

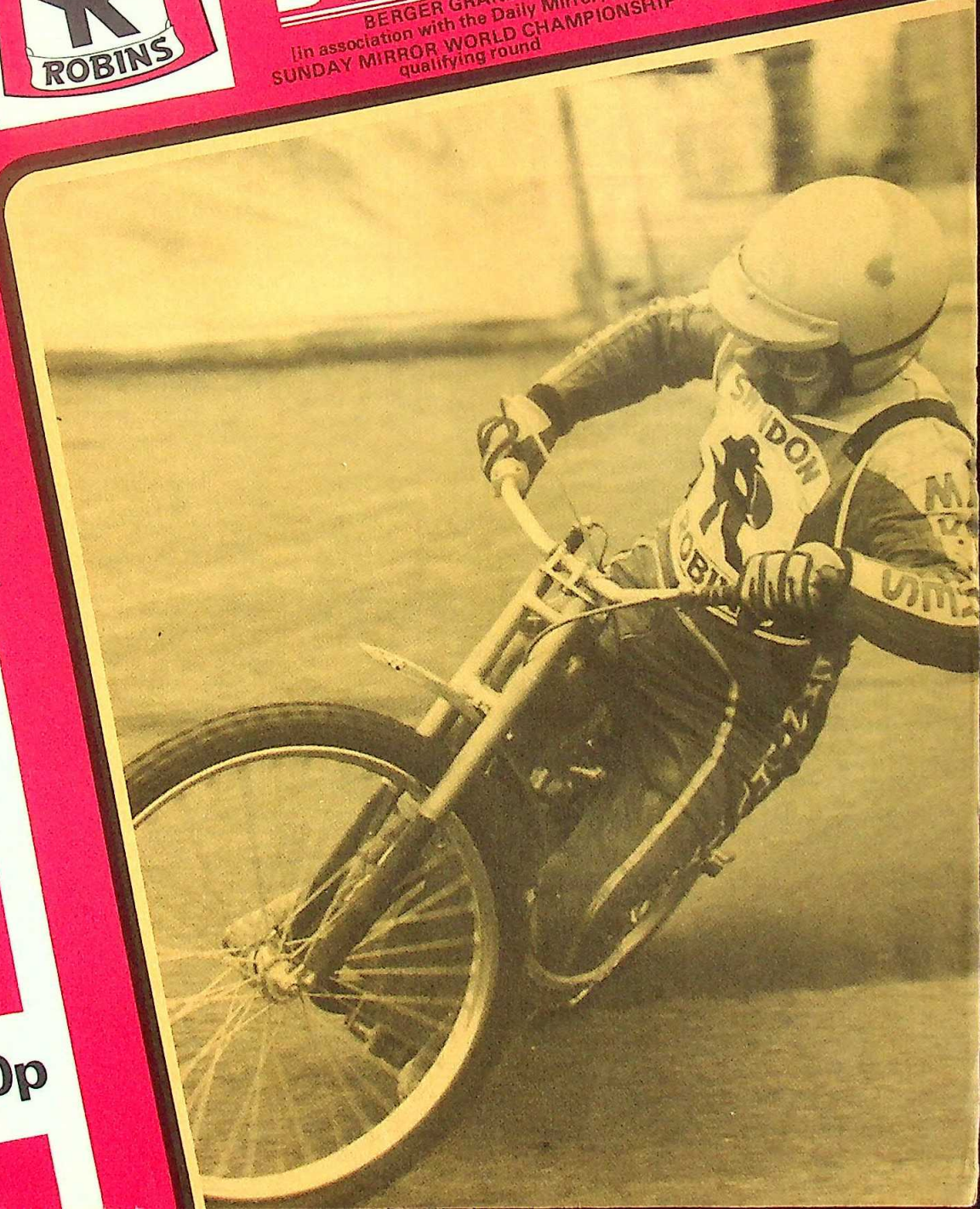


The BLUNSDON BULLETIN

BERGER GRAND PRIX
[in association with the Daily Mirror] and
SUNDAY MIRROR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
qualifying round

BERGER
PAINTS

SPEEDWAY
GRAND PRIX



20p

**BERGER
PAINTS**



**SPEEDWAY
GRAND PRIX**

COVER STORY

Making his second appearance of the season on the front cover of *The Blunsdon Bulletin* is English international **BOB KILBY** who will be having his testimonial season next year.

Despite a series of niggling knee and hand injuries Bob has made a bright start to the new term and last Saturday night scored his first Gulf Oil British League maximum of the season against Leicester.

The **BLUNSDON BULLETIN** **CONTENTS**

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CONTRIBUTORS THIS ISSUE include Alf Weedon, Mick Kilby, Lynn Marshall, Bob Fisher, 'Pop' Kilby, Jim Cole and Glynn Shailes.

ROBINS ON THE ROAD

Swindon's second away Gulf Oil British League win came at Perry Barr on Monday when the Robins clinched an exciting match with another powerful performance.

Star man for the Robins was Australian Phil Crump who raced to a four ride maximum. He had valuable backing from an in-form Martin Ashby and reserve Rolf Gramstad who again showed his potential on an away track.

Even though Birmingham were able to use tactical substitutes as they quickly trailed by six points (Billy Sanders, Phil Herne and Andy Grahame all had five rides) and pulled back they never really looked like stopping the rampant Robins from adding another two league points to their tally. But it needed a brilliant last race win by Bob Kilby to seal the match.

BIRMINGHAM 38 (Billy Sanders 12, Phil Herne 8, Andy Grahame 8, Ari Koponen 4, Finn Jensen 3, Ted Howgego 3, Ray Wilson 0).

ROBINS 40 (Phil Crump 12, Martin Ashby 7, Bob Kilby 6, Rolf Gramstad 6, Geoff Bouchard 4:1, Steve Gresham 4, Steen Mastrup 1).

**BERGER
PAINTS**



**SPEEDWAY
GRAND PRIX**

IN FOCUS

One of the biggest transfer moves of the winter saw Sweden's **JAN ANDERSSON** move from Blunsdon to Reading for a reported £10,000 fee.

So far Jan hasn't recaptured the brilliant form that so enhanced his reputation at the beginning of last season but there is no doubt that he remains his country's brightest hope for the future now that the old guard are quickly fading out of British speedway.

He remains Sweden's top British League racer and will relish returning to his old stamping ground this evening.

IN FOCUS



DAILY MIRROR speedway columnist GRAHAM BAKER looks at the Berger Grand Prix Tournament



The Grand Prix lives! And, indeed, Britain's top individual speedway tournament has emerged from a troubled close season stronger and more vibrant than ever.

It's four years now since the Daily Mirror introduced the Grand Prix with a novel method of points scoring that gave an alternative to the straight forward knock-out principle of world championship racing.

Immediately, the tournament caught the imagination of the public and the top riders in the world.

Already Peter Collins, Ole Olsen and Chris Morton have won the Grand Prix title following three dramatic Finals at White City. This season the Final switches to Wimbledon on August 23.

But at one stage during the close season the future of the Grand Prix was most uncertain. Our joint sponsors Volkswagen withdrew after two years.

Happily, the situation was saved when the leading paint manufacturers Berger decided to fill the vacant sponsorship of the Grand Prix.

Already Berger back soccer's Isthmian League. This is their first speedway venture — and we are delighted to welcome them as co-sponsors of the re-named Berger-Daily Mirror Grand Prix.

The name has changed. But the thrills are the same. And the format that gives the Grand Prix a unique flavour is unaltered.

Putting it simply, the Grand Prix system makes every race count — and yet it allows riders to repair the damage of an occasional slip up or temporary loss of form.

