



BMCRC CADWELL PARK 0408



Adam Lyon (no 29) and Max Exton, two of Bemsee's top teenage prospects, put on a dazzling display of Formula 400 road racing during the latest rounds of the BMCRC championships at Cadwell Park. The EDIasia supported series is the perfect racing base in which to cut your teeth as these two wizards are proving.

Lyon, the talented young Scot from Kilcreggan, powered his Seton tuned Kawasaki ZXR into an immediate advantage in Saturday's opener. Despite Lyon experiencing some technical problems in practice this wasn't apparent in the races as Exton

pursued him with a lot of appetite. Exton, last season's top Rookie, looked equally smooth as some breathless duelling unfolded in the early stages. In the meantime Mark Parbury had fired his Stephens tuned YPVS into third but Exton's second spot wasn't in jeopardy and Lyon grabbed the win.

Lyon was unable to break clear of Exton in race two; the 19-year-old motorcycle mechanic has got Josh Wainwright's 2007 championship winning Kawasaki working to his liking and snatched the lead from Lyon on lap three. While this front running excitement was unfolding it in no way overshadowed excellent top six action from Phil Polden, Mark Parbury, David Scott and the fast improving Stephen Murphy who eventually grabbed his best result of the season in fourth behind Parbury. Ultimately Lyon regained the lead and the win and with it 50 points on the day.

Lyon was in devastating form again on Sunday finally getting the better of Exton in the opener with Folkestone electrician Murphy in third, his first podium of the season. Race two brought about Parbury's best result of the weekend in second, but Lyon had the win again and now sits very comfortable at the head of the group.

Despite still riding a Yamaha TZR accommodating a borrowed engine Mark Hardy emerged from Saturday's Norfolk Line Yamaha Past Masters races as top points' scorer and increased his lead in the division. However, former champion Tyler Bacon (no 53) got the verdict from Hardy in the opener with Michael Smith bringing home his YPVS in third. Despite being 4bhp down on his rivals it hardly noticed as Hardy clinched race two. Initially Bacon got the drop on Smith and Hardy, however on lap three Smith was underneath Bacon at Coppice for the lead, but soon after Smith retired the YPVS and then Hardy got the better of Bacon and took the lead. Towards close with Hardy in control reigning champion Andy Ball got the better of Bacon for second.

In Sunday's opener Smith posted a record breaking 1.42:5 on route through the pack to nestle into third by mid distance.

Hardy in the meantime was coping with Bacon and dealt with Smith at the Gooseneck after he briefly showed his hand. Smith eventually got his reward in race two but Hardy's third along with his major haul of points on the weekend sees the Peterborough boat engineer surging ahead in the standings.

Chris Rogers increased his lead at the head of the MZ 250 Championship, scoring a maximum 50 points with two class wins firstly over Phil Belenkin and Mathew Baldwin in race one, then in race two from Belenkin and Dean Stimpson (no 37).

As Rogers and Belenkin eased clear in Saturday's race two it was initially Simon Snowden heading the chasing pack but a trapped shoulder tendon was hampering the Peterborough rider and he gradually slipped back. In the meantime Dean Stimpson had threaded his TS into third and another



great effort from the youngest rider on the oldest bike was achieved and in doing so the Cambridge rider made headway on championship third placed Mark Jones. From the outset Rogers was under pressure in Sunday's opener and Stimpson, the 18-year-old electronics student, was by him at Park Corner. Later, Rogers was into the lead at Mansfield and soon after Belenkin took control as the lap record tumbled time after time. Rogers eventually got the verdict and another top result in race two sees the defending champion getting well ahead in the standings.

London racer Max Hunt powered his Yamaha R6 to four wins from four outings and has established himself as a major contender for the Rookie 600 crown. Championship leader John Cobbold lost control of his Yamaha R6 at Park and he was out of Saturday's opener. Stefan Capella kept his good run going with a second spot, but couldn't prevent Cobbold from snatching the position away in race two. Jake Newstead was also a high scorer in Saturday's races.

Richard Green powered his Triumph Daytona to a fine second in Sunday's opener from Cobbold and Newstead while in their final outing there wasn't a rider who could tame Hunt, but Cobbold did lead the race for a time. The pace was hot though, and Capella paid the price when he ran into Park too hot and lost several places. Despite this he still remains in the mix at the head of the standings with Cobbold and Hunt. Max Hunt received the A&R Racing Rookie of the Day award.

Despite another maximum rider Minitwins grid the battle for the podium in all four races was about three or maybe four riders who displayed magical action all around the undulating Cadwell Park circuit. Ben Grindrod moved ever closer to the head of the Minitwins Championship standings by getting the better of series leader Glynn Davies in Saturday's opener. Grindrod, the lanky



Manchurian student, has been knocking on the door all season and made his race winning move on BCL sponsored Davies with two to go and stayed strong for the win. Peter Molloy brought the Jordan Motorcycles SV home in third. Davies got the second one from Molloy and Grindrod. Sean Elkingdon, Curtis Rothwell and Piers Hutchins (no 66) made up the top six.

Davies increased his championship tally with another gilt edged win from Molloy and Grindrod in Sunday's opener and although Davies, who clinched race two from Molloy and Curtis Rothwell, is

getting well clear at the helm Grindrod's results sees him leapfrogging Piers Hutchins and the absent Tony Coombs in the standings.

Words & pictures Terry Howe
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