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PAUL MASTERS WINS LONGTON SPEED CHAMPIONSHIP WITH A MASTERLY PERFORMANCE AT ANGLESEY

Congratulations to Paul Masters, the new Longton Northern Speed Champion. The popular Jedi driver shot up the rankings to take first place with an impressive pair of wins at Anglesey.

Roger Fish, who had been at the head of the leader board, fell to second place after an Anglesey weekend where his usual speed and form in the Honda S2000 seemed to have deserted him. Third went to Sylva Striker driver, Michael Bellerby, who also zoomed up the placings with strong Anglesey performances that brought him up to the ten-event tally.

On Saturday Russell Thorpe briefly took the Championship lead from Roger Fish, although his chances of staying there took a dive when his venerable Renault 5 Turbo bent a valve, making him a non-runner on Sunday. Hopefully, an overall fourth will be some consolation. The rest of the top 10 were: John Graham (5), Martin Rowe (6), Brian Walker (7), Alan Sawyer (8), Andrew Steel (9), Craig Powers (10).

Full results on the Club's website www.longton-dmc.co.uk



New champion Paul Masters
Picture courtesy of Neil Lambert,
www.lambosort.co.uk

WESTFIELD STAR TIM NUNN TAKES THE SPRINT TITLE

In the Longton Sprint Championship congratulations go to Tim Nunn. The Westfield driver used his excellent Sunday performance at Anglesey to sneak ahead of Jim Walsh. David Welton was third, with Glyn Sketchely fourth and Stuart Nelson fifth.

Continued

A WONDERFUL WEEKEND IN WALES FOR LONGTON'S LAST EVENT OF THE YEAR

What a weekend! Longton's Anglesey event had everything – a nail-biting decider for our Championship, tumbling records, adreneline-drenched driving, dry weather and the jaw-dropping speed of Britain's top sprinters.

Despite a large entry and the need to fit in the Top 12 run offs for British Sprint Championship contenders, Saturday saw an impressive four timed runs around the twisty and undulating National circuit. Sunday added in the fast, sweeping curves of the International course, although a series of time-consuming incidents restricted competitors to two timed runs. Both days were split in two with the majority of competitors (report below) in the National B section and a National A section for the Sprint Championship contenders.



Unlucky weekend: Russel Thorpe
Picture - Steve Wilkinson, copyright retained



Demoted: Roger Fish, at Three Sisters earlier this year



Rotary powered: Brian Walker
Picture - Steve Wilkinson, copyright retained

SATURDAY

Martin Rowe showed that he has got to grips with rear-wheel drive with a win in Class SB, recording a best of 66.40 in his Honda S2000 and shaving six hundredths off Phil Short's old record. The more recent Honda arrival on the scene – Steven Sawyer in the Integra R – came in second, 0.49 behind, with Roger Fish third on 68.25. In the bigger-engined standard class John Howarth came in a close second with 72.98.

Russell Thorpe fortunately put in a good first timed run at 65.38 to take the win in the 1401 – 2000cc road modified class before 'Doris' expired. David Russell took second at 71.36. In the bigger-engined class Alan Sawyer posted 65.54.

The sports car class was an all Lotus affair with Robert Holt's Elise taking victory at 69.67 with the classic Elan of Phil Prince not far behind at 70.91. Michael Bellerby popped his effective Sylva Striker into second in the smaller roadgoing kit car class with a time of 59.75, followed by Andy Taylor on 65.80. In the bigger kit cars Sean Bourn in his Cyclone had keen Westfield opposition and could only manage third (65.74).

Andrew Larton was making a rare appearance in the up to 2000cc modprods and promptly shattered the class record by nearly six seconds as he took victory with 62.59. Michael Ashcroft took third (64.57) with Andy Bradley fourth on 65.34, closely followed by John Moxham (65.42). Richard Hargreaves was a clear winner in the bigger class at 59.66.

The TVR Tasmins of Dave Welton and Jim Walsh were having a ding-dong battle in the sports car class with Dave blitzing in a final run at 69.03 to win from Jim on 69.12. Kurt Ramsden in his 5-litre Westfield was second in the modified kits, with 54.71.

