

Dawe master of Celtic Superprix

WHILE the Gemini Celtic Superprix, won by Robin Dawe's Lotus, was billed as the feature event of Sunday's AMOC meeting, the Irish Formula Fords and Strykers provided some of the day's best racing.

Ron Cumming led the Superprix until a waterpipe sprayed fluid over the back tyres, sending the Footwork FA13 into a high-speed spin along the home straight. The race was stopped and, by the restart, Robert Wright got his Footwork out on the grid. However, with no clutch, he left Dawe and Eddie McLurg to battle for the lead, the former taking the flag by a whisker from the latter and Dave Dudley.

The first of the Ford of Ireland Formula Ford races saw an early stoppage after a clash between polesitter Mark O'Connor and George McAlpin, the pair being collected by Peter Walsh and Alan Kelly. Philip Kehoe led the restart with Neil Shanahan in pursuit, the pair circulating nose to tail until the latter tried a move at Brooklands, sending Kehoe somersaulting out.

Once again, the red came out and Kehoe was declared the winner from Shanahan, Henry O'Friel and Chris Paul.

Pembrey

There was feverish repair work for race two and this time there was no holding Shanahan, the teenager taking Chris Paul with him ahead of Richard Ryans, McAlpin and Gary Turkington.

Peter Dark disappeared into the distance in the first Welsh Sports and Saloons race, Alvin Powell coming out the best of the saloons from Keith Butcher. In the second counter, Dark did it all again, with Butcher and Powell reversing the order for second.

Graham McClintock took an easy win in the visiting Dunlop Stryker Challenge race, Shaun Magill finishing second from Jonathan Taylor.

Dawe pulled away in the Duncan Pocock Monoposto race, but, once past Peter Dittman, Francis Phillips took a close second from Jim Blackley and Dittman. Andrew Harris won the single-seater handicapper from Roly Hamblin, while the team handicap race saw Strykers to the fore, with Owen Doran and Bruce Allison topping the results table to give Ireland the victory over a ladies crew headed by Anita Broadhead.

Linda Keen

NATIONAL REPORTS

PEMBREY APRIL 25/26

Faulty Footworks leave Dawe oper

The Celtic Tiger roared at Pembrey on Sunday for the BBC-televised AMOC Gemini Celtic Superprix meeting, with Robin Dawe winning the feature Superprix, while Philip Kehoe and Neil Shanahan shared Irish Formula Ford honours.

Ron Cumming was let down by his Formula 1 Footwork FA13's reliability during the Superprix when a water pipe sprayed water over the back wheels, sending him into a huge spin that brought out the red flags. While the Scot retired, Robert Wright in a similar car had been sitting in the pits with a flat battery, but the team managed to get the saloon racer out in time for the restart for his first single-seater race.

However, with no clutch the F1 car lasted just four laps before Wright retired, leaving Robin Dawe's Lotus and Eddie McLurg's March to battle for the lead, the pair finishing just 0.02s apart with Dave Dudley a further 0.98s behind.

With 22 cars making the trip to Pembrey for the Ford of Ireland Formula Ford double-header, there was bound to be fireworks, and when fast-starter George McAlpin tangled with pole-sitter Mark O'Connor at Spitfire, Peter Walsh and Alan Kelly were also caught up in it and the race was stopped.

At the restart, Philip Kehoe led Neil Shanahan in a battle which continued unabated until the 13th lap when the pair tangled at Brooklands and Kehoe's Van Diemen RF98 somersaulted, again bringing out the red flags. The race was then declared with Kehoe the winner from Shanahan and Henry O'Friel taking his best result in third, from Chris Paul and Richard Ryans.

There was feverish work in the pits to repair the stricken cars, with three teams working to get Kehoe back on track. They made the deadline, but the 24-year-old farmer only lasted to the first corner, this time cascading over McAlpin's Mygale and bending his steering.

Shanahan meanwhile had the measure of Chris Paul, the pair stretching away from Alan Kelly and Ryans until Kelly overcooked it with three laps to go. Paul, taking his second fastest lap of the day, could not quite get on terms with Shanahan, who took his second championship win and the joint series lead with Paul. Chris's elderly Van Diemen RF96 was second from Ryans, McAlpin and Gary Turkington.

The Welsh Sports and Saloons also had a double-header, Peter Dark controlling everything from the front in both races in his Darran T90. In the first race the battle for the saloon cars was won by Alvin Powell from Keith Butcher. Butcher made amends in the second event to finish second after Powell spun.

Robin Dawe shot into the lead of the Monoposto race while Peter Dittman led from Jim Blockley's Ralt RT3, but by halfway Francis Phillips had pushed his Ralt RT3 into second, and might have beaten

Dawe given more time.

Graham McClintock roared into the distance in the Dunlop Stryker Sportscar race with Jonathans Taylor and Fildes in pursuit. Fildes took Taylor for second and closed on McClintock until a misfire intervened, leaving Shaun Magill second at the flag.

The Celtic Single-Seater Handicap race saw Andrew Harris take victory from Roly Hamblin, while the final race contained a mixed bag of sports, saloons and Strykers competing in a handicap team event.

