

# Race Meeting Report

NG Road Racing – Brands Hatch – 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> March  
Championship Rounds 1 and 2

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## “Wins and Records for fast learning 13 year old Kyle Ryde at season opener”

With the start of the MCE Insurance British Superbike season opener at Brands just round the corner NG Road Racing were lucky enough to have a host of riders using the Club's meeting as some valuable track time. 125GP, 600 and 1000 Superstock and EVO Class runners all turned out to run against NG's best at this meeting which played host to rounds one and two of the Club's year long series.

Sheffield Fireman, Jonathan Howarth on his all-new [ukbiketrackdays.com](http://ukbiketrackdays.com) ZX10 Kawasaki and 13-year-old Nottingham based schoolboy Kyle Ryde on the HCM Electrical RS125 Honda were the two to benefit most from the extra laps.

Young Kyle Ryde took the eye of many as the 13-year-old who will be on this year British 125GP grids set about mopping up as many wins as possible. With limited knowledge on the RS125 at the Brands circuit he got quicker with every session and soaked up information, until by the end of the meeting he had racked up a full set of **125GP** wins. He also created a new class lap record, removing Rob Guiver's name and time from the books. Harry and Matt Hartley on the team CN Racing RS125's played their part but were eventually unable to stay with Ryde. It was a similar story for Wayne Ryan on the KRP RS125. It was good to see Sam Burman back on the NG grids but a Paddock Hill lap 1 collision with Kurtis Butler prevented her from getting any points on the second day.

Kyle, was not just content with pitting his 125 against similar capacity bikes..... he also turned out for the **Gofasterbits.co.uk 450cc** Open grabbing a 5<sup>th</sup> placing on Saturday as Jonathan Stamper and Daniel Jackson fought race long for supremacy. Jackson led early on but Stamper closed... waited... and then took the lead on lap 7 of 11. Jackson kept up the pressure but just could not get back passed Stamper on his Graham File Tuning TZ250, finishing just 0.1sec adrift at the flag. Remember I said Kyle Ryde was in 5<sup>th</sup>, well on Sunday with a bit more knowledge on bike and Brands, he set pole in qualifying and then won the final by 1.6 seconds over this time Jackson who bettered Stamper.

In contrast Jonathan Howarth has a few years experience on the Superbikes under his belt and he really has gelled very quickly to the new ZX10. So much so that in Sunday's **Phoenix Open** final he set new outright NG Road Racing lap record figures around the Indy circuit, lapping in 47.55secs averaging 90.70mph. In both races he headed home current NG Open champion Phil Bevan, who in turn got the better of Sam Warren, Max Hunt, Seb Bulpin and Sam West. 2011 BSB EVO class runner Josh Day looked set to be able to challenged Howarth though after setting pole position on his Air Racing ZX10 but crashed out at McLaren on lap one from second spot. Howarth also took the full set in the **STP Motorsport Powebike** class too with again Bevan running through in second spot. Bevan's Sunday runner up spot was all the more impressive as he had to start from the back of the grid after a rare mechanical failure in qualifying..... it took him just four corners to get through to second spot though ! But by then Howarth was long gone.

Ben Marsden took pole position after Saturdays qualifying race for the **Euro Auctions Mini Twins** class by over 17 seconds. Admittedly a number of his rivals bailed out in spectacular style in the cold, bright early morning conditions but still Marsden a former newcomer champion with NG looked confident. For the final everyone upped

their game and it was evident that Marsden's Premier Ink SV650 was not as quick as that of Jamie Morris or impressive newcomer Matt Page. Marsden used some very strange Brands lines to keep in front. But when Matt Page swept through to take the lead on the final lap it seemed as though Marsden was beaten. Ben, however had other ideas and drew on his wealth of race craft learnt in his previous karting background, racing against the likes of Lewis Hamilton to find a way back to the front and take an amazing win. Sunday saw the arrival on the grids of reigning NG Mini Twins champion Daniel Couzens. Daniel dominated last years series winning on some outings by 30 seconds plus. A buoyant Marsden chased in second but by half race distance a gap of 4.5 seconds had opened up. Just as Ben was thinking second was as good as it was going to get Couzens' SV coasted to a halt at Graham Hill Bend. Marsden then, again had to hold off a strong last lap challenge, this time from Jamie Morris, but hold him off he did in what was some of the most exiting racing of the meeting

Jody Lees on the 675 Midland VW Triumph was never headed in the **Performance Red Sound of Thunder**, taking both qualifying races and both finals from Sam Middlemas on another one of those 675's. Middlemas spent most of his weekend battling with last year's top two in this Sound of Thunder class Paul Willis (KTM RC8) and Matthew Billington (675). Other Thunder class regulars Greg and Duncan Gibson certainly had a weekend to forget after both normal front runners on their JHP/AFB 1098 Ducati's managed just one point all weekend between them, due to accidents and mechanicals. The brothers who thoroughly enjoy their racing now have just 3 weeks to sort out those big Dukes before the next round at Cadwell

Sam Warren was the pick of the strong **Air Racing 600cc** grid on Saturday as he set a blistering pace on the Seton Tuning R6 Yamaha. Behind him though was an 8 man pack which included Max Hunt, Jody Lees, Cody Nally and Sam Hornsey. Hornsey seemed to have the pace to go after Warren but made several mistakes, forcing himself to continually work his way back through that angry 8 rider pack. After dropping down to 9<sup>th</sup> at one point he eventually grabbed a hard working 4<sup>th</sup>. With no Warren on Sundays grid it was down to Hornsey and Lees to fight it out for the win and after coming within a whisker of a new lap record it was Hornsey who took victory on his Triumph.

