# Bean Breaker

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November 2025 - Part 1

## End of season round up edition







**Club Motorsport Since** 

1958

Winners of the Norrie Galbraith Shield Best event 2022 & 2024



Welcome to the third edition of Beam Breaker for 2025 – a look back on the second half of our season – and we start looking forward to the 2026 season which gets underway with the Woolbridge Spring event on the 25th/26th April. We hope that you enjoy this bumper edition.

Wiscombe Park has enjoyed a record-breaking year in 2025 with the biggest attendances in over 20 years. A big thank you to our spectators – many of you are Wiscombe Park regulars – others discovering the delights of speed hillclimbing for the first time. We hope that if you are a "Wiscombe newbie", that you will be returning in 2026.

You may have noticed if you follow our social media channels, that we have recently launched a Spectator Survey. We want to know what you think – idea's, suggestion's, criticism's - tell us please! We want to make your visit's to Wiscombe Park a memorable experience, and one that you will want to repeat - hopefully many times!

This link will take you to the Survey -

#### **Spectator Survey**

With Christmas approaching, we have some great gift ideas for the motorsport enthusiast in your life – our range of merchandise is very popular; and our 2026 Season Tickets are now on sale. We also have single event Gift Tickets available too.

Thank you to all our spectators, followers and supporters for making 2025 so memorable – lets go again and make 2026 truly special!

**Nigel M Cole** 

Wiscombe Ltd - Publicity Director / Editor

Wiscombe Park

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Magazine design and all photo's unless otherwise stated - Nigel M Cole Photography for Wiscombe Park

#### Do you want to get involved? Volunteers welcome!

Would you like to become involved in Wiscombe Park and join our group of volunteers?

We rely on volunteers to maintain the venue and keep it in A1 condition for the events.

You will join a dedicated group led by Peter Isaac who have a passion for motorsport - many are, or have been, competitors.

There will be lots of chat and laughs whilst the tasks are undertaken.

To volunteer, please complete the form.

Thank you!



#### 2026 Events



#### Young Motorsport Talent - Polly Ashley

Polly Ashley was one of four drivers competing in our record-breaking Junior Class at the MG Car Club event at the beginning of September. Polly made her Wiscombe Park, and hillclimb debut, at the MG CC event in 2024 in an MG ZR.

And what an incredible 12 months it has been for Torbay MC member Polly. In only her second full season of competition driving a 1.4L MG ZR, Polly was crowned the 2024 Association of South Western Motor Clubs 1st Choice Finishes Autocross Champion. In addition to the Championship, she also won the ASWMC Under 21's and the All-Rounders Trophies too – all achieved at the age of 15!

This year, Polly has switched from the MG ZR to a Daihatsu Copen for hillclimbs and sprints. And at the MG CC event, she had a great duel with Henri Gosney – our recently named Wiscombe Park Young Driver of The Year. Polly led the Junior Class after the first run by 3 tenths from fellow Torbay MC member Henri. In the second run, the top two places were shuffled with Henri leading the way by 7 tenths. On the final, and deciding run, Polly took the Class honour's by just 3 tenths with a time of 57.11s.

Polly has grown up around cars. Her father, Simon is himself a very successful racing driver – he won the Castle Combe Formula Ford 1600 title in 2002. He assists with the preparation of Polly's car, and when time allows, competes in his Ralt RT3 single seater race car. Her brother Luke, also a graduate of the Junior Class, is a triple Runner up in the ASWMC Autocross Championship. And to complete Team Ashley, mum, Abi, fulfills the role of Team Manager. Abi has also competed in speed hillclimbs, however, she is now happy to oversee the exploits of the other family members.

Polly has proved that she can drive fast whatever the car or discipline! I am sure that she has a very successful motorsport career ahead of her.



Polly with her ASWMC Championship winning autocross MG ZR and her 2024 trophies













#### Formula Student Final - Silverstone 16th-20th July - Report

Silverstone is the highlight of every Formula Student team's year, but this year it was especially exciting for XRacing, as the team came away with their best result in the team's history. Placing 16th of 59, and competing in every event, dynamic and static, the team used what they learnt from the previous season and thrived. Each day of the event presented a new challenge; event scheduling delaying chances to get through scrutineering, the weather, and other teams hindering our ability to score higher. Despite these challenges, the team came together and ensured that we could do the best we could, and everyone couldn't be prouder of what they got to achieve.



Thursday started off strong as the XR11 went through its first scrutineering, a process by which different aspects of the car is checked by judges and scrutineers to ensure compliance and safety measures, coming away with only a small list of changes that needed to be made which the engineers swiftly got to work on. As the engineers powered on, 4 members of the Business Team went off to compete in the Business Plan Presentation challenge in which they secured the first 79 points for the team.

On Friday morning, the car passed chassis and tech by 10am, moving onto safety which came within the next half an hour. The next stage was tilt test, where the car is strapped to a platform which tilts to 45 degrees then onto the 60 degrees, all while a driver is sat in the car! Our first attempt failed, as the front right wheel came off of the platform slightly, but was an easy fix meaning we could attempt again with confidence. However, the car and some of the team members were occupied most of the afternoon with Design and Cost challenges, meaning we only had an hour after they finished to attempt tilt again before the tests were shut for the day! By 5pm the car was ready for the other tests, passing tilt within 15 minutes and moving us onto noise testing.





