



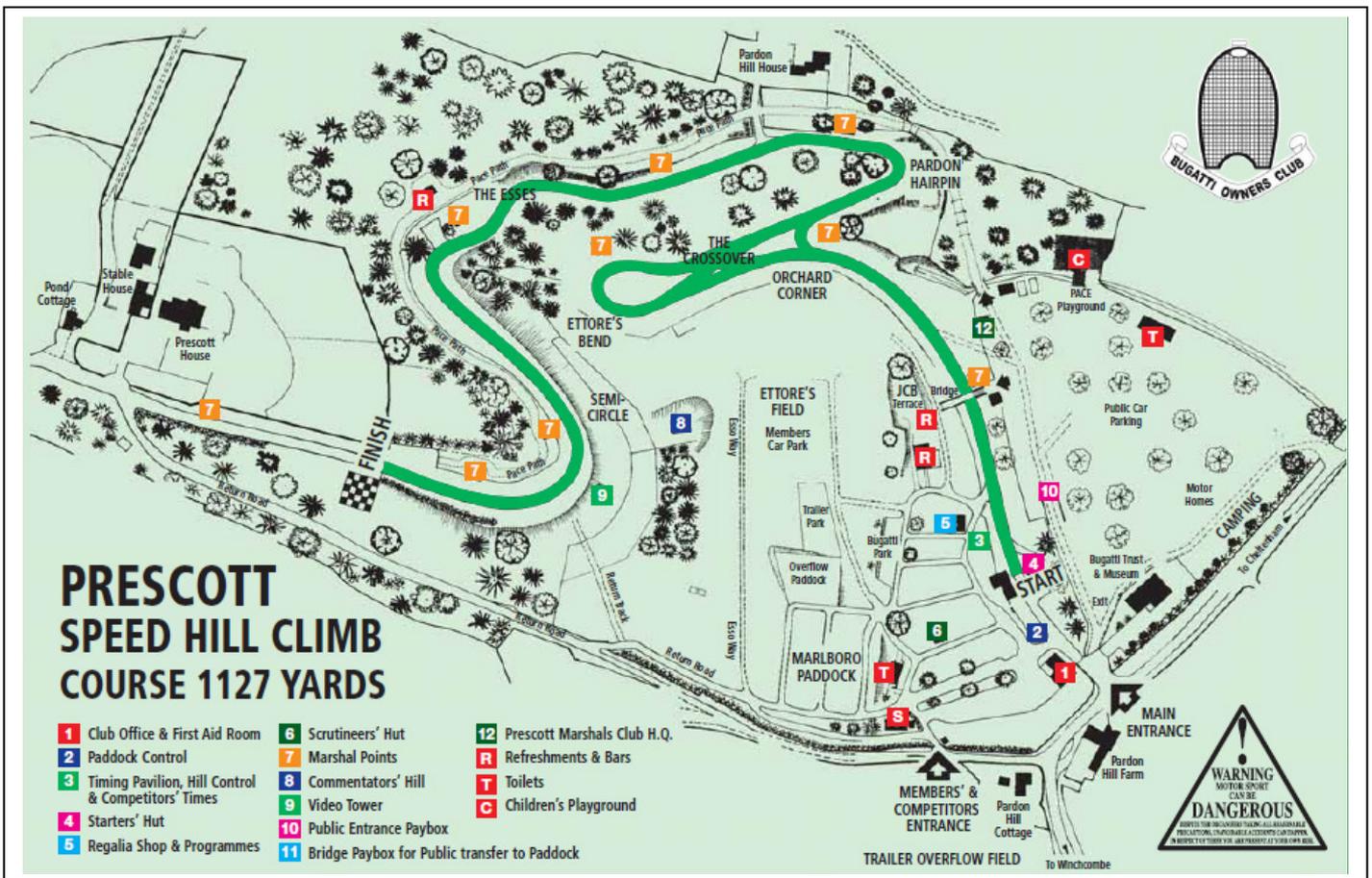
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## PREPARE FOR PRESCOTT! THE CHAMPIONSHIP HEADS SOUTH FOR A NEW CHALLENGE



Longton's exciting venture to Prescott is fast approaching with a good turn out of championship contenders for what looks like a competitive weekend at this challenging hill climb on June 14 and 15.

