

Wiscombe Park Beam Breaker

April 2025

Ian Ingleheart is Wiscombe
Champion for the sixth time!



Wiscombe Park



SPEED HILLCLIMB

www.wiscombepark.co.uk



Winners of the Norrie Galbraith Shield
Best event 2022 & 2024

Club Motorsport Since

1958

THE SOUTH WEST'S PREMIER MOTORSPORT VENUE

Dear spectator
Welcome to Beam Breaker!

Welcome to the first edition of Beam Breaker for 2025!

We are eagerly awaiting the start of the new season which gets underway with the Woolbridge Spring meeting on the 26th/27th of April. This event will host the first two rounds of the Wiscombe Park Tillicoultry Quarries Championship. Plymouth motor engineer, Ian Ingleheart, who has won the Championship a record six times, starts the defence of his title. I am sure that we will also see strong challenges again from Paul Reynolds, Champion in 2023, and Julian Rinaldi.

This season the Championship will consist of seven rounds (previously nine rounds) with drivers counting their best five results. Due to the number of national competitors wishing to enter the British Championship weekend in July, we have decided that this event will not include the usual two rounds of the Wiscombe Championship.

Our year has got off to a fantastic start - at the British Hillclimb Championship Awards evening held in early January, we were awarded the prestigious Norrie Galbraith Shield jointly with Woolbridge MC. This is awarded to the venue judged to have hosted the best event by the organisers of the BHC. Woolbridge MC are the organisers of the British Championship weekend. Ourselves and Woolbridge also won the award in 2022.

Our calendar follows its familiar format again and Season Tickets are now on sale from the web site. This offers our spectators an incredible discount of 66% to the normal gate prices, and covers all 12 events / six race weekends.

We are very pleased to announce that we will be supporting Exeter University's XRacing Team in their quest to win the Formula Student title. We hope that their new car, the XR11, will be displayed in the paddock this season. The FS Final will be held at Silverstone in July. We wish XRacing much success!

As part of our promotion for the new season, listen in to the BBC Radio Devon Breakfast Show with John Acres - he will be interviewing some of our competitors in the build up to our opening weekend in April.

There has been a new Director appointed to the Board of Wiscombe Ltd - we are very pleased to welcome Chris Wells who many of you will know as a regular competitor in his rapid Mazda MX5. Chris replaces George Koopman who has resigned from the Board for health reasons. We thank George for his contributions and wish him well.

Not only did we see new records set on the track last season - we also saw record crowds as well. We look forward to seeing you all again in 2025 - and don't forget, tell your friends and encourage them to attend too! And this year, children under 16 are FREE (previously "under 14").

We hope that you enjoy your visits to Wiscombe Park this season.

Wiscombe Park

e-mail : wiscombe.hillclimb@gmail.com

2025 Events calendar

THE SOUTH WEST'S PREMIER MOTORSPORT VENUE

Wiscombe Park SPEED HILLCLIMB

2025



26th April - Woolbridge Spring Hillclimb
27th April - Woolbridge Spring Hillclimb



10th May - 500 Owners Association
11th May - Vintage Sports-Car Club



17th May - Torbay Motor Club Hillclimb
18th May - Wildlife Autosport Hillclimb



26th July - British Hillclimb Championship
27th July - British Hillclimb Championship



6th Sept - 5 Clubs Hillclimb
7th Sept - 5 Clubs Hillclimb



13th Sept - MG Car Club Hillclimb
14th Sept - National Hill Climb Association
- Arnold Gimblett Hillclimb *

**exclusively motorcycles, trikes and sidecars*

Wiscombe Park



Club Motorsport Since

1958

www.wiscombepark.co.uk

Our 2025 events calendar follows the familiar format - **Season Tickets are on sale now from the web site** www.wiscombepark.co.uk/events

Tickets for each event will go on sale a month before the event - look out for the announcement on social media

SEASON TICKETS



Our **Season Tickets** cover all 12 events over 6 race weekends for **£60** - that is a **discount of 66%** to the gate prices.