Riders from every Gulf British League Club will be involved in three qualifying rounds each. First place in each qualifier will score ten points, second will get nine down to one for tenth.

After totting up the qualifying round points the top sixteen will go through to the Grand Prix Final. There qualifying points will count towards the Final total.

But even the lowest qualifiers can win overall

with a brilliant display at Wimbledon — as Belle Vue's Morton proved last season.



1977 Grand Prix winner Ole Olsen who missed last year's tournament but is back this time around.

Their qualifying scores will be added to the Final premium points of 50 for first, 45 for second down to five for tenth.

It sounds complicated, I know — but it is the fairest possible way of deciding the top overall rider of the season.

I'm looking forward to the action — and I know that our friends from Berger share the sentiment. I hope you all feel the same way.



A Message From **BERGER**



Berger, who announced their sponsorship of the Speedway Grand Prix earlier this month, are one of Britain's largest paintmakers.

Britain has Berger sealants in its structure — even Concorde, where Berger materials seal the cabin and the wings.

Already well-known for our sponsorship of the Berger Isthmian League, the south of England's leading soccer league, our backing of the Grand Prix is another association between our Company and the pursuit of sporting excellence.

Oil rigs, refineries, bridges, food packaging, printing inks, oil tankers, luxury liners, office machines, Matchbox toys — all these products and thousands more benefit from paints and coatings, special resins or adhesives supplied by us.

Although we are best known to the public for our decorative paints — Magicote, Colorizer and, in trade circles, Brolac, we have also shown — in our recent television commercials — that we supply paint for virtually every industry in Britain.

In Britain we have eight manufacturing and distribution Sites, employ 2,800 people and are the largest Company in the world-wide Berger Group.

All four British car makers use Berger paints and finishing materials. If you have your car repaired or resprayed after an accident, chances are it will be done with our refinishing paints. Every civil aircraft made in

We, at Berger, look forward to this year's Speedway season with interest and excitement. The qualifying heats and final of the Berger Grand Prix will, we hope, be one of the leading attractions in this year's sporting calendar and we know that it will attract your support and provide a real test of international top riders' skills.



"As Leicester fans we have always enjoyed visiting Swindon. The track is fair and the fans friendly. On this week's visit we were even more impressed. The programmes are very good value and the roving mike kept us well informed on both teams.

"At the Supporters Shop it was well-stocked and reasonable which helps the children with pocket money to spend. After the match a nice hot dog (very reasonably priced), into the car and away with no traffic congestion at all.

"So despite the fact we lost the match and my son lost his scarf and rosette we really enjoyed our evening out at Swindon and with very little effort we could become regular Swindon fans. If you're thinking of taking over any more tracks make Leicester top of your list."

**Hilary Sansome and family, 8, Balfour Gardens,
Market Harborough, Leics.**

WALLY MAWDSLEY REPLIES: This letter is not only a tribute to my organisation but to you — the fans. Let us make sure that visitors are always made as welcome as Hilary and her family.

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Tracking '79

Five Swindon riders contest tonight's Berger Grand Prix/Sunday Mirror World Championship qualifying round.

And three of them — Bob Kilby, Martin Ashby and Geoff Bouchard — have a dual target leaving Phil Crump and Steve Gresham contesting but one competition.

The three Englishmen are seeking not only Grand Prix points [again awarded 10-9-8- and so on for the top ten points scorers] but the race points that will see them finish in the top thirty-two scorers and so go through to the British semi-finals of the World Championship.

The decision to combine both Grand Prix and World Championship was made to try and pep up the championship rounds — in real danger of dying out as spectator attractions — and while this new method has its critics you cannot argue that the action being served up is far more attractive than it might have been otherwise.

Consider what the overall strength of this evening's field would have been had the World Championship been the sole tournament on view.

Missing from tonight's line-up would have been the Swindon duo of Phil Crump and Steve Gresham, World number three and current Golden Match-race Championship challenger Scott Autrey, former Robin Jan Andersson, his Wimbledon team-mate Stefan Salomonsson and Commonwealth Finalist Steve Koppe.

Take those six riders out of the line-up, replace them with National League qualifiers and you decide for yourself which meeting you would rather watch. There isn't any real choice is there?

Let us take a look at some of the riders who will be bidding to prevent a Robins' clear sweep.

Obviously the pre-meeting fancied selection must be Scott Autrey, the 25-year-old American currently in his seventh season with Exeter. Already this year Autrey has defeated the world's best to retain his Daily Express Spring Classic title and last Monday inflicted a rare from the back Gulf Oil British League defeat on five-times World Champion Ivan Mauger.

Autrey led the Falcons to their first away league win of the season at Belle Vue on Saturday and then raced to a paid maximum against Hull at the County Ground on Monday when team-mate Steve Koppe [runner-up in the winter Australasian Final of the World

Championship] also beat Mauger in the opening heat, the New Zealander's only defeat all night.

Koppe has also beaten British Champion Michael Lee in league competition this season [albeit guesting for Coventry] and is the reigning Gauloises National League Riders' Champion.

If Koppe has hit track gold by beating the top men what about Wimbledon's personable Swede Stefan Salomonsson?

In the first three weeks of the season he went to Coventry and beat Ole Olsen; had a victory over Gordon Kennett at Eastbourne; and then became the only rider to have deprived Autrey of victory at Exeter this season.

Notice anything about Salomonsson's victims? They finished 1-2-3 in last year's Golden Jubilee World Final!

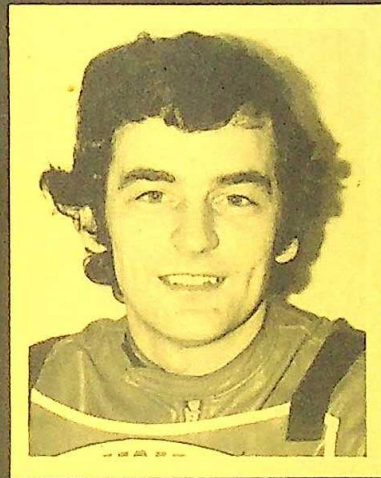
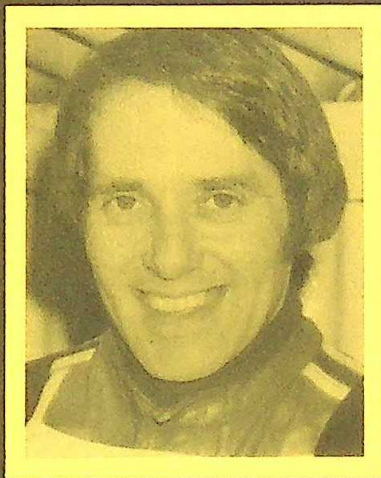
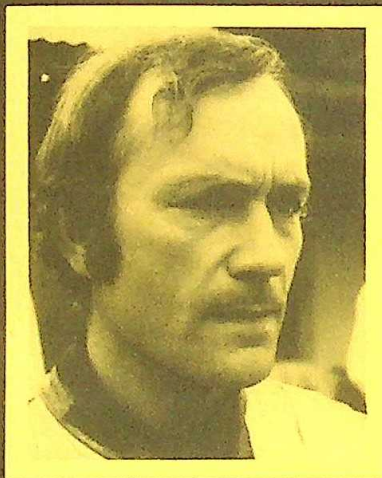
A duo of 'Awks from 'Ackney come swooping down for points and traditionally they both ride Blunsdon well.

It was only thirteen months ago that Bobby McNeil swapped his Robins' race-jacket for the Hackney variety and while Bob has suffered terribly from injuries and lack of confidence since his move he will be anxious to turn it on in front of his old fans.

