



#### IN THIS ISSUE ...

Three Sisters, Sept 9, report  
Aintree, Sept 1, report  
Oliver's Mount, Aug 19, results  
Championship standings  
News from LDMC  
MSA snippets  
Guide to UK motor sport venues

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## HOT COMPETITION AS THE SUN COMES OUT FOR LDMC'S TWO-LAPPER AT THREE SISTERS

Longton's final Three Sisters event on September 9 brought out 67 competitors to tackle the challenging two lap course around the outside of the circuit. Unusually for this season it was dry all day, with periods of sunshine alternating with overcast conditions which led to some interesting variations in track temperature and grip on different runs.

Despite a slightly slow start caused by a combination of spinning competitors, breakdowns and timing and organisational issues inherent in the two lap format the organisers aimed to get in two practice runs and a timed run before lunch. This was pretty much achieved although the final runners had to wait until after the break for their timed run because the session was suspended whilst marshals cleared up an oil slick over the hill left when Robert Hewson's Megapin suffered an engine blow up.



*Martin Rowe in his Honda S2000*



*Colin Price in his Rover 216GTi*



*Charlotte Binham Bridle in her Capri*

There were another two timed runs after lunch, although Longton's competition secretary Craig Powers was unfortunately spectating after his OMS broke a drive shaft on the first practice run. A quick class review starts with the increasingly popular SB Class for saloon and sports cars up to 2000cc. Roger Fish in his Honda S2000 put in a blistering final run at 84.27 to take an emphatic win and break his own record in the process. His usual class challenger, Martin Rowe in a similar Honda, slipped to an unaccustomed fifth with a best of 85.51 in a closely fought bunch separated by a few tenths. Steven Sawyer in his Honda Integra R grabbed fourth from Martin by just two hundredths.

*Continued .....*

Class SC went to Jason Robinson in his Saab with 90.66, followed by John Howarth in his Golf GTi, exactly a second behind. Andy Bradley and David Russell were sharing a Ford Puma in Class 1A, with Andy taking third place with 91.76 and David just behind on 91.95.

There was close competition in Class 1B with Keith Minshull winning with a final run at 83.95 in his Peugeot 306 Rallye. Russell Thorpe also wound up 'Doris' in the final run to come in second at 84.11, followed by Russell Herring in his Renault Clio, just six hundredths behind. Then came Colin Smith at 84.33 with Simon Bingam taking seventh in his treasured Capri on 90.93 followed by his car-sharing daughter Charlotte (93.89).



*Felicity Nelson, Van Diemen RF86*



*Steven Sawyer, Honda Integra R*



*Eve Whitehead, RBS7B*

Alan Sawyer in his Subaru Impreza had Class 1C to himself, putting in a best of 85.13. Robert Holt and his Lotus Elise were also alone in Class 1C, recording 93.08. The win in the smaller kit car class, 2A, went to Michael Bellerby with a time of 76.94, with Andy Taylor in his Caterham taking second at 79.81. The once-popular Class 2B had a single entry, Sean Bourn in his Cyclone (84.12).

A 12-car field competed for honours in Class 3B. John Moxham came in fifth in his Peugeot 205 with 84.61. William Beech was seventh (85.41), followed by Chris Fraser-Clark (87.12) and Graham Briscoe (89.14) with Rachel Jones eleventh (93.33).

The TVR Tasmin tussle in Class 3E saw Jim Walsh emerge on top at 86.83 with David Welton a little behind at 87.03. The bike-engined kit car class, 3H, saw an emphatic victory for Robert Bailey and his Caterham with a record-setting 70.93. Steve Morgan took second (73.65) followed by Andrew Steel (74.10). In Class 4H, Stuart Nelson in the Haggispeed took victory at 75.97.

The small racing car class was dominated by Paul Masters, who seems to be enjoying racing with his spare standard engine after blowing up the tuned one, and turned in a best of 68.33. Second went to Richard Vaughan in his OMS (70.28) followed by Eve Whitehead (73.46). Chris Taylor in his Terrapin took fifth at 74.73 and Barry Whitehead seventh (78.05).