The motorsport bargain of the season!

You can get yours from our web site www.wiscombepark.co.uk/events

Individual event tickets go on sale a month before each event

Children under 16 - FREE

Do you want to get involved?



There would be no motorsport without marshals - our sport relies on these volunteers. Would you like to join them? No experience is necessary - you will be fully trained. Not only will you be fulfilling a vital role in motorsport - you will also have lots of fun and be close to all the action!

We also rely on volunteers to help us maintain the venue - all that is required is plenty of enthusiasm - come and join fellow motorsport enthusiasts and get plenty of exercise!

Please drop an e-mail to wiscombe.hillclimb@gmail.com for more information

Wiscombe Park and Woolbridge MC win the Norrie Galbraith Shield!



It has been a great start to 2025 for Wiscombe Park, the speed hillclimb venue near Honiton. At the recent British Hillclimb Championship Awards Dinner, the venue, and Dorset based Woolbridge Motor Club, were presented with the prestigious Norrie Galbraith Shield. This is awarded to the venue and motor club judged by the BHC organisers to have hosted the best British Championship Round. There were 30 Rounds during the 2024 season held at 10 venues.

Wiscombe Ltd MD, Peter Isaac, and Woolbridge MC Chairwoman, Sarah Forsyth, accepted the Award, which was presented by Norrie Galbraith's daughter, Hazel.

Peter and Sarah, in their acceptance speech, announced to the attendees that "Winning this very highly coveted trophy was only made possible by the outstanding efforts of all the volunteer officials, marshals, the operations team and everyone who contributed to make the event such a tremendous success".

Wiscombe Park faced strong competition to win the award, including from the famous Shelsley Walsh venue – the oldest motorsport course in the world still to run events on the original track. Wiscombe also won the Shield in 2022.

The award honour's the memory of Norman "Norrie" Galbraith, a triple Scottish Hillclimb Champion. Norrie sadly lost his life in an accident at Doune Hillclimb in 1982 whilst making a promotional film for Scottish Television.

The Wiscombe venue is maintained and operated by a management company, and all those involved are volunteers. The six race weekends each year are organised by various South West motor clubs. The venue held its first event in 1958, and the British Championships from 1962. Hillclimbs have been held continuously ever since with the support of the Chichester family who purchased the Wiscombe Estate in the early 1950's.

For all the latest news from Woolbridge MC please visit their web site www.woolbridge.co.uk



CLUB PACKAGE

We are again promoting our **Club Package** for 2025 - it proved very popular in 2024.

If you are a member of a car club, and your club would like to attend an event, please contact us for more details.

You receive **extra discounts** on tickets and your club will be allocated **dedicated parking** for you to display your cars.

Send an e-mail to wiscombe.hillclimb@gmail.com



Wiscombe Park Young Driver of the Year - Luca Bond

Congratulations to Plymouth MC member, Luca Bond, the 2024 Wiscombe Park Young Driver of the Year. Luca was presented with the Ron Wilson Memorial Trophy at our Awards Evening in November. Luca had a great season competing in his MG ZR and is one of South West motorsports rising stars.



Luca accepting the 2nd in Class A2 Award from Jim Lott - MG Car Club



Wiscombe Park partners with Exeter University's XRacing Team



XRacing Team - L-R Elizabeth Ashford (Business Lead); Louis Mellor (Publicity Lead); Alex Barton; Martín Fillola (Team Principal)

There is a very interesting race team based in Exeter, and we were pleased to receive an invitation to take a closer look.

XRacing are based at Exeter University and the Team comprises students studying at the campus. Team Principal, Martín Fillola, showed me around the XR09 – the car that the Team built in just 12 months from scratch to compete in the 2024 Formula Student competition, the final of which is held at Silverstone. A total of 56 teams from universities all over the UK competed in 9 events – 5 dynamic and 4 static - and XRacing finished a very respectable 32nd. In a separate Sim competition, which was held at the Williams Racing, Grove HQ, XRacing finished 15th – the team led by Jeremiah Elliot - included Alex Barton who put his kart racing skills to good use.