English international Barry Thomas also has fond memories of the Abbey track.

Completing the Gulf Oil British League contingent having their first taste of Grand Prix/World Championship action are Eastbourne's Steve Weatherley, seemingly far happier at Arlington than he ever was at London White City, former Robin Jan Andersson, subject of tonight's In Focus feature; and his Racers' team-mate Bernie Leigh, yet another Swindon 'old boy'.

Bernie was one of the qualifiers from the National League rounds [as was Geoff Bouchard] and others who have already had their first taste of World Championship action in Britain this year are Weymouth's £3,000 signing from Wolverhampton Brian Woodward and Nottingham's expensive capture Mike Sampson.



Five of the Robins will be in action tonight including [below] the two winter signings from Bristol, Steve Gresham and Phil Crump. Team loyalties will be forgotten this evening as Bob Kilby [left], Martin Ashby and Geoff Bouchard [right] seek a place in the British semi-finals of the World Championship.



....TRACK DATA....

1978 Grand Prix Results

QUALIFYING ROUNDS

SHEFFIELD: Ivan Mauger 10, Doug Wyr 9, Steve Bastable 8, Reg Wilson 7, Bernt Persson 6, Craig Pendlebury 5, Phil Collins 4, Joe Owen 3, Alan Grahame 2, Hans Nielsen 1. Non-scorers: Graham Drury, Carl Glover, Mike Lohmann, Chris Turner, Tom Owen, Laurie Etheridge, Billy Burton, Tony Boyle.

WIMBLEDON: Peter Collins 10, Bob Kilby 9, Dave Jessup 8, Colin Richardson 7, Bruce Penhall 6, Stefan Salomonsson 5, Trevor Geer 4, Roger Johns 3, Mick Hines and Tormod Langli 1½. Non-scorers: Peter Prinsloo, Jiri Stancil, Larry Ross, Ted Hubbard, Martin Yeates, Vic Harding, Graeme Stapleton.

HACKNEY WICK: Dave Jessup 10, Terry Betts 9, Finn Thomsen 8, Keith White 7, John Louis 6, Bobby McNeil 5, Larry Ross 4, Roger Johns 3, Kai Niemi 2, Vic Harding 1. Non-scorers: Ted Hubbard, Barry Thomas, Graham Drury, Kelvin Mullarkey, Jan Andersson, Martin Ashby, Gary Monk.

BELLE VUE: Peter Collins 10, Chris Morton 9, Bobby Beaton 8, Finn Thomsen 7, Chris Turner 6, Phil Collins 4½, Les Collins 4½, John Boulger 3, Colin Richardson 2, Phil Crump 1. Non-scorers: Christer Sjosten, Alan Wilkinson, Mike Curoso, Steve Naylor, Laurie Etheridge, Steve Wilcock.

COVENTRY: Alan Molyneux 10, Keith White 9, Billy Sanders 8, Reg Wilson 7, Ila Teromaa 6, Mitch Shirra 5, John Davis 4, Bernie Leigh 3, Mike Farrell 2, Doug Wyr 1. Non-scorers: Nigel Boocock, Frank Smith, Jiri Stancil, Mick Bell, Kevin Jolly, Eric Dugard.

KING'S LYNN: Michael Lee 10, Malcolm Simmons 9, John Titman 8, John Louis 7, Terry Betts 6, Mike Lanham 5, Bernt Persson 4, Steve Finch 3, Tormod Langli 2, Ian Turner 1. Non-scorers: Carl Glover, Steve Gresham, David Gagen, Billy Spiers, Ted Howgego, Mick Hines, Craig Featherby.

BIRMINGHAM: Ray Wilson 10, John Titman 9, Mike Lanham 8, Bruce Cribb 7, Jim McMillan 6, Mitch Shirra 5, Richard Greer 4, Paul Gachet 3, Steve Lomas 2, Phil Herne 1. Non-scorers: Doug Wyr, Barry Thomas, Alan Molyneux, John Boulger, Ari Koponen, Martin Ashby.

EXETER: Phil Crump 10, Vaclav Verner 9, Mike Farrell 8, Neil Middleditch 7, Bob Kilby 6, Trevor Geer 5, Steve Weatherley 4, Les Collins 3, Nigel Boocock 2, Peter Prinsloo 1. Non-scorers: Jan Verner, Mike Sampson, Scott Autrey, Bob Watts, Laurie Etheridge, Eric Dugard.

READING: Gordon Kennett 10, Billy Sanders 9, John Davis 8, Dave Jessup 7, Chris Morton 6, Colin Richardson 5, Stefan Salomonsson 4, Kevin Jolly 3, David Kennett 2, Bernt Persson 1. Non-scorers: Kelvin Mullarkey, Ian Cartwright, Martin Yeates, Bernie Leigh, Mick Bell, Frank Smith.

LEICESTER: Scott Autrey 10, John Titman 9, Les Collins 8, Steve Bastable 7, Geoff Bouchard 6, Bobby McNeil 5, Ila Teromaa 4, Bruce Penhall 3, John Boulger

2, Craig Pendlebury 1. Non-scorers: Jan Verner, Ian Turner, Mike Sampson, Steve Lomas, Dave Perks, Paul Gachet, Tom Godal.

HULL: Ivan Mauger 10, Bobby Beaton 9, Graham Drury 8, Finn Thomsen 7, Dave Morton 6, Joe Owen 5, Eric Broadbelt 4, Steve Finch 3, Hans Nielsen 2, Jiri Stancil 1. Non-scorers: Phil Kynman, David Gagen, Chris Pusey, Kelly Moran, Paul Tyrer, Steve Wilcock, Frank Auffret, Nigel Crabtree.

POOLE: Tony Davey 10, Vaclav Verner 9, Malcolm Simmons 8, Jim McMillan 7, Christer Sjosten 6, Bruce Cribb 5, Kelvin Mullarkey 4, Jan Andersson 3, Arthur Price 2, Neil Middleditch 1. Non-scorers: Mick Bell, Ted Howgego, Peter Prinsloo, Paul Gachet, Mike Curoso, Martin Yeates, Nigel Davis, Geoff Swindells.

WHITE CITY: Kai Niemi 10, Gordon Kennett 9, Ila Teromaa 8, Alan Molyneux 7, Keith White 6, Trevor Geer 5, Richard Greer 4, Jan Verner 3, Steve Weatherley 2, Ian Turner 1. Non-scorers: Marek Cieslak, David Kennett, Mike Sampson, Eric Dugard, Mike Farrell, Knud Ellegaard, Andrzej Jurczynski.

IPSWICH: John Louis 10, Michael Lee 9, Tony Davey 8, Billy Sanders 7, Phil Herne 6, Kevin Jolly 5, Alan Wilkinson 4, Ray Wilson 3, David Gagen 2, Mike Lanham 1. Non-scorers: Phil Kynman, Ted Howgego, Bobby McNeil, Vaclav Verner, Vic Harding, Steve Naylor.