Continued

In the bike-engined kit car class Longton's new Sprint Series Champion Tim Nunn put in a rapid 54.36 to seal the win, whilst Andrew Steel emerged third (56.99). Stuart Nelson was alone in the supersports but broke the class record by 2.5 seconds with a time of 57.30 before a collapsed front wishbone curtailed his running for the day.

The new Longton Speed Champion, Paul Masters, dominated the small racing car class, although his winning time of 52.59 was nearly a second slower than his own class record. Eve Whitehead came in second at 55.65 with Peter Clark fourth (57.43) and Barry Whitehead fifth (57.53).

Geoff Ward won the Formula Ford class (60.06) with Peter Nelson in his older Crossle third (63.91) and his young car-sharing relative Felicity Nelson fourth (69.50). Glyn Sketchley was alone in the up to 1600cc racing car class but took FTD for the National B part of the meeting with 50.92. Brian Walker only managed one timed run in his rotary-engined Brytech in the larger class to record 60.54.



Saturday victory: Martin Rowe
Picture - Steve Wilkinson, copyright retained



Sideways Striker: Martin Bellerby
Picture - Steve Wilkinson, copyright retained



Record breaking: Andrew Larton
Picture - Steve Wilkinson, copyright retained

SUNDAY

Steven Sawyer kicked off proceedings with an unbeaten 108.45 in the first timed run to scoop the win in Class SB. Saturday-winner Martin Rowe had to settle for second (109.21) with Roger Fish third (110.03). In Class SC John Howarth had some more opposition and ended up fourth (121.10).

Russell Herring emerged on top in a close dice in the smaller roadgoing saloons with 109.10, beating Colin Smith (109.27). David Russell took fourth (117.41). In the bigger class Karl Wilson (105.61) demoted Alan Sawyer to second (109.08).

Robert Holt was alone in the sports car class but set a time of 116.23, beating his old record by over two seconds. In a reflection of the previous day, Michael Bellerby had to settle for second in the small roadgoing kits (97.19), followed by Andy Taylor (107.93). Similarly, Sean Bourn was third again in the bigger engined class (108.50).

In the small modprods Andrew Larton was again dominant, knocking nearly two seconds off the old record at 102.81. Michael Ashcroft (105.98) was third followed by John Moxham (107.57), this time beating Andy Bradley (107.74). Roger Hargreaves was alone in the bigger class and put in a best of 96.67.

Jim Walsh got his revenge for Saturday's defeat in the sports car class by putting in 112.27 to beat Dave Welton (113.91). In the modified kit car class Kurt Ramsden was back on top with a best of 89.25.

Tim Nunn was again going rapidly to win the bike-engined kit car class with a time of 90.57 whilst Andrew Steel dropped a place from Saturday to fourth (94.78). Stuart Nelson in the supersports class appeared to be taking it easy with his repaired front wishbone and set a best of 96.12, well off his own class record.

Continued

Paul Masters put in another dominant performance in the small single-seater with a winning time of 86.25. In a repeat of Saturday Eve Whitehead came in second (91.84) whilst Peter Clark stepped up a place to third (93.88) with Barry Whitehead fifth on 95.68.

The Formula Ford class was again won by Geoff Ward in his Swift (98.74) with Peter Nelson third (105.88) and Felicity Nelson fifth (114.08). Glyn Sketchly, in the up to 1600cc racing car class, took the National B FTD for the second time with a best of 83.19 in his Force PT. Brian Walker, in the bigger-engined class, again only did one timed run to record 97.30.

CALDER SETS THE PACE IN BRITISH SPRINT CHAMPIONSHIP TOP 12 RUN OFFS



Fastest on both days: Colin Calder in his Gould
Picture - Steve Wilkinson, copyright retained



Rapidly improving: Longton's John Graham
Picture - Steve Wilkinson, copyright retained

Report by STEVE WILKINSON

The final two rounds of the championship could have been an anticlimax, with Stewart Robb and Terry Holmes being safely ensconced in first and second, but far from it! On Saturday the sun was still shining as the Top 12 run-off got underway. We soon 'lost' Jonathan Toulmin when the chain parted just after he left the line. Scott Pillinger matched his Q-time on his first run and then clipped 0.85 off and remained in eleventh. Graham Porrett's attempt to climb to third faltered as he failed to match his Q-time on either run and slumped to tenth.