In 2023, the Team won the Spirit of Formula Student – Race Tech's William Kimberley Award – for their XR09 chassis.

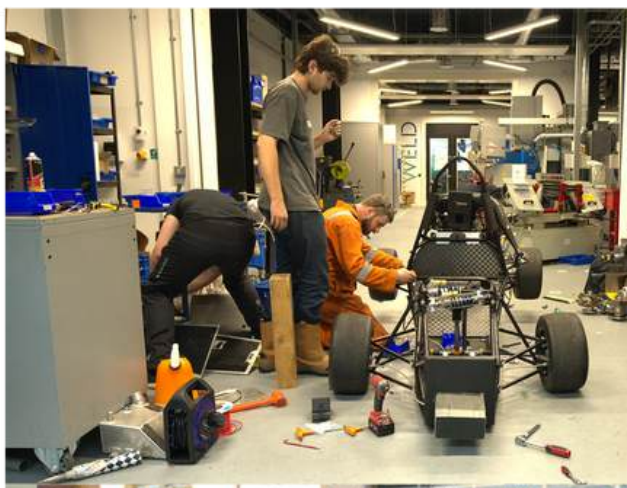
Formula Student is run by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers. It was launched in America in 1981. In 1999 the Final was held at the NEC, and it has been based at Silverstone since 2007. The current Patron is Ross Brawn OBE, and there is an impressive panel of Ambassadors from the world of motorsport that includes David Brabham, Paddy Lowe, Mike Gascoyne, Willem Toet (many will remember Willem competing in the BHC), James Allison and Leena Gade (the first female engineer to win the Le Mans 24 Hours).

XRacing is structured in a similar way to any large motorsport team – they have sub teams with specific responsibilities that include powertrain, suspension and composites. The CAD designed chassis is constructed of tubular steel and clad with carbon fibre panels. Power is derived from a Honda CBR 600cc engine – a highly tuned inline, four-cylinder unit providing race bred performance. Suspension is taken care of by Öhlins dampers mounted inboard front and rear.

Keeping pace with current trends, another sub team has started designing an EV. This is a three-year project – in 2026 they will present the concept to the Formula Student judges. The car will then be built and developed with the aim to have it ready to enter the full competition in 2027. Exeter University also have a campus at Penryn, and another sub team there are investigating the feasibility of developing a hydrogen powered car!

We are very keen at Wiscombe to help promote motorsport at all levels, and we are pleased to announce that we will be supporting XRacing assisting them to promote their progress in Formula Student. XRacing will assist us by promoting our activities at Wiscombe Park in a reciprocal arrangement.

We hope that XRacing will be able to join us at one of our events this season and display their XR11 car which is currently under development. I am sure that our competitors and spectators would enjoy the opportunity to chat to the Team and take a close look at the XR11. The Team are looking forward to meeting our competitors and taking a look at the various cars in our paddock.



XRacing Update - March 2025 from Elizabeth Ashford - Business Lead

We have made several key chassis modifications to improve driver ergonomics and vehicle performance - the front roll hoops have been raised to enhance driver comfort and accessibility. Additionally, the front suspension node has been widened to improve driver fit while ensuring compliance with competition rules. The rear subframe has been redesigned to accommodate the new suspension node mounting, optimising load paths and strengthening the car's structural integrity.

We have also completed a successful dyno session at The Tipton Garage. The session provided valuable insights, including the decision to switch from using a Manifold Air Pressure (MAP) sensor to a Throttle Position Sensor (TPS). This change aims to improve engine performance by offering more accurate readings, optimizing throttle response, and enhancing overall efficiency. The test allowed us to fine-tune the car set up, ensuring its ready for the Formula Student Final at Silverstone in July.

