



Yorkshire Centre Report

It's hard to think winter hasn't actually set in yet, given the weather we've got at the moment. The end of the season always presents a bit of a problem; not only is there a distinct lack of motor racing to occupy us, but news can be a bit on the thin side. With that in mind I've opted for something a bit different this month.

As I sit here on a snowy yet scenic morning gazing out of the window September seems a distant memory. As the season rolled to a close everyone soon began to reflect on 2010 – the events they had attended, the action they saw and the people they met. I thought I would start this month's article with a brief news update from our Yorkshire Centre, before delving into a new feature. During the off season, in place of news, I thought it would be a good opportunity to run personal features, allowing the rest of the BARC to get to know members of our Yorkshire Centre.

So, what news do we have for you this month? Well, a few weeks ago we had the annual dinner dance, which was as much a success as always. With our members turning out in their finery to enjoy a good night, collect awards and generally reflect on their season, it was smiles all around.

Elsewhere, the 2011 Harewood Driving School dates have recently been announced and can be found, along with the new 2011 brochure for the school, on our website. There are four dates on the calendar for next year as ever, with the first school kicking off the season on the 7th April. The remaining school days will take place on 5th May, 23rd June and 28th July. We are also offering a prize for the best pupil of the year, with free entry to one of the 2012 events plus a full season spectator pass for two people for 2012 being the rewards.

Prior to the dinner dance we held the Harewood Hillclimb Forum, which saw a great turn out. Everyone was able to discuss what they wanted to, with everyone working together, as ever, to ensure we provide the best venue possible to our visitors. Despite the off season being in full swing, everyone behind the scenes are working hard to get everything in place for 2011, so keep an eye on our website for updates as and when we have them.

Now with the news items taken care of it's time to introduce the first of our 'getting to know you' features. To get the ball rolling I have decided to feature my own view on Harewood Speed Hillclimb. I have attended Harewood on a number of occasions from varying points of view – as a marshal, a media representative and a spectator. Despite attending the Hillclimb in different roles, the atmosphere is such that everyone is welcomed, regardless of their role.

Despite always living in Leeds and having a passion for motor racing for the last 12 years, my first taste of Harewood Hillclimb didn't come until the final event in 2006, when after a year on the



marshalling scene, I finally stepped onto the bank at Harewood, complete with orange overalls. Immediately welcomed onto the scene I knew it was going to be a place I definitely wanted to re-visit, and sure enough I've managed to get more and more involved behind the scenes over the last few years.

Visiting the venue as a marshal is always an enjoyable experience, as I'm sure you will all agree. However it's surprising how different it can be to see it from a different point of view. As a spectator, Harewood Hillclimb is one of my favourite venues to visit. The ability to get up close and personal with all of the cars and stars, not just in the paddock but whilst they're out on track, is a definite hook, and a feat that Harewood hold over many motor racing venues.

As a media representative Harewood has many benefits, for instance the open nature of the paddock means that driver you just have to speak to is never far away, which is always a bonus. Their inability to escape from the chasing reporter coupled with the relaxed atmosphere is ideal.

Over my time working in the sport and helping out at Harewood Hillclimb I have been fortunate to meet a vast amount of people from differing disciplines, for instance marshals and officials, drivers and other media personnel. All of whom thoroughly enjoy a visit to our Yorkshire Centre a good few times a year.

All of us from Harewood Speed Hillclimb would like to wish you all a wonderfully Happy Christmas and a prosperous new year. We look forward to seeing you all again next year and maybe even some new faces – always welcomed of course.

Take care in the snow, and don't forget to build your snowmen proudly.

Leanne Fahy

Michael Kempley 1935-2010

It is with sadness that we have to inform of the passing of Michael Kempley at the age of 75. Michael was a prominent and respected lawyer who was at the heart of the



Leeds legal community for more than forty years. An active member of the Yorkshire Centre, he worked tirelessly as company secretary to Harewood Hillclimb. Not only did he help with the original purchase of the venue with his legal background, but also worked to ensure its long term viability taking interest in the landscape improvement through extensive tree planting. Motorsport was a happy relief from his legal career racing and rallying in many events throughout his life. He was a keen sportsman playing squash and tennis and was a fearless skier. His enthusiasm and optimistic view of life was an inspiration to many as was his unforgettable character. He will be sadly missed. Michael was first married in 1966 to Sally Carter with whom he had two children, Rupert and Delia. He remarried in 1975 and leaves behind his devoted loving wife of thirty-five years Diana Mackinnon and their daughter Emma.

Michael was blessed with three grandchildren, Max, Michael and Evie.