Last year the XRX made it to noise testing on Saturday and we couldn't pass it before scrutineering was closed for the entire event, so getting the XR11 to this point on Friday evening was already a large accomplishment. By 5:50 we attempted noise but were told that we couldn't continue due to the time. Leaving us with no choice but to come back determined to pass first thing Saturday morning.

As Saturday morning came around, the team made it to noise testing, and after the disappointment of 2024, we were elated to pass it by 10am! By 11am the XR11 passed brake testing, resulting in it becoming the first XRacing car to pass scrutineering in 7 years. The team quickly moved to Skid Pad, the dynamic event showcasing the car's ability to turn at speed, which saw 2 drivers attempt it, but ultimately our focus was getting to Acceleration where we could earn some more points before it closed at 12pm.

We managed to get in 2 runs with our first driver, but the clock ticked down and our second driver's run unfortunately didn't occur due to another team being stopped at the end of the track. Saturday afternoon brought the Sprint event which saw our other 2 drivers attempt to set the fastest lap

time the XR11 could achieve. The weather the entire day was wet which was something we had not practiced with and were looking forward to seeing what was possible. In the end the two drivers did their best and we got a solid time in for the Endurance on Sunday.

Sunday was the day of Endurance, and we were the third team out on track in the morning, on a wet track which tested each team. Our first driver, Alex Pritchard did incredibly well in his first stint, recovering from a spin on track as well, which in the evening would benefit him in receiving the 'Most Entertaining Driver' award! Then our second driver, Alex Barton, took to the track and drove consistently well on a drying track. The drivers ended with a time of 42 minutes bringing our dynamic run to an end and showing what XRacing could do on track.

We are incredibly proud of the achievements we were able to produce this year, and how we brought our running and reliable car to the competition. We are incredibly grateful for the support from the University, Alumni, our sponsors and our partners like Wiscombe Park Hill Climb. Thank you to everyone who has followed our journey, and we want to thank Nigel Cole at Wiscombe for his continued support and advice during the 2025 season. We can't wait to see what 2026 can bring for both XRacing and Wiscombe!

#### Elizabeth Ashford - Business Development Lead - XRacing





Nigel and the Wiscombe teamThank you for your continued support during the 2025 season. We are increatibly grateful for your contribution to our publicity and generously allowing team members to attend events.

We cannot wait to start the 2026 Season alongside Wiscombe again, and hope this year brings more success.

XRacing

Thanh you from all of

#### **Marshals Draw**



At our recent Awards Evening we held the Marshals Draw – the first name out of Dave Pearce's "hat", drawn by Peter Isaac, was **Bob Thomas**. Two further tickets were also drawn by Bob and Colin Pook for the winners of the other main prizes:

1st Bob Thomas - £200 2nd Jessica Fetherstonhaugh - £150 3rd Mick Dunning - £100

Congratulations Bob, Jessica and Mick!

During the season over 80 Wiscombe marshals registered for the draw. The **Draw Fund totalled** a magnificent £1,900 and every marshal will be receiving a gift card.

A big "thank you" to everyone who donated to the Draw fund and thank you to all our marshals – we could not race without you!

Thank you to Dave Pearce for organising the Marshals Draw.



#### Wiscombe Park Tillicoultry Quarries Hillclimb Championship





**Ed Hollier** 



## Wiscombe Park Hillclimb Championship www.wiscombepark.co.uk







#### **Young Motorsport Talent - Henri Gosney**

Fifteen year old Henri Gosney from Dorchester was interested in cars from a very young age, encouraged by his petrolhead mother Prue. His first taste of the race track came as an 8-year-old when he started karting. He soon progressed to competing in kart venue championships. The racing bug had bitten!

Further encouragement was provided by Prue's partner, James Grant, who has been competing in speed events, hillclimbs and sprints, for 20 years. James has been very instrumental in Henri's progress providing guidance and tuition. Torbay MC member James has also sponsored Henri's racing through his Prime Shine Mobile Car Valeting and Detailing Service business.

This year Henri made the transition from karts to cars by successfully completing three sprint events at Clay Pigeon in preparation for his first hillclimb.

Henri, also a Torbay MC member, made his hillclimb debut at the Five Clubs event in early September sharing a Suzuki Swift with James. Over the course of his four runs, Henri reduced his times to ultimately set a PB of 60.14s - taking 10s off his first run time.

Henri was back in action at the MG Car Club event when we had four drivers competing in the Junior Class – a Wiscombe first. He had a close and exciting duel with fellow Torbay MC member Polly Ashley in her Daihatsu Copen. Polly, who made her hillclimb debut at the MG CC event in 2024, was leading the Class after the first run by 3 tenths from Henri. In the second run, the top two places were shuffled with Henri leading the way by 7 tenths. On the final, and deciding run, Polly took the Class honour's by just 3 tenths – Henri setting a new PB of 57.38s and finishing second in Class.

