

Clearly Bolsover

1983 British Hillclimb Champion Martin Bolsover demonstrated his current dominance at Harewood on September 18. Driving his 2.8-litre Guyson International Pilbeam MP51 Bolsover put in four tremendous climbs during the day, all of them in the 36 second bracket and with the final climb of the day stopping the clocks at 36.29s. 20 times Harewood winner Roy Lane led the opposition on a typically smooth 38.21s run from a delighted Jim Thomson who won the 1983 BARC FTD Awards Championship.

The Yorkshire Centre of the BARC had an exceptional entry for their last meeting of the year at Harewood. John Foran in the 998cc Hillman Imp pulled out a lead of over a second in the up to 1150 Touring Car Class with a record breaking 49.20s climb, whilst Richard Wood and Mike Kerr took the next Touring Car Classes respectively. Alanstair Cobb neatly annexed the 1300cc Special Saloon class whilst Brian Walker's record breaking climb of 41.36s conferred him as winner of the Shell Oils / Harewood Hillclimb Championship for 1983.

David Gardner's MG Midget proved a slight surprise by winning the 1300cc Marque Sports Car class on 48.48s, although both the other Marque classes ran to form with victories for Graham Oates' Lotus Europa (46.84s) and Peter Garland's Porsche Carrera RS (48.51s). William Pearson in the 1200cc Davran Mk7 scored a clear

win in the 1600cc GT class with a neat 44.51s climb. The unlimited capacity GT class was unreservedly the territory of Paul Tankard in the ferocious TVR Tuscan, making a near record run of 41.80s which was also good enough to confirm him as the 1983 BARC Hillclimb Champion, ahead of longtime leader Brian Walker.

The Clubman's class turned out to be the province of Ray Harper with 40.75s but in the 1600cc Sports Racing Car class Alex Graham (Mallock Mk20), succeeded in splitting the winner Charles Waele (40.64s) from partner Jim Robinson in their shared Mallock Mk21. The unlimited capacity Sports Car class had the unusual spectacle of 1981 Hillclimb Champion James Thomson (38.72s) and younger brother Tim (39.47s) taking first and second places, both being well inside Richard Jones' old record of

39.98s set in July 1982.

BARC Yorkshire Centre Chairman Simon Clark (1600cc Van Diemen RF78) showed his knowledge of Harewood with a 46.56s class win in the Pre-1979 Formula Ford class, whilst Southern visitor Eryl Davies (Anson SA1) took victory in the 1100cc Racing Car class, (42.43s). Amongst the 1600cc Single Seaters, it was to be Rob Oldaker's day in the March Austin Turbo with an inspired 40.22 second climb.

The unlimited capacity Racing Car class was completely in Bolsover's control with two unchallenged 36.9s climbs. Roy Lane was next (38.31s) from Jim Thomson (38.76s) and Malcolm Dungworth (driving ADO's Pilbeam MP47C) defending the W&G honour with 39.11s to Rob Turnbull's 39.29s (in Bolsover's Pilbeam MP51 and having his first 'outing' for almost three years).

The combined run-offs for the Shell Oils / Harewood and BARC FTD Championships produced a slightly confused situation of a 'Double Top-Ten' with 13 cars contesting 20 places!

Ultimately, with Dave Grace and Charles Waele slowing into the 42 second range, Chris Seaman surprised everyone with an improvement of almost a full second to 40.27s — a feat emulated by Brian Fryzer who dialled in a majestic 39.75s climb. David Render improved by some 14 seconds to 40.20s, whilst Rob

Oldaker slowed to 42s. To keep his chances of winning the BARC FTD Championship alive, John Meredith had to get ahead of Jim Thomson, but with his time identical to that of his first run at 39.95s the chance finally vanished. Both Crompton and Tim Thomson slowed marginally, but Dungworth suddenly put in a challenge with 38.77s to edge Jim Thomson back into fourth place by just a hundredth of a second at

38.78s. Again it was up to Roy Lane and although he slowed to 38.57s this didn't stop Bolsover from putting in a ten-tenths effort on the last run of the day to record 36.29s. As far as the two Championships were concerned, very definitely a day for Team Guyson to celebrate, with Martin Bolsover taking the Shell Oils / Harewood Series and Jim Thomson the BARC Series.

R.M.C.

BRIAN WALKER was confirmed as winner of the Shell Oils / Harewood Hillclimb Championship before taking outright victory with a sub-70 second run in the Isle of Man.