The Nelson family were out in force in the Formula Ford class. The win went to Phil Nelson in his Van Diemen at 77.23, with the family affair broken up by Geoff Ward coming in second in his Swift at 77.61. Peter Nelson took third in his older Crossle (80.36) with Phil's daughter Felicity following at 92.20.

Glyn Sketchly won the up to 1600cc racing car class with a best of 68.06. In the up to 2000cc class John Graham whipped his Dallara round in a winning – and FTD – time of 67.82. Bryan Walker, who managed only one timed run, was second at 75.81. The classic cars class went to Alan Wilson in his Austin Healey 3000 (86.05) with Chris Wilson in his Vauxhall Astra third (92.86).

**(Apologies for the picture quality, taken by the editor with his box Brownie. The Bulletin is missing ace snapper and reporter, Denise Moore, presently enjoying an extended jaunt around the USA.)**

*Continued*

## HORSE POWER IS AT A PREMIUM FOR A BLAST ROUND AINTREE

Four timed runs, dry weather – although with blustery winds – and the usual challenge of 'let's go really fast and not hit a horse jump' – were on offer at Aintree on September 1. The two smaller standard classes were combined but that made no difference to the season-long battle between the Honda S2000 duo of Martin Rowe and Roger Fish. Martin emerged on top at 54.11 with Roger just behind on 54.28.

In Class 1B Russell Thorpe equalled his own record of 53.47, only to have it and the win taken from him by James Kerr who set a time of 53.31. Alan Sawyer had an emphatic win in Class 1C at 53.70 with Chris Wilson second (59.77). In Class 1D Robert Holt came in second (59.91).

Andy Taylor took third in the small roadgoing kit car class at 54.01, with Bill Stevenson sixth at 60.08 and Carol on 68.48. Classes 3A and 3B were merged and Andrew Larton emerged third (51.77) followed by John Moxham (52.36).

Victory in the smaller sports libre and super sports class went to Stuart Nelson on 45.88. There was a Longton 1-2-3 in the up to 1100cc racing cars. Craig Powers won at 43.68, followed by Eve Whitehead (45.07) and father Barry (45.46). Peter Nelson and his classic FF Crossle were the only Longton representatives in their class. Peter came fourth (54.14).

Glyn Sketchley took FTD and the win in the up to 1600cc racing cars with a best of 41.76. Brian Walker was alone in the larger racing car class and recorded 48.12. Alan Wilson was second with 56.57 in the classics, where results are calculated on target times.

## OLIVER'S MOUNT AUGUST 19 RESULTS

LDMC competitors were showing their winning ways at Oliver's Mount. Michael Bellerby triumphed with 45.17 in the small kits car class and Chris Hulatt took the modified kits car class win at 42.88.

The smaller racing car class went to Graham Smith (41.69) with Eve Whitehead second (43.49), Richard Vaughan third (44.44) and Barry Whitehead fourth (45.79). Glyn Sketchley record 38.91 in the up to 1600 racing car class to take FTD, with Brian Walker setting 45.51 in the up to 2000cc class.

**THORESBY PARK, SEPTEMBER 15 AND 16 – RESULTS NOT YET AVAILABLE**

## LDMC CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS

The LDMC Speed Championship top ten standings after the Three Sisters event on September 9 were:

- |                             |                              |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Roger Fish (1027.25)     | 6. Andrew Steel (993.70)     |
| 2. Russell Thorpe (1019.07) | 7. Eve Whitehead (992.41)    |
| 3. Martin Rowe (1016.39)    | 8. Barry Whitehead (958.92)  |
| 4. Craig Powers (1009.17)   | 9. Paul Masters (911.12)     |
| 5. Brian Walker (1007.58)   | 10. Richard Vaughan (899.89) |

**The LDMC Sprint Championship** top three were: 1. Jim Walsh (212.0); 2. Keith Minshull (210.04); 3. David Welton (210.0).

