



MCF Grand Slam – 2nd October 2011 – Arncott Moto Parc

Wow what a day! - The sun was blistering and the race action was even hotter. The NLW team couldn't have asked for a better start to the racing taking the top 4 places in the Rookie group opening moto with Reece Desoer taking the win from Brad Lofthouse, Will Orritt and Tom Davies. These 4 guys continued to make the top 6 all day with Reece taking 2 wins and a fantastic ride from dead last to 2nd place in the final moto. Hayden Barnsley and Graham Stephen backed them up all day with top 20 finishes but unfortunately Wil Bimson rung his bell in the first moto and had to sit the rest of the day out with broken fingers and a thoroughly battered and bruised body.

BW85 were out next with Ian Forsyth troubling the top 4 in two motos but a flat tyre in the second race cost him a potential podium. Aaron Roe ran in to trouble in the first corner pile ups on two occasions but battled through the pack in each moto for some credible scores. Ryan Hawkrigde stayed in contention and was consistently in the top half of the group with Lee McNiffe not too far behind him and making a great team contribution. Elliott Waller showed how he has improved this season and was always top 20. In one of her best rides we have seen to date, Rhianne Barker mixed it up with the boys for some great results.

In the SW85's, Ben Heys made some good starts in a very competitive group. Drew Roe and Declan Hindle were always right behind him at the start and made progress up through the field for some good point scoring rides. Battling with each other in every race were James Simpson, James Warren, Harry Errington and Cavan Daniels who appeared to form a Newton-le-Willows' 'freight train' throughout the day.

Although our Auto rider numbers were down, the effort made by our smallest riders was superb. Jordan Harvey and Joe Errington mixed it in the top ten all day whilst our newest riders, Jason Waller and Harry Hooper rode super consistently in tough conditions with birthday boy Harry having Amelia Lemon to thank for the loan of her bike.

With Sam Beresford out with injury, the tough task for our remaining 5 Junior riders was to try and get some points on the board. Lewis Waller was in great form but a last lap fall cost him his best score of the day while Callum Maguire and Lewis Henderson pushed on for a good points haul. After two months of not riding, Peter Sharples returned to racing and immediately found his form, although a little a bit of bike trouble cost him a few points. James Heys put in the ride of his season to contribute well to the overall score.

The AMX guys were the last main race in the group and it was almost a master class from our own Rob Clitheroe putting his RSS backed KXF250 to the front of the pack and running away with the first two motos. Gear selector problems from the start left him stuck in 2nd gear for the final moto making his 2nd place moto finish even more incredible and with it the overall honours for the day. 'Young' David Orritt put an

almighty effort into all 3 races and was constantly trading places in the top 5. Matty Martleton looked sparkling and always troubling the top 5 but a very heavy last moto crash left him dazed. Credit to Matty for getting back on the bike and finishing the race for team points. Battling through the pack all day was Mark Swift who went down a few times but always came back through for good finishes. Consistently getting lots of team points on the board and fighting for every one of them in the middle of the pack were Michael Crilly, Alan Walker and Karl Owen. All of them hit the deck hard at some point in the day but their never give up attitude was admirable. Thanks also to Chris Lemarinel for representing the club in the Support class and at the butty van!

Pride for our club was in abundance at the awards presentation with Rob Clitheroe taking the overall win in the AMX group, Reece Desoer taking the honours in the Rookies with Brad Lofthouse joining him on the next step of the podium with second overall.

Everyone's hard work on the day and the points earned by all of our members throughout the season were enough to secure team Newton-le-Willows a podium in the Elite Youth League for 2011, an achievement we should all be very proud of.

Once again, our report ends with special thanks to everyone who supported the club in 2011 and this event. Lots of hard work was needed to get us there by the usual culprits and financial backing from Mark at RSS, John at Preston Docks MX, Will at MX500 and Martin at Spiral GFX helped considerably to the team look at the Grand Slam Final. Let's hope we can improve on our current achievement in 2012.

2011 Grand Slam Final team

Autos

Jordan Harvey, Joe Errington, Harry Hooper, Jason Waller

Junior 65

Lewis Henderson, James Heys, Lewis Waller, Callum Maguire, Peter Sharples, Sam Beresford (injured)

SW85

Ben Heys, Drew Roe, Harry Errington, James Warren, Cavan Daniels, James Simpson, Declan Hindle

BW85

Aaron Roe, Elliott Waller, Rhianne Barker, Ian Forsyth, Ryan Hawkridge, Lee McNiffe

Rookie

Graham Stephen, Hayden Barnsley, Wil Bimson, Brad Lofthouse, Will Orritt, Reece Desoer, Tom Davies

AMX

Matty Martleton, David Orritt, Michael Crilly, Mark Swift, Rob Clitheroe, Alan Walker, Karl Owen