



IN THIS ISSUE ...

Event reports:

- Blyton
- Three Sisters
- Loton
- Harewood

Rallycross memories at Longridge

August 2014

Issue 45

Bulletin Editor: Geoff Ward

Email: getoff55@hotmail.co.uk

Tel: 01772617260

HERE COMES THE FINAL 'NORTH-WEST WEEKEND'.....

Longton championship contenders are busy preparing for the 'north-west weekend' on September 6 and 7, with Aintree on Saturday and the season's last LDMC-organised Three Sisters event on Sunday.

As we move into autumn and the final rounds (Thoresby Park on September 13 and 14, and Longton's sprint at Anglesey on October 4 and 5) the Bulletin looks back at July and August events.

THAT WAS THE SUMMER, THAT WAS A REVIEW OF LONGTON CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS

Blyton Park, July 12 and 13

The superb Blyton sprint circuit attracted more than 20 Longton competitors keen to enjoy this fast and challenging venue in the Lincolnshire countryside.

For the second year the Westfield Sports Car Club event was blessed by hot and sunny conditions, with the forecast rain obligingly falling on Saturday night, leaving just a slightly damp track for the first practice run on Sunday with a dry conditions after that.

FTD on Saturday went to John Graham who powered his way through the fast Blyton sweeps in his new Gould in 58.84. He bettered that time in practice on Sunday but sadly failed to finish either of the timed runs when a faulty sensor shut down the engine.

Saturday: Russell Thorpe took second in class 1B on 77.47, well ahead of Andrew Wright (81.58) and Heather Wright (86.54). In class 1D Martin Rowe and Roger Fish were having their usual Honda S2000 battle, with Martin emerging third on 75.60 followed by Roger (77.70).

Bill and Carol Stevenson in their Westfield were the only Longton contenders in the competitive class 2C, with Bill putting in 84.88 and Carol 88.50. Sean Bourn in his Cyclone was also facing stiff Westfield competition in 2D, recording 76.63.

Continued

The combined class 3A and 3B saw victory for Andy Larton in his Peugeot with 74.68, whilst John Moxham came in fifth on 76.55 with Tim Burrill seventh (77.82). David Welton was alone in class 3E and recorded 80.89.

Malcolm Mackay and Chris Boyd were having a close battle in class 3H, with Malcolm claiming first on 67.78 with Chris on 68.10. Richard Vaughan won class 4A on 66.68.

Longton competitors dominated the small racing car class with the ever-rapid Bradley Dickerson claiming first with a very impressive 60.87. Eve Whitehead claimed third on 66.98, followed by Glyn Sketchley (70.52), Robert Hewson (72.14) and Barry Whitehead (74.22). Geoff Ward won the FF1600 class with 71.20, followed by Paul Webb (73.26). In class 5D Brian Walker took second on 77.24.

Sunday: Most drivers improved their times as they became more familiar with the circuit. Russell Thorpe again took second on 76.99 followed by Andrew Wright (80.27) and Heather (81.99).

Roger Fish and Martin Rowe swapped Honda S2000s, to Roger's advantage as he took third on 76.08 with Martin in fifth (77.98). Sean Bourn was again fifth in his class, this time with 75.97. In the combined saloon class Andy Larton continue his winning ways with a best of 72.84, with John Moxham third (75.43) and Tim Burrill fifth (77.47). David Welton only put in one run in his TVR at 78.44.

Malcolm Mackay and Chris Boyd carried on their Saturday battle, Malcolm again triumphing on 67.24 with Chris on 68.06. In sports libre Richard Vaughan was demoted to second with a best of 65.90.

Bradley Dickerson was again first in the small single seaters, although a little slower at 61.82. Eve Whitehead was third (66.37), followed by Glyn Sketchley (68.73), Robert Hewson (71.22) and Barry Whitehead (73.54). Victory in FF1600 again went to Geoff Ward (70.71) followed by Paul Webb (72.89).

Three Sisters, two-lapper, August 3

The interesting Three Sisters two lap event run by Chester MC and Lancs AC took place on August 3. A quick run through the results starts with Mark Smith, alone in class SB, recording 116.94. Alan Swayer also had a class to himself, putting in a best of 85.54. In 1D, Martin Rowe was the best Longton competitor, taking third on 83.47 with Roger Fish (84.73) in an unacustomed sixth, followed by Robert Holt (90.05).

Sean Bourn claimed second in the roadgoing kits with 83.22. Andy Larton predictably took the win in 3B with 79.23 followed by John Moxham on 82.44. In the small single seaters, Eve Whitehead was first with 73.15, with Barry second on 79.29. Paul Webb was alone in FF1600, recording 79.53. In the bigger single seaters Brian Walker put in a time of 76.25.

Loton Park, August 9 and 10

The handful of Longton competitors heading for Shropshire were probably wondering if the event was going to be a wash out in the wake of Hurricane Bertha. In fact Saturday stayed dry and warm, although Sunday started with a soaked track which eventually started to dry.

On Saturday Nigel Fox had to settle for second in his Caterham with a best of 58.31. The Sylva Riots of Malcom Mackay and Chris Boyd were engaged in their usual battle, Malcolm winning the private contest with 56.24 and Chris on 56.31. Harry Moody only managed the first run, with a time of 58.35. Brian Walker in his Brytec was the sole Longton single seater at the event, putting in a best of 58.49. Nigel Fox appears to have been the only Longton competitor to brave the Sunday conditions and was rewarded with a class win with 60.08.

Continued

Oliver's Mount, August 17

Unfortunately, the organisers, Auto 66, do not seem to have made results available online.

Harewood, August 24

The Harewood hill climb on August 24 saw the enthusiastic Martin Rowe break his own class 1F record with 68.55 in his Honda S2000, only to be demoted to second by a rapid Porsche.

Bill and Carol Stevenson were out in their Westfield in class 2A, but had to settle for third and fourth, with Bill on 75.07 and Carol recording 79.00. Tim Burrill was fourth in class 3B with 69.39 whilst David Welton (71.98) in his TVR took fourth in class 3C. Things were rather better for Andrew Steel in class 3F, taking the win with 60.38.

In sports libre, Richard Vaughan was fourth with 59.35 on his single run. Eve Whitehead won the small single seater class on 60.02, with dad Barry third on 65.68. Brian Walker was alone in 5D, recording a best of 61.76.

MEMORIES OF RALLYCROSS AT LONGRIDGE

The loss of the Longridge quarry site to races, sprints and rallycross is still a regret to many.

CHRIS LEE has provided these photos of a rallycross event at the venue. He believes the picture right is Will Gollop in a Triumph Toledo. The picture below is a mystery, as are the competitors in the paddock, bottom right. Any ideas, anyone?



ENDS