

# Yorkshire Centre Report



## Harewood Hillclimb – Jim Thomson Trophy – 6th June, 2009

As ever the weather forecast for the June duo of events was less than correct, meaning some competitors were at a loss with their equipment. It was a tough call for most, having to make a decision of whether wet or dry tyres would be best as they headed down the shoot for their run. Looking up, the sky didn't help as it could have easily gone either way.

Despite the weather mix-up, Saturday's Jim Thomson Trophy meeting was a day that ran as smoothly as was physically possible, from the organiser's point of view, with everything going to plan. There was even enough time for each competitor to have three timed runs each. The day was dominated by Richard Spedding, who claimed the Fastest Time of the Day, with a time of 54.67 seconds, which also gave him the top spot in Class J.

Just behind Richard, Peter Hamilton took second with a time of 54.94 seconds, while Colin Birkbeck stole the third fastest time of the day, racing up the hill in 55.75 seconds.

In terms of class times, Harewood regular, Karl Jackson, powered his Mitsubishi Evo to second fastest in Class 3, with a time of 63.87 seconds, just behind Class 3 winner, Paul Martin, who put in a quickest time of 62.36 seconds.

Henry Moorhouse stole the Class 4 win, with a time of 64.21 seconds, while Chris Brooks stormed to the second fastest time in Class 7, courtesy of his Lotus Elise.

## Classic and Vintage Meeting – 7th June, 2009

June's Classic and Vintage meeting is always a top event and brings out the real car enthusiasts. With so many pristine vehicles both competing and also on display it is a definite must on the calendar. The cars draw the attention, but it is the proud owners that keep you there, with their stories of their pride and joy. As ever the event was a real spectacle.

This event also marked the second Festival Day of 2009, with the Talbot Owners Club being present among our regular sponsors' stands.

Andrew Thorpe claimed the fastest time of the day, with a time of 61.92 seconds, which he managed on his third timed run. This time also secured him the fastest time in the V18 Classic racing and sports racing cars built up to and including 1971 Class.

Behind, Nick Stephens set the second fastest time, with a 63.06, whilst third place went to Bronwen Waggitt, who put in a time of 63.40 seconds.

## MSA British Championship Report Harewood July 4th and 5th 2009

The weather forecasters got it wrong again! In this event in our favour as the MSA Championship

Weekend turned out to be a splendid affair in near idyllic summer conditions throughout the whole weekend. The fine weather brought out the crowds to witness the cream of British Hill Climbers at their very best.

Saturday focused on the usual practice runs, but Sunday turned out to be quite an eventful day. In the qualifying runs for the Top Twelve Run Offs, reigning British Champ Scott Moran honed his times down to a very respectable 49.73. The new traction control system fitted in his Gould GR61X still didn't get him near to his 3 year old outright hill record of 49.19 seconds, but it did bring him the new class record. Close on his heels was a hard charging Martin Groves, briefly taking the lead with a run of 49.54 at the same time eclipsing the class record for the second time in the day. The rest of the field of gladiatorial single seater drivers headed by Moran senior, Roger, were the wrong side of the 50 second mark.

In the first of the run offs, Scott had a miserable run when a traction control wheel caused problems and relegated him to the back of the field. Groves didn't need a better chance than this, comfortably taking the run off with a time four tenths ahead of second placed Trevor Willis in his unique twin Suzuki Hyabusa V8 based OMS.

Moran had the last laugh in the final run off with an FTD of 49.51 which stole the show from Groves by a mere two one hundredths of a second and at the same time lowering the class record for a third time.

The track conditions must have really come to the competitors as several records also fell in the lower powered classes. Andrew Griffiths Caterham took the Class win for up to 1400 cc modified production cars setting a new record at 57.32 seconds - almost half a second under the previous record. Other records to fall were in the lower echelons of the single seater classes where Mark Hemingway, Will Hall and Paul Haimes all took their respective class wins and new records.



## Harewood Hillclimb – Yorkshire Speed Trophy Meeting – 1st August, 2009

The inaugural Yorkshire Speed Trophy Meeting was definitely well received, and despite the weather playing a vital part once again, everyone had an enjoyable time.

Richard Spedding shone once again, overcoming the difficult conditions to grasp the fastest time of the day, with a time of 61.72 seconds. John Chacksfield secured the second fastest time, recording a time of 63.90 seconds,

while Class J record holder James Blackmore set a time of 64.67 seconds to take third.

Simon Green, of Class 5 sponsor KT Green, captured the fastest time in the class, ahead of Ken Green. Meanwhile, Henry Moorhouse took charge of Class 4, ahead of Michael Bellerby and Chris Gibbs.

Harewood Regular, Dale Cordingley, put his skills to the test, enabling him to steal the ninth fastest time of the day and also the best time in Class F, recording a 67.34, with just one run.

## Montague Burton Trophy – 2nd August, 2009



Sunday's Montague Burton Trophy meeting was dominated by three familiar faces, with Spedding, Blackmore and Chacksfield holding captive the top three positions once again – however this time Blackmore managed to pip Chacksfield for second. Spedding put in a fastest time of 54.07 seconds, with the pursuing duo not far behind.

Simon Green again beat his Class 5 opponents to top the time sheets in his class despite having a monumental "off" at Quarry Corner (see photo), while Karl Jackson was back on top in Class 3.

Following round five of the Harewood Hillclimb Championship, David Sturdy now leads with 79.71 points, ahead of Richard Vale, with 78.92, and Henry Moorhouse in third with 77.22 points.

The next round at Harewood Hillclimb is the Summer Championship meeting on Sunday 30th August.

## New Website for Harewood and the Yorkshire Centre

Launched at the start of August is the brand new BARC Harewood Hillclimb Website [www.harewoodhill.com](http://www.harewoodhill.com)

The new website is much more user friendly and interactive than the previous offering with dedicated areas for the Competitor, Marshal and Spectator as well as superb video and photo galleries. The site is a work in progress as it is eventually planned to include On-Line Entries capability amongst many other exciting future developments. Why not bookmark the site and watch it develop over the coming months!

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