Although Dark again disappeared into the distance, the Irish team collected the laurels with Owen Doran taking victory on paper from fellow Stryker driver, Bruce Allison. Jonathan Williams finished third, with fourth-placed Anita Broadhead helping the ladies team take the runner-up prize.

● Linda Keen

FORD OF IRELAND FORMULA FORD - RACE 1 (12 LAPS) 1 Philip Kehoe (Van Diemen RF98) 12m02.47s (87.06mph); 2 Neil Shanahan (Van Diemen RF98) 12m02.62s; 3 Henry O'Friel (Van Diemen RF96); 4 Chris Paul (Van Diemen RF96). **Fastest lap** Paul 58.65s (89.37mph). **RACE 2 (15 LAPS)** 1 Shanahan 14m49.69s (88.37mph); 2 Paul 14m50.47s; 3 Richard Ryans (Mygale SJ98); 4 George McAlpin (Mygale SJ98). **Fastest lap** Paul 58.59s (89.46mph).

WELSH SPORTS & SALOONS - RACE 1 (10 LAPS) 1 Peter Dark (Darran T90 Turbo) 10m35.17s (82.52mph); 2 Alvin Powell (Ford Mondeo) 10m38.81s; 3 Keith Butcher (Ford Sierra Turbo); 4 Mike Shaw (Darran T90). **Class winners** Dark; Powell; Jeremy Pope (Ford Sapphire Cosworth); Mark Chandler (Mini Cooper S). **Fastest laps** Dark 1m01.42s (85.34mph); Powell 1m01.87s (84.71mph); Pope 1m07.28s (77.90mph); Chandler 1m08.03s (77.04mph). **RACE 2 (10 LAPS)** 1 Peter Dark (Darran T90 Turbo) 10m31.78s (82.96mph); 2 Keith Butcher (Ford Sierra Turbo) 10m41.67s; 3 Alvin Powell (Ford Mondeo); 4 Mike Shaw (Darran T90). **Class winners** Dark; Butcher; Pope; Mark Chandler (Mini Cooper S). **Fastest laps** Dark 1m00.17s (87.11mph); Powell 1m02.22s (84.24mph); Pope 1m7.36s (77.81mph); Chandler 1m08.29s (76.75mph).

DUNCAN POCOOCK MONOPOSTOS/INVITATION KENT RACE (10 LAPS) 1 Robin Dawe (Lotus) 9m45.36s (89.54mph); 2 Francis Phillips (Ralt RT3) 9m46.23s; 3 Jim Blockley (Ralt RT3); 4 Peter Dittman (Van Diemen RF88). **Class winners** Dawe; Paul Shipp (OMS); Jonathan Newman (Lola T644E); Andrew Harris (Van Diemen RF90). **Fastest laps** Blockley 55.39s (94.63mph); Shipp 1m00.34s (86.86mph); Geoff Jones (Phoenix) 1m02.92s (83.30mph); Harris 1m04.60s (81.13mph).

DUNLOP STRYKER SPORTSCARS & LADIES SALOONS (10 LAPS) 1 Graham McClintock 11m41.40s (74.73mph); 2 Shaun Magill 11m52.15s; 3 Jonathan Taylor; 4 Robert Taylor. **Ladies** 1 Cindy Pearce (Rover 216 GTI) 12m20.44s (65.97mph). **Fastest laps** Fildes 1m08.74s (76.25mph); Pearce 1m19.45s (65.97mph).

GEMINI CELTIC SUPERPRX (12 LAPS) 1 Robin Dawe (Lotus) 11m39.66s (89.89mph); 2 Eddie McLurg (March 882) 11m39.68s; 3 Dave Dudley (Anson); 4 Dave Cox (Ralt RT3). **Class winners** McLurg; Dawe; Shrigley Feigel. **Fastest laps** McLurg 55.69s (94.12mph); Dawe 56.34s (93.03mph); Feigel 1m01.01s (85.91mph); Robert Wright (Footwork FA13) 1m04.81s (80.87mph).

CELTIC SINGLE-SEATER HANDICAP (10 LAPS) 1 Andrew Harris (Van Diemen RF90) 9m19.58s (93.67mph); 2 Roly Hamblin (Van Diemen RF88) 9m24.24s; 3 Jensen Lunn (Van Diemen RF85); 4 Paul Shipp (OMS). **Class winners** Shipp; Harris; Micklewhite. **Fastest laps** Shipp 1m00.49s (86.65mph); Harris 1m04.21s (81.63mph); Micklewhite 1m05.29s (80.28mph).

CELTIC TEAM HANDICAP FOR THE BBC WALES TROPHY (10 LAPS) 1 Owen Doran (Stryker) 10m23.06s (84.12mph); 2 Bruce Allison (Stryker) 10m27.44s; 3 Jonathan Williams (Rover 216GTI); 4 Anita Broadhead (Rover Mini); 5 David Byers (Stryker); 6 Mark Chandler (Mini Cooper S). **Fastest lap** Peter Dark (Darran T90 Turbo) 1m02.41s (83.98mph). **Teams** 1 Ireland; 2 Ladies; 3 Wales.