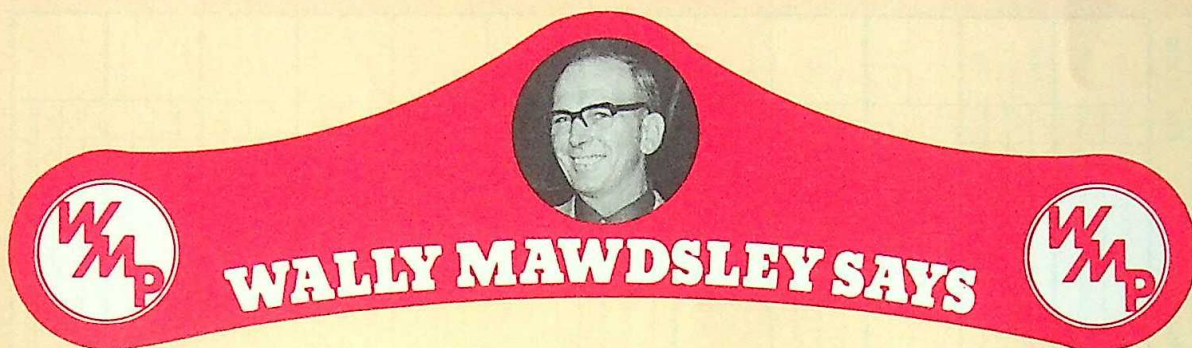
SWINDON: Peter Collins 10, Jan Andersson 9, Dave Perks 8, Alan Grahame 7, David Kennett 6, Geoff Bouchard 5, Bob Kilby 4, Bernie Leigh 3, Eric Broadbelt 2, Martin Ashby ½, Arthur Price ½. Non-scorers: Bob Coles, David Ashby, Steve Weatherley, Malcolm Holloway, Marek Cieslak, Knud Ellegaard.

BRISTOL: Joe Owen 10, Tormod Langli 9, Reg Wilson 8, Steve Gresham 7, Chris Morton 6, Phil Crump 5, Stefan Salomonsson 4, Nigel Boocock 3, Mike Lohmann 2, Neil Middleditch 1. Non-scorers: Craig Pendlebury, Chris Turner, Bob Coles, Michael Lee, Phil Kynman, Paul Tyrer, Tony Garard, Derek Hole.

WOLVERHAMPTON: Gordon Kennett 10, Hans Nielsen 9, Dave Morton 8, Ivan Mauger 7, Jim McMillan 6, Alan Wilkinson 5, Bobby Beaton 4, Mitch Shirra 3, Geoff Bouchard 2, Ian Cartwright 1. Non-scorers: Knud Ellegaard, Ari Koponen, Brian Woodward, Steve Lomas, Frank Smith, Carl Glover, Steven Barr, Mark Stokes.

CRADLEY HEATH: Alan Grahame 10, John Davis 9, Richard Greer 8, Bruce Cribb 7, Steve Bastable 6, Dave Perks 5, Ray Wilson 4, Dave Morton 3, Mick Hines 2, Arthur Price 1. Non-scorers: Kristian Praestbro, Bruce Penhall, Phil Herne, Mike Curoso, Roger Johns, Ari Koponen, Pekka Hautamaki.

HALIFAX: Eric Broadbelt 10, Ian Cartwright 9, Phil Collins 8, Tony Davey 7, Malcolm Simmons 6, Kai Niemi 5, Larry Ross 4, Mike Lohmann 3, Mick McKeon 2, Kenny Carter 1. Non-scorers: Steve Wilcock, Reidar Eide, Steve Finch, Neil Collins, Paul Tyrer, Chris Pusey, Paul Clements, Paul Wood.



Another four Gulf Oil British League points in the bag — and the Robins go marching on.

Last week's double over Birmingham confirmed the current squad of riders as title challengers and while we may have dropped a couple of home points there is plenty of time for us to make up for that mistake.

Obviously Coventry are the team that have to be knocked off their perch but if there is any team capable of doing it then it is the 1979 Robins.

Winter signing Phil Crump couldn't have done any more against the Brummies than two twelve-point maximums and surely his victories over Billy Sanders, home and away, stamps Crumple as the current Australian number one, fully deserving of his winter national championship.

A second maximum at Perry Barr on Monday means that Phil has now been unbeaten in three of his first six Gulf Oil British League matches for the Robins — two of them away from home.

It is this sort of form that stamps him as one of the country's top stars and I can only see Phil going from strength to strength this year now that he is perfectly happy with his own home track.

While Crumple was way out on his own at Birmingham he had the sort of solid, down through the order backing that is so necessary if matches are to be won away from home.

Everyone scored — even reserve Steen Mastrup who found the tight Perry Barr bends not to his liking. Maurice Morley, who piloted Canterbury to the National League Championship last season, took over as team manager and harnessed his troops into a fighting battalion who, once victory was scented, would not flinch.

As he was also on duty in the pits at Hackney Wick he has a proud record for the Robins so far this year.....

If I may go back to the home match with Birmingham there was much over which to enthuse.

Bob Kilby was back on blob with yet another superb maximum. When I see Bob in that sort of form I can only wonder why he has been so overlooked in the past on the international scene.

His first bend sweeps are a joy to watch — if you happen to be a Swindon supporter.

Geoff Bouchard — enjoying his best-ever Division One season now that he has the best equipment under him — battled gamely again and was only a point short of a second successive Saturday night maximum and wasn't Steen Mastrup sharp from the reserve berth?

It wasn't a good night though for Martin Ashby, Steve Gresham and Rolf Gramstad, all of whom had an assortment of problems that restricted their scoring.

Typically Martin bounced back at Birmingham to lend most points support to Crumple while it was Rolf's turn to shine at reserve.

I am pleased to see that one of the reserves is usually amongst the points. It is far easier to accept the occasional setbacks when there is so much to savour.

Tonight we can forget about the battle for league points as individual racing returns to the Blunsdon calendar in the shape of the somewhat revamped Grand Prix-cum-World Championship qualifying round.

This year we welcome back our tried and trusted friends from both the Daily Mirror and its publishing stablemate the Sunday Mirror and at the same time welcome into the speedway fold a brand new name — Berger Paints.

Berger splashed out to join the ever-growing queue of big companies wanting to back Britain's most popular spectator family sport and we hope they enjoy their involvement in speedway as much as we will enjoy having them with us.

Wally Mawdsley

SWINDON SPEEDWAY

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Wilts.



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Swindon 721333

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Secretary: Cullompton 2475
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SPEEDWAY GRAND PRIX

[in association with the Daily Mirror]
and SUNDAY MIRROR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
[qualifying round]

Saturday, April 28, 1979, at 7.30 p.m.

No	Rider/Track	1	2	3	4	5	Total	GP Pts
1	SCOTT AUTREY Exeter							
2	STEVE GRESHAM Swindon							
3	BARRY THOMAS Hackney Wick							
4	GEOFF BOUCHARD Swindon							
5	JAN ANDERSSON Reading							
6	MARTIN ASHBY Swindon							
7	BOB KILBY Swindon							
8	STEFAN SALOMONSSON Wimbledon							
9	MIKE SAMPSON Nottingham							
10	BRIAN WOODWARD Weymouth							
11								
12	PHIL CRUMP Swindon							
13	STEVE KOPPE Exeter							
14	BERNIE LEIGH Reading							
15	STEVE WEATHERLEY Eastbourne							
16	BOBBY McNEIL Hackney Wick							
17	Res: DAVID ASHBY Swindon							
18	Res: MALCOLM HOLLOWAY Swindon							
19	Res: MARTIN HEWLETT Swindon							

Track Officials

Referee John Eglese
Clerk of the Course Matt Bolton
Meeting Controller Ronnie Allan
Announcer Graham Hambly
Pit Marshal Ray Morse
A.C.U. Timekeeper John Homer
Hon. Medical Officer Dr. G. Freakley
Starting Marshal S. Bond
Radio Robin Presenter Bob Radford
SCB Licence Applied for. St. John Ambulance in attendance.

TRACK DETAILS

Length: 359.6 metres [395 yards].