*Continued .....*

## THE LATEST FROM LONGTON ....

### **New entries secretary**

John Coole, a member of Longton's Committee, has taken on the role of Entries Secretary for Longton's events on a permanent basis.

John can be contacted at:

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Tel: 01772 323591. Mob: 07967 021320. Email: [j.coole@btinternet.com](mailto:j.coole@btinternet.com)

### **Results chief**

Chris Winstanley, who is also a member of Longton's Committee, will be taking charge of event results. Chris is already developing a new results programme which will shortly be in use and, along with John Coole, is working on new methods for results information to be accessible for competitors. Chris is also an MSA licensed Clerk of Course and MSA Timekeeper.

### **2013 sprint events**

Provisional LDMC sprint dates for 2013 are:

Sunday April 14 (3-Sisters)

Sunday June 30, (3-Sisters)

Sunday Sept 8 (3-Sisters)

Saturday Oct 5 and Sunday Oct 6 (Anglesey)

The summer and autumn Three Sisters sprints share the same weekend as the Aintree sprints held on the Saturday thanks to the co-operation of Liverpool Motor Club who have moved their September sprint back one week, with the additional advantage of avoiding the clash with MGCCC/L&CCC Anglesey. We hope that these 'NW Sprint Weekends' will allow new championships to come to our events, resulting in an even greater variety of machinery and stronger entries for both clubs.

### **Dinner and presentation**

A reminder of the date change for Longton's Annual Dinner and Presentation evening from January 26 to JANUARY 19, 2013 at the Barton Grange Hotel, Barton, Preston

*Continued .....*

## SNIPPETS FROM THE MSA

**The ANWCC** are promoting the next Go Motorsport club development evenings, delivered by the MSA's Club Development Officer Richard Egger. The first event will be hosted by Stockport 061 Motor Club at High Lane Conservative Club on September 25, while Chester Motor Club will host the second at Airbus UK Sports & Social Club, Broughton on November 7.

Both events start at 8pm, providing a forum for club representatives to discuss ways to promote their activities and increase memberships. The evenings are open to representatives of MSA-registered clubs that are members of the ANWCC or neighbouring Regional Associations. For more information or to register your attendance, visit [www.anwcc.org](http://www.anwcc.org)

**Hill climb** championship leader Trevor Willis won the first run-off at Prescott, with Jos Goodyear victorious in a rain-affected second encounter. Provisional Avon Tyres British Hill Climb Championship standings are: 1 Trevor Willis (259 points), 2 Scott Moran ( 221), 3 Jos Goodyear (186).

**An EC proposal**, that could potentially lead to MOT-style tests for trailers and make non-standard vehicle modifications illegal, is causing concern in the motor sports community. The ideas are detailed in an EC document on 'periodic roadworthiness tests for motor vehicles and their trailers'. The MSA has strongly objected to the plans and has contacted the Department for Transport who have now asked interested parties to complete a survey on the proposals.

The MSA says: 'Given the potentially catastrophic impact of these proposals on the sport, it would be helpful for members to write to their local MP and lodge their objections.' In addition an online petition has been launched independently of the MSA which can be found at: <http://epetitions.direct.gov.uk/petitions/37784>.

**The Go Motorsport** participation drive has been boosted with a new website, GoMotorsport.net, packed with information and contacts to help people get involved as competitors, volunteers and spectators. The MSA web initiative features new pages about the cost of competing, how to get a competition licence, how motor sport can engage with schools and communities and the ways in which Go Motorsport can help local motor clubs.

