



YORKSHIRE CENTRE CIRCULAR



GOLDEN JUBILEE 1922 - 1972

OCTOBER **72**

POWER

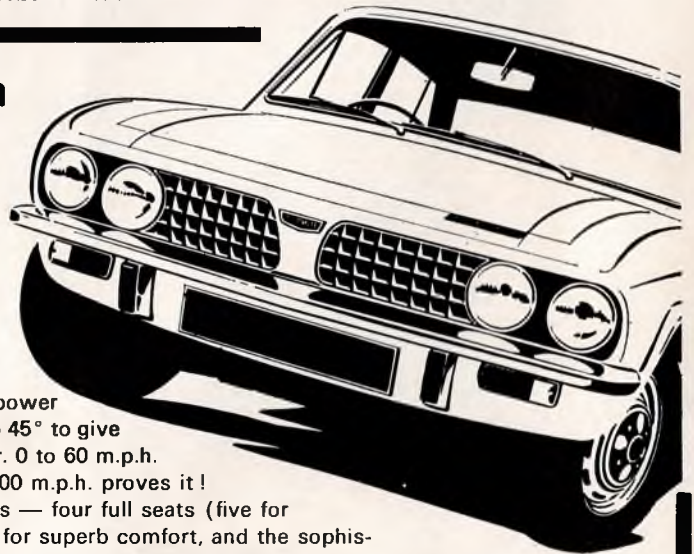
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A Yorkshire driver is the new B.A.R.C. Hill Climb Champion. A Yorkshire driver breaks the course record at Harewood. A Swedish driver rolls his dragster at Elvington. All items of news to interest the motoring public but how are they treated in the local press.

The dragster incident gets front page attention in the Yorkshire Post and Evening Post. The new course record is attributed to a driver who was not even present and there is no mention of our new champion. It is really disappointing that our local monopoly newspapers should treat one of the fastest growing participant as well as spectator sports with such obvious contempt. The only way that motor sport in general will ever hit the front page is when someone gets hurt as Peter Hanson found when he was injured in South America. It does not matter how well local drivers perform, and in this type of sport they are just as big stars as Billy Bremner and Geoff Boycott, they go unsung in their local paper.

Of course the Yorkshire Evening Post did give us some large editorials just before the Jubilee Hillclimb and the Shell Speedclimb but these had to be paid for by us and our members as part of an advertising feature. There is never any mention of our forthcoming events unless we are prepared to pay for the insertion and copy sent in to the motor cycle correspondent — there is no motor car correspondent — is consigned to the waste bin.

COVER PICTURE

The Top Ten in the Castrol/B.A.R.C. Hillclimb Championship enjoy a joke as they pose for this historic picture.

(Photo. Bob Soper)

It is not only the B.A.R.C. who are unhappy about this state of affairs but most other clubs in the area who feel that they have to play second fiddle all the time to sports like cricket and rugby league which are on the decline. You never hear motor clubs whining that the government should spend hundreds of thousands to provide them with facilities — they just accept the legislation and get on with providing their own members as well as hundreds of spectators with enjoyable sport.

What is staggering is the way that the Yorkshire Post went to such trouble to organise their competition to find a racing driver and in so doing discovered 2000 people who wanted to actually race themselves. Surely this should have shown them that there was considerable interest in our sport worthy of sending a reporter to report on events for these people. The success of motoring weeklies shows that there is a tremendous and growing interest in our sport as well as motoring in general. One would think that an organisation as large as the Yorkshire Post would be able to see that this is so and delegate an interested and informed reporter to cover the scene instead of someone who has no interest and gets his information second hand.

One wonders whether the editorial staff of these papers is aware just how much motor club members spend advertising motor cars with them each week — far more than football supporters or racing fans. Unfortunately they will never find out for there is nowhere else for them to advertise. As we have said, it is a monopoly and therefore free to dictate advertising terms as well as support or suppress any sport or news item that they think fit. Since the Evening News was taken over they no longer have to fear competition.

Since these lines were penned, and, following lengthy correspondence between our Chairman and the Yorkshire Post editor, we see that they have introduced a column on Friday mornings which goes a long way towards meeting these things that we would like to see. Let us hope that they will follow this up with the accurate reporting that is so necessary in any good journal.

