/70/71 with a bored-out 1071'S screamer, and spending the ensuing years building one of the first flip-fronted, Clubman estate-vans with four headlights, I looked round my lock-up at all the bits left, realised that apart from getting married the excitement of Motorsport was still in the blood.

I heard from a chap in Southend [Denny Baldwin] that T.E.A.C. had created a new, low-cost off-road, 850 Mini-formula that as heavily-mortgaged married man, I could afford - "Please Dear!"

The purchase of a 1964 Mini followed-(memory fails me where from,50-quid I think) and armed with welding experience gleaned from 10 years at B.O.C. proceeded to strip, plate, weld, strengthen and fit home-brewed roll-cage to the Woolworth's-yellow gloss-painted shell. Sub-frames were given similar treatment, with home-made neg. camber brackets, bottom-arms & beefed-up tie-rods.

The following(in the absence of old paper-work) is my account of the inaugural"78 MiniCross season...Apologies for name & date omissions!

1st.round....Rochester Airport (2 Cessna,s+1 Chopper!)
With rocking the steering lock-to-lock on the line, I survived the dung coming through the perspex slit to gradually pick-off slower mortals to see the flag 1st ...This didn't happen @ Auto-X!& picked-up my 1st ever championship points at anything.

The ensuing rounds that summer are lost through my depleting grey-matter, but I do remember camaraderie built around a new formula with the likes of Denny Baldwin, Alan Hollands & all.

Points accrued, & I found myself leading the Championship briefly till an expensive piston melt-down pushed me into a situation where, going into the last round at Great Leighs all Alan had to do was finish to secure the Championship, with three of us vying for 2nd place.

The previous heats of 2CV`s had rutted the course badly, but even though I had brake failure, I qualified for round 2. This saw brakes going again, dropping a wheel into a rut, ½ rolling & being hit up the back! Whilst Neil isolated the rear brake leak (with 2 hammers to crush the line) the lads welded the seat & beat the roof out!

I persuaded the C of the Course to let me into the consolation heat, won it & secured a place in the Main Final.

I led from the flag, (brakeless!) till the steering dragged badly& got flagged off with a torn tie-rod to finish 4th in the Championship!

That's it!

`79 saw the birth of our Lucy, now a Graduated Business Consultant,
`82 saw the birth of our Matt, now a Junior Mechanic with the M.G. Le. Mans & Dome Race Team.

I retired to take up running, having now completed 13 Marathons, 22 Triathlons & 13 Swimathons.
I have now retired from sport @ 55 with Parkinson's disease.

Any Old Un`s Left?

DAVE EASTMAN.

58.SNELLS MEAD, BUNTINGFORD, HERTS. SG9 9JQ - 01763-272706/ 07831-249141

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Committee Meetin Committee Meeting - HALFWAY HOUSE 7 April 03

Present: David Hobbs (Chairman), Sue Hobbs, Jeremy Evans, Matt Roach, Scott Lawson, Jo Lawson, Richard Wakeling (Vice Chairman), Ralph Budd, Sue Budd,

Apologies for Absence: Alan Roach

Minutes of last meeting: Taken as read.

Treasurer's Report: We have apx £4900.00 in our accounts. A detailed report was given to all attendees.

Matters arising: None

Membership: 31 Adults and 15 Juniors = 46

Championships: Ralph felt that Mondelo Park was well run and Knutts corner was not so well run. There was a problem with the tyre walls at this venue that was discussed. It was also felt that having both venues in one weekend was a bit much. It was suggested that the 2 tracks in the North are twinned for a weekend and then there is a double header at Mondello Park later in the year – therefore visiting Ireland twice.

Holland: – This has been removed from the Five Way Challenge due to FIA rules and replaced by the August meeting at Lydden. The best 4 of 5 rounds count. It was thought that people would still go to Holland if there was enough interest.

Lydden: – Easter Sunday there will be a BBQ, a page will go on the website, a note will go out with the tickets and Jeremy is sending a note out with MXT. Ralph/Richard will hopefully do the cooking. It is hoped that scrutineering of vehicles will take place between 3 – 6 pm on Sunday.

North Weald: - Jeremy made a complaint regarding the treatment of minicross at the recent North Weald Sprint. Once of the previous group of cars left oil along most of the runway and rather than send the rest of the single seaters out, minicross were forced to go out next giving both Jeremy and Rod no hope of getting a decent time. He also remarked on some of the wheel sizes at North Weald. (At least one of the drivers is aware he need to sort his wheels out).

PR: - Both Minimag and Miniworld are doing reports and using photos. We have agreed not to partake in mini in the park this year but will still attend Southern Mini Day for the 2 days at the beginning of August. No reports/articles are being received for MX Torque, which Jeremy is finding increasingly frustrating. Scott has volunteered to do a report from Lydden. Junior minicross.com is available to buy and the suggestion is that we buy it now before someone else does. JE and SL will look into this further.

Website: The juniors will be incorporated into our sight for now and have there own page. Lots of pictures have been added. Details of the BBQ need to go on it. The results also need updating. The regs need to go on also.

Competition: - The winner of the mini drive will be announced on the Monday at Lydden. The winner is Rebecca.

AOB: - Richard feels that the upgrade rules are rubbish. The 26 July at Blyton will have practice on the Saturday. One junior has raised the question as to whether the shot penning of gears is allowed – yes it is. Also is launch control to cut the revs allowed – yes it is.

Meeting Closed: 23.00

Next Meeting: Ruislip 12 May and Halfway House 2 June.