Record: 67.6 seconds, Martin Ashby, 20.8.1977; Phil Crump, 29.7.1978.

Records played at this meeting were supplied by
KEMPSTER & SON
98 Commercial Road, Swindon. Tel: 35523

NOTICE TO PATRONS

The taking of photographs at speedway meetings in this stadium is strictly forbidden without the written permission of Wally Mawdsley (Speedway) Promotions Ltd who retain the copyright and have the right to demand the use of any photographs so taken for any lawful purpose.
Wally Mawdsley (Speedway) Promotions Limited reserve the right to alter the programme without notice. Should it be necessary through any cause to abandon the meeting prior to the start of the sixth race then re-admission tickets issued at the entrance shall be retained and entitle the holder admission to any domestic meeting staged solely by Wally Mawdsley (Speedway) Promotions Ltd at this stadium within one calendar month. Money will not be refunded under any circumstances and it remains the responsibility of the spectator to ensure they are issued with a re-admission ticket on entry.
Motor sports events are dangerous and all persons attending this meeting do so at their own risk. It is a condition of admission that all persons having any connection with the promotion and/or conduct of the meeting including the owners and lessees of the stadium and the competitors and officials are absolved from all liability arising out of accidents causing damage or personal injury to spectators or ticket holders.

BETTING AT ANY SPEEDWAY MEETING IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.

Heat	No.	Col	Rider	Pts	Replacement	Pts	Time
1	1	R	Scott Autrey				
	2	B	Steve Gresham				
	3	W	Barry Thomas				
	4	Y	Geoff Bouchard				
2	5	R	Jan Andersson				
	7	B	Bob Kilby				
	6	W	Martin Ashby				
	8	Y	Stefan Salomonsson				
3	10	R	Brian Woodward				
	11	B					
	9	W	Mike Sampson				
	12	Y	Phil Crump				
4	15	R	Steve Weatherley				
	14	B	Bernie Leigh				
	16	W	Bobby McNeil				
	13	Y	Steve Koppe				
5	13	R	Steve Koppe				
	1	B	Scott Autrey				
	5	W	Jan Andersson				
	9	Y	Mike Sampson				
6	14	R	Bernie Leigh				
	10	B	Brian Woodward				
	2	W	Steve Gresham				
	6	Y	Martin Ashby				
7	11	R					
	15	B	Steve Weatherley				
	7	W	Bob Kilby				
	3	Y	Barry Thomas				
8	4	R	Geoff Bouchard				
	8	B	Stefan Salomonsson				
	12	W	Phil Crump				
	16	Y	Bobby McNeil				
9	6	R	Martin Ashby				
	16	B	Bobby McNeil				
	1	W	Scott Autrey				
	11	Y					
10	12	R	Phil Crump				
	5	B	Jan Andersson				
	15	W	Steve Weatherley				
	2	Y	Steve Gresham				
11	8	R	Stefan Salomonsson				
	9	B	Mike Sampson				
	3	W	Barry Thomas				
	14	Y	Bernie Leigh				
12	13	R	Steve Koppe				
	4	B	Geoff Bouchard				
	10	W	Brian Woodward				
	7	Y	Bob Kilby				

INTERVAL

13	7	R	Bob Kilby				
	12	B	Phil Crump				
	14	W	Bernie Leigh				
	1	Y	Scott Autrey				
14	2	R	Steve Gresham				
	13	B	Steve Koppe				
	8	W	Stefan Salomonsson				
	11	Y					
15	16	R	Bobby McNeil				
	3	B	Barry Thomas				
	10	W	Brian Woodward				
	5	Y	Jan Andersson				
16	9	R	Mike Sampson				
	6	B	Martin Ashby				
	4	W	Geoff Bouchard				
	15	Y	Steve Weatherley				
17	1	R	Scott Autrey				
	8	B	Stefan Salomonsson				
	15	W	Steve Weatherley				
	10	Y	Brian Woodward				
18	9	R	Mike Sampson				
	2	B	Steve Gresham				
	7	W	Bob Kilby				
	16	Y	Bobby McNeil				
19	3	R	Barry Thomas				
	12	B	Phil Crump				
	13	W	Steve Koppe				
	6	Y	Martin Ashby				
20	5	R	Jan Andersson				
	14	B	Bernie Leigh				
	11	W					
	4	Y	Geoff Bouchard				

No	Col	Riders	Pts	Time
	R			
	B			
	W			
	Y			
No	Col	Riders	Pts	Time
	R			
	B			
	W			
	Y			

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TONIGHTS

BERGER GRAND PRIX/SUNDAY MIRROR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

Coventry	1.....
	2.....
	3.....
Halifax	1.....
	2.....
	3.....

GULF OIL BRITISH LEAGUE
King's Lynn Birmingham

NATIONAL LEAGUE
Berwick..... Scunthorpe
Canterbury Middlesbrough
Stoke Newcastle

FOUR TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP
Cradley Heath Belle Vue
Wolverhampton Ellesmere Port

RESULTS

The results of the above matches will be broadcast on Radio Robin during tonight's meeting here at Blunston.

SWINDON SPEEDWAY

Abbey Stadium BLUNSDON Nr. Swindon Tel. 721333

Next Saturday, May 5, 1979, at 7.30p.m.

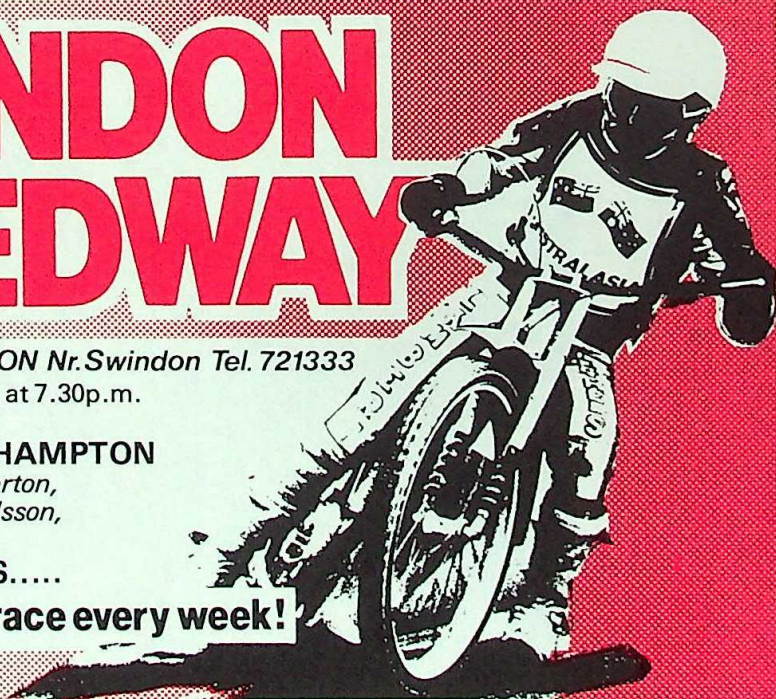
Gulf Oil British League

SWINDON v WOLVERHAMPTON

with Hans Nielsen, Dave Morton,
Jim McMillan, Hasse Danielsson,
Edgar Stangeland and the

1979 ROARING ROBINS.....

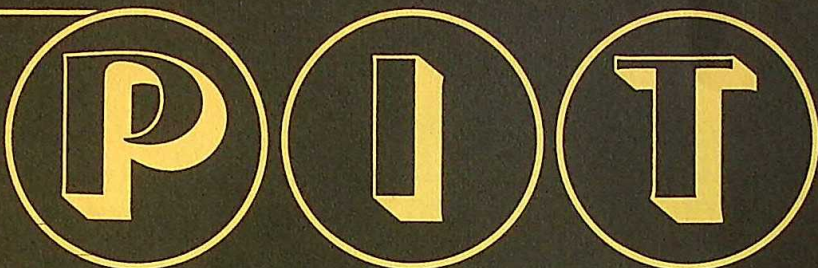
Where the STARS race every week!



