



Yorkshire Centre Report

Another season is upon us...Finally! It's been a long off-season but it's now well and truly over, and the sound of engines is gracing our ears again wherever we go. Just what we like to hear.

In our last article we told you all about what's been going on at Harewood Speed Hillclimb during the winter months, and what the BARC Yorkshire Centre have been up to. Now all of the new changes that have been implemented during the last few months have been put into practice, and we're starting to see how it's going to help us this season.

Many of the changes that have been introduced are to benefit our marshals, such as post changes to ensure the marshals are more separate from the spectators and more protected from the cars. So far all is well and they seem to be positive changes.

Last month saw the dust getting swept away from our venue as the marshals gathered on the 14th March for their training day. Unlike previous years we were blessed with nice weather, a little windy and cold, but dry, which was a nice change. The day was a success, as ever, with everyone having a good day and getting the most from their training experience – which was the point of it after all.

Following training day we held our annual Practice Day on the 28th March, which again was another successful day for the venue. For those not in the know, our Practice Day is for the benefit of our competitors, to give them a pre-season test in a way. It was also another dry day, weather wise. With a full entry list for the day this year it was looking like it would be interesting, with many of our regulars out in force with a mixture of their



familiar and also brand new machinery in tow. One entry in particular that everyone was eager to see was Karl Jackson in his new supercharged Ariel Atom. Fancying a change from his Mitsubishi Evo, Karl opted for something rather different this year, and it was great to see the Atom rocketing around the course.

The 11th April saw our first meeting of the year get into gear, with the Spring National meeting kicking off our season in style. William Hall set the fastest time of the day, soaring up the hill in 52.11 seconds. In terms of the FTD Championship, Clive Lightburn has taken route at the top of the table, while Richard Vale holds station at the top of the Harewood Championship after round one. Making the day even better was even more nice weather during the day; I'm starting to think we're being spoilt this year, but we're definitely not complaining.

In our last article we also told you about our newly priced season tickets. At just £35 for the

entire season it really is a steal, and so far it seems to have been well received.

Our online entry system is still a working progress, but after working on it for some time to ensure it is perfect it will definitely be worth the wait. In keeping with the progression of technology an online entry system is the ideal way to go and it is likely to gain positive feedback from our competitors.

We hope you have been keeping an eye on our website, now it is fully up and running we've been getting some good feedback from it. After each round we will be uploading our race reports and photos so everyone can keep up to date with what's happening. Also remember to keep an eye on the news section of our site to make sure you're not missing anything.

Speaking of photographs (as briefly mentioned, above) this year we have photography team working at the venue. Our 2010 official photographers are Peter and Wendy Cahill of P and W Photographic. Peter and Wendy will be in attendance at each of our meetings throughout the year, so make sure you get your snaps from them. I'm sure you will be pleasantly surprised.

Our next meeting is on the 8th and 9th May, with the May Open Hillclimb meeting taking place on Saturday 8th. The MSA Fraternity will be making their first appearance at the Hillclimb this year on Sunday 9th, with the venue being taken over for the May British Championship Hillclimb meeting. As ever this is expected to be an exciting meeting, so make sure you put the date in your calendar now.

Many of you may have experienced, or at least read about, our Festival Days during 2009. The two example Festival Days we held during the year were a success, and we hope to do something of a similar nature throughout this season – so watch this space.

Until next time, we hope you're enjoying your 2010 motor racing season and we hope to see you at Harewood very soon.

See you soon,
Leanne Fahy