John Graham put in a banker first run and then could only match his Q-time so tumbled to ninth. Steve Miles was a couple of tenths shy of his Q-time on his first run but got his head down second time round and posted his first sub-50 of the day to climb to eighth. Terry Graves also popped in a sub 50 on his second run and climbed ahead of Inspector Gadget. Colin Birkbeck's first run was his first sub 50 and his second effort clipped a further four tenths off to reclaim his sixth spot. Mark Smith posted his first sub-49 run and climbed up from eighth to fifth. Mike Musson's second run was slightly quicker than in qualifying to take him up to fourth. Terry Holmes first run was his quickest of the day and his second was fractionally quicker but left him third.

Colin Calder was swiftly into his stride and on his first run clipped over seven tenths off his Q-time setting a new course record and taking the lead! His second run was even quicker which left the champion elect a mountain to climb. Stewart Robb's first run was over half a second slower than his Q-time (47.62) and he found himself in second. So as the final runner he had it all to do. The Judd sounded as crisp as ever but when he flashed through the finish the clocks stopped at 47.74! Robb was slower and the win went to Colin Calder.

SATURDAY RESULTS: 1. Colin Calder (3.5 Gould-NME GR55) 46.65s 2. Stewart Robb (4.0 Pilbeam-Judd MP88) 47.62s 3. Terry Holmes (3.5 Lola-Judd ERH) 48.02s 4. Mike Musson (4.0 Pilbeam-Judd MP97) 48.40s 5. Mark Smith (2.0 Reynard-Duratec 903SBD) 48.55s 6. Colin Birkbeck (2.0 Dallara-Vauxhall F301) 49.13s 7. Terry Graves (3.5 Gould-Cosworth GR37) 49.35s 8. Steve Miles (2.0 Van Diemen-Duratec/SBD RF96/MM11) 49.69s 9. John Graham (2.0 Dallara-Vauxhall F397) 50.30s 10. Graham Porrett (3.5 Lola-Judd ERH) 51.03s 11. Scott Pillinger (1.3s DSP-Suzuki/SBD) 51.47s DNF Jonathan Toulmin (1.6 Force-Suzuki PT) Broken Chain.
FTD: Colin Calder 46.65s (New Outright Course Record)

Continued

Sunday dawned clear and bright but with clouds gathering it was a much cooler day. Stewart Robb withdrew his entry and headed home to resolve a family crisis so the major threat to Colin Calder was gone.

On the International course the speed differential provided little chance for the less powerful cars. Try as they might Dave and Scott Pillinger remained rooted to the bottom of the Top 12 order throughout with Scott in eleventh. In tenth it was Jonathan Toulmin with his first run as his second involved rotational diversions. Colin Birkbeck only managed one run as the water pump failed. This left Birkbeck down in ninth and his attempt to hold onto third overall faltered.

Graham Porrett just managed to beat his Q-time but the margin was so small that he would be eighth and once again he failed to add to his season's tally of points. Steve Miles stormed round on his first run clipping over a second off his Q-time and then on his second effort he clipped a further 1.5 seconds off. It would keep him ahead of Porrett and more importantly it would increase his points haul. John Graham was inside his Q-time on both runs and played swap the placings with Steve Miles finishing just ahead of Mr Mole. Terry Graves first run was a stunner getting into the 80 second mark for the first time and securing fifth.

Mike Musson put in two sub-80 second runs cropping over three seconds off his Q-time but it would be only good enough for fourth. Mark Smith's first run left him in fourth but his second was a stunner as he chopped over a second off his Q-time to move ahead of Musson into third. Terry Holmes posted two sub 78 second runs his first being his best of the day. This made second place secure and added a single point to his season's tally. Colin Calder's first run was wonderful. The Gould was a blur on the back straight and Colin was working the tyres hard as they screamed in protest through Seaman's before the run to the hairpin. 74.90 was a new Outright Record and meant he didn't have to take his second run.