**BERGER
PAINTS**



**SPEEDWAY
GRAND PRIX**



What a pity that the heavens opened last Sunday to wash out the Robins' return to Inter-Divisional Knock-out Cup warfare after a break. The decision to postpone the tie at Stoke was inevitable as heavy rain during the late afternoon made it impossible to even consider running the meeting. There are now snags on a re-run date as Stoke's original suggestion of May 20th seemed alright until a check with conflicting fixtures revealed a clash with the World Team Cup qualifying round at Reading in which both Phil Crump and Steve Gresham are almost certain starters.

Believe it or not but that story about Steve Gresham being bit by a guard dog (on the front page of last Saturday night's Swindon Advertiser) was absolutely true. Steve, fast earning himself a name as speedway's answer to the Michael Crawford portrayal of Frank Spencer in The BBC's Some Mothers Do Have Them, was nipped on the wrist while visiting his sponsors Honeyfield Trailers. To make matters worse when Steve stopped last Saturday night it was because he had forgotten to turn on his fuel taps!

Just for the record Swindon Sprockets quite amazing 13-0 away win at Oxford in the Trackstar Junior League was a record! There have been 15-3 home wins but TAJL Secretary Ron Orchard has no record of such a convincing away win. Tomorrow afternoon the kids are at Rye House who not only have one of the strongest junior squads in the league but also one of the trickiest tracks in the country. Even mighty Exeter were only three points victors there last week in the Inter-Division K.O. Cup so it looks like being a real toughie for Martin Hewlett and company.

While the senior Robins were having an abortive trip to Stoke last week-end the Gloucester and Cotswold Motor Club's grass-track meeting escaped the elements. Familiar names amongst the honours included Sprocket Neil Farnish who was third in the 250 c.c. final and last week's second half debutant Derek Hole who was runner-up in the Experts B event. Winner of the Roger Parker Trophy was Northern Chris Baybutt with long-track expert Don Godden second and Reading junior Simon Wigg third.

Let's continue our story of breakdowns — the first episode of which was published a week or so ago. Latest victims have included George Holden, father of the late Kevin Holden and the man who keeps the boys supplied with spares at every Blunsdon meeting, and Peter Oakes who is now sharing the away team manager duties with Maurice Morley. George needed a new engine after his dormobile — which doubles as a workshop/storeroom — ground to a halt forcing him to miss his first match of the season and Pete had the starter motor fail only a mile or two from Stoke. Potters general manager Pete Jarman kindly sent out a couple of his staff to tow in the stricken car.

Scurrying Scandinavian skiddos (to coin a Dave Lanning-like terminology) Rolf Gramstad and Steen Mastrup are missing tonight because of their own World Championship commitments in Norway and Denmark respectively. Rolf will be back on Wednesday but Steen will have to miss next week-end's Gulf Oil British League match against Wolverhampton. His 1978 average is so low that it is impractical to even think of a guest so Malcolm Holloway will step into the side for the first time this season, National League commitments permitting. The new 50-point ruling bars David Ashby from being considered as the Robins would soar over the limit because of his healthy 1978 green sheet figure. One further point on this: while Steen had an actual average of 1.81 last term for the purposes of working out an overall average he is deemed to have a three point average — just one of those strange little regulations to be found in the sport.

Expect increased competition for a place in the junior side. Most impressive in after-the-meeting practice a fortnight ago was Kevin Brown who had the misfortune to blow a motor which ruled him out last week. He should be back tonight — pressing for a Sprockets race-jacket.

What a pity that the new daily paper the Daily Star isn't on sale around Swindon. It really is bright, breezy and full of regular speedway news, including a column by ex-World Champion Peter Collins.

The tributes keep rolling in for the Blunsdon Bulletin. Latest to hand out her congrats is Scottish scribe Wendy Fisher. Writing in the Speedway Mail she enthused: "I must state my admiration for the new Swindon magazine (to call this 20-page miracle a mere programme seems a slight) that came my way.....having yet again combined to provide a spectacular programme for any Robins' fan at only 20p — a fact that must have caused a few other tracks to look hard at their own productions!"

What was Reading Controller Brian Constable doing in the pits last week? If he really was sizing up Steen Mastrup (as was suggested by a recent Speedway Star article) then Brian need go no further. There's no way that Steen is riding for anyone other than the Robins....Or was Brian really having a look at our second half talent with a possible view to a loan agreement with his National League track Weymouth, searching for a replacement for the injured Geoff Swindells who cracked a wrist recently?



May	June	July	August	September	October
Monday 7 14 21 28 Tuesday 1 8 15 22 Wednesday 2 9 16 23 Thursday 3 10 17 24 Friday 4 11 18 25 Saturday 5 12 19 26 Sunday 6 13 20 27	Monday 4 11 18 25 Tuesday 5 12 19 26 Wednesday 6 13 20 27 Thursday 7 14 21 28 Friday 8 15 22 29 Saturday 9 16 23 30 Sunday 10 17 24 31	Monday 11 18 25 Tuesday 12 19 26 Wednesday 13 20 27 Thursday 14 21 28 Friday 15 22 29 Saturday 16 23 30 Sunday 17 24 31	Monday 18 25 Tuesday 19 26 Wednesday 20 27 Thursday 21 28 Friday 22 29 Saturday 23 30 Sunday 24 31	Monday 17 24 Tuesday 18 25 Wednesday 19 26 Thursday 20 27 Friday 21 28 Saturday 22 29 Sunday 23 30	Monday 1 8 15 22 29 Tuesday 2 9 16 23 30 Wednesday 3 10 17 24 31 Thursday 4 11 18 25 Friday 5 12 19 26 Saturday 6 13 20 27 Sunday 7 14 21 28

INTERNATIONAL LONG TRACK RACING

Haldon Long Track Arena,
Haldon, near Exeter, Devon.

Sunday, May 13th, 1979



*Action from Haldon's
opening meeting*

Line-up includes Robins **PHIL CRUMP** and
STEVE GRESHAM, World Speedway
Champion **OLE OLSEN**, Czechs **ALES DRYML**
& **JAN VERNER**

BERGER GRAND PRIX

[in association with the Daily Mirror]

and

SUNDAY MIRROR 1979

**World Speedway
Championship**

**Sunday
Mirror**



Where The Robins Race

Rider	Round One Points	Round Two Points	Round Three Points	Total Points
MARTIN ASHBY	Swindon Tonight	Reading April 30.....	Eastbourne May 4
GEOFF BOUCHARD	Swindon Tonight
PHIL CRUMP ●	Swindon Tonight	Exeter April 30.....	Eastbourne..... May 4
STEVE GRESHAM ●	Swindon Tonight	Exeter April 30.....	Hull May 2
BOB KILBY	Swindon Tonight	Exeter April 30.....	Poole May 2

The above chart lists the qualifying rounds of the five Swindon riders involved in the competition. If you want to keep check of their progress follow the results in the Daily Mirror each morning. We suggest that you log their World Championship points in the top line and their Grand Prix points in the bottom line. The column on the far right is for total scores. Riders marked ● do NOT compete in the World Championship. Of those riders competing in World Championship rounds the top 32 overall point scorers qualify for the British semi-finals. The top sixteen Grand Prix points-scorers qualify for the Berger Grand Prix Final at Wimbledon.

