

Lane on 14477 peak form at Harewood

ROY LANE scored yet another victory at the BARC Shellsport hill climb at Harewood on Sunday, April 10. Held in wet conditions, the course got progressively worse as competitors left mud on the track, owing to the terrible conditions of the paddock. Several drivers were caught out, and it was decided to cancel the Top Ten and Top Eight Run-offs, championship points being decided on the class runs only.

In the touring cars class, John Casey put in a fine performance to win the smaller class from Terry Tattam, who spun away his chances of victory on his second run, whilst Palmer Hewardine took his Mammoth Mustang to victory by over 2s.

The smaller special saloon class brought a surprise result with Charles Barter's Imp being beaten by the similar car of Ken Knott. William Richmond won the poorly supported up to 1350cc saloon class, whilst John Meredith won the bigger class with a fantastic time of 50.57s, very nearly getting into the Top Eight.

Marque sports car victories fell to Des Richardson in his Midget and the immaculately prepared Lotus Elan of Ronnie Craik. Rally driver Richard Jackson drove his Porsche Carrera to good effect, ending up over 3s ahead of Mike Robson, his nearest rival.

None other than the notorious Chris Seaman won the smaller Modsports category, with Ian Knowles Frogeye Sprite second, whilst Neville

Robinson was the fastest Modsports competitor in his E-type after a tussle with that other E-type driver, John Walker.

With a time of 51.99s, Bob Prest took his accustomed Clubmans victory, though this time he had to work quite hard for it after Gordon Pepper posted a very creditable first run time of 52.96s.

Among the sports-racing cars, Richard Branson took the smaller class, whilst Norrie Galbraith in his U2 posted a time of 49.11s, over 2s faster than the bigger class victor David Garnett in his Chevron-BMW Alpine B19.

The Vixen VB5 of Chris Bigwood took the smaller racing car category, whilst the consistent Allan Staniforth came second in his Terrapin. The up to 1600 cc racing cars proved to be very evenly matched with Peter Kaye winning on 50.44s, Scotsman Jim Campbell on 50.54s and young Greg Hart on 50.62s. Greg's father Jim unfortunately crashed the family Brabham whilst passing the farm-house, not sustaining any personal injury.

The big single-seater class was really a two man race between Roy Lane and Alister Douglas-Osborn. Both men realised that they would have to go for a quick time on the first run and ADO really tried on his first run with the Pilbeam twitching furiously under power to gain a time of 46.53s. However, Roy Lane put in a really smooth, deceptively quick run to win with a time of 46.26s. Malcolm Dungworth took third in his 5-litre Brabham, whilst John Lambert took fourth on his second run with the fearsome ex-Simms Chevron B24 after a somewhat fraught moment in the field on his first run at Willow.



ROY LANE was on top form at Harewood, setting FTD in his March-DFV.