

## Race report round 7

5 June 2011

Much has changed for NGRRC since their last meeting at Mallory Park over 25 years ago. The recently refreshed Leicestershire circuit enjoyed it's first look at the *Pirelli UK GP45 Championship* with yet more Super Singles signed up and ready to race.

### Sunday 5th June, round seven qualifier

With only one day to make their mark on the Championship points the Super Twins and Super Singles needed to get into their stride early on. With good, dry conditions for the qualifying race, the season regulars were looking to capitalise on their experience so far with several rookie GP45 competitors joining the grid. The lights went out and Kirkby Straight boomed with the sound of 26 mini-twins, Super Twins and Singles jostling for position into the wide sweep at Gerrard's bend. The #96 *Wedds and Co/Utilscan* Suzuki of Matt Andrew found his way to 11th overall following the opening lap and leading the field of Singles. Chris Harrison's *Motobits* Super Twin Aprilia could be seen a few places in front of Andrew, he was up to 7th overall with his head down chasing the mini-twin front-runners.



Above: Gary Moran, GP45 Super Single Suzuki. Credit: www.EDPphoto.co.uk

Another new addition to the Super Single series soon started to make his presence felt. Ex-super moto racer, Alan Cragg was rapidly making gains on board his *Cumbriacoldstorage.co.uk* Honda CRF GP45. By lap two he'd passed Andrew then proceeded to put two mini-twins in between them, setting the fastest Super Single lap of 1:00.95. Clackmannanshire's Gary Moran was also making excellent progress, driving his way into third position of the Super Single field and making up for his disappointment at the recent Pembrey round. As the race progressed, the novice rider made some aggressive passes, picking off seven competitors during the 14 mile race distance. The other two orange-jacketed riders were putting on a similar show. Paul Annetts followed Moran's path through the field to claim the 4th Super Single place. Just one second behind at the flag came *Bluebell Lakes* sponsored GP45 Honda of Tony Bridgefoot demonstrating his growing confidence. Snapping at Bridgefoot's heels was the *Trevor Pope Racing* KTM of Robbie Robson. NGRRC 600 regular and Triumph Triple Challenge rider, Ricky Elder was taking on the NGRRC GP45 Kawasaki and although thoroughly different to his usual choice of machinery he clearly enjoyed the great handling and easy-to-use power of the single.

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### Sunday 5th June, round seven final

Yet another dry and sunny NG race final arrived at 3:16pm. Super Twin leader Harrison, on the *Motobits* SXV Aprilia, took his front row spot with Alan Cragg directly behind on row two heading up the Super Singles. Lap one and Harrison was pushing hard, bringing the Super Twin past pitlane leading the field of GP45s and mini-twins. Despite achieving the best overall lap of 58.6 he couldn't keep the lead race-long, finally crossing the line in 4th on-the-road and collecting another 25 Super Twin points. Yeovil's Martin Thrower on the *gp45.co.uk* Aprilia made improvements over his qualifying position to finish in a respectable 15th on the road position and 2nd Super Twin home. >



# UK GP45 CHAMPIONSHIP

SUPER SINGLES | SUPER TWINS

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Amongst the Super Single challengers, lap one drama unfolded and brought Cragg's impressive GP45 debut to an abrupt end with an incident at Edwina's. With the pressure off, Matt Andrew collected another Super Single win for *Wedds and Co/Utilscan* with a 9th on-the-road and a fastest lap of 1:01.58. Gary Moran made yet more superb progress, racing hard to bring his Suzuki through the pack to 12th on-the-road and second of the Singles. Paul Annetts' 16th overall finish rounded out the top three. Bridgefoot and Robson collecting 4th and 5th with a disappointed Ricky Elder unable to expand his GP45 experience suffering a DNF.

**Left:** Robbie Robson on the GP45 KTM Super Single, shadowed by Martin Thrower on the GP45 Aprilia Super Twin. **Credit:** [www.EDPphoto.co.uk](http://www.EDPphoto.co.uk)

**Pirelli UK GP45 Championship standings: Super Twins:** Chris Harrison 150, Martin Thrower 92, Brad Davey 85  
**Super Singles:** Matthew Andrew 165, Robbie Robson 73, Gary Moran 53.

**Next round:** Oulton Park 9th July 2011 **Trophies awarded for both classes.**

