



Darvill Racing
Parkgate House
Victoria Road
Castletown
Isle of Man
IM9 1EN
14th March 2012

Birring Brands (*Birr – 1. A whirring sound. 2. Strong forward momentum; driving force.*)

March 9th 2012 could not have come sooner, the doldrums of the winter months and the longing for the start of the season were at an end, we could finally begin our twenty twelve season.

Our first meeting of the year was always going to be busy with a new rider, new machinery and new events. Les Liney is competing in the ACU/Sorrymate.com National 600 Endurance Series and also the Parkitt MotoGrande 600 Championship reaching the climax of the season when we return to the fabled Isle of Man Mountain Course for Manx Grand Prix in August.



Our weapon of choice for these endeavours is a brace of CBR600RR Honda's running SuperStock spec engines, Maxton suspension, Datron 2D Dataloging and Dogcam HD Camera's all prepared by Rob and PDQ.

The approach we have taken is to give Les the maximum time in the saddle running the Endurance races to familiarise him with long stints on a road-race bikes, and the short circuit races to hone his skills on 4-stroke (inline four) engines. Les has spent a considerable amount of time in SuperTwin racing so he is having to relearn to ride the screaming-fours. This is in addition to monthly visits to the Isle of Man to learn the fabled Mountain Circuit.

Friday:

The Sun was shining as we descended on Brands Hatch and we set about setting up our pit to prepare for the weekends racing.

Friday saw us testing new settings, gearing and settling into our roles in preparation for qualification on Saturday morning, followed by the 3hr Endurance race.





Saturday:

As the sun rose across Kent we readied ourselves for the day's activities. Les lined up on the grid for a number of qualifying sessions and with each lap we saw a decrease in times. Les was awarded with his endeavours with the following starting positions:

- 24th ACU/Sorrymate.com National 600 Endurance Championship
- 11th Parkitt MotoGrande 600Championship



The Endurance race is set over 3hrs with a LeMans start, held in daytime conditions with the opportunity of running two bikes and two riders in a 'Tag' format. Les got a blistering start and was up to 5th place after the first corner; however an endurance race is, by its very nature, a test of consistency and a modicum of luck. The Team were in full 'flow' and everything went to plan and as the flag dropped we were in the top ten finishing 9th in our class and 188 laps completed. An EXCELLENT start to the season!

The afternoon saw the first round of the 15 lap MotoGrande 600 races, Les once again got a good start but as the others found their pace he settled into a rhythm and brought her home mid-pack in 14th.

Race two was a carbon copy of the first with Les making a good start but losing places over the last 3rd of the race finishing once again in 14th (out of 29 starters). What we did have in our favour was our data logging and once we had prepared the bikes of the following morning we sat down to review the results and look at possible changes.

We identified that Les was making a number of unnecessary gear shifts throughout a lap and opted to gear-up for the next race.

Sunday:

Another glorious day dawned with the smell of hearty breakfasts floating through the paddock and the hazy morning sun warming our backs (which given that it was early March we are rather pleased with) we were filled with optimism for the final day's efforts.

Race 3 beckoned and as Les left the line we watched the lap times eagerly, and within a couple of laps Les was consistently a second quicker so our Datron Datalogging was beginning to pay dividends..! Les had another consistent race finishing in 15th.

Race 4 saw fatigue starting to come into play, Les had clocked-up over 100 laps around Brands over the weekend and this





tempered the lap times, however these were consistent and within 0.7 seconds of each of them which is excellent news as we can build on this. Les finished the final day in 15th.

Summary:

With new machinery, new rider, new technology and new motorsport series, to have finished the weekend with a top ten place and very consistent lap times shows we have made an extremely positive start to the season.

We were able to reduce lap times by over four seconds with plenty more 'in the bag'. With more time in the saddle and further fine tuning we are not far from the top third of the group and there is no reason why we can't bag some podiums going forward.

I would like to thank all our sponsors for their continued support, especially in these lean times and also to thank Rob for going the extra mile and him giving 110% over the weekend, his skill and expertise are phenomenal..!

Rob is also finalising the Darvill SV650, this will be unveiled shortly and it is something rather special, there won't be anything else quite like this on the BMCRC National Minitwin grid...!



Yours Sincerely,

Alex Aitchison
Team Principal



Phone: +44(0)7624 433 594

Email: alex@darvillracing.co.uk

Web: <http://www.darvillracing.co.uk>

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