

Alfa Romeo trumps Bugatti in Caracciola classic

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Prolific historic race winner Patrick Blakeney-Edwards guided Peter Neumark's sublime Alfa Romeo 8C 2300 Zagato to victory in the Caracciola Sportswagenrennen race for pre-war sports cars. Duncan Pittaway led off the line aboard his Bugatti Type 35, but his time at the front of the field lasted for only a few seconds as Blakeney-Edwards soon stamped his authority and disappeared into the distance. The distance between the lead duo was three-seconds at half-distance, Alfa Romeo 8C2600 driver Christopher Mann a further 21-sesconds in arrears in third. Pittaway's race was enlivened when his car's centre-hinged bonnet parted company, but this didn't seem to slow him down. Mann's race came to a smoky end with only five minutes left to run, with Frazer Nash-BMW 328 driver Alistair Pugh assuming the position from Max Werner's road-equipped Alfa 8C. Blakeney-Edwards won from Pittaway by 28-seconds, with Werner claiming third place on the last lap after exploiting the Alfa's superior horsepower on the pit straight.

Blakeney-Edwards said after the race: "It's a privilege to race such a historic car. It's been a great weekend. Goodwood is one of those circuits that I identify with. It's perfect for pre-war cars. It's a credit to the Goodwood team that they have been able to keep things moving in challenging conditions."

Tickets to the 2018 Festival of Speed (July 12-15) and the Goodwood Revival (September 7-9) are on sale at www.goodwood.com and at the Goodwood Ticket Office on 01243 755 055.

(ENDS)

EDITORS' NOTES:

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