The entry list for Sunday is now full, and also has reserves, whilst Sunday is close to the limit. Besides a paddock full of interesting machinery there will be a variety of off-course entertainment including a medieval fair and a radio-controlled cars competition open to all.

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For competitors this appears to be an interesting hillclimb with a variety of corners and what looks like a pretty good tarmac surface. The course is 1127 yards long and the short straights give a total climb of about 200 feet. If you are going for the course record you'll need to be aiming for the 36 seconds mark!

From the information available to the editor, the looping Ettore's Bend early in the run is critical, whilst Pardon Hairpin looks just plain awkward with the emphasis on speed out. Further up, the Esses are pretty technical and demand some precision for a fast exit for speed up to the final corner, Semi-Circle, which does what it's name implies, before a short blast to the finish.



*The Prescott start area, paddock kiosk and signing-on cabin*



*Prescott Lodge – the Clubhouse with restaurant and bar*

There is a return road to the paddock which is hard standing and fairly generous in size, although trailers have to be removed to a trailer park. The trip to the start line is fairly short and tyre warming is allowed in the specified area.

The facilities, extra activities, good spectator viewing and general setting make this an event for partners, families and friends as well as competitors. Access is available from 3pm on Friday and if you are camping you should have paid the fees with your entry. If you haven't booked accommodation yet there's a list of B&Bs and hotels on the Longton website.

At the venue there are lots of choices for food and drink. Breakfast will be served in the Clubhouse from 7.30 to 12.30 and the Kiosk in the paddock can provide bacon baps, coffees, etc., all day.

Lunches will be served in the Clubhouse from 12.30 to 2.30 and the bar will be open from lunchtime onwards. Evening meals will be available (although the restaurant will close for food at 5pm on Sunday) and the bar will be open. An ice cream van will be on site, Sunday only.

If you haven't planned the route yet you'll need to turn off the M5 at Junction 9. Prescott is 5 miles north east of Cheltenham off the A435 (Evesham Road) between Gotherington and Gretton, postcode GL52 9RD, RAC signposted. From Preston it's 150 miles down the M6 and M5, taking, usually, two hours 40 mins, or about three hours 15 mins with a trailer – probably allow about 15 mins longer than it takes you to get to Anglesey.

So, see you there and let's have fun! Most of the 'official' faces will be familiar Longton ones, although the majority of the marshalls will be Prescott specialists.

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## **EVENT REPORT – AINTREE SPRINT, APRIL 26**

The second round of the Longton Championship saw contenders gloomily arriving at a wet and windy Aintree, only for spirits to perk up as the track dried and the rain held off. There was even the bonus of four timed runs, despite a busy entry list bulked out by the Caterham Academy.

In the reorganised standard car classes, Mark Smith was out again in the MG ZR and took second in SB with a time of 79.25. Russell Thorpe had dear old Doris well wound up to take third in the up to two litres roadgoing saloons with a best of 53.78.

Bill and Carol Stevenson had Class 2A to themselves, with Bill winning on 59.95 and Carol closing the gap to him at 63.42. In the bigger-engined roadgoing kit car class Nigel Fox did well to come in second on 48.64 behind the rapid John Hoyle, with Sean Bourne in his Cyclone grabbing fourth.

Class 3B for modprod saloons up to two litres was as popular as ever, although given the performance of Andy Larton this is probably not the best place to be for other competitors. The Morecambe engine-builder zipped his Peugeot round in 50.47 for the win, with Colin Metcalfe taking third (52.27) and John Moxham close behind on 52.47. Sixth went to William Jarman (56.41) and seventh to Angela Jones (58.03).

Glyn Sketchley won the small single-seater class at 44.45 with Barry Whitehead's new RBS8 showing its worth not far behind him. Eve grabbed second with a best of 44.97 with Barry just over half a second adrift from his daughter.

Aintree always seems to bring out a decent number of Formula Fords and this class ended up as one of the most closely fought with only a second covering the first four. The clear leader in all this competitiveness was Paul Webb who won with a best of 50.38, followed by Geoff Ward (51.22), a smidgen ahead of the others.