Henri rounded off his season with a final sprint outing at Clay Pigeon. His focus now switches to a very special event at the end of the month. He has an entry in the Goodyear-supported BRSCC Fiesta Junior Scholarship at Blyton Park 31st October-2nd November. This is a "winner takes all" event – with a huge prize on offer. The first two days will be qualifying sessions – the top 6 from each day will progress to the Final "shoot out" on day 3. The Top 12 will battle it out with the winner securing the BRSCC Fiesta Junior Championship Scholarship package worth £60,000. The prize includes a race-prepared Mk7 Zetec-S Fiesta Junior race car with full support and mentoring from BTCC competitor Josh Cook.

Henri's performances this season have drawn much attention, and he has just been named the Wiscombe Park Young Driver of the Year – congratulations!

We wish Henri good luck at Blyton Park and we look forward to following his progress up the motorsport ladder – we may see him racing on the circuits in 2026, if not, he will definitely be on the hills!



#### **Torbay MC - Speed Championship 2025**





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1. Andy Stoddart - Vauxhall Nova	83.26 pts
2. Neil Tuckey – Ford Fiesta	82.62 pts
3. Shaun Tuckey - Ford Escort	81.33 pts
4. Nathan Tuckey - Ford Escort Mk2	80.40 pts
5. John Opie – OMS PR	79.56 pts





www.torbaymotorclub.co.uk



Nathan Tuckey



## 2026 - Happy anniversaries!

#### **Cooper Car Company - 80th Anniversary**

The anniversary of this iconic British racing car manufacturer will be celebrated by the 500 Owners Association at Wiscombe Park in May.

Charles Cooper and his son John began building racing cars in Charles's small garage in Surbiton in 1946.



COOPER

At this years 500 OA event, ex-Brabham F1 driver Richard Robarts won the Class by just 3 tenths of a second from Hamish Cameron-Eveleigh.

James Baxter entered his Cooper T90 - the final car built by the Cooper Car Co. The car enjoyed much success in America driven by its original owner.



R Richard Robarts





#### Five Clubs Celebrates its Wiscombe Park 50th Anniversary



bristolmc.org.uk

www.bosmotorclub.co.uk





plymouthmotorclub.co.uk

tauntonmc.co.uk



The first Wiscombe Park event organised by the Five Clubs was on Sunday 9th May 1976. Those clubs were Bristol, Burnham-on-Sea, Plymouth, Taunton and Haldon. Sadly Haldon folded in 1996.

The Five Clubs weekend is held in September.



#### Woolbridge MC Celebrates its Wiscombe Park 50th Anniversary







The first Wiscombe Park event organised by Woolbridge MC was on Sunday 12th September 1976 (with the MG CC).

Woolbridge organise the season opening two day Spring event and the prestigious British Hillclimb Championship weekend in July

#### Woolbridge MC - British Hillclimb Championship

Wiscombe Park's British Championship event was a record breaker in every way. The event being part of a 30-round Championship that takes competitors to venues from Doune in Scotland to Wiscombe Park and includes events in Ireland and the Channel Islands.

The practice sessions on Saturday morning were completed under overcast skies with a light shower of rain mid-morning forcing drivers to treat the sharp hairpin bends at Wis, Sawbench and Martini with additional respect. There are no prizes for risking all to achieve a quick time during practice.

The hill was dry for the event runs in the afternoon, the highlight being the fastest drivers qualifying for the British Championship Top 12 Run Off and the Tin Top Challenge Top 10 Run Off – a dedicated championship for saloon type cars with roofs.

For the 2024 British Champion and current Championship leader, Matt Ryder, it was a textbook performance of smooth driving and speed to clinch the win with a time of 32.74s – his eleventh of the season. Going into the weekend, he had a lead of six points over his nearest rival, four times Champion, Wallace Menzies. The rapid Scot could only manage third place behind 2015 Champion, Alex Summers.

On Sunday, the drivers were presented with similar weather conditions to Saturday for morning practice. The first event runs were well underway in the afternoon when there was a very heavy, hour-long downpour. The paddock became frantic with activity as drivers hurriedly replaced slick tyres with either intermediate or wet ones.

The 1000-yard course comprising two long straights and three hairpin bends is challenging in the dry - in the wet it becomes potentially treacherous. The difficult conditions produced a few incidents for the marshals to deal with. However, importantly, there were no drivers injured – a testament to the high safety standards. Just a few damaged cars that will live to fight again.





Continuing his great form from Saturday, it was Matt Ryder who again set the fastest time of the day - 38.29s - to complete a weekend "double" and notch up win number twelve. For Wallace Menzies, it was a rather disappointing sixth place. Matt Ryder extended his Championship lead to 13 points. Will Hall consolidated his third place in the Championship with a fourth and a second place from the Wiscombe weekend.

In the Tin Top Challenge, on Saturday the Run Off honour's were claimed by Damien Bradley - Subaru Impreza Type RB; on Sunday the 2024 Champion and current Championship leader, Simon Bainbridge, took top spot in his SBR Chrono to maintain his lead over Damien Bradley by a healthy 22 points.