1. Colin Calder (3.5 Gould-NME GR55) 74.90s 2. Terry Holmes (3.5 Lola-Judd ERH) 77.06s 3. Mark Smith (2.0 Reynard-Duratec 903SBD) 78.22s 4. Mike Musson (4.0 Pilbeam-Judd MP97) 79.47s 5. Terry Graves (3.5 Gould-Cosworth GR37) 80.09s 6. John Graham (2.0 Dallara-Vauxhall F397) 81.13s 7. Steve Miles (2.0 Van Diemen-Duratec/SBD RF96/MM11) 81.37s 8. Graham Porrett (3.5 Lola-Judd ERH) 81.55s 9. Colin Birkbeck (2.0 Dallara-Vauxhall F301) 82.08s 10. Jonathan Toulmin (1.5 Force-Suzuki PT) 83.20s 11. Scott Pillinger (1.3s DSP-Suzuki/SBD) 83.69s 12. Dave Pillinger (1.3s DSP-Suzuki/SBD) 83.65s.
FTD – Colin Calder – 74.90s (New Outright Course Record)

Condolences to timekeeper and long-standing friend of LDMC, Alan Smith whose partner Dorothy, who accompanied him to many events over the years, died shortly before the Anglesey event.

A BIG 'THANK YOU' TO EVERYONE

We could not have wished for a better finale to the Club's '50th Anniversary' season, with our two Anglesey events completing the Club's championship rounds.

As a Club we thank everyone concerned – from our marshals without whom motorsport cannot take place, to our competitors for the close competition, to our officials and circuit management for all their hard work in organising the events. Everyone worked well together to produce two practice and four qualifying runs, plus the two Top 12 run-offs, on the National course on Saturday. This achievement was then followed by two practice and two qualifying runs, plus two Top 12 run-offs on the International course on Sunday, despite some incidents which did lose us some time. The weather was excellent with wall-to-wall sunshine on both days and for any outdoor event this is a big 'plus'. Thank you again to everyone – we now look forward to seeing you again for Longton's 2013 season.

Graham Malcolm, Chairman, Longton & District Motor Club

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SNIPPETS FROM THE MSA

Autosport International is back for another year at Birmingham's NEC on 10-13 January 2013, bringing the world of motor sport together under one roof, from karting and rallying to touring cars and BriSCA. Show highlights include historic motorsport and karting areas and a display of 2001 WRC champion Richard Burns' rally cars, while among the special guests will be sportscar legend Allan McNish. MSA members qualify for a £5 discount on tickets, quote the code MI3A when buying. To register, call +44(0)845 218 6012.

Marshals' registration. In line with the revised marshals' registration process, which includes an online renewal facility for 2013, all applicants – whether first-time or renewing by post – must use the new registration form, which is available from the MSA website: [http:// www.msauk.org/uploadedfiles/msa_forms/2013_Marshal_Reg_Form.pdf](http://www.msauk.org/uploadedfiles/msa_forms/2013_Marshal_Reg_Form.pdf) Older versions of the form will not be accepted.

Drag reduction. If your car has got wings and you've been tinkering with the idea of a drag reduction system, forget it. They breach MSA regulations, specifically. (J)5.20.10(c) which states that aerodynamic features must remain immobile. 'An aerodynamic device [that] can be altered using tools is considered 'fixed' and satisfies the above regulations, but if the adjustment can be made by a servo motor/hydraulic cylinder/pneumatic cylinder/bowden cable/mechanical linkage or similar device, then it is not fixed and not acceptable.'

Ground clearance. Competitors are reminded that, in accordance with (J)5.20.11, all cars – other than those complying with International Formulae – must have a minimum of 4cm ground clearance. Supplementary Regulations may require even higher clearances and scrutineers have been instructed to be more rigorous when checking this area.

LATEST FROM LONGTON

Two important pieces of information – the provisional Longton Championship events calendar for 2013 and the booking form for the annual dinner and awards presentation - are on the following pages.

Remember Mike Spray from Longton's autocross days? Mike was a staunch member of Longton & DMC when the Club organised an Autocross Championship and rallycross events at Longridge, Aintree, Oulton Park and Croft. He now lives on Anglesey and has been in touch with the Club via the website, suggesting a reunion of competitors from those days – people such as Alan Eckersley, John Clarkson, Ian Smith spring to his mind.

The idea at the moment is a get together at the Club's Annual Dinner & Presentation of Awards on 19th January 2013, and Mike will then organise a 'reunion table'. He will be the contact for arranging this – so for all 'autocrossers' and 'rallycrossers' out there from early days, please give him a call on 01407 740573, or email him at mikespray17@tiscali.co.uk as soon as possible.

