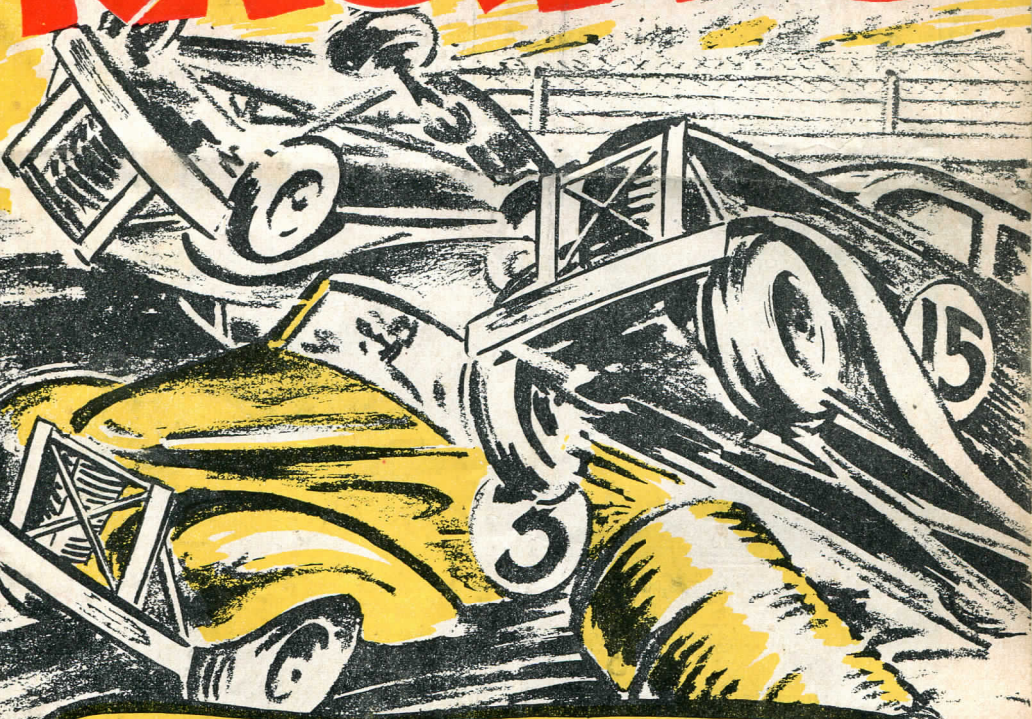


STOCK CAR RACING

PICTORIAL
PROGRAMME
& RACE CARD

1/-



1st Meeting

1955 Season

Leicester Stadium

18th APRIL - - - at 8 p.m.

MIDLAND SPORTS STADIUMS LIMITED

LEICESTER STADIUM, Blackbird Road, Leicester.

Telephone: Leicester 62518

OFFICIALS

Clerk of the Course:

E. FLANAGHAN

Judges:

K. MASON J. PORTER

Starter:

CLIFFORD ROURKE

Chief Lap Recorder:

R. V. BRAY

Chief Pit Marshal

J. INGRAM

Announcer:

JOHN NETHERWOOD

Medical Officer:

DR. W. WHITELAW

**St. John's Ambulance Brigade
(Leicester City) in attendance**

NOTICE

"Stock" Car Racing is dangerous and all persons attending this meeting do so entirely at their own risk. It is a condition of admission that all persons having any connection with the promotion and/or organisation and/or conduct of the meeting including the owners and lessees of the Stadium and the owners and drivers of the vehicles and passengers in the vehicles are absolved from all liability arising out of accidents causing damages or personal injury to spectators or ticket-holders. Should this meeting be abandoned before two races have been completed a re-admission ticket will re-admit you to one of the following two meetings. In no circumstances will any money be refunded.

Betting is absolutely prohibited at "Stock" Car Meetings. The Management reserves the right to make alterations or additions to the programme.

UP GOES THE CURTAIN to-night on the second season of the "Stocks" at Leicester.

The motors have been silent since October, the tracks empty, but there's been a whole lot of planning done in Offices and Workshops in preparation for the '55 season during those winter months.

The popularity of Stock Car racing spread throughout Britain so fast last year, in this spectacular sport's first season, that before the end of the year there must have been over thirty tracks operating.

And Promoters, Competitors, and in some cases Starter Car drivers!—have learned a whole lot about Stock Car Racing they would have liked to have known earlier!

In the Midlands we've had a drive to cut out those freakish, sawn-off vans, those monstrous armoured tanks, those suicidal built-up tourers.