Despite the weather conditions not being conducive to breaking records, surprisingly, four drivers still established new Class records. Dawlish Warren golf professional and Torbay Motor Club member, Jon Langmead, was a record breaker on Saturday – setting a time of 42.22s in his Lotus Elise 135R.

Other drivers setting records were Plymouth racer Alex Coles – 34.06s in his Force TA; Sarah Bosworth - Van Diemen RF85 - 43.19s; and Damien Bradley - Subaru Impreza Type RB - 39.62s.

For the first time in its 67-year history, Wiscombe Park welcomed a foreign hillclimb Champion – Australian Dean Tighe chose the event to make his UK debut. He was so impressed, he may well return in 2026 to undertake more events.

The event also attracted Wiscombe Park's biggest ever crowd - great news for the event organisers, Woolbridge Motor Club. It also provides a big boost for South West motorsport. Spectators can get very close to the action - and with the fastest cars achieving speeds of 130mph on the straights, a visit to Wiscombe Park is as much of an adrenaline rush for the spectators as it is for the competitors.







#### Woolbridge MC British Championship









#### Woolbridge MC British Championship



#### Results

#### Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> July - Class winners

Class A(i) Road-Going Series Production Cars up to 2000	occ Class
Jonathan Langmead 23 Lotus Elise 135R 1798CC	42.22
Class A(ii) Road-Going Series Production Cars over 2000	cc Class
Richard Snow 31 Porsche GT4 RS 4000CC	43.32
Class A(III) Roadgoing 4wd Cars any capacity Class	
Rodney Eyles 35 Porsche 911 Turbo 3800CC	43.50
Class B Road-Going Specialist Production Cars Class	
Richard Price 41 Caterham 7 1796CC	42.00
Class C(i) Modified Series Production Cars up to 1400cc	Class
Ben Bonfield 50 Austin Mini 1380CC	44.19
Class C(ii) Modified Series Production Cars over 1400cc	& up to 2000 C
Stuart Reid 53 Peugeot 205 1927CC	43.55
Class C(iii) Modified Series Production Cars over 2000cc	Class
Paul Howells 56 Porsche 911 3800CC	42.67
Class C(iv) Class	
Damien Bradley 62A Subaru Impreza Type RB 2350CC	40.20
Class D Modified Specialist Production Cars up to 2000c	
Paul Reynolds 66 Caterham 7 1585CC	41.42
Class F Sports Libre Cars up to 2000cc Class	74
Mike Lee 74 Force LM03 1298CC	40.48
Class G Sports Libre Cars over 2000cc Class	
Simon Bainbridge 82 SBR Chrono 4200CC	40.36
Class H Racing Cars up to 600cc Class	- 0
Archie Ker 85 OMS Hornet 599CC	43.59
Class I Racing Cars over 600cc up to 1100cc Class	
Ben Hamer 90A OMS 28 999CC	36.44
Class J(i) Formula Ford Pre-1994 Class	
Sarah Bosworth 95 Van Diemen RF85 1600CC	43.19
Class J(ii) Racing Cars over 1100cc up to 1600cc Class	7.
David Warburton 8 Gould GR59 1600CC	35.09
Class K(i) Racing Cars over 1600cc up to 2000cc (norma	lly aspirated CI
Johnathen Varley 110 GWR Predator 2000CC	36.17
Class K(ii) Racing Cars over 1600cc up to 2000cc (forced	induction) Cla
Alex Coles 115 Force TA 1300CC	34.06
Class L Racing Cars over 2000cc Class	
Matthew Ryder 1 Gould GR59J 4000CC	33.35
Class M Sports Racing & Racing Cars to 1971 Class	-
Andy Tippett 125 Brabham BT30x-1 3500CC	43.90
Class W Downton Motor Club Class	
lan Ingleheart 148 Westfield SE 1998CC	39.89

