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730BHP SHOWDOWN

FERRARI CLASH OF THE TITANS

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ERIC SAWYER

Epic fight for the lead between Gläsel/Kelleners and Hadfield/Voyazides, as they roar into the night

GT40s SET RECORD PACE AT 6 HOURS

Ford GT40s dominated the main race at the Spa 6 Hours meeting from 23-25 September, following a multi-car accident in a safety-car period that forced the retirement of last year's winning E-type. During a full-course yellow-flag caution after an Alfa Giulia Ti Super cartwheeled at Eau Rouge on lap nine, the pace car unexpectedly slowed on the Kennel Straight out of sight of the fast-approaching 100-plus-car field.

Several cars were badly damaged including Jon Minshaw's E-type, which was hit by a Daytona Cobra rep, bursting the Jaguar's fuel tank. "It was bedlam – just like the M25 at 5pm on a Friday evening," said a frustrated Minshaw. "I saw three wrecks and lines of stationary cars. I managed to stop without hitting anything, but was later hit hard."

Once the wreckage was cleared,

'It was bedlam – just like the M25 at 5pm on a Friday evening. I saw three wrecks and lines of stationary cars'

the two GT40s pulled clear at the front as Christian Gläsel, teamed with GT ace Ralf Kelleners, took the advantage. But the relentless chase of Simon Hadfield co-driving Leo Voyazides' car resulted in the fastest 6 Hours yet. As other GT40s retired, the quickest E-types headed the chasing pack. Chris Scragg, partnered by David Coyne and Mark Wright, was overjoyed with third – his first finish in six attempts. The DK Engineering MGB pulled off a superb giant-killing performance, as brothers James and Jeremy Cottingham blasted to 12th.

Gläsel brought several cars from

his collection, including the spectacular ex-Lehto/Soper McLaren F1 GTR longtail, which was a class apart with Kelleners at the wheel in a diverse but small Trans-Atlantic Prototype Challenge field.

Other highlights included Willie Green storming to victory in Carlo Vögele's magnificent Ferrari 330GTO in the Pre-'63 GT group, and a quartet of Jag D-types roaring around Spa in the RAC Woodcote Trophy. Gary Pearson co-drove the first two home, sharing the winning ex-Jim Clark 'short-nose' with its owner Carlos Monteverde.

Hadfield had Voyazides' rapid Lotus Cortina dancing around the Ardennes circuit to beat the BMW 1800 TiSA of Jackie Oliver and Richard Shaw in the U2TC contest, with the Alfa GTA of Michael Gans and Jason Wright third.

Five questions for...



JAMES COTTINGHAM

Ferrari specialist and Spa 6 Hours regular in an MGB

What's your race secret? We found that a fuel stop takes 10 mins, which loses three laps, so we fitted a big tank and now only need one stop.

Any dramas this year? Our entry wasn't confirmed until the Monday, and our guys did a great job rebuilding the engine in a day.

How's Eau Rouge? The MG handles beautifully so it really carries speed up to Le Raidillon, with a little lift.

Is Spa daunting with the big guns? It's amusing. They steam away on the fast bits, but we catch up in the twisty middle section. Mustangs see the mystery lights, move over, and get surprised when it's an MGB!

Your highlight? A great dice with Lee Maxted-Page's Porsche 904. It's such a beautiful car to follow.



Kelleners won in McLaren F1 GTR longtail



Hadfield battled Monteverde in D-types



Green shared Vögele's demon-quick GTO