We've gone after speedy, slick handling, high horse-powered "Stock" cars.

And we've laid out a schedule of operation which we are sure is going to add up to more successful than ever meetings.

That numbering for instance. If you could remember figures like 389A, E523, 694A, then you're a whole lot brighter than we were. We found it an awful headache trying to keep tags on folks carrying around telephone numbers like that.

Now everyone is down to a Meeting Competition Number that's readily identified race by race. What's more, it will be easily seen—Black on a White Circle.

There's a Way On and a Way Off, and provided there's not too many Lady drivers competing there's every chance the cars'll go the way intended.

There are other ways off of course—like having a slow motor or a flat tyre and sitting in front of characters like Bill Bendix, Mad Mason, Len Ogbourne and that remarkable driver of “Gravel Gertie”, Mr. Tipping of Ilkley.

Quick-fire commentating, wise-cracking John Netherwood is with us in the Announcer's Box, and that courageous cavalier of the centre arena Cliff Rourke again wields the Flags.

The Best of Luck to Mr. Rourke who has a special Insurance policy all his own. He deserves it. He needs it.

You won't have to choose between Meetings this season, they've been spaced out nicely to provide one meeting per week on the Premier circuits in the Midlands.

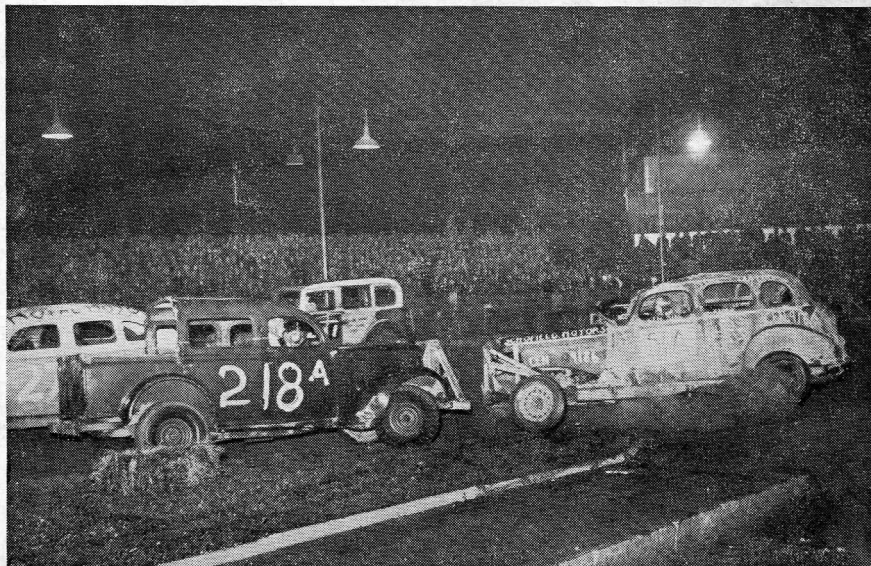
This way the Kings of this Carnival of Crash called the “Stocks” can be booked to all the meetings, and this way you can have a weekly evening of fun and excitement instead of three nights one week and boredom the next.

Date Department is on the Back Cover.

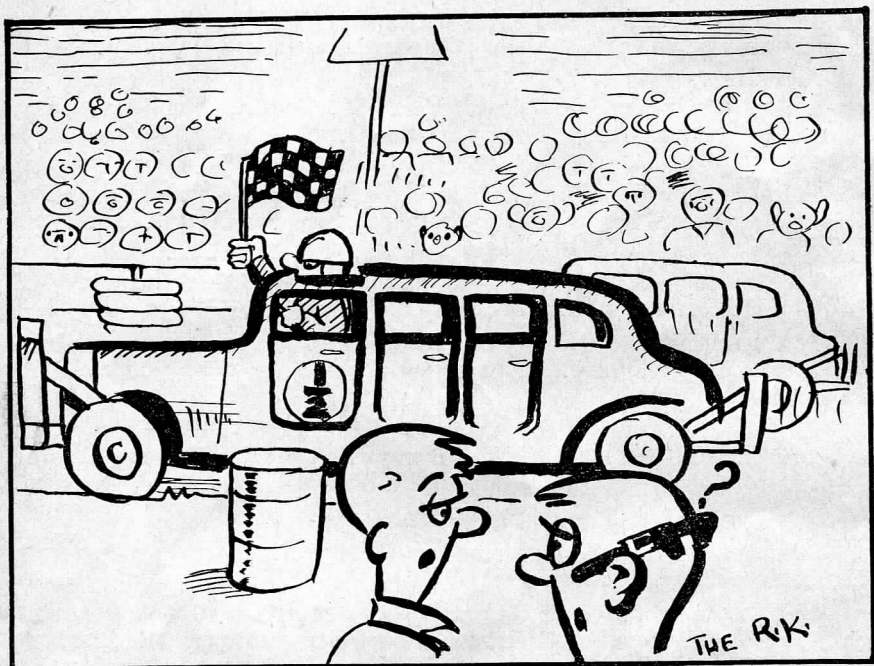
Ticking the dates off impatiently is Bill Bendix, still recovering from pneumonia and unable to drive.