Class A(i) Road-Going Series Production Cars up to 200	Occ Class
Jonathan Langmead 23 Lotus Elise 135R 1798CC	43.59
Class A(ii) Road-Going Series Production Cars over 200	Occ sponsor Class
Richard Andrews 30 Porsche GT4RS 4000CC	49.20
Class A(III) Roadgoing 4wd Cars any capacity Class	
Rodney Eyles 35 Porsche 911 Turbo 3800CC	50.25
Class B Road-Going Specialist Production Cars Class	
John Pick 40 AMS Murtaya 1993CC	45.31
Class C(i) Modified Series Production Cars up to 1400c	c Class
Tony Bonfield 50A Austin Mini 1380CC	48.77
Class C(ii) Modified Series Production Cars over 1400c	c & up to 2000 Clas
Stuart Reid 53 Peugeot 205 1927CC	49.67
Class C(iii) Modified Series Production Cars over 2000c	c Class
Paul Howells 56 Porsche 911 3800CC	66.48
Class C(iv) Class	The state of the s
Damien Bradley 62A Subaru Impreza Type RB 2350	C 39.62
Class F Sports Libre Cars up to 2000cc Class	
Samuel Nicholson 75 Mallock Mk20 1700CC	49.28
Class G Sports Libre Cars over 2000cc Class	
Simon Bainbridge 82 SBR Chrono 4200CC	44.86
Class H Racing Cars up to 600cc Class	
Archie Ker 85 OMS Hornet 599CC	56.78
Class I Racing Cars over 600cc up to 1100cc Class	
Tom Weaver 91 Empire Evo2 998CC	42.01
Class J(i) Formula Ford Pre-1994 Class	
Jimmy Harris 96 Van Diemen RF85 1600CC	48.33
Class J(ii) Racing Cars over 1100cc up to 1600cc Class	
David Warburton 8 Gould GR59 1600CC	41.64
Class K(i) Racing Cars over 1600cc up to 2000cc (norm	ally aspirated Class
Johnathen Varley 110 GWR Predator 2000CC	42.06
Class K(ii) Racing Cars over 1600cc up to 2000cc (force	ed induction) Class
Alex Coles 115 Force TA 1300 CC	39.74
Class L Racing Cars over 2000cc Class	
Will Hall 3 Gould GR59 Judd 4000CC	39.55
Class M Sports Racing & Racing Cars to 1971 Class	Taxable Assessment
Andy Tippett 125 Brabham BT30x-1 3500CC	60.54

#### Run Off's

	BHC Top 12 Run Off			Tin Top Challenge Top :	10 Run Off
1	Matthew Ryder	32.74	1	Damien Bradley	38.88
2	Alex Summers	32.86	2	Steven Darley	39.36
3	Wallace Menzies	33.16	3	Simon Bainbridge	39.37
4	Witt Hatt	33.22	4	Stephen Moore	42.06
5	Alex Coles	33.94	5	Stuart Reid	42.66
6	David Uren	34.13	6	Richard Snow	42.86
7	Trevor Willis	34.37	7	Paul Howells	43.05
8	David Warburton	34.82	8	Jonathan Williamson	43.09
9	Johnathen Varley	35.47	9	Rodney Eyles	43.48
10	Darren Gumbley	35.72	10	Jim Herbert	43.92
	Jason Tunnicliffe	35.89		,,	
	Sean Gould	FAIL			

	BHC Top 12 Run Off			Tin Top Challenge Top	10 Run Off
1	Matthew Ryder	38.29	1	Simon Bainbridge	42.52
2	Will Hall	38.74	2	Damien Bradley	43.84
3	Alex Summers	39.33	3	Steven Darley	44.86
4	Sean Gould	39.51	4	Stuart Reid	46.50
5	Alex Coles	39.64	5	Jim Herbert	46.86
6	Wallace Menzies	39.73	6	Rodney Eyles	47.15
7	David Warburton	40.54	7	Eric Morrey	48.29
8	Trevor Willis	40.67	8	Tony Bonfield	54.65
9	Paul Haimes	41.47		Tony Adams	
10	Tom Weaver	42.02		Richard Andrews	
	Johnathen Varley	43.09			
	Damien Bradley	43.40			

#### **New Class Records**

#### **Wiscombe Park merchandise**

Show your support for Wiscombe Park with our branded merchandise.

The items are of a high quality and produced by Regatta, ProRTX and Beechfield - available in a range of colours and sizes.

Order now from our dedicated web site Wiscombe Park Merchandise





www.wiscombepark.co.uk

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Full industry testing is complete and the commercial launch is set for 2026. Ahead of launch we're offering an exclusive opportunity for drivers to trial our composite backplates for free.





We're seeking competitors in **non-road-going classes** who are interested in trialling our cutting-edge technology. Our launch is a limited run and we're looking specifically for drivers running one of the following pad types:

- WVA26420 (GR Yaris)
- AP Racing CP3215D50
- Brembo P09004N

There's a **limited number of free pads available** in exchange for your insights on the tactile performance and feel of our composite backplates. Get in touch via email to register your interest: info@tribolbraking.com

Please note, testing pads are for track use only.

#### **Young Motorsport Talent - Murray Murray**

At the MG Car Club event, we had a record number of drivers entered in the Junior Class. For the first time ever at Wiscombe Park, there were four drivers competing for Class honours. One competitor comprising that quartet was Murray Murray, the 15-year-old son of regular Wiscombe Park competitor Bella.

Murray made his first appearance in the Wiscombe paddock as a baby! Just like his mum before him, he grew up in the paddock surrounded by cars. Bella has shared a 1000cc Cooper-Harley Mk5 with her father, Guy, since she made her hillclimb debut in the early 90's aged 18.

It was during the 2024 MG Car Club event that fellow Junior Class competitor, Polly Ashley, mentioned to Murray that he could be competing. Polly was making her hillclimb debut that day in an MG ZR.