PHOTO PARADE



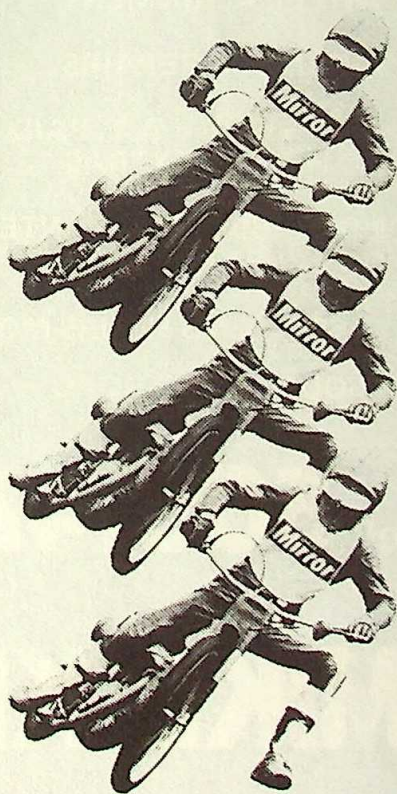
Mick Kilby was on hand to snap Martin Ashby handing over a body-colour to a lucky fan whose winning ticket was first out of the hat in the 200 Club — launched to help raise funds for Martin Ashby's Testimonial season. With Martin is Radio Robin presenter Bob Radford.



DAILY Mirror

First and best for Speedway

Follow the action with Graham Baker



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MARTIN ASHBY



TESTIMONIAL

This evening the Swindon Speedway Supporters' Club pay their own tribute to Martin Ashby in his Testimonial season by sponsoring him in our exclusive meeting support scheme.

The Supporters' Club committee unanimously voted to offer Martin their support on a night when he will, for once, be fighting for himself rather than the Robins.

Everything is moving sweetly ahead on the big boxing tournament evening that has been organised by Swindon Advertiser speedway columnist Clive King and Terry Brown of the Marlborough Amateur Boxing Club.

Tickets are now on sale at £1 each for the evening — all profits go to Martin's Testimonial Fund — from members of the Martin Ashby Testimonial Committee.

If you are a boxing fan then there is no need to tell you what a great night's action is in store but if you are not a

boxing follower then why not still go along to support Martin.

Next week we hope to publish full details of the international boxers taking part in the tournament — the first of the 'outside broadcast' events in a full year of social happenings.

This evening we invite all supporters who wish to lend a hand during what promises to be a busy season ahead to stay behind after the meeting for a public get-together at which volunteers will be sought to help make sure that Martin's Testimonial Year is as successful as it can possibly be.

Graham Hambly will give full details of the venue several times over the tannoy while Bob Radford will carry out an interview with a member of the Testimonial Committee to outline some of the ideas that will be brought up this evening.

200 CLUB

What a successful scheme this is — with tickets selling out twenty minutes before the first race each week.

Even though Martin won't be wearing a Swindon race-jacket tonight we will be holding a draw — with the winner receiving the body-colour he is actually going to wear for this evening's Berger Grand Prix-Sunday Mirror World Championship qualifying round.

Tickets are again on sale near the entrances and again the number of tickets sold will be restricted to 200 only.

Thanks to previous sponsors Mrs Doreen Wilkins, Mr & Mrs Mulcock, Mr & Mrs Stubbs, Burmah Castrol and Walker Jackson.

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who are offering full sponsorship of £25

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THE SHOWING OF THIS PROGRAMME
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WHO? • WHERE? • WHEN?

			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Result
M. 19 Mar.	Reading (Sarjents T.).....A	P.Crump 12	M.Ashby 3:1	S.Gresham 3:1	B.Kilby 8	G.Bouchard 8:2	R.Gramstad 0	S.Mastrup 0			Lost 34-43
Th. 22 Mar.	MIRROR SPORT TROPHY .H	O.Olsen 15	P.Crump 13	B.Kilby 13	J.McMillan 11	G.Kennett 10	G.Bouchard 9	D.Morton 9	S.Bastable 8		Drew 39-39
S. 24 Mar.	READING [Sarjents T.].....H	B.Kilby 8:1	M.Ashby 10	S.Gresham 5	G.Bouchard 1	P.Crump 11	S.Mastrup 1:1	R.Gramstad 3			Lost 35-43
W. 28 Mar.	Poole (Ch).....A	G.Bouchard 3:2	B.Kilby 11	S.Gresham 6	P.Crump 10	M.Ashby 0	R.Gramstad 5:1	S.Mastrup 0			Won 50-28
S. 31 Mar.	POOLE [Ch].....H	B.Kilby 12	M.Ashby 6:1	S.Gresham 9:2	G.Bouchard 7:2	P.Crump 8	S.Mastrup 6:1	R.Gramstad 2			Lost 37-41
S. 7 April	COVENTRY.....H	B.Kilby 0	M.Ashby 3	S.Gresham 10	G.Bouchard 3:1	P.Crump 8	S.Mastrup 4:2	R.Gramstad 9			Won 49-29
F. 13 April	Hackney Wick.....A	B.Kilby 6:1	M.Ashby 10	S.Gresham 7	P.Crump 12	G.Bouchard 5:2	R.Gramstad 5	S.Mastrup 4:1			Won 59-19
S. 14 April	LEICESTER.....H	B.Kilby 10:1	M.Ashby 8:3	P.Crump 10:1	S.Gresham 4:2	G.Bouchard 12	S.Mastrup 8:3	R.Gramstad 7:1			Lost 35-43
M. 16 April	Coventry.....A	B.Kilby 4:2	M.Ashby 7:1	S.Gresham 4	P.Crump 11	G.Bouchard 2:2	R.Gramstad 4	S.Mastrup 3			Won 49-29
S. 21 April	BIRMINGHAM.....H	B.Kilby 12	M.Ashby 2	P.Crump 12	S.Gresham 5	G.Bouchard 9:2	S.Mastrup 8:3	R.Gramstad 1:1			Won 40-38
M. 23 April	Birmingham.....A	B.Kilby 6	M.Ashby 7	P.Crump 12	S.Gresham 4	G.Bouchard 4:1	R.Gramstad 6	S.Mastrup 1			
S. 28 April	WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP- GRAND PRIX QR.....H										
S. 5 May	WOLVERHAMPTON.....H										
M. 7 May	Wimbledon.....A										
W. 9 May	Poole: GOBL 4 TT.....A										
S. 12 May	ARTDEANS IND. TROPHY H										
M. 14 May	Exeter: GOBL 4 TT.....A										
Th. 17 May	Oxford: GOBL 4 TT.....A										
S. 19 May	SWINDON: GOBL 4 TT.....H										
S. 26 May	HALIFAX.....H										
M. 28 May	Exeter (Ch).....A										
F. 1 June	KING'S LYNN.....H										
S. 2 June	King's Lynn.....A										
S. 9 June	POOLE.....H										
S. 16 June	BIRMINGHAM [SS KO Cup] H										
M. 18 June	Birmingham [SS KO Cup] ..A										
S. 23 June	EASTBOURNE.....H										
M. 25 June	Exeter.....A										
F. 29 June	Eastbourne.....A										
S. 30 June	WIMBLEDON.....H										
S. 7 July	IPSWICH.....H										
T. 10 July	Leicester.....A										
S. 14 July	RESERVED SS KO Cup.....H										
T. 17 July	Ipswich.....A										
S. 21 July	HACKNEY WICK.....H										
W. 25 July	Poole.....A										
F. 27 July	ENGLAND V AUSTRALASIA Durex Test.....H										
S. 28 July	Halifax.....A										
M. 30 July	Birmingham (TSB MC).....A										
S. 4 Aug	BIRMINGHAM [TSB MC] ..H										