We hope to see him at our next Meeting together with Steve Storm, Vic O'Toole, and several other fast motoring gents who've given us sparkling shows at Blackbird Road in the past.

And now to frighten ourselves to death watching these chaotic characters of the “Stocks” amusing themselves knocking large chunks off one another's beautiful motor cars and risking life and limb in so doing.



“LOOK HERE BUD, WE'LL SETTLE THIS RIGHT NOW!”



"THAT CAR IS SO RUDDY LONG WE HAVE TO GIVE HIM 1ST. 2ND. 3RD."

Competition Rules and Regulations

1. **Crash Helmets.*** Approved R.A.C. design Crash Helmets are compulsory and must be worn during racing.
2. **Goggles.** Goggles, if worn, must be shatter-proof.
3. **Safety Belts.** Belts must be substantially secured and of strong material with quick release, and must be worn during racing.
4. **Dress.** Overalls must be worn by competing Drivers.
5. **Inspection.** Cars may be inspected by a Car Examiner at any time before a race.
6. **Passengers.** No passengers are allowed; Drivers only are allowed with the car on the Track.
7. **Penalties.** Drivers will be penalised (and may be disqualified) for unnecessarily cutting across the grass or for gaining an advantage by leaving the track to pass an opponent. Any driver causing a false start must go to the back in the re-run.
8. **Signals.** An intermittent flashing of the Red Lights and Warning Bell means DANGER, SLOW DOWN. Cars must keep their positions and SLOW DOWN until the signal ceases, when racing should be resumed.
Red Lights, Warning Bell and Red Flag means STOP.
Green Light, and dropping of Union Jack by Starting Marshal is the signal that the race has STARTED.
Yellow Flag means CAUTION.
Black Flag means DISQUALIFICATION, Retire from Race.
Chequered Flag signals FINISH.
After this signal has been given Drivers complete another lap slowing down gradually. The Red Light then goes on and all Drivers except the Winner must return to the Pits. Winner completes a further lap carrying Chequered Flag.
9. **Pit Positions.** Cars must return to position in the Pits which they occupied before the race.
10. **Safety.** Drivers must not leave their cars during a race unless deemed safer to do so.

Meet Some Stockmen

Too Dangerous for the Road!

HE CALLED AT THE OFFICE to register for Stock Car Driving last season. We asked him what qualifications he had. He said he hadn't got any at all, at least none that would compare with the fact that he'd had his driving licence taken away. We wanted to know what that proved, and he proudly confessed that it "showed what a mad driver he was". He got in, his name's **Len Ogbourne**, and he proved himself as mad as he claimed to be. Last season he raced everywhere that he could get a booking, smashed up everyone in sight and reckons that he was only warming up. "This year" he says "I'll really go to town".



DENNIS LANE
(Leicester)

Sam Weller is a Leicester Milk Marketing Board Inspector who apparently finds his occupation a little tedious and has at different times enlivened it by a few sessions as a Wall of Death rider. Reckons that all his experience of motor sports are dull compared with the "Stocks" and promises that we shall see some fun once he gets loose with his 30 h.p. monster tonight.

Lady who believes that the age of chivalry is deadlier than the Dodo is **Mrs. Nese Hodgkins**. Nese took the track for the first time a week or so ago, raced from last to first and then was unceremoniously up-ended by a driver who was, she reckons, obviously no gentleman. "Still" she reflects "there's always another time, and some of these males are going to be wondering which is the gentle sex by the time I'm through with 'em".



BATTY BAKER (Birm'ham) 'Upside Down'

Batty Baker is a candid character from Birmingham who answered our "Where did you mostly finish last season" question with brief honesty. "Upside down" he said.

