



Brands Hatch Mini Festival

Dunlop Mini Miglia Challenge & Historic Race Van



Thursday Shake Down

After the Migs little argument with the Armco at Thruxton there was a certain amount of rebuilding to do which just wouldn't polish out !

Endaf Owens did an awesome job sorting out the rear quarter and checking the chassiss alignment for us at a moments notice then Sir Bill spent many days and evenings rebuilding it for us to his ever exacting

shake down the build and check the setup, but of course its Bill Built so arrived perfect !

Friday, Brands Hatch ... the team seems to be growing so with the Mini Miglia race and the Sanwa Trophy we had a lot of marques to set up and cars to prepare. The Mini Race Van was out on the track checking setup and scrubbing in tyres, then out with the Mig for the same treatment. And even a little spare time for a photo shoot with the lads !

The Race Van being that little bit longer, heavier and a different weight distribution was proving to be a little bit of a challenge with suspension setup and this will be an ongoing project over the next few races / test days to perfect



Saturday brings us qualifying for both the Mig and Mini Van. The Mig qualifying session was cut short by someone dropping oil over the racing line on nearly half the track, Nick was building up to his fast laps, this was a mistake as with qualifying paused when it restarted there was only a few laps left and the oil was replaced with concrete dust so the grip was not there for a proper fast lap. The Race van was split with Bill on the first half and Nick on the second half as the drive was being shared, and again a couple of red flags during Nicks session ruined any chance of a getting a good grid position.

Then race one for the Mig on Saturday afternoon, Nick started in 23rd

in 14th place just two tenths of a second behind Shaun !



Sunday morning and the crowds arrived allong with the sun. We had a very hot day ahead along with two races for the van in the Sanwa Pre66 Trophy and one for the Miglia. Bill was run ragged as we had two Miglia's and two historic's for him to look after, tyre selections, damper settings and niggling issues that always keep us busy, luckily this weekend we had help on the spanners from Steve, Tim and Ben so was a pretty full house in our corner of the paddock

Race 2 for the Mig on Sunday morning. Starting in 14th on the grid, a good start but lost a couple of places during the race bringing it home in 16th position.

The Race Van however, was on fire and screaming round the track entertaining both the crowd and Nick who was doing lap after lap with a massive grin on his face ! Although we started race one from the pitlane

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before the start for Sir Bill to cast his eye over it. Nick managed to streak out the pitlane, catch and pass a few cars before he decided to end the race early in case the suspension ended it for him.

Back to the pits and we reset all the suspension ready for race two with Bill Sollis behind the wheel who started in 4th on the grid.

Unfortunately Bill forgot he was in the Historic and not back in the Mig on slicks so side stepped the clutch at the start and sat on the grid in a cloud of tyre smoke worthy of any McDonald's carpark ! He was fighting hammer and tong with Endaf even swapping wheel nuts on the first corner giving the crowd a superb performance bringing the van home in 7th place



All in all a great weekend. The sun stayed out, the cars all came home in one piece and everyone really enjoyed themselves. Generously our Japanese friends from Sanwa Trading sponsored a race yet again giving us the Sanwa Trophy with cars from the UK and Europe taking part. Swiftune, as usual had a massive presence in the paddock offering advise and assistance if needed along with cakes and coffee in the hospitality tent they provided for the teams. The Mini Seven club put on and an ice cream van, BBQ and a disco Saturday night for the teams, everyone was very well catered for !

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Big thanks again to Bill Sollis, Steve Lyons-Davis, Ben Johnson, Tim Sims, Ian Gunn and of course Nick Swift from Swiftune Engineering.....

In car video footage is available on our YouTube channel, [playmini1959](#) with many other videos.

Links below for video from this weekend and some 360 degree in car video footage

- [Race video](#)
- [View the race results and grids](#)

why not visit our home page with car build details, race results and much more.... www.historicminiracing.co.uk

Engine and gearbox supplied and built by [Swiftune Engineering](#)

Car setup by Bill Sollis



Powered By Swiftune, Built By Bill

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