Lunch with David Piper and Richard Attwood. Lancashire Automobile Club have been in touch to let us know that these racing greats will be the prestigious speakers at the Annual Motorports Luncheon they organise every three years. It is to be held on Sunday November 18 at The Stirk House Hotel, Gisburn, Lancashire.

This is a great chance to hear two men who have been friends, competitors and rivals through the golden age of Sportscar and Grand Prix racing. Both are former Grand Prix drivers and one a winner at Le Mans. Tickets are now available. More information from the LAC website www.lancsautoclub.com/luncheon.htm or contact the event secretary David Cuff, tel: 01995 603 884 or email david@cuf3.co.uk.

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LONGTON'S NORTHERN SPEED CHAMPIONSHIP 2013

10 events from 23 to count **ADVANCE DATES NOTIFICATION!**

<u>Date</u>			<u>Club</u>		<u>Venue</u>
14	April	Sunday	Longton & DMC	S	Three Sisters (Course 1)
27	April	Saturday	Liverpool MC	S	Aintree
04	May	Saturday	Auto 66	H	Oliver's Mount
05	May	Sunday	Auto 66	H	Oliver's Mount
11	May	Saturday	BARC (Yorks)	H	Harewood
02	June	Sunday	BARC (Yorks)	H	Harewood
15	June	Saturday	Westmorland MC	H	Barbon
29	June	Saturday	Liverpool MC	S	Aintree
30	June	Sunday	Longton & DMC	S	Three Sisters (Course 2)
13	July	Saturday	Westfield SCC	S	Blyton Park
14	July	Sunday	Westfield SCC	S	Blyton Park
04	August	Sunday	Chester MC/Lancs ACS	S	Three Sisters
10	August	Saturday	Hagley & DLCC	H	Loton Park
11	August	Sunday	Hagley & DLCC	H	Loton Park
18	August	Sunday	Auto 66	H	Oliver's Mount
25	August	Sunday	BARC (Yorks)	H	Harewood
01	September	Sunday	Auto 66	S	Elvington (<i>provisional</i>)
07	September	Saturday	Liverpool MC	S	Aintree
08	September	Sunday	Longton & DMC	S	Three Sisters (Course 1)
14	September	Saturday	Nottingham SCC	S	Thoresby Park
15	September	Sunday	Nottingham SCC	S	Thoresby Park
05	October	Saturday	Longton & DMC	S	Anglesey (National)
06	October	Sunday	Longton & DMC	S	Anglesey (International)

LONGTON SPRINT SERIES

4 events from 5 to count - Separate Trophies & Awards

14	April	Sunday		S	Three Sisters (Course 1)
30	June	Sunday		S	Three Sisters (Course 2)
08	September	Sunday		S	Three Sisters (Course 1)
05	October	Saturday		S	Anglesey (National)
06	October	Sunday		S	Anglesey (International)

Full regulations will be published on the Club's website www.longton-dmc.co.uk on receipt of MSA Championship Permit No. Tbc. To register your interest email Eric Leadbetter (Championship Co-ordinator) on ericleadbetter@yahoo.co.uk

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An invitation from Longton & District Motor Club
to join us for our

**Annual Dinner & Presentation of Awards for the 2012 season,
in which we celebrated the Club's 50th Anniversary**

Saturday, 19th January 2013

Barton Suite, Barton Grange Hotel, Barton, Preston PR3 5AA
6.30 p.m. for 7.30 p.m. Bar until 1.00 a.m.

Tickets: £30 each

Dress Code: Lounge suits & Posh Frocks!

(Accommodation is available at a special rate – quote Longton & DMC when booking)

Book with the hotel: Tel.01772 862551, or email: stay@bartongrangehotel.com

Booking Form

Name _____ (please print in block letters)

Tel No _____ Email address _____
(for acknowledgement, tickets are not issued)

Contact address _____

No. of tickets required _____ No. of dietary meals _____ Type _____

Payment enclosed @ £30 pp £ _____ (Cheques payable to LDMC Ltd.)

If possible, please seat our party with
(We cannot guarantee everyone can be seated with friends, but we will try our best!)

Please return your completed form and cheque to: Margaret Malcolm, 15 Kilworth Height, Fulwood, Preston PR2 3NU



END