In the game in a big way is **Jimmy Potter** also from "Brum", who has so far accumulated fourteen cars in his "stable". Three of his associates in this wreckers paradise are also in the meeting tonight, but if you figure there's any share and share alike principle involved you'll have to think again. Biggest kick they get out of life is smashing each other up, and the next biggest is when they all get down to work putting the bits together again after their private mangling marathon. Gluttons for punishment, some folk!

Old hand at the sport is **Hans Peter Bogelund** who runs a taxi business at Leamington Spa. After seeing him

(cont. on page 9)

Prize Money Awards

Appearance Money per Car—£7

Heats & Consolation Race—

Winners £10, Second £6,

Third £4, Fourth £2

Each Race over 15 Laps

**PROG
OF E
MONDAY, 18**

		HEAT ONE						Position
Car No.	Driver				Town			in Draw
1	Johnny Sturgess	...	...	...	Leicester	...	...	1
2	Lionel Watling	...	...	...	Nottingham	...	...	2
3	Batty Baker	...	...	...	Birmingham	...	...	3
4	Ron Sweetman	...	...	...	Coventry	...	...	4
5	Robbie Robbins	...	...	...	Nuneaton	...	...	5
6	Jerzi Wotjowicz	...	...	...	Sheffield	...	...	6
7	Gene Mace	...	...	...	Nottingham	...	...	7
8	Jimmy Potter	...	...	...	Birmingham	...	...	8
9	Jack Hodgkins	...	...	...	Grantham	...	...	9
10	Dennis Lane	...	...	...	Leicester	...	...	10
11	Ron Perks	...	...	...	Leicester	...	...	11
12	Reg Saul	...	...	...	Nottingham	...	...	12
13	Ron Foster	...	...	...	Grantham	...	...	13
14	Pat Curley	...	...	...	Leicester	...	...	14
15	Al Halden	...	...	...	Rugby	...	...	15
16	Bob Cure	...	...	...	Leicester	...	...	16
1st.....	5	2nd.....	6	3rd.....	7	4th.....	8	
5th.....	13	6th.....	12	7th.....	11	8th.....	10	

(Transfer First Six to Final, others as nominated to Consolation Race)

		HEAT TWO						Position
Car No.	Driver				Town			in Draw
17	Syd Widdowson	...	...	...	Nottingham	...	...	1
18	Mrs. Nese Hodgkins	...	...	...	Grantham	...	...	2
19	Bill Bridgett	...	...	...	Stoke-on-Trent	...	...	3
20	Percy Brine	...	...	...	London	...	...	4
21	Cliff Hilton	...	...	...	Rugby	...	...	5
22	Harold Bosworth	...	...	...	Nottingham	...	...	6
23	Ted Holt	...	...	...	Northampton	...	...	7
24	Tatter Meadway	...	...	...	Birmingham	...	...	8
25	Ron Seeney	...	...	...	Birmingham	...	...	9
26	Frank Hay	...	...	...	Coventry	...	...	10
27	Roy Goodman	...	...	...	Pailton	...	...	11
28	Terry Waite	...	...	...	Wellingborough	...	...	12
29	Jack Tipping	...	...	...	Ilkley	...	...	13
30	Den Jones	...	...	...	Leicester	...	...	14
31	Ivor Rees	...	...	...	Grantham	...	...	15
32	Chippy Weston	...	...	...	S. Kilworth	...	...	16
1st.....	5	2nd.....	6	3rd.....	7	4th.....	8	
5th.....	13	6th.....	12	7th.....	11	8th.....	10	

(Transfer First Six to Final, others as nominated to Consolation Race)

RESERVES

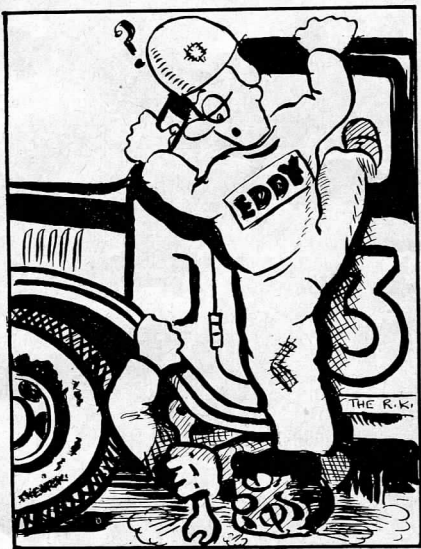
Car No.	Driver	Town			
49	Pete McKellen	(Birmingham)	52	.....	( )
50	Freddy Poole	(Coventry)	53	.....	( )
51	Gordon Bridgewater	(Birmingham)	54	.....	( )

Meet Some Stockmen (cont.)