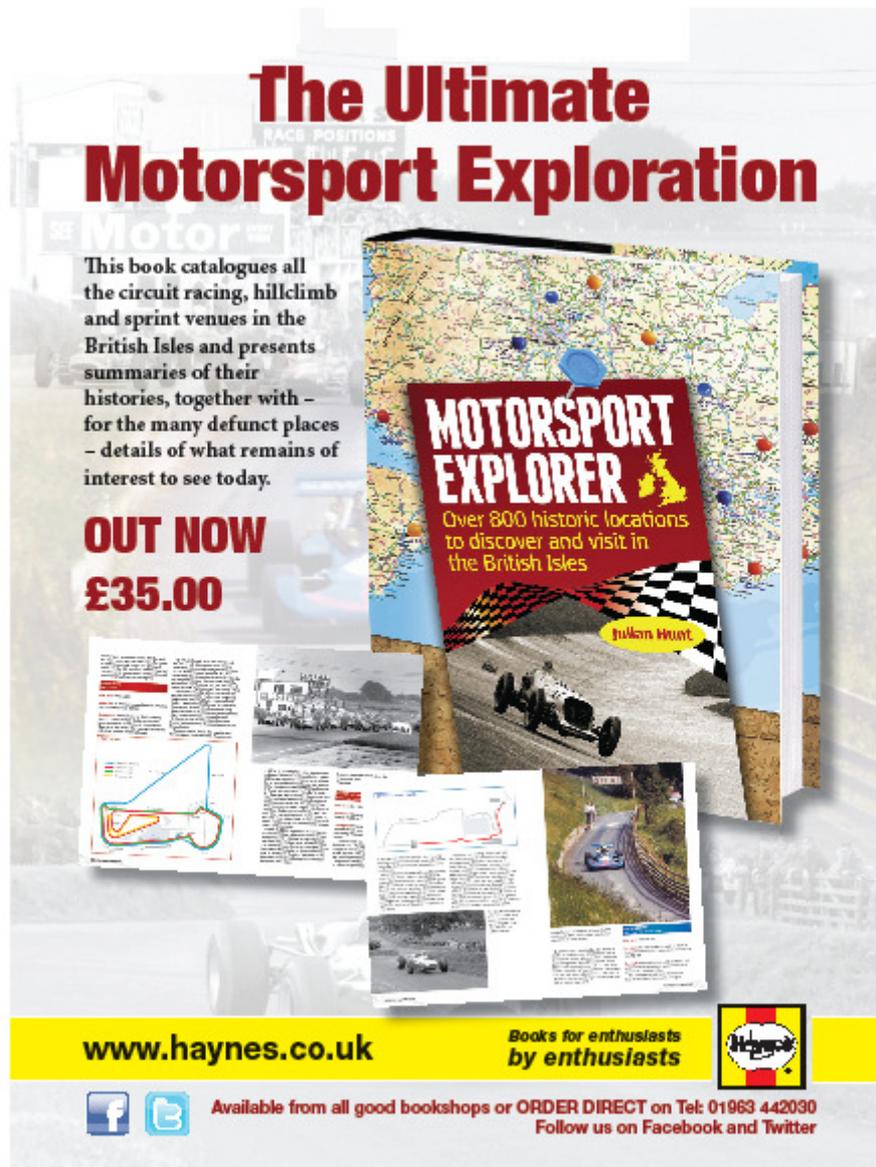
**Motor sport medical expert** Professor Sid Watkins has died after a long illness at the age of 84. Colin Hilton, Chief Executive of the Motor Sports Association said: 'With the work that he undertook over the past 50 years, it is quite possible that Sid Watkins has had a greater impact on modern day motor sport than any other person. Every driver in the sport owes Sid an enormous debt of gratitude for the safety advances that he introduced in Formula One and latterly through the FIA Institute that have made their way down throughout the rest of the sport.'

**The marshal** online renewal system for registration has received strong take-up since launching recently. To renew online click <http://www.msauk.org/custom/asp/splash/officials.asp?chapter=194>

*Continued .....*

## A NEW GUIDE TO MOTOR SPORT VENUES IN THE UK

An ideal present....? This book presents a fascinating account of Britain's motor sports venues, past and present. LDMC gets several mentions in coverage of events at Longridge, Isle of Man, Three sisters and Anglesey.



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