That was all the encouragement Murray needed – and he set a target for himself to make his hillclimb debut at Wiscombe exactly 12 months later. He saved up to purchase a suitable car – a Mini One that cost him £1,000. The next task was to enter the required three sprint events – part of MSUK's rules before 14–16-year-olds can enter a hillclimb. Murray competed in a pair of sprints at both Clay Pigeon and Chivenor, and living in London, a sprint at Lydden Hill. Bella was amazed at the interest shown in Murray by the Borough 19 MC members - the organising club at Lydden. It appears that they rarely have Junior Class competitors at their events. Murray made a big impression!

With five sprint events successfully completed, Torbay MC member Murray achieved his target to compete at Wiscombe within 12 months, entering the MG Car Club event. And it was a memorable debut on a day when the hill was particularly challenging due to the changing weather conditions. Steadily working his times down to settle on a PB of 59.64s taking 14s off his first run in practice. That time gave him 3rd place in the Class.

In the "Murray family challenge", Murray took the win beating Bella's best time of 60.96s by 1.3s! Bella was competing in a "tin top" for the very first time. Sharing Murray's Mini for the event was a late change of plans. Bella's usual steed, the Cooper Harley, had developed a slight oil leak in Guy's garage in Cornwall.

Guy decided three years ago to retire from competitive driving, so the plan is for Murray to share the Cooper-Harley with Bella. We very much look forward to seeing that – I am sure that Murray cannot wait to compete in the iconic race car!

We wish Murray every success with his motorsport career – and we look forward to seeing the third generation of the Murray family competing regularly at Wiscombe Park.





#### **Charitable donations at Wiscombe Park**



We are very pleased to report that we have enjoyed record attendances at Wiscombe Park this season. That has also been very good news for **Honiton Round Table**. As many of you will have noticed, it is members of Honiton RT who welcome you into our car park with a big smile. In return for their sterling work, we donate a percentage of our gate receipts to Round Table. This year, that is a record £5,000!

Alistair Britchford, Chairman of Honiton RT, has advised us that this year they are supporting the following causes – Force Cancer; Farway, Honiton, Offwell and Upottery schools; Honiton Air Cadets; Hospiscare; Honiton Foodbank; Axminster Man's Shed.

A massive thank you to all our spectators – you not only enjoy a great day of motorsport at Wiscombe Park – you are also helping local charitable causes.

Lets make 2026 another record year!

Thank you to the volunteers from Honiton Round Table!

#### Ed Hollier - 2025 Fusion Fostering ASWMC Hillclimb Champion

It has been a fantastic season of speed hillclimbing for Ottery St Mary based Ed Hollier in his Force HC. Ed recently won the Wiscombe Park Tillicoultry Quarries Championship. And to finish off his season in fine style, he has just clinched the 2025 Fusion Fostering ASWMC Hillclimb Championship - Congratulations Ed!

Ed, a member of Woolbridge Motor Club, made his hillclimb debut in 1994 at Torbay MC's Oddicombe Hillclimb sharing the ex-Charlie Gracewood Austin Mini – a very rapid race spec machine – with his father Bob. It was not until Ed's second event at Tregrehan that he raised eyebrows as a "talent to watch" - he finished an impressive runner up behind Mark Shillabeer in atrocious conditions. Innumerable class wins and records followed.

By the early 2000's Ed graduated to single seaters – firstly with the ex-Les Connett Terrapin Mk1A/21. A 1600cc OMS SC1 followed – Ed collected his first major silverware with the car when he was crowned the 2007 MSA Hillclimb Leaders Champion. He also made his debut in the British Hillclimb Championship in 2004 with further appearances in the BHC in 2007, 2013 and 2015-2017. This final period in a 1600cc Empire Evo 00 Hayabusa GSX achieving a best Championship event finish of seventh in July 2016. His best BHC season was 2016 finishing in ninth place – a top 10 Championship position competing against cars with much larger engines – an incredible achievement.

A Pilbeam MP62 rolling chassis was also acquired from triple British Sprint Champion Rod Eyles. Ed set many Fastest Times of the Day with this car before switching to his current Suzuki engined Force HC. Ed is an accomplished engineer, and he has developed his bespoke Force single seater race car over several seasons with assistance from his father Bob.



Pilbeam MP62 - Wiscombe Woolbridge Spring 2021

Force HC - Wiscombe MG Car Club 2025



It has been a very successful season for Force Racing Cars – the cars are designed and manufactured by Ian Dayson. Mike Lee of Torbay MC finished Runner-up also in a Force chassis from the Rugeley based constructor.

Championship Co-Ordinator Roy Sims commented "Although Ed has finished nearly four points clear, just 0.9 points cover 2nd to 6th places, which is an incredibly close result - for those that don't know the scoring system in full, that is 0.9 of a second over the whole season!"

Ed adds the 2025 ASWMC Hillclimb Title to those that he won in 2023 and 2024. This is the first time in the Championship's sixty-year history that a driver has completed a hat trick of back-to-back Championships. Ed Hollier – the South West's fastest racing driver!

#### 2025 Fusion Fostering ASWMC Hillclimb Championship

1. Ed Hollier – Force H/C	192.93pts
2. Mike Lee - Force LM	189.00pts
3. Julian Rinaldi – Ford Fiesta	188.97pts
4. Matt Vann – Audi TT	188.87pts
5. Jack Ellis – Subaru Impreza	188.46pts
6. Ian Ingleheart – Westfield Se	188.10pts





A summary of Ed's ASWMC season - 6 records (Wiscombe Park 3; Werrington Park 2; Tregrehan 1) out of 14 rounds – best 9 results count.