Forthcoming Events

Social Club Night — 7th November

Following our successful evenings there last year, we are holding the November club night at the Nouveau Discotheque, East Parade, Leeds 1. For those who have not been before, the Nouveau is on the first floor of Devereux House and we negotiate a block membership for our members for the evening. It is, of course, now owned by Centre member Peter Grimshawe and so all you do is to tell the girl on the desk that you are in the B.A.R.C.

and that Mr. Grimshawe says it is all right. Things generally get under way about 9 p.m. and there is plenty of food and drink available.

Golden Jubilee Ball — 18th November

The Yorkshire Centre's Annual Dinner Dance has always been a high spot in the winter social programme. This year the Centre is remembering its foundation in 1922 and the "Golden Jubilee Ball" on November 18th will be the culmination of our fiftieth anniversary celebrations.

The Committee have planned an evening worthy to mark our Jubilee. The ballroom will be specially decorated, the Queen's Hotel are providing an excellent meal, dancing will be to Peter Stuart's Music and "Big Ears" with some "Go Go" Girls for good measure. Cabaret entertainment, both professional and amateur, should provide a laugh or two, whilst the usual Tombola will be replaced by a star prize raffle and surprise tombola.

The size of the Ballroom limits the number of ticket applications we can accept to around 480. Up to this number all reservations will be accepted on a first come, first served basis — provided that they are accompanied by a remittance. Bookings should be made forthwith and certainly not later than Friday, 10th November.

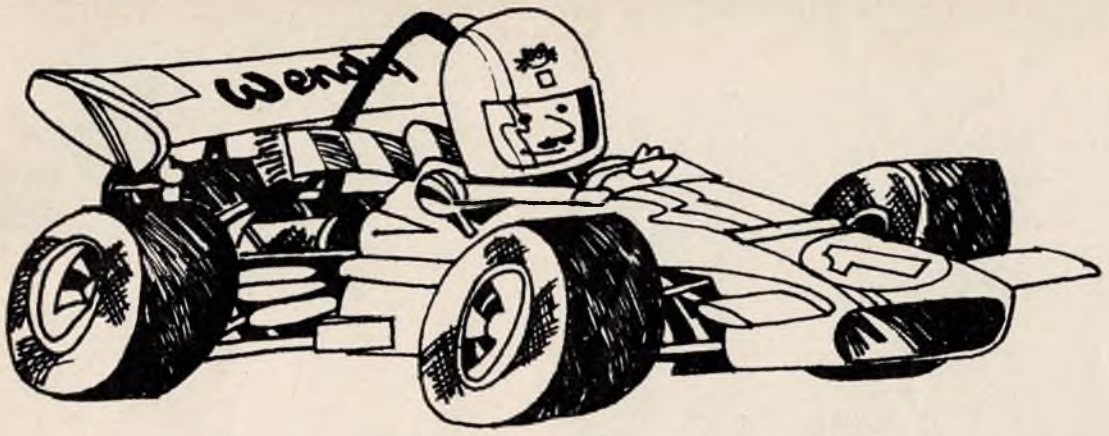
For those who wish to stay at the Queen's Hotel, the management have arranged specially reduced terms for accommodation. Please write direct to the hotel for reservations, mentioning that you are attending the B.A.R.C. Golden Jubilee Ball. Prices for accommodation are £3.80 single and £6.50 double, both including breakfast, and all rooms have bathrooms.

International Rally — 2nd December

This year the R.A.C. Rally starts at York and we are involved with the marshalling and organising of two stages. The first is in Harewood Park on the 2nd during the day and the other is in Dalby Forest on the 4th during the night. Needless to say, we need an army of marshals to look after these two stages and any offers to help should be sent to the Competitions Secretary, Tony Hodgetts at 'East Fold', 17a Eastgate, Bramhope, Leeds. Tel. Arthington 2375.

Social Club Night — 5th December

Further on in the magazine you will see that there will be no issue before the middle of December and therefore this is the only notice of the December Club Night. This will be a social type of Noggin and Natter at the Scotts Arms, Sicklinghall, which is mid way between Wetherby and the Leeds/Harrogate Road (A61) above Harewood. Again everyone is welcome to come along and serious supping starts around 9 p.m.



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Correspondence

Dear Sir,

I have read your correspondent's remarks about the Shell Motor Club League and I am staggered by their naivety. I am reminded of the whimperings of a schoolboy who has had his Woodbines confiscated.