On the 8th of March, XRacing had the pleasure of attending Sanctioned UK again, having first attended in October. We were able to showcase the XRX to the public and exchange experiences and passion for engineering as well as insights into our latest projects. We enjoyed meeting everyone that came along to see the XRX in person, and were extremely thrilled to have seen Nigel Cole from Wiscombe and got him to sit in the car!



Sanctioned UK - Exeter



**Dyno testing at
The Tipton Garage**



If you want to know more about Formula Student – web site

www.imeche.org/events/formula-student

Video - XRacing Unlocked - Resilience – FSUK24

www.youtube.com/watch?v=o0yuV_zSOL8&t

Video - This is Formula Student - FSUK2019

www.youtube.com/watch?v=xTLn_G9DQz4&t

XRacing Team - www.xracingexeter.co.uk - give them a “follow” on Insta!

Wiscombe Park Awards Evening

The Awards Evening held at Wiscombe House is the highlight of the season's social events - here is a photo album from last November's gathering of prize winners.



Ian Ingleheart



Luca Bond

Award winners -

Ian Ingleheart - Wiscombe Champion

Julian Rinaldi - Runner up

Paul Reynolds - 3rd place

Anthony Wright - 4th place

Andrew Phillips - 5th place

Ed Hollier - 6th place

Tom Short - NHCA Champion

Luca Bond - Young Driver of the Year

Woolbridge MC - Event of the Year - BHC

- Sarah Forsyth - Chairwoman accepting the Award

2025 Wiscombe Park Tillicoultry Quarries Hillclimb Championship

We are very pleased to announce that our long term sponsor, Tillicoultry Quarries have again agreed to sponsor the Wiscombe Park Championship. A big “thank you” to Wallace Menzies and Tillicoultry Quarries www.tillicoultryquarries.com

This year, the Championship will consist of 7 Rounds of which a driver can count their best 5 scores. Rounds will be held at the following events:

26-Apr-25	Woolbridge Spring
27-Apr-25	Woolbridge Spring
17-May-25	Torbay MC
18-May-25	Wildlife Autosport
06-Sep-25	5 Clubs
07-Sep-25	5 Clubs
13-Sep-25	MG Car Club



Will our six times Champion Ian Ingleheart defend his 2024 title and make it seven? Expect a tough fight from Julian Rinaldi and 2023 Champion Paul Reynolds....and I am sure there will be others “in the mix” too - it will be a close battle for certain!

This season we welcome our new Championship Co-ordinator Steph Thomas. She replaces George Koopman who has stepped down for health reasons. We thank George for his contributions.

Look out for the cars displaying the Championship sticker

Wiscombe Park
Hillclimb
Championship
www.wiscombepark.co.uk

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Wiscombe Park Photography Competition 2024

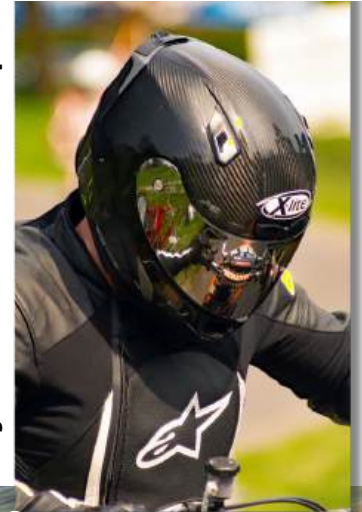
The third annual Wiscombe Park Photography Competition was the best yet and attracted a large number of entries. It was a difficult task for our judges to select the winners.

A special thank you to British Championship contender Will Hall and his business Vanity Hall who sponsored the competition.



Ollie Smith - Winner

Ryan Oliver - Runner-up



Lewie Long - Winner U-18



**Congratulations to
all our winners!**



John Clark - Runner-up

Poppy Chamberlain - Runner-up U-18



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Polly Ashley – ASWMC 1st Choice Finishes Autocross Champion 2024



A hat trick of trophies for Polly Ashley!

