

Fine show as Gault secures fifth place

BIKER Alex Gault produced another impressive performance in the second event of the inaugural Henderson Harley-Davidson XR1200 Trophy Championship at Mallory Park.

Backing up his eye-catching display in round one, when he finished inside the top six despite a bad crash in free practice, the teenager went one better by finishing fifth at one of his least favourite tracks.

During both days at the Leicester circuit, racers had to endure sweltering conditions, with the temperature at times reaching the 30 degree mark.

It was Carluke racer Gault's first competitive outing on board his new Stratstone Racing xr1200 bike. The machine he crashed at

Oulton Park in round one in May couldn't be repaired.

The Stratstone team made numerous changes to the suspension set-up throughout the weekend and Gault went faster each time out, eventually

qualifying sixth fastest (1.03.966) from a field of experienced riders which included Jeremy McWilliams, Mike Edwards and Lea Gourley.

For the race itself, further changes were made to the bike to deal with the short bumpy track and again the 19-year-old racer ace went faster, eventually finishing in fifth place with a fastest lap of 1.02.991.

The race was won by classic racing legend Lea Gourley ahead of round one winner McWilliams, Mike Edwards and Torquil Paterson.

The result leaves Gault in sixth position overall with a points tally of 21.

Frustration followed last weekend when heavy rain caused Gault's home race at Knockhill to be cancelled.

The youngster said: "I was glad to get Mallory out the way and was really looking forward to Knockhill.

"I think I could have got a good result there and it was very disappointing."

The next round is scheduled for Brands Hatch on August 8.

The final event of the championship, officially supported by Harley-Davidson UK and Ireland, will be held on August 30 at Caldwell Park.

The championship runs as a support series to the British Superbike Championship.



FIFTH PLACE: Gault is pictured on his way to an encouraging finish at Mallory Park.



READY: Alex Gault prepares for round two of the Henderson Harley-Davidson XR1200 Trophy Championship.