

Victory at the Healey Driver International Donald Healey Memorial Trophy race at Silverstone

After an early morning start, signing in and scrutineering, David Grace and Anders Schildt were ready to start qualifying at 9 am on the Silverstone Grand Prix circuit.

The Healey developed a misfire on David's first stint, and soon had to return to the pits. The problem was quickly solved and Anders went out to familiarise himself with the circuit.



Photo: Phil Broster



Photo: Phil Broster

David and Anders soon got to grips with the circuit and qualified the Healey in second place half a second behind pole sitter Jeremy Welch ... a very pleasing result as Anders hadn't driven on the Grand Prix circuit before.

After qualifying, the team fine tuned the 3000, and practiced the driver change for the battle ahead.

A little after 2 pm the grid formed up ... Gentlemen, start your engines!

David did the first stint but misjudged the start dropping down to 5th ... but recovered back to 2nd place by the end of the first lap. David maintained the gap to the race leader Jeremy Welch, both Healeys pulling away from the rest of the field.

David pitted after 20 minutes and handed over to Anders who continued to lap at David's pace. After the pit stops the Healey had a comfortable lead having had a quicker and more efficient driver change ... things were looking good.



Photo: Phil Broster

David early in the race protecting a strong 2nd place and steady gap to the leader.



Photo: Phil Broster

Anders pushing hard at the re-start

A safety car was deployed after a major crash 30 min into the race, and the team's advantage was lost. The grid was all back together when the safety car pulled in ... now the result would be down to one flat out lap to the finish.

"I had Welch, Chatham & Smithies right behind me when the safety car let us go for the last lap before the chequered flag ... now this is going to be a challenge" thought Anders.



The green Healey led the restart, but Jeremy Welch outbraked Anders at Stowe Corner to take the lead. Anders commented "I didn't worry too much as I knew there would be another opportunity for me to pass under breaking into Brooklands and the Luffield complex."

Anders attacked through Luffield ... the Green and Red Healeys were side by side drifting through the exit of Woodcote ... both Jeremy and Anders were on the limit, trusting and respecting each others control for flat-chat sideways Healey racing.



Photo: Phil Broster

Rocketing to the finish line!



Photo: Phil Broster

Last corner with two drivers who really wanted to win.

Anders got the smallest advantage as the finish line approached, taking the chequered flag by just 0.3 of a second ahead of Welch. The crowds were on the edge of their seats as they cheered the green Healey over the line. The race had been spectacular with Anders and David on the top step of the podium; Welch second and the Chatham boys third.

The Donald Healey Memorial Trophy was awarded to Anders and David after the most sensational Healey race in many years.



Photo: Phil Broster

Donald Healey Memorial Trophy presented to the winners by Donald's grandson Peter Healey.



Photo: Phil Broster

Anders was awarded "Driver of the Day" after his spectacular drive to take victory on the final corner.

A fantastic weekend and a big thank you to David Grace for the opportunity, fabulous first stint and great friendship!



Thanks to
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