

## **Silverstone Summer Classic**

**20<sup>th</sup> / 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2012**

In terms of numbers of cars entered (well over 1000) this was the largest race meeting ever in the UK. Silverstone was really busy, not helped by many of the grassy areas resembling swamps after all the rain. Security (by G4S!) was a bit obstructive but they did a good job in keeping everything moving. There was a bumper entry of over 60 Formula Juniors including several reserves.

### **Qualifying**

Team Bond was ready to qualify at 9 am on Friday morning under cloudy skies, but on a dry track. Although on the full Grand Prix circuit it was difficult to get a clear lap as there were so many cars circulating. Andrew qualified second fastest in class, to Simon Goodliff's Lola Mk2 with a time of 2:33.68. Gil was fastest 1000cc car, just behind Justin Fleming Elva 100 and Richard Ellingworth Gemini Mk 2. These were the only front engined cars between the two Bonds. Simon was 1<sup>st</sup> reserve and did not start Race 1.

### **Race one**

Andrew got away smoothly but was passed by Justin, Andrew pulled up to him as they slowed for Abbey, then went side by side through the next three corners, before finally passing him into Brooklands corner. By the end of the second lap Andrew was already 7 seconds ahead of Justin. He then reeled off the laps to finish first front engined car with a lap time of 2:35.43

Meanwhile Gil had excessive wheel spin on the start, allowing Justin Fleming, Richard Ellingworth and Bill Grimshaw to storm past. Pushing hard Gil passed Bill on the exit from Iffield and held onto the battle between Justin and Richard for several laps before losing touch to complete the race with a lap time of 2:43.97

Team Bond achieved 1<sup>st</sup> in class with both cars.

### **Race Two**

Andrew faced stiffer competition in the shape of Simon Goodliff who had been a reserve in race 1. A typical start from the Bond saw both Justin and Richard Ellingworth pass.

The next half lap saw a real 'ding dong' with Simon, Richard and Justin swapping places as Andrew caught up. Eventually Simon took the lead into the complex followed by Andrew, who out braked both Justin and Richard into Brooklands. This established the order of the race as Simon slowly pulled away, Justin lost ground and Richard retired with handling problems.

Gil also made an average start and was passed by John Arnold (Elva 100). The gap between the two varied by a second or so until Gil lost a little time on lap 3 after running over the kerb at the new Loop, Gil caught up with John having a great battle, finally passing John on the last lap.

Another 1000cc win and fastest lap for Bond 1 and the fourth front engine car overall.

### **Overall Winners**

Jon Milicevic won race one, Sam Wilson 2<sup>nd</sup> and David Methley 3<sup>rd</sup> after a spin on the last lap.

David Methley won race two, Sam Wilson 2<sup>nd</sup> and Andrew Hibberd 3<sup>rd</sup>. Jon Milicevic retired after accidentally switching off his fuel pump!

**Next Race** Croft Historic Festival August 5th