To suggest that the Y.S.C.C. altered the rules mid-term is absurd; they merely clarified them in order to illustrate to the B.A.R.C. (Y) a maxim which had been obvious to all the other clubs from the outset, namely that the league was designed to promote friendly and sporting rivalry between Yorkshire clubs and their members. With a centre membership of over 1000 surely the B.A.R.C. (Y) don't need to shop elsewhere to produce a 5 man team.

The last thing that the organisers of a new competition wants to see is the one party taking a commanding lead in the early stages and discouraging the others. It is plainly nonsense to accuse the Y.S.C.C. of 'fiddling the books', indeed the converse is true: we have gone out of our way to 'encourage les autres' by introducing a new award to the club scoring the most at a single event and by chasing up team entries before events. Had I not rung the B.A.R.C. Captain on the Tuesday before the first event the club would not have been represented as he was unaware that the event was on. This was in spite of the fact that the committee had discussed the matter 5 weeks earlier but in their wisdom had asked another gentleman to co-ordinate team activities. As he left for 3 weeks holiday the very next day it is hardly surprising that other clubs had done their homework in the meanwhile and snapped up the local talent which had joint allegiance.

Finally, as this is the first and largely experimental year of the Shell League I would have thought it more appropriate of a leading club in the area to support and encourage what I feel is a new and worthwhile idea instead of adopting unfair tactics and then having the gall to knock the thing because they are stopped from getting away with it again.

Yours sincerely,

Halifax.

Paul Hargreaves.

Dear Sir,

We feel that your report on the August club night entitled "Clubnight Mudbath" which appeared in the August copy of the Circular end tends to give a false impression of the success of this event. As far as we can see it was very far from being a "total washout" as you reported.

We fail to see how you could form an opinion of this event when you were not even present at the time but only appeared in the pub in the late evening. We feel that in future you should refrain from criticism of events which you, or your reporters do not attend.

In fact this club night, which was run under great difficulties appeared to the undersigned to be enjoyed by both the competitors and marshals concerned.

Yours faithfully,

J. R. Hardcastle,
M. J. Frost,
M. S. Wilson,
C. G. Seaman.

(This merely reiterates what was said in last month's leader. As soon as I miss an event there is a general outcry from the membership. Significantly no competitor has signed this letter, in fact, when one was asked for his opinion he uttered an unprintable oath that contained four letter words.

—Ed.)

Dear Sir,

We are writing this on the loo or, probably more correctly, about the ladies loo at Harewood.

May we call the attention of the all male committee to the appalling state of these conveniences. We really don't know why we ladies support you men for few of us race personally. Instead we stand in the freezing cold warmed by an occasional hot dog, and what happens when nature calls? We are faced with a nightmare of queues and filth.

May we offer some suggestions for apparently the club cannot afford a fully plumbed system.

1. If they can afford the Dr. Who stunt, why not £5 per meeting for a cleaner.

2. If they charged 1p per head at a meeting attended by 5000 people, 50% of whom are women, this would bring in £25 per meeting or £100 per year after paying said cleaner enough to pay for a plumbed system after three years.

3. A sign could be displayed outside saying that the money was to be used for new loos.

Yours etc.,

Stephanie T. Soper,
Josephine S. Lee,
Linda (S.T.) Thornton,
Barbara Mason.

(The committee is well aware of the parlous state of these essential amenities and a great deal of time was spent on them at the last meeting.

Continued on page 13



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BARCounter

Owing to the fact that, as this was being written, your editor was making last minute arrangements for his wedding to **STEPHANIE HAIGH**, this column is rather short of news this month as he has not had time to do the necessary ferreting. Not only that, but our Sheffield correspondents were too busy writing angry letters to be able to come up with their promised 1000 words.

However, there are some happenings in the Centre for which we offer our congratulations. The first is for the arrival of daughter **TRACY** who is the first child of **PETER** and **LINDSEY ROGERSON**. Next, commiserations to **ROGER WILLIS** on his un-engagement. Finally the wedding of two of our regular hill climb competitors **PAT HOPKINSON** and **BRIAN KENYON**. What more is there to say about this than our bard from South Wales, **JOHN PASCOE**, who has sent in this ballad to celebrate the occasion.

