



England retains the D/D Auld enemy's trophy, along with the Stockcar Final, and to complete the clean sweep of the top trophies the Banger final was won by an English racer too!

The later date of the national meeting for this year made the arrangements for the weekend a lot easier for me as the kids were still on their summer break from school, and I had managed to get the Friday off work along with the Saturday, so the plan was for a leisurely drive up to Scotland on the Friday, so true to form nothing goes easy, we left nice and early at 10.30am, then disaster struck as we passed junction 15 of the M6 we came to a standstill as the motorway had been closed due to an overturned lorry at junction 16, and this small part of the journey took nearly 6 hours, once we were on our way in earnest we met with inclement weather which made the driving hazardous to say the least, as I was keen not to arrive at our B&B as late as previous years, eventually after nearly 12 hours of driving some slow and some fast we arrived at our destination at 10.15pm clocking up a total of 347 miles, I believe most of the other racers from England were travelling up on the Saturday with some leaving early on the Sunday morning.

I hear you all saying, what was the point of going all that way, just for a national meeting! Well unless we support these meetings they will disappear from the racing calendar, and it is nice to see a different part of the country once in a while, along with the chance to race against some different racers, as I had took the opportunity to arrive early it gave me the opportunity to explore the area on the Saturday which was so different from the previous day (no rain, just glorious sunshine), we started by having a look around St Andrews (the ancestral home of Golf) a very nice town full of history with a very quaint Harbour, then it was a scenic drive back along the coast stopping off at Crail, if you did not know any different you could think that you were in Cornwall, as there was a very quaint Harbour like you would find in Cornwall, and of interest there was a wooden hut by the Harbour selling fresh sea fare, unfortunately the trips to the island called Isle of may was cancelled as there was a heavy sea mist, and back up the hill into the centre of the town we stopped at a very pleasant café for refreshments, once refreshed we were on our way once again, the next stop on our journey was at Anstruther, a very interesting place to visit, a large marina to wander about, plenty of interesting shops to look around along with the Scottish fishing museum that is well worth a visit, and as time was getting on we passed by St Monans and Elie on our way back to Leven. Another place of interest nearby that is worth a visit is Scotland's secret bunker, think of world war two and you will be on the right lines.

Arriving back at the B&B, we found that more of the travelling band of racers had arrived and later on it became clear that this B&B was the HQ of the task force from England, as Myself the wife, Nicholas and Kayleigh along with Allan Inness and Susan Nyunt, Brandon and Wendy Snell, Alastair Needham and Nick and Mathew Brown were all staying in the same B&B.

All too soon the morning of the national meeting had arrived; we had a good start to the day as the breakfast at our B&B was sumptuous, the Bacon was to die for! Once we had arrived at the hall and unpacked it was time for the main reason of being here, the competition of racing and collecting national points, the turn out for the Stockcars was disappointing with a low entrée of nineteen, although things were better in the Bangers with twenty six booked in to race, looking at the track there are no alterations from last year to mention, and practice went smoothly as did the Scrutineering of the cars, as Brandon Snell the Stockcar scrutineer and Alastair Needham the Banger scrutineer were in attendance.

Heat One, Round one Stockcars.

We saw a good start to the days racing as all six racers in heat one we separated by just five laps, the first winner of the day was Stuart Smith with 66 laps from Nick Brown who also finished the race with 66 laps just 0.790 behind Stewart, third place went to Angela Yarwood with 65 followed by Allan Inness with 64 in fourth place then it was Martin Riley with 62 and Mathew Brown in sixth place with 61. Heat two went to Carl Baker with 70 laps from a hard chasing Alastair Needham in second place with 69, finishing in third place we had Derek Cayzer with 65 from Iain Roper with 62 in fourth. The laps keep climbing as Anthony Wyper wins heat three with 71 from Mark Cooper with 65 and Nicholas Cooper in third place with 59.

Heat One, Round one Bangers.

Martin Riley races to an impressive heat one win with 64 laps, from local racer Sandy Bissett in second place with 56, in third place came Nicholas Cooper with 56 also just under a second behind Sandy, and Dean Ritchie finished with 43 laps in fourth place. Heat two was won by the Leven club promoter Neil Ritchie with 60 laps from Alastair Needham in second place with 59, these two were chased by Craig Brown with 54 and Sam Strickland with 51 laps in fourth place. Iain Roper won heat three with a split time after both he and Darren Grace finished with 58 laps, Iain was ahead by 2.260 seconds, third place went to Mark Cooper with 55 and James Thompson took fourth place with 45 laps. Not to be outdone in the lap scoring stakes was Anthony Wyper with a winning 64 laps equalling Martins lap score from heat one, although Anthony's was in a faster split time, finishing in second place was Graham Pearson with 60 laps followed by Neil Sutherland on 58 and Chris Flynn with 55.