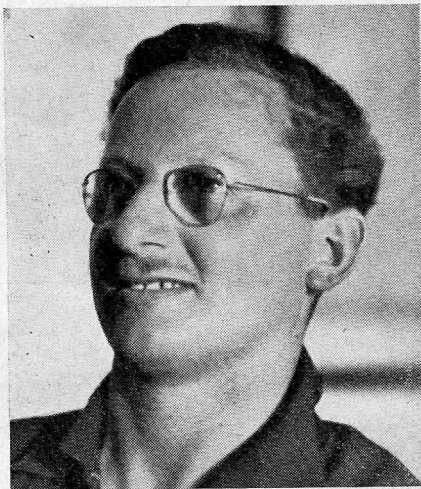
disposing of his rivals on the track we hope he doesn't ever get any ideas about thinning out his business competitors! If the worst happens all we can say is don't expect to find more than one taxi in Leamington! Hans calls himself the Mad Dane, and served in the Danish Cavalry, the underground resistance movement and the British Army during the war. Wonder now why nobody can scare him out of a race?

It takes all sorts to make a world, especially a Stock Car world.

Take **Frank Hay** for instance. In ten years driving he's never managed to qualify for a "No Claim Bonus" with his insurance company. Still, as he says, he's only twenty nine so he's got about forty more chances of getting one yet. Tonight, of course, he won't have to worry about such trifles. The more he hits the better everyone'll be pleased.



"EDDY PLEASE! IF IT'S NOT TOO MUCH TROUBLE"



TED HOLT (Northampton)
Enthusiast

There's a terrifying-sounding gent from Bolton in the field, too, one **Jimmy Gee** otherwise known to his associates as the Mad Butcher. Jimmy is in because of a personal recommendation from Belle Vue boss Johnnie Hoskins. Johnnie has been watching every form of speed sport that ever was since 1928 and he isn't easily impressed. His verdict on Mr. Gee's hair-raising hell-driving was "sensational".

Local talent is here in plenty. No less than ten of the entrants are Leicester men, best known being **Derrick Tailby**. This fellow, who also races speedway machines and is an ex-grasstrack "champ" as well is as hare-brained as they come when he gets his hands on anything with a throttle control attached to it. So far in his life he has broken almost everything but his neck. If all his ambitions about being a film stunt man had been realised that would probably have gone by now as well.

Practically all these chaps have one thing in common. They all think the crowd looks funny viewed from upside down!

Car Modification Instructions

1. Type. Only ordinary saloon cars (including solid top coupes) are acceptable. Commercial type vehicles, shooting brakes, sports cars with improvised bodies, etc., are barred.

2. Weight. Cars may be of any make or design, but maximum weight including bumping must not exceed two tons.

3. Tyres. Only ordinary standard motor car tyres are permitted. "Cross country" and Tractor type tyres are barred.

4. Drive, Axles, Wheels. Four wheel drives are not permissible. Axles and wheels must be standard. "Fixed" differentials are barred. Hub caps must be removed.

5. Brakes. Cars must have good brakes in thorough working order.

6. Bumping Re-inforcement. Bumpers must be VERTICAL, front and back. "Cow Catcher" type is barred. Wheels may be protected, but outside armouring is permissible between wheels only if flush fitting and of tubular steel or light iron. Maximum width of bumping is 6 ins. beyond wheel hub. Inside bracing and reinforcement is compulsory.

7. Windscreens. Windscreens may be retained only if of safety-glass. All other

glass, including headlamps, must be removed.

8. Doors. All doors must be securely bolted, welded, or strapped shut.

9. Fuel Tank. Fuel supply must be in a special container inside the car and must be securely and safely fastened. Fuel shut-off must be within reach of the driver.

10. Exhaust Pipes. Silencers must be removed and exhaust pipes must extend beyond the rear of the car.

11. Floors. Floors of cars must be complete.

12. Self-starter. Self-starters must be in good working order. Cars must leave pits and start under their own power.

13. Driver's Seat. Seats and upholstery must be removed and bucket type seat welded or bolted securely to the floor. Seat must be fitted with strong aircraft pattern safety belt.

14. T.V. Interference. Television suppressors must be fitted.

15. Numbers. A Two Foot square must be painted in Black on the roof and both sides of the car, for insertion at meetings of two foot diameter Meeting Competition Number slips.