Ed receiving his FTD trophy from Sarah Forsyth
- Chairwoman Woolbridge MC - Spring event 2025





#### **2026 Ticket Prices**



Held at 2025 prices!

**Purchase Tickets** 

For all our events, except the British Championship weekend, the ticket prices are:

> Advance from the website £12 On the gate £14

The British Championship weekend Advance from the website £15 On the gate £17 BHC Weekend Ticket from the web site £24 (not available on the gate)

**Season Ticket** £60 - A massive 66% discount on gate prices

Gift Ticket - £12 - valid for all our 2026 events.

Our Club Package for car clubs will again be available with extra discounts e-mail wiscombe.hillclimb@gmail.com for details

**UNDER 16's FREE** 

With a Season Ticket, each event costs just £5 - that must be the best value motorsport ticket in the UK!

#### Torbay MC members success on the hills in 2025

In Torbay MC's 75<sup>th</sup> year, two members have found success in national and regional hillclimb championships.

**Jon Langmead** has won Class A (i) and finished 11th overall in the BHC Cup in his Lotus Elise 135R. He dominated the Class with 10 wins and 3 records - two at Gurston Down and Wiscombe Park. He also clinched the Class in 2023 and 2024. Jon also set a new Class A2 record at the Wiscombe Torbay MC event - 42.88s.





Jon Langmead lining up for The Gate at the BHC event and receiving his Class win award from Roy Sims at the Wiscombe Torbay MC event

**Mike Lee** in his Force LM03 finished runner-up in the Fusion Fostering ASWMC Hillclimb Championship missing out on top spot to Ed Hollier by just 4 points. It was an incredibly competitive season - 2nd to 6th places were separated by just 0.9 points! Mike won the Championship in 2005 and 2010.

#### Congratulations Jon and Mike!





Mike Lee receiving his Class win award from Janie Chichester at the Wiscombe BHC event and attacking Wis Corner

## Evolution of a race car – Jonathan Williamson / Laura Wardle – Porsche 911 Carrera - celebrating 40 years!

There are not many racing drivers who can claim that they have been competing in the same race car for over 40 years. South West competitor Jonathan Williamson is one who can – earlier this season he passed the milestone at Wiscombe Park in his Porsche 911 Carrera which carries the registration number TVK 970S.

Jonathan's first foray into motorsport was in 1969 competing in autotests, rallies and autocross. His first speed hillclimb was in 1979 at Cricket St Thomas in his silver Porsche 9115 – UWD 774G.



The next Porsche that Jonathan took to the hills was a 1972 2.7L 911 Targa – JOD 280V. Together with his racing partner, Laura Wardle, they made their debut in 1983 – a year in which they learnt the courses and the car.

Laura's entry into motorsport is partly thanks to a Wiscombe Park experience. In 1981, following a property sale, she purchased a 2.4L Porsche 911T from Autofarm. For those not familiar with the world of Porsche, Autofarm was established by Josh Sadler in 1972 and became a highly regarded Porsche specialist. The business and its reputation continue, however, Josh sold it in 2015.

After a wet and muddy visit to Wiscombe (familiar to most of us!) in her newly acquired 911T with tan interior, Laura was left irritated when competitors used her lovely Porsche to store their wet and muddy waterproofs in! It was suggested to her, that to avoid a repeat scenario, she should start competing. So, equipped with her helmet and race licence, Laura's motorsport career was off the start line.

The 1982 season was her first full season followed by a season sharing the 911 Targa with Jonathan in 1983.

The Targa at that point was still owned and raced by Devon based Porsche specialist, Crispin Manners of Oak Tree Garage, Newton Poppleford. During a race at Castle Combe Crispin suffered a major engine failure at Quarry Corner. The second con rod had made a break for freedom bursting through the block. It was such a violent detonation that the marshals had to use large screwdrivers to lever shrapnel out of the tarmac!

The remainder of the 1983 season was completed with a transplanted 2L 911S engine. For the 1984 season, a 2.7 Carrera spec engine was installed into the Targa, and Jonathan claimed his first silverware, winning the Association of South Western Motor Clubs Hillclimb Championship and was also runner up in the Sprint Championship.



In the Spring of 1985 TVK 970S was purchased and Crispin Manners rebuilt and prepared the car for hillclimbs and sprints – initially in road going spec. Jonathan made his debut in the car in April 1985 at Werrington Park. The car was shared with Laura and the car was sponsored by Parks of Exeter who were the Official Porsche Centre for the SW.

Despite missing some early season events in 1985, the debut year in the Carrera was very successful and Jonathan finished runner up in the ASWMC Hillclimb Championship.

For the second season with the car a decision was taken to concentrate on SW hillclimbs (with forays to Prescott and Shelsley Walsh). This plan produced handsome rewards – a 1-2 result in the ASWMC Championship – Jonathan took the 1986 Title and Laura was runner up.

