

## SPORT ROUND-UP

## Riki's hatching an explosive finale

## MOTORSPORT

SUTTON racing star Riki Christodoulou is targeting a victory in the season-closing races of the Michelin Formula Renault UK Championship next month after gaining two podium finishes last weekend.

Racing at Silverstone, the 22-year-old started his Fortec Motorsport-prepared car from third and fourth places on the 22-car grid in the two races around the 3.67-mile track.

He recorded a third-place double in the 12 and 13-lap races, being 1.356secs behind the winner of race two.

"I got a great drive-off line in



In-form Riki Christodoulou is confident he can close the show in style.

race two and was challenging for second place by the first corner," he said.

"I had to back out of that manoeuvre but pressurised the third-placed guy into making a mistake in the new Arena section later on the first lap which earned me third place.

"The two cars ahead had broken away but I put my head down and had reeled them both in by the last lap.

"I went for a move on my Fortec team-mate for second place but wasn't able to make it stick – one more lap and things could have been a lot different because I had more pace.

"In the opening race my car suffered from a handling imbalance and I had to defend my third place pretty aggressively but the Fortec guys did a brilliant job in transforming the car for the later race."

His season, which only began three months ago after lack of finance quashed his hopes of graduating up the motor-racing ladder, comes to a close at Brands Hatch with the Sutton racer having posted six top-10 finishes – including three podiums – in the nine races he has started.

"I now feel very comfortable in the Renault car," added Christodoulou. "I'm setting myself a target of winning one of the two races.

"I claimed second and third the last time I raced down there 12 months ago when my maiden season in Formula Three finished.

"I feel very optimistic."



Stewards rush to Andrew Jordan's Vauxhall Vectra after the crash that took him out of race one. Inset, Jordan.

Picture by Keith Hubbleday

# Jordan rues bad luck after weekend of disappointment

## MOTORSPORT

By MICHAEL BEARDMORE  
Sports reporter

SUTTON-BORN Andrew Jordan endured a frustrating British Touring Car Championship weekend at Donington as things both in, and out of, his control conspired to deny him a podium finish.

He qualified well in sixth for the first race at the penultimate meeting of the season, but was the innocent victim of the mayhem on lap eight caused by a crash involving BTCC title rivals Matt Neal and Jason Plato.

Plato nudged Neal's car going into a corner, pushing him into the large foam safety barriers, sending them scattering across the track.

Jordan was hit by one of the flying foam bales and, in the chaos, was struck from behind by Mat Jackson, sending him into the barriers and ending his race.

The retirement meant

Jordan started near the back of the grid for race two, but he moved up five places to 15th on the first lap alone.

He was up to 12th by lap two and proceeded to pass Collard, Alex MacDowall, Tom Boardman and James Nash to climb to eighth, before being passed by Neal and eventually finishing ninth.

The reversed grid in race three put Jordan on pole and he led the early laps, but he dropped to third after running wide at Redgate corner, to be passed by Neal and Collard.

For the remainder of the race, Jordan was shadowed by Championship leader Plato and on the penultimate lap the Chevrolet driver made a late lunge down the inside of the Pirtek car.

Jordan held his line for the following few corners, but was pushed wide and onto the grass, rejoining in seventh, where he would finish.

Jordan said: "Donington didn't reap the results I would have hoped, especially with pole in the final race.



"After the mammoth effort after race one to get the car back out for the second race of the day, I would have loved to reward them with a podium.

"We made a few set-up changes on the car for the last race to try and loosen it up a little and capitalise on the pole, but we probably went too far and it was a handful.

"When Plato came up alongside us at the hairpin the best I could do was to try and stick it

out and go along with him, but unfortunately he pushed me out wide and onto the grass.

"It's not the result we wanted, I'm pleased we've scored more points, and once again we have shown we can run up at the front and hold our own, but the season has just gone too quickly."

Jordan still lies 10th in the overall standings on 79 points ahead of the final meeting of the season at Brands Hatch on the weekend of October 10.