"THE WEDDING OF THE YEAR"

or

THE PAT & BRIAN SHOW

by John Pascoe

I

"Here comes the bride", the organ pealed,
The people looked around
But flowing veils and long white trains
Were nowhere to be found.

The bride wore Nomex (white of course !)
She cut a dashing figure.

The bridegroom wore a similar suit,
(Though his was somewhat bigger!).

No dainty bonnet, trimmed with flowers,
Adorned the head of Pat.

Instead she wore a rather trendy
Les Leston crash hat.

Not fitted out by Moss Bros. these,
That certainly was clear,
For none other than Leedspeed
Could supply such wedding gear.

By now, of course you will have guessed
This was a racing wedding.

And there to take the photographs
Was Barnsley's Haydn Spedding!

And so in Gothic splendour,
Whilst the choir sweetly sings

The couple make their love complete
Exchanging piston rings!

II

But love had ran a stormy course
Befoire this happy day
At times it seemed as if they'd part
Each go their separate way.

For early in the season, when
The engagement was announced
They went to Castle Howard
And Brian by Pat was trounced.

'Alas this will not do', he cried,
Seamen's records I must lower,
So if you want to keep your man,
You'll promise to drive slower.

Well, Pat obeyed and next time out
At sunny Loton Park,
As leader in the championship
Our Brian made his mark.

Whilst Pat, she drove almost as fast,
She had not lost the urge,
And at the end of the first round
In third place did emerge.

Success came, class records fell,
The seconds off, they'd lop,
So soon they did establish themselves
Firmly at the top.

But though he knew his Pat could drive,
When his future bride he took
Poor Brian had neglected, to find
If the girl could cook!

But fate stepped in at Harewood
And what seemed like fortune ill,
Gave Pat an opportunity
To prove her culinary skill!

It happened thus in practice,
That their cylinder head did crack
And therefore home to Sheffield town
Our heroes hurried back.

And in her brand new oven,
So late into that night
Pat had to bake that cylinder head
(Repaired with Araldite).

Next day in the Marque Sports Car Class
Brian again was best
So Pat, with flying colours
Had passed her cooking test.

Then they began to build their home
Bought curtains, carpets too,
They even bought a pretty seat
To put upon the loo!

So when they came to Pontypool
Their home was near complete.
But Pat still thought they needed more —
She fancied a park seat!!

But happily this incident
In time it did not matter.
For one small dent in the rear wing
Their true love could not shatter.

Continued on page 13



Tuesday, 17th October was a red-letter day for the spinsters of this world, when our Editor, Bob Soper, surely a confirmed bachelor if ever there was one, took unto himself a wife. Not only a wife but a Centre member as well, for Bob has married Stephanie Thornton-Haigh, of Lightcliffe.

The Centre was well represented with John Forster acting as Best Man, and Tony Riall and Peter Scott a dignified pair of Groomsmen.

Throughout the proceedings Bob had a grin from ear to ear, just as he has had for the past month. All their friends will wish Bob and Stephanie a long and happy life together.

M.S.W.

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CASTROL/BARC HILL CLIMB CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

After the major Shell Speedclimb earlier in the month, it was the turn of Castrol to sponsor the Castrol Trophy Hill Climb which should have been run at Scarborough but, as we explained earlier, had to be held at Harewood. Before the meeting started it was certain that there would be a new Castrol/B.A.R.C. Hill Climb Champion and that he would be a Centre member. Just who, was in doubt, for any one of the first four could win, and only .17 second separated Chris Seaman and Brian Kenyon. If Chris scored a ten then he was home and dry, but if he did not, and the others did, then he would not win.

Rather than leave anything to chance, he had a real "muck or nettles" effort on his first run and lopped half a second off his own class record to score 10.76 points to put the issue beyond all doubt. By contrast, second man Brian had to wait until his very last top ten run before he got under his class record to be certain of second place. John Houghton was third, followed by Chris Cramer, George Whittingham and Richard Thwaites.

Apart from the tensions and drama of the Castrol championship, there was a fair galaxy of the heavy metal in attendance to try to take away Mike MacDowell's two week old course record of 39.14



The new Harewood record holder Richard Thwaites in his McLaren. (Bob Soper)

seconds. With the weather conditions just about perfect and the track in excellent condition it was almost certain that someone would do it, and possibly edge into the 38's for the first time. After the class runs, Roy Lane was quickest a tenth under the old record with Richard Thwaites a fraction behind. The top ten came along and after the first runs no one could equal Roy's time but Richard was mistimed and so was sent straight down to the start for another run. This he did and got everything just right and ascended the hill in the unbelievable time of 38.47 seconds — .61 faster than before.