There is one local lady racing driver who achieved tremendous success last season - 15-year-old Polly Ashley. She was crowned the 2024 ASWMC 1st Choice Finishes Autocross Champion in only her second season in the sport.

Her brother, Luke, was Runner-up for the third consecutive season. Both racers compete in MG ZR's and are members of Torbay Motor Club.

Polly was also awarded the 2024 ASWMC Under 21's and the All-Rounders Trophies too – a magnificent hat trick. Luke was also Runner-up for those two awards!

In addition to autocross, Polly's 2024 season included some selected speed hillclimb and sprint events. We saw Polly and Luke in action here at Wiscombe at last year's MG Car Club event – Polly in a road going MG ZR and Luke in his self-built Mini.

The Ashley family have a long association with Wiscombe Park. Michael Ashley organised the Aston Martin Owners Club events in the late 60's/early 70's. Sadly, Michael passed away in the mid 1970's.

In the early 90's, Simon Ashley (Michael was Simon's uncle) started making the headlines with Class wins and FTD's in SW hillclimbs and sprints, firstly in a Royale RP31M Formula Ford and then a Ralt RT3. The circuits soon beckoned, and Simon was crowned Champion of Castle Combe Formula Ford 1600 in 2002 driving a Swift SC92F. With the time pressures of a young family and managing the family garage business, Central Garages (Torbay) Ltd, Simon then retired from motorsport.

As many will know, Simon is the father of Polly and Luke – and when he has some spare time from over-seeing the preparation of Polly and Luke's cars, he can be seen in action on the hills in a Ralt RT3. Simon has lost none of his speed and skill – he won his Class in the Ralt at the 2024 MG Car Club event. To complete Team Ashley, mum Abbi, herself a Wiscombe competitor a few years ago sharing her father's Nike, is Team Manager, ensuring that everything runs smoothly!

Polly and Luke will be competing in autocross again in 2025 and we will also see them in action here at Wiscombe – and Simon will be back on the hill in his immaculate Ralt RT3.

Congratulations to Polly and Luke on their fantastic achievements and we look forward to following the progress of the next generation of the Ashley family in SW motorsport.



Racing siblings - Luke & Polly



Polly - Wiscombe MG Car Club 2024



Simon Ashley - Ralt RT3

Woolbridge MC Classic Tour 2024

A rather wet and misty Wiscombe Park was the starting point for the Woolbridge Motor Club Classic Tour in November. A total of 30 cars completed a 75-mile tour of East Devon, calling in at Re:Fuel, Cullompton for coffee and cake and finishing at the Blackbury Honey Farm for a meal. The Tour raised £600 for the Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance.



WISCOMBE PARK MERCHANDISE



We now have a range of great value, high quality branded merchandise from Pro RTX, Regatta and Beechfield.

By wearing our clothing, you are helping to promote Wiscombe Park - Thank you!

All orders are fulfilled by our merchandise partner, Loopy Parrot www.loopyparrot.co.uk

Check out the range www.wiscombepark.co.uk/shop



SOCIAL MEDIA



Do you follow us?
Register now - you will never miss anything!

We now have 6,800 FB followers - we would love to get to 7,000 - help us get there please!

Click on the icons here or the links on the web site to register for our channels

National Hill Climb Association



If you like your action on two and three wheels then we have you covered - the following events will include bikes, sidecars and trikes alongside the cars:

10-May-25 **500 Owners Association**
17-May-25 **Torbay MC**
18-May-25 **Wildlife Autosport**

Our final event of the year is a two and three wheel festival - no cars!

14-Sep-25 **Arnold Gimblett**

For more information please visit the NHCA web site www.nhca.co.uk



GUIDES

If you want more information, we have produced some useful Guides for you - please send an e-mail to wiscombe.hillclimb@gmail.com

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Spectators Guide


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Spectators

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Getting started

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Competitors Guide

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Competitors

ACCOMMODATION

Are you or your friends looking for somewhere to stay? We have some wonderful accommodation listed on our web site www.wiscombepark.co.uk/accommodation