A set of slicks were also purchased enabling the Carrera to be more competitive at the Midland venues, although then having to compete in the modified class.

For 1987, Crispin Manners had located a very special 3.2L RS specification engine which was installed into the Carrera. With this extra power Jonathan was again crowned ASWMC Champion and Laura was well placed.

Prior to the start of the 1988 season, three major events occurred – Parks of Exeter was sold and the new owners were not interested in motorsport; Jonathan relocated to Cornwall to establish his new farm equipment business, Dairycentre; and Laura married and relocated to Nottinghamshire.

With all these major events coinciding to produce the "perfect storm", Jonathan and Laura decided to pause their motorsport activities. However, Jonathan was persuaded to help Tregrehan Hillclimb at St Austell celebrate its 25th Anniversary in 1992. The motorsport bug had bitten Jonathan again, and he entered various events both in the SW and Midlands.

In 1995, renowned Porsche specialist Josh Sadler of Autofarm fame, established the Porsche Club Speed Championship (hillclimbs and sprints) which Jonathan competed in very successfully for a number of seasons. This being a national championship took Jonathan to hillclimb venues all over the UK. Towards the end of the 90's, Jonathan invited Laura to share the Carrera at the Curborough Sprint, so the old partnership that had been so successful in those earlier years was back on track.

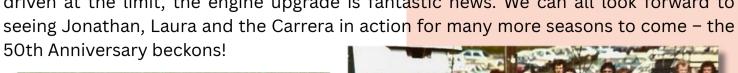
The Porsche Club Speed Championship remained a focus for the pair for a number of seasons together with the Leaders series. Jonathan sold his business in 2006 which meant that he had more time to travel to events.

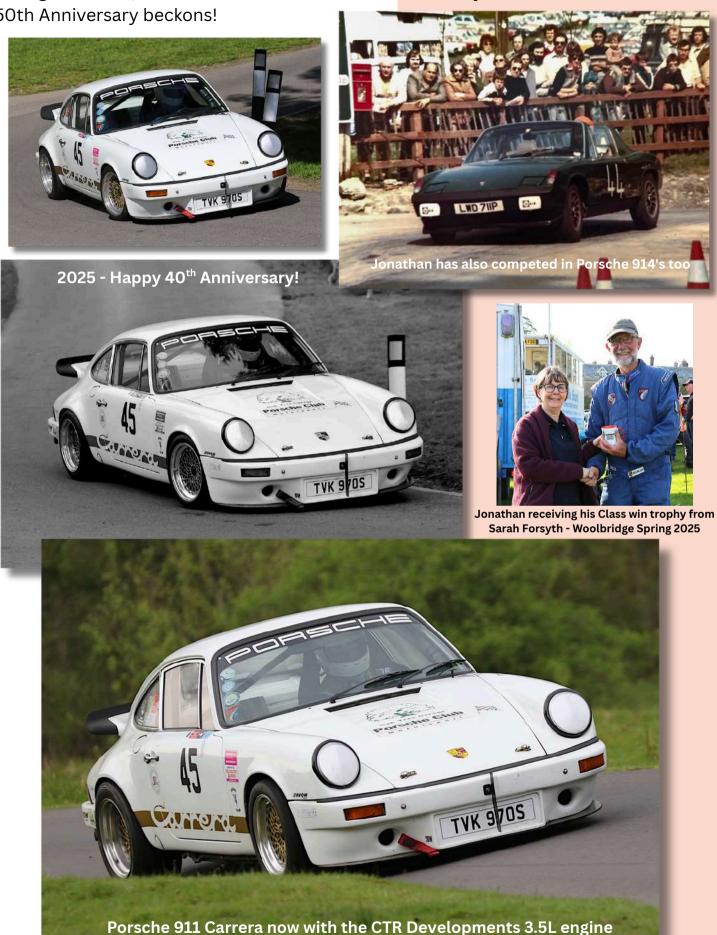
In 2010, Jonathan took a break from competing to spend time with his family. During this sabbatical, the Carrera's bodywork was refreshed, and the engine and gearbox were serviced.

In 2015, Jonathan and Laura returned to competition recording more success in the Leaders/BHC Cup Championships as well as competing on the SW hills.

In 2024, the opportunity for a new engine presented itself. Porsche engine specialist Richard Chamberlain of Huntingdon based CTR Developments built a 3.5L engine for the Carrera to replace the 3.2L engine that was installed in 1987. Jonathan is very pleased with the performance of the new powerplant and feels that, not only has it breathed new life into the Carrera, but it has also had the same effect on the drivers too!

For hillclimb and sprint fans, and particularly those who enjoy seeing Porsche 911's driven at the limit, the engine upgrade is fantastic news. We can all look forward to seeing Jonathan, Laura and the Carrera in action for many more seasons to come - the





Thank you to Jonathan & Laura for all the information and photo's for this article

## 2025 Awards Evening



The guests enjoyed the highlight of the Wiscombe Park social calendar!

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## **Wiscombe Park Memory Lane**