And finally! It was good to see Nick Algar overcoming the teething problems in yet another new car and take FTD and the win in the 1600cc to 2000cc racing car class with a time of 43.24.

## **EVENT NON-REPORT! OLIVER'S MOUNT, MAY 3 AND 4**

Unfortunately, results have still not been posted online by Auto 66, which is also delaying the publication of the latest Championship positions.

## **EVENT REPORT – HAREWOOD HILL CLIMB, MAY 10**

The first Harewood round of the Longton championship took place in May with ten contenders tackling the Yorkshire hill in conditions that favoured those who put in a strong first run.

Russell Thorpe and his roadgoing Renault 5 turbo took second, on 69.24, in the busy Class 1B whilst Martin Rowe in his Honda S2000 was alone Class 1F, setting a best of 70.46.

Bill and Carol Steven had the small roadgoing kit car class to themselves. Bill posted 78.57 in their Westfield with Carol on 81.13. The bigger roadgoing class was more popular and Nigel Fox in his Caterham came fifth with a single run at 65.32. Sean Bourn in his Cyclone also did only one run, at 71.54.

In Class 3B, John Moxham came third with 69.16. Andrew Steel was alone in 3F, recording 60.84. Eve Whitehead was again going well in RBS8 in the competitive small single seater class, ending up second with 60.06, whilst Barry could only manage eighth at 67.68.

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## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

**Avon Tyres/TTC Group British Hill Climb Championship:** Trevor Willis dominated the tricky two-venue weekend at Barbon Manor and Harewood, taking four run-off wins to move from joint fifth to second in the title race. Provisional championship standings: 1 Alex Summers , 54 points; 2 Trevor Willis , 49; 3 Scott Moran, 47.

**SBD Motorsport British Sprint Championship:** Mark Smith was on form at Lydden Hill, setting the fastest times in qualifying and the run-off, to take the championship lead. Provisional championship standings: 1 Mark Smith , 34 points; 2 Steve Miles , 26; 3 Heather Calder, 24.

## FORTHCOMING LONGTON CHAMPIONSHIP ROUNDS

Championship contenders are reminded of the following championship rounds over the next few months.

Date	Month	Day	Organising Club	Type	Venue
26	May	Monday	York MC	Sprint	Teeside Autodrome
07	June	Saturday	BARC (Yorks)	Hillclimb	Harewood
14	June	Saturday	Longton & DMC	Hillclimb	Prescott Hillclimb
15	June	Sunday	Longton & DMC	Hillclimb	Prescott Hillclimb
28	June	Saturday	Liverpool MC	Sprint	Aintree
29	June	Sunday	Longton & DMC	Sprint	Three Sisters (Course 2)
12	July	Saturday	Westfield SCC	Sprint	Blyton Park
13	July	Sunday	Westfield SCC	Sprint	Blyton Park

## CLUB INVITES

In addition to the Longton's Northern Speed Championship Rounds, LDMC members have been invited to the following speed events.

Date	Day	Venue	Type	Organising Club	Invitation via....
31-May / 1-June	Sat/ Sun	Shelsely Walsh	Nat 'A' British Hillclimb (2 days, practice on Sat)	MAC	Direct invite to LDMC
5-Jul	Sat	Shelsely Walsh	Hillclimb Nat 'B'	MAC	Direct invite to LDMC
13-Jul	Sun	Scammonden	Hillclimb	Mid Cheshire MRC	via ANWCC
02-Aug	Sat	MIRA	Sprint (no spectators allowed)	MAC	Direct invite to LDMC
16-Aug / 17-Aug	Sat/ Sun	Shelsely Walsh	Nat 'A' British Hillclimb (2 days, practice on Sat)	MAC	Direct invite to LDMC
17-Aug	Sun	Scammonden	Hillclimb	Pendle DMC	via ANWCC
6-Sept	Sat	Anglesey	Sprint	L&CC / MGCC	Direct invite to LDMC
7-Sept	Sun	Anglesey	Sprint	L&CC / MGCC	Direct invite to LDMC

For assistance with obtaining SRs / Entry Forms contact Craig Powers at [cpowers@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:cpowers@blueyonder.co.uk) who may already have copies of the regs or can put you in contact with the organising club.

ENDS

