



Manx Motor Racing Club -- Manx Classic 2012 Event Review

A record twenty-two new class records and a number of tightly-fought battles marked this year's Manx Classic three-day sprint and hillclimb event, held on closed public roads on the Isle of Man from 26th to 28th April.

Eighty competitors took to part in a great selection of vintage, classic and modern sports cars ranging from 1921 to 2012, including nine in the Pre 1941 classes. **Steve King** won the Overall Classic Award and **Andy Hardy** the Overall Post 1981 Award.

The event opened with the Governor's Sprint from the famous TT Grandstand in Douglas, the Island's capital, with **Michael New** taking Fastest Time of Day (FTD) in the Pre 1941 classes in his 1935 12/4 Riley.

The Pre 1941 cars were joined for the two hillclimbs by **David Leigh's** famous GN Spider, which took Pre 1941 FTDs at both events and broke the Class Record for Pre 1941 cars at both The Sloc and Lhergy Frissell.

A great battle took place for the Fastest Time in the Pre 1968 classes at all three venues, with **Dave Musgrove** in a Morris Mini pipping **Alistair Simpson** in the Sunbeam Tiger by tiny margins: by six tenths of a second (0.6 seconds) at the Governor's Sprint, nine hundredths of a second (0.09 seconds) at The Sloc and 1.31 seconds at Lhergy Frissell.

Alistair won his class (Pre 1968 over 3000cc) at all three venues and broke his own class record, set last year, at The Sloc. Dave won his class at all three venues and broke his own class record, also set last year, at the Governor's Sprint.

The Pre 1981 FTD was won each day by **Steve King** in his Ford Escort. In the classes, **Malcolm Cole** in a Lancia Stratos and **Alan Bankhurst** in a TVR Vixen tied for Pre 1981 (1500cc – 2000cc) honours with an identical time of 64.98 at the Sloc, Alan took class honours at both Governor's Sprint and Lhergy Frissell.

In the class for Pre 1981 cars upto 1500cc, **Tony Mitchell** took all three class honours, breaking the class records at each venue too; **John Gadbury** won all three class honours for over 3000cc.

In the Post 1981 classes groups of Caterhams, GT40s, Mitsubishi's and Subarus all battled hard for class and FTD honours. Newcomer **Stephen Moore**, in a Mitsubishi Evo 6, took FTD at the Governor's Sprint, closely pipping **Steven Peel** and setting the class record. **Andy Hardy** took the FTD at The Sloc and **Steve O'Donohue** at Lhergy Frissell.

There was a four-way battle in the GT40 class, and **Jonathan Gough** took class honours on all three days. The group also brought their own award to the Island for Fastest Time at Lhergy Frissell, this too was won by Jonathan.

The Northesk Award for Best Team Effort was awarded to "Team Manx Motorsport", comprised of **Sam Beevers, Steve Thompson and Steven Peel**. Best Lady Driver, awarded for lowest aggregate time over all three events, went to **Tara Ramsey**.

The Club's nil desperandum award was presented jointly to **Peter Garforth** and **Allan McDonald** who battled stoically against the elements and ferries to reach the Island in order to compete.

The **dates for 2013** are: Thursday 25 April, Friday 26 April and Saturday 27 April.

Images and film of the 2012 event can be found at: www.manxmotorracing.com & full results at: <http://www.manxmotorracing.com/results.htm>