Heat One, Round two Stockcars.

Alastair Needham goes one better in round two by collecting his first heat win with 73 laps from Stewart Smith in second place with 71 laps, Derek Cayzer collected another third place with 65 with Allan Inness a further lap behind in fourth place followed by Neil Ritchie with 61 and Craig Brown with 59. Heat two was a very close race between all seven racers, at the finish the win went to Anthony Wyper with 72 laps from Mark Cooper in second place with 71 and Carl Baker was a further lap back with 70 in third place, in fourth with 69 was Allan Bellis and Mathew Brown was a further lap back with 68, keeping the trend of a further lap back was Martin Riley with 67 in sixth place as was Nick Brown in seventh with 66. Heat three was won by Darren Grace with 67 laps from Brandon Snell with 60 one ahead of Iain Roper in third place with 59 followed by Nicholas Cooper with 51, Angela Yarwood was a non starter in this heat due to radio interference.

Heat One, Round two Bangers.

Iain Roper shows the rest a clean pair of heels as he takes heat one with a winning 63 laps, second place went to Darren Grace with 59 followed by Sandy Bissett with 57, Neil McClusky came home in fourth place with 49 followed by Carl Baker with 45. Martin Riley collects win number two in heat two with 61 laps, he was so far ahead he could have come off for a cup of tea and still won the heat! second place went to young Kayleigh Cooper with 33 lap followed by her brother Nicholas Cooper with 28, finishing behind these two were Brandon Snell with 14 laps, Allan Inness with 13 and Dean Ritchie with 12, and last place in this heat went to Mark Cooper with 1 lap, he had just crossed the line when his car went into melt down as the speed board shorted out taking the motor with it! Heat three was won by Neil Ritchie with 56 laps from both James Thompson and Craig Brown in second and third places with 55 laps, James ahead by 3.320 seconds, Wendy Snell finished in fourth place with 45 followed by Calum Sutherland with 32. Heat four went to Anthony Wyper with a flying 64 laps from Alastair Needham with 60 laps in second place, Graham Pearson came home in third place with 56 laps chased by Neil Sutherland with 52 and Chris Flynn with 46.

Heat One, Round three Stockcars.

Mark Cooper secures a heat win with 71 laps with Alastair Needham in close attendance with 70 laps in second place, Nick Brown finished with 66 laps in third place and Allan Inness recorded 62 in fourth place followed by Neil Ritchie in fifth place with 52. A flying Anthony Wyper collects another win in heat two with a lap score of 73, second and third places were separated by a single lap after Carl Baker finished with 68 and Mathew Brown finished with 67, a further lap behind Mathew was Allan Bellis with 66 followed by both Nicholas Cooper and Darren Grace with 64 laps each, Nicholas was ahead of Darren by 1.420 seconds, and finishing in seventh place with 62 was Craig Brown. Heat three saw Stewart Smith set the FTQ lap score with 74 laps in heat three, behind

him came Martin Riley with 70 he was followed by Derek Cayzer with 69 and Angela Yarwood with 68 laps in fourth place.

Heat One. Round three Bangers.

Win number one is chalked up for Mark Cooper with a winning 59 laps, from the chasing pair of Anthony Wyper and Craig Brown both with 58 laps, Anthony was just ahead of Craig by 0.420 of a second, and behind these two with 51 was Nicholas Cooper. We can add another name to the list of heat winners as Graham Pearson secures his first win with 58 laps in heat two, just behind him in second place with 57 laps was Neil Sutherland and Neil Ritchie was a further lap behind 56 in third place, Darren Grace grabbed fourth with 54 from Dean Ritchie who finished with 53 with Allan Inness in sixth place with 50. Heat three could have gone to either of two racers, at the finish both Alastair Needham and Chris Flynn had recorded 60 lap, but Alastair was ahead of Chris by 2.900 seconds, third place went to Sandy Bissett with 57 lap with Carl Baker just behind him with 55, young Charlott Yarwood secured her best lap score with 40 laps in fifth place with Calum Sutherland a further five laps behind Charlotte. Heat four was won by Martin Riley with 61 laps with Iain Roper just one lap behind in second place, he was well ahead of James Thomson who finished in third place with 50 laps with Kayleigh Cooper securing fourth place with 46 laps then came Wendy Snell with 43 and Graham Roger with 39.

