

Spa six hour race meeting

Spa is possibly the best circuit of all. The 4.35 mile course is demanding for both the car and driver

Lynne, Chris and I set out on Tuesday evening and arrived on Wednesday afternoon ready to set up our camp. Andy was setting out 24 hours later. We had four cars to look after at this meeting.

Qualifying 4.20 pm Friday

I followed Gil out of the assembly area and was amazed by the straight line performance of the 1000cc engine. I scrabbled past under braking at the Les Combes corners and carried on my session, eventually lapping at 3:01.9 which put me into 13th overall and 1st in class. Gil was going well, but on lap 6 slid onto the curb at Rivage corner and spun into the armco damaging both LH front and rear suspension. His time of 3:13.17 making him 2nd fastest front engined car, ahead of Bob Birrell. However Gil's weekend was over as the car was too badly damaged to repair at the circuit.

Race 1 Saturday 9.05 am

The first race was in the Ardennes mist. I was delighted to be told we were to have a rolling start, and for a change I made up places before and through the first corner. These were difficult conditions, the thick mist made the track extremely slippery and visibility poor. People were spinning off throughout the race. I had a great battle with Don Thallon and Robert Barrie, Robert finished just 0.3 seconds ahead after we exchanged position several times.

Overall winners

1st David Methley (Brabham BT6) 2nd John Milicevic (Cooper T59) 3rd John Hughes (Brabham BT6). I was 10th overall and 1st in class.

Race 2 Sunday 11.50am

Our second race was started with our original qualifying times, and again a rolling start was the order of the day. As before I made a good start ahead of Don Thallon and Robert Barrie. Don was much more confident in the dry conditions and was chasing me hard. We swapped positions two or three times before Don pulled away, leaving Robert to put the pressure on. He too swapped places with me until around lap five. Again I finished behind Robert by some 1.9 seconds.

Overall winners

1st John Milicevic (Cooper T59) 2rd John Fyda (Lotus 22) 3rd M Pangborn (Lotus 20B). I was 9th overall and 1st in class.

Our next outing is Silverstone finals 20th October 2012