

Hill record for Kaye

A new hill record, beautiful weather and a large crowd made for an excellent day's hill climbing at Harewood on May 13th, for the fourth round of the RAC Hill climb Championship. Local hero Peter Kaye (Pilbeam MP 31) dominated the meeting, winning the class runs and taking BTD in the Top 10 run-off with a new record time of 38.18s. Second was former hill record holder Chris Cramer in his new March 79B. The BARC Yorkshire Centre are to be congratulated on excellent organisation.

Malcolm Dungworth, in the second of the Waring and Gillow Pilbeams, led the Top Ten run-off away with a first run time of 40.42 which he improved to 39.96 on his second run to gain ninth place. Mike MacDowel qualified the Ralt-based Coogar in a lowly ninth place, but improved to seventh in the run-off, a position he might have improved further had not a broken drive-shaft deprived him of a second run. Another low qualifier was Roy Lane, who seems to be finding that the six-wheeler does not have the same advantages in the dry as the wet. Nevertheless, Lane improved to sixth place and was another to be deprived of a second run, due to a steering problem, a remarkable achievement for a 1600cc car. Power told in the end, though, and Jim slipped to 10th in his immaculate Brabham. David Franklin (Wendy Wool's March) qualified in a lowly sixth place. He was going really well on his first run, achieving the highest speed through the radar trap on Quarry straight (107mph), only to go off at Quarry corner. The damage was confined to the March's nose cone but having repaired this, David could only manage 39.88 to take eighth place.

The ever-improving Ted Williams took a solid fifth place, after qualifying in the same position. The fourth qualifier was hill record holder Chris Cramer (March 79B) who really came good on his second run with a time of 38.39 to equal his old record. Third qualifier and third overall was the best that championship leader Alister Douglas-Osborn could achieve in the Waring and Gillow Pilbeam. Martyn Griffiths qualified second and, as the meeting's sponsor, was widely tipped for victory. However, when it came to the run-off he slipped to fourth, reflecting the competitiveness of the RAC championship.

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