

WSSC Speed Series –Harewood Report 10th May 2008

Class A

Was split into 2 factions, with Jason Lamb and Trevor Cottingham doing a good job of getting down to the class C guys times. Meanwhile Andrea and Michael Percival were having there own battle, with Michael beating Andrea (smile on face as usual) with his T2 run.

Class B

Stephen Lewis was on his own in the class, unfortunately not quite getting it right on T1 & T3, but putting in a good run in T2.

Class C – John Loudon

Some regular Harewood competitors were making noises that the track was not at its best despite the warm weather and many times were down some on their usual efforts. Mutterings of dusty surfaces from the mud laid on the track during the wet April meeting were bemoaned.

Tim Nunn back out in his newly refurbished, lightweight Kermit mobile trying as hard as ever but still waiting for his tyres to bed in. One to watch when fully on song

Mark Leybourne making steady improvements with some respectable times throughout the day and securing 2nd in class

Keith Adams putting in some consistent runs and times

Paul Pocklington posting some respectable times and managing a new PB which also gave him a larger smile than usual.

George "rain master" Hardman doing much the same and possibly wishing for rain

Despite ruffling my own feathers in practice 1 with a slight off into the recticel at Willow, I came away pleased with my overall efforts and set a new PB to take the class win.

An excellent result John, given that your class was the biggest with 7 competitors. **NJA**

Class E

Andy Rushworth was again in a class of his own, at one point leading all the class G guys, His ultimate time beat all the class F guys demonstrating and excellent car control and knowledge of the hill. Behind him, Stew and Andy Hargreaves were having a great old battle with Stew eventually getting the place by .07 of a second, very close!

Class F

Now that Bunny has moved into F together with Matt, there is some real competition for last years class winner Richard, who was trying out some new

Toyo's, but they weren't helping and he could only manage 3rd. A close battle between Matt and Bunny, saw Matt just winning F by 0.52 sec, good close competition again. Gavin Prest and John Shepard both seemed to be enjoying themselves to make up the rest of the class.

Class G

After T1, Barney wondered what he had to do to beat Andy in E, but got there (much to his relief) with a cracking T2 run, which then improved on even more in T3. There was a needle battle for 2nd and 3rd slot, with Mark hoping to repeat his previous 2nd position, but it wasn't to be, Andy Mac set a cracking T2, which Mark couldn't beat.

Class H – Peter Hayter

Terry showed me how a well-set up car can take other cars to pieces, as my car warmed up the rear grip appeared to get less but the front was great. As I tried to put the power down all it did was spin the rears, great fun if you like speedway driving but this showed my car up and you can guess Steve will be looking into this.

This was a shame because after what I thought was quite a good first practice time and I got to know the track I was going to give Terry a very good run for his money but unfortunately this was not to be, wait till next time Terry

Terry's version

Class H had a pathetic turnout with only Peter Hayter and Terry Everall contesting the points. Well for those who did not enter they missed a great, dry, hot day at the longest Hillclimb in the country. Peter had made the long 5hour + trip north calling in at Bradford to pick up an ebay purchase of an electric garage door (from some pikees?) which was to be seen strapped to the roof of his trailer in the paddock and thereby ruining his image! Apparently he found Bradford to be quite an eye opener and got in and out without a passport.

Tel was spotted walking the course on Saturday night with better half Margaret (SWMBO) giving him advice. Not all of it was about the track! Harewood is Tel's local track and Pete claimed to have never driven it before but was fresh from his Aintree win and keen to repeat the performance. Terry was eyeing up the class record held by Richard Carroll at 58.29 secs.

First practise times did not indicate good track conditions with both drivers struggling to put down the power and there was too much sideways stuff, which was good for the spectators but not quick. The official report from BARC Harewood confirmed that the track was indeed too hot and dusty / muddy from the April sprint.

Terry P1	61.12secs
Peter P1	62.61secs

P2 saw some altered suspension settings by Tel and Pete pushing hard as he got to know where the bends were and where you need big bottle to improve his time by 1.5 secs

Tel was feeling the heat and clipped the flapper post at Orchard entering Farmhouse to see his rear carbon fibre arch totally removed and shattered into several small pieces. The paddock air was a deep shade of blue!

Terry P2 60.67secs
Peter P2 61.16secs

Lunchtime saw Gary Smith and Tel demonstrating the age old art of gaffer tape modelling with ally sheet to reattach what was left of the wing. Thanks to Paul Pocklington for the loan of tin snips, and pop riveter which was so old that it looked like it was used by Noah to build the ark.

First timed run saw Tel post a hot 58.72secs run (only 0.43secs off the record) and record 98mph through the uphill speed trap and he only just held it round the final finish bend. Pete tried too hard and spun at the second right hander .

Second runs saw Pete improve to 60.50secs but his final run was a quicker 60.34secs

So Terry took the points but missed the class record and celebrated with a well earned pint of lager (shame it wasn't half price for bus pass holders!)

Terry T1/T2/T3	58.72secs	59.02secs	59.03secs
PeterT1/T2/T3	80.87secs	60.50secs	60.34secs

Shame there were only 2 cars this time but they next meet at MIRA in 2 weeks time. Game on !