Phil Evans made a successful start to his **Metzeler/DTR 1300 Steetstock** season with a pair of convincing rides, although he had to work hard on Saturday as he wheeled his stricken SWM Racing R1 off the grid in the qualifier. That left him starting the final from the back row, however he was soon carving through and got the better of Scott Trinder and Tom Louth. Sundays win was made a little easier by setting pole and winning from the front but eventually had to settle for second after Tom Louth took the win on his Mark Cramer Building R1. Matthew Billington on his My Gosh Photography 675 and Darrel Jones on the Ashley's Autos GSXR 600 shared the wins in the **Metzeler/DTR 700 Streetstocks** after racing hard and close all weekend..... this will be a pattern between these two for the year I think. In the smallest **400 Streetstock** class Benedict Ireland and Ben Marsden with Andy Green taking a pair on third placings shared honours, but to be honest there wasn't much to chose between them throughout the weekend.

Young Aprilia 125 Connor Moody took a fine set of wins in the **Steve Lynham Motorcycles Formula 125** after strong challenges from Oliver Fitzpatrick which saw the pair cross the line just 0.06 seconds apart on Sunday..... Thank heaven for transponders !

Phil Hacker, the 2010 **MPH Bikes Pre Injection** runner-up got his 2011 title bid off to a flying start with a pair of fine wins on his 1984 spec FJ1100 at near lap record pace. His season long rival and eventual champion from last year Adam Jeffery struggled all weekend on his second string "wet-bike" but rode sensibly for the best points he could get and he fought for the minor podium placings with Rob Garland on his naked R1.

Anthony Van Looy took a fine maximum point's haul on the Ace Motorcycles ZXR 400 in the **A and R Racing Formula 400** after having to chase down Dan Millard on Saturday and hold back a late charge from Ben Cole on Sunday.

Chris Harrison was head and shoulders the best twin Cylinder 450cc in the **Pirelli UK GP 45** class taking empathic wins on his Motobits Aprilia SXV. Whilst honours were shared in the battle for the best GP45 Single, with Matthew Andrew taking it on Saturday with the Weeds and Co Suzuki and Alistair Fagan the racing Fast Bikes magazine journalist coming home first on Sunday on the NG Road Racing owned Kawasaki....not bad seeing as he only saw the bike for the first time at 8am on Sunday morning.... And that only after having worked and then driven through the night after "putting to bed" the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary edition of Fast Bikes.

In the new to NG **Two Stroke GP Classic** class, Nigel Palmer grabbed Saturday's race after long time leader Chris Bishop retired with mechanical failure. On Sunday though Bishop and his repaired Precision Engineering TZ350 lapped every one of his competitors in the 11-lap final. It was only Palmer once more who showed any chance of staying with Bishop, but this time it was his Yamaha that failed to make in honours even.

Again NG Road Racing commanded a strong **CSC Racing Sidecar** Grid and former Euro Cup Champion Roger Lovelock lived up to his pre race billing by taking the honours with Jason Edwards in the chair of his BB Bikeshop LCR Suzuki. Lovelock only planned to run on Saturday so that opened the way for Simon Gilbert and Shelly Smithies on the Paul Gilbert Gas R1 Yamaha to continue their weekend of testing. Each time out they opted to start from the back of the grid and they really put on a show as they swept through to take Sundays win. Rod Robinson and Roy Farmer will be happy though with two good finishes to kick off their 2011 campaign. As ever over the last couple of seasons the top **CSC Racing F2** Outfit was Miles Bennett and Kevin Perry, they were never headed to the flag on the Mad Cow Shellbourne Honda .....although several other crews gave them something to think about, so this year may not be quite so straightforward.

With a full compliment of classes for newcomers Barry Tymms took his Raceline Racing SV 650 to the win in the **Performance Red Mini Twin Newcomer**, whilst Stephen Dunn headed up the **April UK 500cc** division on his TZ250. After a race long battle with Scott Hudson, Gary Lucitt finally took top honours in the **April UK Open Newcomers** aboard his GSXR 600.

The **Vital Equipment Carless Fuels Performance Award** went to Ben Marsden for his epic rides on the Premier Ink SV 650 Suzuki in the Euro Auctions Mini Twins. His bike just didn't seem to have the grunt of the others in the class but he still took the pair of wins. The Carless Racing Fuels product support for the next meeting should make Ben's job a bit easier.

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Images for NG Road Racing Meetings are available from NG official supplier :

**EDP Photo News**

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