

HRDC GERRY MARSHALL TROPHY

for Pre-1983 Group 1 & 1½ TOURING CARS

Gerry Marshall (1941-2005) won more than 620 races in a colourful career which began in 1964 with a class victory in David Wansborough's one-litre Mini Cooper at Snetterton. The larger than life motor trader's car control was extraordinary - counter-intuitively, his brand of power oversteer ruled - exemplified in Touring Cars, Aston Martin DB4 GTs and DBS V8s, the TVR Tuscan Challenge, a Lister-Jaguar and a Can-Am Lola-Chevrolet T222. He even tried Formula Ford briefly in a Lotus 61, but tin tips were his forte, as far afield as Bathurst's Mount Panorama circuit in Australia where he raced one of Peter Brock's Holden Toranas and Spa-Francorchamps where he finished second with Brock in the 1977 24 Hours in a Vauxhall Magnum.

Back in a more carefree pre-social media era, in which professional racers were big characters not afraid to express themselves, Gerry and his pals Tony Lanfranchi and Barrie 'Whizzo' Williams were big crowd draws at circuits, including here at Castle Combe. Fabled for his prowess in Vauxhalls fettled by Bill Blydenstein and Gerry Johnstone, Gerry dominated Super Saloon racing in 1975

with the tyre-frying caricature Firenze 'Baby Bertha,' powered by a rampant Australian Holden V8 Formula 5000 engine.

Now in its fourth season, the HRDC's homage to Marshall - whose son Gregor sometimes competes in it - showcases Gerry's British Saloon Car Championship exploits of the 1970s and 1980s. Often driving smaller-capacity cars, he humbled more potent machinery on many occasions in Vauxhall Magnums and Triumph Dolomite Sprints. He finished class champion in 1979 and third overall, in a Dealer Team Vauxhall entered Magnum.

Pete Fisk's Chevrolet Camaro Z28 heads the entry, in which Rover SD1s and Ford Capri 3000s, both models Gerry saddled, are numerically dominant. Of course there is a 'Dolly' Sprint - of the type in which he was tipped into a terrifying series of 100mph rolls at Silverstone in 1979 - and a pair of Mini 1275GTs. But the dark horse is Alex Taylor's Mazda RX-7, if the raucous rotary rocket remains reliable.

MARCUS PYE

No.	Class	Driver	Driver 2	Car	Year	CC	Colour
30	A	Pete Fisk		Chevrolet Camaro Z28	1971	5736	Red/White
7	B	James Slaughter		Ford Capri Juicy Jeans	1979	2997	White
8	B	Myles Paulton	Alexander Paulton	Rover SD1	1981	3495	Blue/White/Yellow
12	B	Adam Brindle		Rover SD1	1981	3488	Red/White/Blue
14	B	John Spiers	Nigel Greensall	Ford Capri Hermetite	1976	2990	Hermetite
24	B	Graham Scarborough		Ford Capri	1981	3000	Yellow
27	B	John Young	Jack Young	Volvo 242T	1981	2100	Red/White
72	B	Roy Alderslade		Ford Capri	1978	2994	Red
74	B	Paul Martin		Ford Capri VAVOLINE	1980	3000	Black
88	B	Can Bitirim		Rover 3500 SD1	1981	3495	Blue/White/Yellow
20	C	Alex Taylor		Mazda RX7	1978	1200	Yellow/Blue
26	D	Scott Kendall		Leyland Mini 1275GT	1978	1293	Black
228	D	Ryck Turner	Bill Sollis	Morris Mini 1275GT	1975	1293	Red/White
11	WILLHIRE	Jason Tuthill		Triumph Dolomite Sprint	1979	1998	White
23	WILLHIRE	Harry Rice	Henry Rice	VW Scirocco	1983	1781	Red
77	WILLHIRE	James Gibbons		Alfa Romeo Alfetta GTV	1977	1962	White/Red
89	WILLHIRE	Jake Margalies		Ford Escort XR3	1982	1598	Black
199	WILLHIRE	David Margalies		Alfa Romeo GTV6	1982	3000	Blue/White
331	WILLHIRE	Andy Hill	Adam Hill	Alfa Romeo GT Junior	1976	1962	Red