16. Colours. Cars may be painted overall any colour or colours, except plain Black.

You Bend 'em — We Mend 'em

Service and Breakdown Vehicles Kindly Supplied for this Meeting by:

Barham Bros. Ltd., Motspur Drive, Northampton

Central Motor Co. (Leicester) Ltd., Foundry Square, Belgrave Gate,
Leicester. *(Ford Service of all Kinds)*

E. W. Champions & Sons Ltd., Braunstone Gate, Northgate, Leicester
(Main Distributors Commer Commercials and Dealers Sunbeam Talbot)

Express Motor & Bodyworks Ltd., 282, Belgrave Gate, Leicester
(Night Breakdowns and full Accident Service)

Meadway Motor Co. Ltd., Lea Hall, Birmingham, 33

Bournes Garage, Lutterworth Road, Leicester

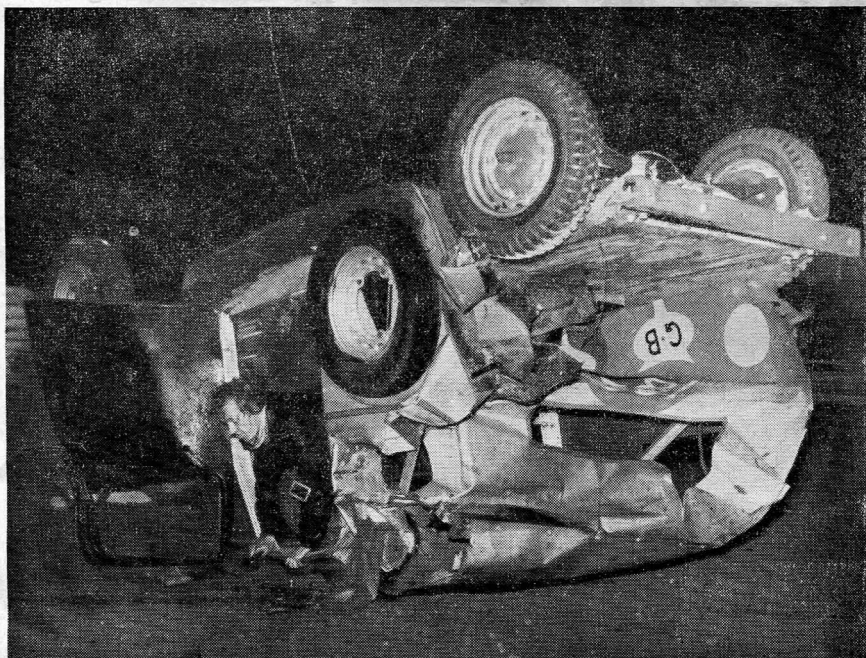
Parrs Garage (Leicester) Ltd., Abbey Lane, Leicester
(Specialists all types of Breakdowns)

STARTER CAR BY: Walter E. Sturgess & Sons Ltd.,
(Rover and Land Rover Agents) 2 - 22, Braunstone Gate, Leicester

One Way of leaving a Motor Car—



—AND ANOTHER!



Personally we prefer the more normal exit . . .



**Forthcoming Meetings
at Midlands Premier Tracks**

COVENTRY (Brandon Stadium) Monday, 25th April, 8 p.m.

Admission: 3/-, 4/-, 6/6 Children Half-Price. Reserved Grandstand Seat Tickets on application 10/-.

Enquiries: Telephone Wolston 395-7

Restaurant — Buffets — Licensed Clubs — Car Parks

HEDNESFORD (Cannock Chase) Sunday, 1st May, 3 p.m.

Admission: 3/6 Children 2/-

Licensed and other Refreshments

BIRMINGHAM (Perry Barr) Saturday, 7th May, 7 p.m.

Admission: 3/-, 4/- Children Half-Price.
on application 10/-.

Reserved Grandstand Seat Tickets
Enquiries: Telephone Birchfields 6201

LEICESTER (Blackbird Road) Monday, 9th May, 8 p.m.

Admission: 3/-, 4/-, 6/6 Children Half-Price. Enquiries: Phone Leicester 62518

Restaurant — Buffets — Licensed Clubs — Car Parks

SPEEDWAY RACING

**Exciting Entertainment and Thrilling
National League Matches at this Stadium**

EVERY FRIDAY at 7-45 p.m.

'Hunters' v.

Oxford 'Cheetahs'

FRIDAY, 22nd APRIL

Admission: 1/9, 2/3, 3/6 Children Half-