



**RACE REPORT
ROUND NINE
BRITISH SUPERMOTO CHAMPIONSHIP
THREE SISTERS, WIGAN
OCTOBER 19th – 20th 2013**

The final round of the British Championship took place at the UK home of Supermoto, situated near the pie eating capital of the world...Wigan!

The 450 class had already been won by the current champ Chris Hodgson, so Davey and Lewis would just be racing for pride. The DCR team would be joined for the weekend by TT rider Connor Cummins and ex Supermoto champ Craig Venske, who was riding NPS' s Honda for the weekend.

Saturday 450 Elite

Race 1

After some heavy showers the track started to dry and most riders would use rear slicks and wet fronts. Chris Hodgson took the holeshot whilst Davey made a terrible start and dropped back to 8th. Hodgson led with Lewis right in his wheel tracks and with one lap to go Lewis made a fantastic pass coming onto the dirt section and held his lead to the finish.

Davey made good progress to finish 4th, Connor on the other hand who had only ridden his bike once for a 15 minute test rocked up, booked himself into the elite group and only went and finished 12th in his first ever SM race!

Class Race 2

Chris Hodgson took the holeshot and led from start to finish with Davey right in his wheel tracks and Lewis just behind in 3rd. Connor had a great battle with James Duncan and Brad Hardy and got the better of the pair to take 10th.

Race 3

Hodgson again took the holeshot but this time Davey managed to make the pass stick and held the lead to the flag. Lewis made a bad start but battled his way through to 3rd at the finish. Connor was again having a race long battle with Brad Hardy, this time Brad got the better of him.

The overall result went the same way as the Championship, 1st Chris Hodgson, 2nd Davey Todd and 3rd Lewis Cornish and each of the three had all taken a race win.

Sunday Open Elite

Although the championship was still up for grabs, Davey needed Chris to have a bad day and he would have to win every race. It was a tall order but Davey was up for the challenge.

The front row qualifying spots were 1st Hodgson, 2nd Lewis, 3rd Davey and rounding off the front row was former champ Craig Venske.

Race 1

With the track drying out Davey was the only rider to use a front slick so he would have to be careful in the early laps. Hodgson made the early pace with Lewis in 2nd and Davey 3rd. At 2/3rds distance Davey made his move, passing Lewis then Hodgson. Two laps later he over jumped the table top, lost the front end on landing and dropped down to 7th place. He remounted and managed to work his way back up to 4th, meanwhile Lewis had passed Hodgson and powered on to take the win. Connor managed 10th, Craig Venske had a great battle with his old sparring partner James Addy and finished 6th.

Race 2

The second race was another titanic battle with Davey, Hodgson and Lewis. Back down the field Venske crashed in front of Richard Blakeman who ran over Venske's head and shoulder trying to take avoiding action. Although he wasn't seriously hurt he would take no further part in the day's racing. Davey pushed on to take the win from Hodgson and Lewis, Connor was again locking horns with Brad Hardy and this time made a top ten finish in 9th place. This was a fantastic performance in his first ever supermoto race and I am sure he will be back for more. Davey took the win; Hodgson was 2nd and a battered Lewis in 3rd.

Race 3

We have seen some good racing this year, but talk about save the best till last. This was THE race of the year and when the film footage from Reel to Reel is shown on Motors TV, you will be on the edge of your seat. Hodgson took the holeshot and led for 2 laps until Davey forced his way past, closely followed by Lewis. Both DCR riders then put on a fantastic show of what racing is all about. The lead changed several times and with 2 laps to go Davey's rear wheel spun up coming out of the dirt section and slid out, touching Lewis's front wheel. Lewis went down but quickly remounted and managed to finish 3rd. Connor, who had made a bad start worked his way through the field up to 8th place and was catching the three riders in front. This was a fantastic performance in his first ever supermoto race and I am sure he will be back for more. Davey took the win; Hodgson was 2nd and a bettered Lewis in 3rd.

Chris Hodgson later said this had been the best race he had ever seen and being just behind he had the best view of all. He also had the helmet cam on for TV, so I for one can't wait to see that footage. Davey's early season form was not as good as he could be but he came strong at the finish and out of the last 15 race in the Open class he won 10 of them. Lewis's form was good at the beginning but dipped a little in the middle, it was great to see it return at the end of the season and for him to show everybody what he is capable of.

Summary

After a long, hard season I left the Three Sisters a very proud man. At the beginning of the year the target I set for my young riders was to get regular podiums. Both achieved much more in taking the Championship down to the wire. I have worked with some fantastic riders over the years and both Davey and Lewis have what it takes to be future Champions. This year we have had a really good team spirit and everybody pulled together for the team. Big thanks to: the Todd family, Dave, Sue, Marg, Alan, Edna and Joel. The work they have put in this year, getting to the track early to set up the team area and feeding the whole team at every meeting was marvellous. Suspension man Chris Cox for all his help, DCR mechanic Andy Fawcett for building fast engines, maintaining DCR's 100% reliability. Neil Jay for his help with race reports and promotion work and to Dave Cornish for all his help.

All this could not be achieved without the involvement of our sponsors. Billy from NPS, an enthusiastic, lovely guy who loves Supermoto and even dug deep to support the British team at the Supermoto des Nations. Michelin tyres for all their help, their tyres really are the best. Regina chain for being 100% reliable. Putoline oil, our engines are only as good as what we put in them. Race FX, THH Helmets and Smith Goggles.



Last but not least, thanks to Toby Taylor and all at Norasport for putting on a great Championship, which was all filmed by Reel to Reel. Watch it on Motors TV, to see some of the best motorcycle racing on TV!

Lewis Cornish #8 and Davey Todd #742 leaping to a victorious season finale for Team DCR/NPS