W. 8 Aug.	Hull.....A
S. 11 Aug.	HULL.....H
M. 13 Aug.	Reading.....A
S. 18 Aug.	SHEFFIELD.....H
F. 24 Aug.	CRADLEY HEATH.....H
M. 27 Aug.	Cradley Heath.....A
S. 1 Sept.	READING.....H
S. 8 Sept.	OPEN.....H
S. 15 Sept.	HIRST GARAGES PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP.....H
Th. 20 Sept.	Sheffield.....A
S. 22 Sept.	BELLE VUE.....H
Su. 23 Sept.	MARTIN ASHBY TESTIMONIAL TROPHY ..H
Th. 27 Sept.	COVENTRY [Ch].....H
S. 29 Sept.	Belle Vue.....A
S. 6 Oct.	EXETER.....H
F. 12 Oct.	Wolverhampton.....A
S. 13 Oct.	RESERVED OPEN DATE...H
Fr. 19 Oct.	DUPLEX LITHO PRESS TROPHY.....H
S. 27 Oct.	RESERVED OPEN DATE ..H

Rained-off:
F. 16 Mar. MIRROR SPORT TROPHY .H
Su. 22 April Stoke (IDKO).....A

Postponed:
T. 3 April Leicester.....A

THE 1979 AVERAGES

ALL MATCHES

	M.	Rs.	Pts	B.P.	T.Pts	Ave	Max.	F.Time
Phil Crump	10	42	106	1	107	10.19	3	69.4 secs
Bob Kilby	10	39	77	5	82	8.41	2	68.0 secs
Geoff Bouchard	10	38	54	13	67	7.05	1	70.1 secs
Steve Gresham	10	36	53	5	58	6.44	—	70.4 secs
Martin Ashby	10	39	56	6	62	6.36	—	70.7 secs
Steen Mastrup	10	33	35	9	44	5.33	—	70.0 secs
Rolf Gramstad	10	37	42	2	44	4.76	—	70.8 secs

GULF OIL BRITISH LEAGUE

	M	Rs	Pts	B.P.	T.Pts	Ave	Max	1978 Ave
Phil Crump	6	25	65	1	66	10.56	3	9.99
Bob Kilby	6	22	38	4	42	7.64	1	8.15
Geoff Bouchard	6	23	35	8	43	7.48	1	6.52
Steve Gresham	6	21	34	2	36	6.86	—	9.24
Martin Ashby	6	24	37	4	41	6.83	—	7.69
Steen Mastrup	6	22	28	9	37	6.73	—	1.88
Rolf Gramstad	6	23	32	2	34	5.91	—	4.22

[Up to and including this evening]

WHO? • WHERE? • WHEN?

SSSC NOTES by BOB FISHER

Hello again everybody, and a special warm welcome to all visiting supporters who are here to cheer on their own favourites, I hope you enjoy your evening here at the 'Abbey'.

We are taking bookings tonight for the coach trip to Wimbledon on Monday 7th May. This is course a bank holiday and the fare is £2.70 for adults and £2.20 for children under 14. The coach leaves the Wiltshire Hotel at 4.30p.m.

We hope to run a coach to Poole on Wednesday 9th May for the four team tournament. The fare will be £2.60 adults £2.10 children departing at 4.45p.m. The above prices are for club members, but non members are welcome at 20p per seat extra. Membership subscription is 75p which includes the exclusive club badge. Junior membership is 50p which also includes the badge.

Don't forget we are now selling tickets for the dance in aid of the St John Ambulance, which is being held in Swindon on June 15th. The price is £1 per ticket, so come along to give your support to this worthy cause, and enjoy a good night out at the same time.

Some of you have been contacting 'Rimes' coaches about trips before I have instructed them that we are running to a particular track, and been informed that they were not taking bookings. This has led to some confusion. Bookings for any trips organised by us can only be made to us until the last home meeting before the trip takes place. If there are any spare seats, these may then be booked at 'Rimes' office, and only then.

This system has been adopted so that there will be no chance of double bookings taking place, but at the same time allow 'Rimes' to know exactly what size coach is required.

I will take 'phone bookings at home before the last home meeting if you are unable to come to speedway. The system worked very well for the trip to Hackney, when an extra coach was laid on at the last moment, and so no one was disappointed. I would ask though that if you do intend to travel with us please try to book early, because we may have to cancel a coach for lack of support only to find later we could have run. If there are any points you are not sure of come along to see me at the large kiosk first bend, or ring me at home phone Malmesbury 2321.

SHOP TALK with GLYNN SHAILES

I'm very happy to report that our supply of 1979 Swindon pennants has now been received, and will be on sale this evening at 60p each.

The pennant features an action motif of Geoff, wearing his new 'Robins' race jacket and it looks very smart. We also have received a further supply of our long windscreen stickers — "Swindon Speedway" and "Swindon Robins" and they will also be on sale at 60p.

I know many of you are anxiously awaiting our new junior 'Robin' race jackets, and I'm pleased to tell you that these items should be on sale next week.

A week or so back I told you about our 25th Anniversary handbooks which had been reduced in price to 10p each. Tonight the final dozen of these informative little books go on sale, and obviously once they have been sold, there will be no more, so if you haven't yet purchased a copy I urge you to do so this evening.

Have you seen our new Swindon caps? Just the thing to wear on a Saturday evening when you support the 'Robins' and very reasonably priced at £1.20.

Enjoy your racing — see you at the Shop.

BSSC NOTES by JIM COLE

After the hectic Easter weekend I thought life would be a little easier but I see from the fixtures that we have plenty to offer next month with plenty of away trips.

May Day Bank Holiday it's Exeter in the morning then Wimbledon v the Robins in the evening. The following Sunday (May 13) it's Long Track racing time and Sunday May 20th we're off to Reading for the World Team Cup qualifying round and then the following week-end on the second of the May Bank Holidays it's Exeter v Swindon in the morning and Wimbledon for the Internationale.

Oh, I nearly forgot — we hope to run to Wolverhampton for the Olympique on Friday May 11. Bookings for all these B.S.S.C. coach trips can be made with Jim Cole in the Speedway Office during the interval.

For many years the B.S.S.C. has run its own unique skittles league during the winter months and the current season is now nearing completion for this term. As it is so popular we are going to run a summer league based on speedway's Four Team Tournament. We have a few vacancies for Four man (or woman) teams so if any supporters would like to join us on a Monday evening at the Black Castle we would be pleased to see you.

RBFD NOTES by 'POP' KILBY

Last week's winners were:-

- 1 C. Mulcock, Royalty Cottage, Minety.
- 2 J. Davis, Victoria Road, Cirencester.
- 3 Mr. Price, Akers Way, Moredon.
- 4 Mrs S. Cross, 121, Abingdon Road, Standlake, Witney, Oxon.

- 5 Miss D. Poole, 2 Buckingham Road, Swindon.
- 6 Mr J. Lake, 11, Dene Way, Dornington, Newbury, Berks.

Many thanks to Charles Savage and Miss Shirley Sutton of the Wyvern Theatre for their donation of tickets for our first prize each week.

G & DSSC NOTES

Congratulations to Geoff on his maximum in the match with Leicester, also his great performances at Leicester and Mildenhall. Always a great favourite with members of the club he has been guest of honour on numerous occasions and has even played football for the club team.



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