Heat One. Round four Stockcars.

Allan Bellis discovers what it takes to register a heat win as he takes heat one with 73 laps from Mark Cooper a close second with 72 laps, young Martin Riley finishes in third place with 68 ahead of Angela Yarwood with 66 laps, Allan Inness closed his heat scores with 64 followed by Craig Brown with 60. Heat two was won by Alastair Needham with 72 laps, with Anthony Wyper just behind him with 71 and a further lap back was Stewart Smith with 70 in third place, Carl Baker secured fourth place with 68 laps from Nicholas Cooper with 64. We can add another winner to the list of heat wins as Derek Cayzer takes heat three with 70 laps from Mathew Brown with 66 laps and Neil Ritchie in third place with 61, and Brandon Snell posted a good result with 55 laps in fourth place.

Heat One. Round four Bangers.

Home club racer Iain Roper secures a heat win with 57 laps in heat one, just one lap ahead of Carl Baker in second place with 56 and closing his account with third place was Neil Ritchie with 54 followed by Wendy Snell with 43. Heat two was decided by a split time after Darren Grace and Sandy Bissett had both finished with 55 laps, looking at the stats Darren took the lead around the forty lap mark after race long leader James Thompson ran into some trouble which also allowed Sandy through into the second place, James recovered to secure third place with 47 laps from Charlotte Yarwood with 40. In heat three Martin Riley continued with his winning habit with 61 laps from Mark Cooper in second place with 60 and Graham Pearson secured third place with 57 from Nicholas Cooper with 54 and Neil Sutherland with 53, and Allan Innes continued with his day of woe with 50 laps in sixth place. Heat four the final heat of racing was won by Anthony Wyper with 61, he was followed by Dean Ritchie with 52 and Brandon Snell with 41 then it was Craig Brown with 36 taking fourth place.

The end of qualifying sees the usual pondering of the heat scores, and wondering if you had done enough to qualify for the finals, just because there are few racers it does not mean it will be any easier to qualify, I think the best three total's from the qualifiers will show this to be true, as always it is the racers best three scores from the four rounds that will count.

The Stockcar Consolation qualifiers,

1. Derek Cayzer	204
2. Mathew Brown	201
3. Angela Yarwood	199
4. Nick Brown	198
5. Allan Inness	192
6. Nicholas Cooper	187
7. Craig Brown	181
8. Iain Roper	179

The Stockcar Final qualifiers.

1. Anthony Wyper	216
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2. Alastair Needham	215
3. Stuart Smith	215
4. Mark Cooper	214
5. Carl Baker	208
6. Allan Bellis	208
7. Martin Riley	205

The ten qualifiers for the Banger final.

1. Anthony Wyper	189
2. Martin Riley	186
3. Iain Roper	181
4. Alastair Needham	179
5. Graham Pearson	175
6. Mark Cooper	174
7. Darren Grace	172
8. Neil Ritchie	172
9. Sandy Bisset	170
10. Neil Sutherland	168

The Stockcar Consolation.

The pressure was on the eight qualifiers that were about to contest the consolation race, as only the winner goes forward into the final, we had a cracker of a race last year, would this one measure up and become a classic, the answer to that is yes, as they raced around the track no one appeared to be running away with the race, it was even stevens at half distance with six or seven of the racers still in with a chance of taking the win, moving on towards the finish it could have gone to any of the top five it was that close, at the finish it was a deserving Derek Cayzer that won and went on to the final, his winning lap score was 65, just behind him in the second and third places were Mathew Brown and Angela Yarwood with 64 laps each, Mathew took second place from Angela by 0.970 of a second, young Nicholas Cooper finished in fourth with 62 he was just ahead of Allan Inness at the finish by a single lap as Allan recorded 61 they were followed by Nick Brown on 57 and Iain Roper with 56 laps in sixth and seventh places, which leaves us with the 50 laps by Craig Brown in eighth place.

