

OPEN WEEKEND IS BIG SUCCESS

Kames was bursting at the seams on the second day of the Open Weekend on July 7th. The previous day went very well indeed with the car park about half full, but Sunday saw crowds like seldom before, drawn by the good publicity from Michelle Park and by the warm weather. The top level of the car park along the first tee of the golf course had to be brought into play for the first time in years, even with the absence of support cars which freed the grass area immediately above the lower paddock. And this on Andy Murray's big Wimbledon day!

Saturday was mainly for road cars and we were not disappointed either by quantity or quality. The organisers struggled at first to attract interest from owners, etc, then all of a sudden everyone wanted to come.

Alex Young had his new Bentley Mulsanne and son Jonathan an open XJS, Billy Cuthbertson his immaculate "E" type Jaguar, and there were two Ferraris among other pieces of exotica.

As on Sunday, Arthur Gallacher, courtesy of Malcolm Wilson brought the colourful works Ford Focus which won the Rally of Finland in 2010 and Hughie Lorimer, at considerable effort brought along two of the three aeroplanes he designed and built in his back garden. Adding to the entertainment were four flypasts by a microlight, an autogyro, and two light planes.

The following day was even better. First round the track was Kevin Clark whose passenger was our local Member of Parliament Cathie Jamieson. There followed demonstrations by rally cars, sprint cars, Formula 1000 rallying, grass tests and autotests, Andrew Gallacher putting on quite a show of tyre burning in his road Merc.

Malcolm Wishart did some laps in his beautiful Cooper Formula Junior which he raced in New Zealand during the winter, after which Jimmy McRae provided yet another highlight of this memorable day with an extended run of top quality driving in his Cosworth Sierra. This alone would have sent spectators home happy.

Yet another treat was in store when a rare 1953 Connaught Formula One car took to the track in the hands of owner Robert Bremner. This was the first time the vast majority of onlookers had ever set eyes on a front-engined Grand Prix car and they were highly impressed. The car was in pristine condition in traditional British Racing Green with a yellow band across the bonnet.

The car park was very slow in emptying, folks waiting to see if there was anything else the organisers had up their sleeve, and were content when yet another aircraft came past with a final salute.

This was a very enjoyable two days, a weekend with a programme which came together almost by accident, thanks to unanticipated enthusiasm from outwith the organising team. We ended up with more drivers wanting track time than we could handle which caused disappointment and for that we can only apologise and offer our thanks to everyone for their support.



Arthur Gallacher with Cathie Jamieson, MP



Made in Muirkirk by Sean Maguire Kevin Clark entertains our MP



Muirkirk Pipe Band

Paddock Scene



**The Golden Years
KAMES OPEN WEEKEND
JULY 6TH & 7TH, 2013**



Jimmy McRae in full flight



Hughie Lorimer wishing he could be in full flight



Malcolm Wishart raced this Formula Junior Cooper in New Zealand during the winter.



Just a few of the varied cars on show



The Connaught Grand Prix car



Part of the Sunday fly-past