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yorkshirecentrereport

One season ends and work on another begins at Harewood!

Following a very successful 2008 season, the Harrogate Audi Championship was won for the second year running by Karl Jackson. Karl beat David Marshall by just 0.09 points at the final meeting of the season. This was a tight finish in what is always a hard fought competition where the winners are rarely separated by more than a couple of points after eight rounds. Preparations are now underway for an equally successful 2009 season.

The Wattle and Daub team have been busy taking in the Recticel barriers, flags, banners, etc. Work will continue over the winter each Wednesday to further improve and maintain the site. One 'small' job is the removal and disposal of some 1,500 tyres from the site! In addition, the Quarry gravel trap is to be re-profiled to better slow stray cars. Some of the Recticel barriers will be recovered and permanent marking of the paddock will be investigated. These are just a few of the tasks lined up for this essential team of enthusiasts who really do make a big difference to the venue.

The 2009 events calendar is:

29 March	Practice Day (BARC Yorkshire Centre members only)
12 April	Spring National *
9 May	May Open *
10 May	May British Championship (including British Hillclimb Leaders Championship)
6 June	Jim Thomson Trophy *
7 June	Classic & Vintage Hillclimb
4/5 July	British Championship (including British Hillclimb Leaders Championship)
1 August	New Harewood Championship round *
2 August	Montague Burton Trophy (including motorbikes) *
30 August	Summer Championship *
19 September	Greenwood Cup *
20 September	Mike Wilson Memorial *

* denotes a round of the 2009 Harewood Speed Hillclimb Championship

Entry Forms and Regulations will be available early in the New Year and will also be available from the website at www.harewoodhill.co.uk.

The highly acclaimed Harewood Driving School will be run again in 2009. The school includes classroom sessions with plenty of track time and uniquely includes instructors accompanying you on selected runs. Video reviews, refreshments, a great lunch, certificates and a top driver award are also included in the price.

The school dates are:

1 April
30 April
25 June
23 July
13 August (see below)

This year there will be a special Ladies Driving School to be held on 13 August, where all proceeds will go to Marie Curie Cancer Care. The intention is that the applicants will each register and pay a £25 deposit. They will then receive a "donation" pack and raise a minimum £200 donation to get a place at the school. All parties are giving their services free, including Harewood Hill Limited, BARC Yorkshire Centre, the Administrator, instructors and marshals. In other words all income will go to Marie Curie.

If you would like to book a driving school day, please contact Jackie Wilson on 01423 339062. Bookings for the early dates will fill fast and as there are only 30 places at each school-please don't delay securing your place.

We were fortunate to receive a sizeable donation in memory of Jonathan Medley, a keen supporter of Harewood Hillclimb, competing in his Caterham and via his input to the marketing team. We wanted to invest this money in something that would be of benefit to competitors and spectators. As a result we have had four special cabinets manufactured and installed to house the new digital timing displays. These will protect the valuable equipment when not in use and act as sun shades when open. We think they form a fitting memorial that Jonathan would have appreciated.

Work has started on an event entry system, where competitors will be able to enter events and pay the entry fee on-line. This will give competitors a quick and efficient way to check availability of places and make an entry. It is hoped that this will be available via our website in 2009. If you don't have internet access don't worry, you will still be able to enter by post.

Improved drainage in the car park has been approved and following delays this year, it should be done before the season starts.

The Annual Dinner Dance and Awards Ceremony was held in November at the Holiday Inn at Brighouse, where winners were presented with annual trophies, championship trophies and prize money. David Naylor who is now part of the timekeeping team and the Parts Manager at the 2008 Championship

sponsor Harrogate Audi, assisted Tim Wilson with the presentation of the Championship awards.

A new marketing team has been formed to take forward the promotion of Harewood Hillclimb. The new team have developed their 2009 marketing plan and are now actively seeking sponsors and advertisers plus securing a photographer and a caterer. Work will also start on new literature, banners, road signs, PR activity and a revamp of the Harewood website over the coming weeks – that should keep them busy! The new team are Chris Brooks, Leanne Fahy, David Kirk, Craig Senior, John Simons, Andy Sherratt and Richard Vaughan. If you have any thoughts or can help in any way, please contact any of the team members.

Finally, we are pleased to report that our former Chairman and Yorkshire Centre Committee member, Simon Clark, has been appointed Vice-Chairman of BARC this year. Well done Simon and good luck!

We hope to see many of you again next year for what promises to be another great season at Harewood.

Dale Cordingley BARC Yorkshire



Championship winner for the second year running, Karl Jackson



1st to Dave Banner receives cheque and award for 1st in the FTD Championship from David Naylor and Chairman Tim Wilson