

# Yorkshire Centre Report



Our first Harewood Double Header weekend of the year proved to be quite a hectic affair. On the agenda for the May 9th - 10th weekend was a Harewood Open Championship round on the Saturday followed by a full blown round of the MSA British Championship on Sunday. As if this wasn't enough for the ever busy BARC Yorkshire Centre team the first of our two day Festival Days strategically coincided with the two meetings.

The Festival Days are part of a new initiative being developed by the Harewood Marketing team to promote Speed Hillclimbing to a wider audience. A major publicity campaign through all local media including a 35,000 leaflet mailing shows the team really mean business.

The Festival Days offer members of the public a "family day out" with attractions and displays to entertain the Mums and kids while Dad takes in some serious motorsport! Amongst the attractions at this first Festival were National Clio Cup contender Daniel Lloyd, who brought along his race car to display. Daniel also took the opportunity to try his hand at 'climbing' in a Lotus Elise kindly loaned by Chris Brooks. He finished a very competitive third in class having never even seen the hill before!

The Festival events are also an opportunity for our sponsors to take advantage of some extra exposure for their products and services. I'm pleased to report that most attended with displays and reported favourably on the day.



## SATURDAY 9TH MAY 2009

### HAREWOOD OPEN

REPORTER: RICHARD VAUGHAN

The windy and (occasionally showery) weather took its toll on times on Saturday's Open Meeting Round as even the usual top runners were some way off record pace.

FTD went to James Blackmore in his OMS with a time of 53.93 closely followed by late entrant Peter Hamilton in second and John Chacksfield bringing up 3rd spot in another of the OMS Racing Harewood Speed Hillclimb Championship sponsor's creations.

There was a fair bit of variety in the classes with a well attended 19 entry Ferrari Owners Club Championship round in class 10 providing splendid super car action. Whilst in a more classic vein an interesting gaggle of Triumph Sport cars from the TR Register fought it out for honours in Class 16. Chris Butler took the Ferrari spoils in his stunning F355 GTB with a time of 66.94. The TR's were topped out by David Hardcastle's 4.6 litre TR7 shared drive with Simon Allaby with a best of 69.20.

Adding to the even more variety to the day was 16 year old Joe Shrimpton from Keighley in his Rage Buggy! Joe normally competes in the National Rallycross Championship in a class for these diminutive machines, but a trip to Pembrey was cancelled so Joe and his ever supportive dad (and sponsor) brought the powerful little buggy to the hills for a try out.

Running in the unto 1100cc class for Racing Cars meant the gravel tyre shod mini bullet never quite got to grips with this slick shod class, but proved of great entertainment for spectators.

Another interesting and unusual entry came from Bingley's John Hamilton in his "works lookalike" Fiat Cinquecento. John acquitted himself well in class I finishing the day in second place.

## SATURDAY 10TH MAY 2009

### MSA BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIP

REPORTER: LEANNE FAHY

Harewood Hillclimb's round of the MSA Championship Meeting was dominated by Roger Moran and Martin Groves, with the duo taking one win apiece, on a day that saw mixed times due to unpredictable weather. After faster runs during the morning practice sessions, the afternoon timed sessions were seeing some very different times. The rain that had been threatening all morning finally showed towards lunch time, and soon set in for the remainder of the day, affecting the times of everyone. Those that had the early runs in the first Top 12 Run Off proved to be the luckiest, as the rain began to pour part way through the session.

Roger Moran took the fastest time of the day with a storming 54.09 during his second timed run of the day, in his 3.5 litre Gould race car. The similar machine piloted by Martin Groves set the second fastest time of the day, with a 54.72. Paul Haimes put in the third fastest time of the day with a 55.24, also giving him the fastest time in Class K. The results of the two Top 12 Run Off sessions left Groves eight points clear at the top of the leader board with 66 points, to Scott Moran's 58 points. Chris Merrick, in his 4 litre Gould single-seater, was left holding the third spot in the championship standings with 46 points.

James Blackmore, in his 1.6 litre OMS, finished off with the second fastest time in the up to 1600cc race car class, setting a time of 62.34, one second off of his record. In Class 26 it was Dale Cordingley who came out ahead of daughter Sarah, in their shared Radical Prosport car, and Graham Smith, setting a time of 62.15. Clio Cup racer Daniel Lloyd, having a one off attempt at Hillclimbing, set the third fastest time in his class, with a 72.41, after rain had marred his earlier pace.



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