



# THE LINK



November 2015

## Tregrehan Speed Hill Climb 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> October

Truro and District Motor Club was blessed with fine weather all weekend for the last Cornish speed hill climb of 2015. All the drivers were keen to improve on their times throughout both days of the weekend. There



were a great number of very spirited attempts at the record, none as good though as Mike Lee, in his OMS 200M 1585cc single seater racing car, or Phil Montgomery-Smith in his Fisher Fury 1299cc highly tuned sports car. Saturday saw Phil within just under a second of Mike Lee's time, and Sunday saw Phil improve to within just half a second from the fastest time of the day. FTD on Saturday went to Mike Lee with 17.78 seconds and Phil Montgomery-Smith on 18.61 seconds. Sunday's fastest times were Mike Lee again, reducing his time to 17.46 seconds, but Phil was closer on his heels at 18.02 seconds.

Despite several spectacular "offs", there were no injuries and not too much damage either. The many spectators present were treated to some excellent examples of how to drive a car fast up a hill. Almost everyone managed to steadily improve on their times as the start line dried out over the weekend and bravado and superior driving experience shone through showing the great skills needed in controlling a car at high speed.



All in all, the weekend was a wonderful success. The food outlets were more popular than ever, now being in the paddock. The improved entrance to the spectators' car-park, and the redesigned top entrance to the paddock were also appreciated by everyone.

There were many favourable comments from the drivers and spectators as to the running of the event. Credit goes to Richard Weeks, Clerk of the Course, Lesley Weeks, Secretary of the Meeting, Jeremy Thomas, Entries Secretary who also co-ordinated the signing on, and to David Robertson-Wells for organising all the marshals.

Many thanks to all the marshals and officials for making the event a success.

Results on the website: [www.truodmc.co.uk/tregrehan.php](http://www.truodmc.co.uk/tregrehan.php)



Report by Allen Iggulden. Photos by Dave Brenton, from the top: Phil Montgomery-Smith, Liam Brokenshire, Ross Dodds and Simon Skelding.

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## **AutoSolo Report by Jeremy Thomas**

On Sunday 18th October TDMC hosted the Manda Moo Birthday AutoSolo at the Penhaligon car park at Cornwall College, Camborne. The weather was dry all day which showed in the times with all drivers setting faster times than at the September event, the FTD was almost 1min faster.

James in the Mini took the class 1 win and Kelly was 2nd, in only his second event, after putting in some quick times on course C. Class 2 was a very close battle with the top three being within 7 seconds after the 9 runs and finally being won by Mark in the Saxo VTS beating Marek in the Honda CRX into 2nd. Squirrel took 1st place in class 3 in the 200sx while providing his usual sideways display. Class 4 was the usual battle between MX5 and 205 Gti with Niall taking the FTD in his MX5, extending his lead in the TDMC championship and Jason taking 1st in class in the 205, both with sub 11min times. 2nd in class was Nick in the Dutton beating the rest of the MX5s.

New TDMC members Gary and Ben travelled down from Exeter in their red MX5 for their second AutoSolo after competing in the ASWMC round last month. There was also a new AutoSolo competitor in an MX5, Pete Matta, who seemed to enjoy his first event even if he struggled navigating the routes without a rally co-driver!

If you are interested in taking part in the future come along to one of the events to watch the action and have a chat with competitors and officials. The next event will take place on Sunday 8th November at the Penhaligon car park at Cornwall College, Camborne. First runs will start at 10am.

Entry forms and ASR's are available at: <http://truodmc.co.uk/autosolo.php>.

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## **Car Recognition Quiz**

**Thursday 12th November at 8pm at The Plume of Feathers, Mitchell, TR8 5AX**

The quiz takes place in the conservatory at the Plume of Feathers, a great pub just off the A30. The cost is £15 per team of three with all proceeds to Macmillan Cancer Support. Just identify cars, or bits of them, including modern vehicles and well known classics. Add to that a round entitled "Made in Britain" and the scene is set for another evening of fun. Nigel Stephens has run this event as a fundraiser for Macmillan for the past three years and it's always brilliantly put together. You can enter a team of three or just enter yourself and make up a team on the night. Always a very good evening even if you come last like me!