It is interesting that he did this quick time immediately after he had one run and one wonders what would happen if, instead of a top ten run off, there was a top four who went down in two's and did three or four consecutive runs without having to wait. In this way both car and driver could be brought to peak together and some very surprising times would result.

Further down the field, Graham Brooks had yet another win in class one in his faithful Escort whilst, as we forecast last month, Mike Flather finally beat Nicky Porter to win class two. Classes three and four went to Richard White and Alex Boyle whilst Jim Thomson had an easy win in



The 1972 Castrol/B.A.R.C. Hill Climb Champion, Chris Seaman with the Biota owned by John Houghton. (Bob Soper)

class five. The 'TC' class was won by Nick Taylor, and Brian Kenyon won the Appleyard Group trophy for fastest 'Marque' sports car by winning class six.

Richard Shardlow, happily non the worse from his spectacular shunt at the Shell meeting, appeared in his everyday 911S with which he just snatched the decision over John Aschroft's Elan. Fred Cliffe had another easy win in his T.V.R. Tuscan and, as we have said before, Chris Seaman scored a maximum with the incredible Biota, beating its constructor, John Houghton, into second place. The magnificent new Guyson Trophy went to Phil Bennett who knocked nearly a second off David Walker's record to be the fastest Jaguar driver to drive at Harewood.

Joe Ward lent Bob Prest his Wardford for the meeting and saw it take the honours by just .01 second from George Whittingham who is more used to coming first than second. Chris Cramer put the small G.T. record well out of reach with a time of 42.76 which he then lowered to 42.55 on the championship runs before attacking the large sports/racing class with an interesting B.M.W. engined U2. He was not quite as quick here for Tony Bancroft, who has really got the hang of the big engined Chevron, was under Tony Harrison's two week old record on his first run. He subsequently lowered it to 41.05 seconds and in so doing jumped five places in the championship to take ninth place.

There were only twenty starters in class 15 but Ken McMaster showed that last time was but a temporary lapse by coming back to beat Don Robinson in the Team Castrol Lotus. Fresh from his success at the Shell meeting, Geoff Rollason returned to try his luck again, and, whilst not quite as fast, was quick enough to take a second consecutive class win, this time at the expense of Peter Kaye and Peter Varley. And so to the big racing cars where Richard Thwaites finally emerged as a very worthy winner ahead of Roy Lane, David Hepworth and Peter Voigt who is slowly getting the hang of the big Palliser. After the little Ginetta this must feel like playing the double bass when one is used to a Stradivarius.

**Castrol/B.A.R.C. Hillclimb Championship
Final positions :**

- 1. C. Seaman 66:50
- 2. B. Kenyon 65:41
- 3. J. Houghton 65:32
- 4. C. Cramer 65:07
- 5. G. Whittingham 59:08
- 6. R. Thwaites 58:35
- 7. R. White 58:33
- 8. Miss P. Hopkinson 57:62
- 9. T. Bancroft 55:24
- 10. M. Flather 54:29
- 11. N. Porter 53:89
- 12. J. Pascoe 52:49
- 13. M. Bartram 51:48
- 14. K. McMaster 49:78



Although this was the final of the Castrol Championship, a motley collection of the Shell/R.A.C. contenders were entered, most of whom are seen here surrounding the Hepworth entry. (Bob Soper)

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CORRESPONDENCE—continued.

Apparently there is a problem in providing running water since the main finishes somewhere near Collingham and there is an equal problem as to what to do with the effluent since there is the danger of polluting the well that serves the farm. It would appear however, that most of the trouble lies in the flushing system where the seat has to be raised and lowered to work them. This you ladies seem reluctant to do with the result that they quickly become bunged up. Rest assured though, the committee will continue to look into these until they see the answer. —Ed.)

