

## NORTHAMPTON (HANNINGTON) 1928

Acknowledgements and sources: Brian Collins, Les Drury, Graham Gleave, Northampton Daily Echo and Northampton Chronicle and Echo.

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There has been some question as to whether this was a dirt track (speedway) or a grass track. Read on for the answer. Other meetings may have been staged at this venue in 1928.

### Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> July 1928, Northampton (Hannington)

*Northampton Daily Echo 31.7.28*

"The committee of the Pirates Motor Racing Club had not been informed that the police had objected to the meeting on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> July. A letter from the police said it was impossible to give assistance and the meeting must be abandoned. A meeting would not be held on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> August, but the other meetings arranged for Bank Holiday Monday and Tuesday would be run off in the ordinary way."

### Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> August 1928, Northampton (Hannington) (grass/cinder)

*Northampton Mercury 10.8.28*

4,000. Opening meeting.

"A cloud of dust and they were away, ploughing a precarious course along a loosely cindered track. That was how the riders on the new motor cycle dirt track at the Northampton Speedway Ground, Hannington, went on Bank Holiday" J N White set a track record of 84.4 secs – "the course, which was over 440 yards round, had to be lapped 4 times".

"The most exciting race was, however, not on the dirt track but on the grass. It was a match between Reg Tuckley and J M White, over 4 laps of a course measuring one-third of a mile. Tuckley ... beat White by 8 yds. Several times White nearly passed his opponent, but the corners were not long enough!" Arthur Jervis absent due to injury, Digger Pugh absent because his machine did not arrive. "Some of the machines did not strictly conform to the stated programmed cc"

350cc, amateur

Final: C Lord, R J Fleming, C L Davies

350cc, open

Final: C L Davies, F Clay

Unlimited cc, amateur

Final: C L Davies, A Crick, C Lord

Unlimited cc, open

Final: J N White, C Lord

Championship Race for the Northampton Cup

Final: J N White, C Lord, Lee 84.4

Match Race

Reg Tuckley beat J N White 104.0

**Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> August 1928, Northampton (Hannington) (grass/cinder)**

*Northampton Mercury 10.8.28*

"...1200 spectators at the Northampton Speedway, opposite the Red House, Hannington, on Tuesday afternoon" J N White lowered his own track record to 84.2 secs. "The races were all over 4 laps, constituting a course of a little over a mile"

350cc

Final: C Lord, R P Bowler, C L Davies, G S Safford 133.0

500cc

Final: C Lord, J N White, C L Davies 138.0

350cc (grass)

Final: C L Davies, R Bowler [D E Fortescue, Dot Bradshaw, S Thompson] 133.4

Open (grass)

Final: J N White, C L Davies, R P Bowler, D E Fortescue 126.0

Match Race (dirt)

C L Davies beat C Lord 132.4

Match Races (grass)

G S Safford beat R P Bowler 130.0

J N White beat Baldock 124.4

Baldock beat R P Bowler 128.0

J N White beat L Lancaster 124.2

*The events held on Bank Holiday Monday and Tuesday appear to have constituted one meeting, as the next meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> August was advertised as the second championship meeting. (Northampton Daily Echo 18.8.28).*

**Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> August 1928, Northampton (Hannington) (grass/cinder)**

*Northampton Daily Echo 24.8.28*

*Attendance about 1500*

"There was some fine riding on dirt and grass by G H Grace, of Tring, at the second championship meeting at the speedway, Hannington, on Thursday evening. Grace won every solo race. Grace, who rode a 349cc Humber, beat J N White's record of 124.4 on one mile and an eighth dirt track by over thirteen seconds."

1st Race (dirt)

Final: G H Grace, J Spencer, R J Fleming 115.2

(C Morton, G M Bryant, W J O'Brien and W Tandy rode in heats)

2nd Race (grass)

Final: G H Grace, R J Fleming, R Tuckley 126.0

(G R Stroud, J Spencer, E Jaeger, P McKaye and C Morton rode in heats)

3<sup>rd</sup> Race (dirt)

Final: G H Grace, W Taylor, R J Fleming, J Spencer (f) 111.4

(J N White [fell], W J O'Brien, G M Bryant, C Morton, C Meadows and H R Page rode in heats, in which Spencer and Fleming dead-heated)

4<sup>th</sup> Race (grass)

Final: G H Grace, R J Fleming, R Tuckley, T Montgomery, E Jaeger 127.8

(W Tandy, C Morton, P McKaye, G R Stroud, J N White, W F Cockerill and D Underwood rode in heats)

Sidecars (dirt)

G Collett, F Clay, H Daniels 133.6

Sidecars (grass)  
G Collett, H Daniels, F Clay (ret) 133.4

**Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> September 1928, Northampton (Hannington) (grass/cinder)**

*Northampton Mercury 21.9.28, Northampton Daily Echo 17.9.28*

3,000. "The third (*championship*) motor cycle race meeting on the Speedway, Hannington" "R T Fleming secured the Golden Helmet by winning the senior motor cycle dirt track race at the Hannington Speedway on Saturday"

Lightweights (dirt)  
Final: J Spencer, G Kent, J S Mudd, J Clifford 146.4

Junior (dirt)  
Final: A H Cooke, G S Hull, R J Fleming 135.4  
(Also rode in heats E Greenwood, G Kent, G H Grace, H Banks, J Clifford, G E Shelton)

Senior (dirt)  
Final: R J Fleming, A H Cooke, G S Hull 132.4  
(Also rode in heats J N White, J Wilkinson, J Spencer, T C Goosey, G H Grace, G E Shelton, H Banks, E Greenwood, J Clifford, W H Williams, H R Page, A Crick)

Junior (grass)  
Final: J Spencer, P McKaye, G Kent 132.8  
(Also rode in heats G Oldham, J Butcher, J Clifford, G Thomas, J S Mudd)

Junior (grass)  
Final: E Greenwood, R J Fleming, J Spencer, Reg Tuckley (ret) 117.8  
(Also rode in heats A H Cooke, B Radford, F Green, G Kent, H Banks, G H Kent, G E Shelton, G S Hill)

Senior (grass)  
Final: E Greenwood, J N White, R J Fleming 116.8  
(Also rode in heats A H Cooke, J Spencer, J Wilkinson, F Green, G H Grace, A Crick, G E Shelton, P McKaye, H R Page)

Sidecars  
F Clay, J Bell, S Leslie 117.8

Sidecars (grass)  
F Clay, J Rolf, S Leary 127.8

Sidecars (dirt)  
E J Fleming

**Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> October 1928, Northampton (Hannington) (grass/cinder)**

*Northampton Mercury 19.10.28*

Dirt Track  
250cc  
Final: J Spencer, E W Ford, J Butcher 132.4

350cc  
Final: G H Grace, E W Ford, A Cooke 119.2

Golden Helmet  
Final: G H Grace, J M White, E Greenwood 112.2

Grass Track	
250cc	
Final: L Smith, J Spencer, McKaye	129.0
350cc	
Final: E W Ford, G H Grace, E Greenwood	118.0
Championship	
Final: E W Ford & E Greenwood (dead-heat), Reg Tuckley	118.8
<b>Sidecars</b>	
<b>F Clay, H Daniells, V Crisp</b>	<b>145.8</b>

**Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> October 1928, Northampton (Hannington) (grass/cinder)**

*Northampton Chronicle and Echo 29.10.28*

“Dirt track racing and dog racing were stopped by heavy rain on Saturday.”