Men's singles finalists Will Thorley and Luke Jemson.

## Thorley wins singles and doubles crowns

## TENNIS

WILL Thorley retained his singles title as Boldmere Tennis Club held its annual Open last weekend.

Thorley beat Luke Jemson 6-2, 6-1.

In the ladies singles, newcomer Sam Hampson defeated Lesley Martin 6-0, 6-0.

The men's doubles produced some exciting tennis with Thorley and Sam Braniff gaining victory over last year's champions Norman Adams and Ian Rossiter 6-4, 3-6, 6-1.

The ladies doubles also produced a very entertaining match with the 2009 champs Jan Baker and Rosemary Robinson beating Del Johnson and Val Davies 6-3, 6-2.

In the mixed doubles, last year's winners Baker and Chris Wegrzynowski retained their title by beating Shirley Adams and Mike Braniff 7-6 (7-1), 7-5.

The Boldmere Veterans Trophy was won by Hampson and Norman Adams, who overcame Lesley Martin and Floyd Brown 6-1, 6-1.



## Walmley youngsters are kings of county

## CRICKET

WALMLEY CC under-12s ended a fabulous season by securing the county title, pictured above.

Batting first, Walmley made 97-2 thanks mainly to Callum Kenny (32no) and Jamie Harrison (30no).

In reply, some fantastic bowling saw Bedworth bowled out for 29 as Ben Noctor (3), Sunni Berridge (2), Sam Heritage (2) and Jack Ballinger (2) took wickets.

# All-star Boldmere juniors march boldly on as they leave nearest rivals in the shadows

## SWIMMING

BOLDMERE'S Junior A-team won the Nuneaton & District Junior League Final in emphatic style.

They were 50 points ahead of second-placed Northampton in the event that took place in Wolverhampton.

At the end of the 51 races, the 28-strong team of 9-12-year-olds had won 13, enjoyed 41 top-three finishes, posted 27 personal bests, broke 12 age-group club records, set two new Championship Final records and won four relay trophies.

This in addition to the trophy awarded to team



The Boldmere squad with their collection of trophies from the Nuneaton and District Junior League Final. Picture by Steve Harlow

captains Charlotte Smith and Jake Dixon for the league title.

Among the individual winners were Kate Davies in the 10-year 50m breaststroke

in a pb and club record of 41.97secs; Matt Price with a new best and club record in the boys' race and Beth Grant, who did the double in 11 and 12-year 50m breaststroke, setting a club record in the latter.

Charlie Payne won the 12-year 50m freestyle and Penny Whittingham not only broke her pb and club record but also set a new Championship Final best of 31.55secs in the 12-year 50m fly.

A further Championship Final record time was set by the boys' 10-year medley foursome of Joel Cunningham, Price, Tom Bloor and anchor man Archie Langston in

1.11.10mins. They also did the double by winning the freestyle relay with Kai Alexander stepping in for Matt and Bloor breaking the 25m club record on the first leg.

The girls' 11-year quartet of Laura Richardson, Eden Harlow, Beth Grant and Rachel Wilson claimed first and a new club record in the medley and second in the freestyle.

There was second places for Bloor (10-year 25m fly, pb), Jake Dixon (12-year 50m fly) in a club record, the boys' 11-year freestyle relay team of Ben Stanford, Ben Campbell, Cunningham and Price, and the 9-year girls' freestyle team of Remi Oldbury, Stella-Anne

O'Hehir, Madeline Van Loan and Aristeia Knight.

The depth of Boldmere showed in the three eight-leg Cannon freestyle relays in which the Orcas enjoyed a clean sweep of maximums.

Another relay win came from the girls' 12-year medley team of Charlotte Smith, Grant, Whittingham and Margaret Gately while the boys' 12-year team took two second places.

Other pbs came from Mitchell Oakley, Roan Griffiths, Lauren Wall, Aristeia Knight, Stella-Anne O'Hehir, Ben Campbell, Harlow, Kate Davies, Laurie Wilson, Charlotte Smith and Ben Stanford.