More details and entry form on the website here: <http://www.truodmc.co.uk/social.php> or contact Nigel directly on 01209 842037 or [nj.stephens@btinternet.com](mailto:nj.stephens@btinternet.com)

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## **TDMC Annual Awards Lunch - Sunday 13th December**

As in previous years, the awards presentation Christmas lunch will take place at The Alverton, Truro. This is a wonderful venue and we have exclusive use of the Great Hall. Please put the date in your diary. The lunch is open to all award winners, club members and anyone else who would like to join us to celebrate our end of year. Please come along and make it a special event for all the winners who are being presented with their awards.

The awards will be presented by our club president David Richards CBE. David was former world champion rally co-driver with Ari Vatanen for Ford and then set up Prodrive managing teams in F1 (BAR Honda), WRC (Subaru), BTCC (BMW & Ford) & Le Mans (Ferrari & Aston Martin). Today, Prodrive runs Aston Martin Racing in the World Endurance Championship and is involved in advance technologies for supercars, aircraft, yachts and even the Mars Rover.

Bookings are now being taken and the closing date is Friday 4th December. Please get your booking in promptly. The menu and booking form are on our website: <http://www.truodmc.co.uk/social.php>

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## Thank you from Cornwall Urology Trust (CUT)

CUT is a charitable fund within RCHT that has been going for several years. In the early days it was set up to help purchase equipment to help with the diagnosis of prostate cancer. It is now used to help with equipment purchase and training of the urology consultants and specialist nurses in order to bring the best possible treatments and investigations to Cornwall. A great deal of what it does is for the benefit of prostate cancer patients, but CUT is not specific to this group of patients. Recently funds have been used to facilitate training in order for to offer keyhole surgery for tumours in the ureter.

We'd like to thank the TDMC for their generosity in choosing CUT as their charity for the last two years. Wendy and I have particularly enjoyed attending the hill climbs, meeting some of the drivers and seeing the different cars that take part.

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## Le Jog

This year's Le Jog starts on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> Dec. You can read about the event and see this year's entry list here: <http://www.heroevents.eu/Events/LeJog/2015/>

TDMC often marshals at one or two of the tests including at the start at Land's End. It's a great chance to see all the cars and crews as they set off on this truly epic event. I say this with personal experience as I took part in the very first one in 1993 as a naïve classic car enthusiast. It amazes me to see crews enter this event more than once, some many times, as I am still mentally scarred from the experience!

So if you'd like to help out either email Melody and I will pass on your details or check our website nearer the time as we will put a note on the home page if we are asked to help marshal.

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## TDMC memories from the past

Email received from Canada in October 2015

Hi there

I'm a Cornishman now living in Canada. I have vivid memories from my childhood of times spent at TDMC events at Lanili, Predannack and the first few Tregrehan hill climbs and numerous others. My Father and his contemporaries were avid and very active club members.

I have still my Father's original TDMC car badge, which is now fastened to the badge bar on my 1996 Mini Moke.



My Father (Maurice Harber) is now almost 90 so it's doubtful that many of your members would remember him, however there may be a few names of some of his contemporaries which may crop up in archives: David Paull, Mike Lane, Derek House, John Haskel, Johnnie Johns are people who immediately come to mind. This would be during the mid to late 60's and into the early 70's. I was a mere "kid" tagging along with my Dad at the time and was active inasmuch as being an assistant (!! ) during the set-up/clean-up of events though how much actual "use" I was I doubt I'll ever know, but I had fun, and the memories have stayed with me.

Ric (Richard) Harber

There are replies and more emails on our website: <http://www.truodmc.co.uk/history.php>

If you have any memories or stories from the old days please get in touch and we will add your stories to our history page on the website.

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## **Autosport Show**

The Autosport Show takes place at the NEC on 14-17 January. Thursday and Friday is Trade Day and you may not be aware that this is open to MSA licence holders who can also get a £5 discount with a promotional code available from the MSA. Once you've got your code you then need to register for tickets online at the Autosport Show website: <http://www.autosportinternational.com/>

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## **MSA seminars**

In 2016, the series of MSA seminars will primarily be reserved for unlicensed club and event officials eg Club Stewards, Secretaries of the Meeting and unlicensed Clerks. The day will be predominantly workshop based, specifically aimed at exchanging views and information.

The south west event takes place on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> January at Gipsy Hill Hotel, Exeter. If you are interested in attending on behalf of TDMC please contact Dave Brenton: [dbrally1@sky.com](mailto:dbrally1@sky.com)

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