

# Double trouble AT OULTON PARK



Whether motorsport is your 'thing' or not, it is pretty hard not to get excited about it sometimes



You may be forgiven for not knowing what the Porsche Classic Restoracing Championship is. It is, sadly, a championship that isn't all that well known...yet. It was introduced last year for the first time and the team at Porsche Centre Chester took on the challenge. After our success in 2018, we couldn't turn down the opportunity of doing it all over again this year.

In essence, the Championship was created for Porsche Centres who had entered the Porsche Classic Restoracing Competition - a competition designed to show off their workshop and restoration talents and put their mechanical and painting skills to the test. Each Centre was tasked with locating a Classic Porsche Boxster S (986), restore it and get it race ready, add a distinctive livery inspired by

Porsche racing cars throughout history, and then compete in the Championship.

Most Centres put a nominated member of staff behind the wheel - someone with no racing experience. All but one of the drivers in the Championship are not racing professionals. Instead they are your friendly Parts Advisors, Technicians and for us, our very own Centre Principal, Carl Hazelton.



The Championship has taken us to a variety of circuits across the country this year, including all the way to Kent for Brands Hatch, Norfolk for Snetterton and Leicestershire for Donington Park. However, the final race meeting of the season was the one we were all waiting for, as this time we would be going to our home circuit of Oulton Park.

After months of planning, race day was finally upon us and so on 31 August, the Porsche Centre Chester team and over 130 of our valued customers met at Oulton Park for this very special event.

Each of our guests were treated to a VIP Experience at Oulton Park, which included exclusive access to our own unique hospitality area including breakfast, lunch and afternoon tea. We wanted to give our customers a special experience at our home circuit, whilst also



providing a welcome base for them to return to at their leisure throughout the day.

The strong bond we have with our customers at Porsche Centre Chester is really important to us. In fact, earlier this year we welcomed a customer entry into the Porsche Club Championship - a race series that runs alongside our own Restoracing Championship. Loyal Porsche Centre Chester customer Andrew Dickens was inspired to enter a Boxster into the

Championship after attending one of Carl's races with us earlier in the year. Since then, his friend and colleague Toby Barlow has raced the car in a number of rounds and has had multiple podium finishes. To top it off, they organised to have their car in 'Martini' inspired livery, resulting in an identical car to our own!

The days leading up to Oulton Park race day gave us constant temptation to check the weather forecast. The last thing we wanted

was rain - a wet track can be carnage, something we have learned from experience. In a previous round at Donington Park in April, the rain was relentless and caused many a spin off for drivers in various races throughout the day - including our own. What did we learn from this? Well, essentially that rain can be brutal and is certainly a game changer - we had our fingers crossed that it would keep away from us at Oulton Park.

Qualifying took place first thing in the morning, and after 25 minutes each out on track, Carl qualified seventh place out of fourteen in the Porsche Classic Restoracing Championship, whilst Toby, in our customer car, made it look easy when he qualified in first place for both races in the Porsche Club Championship!

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