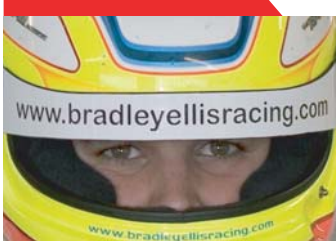


Avon Tyres British GT Championship

Race report: Snetterton, Norfolk 15–16 July 2006



‘It’s been a rather frustrating weekend, we needed championship points here at Snetterton and we had every chance of getting them.’

Bradley Ellis

Rounds 8 and 9

Ellis endures challenging weekend at Snetterton

Croydon’s Bradley Ellis experienced a frustrating weekend at Snetterton in rounds eight and nine of the Avon Tyres British GT Championship. Despite running as the quickest GTC class Porsche during practice on Saturday, mechanical gremlins stopped the 19-year-old and his team-mate, Alex Mortimer, claiming any championship points.

Qualifying on Saturday and temperatures soared at the Norfolk circuit. Ellis put in a good session with times just one-tenth off of the JMH Ferrari, but a misfire prevented Ellis on improving his grid position. With only 10 minutes in between sessions, there was no time for the Team RPM mechanics to investigate or resolve the problem. Consequently, Mortimer did well to qualify fifth in class for race two.

The Team RPM mechanics did a tremendous job to rectify the misfire and get Ellis on the grid for the first race on Saturday afternoon. A solid start helped Ellis retain his position on the opening lap and to line-up and pass the Team Tiger Marcos on lap two at Russell Bend. The Team Tiger car powered past to retake the place on the Senna Straight but Ellis remained in contention to pass for the second time at Coram Curve on lap five.

Ellis then set about catching the leading group and passed the Hulford/Harris Porsche for fifth at The Esses. Continuing his charge, Ellis closed up on the Team Aero Morgan and managed to sweep past on the Revett Straight for fourth in class. Just after taking the Morgan, Ellis began to experience a loud banging noise at the rear of the car and gear selection problems two laps before he pitted to hand over to Mortimer.

Rejoining in fourth, Mortimer ran as high as third in class after taking Nigel Redwood in the sister Team RPM Porsche. The noise at the rear of Mortimer’s Porsche, however, continued to get worse. With just 10 minutes of the race to run, Mortimer retired in the pits.

Fast Facts – GTC class

Round 8

Grid position: 7th
Finish position: DNF
Car’s fastest lap: 1’13.485

Round 9

Grid position: 5th
Finish position: DNF
Car’s fastest lap: 1’19.598

Results in class

15–17.04 2006 **Oulton Park**
Round 1: 4th | Round 2: 4th

21.05 2006 **Donington Park**
Round 3: 3rd

03–05.06 2006 **Pau, France**
Round 4: 5th | Round 5: 1st

24–25.06 2006 **Mondello Park**
Round 6: 2nd | Round 7: 9th

Enquiries and information

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continued

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Rounds 8 and 9

Team RPM worked tirelessly into the night to replace the gearbox and get Mortimer on the grid on Sunday. Everything seemed to be working well in practice and the car was handling well. Mortimer got a good start and was just starting to make an impression when the driveshaft broke just two laps into the race.

Ellis commented: 'It's been a rather frustrating weekend, we needed championship points here at Snetterton and we had every chance of getting them. Mechanical failures are all part of racing, but our pace in practice proved we had the potential to do well. We will be working hard to get the car sorted and back on track for Rockingham in August.'

On Saturday evening, Ellis was one of over 350 runners who took up the challenge of running for the Sainsbury's Sport Relief Mile, from the bridge on the Revett Straight to the Snetterton Start/Finish Line. To date, Ellis has raised in excess of £200 for his efforts.

PROVISIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS

Avon Tyres British GT Championship, GTC Team Points – After nine rounds

Position	Team	Points
1	Trackspeed	70
2	Team Tiger	49
3	Team RPM	47

For full race results and photography visit www.britishgt.com

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