The Stockcar Final

We had an interesting line up for this race, with some seasoned veterans along with some decent club performers and add a racer making his debut in a national final. Right from the word go you could tell that this was going to be a fast race, and it came as no surprise when the usual suspects began to pull clear from the rest, and as usual it was close at the finish, we had the winner and second place racer on the same lap with third and fourth just behind them, we can now add another name to the winners trophy as we now have a new Scottish Open winner as Alastair Needham crossed the finish line first with 72 laps in a split time of 5.00.140, right behind him in second place was Stewart Smith with 72 in a split of 5.03.200, third place was taken by the outgoing champion Mark Cooper with 71 laps with a time of 5.02.240 from Anthony Wyper in fourth place, he also finished the race with 71 laps and his split time was 5.02.790 just 0.550 behind Mark, Allan Bellis finished in fifth place with 67 laps then it was both Carl Baker and Martin Riley with 65 laps each in sixth and seventh places, Carl took sixth place by 1.660 seconds, and the consolation winner Derek Cayzer was eight with 61.

Here is a chart that shows what the finalists had on their cars.

Name	F/Tyre Inside	R/Tyre Outside	R/Tyre Inside	R/Tyre Outside	Gear Ratio	Speed Board	Charger	Car Type	Chassi	Cells	Club	Grade	Qualify	Final
Anthony Wyper	SE	Jap 40	Pink	Pink	12/51	2 speed	Apex	Bandit Pro	Mardave	3700	Urmston	S/S	1	4
Alastair	46	46	Pink	Pink	11/50	2 speed	Pro	Baker	Anderton	3300	Urmston	S/S	2	1

Needham	shore	shore					Trak							
Stewart Smith	Pink	40 shore	Pink	Pink	11/51	Mardave	Apex	Self Build	Anderton	2600	Urmston	Red	3	2
Mark Cooper	SE	Jap 40 front	Pink	Pink	12/50	2 speed	Pro Trak	Lecatt 2	Anderton	3800	Stoney Stanton	Red	4	3
Carl Baker	Pink	40 shore	Pink	Pink	12/50	2 speed	Eagle Racing	Baker	Anderton	2600	Urmston	S/S	5	6
Allan Bellis	SE	40 shore	Pink	Pink	13/50	3 speed	Apex	Stu Smith	Anderton	2200	Urmston	Red	6	5
Martin Riley	Pink	40 shore	Pink	Pink	12/50	2 speed	Apex	Baker	Anderton	3700	Urmston	Blue	7	7
Derek Cayzer	SE	40 shore	Pink	Pink	12/52	2 speed	Pro Trak	Diamond	Diamond	3800	Fordham	Red	8	8

The Banger Final

This was an interesting line up, as we had five vs five, by that I mean five English racers against five Scottish racers, so home club pride was at stake as there were no Scottish representatives in the Stockcar final, Leven club member Iain Roper is the defending champion, he won the final last year with 61 laps. What a result for the English racers a clean sweep of the top three places as Anthony Wyper finished in first place with 65 laps and is now the Scottish Open Champion, second place went to Martin Riley with 64 laps and Mark Cooper was third with 63, the top Scottish racer in the final was last years winner Iain Roper with 60 laps in fourth place from Alastair Needham who also finished with 60 laps, he was just 1.710 seconds behind Iain, Neil Sutherland took sixth place with 59 next across the finish line was Sandy Bissett with 47 followed by Graham Pearson with 21 and Leven club promoter Neil Ritchie came home in ninth place with 20 laps and Darren Grace was tenth with 10 laps to his credit, amazingly nine of the finalists lasted the full race distance, as Darren Grace was the only racer who did not.

The Auld Enemies Figure of 8 Demolition Derby.

This is the one that everyone wanted to win, the title says it all "Auld Enemies", we have been contesting this since 2001 and the English racers have yet to loose this event, looking around the track just before the start it looked like this could be the year when Scotland could take the title for the first time as there were even teams, well nearly, there were twelve Scottish against fourteen English, we had a tremendous battle which lasted for some time, unfortunately for the Scottish the title came back to England once again, as Darren Grace was the last car moving at the end of a great battle.

We have had a great days racing, and I had a great weekend up in Scotland, and just before we leave for our long journey home it was time to collect the trophies, as always everyone in the Stockcar final and Banger final collected a trophy, and Alastair Needham and Anthony Wyper also have an annual trophy to keep for twelve months. There was also grade awards for both formulas, this were won by,

Stockcars,

Best Yellow – Kayleigh Cooper

Best Blue – Nick Brown

Best Junior – Nicholas Cooper

Bangers,

Best White – Susan Nyunt

Best Yellow – Nicholas Cooper

Best Blue – Graham Pearson

D/D Auld Enemies "Survivor" – Darren Grace