Dear All,

Well, as most of you will know by now, by the time you read this I should be well and truly married in 'Oily matrimony', having been duly passed by the scrutineers as fit to wed Philip — and with a bit of luck — weather permitting — we will be sunbathing on a hot beach somewhere round the top of Africa. You'll have a new Staff Secretary, to whom I wish all the luck in the world. I think she'll need it, not yet having been introduced to the bus!, and I shall have retired after four years which have literally flown by.

So to all those hundreds of friends — and enemies and Mr. ?hite, I would like to say thank you for a very happy time with the B.A.R.C. Yorkshire Centre. I never imagined what a job like this could entail — but the people I've met and the friends I've made, have made it all extremely worth while.

Although I'm more than a little sad to be leaving, I think my new life should be equally if not more exciting. But don't think that you've seen the back of Philip and me. With a bit of luck, watch out you Novices because — Look out here comes Linda!

Best wishes and all my love to everyone in the Yorkshire Centre.

Linda (Slippery Tights).

Change of address. Please note that as from 1st November, 1972 the editorial address will be as follows:

R. Soper,
Ivyholme,
Inholmes Lane,
Tadcaster. Tel. Tadcaster 2579.

CIRCULAR PUBLICATION PLANS

Unfortunately the cost of the 'Yorkshire Centre Circular' has risen alarmingly recently, mainly due to increased paper costs as well as the pay awards to the printers. This has caused some anxiety amongst the committee and we have had to consider whether in fact we can afford a magazine of this nature, bearing in mind that the bulk of your subscriptions go towards paying for the London office and it's periodical. By the time we get our share, we are working on a smaller annual subscription than any other leading Motor Club in the area.

Obviously we cannot increase the subscription and we would not want to anyway, but the fact still remains that the magazine runs at a substantial loss. One way of making this loss a lot smaller is to have less magazines and so during the winter months, it will be published at six, instead of four, week intervals. This means that the next issue will come out in mid December followed by another at the end of January. In the winter there is very little to go into the magazine as it is our close season and so there will be little lost to the membership. The saving however, should be into three figures which means better issues during the summer.

BARDCounter—continued

III

Quickly from the reception,
They had to rush away.
For they'd be there competing
At Castle Howard next day.

They loaded up the racing car
And off into the night
But soon it became all too clear
Their Triumph was not right.

From the M1 on to Tadcaster
Their progress it was slow,
And just before they got to York
The car refused to tow.

So therefore in their racing car
They spent their wedding night
And who said love's impossible
Inside a Healey Sprite ???!

So all good wishes to you both
For happy years together.
Keep well in tune and you will find
That love will last forever.

And if one day you have a son
In future years we'll see,
The Kenyons take the Championship
In places, one, two, three !!!

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Dates for your diary

YORKSHIRE CENTRE PROGRAMME

Date	Event	Status	Centre Annual Competitions
1972			
7 November	Social Club Night, The Nouveau.	_____	—
18 November	Jubilee Ball, Queens Hotel, Leeds.	_____	—
2 December	R.A.C. International Rally, Harewood.	_____	—
4 December	R.A.C. International Rally, Dalby Forest.	_____	—
5 December	Social Club Night, The Scotts Arms.	_____	—
1973 HILL CLIMBS AND RACE MEETINGS			
25 March	Race Meeting, Croft.	_____	—
22 April	Spring 'National' Hill Climb, Harewood.	_____	—
20 May	Shell 'Members' Hill Climb, Harewood.	_____	—
28 May	Spring Bank Holiday Race Meeting, Croft.	_____	—
29 May	Members Practice Evening, Harewood.	_____	—
24 June	'Montague Burton' Trophy Meeting, Harewood.	_____	—
22 July	'Vintage and Novices' Meeting, Harewood.	_____	—
12 August	Midsummer Race Meeting, Croft.	_____	—
9 September	R.A.C. 'Championship' Hill Climb, Harewood.	_____	—
23 September	Autumn Race Meeting, Croft.	_____	—
30 September	Castrol Trophy Hill Climb.	_____	—

CENTRE ANNUAL COMPETITIONS

Events marked "N" must be entered under B.A.R.C. to qualify for marking.
 Events marked "C" qualify for the Chippy-lola Vase competition.

This is "John" ...

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		S.B.B.N.F. TROPHY
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BRITISH DRIVERS CHAMPIONSHIP		
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2nd T. Williams	—	Bristol 14' E.U.
3rd R. Clark	—	Bristol 14' E.U.

—:O:—

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