

KOP HILL CLIMB – THE HISTORIC HILL CLIMB EVENT, WITH SO MUCH FOR EVERYONE

With seven amazingly successful years already experienced, the Kop Hill team of hundreds of volunteers are back on 17th and 18th September to bring you the eighth revival of the early 1900’s motoring event.

The action takes place at Kop Hill in Princes Risborough, and all the fun, thrills and hard work contribute to raise funds for local charities and good causes on behalf of Heart of Bucks, the Buckinghamshire Community Foundation.

Last year was a record breaker, with £78,000 being raised over the weekend, and an amazing 16,500 visitors.

The event returns with a celebration of the 60’s and over 400 historic cars and motorcycles each day taking on the famous hill. Many more will be on display in the Paddock. Vehicles range in age from the early 1900’s to modern day exotics, so there will be something for everyone.

Kop Hill Climb tries to feature early racing and sports cars that might have graced Kop Hill in its hey day, and this year will be running right through the century to include performance vehicles from the last 40 years.

The oldest car – the 1906 Bianchi 50 HP will be the first to run the hill, and open the event, flagged off by Paddy Hopkirk.

The fire breathing 1914 German built Fafnir Edwardian competition car is a classic of its type, and will feature along with The Norris Special, the 1934 Brooklands Frazer Nash Single Seater, which currently holds the VSCC Sprint record for the Mercedes track at Brooklands, and at Goodwood.

The motorcycle entrants range from the 1914 Sun Villiers right up to the present day with a Kawasaki Ninja H2.

A complete list of both car and motorcycle entrants for hill climb and Paddock display can be found on the website – www.kophillclimb.org.uk

This is not just a static display, but also a recreation of Kop Hill’s glorious past. Both days will have morning and afternoon sessions where you can see the cars and motorcycles storming the hill. Moving history right before your eyes, especially from one of the Grandstands, which gives a unique vantage point.

The legendary Ace Cafe, London is organizing a drive out to the event on the Saturday from its iconic venue in Stonebridge, north London.

There will be some surprises during the lunch time break when you can experience a celebration of the 60’s mods and rockers culture, and the children from Princes Risborough School trying leg power as they race up Kop Hill.

The children’s area will be packed with things to see and do. A vintage steam fair, with helter-skelter and dodgems, Punch and Judy show and circus skills workshop along with the Racing Bug track racing game will give young and not so young plenty to experience.

Back by popular demand is the Wall of Death – you’ve seen it on the BBC – now experience it in real life.

The Soapbox Challenge is a nail-biting competition, with teams of budding racers aged 10 to 17 trying to go the greatest distance down the purpose built ramp, chicane and obstacles to try and win the Beaumont Cup. It will take place over the two days, and has grown year on year to be a very popular part of the event. Come and see Mike Bushell from BBC TV Sport commentating on the course.

With so many things to see and do a break for some food and drink will definitely be in order. So relax in the food court while taking in the sounds of the purpose-built stage with a fantastic line up this year, including Halton Military Wives Choir, Rockin Rebels, The Loops and G-Elvis. Your toes will be tapping to the Sound Force Big Band and popular local group Bustin’ Loose will close the show each day.

Kop Hill is one of the oldest Hill Climb venues in England. The first recorded races were in 1910. It became a major event on the motorsports car and motorcycle calendar and many famous drivers and riders of the time, including Malcolm Campbell, Raymond Mays, Henry Segrave and Count Zborowski raced up the hill. The last event was in 1925, when as a result of an accident to a spectator, the RAC banned all motorsport on public roads.

Today Kop Hill is a public road, and is closed to traffic during the event, which is an untimed commemorative run.

The objective of the Kop Hill Climb revival is to raise money for local charities. All the organising team and helpers are volunteers, and the event is managed as a part of the Heart of Bucks Community Foundation. Over £300,000 has been raised since the revival started in 2009. Come and be a part of this very special event, and help local community projects and charities.

If you would like to volunteer your time to help over the weekend or for full event details please go to [**www.kophillclimb.org.uk**](http://www.kophillclimb.org.uk)

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EDITORS NOTES

Advance tickets are available now. Visit the website at **www.kophillclimb.org.uk** for full ticket details and further information on the event.

Booking in advance guarantees admission and avoids possible queues at the entrance.

Advance tickets are also available from Princes Risborough Information Centre located in the library at Princes Risborough - Phone 01844 274795

Entry tickets:

Adult £10 one day £15 for weekend

Under 18’s £5 one day £7.50 weekend

Children under 5 go free

Grandstand tickets:

£5 per half-day session.

Entry ticket must also be purchased

Parking is free

Spectator gates open at 9.00 am each day

Kop Hill runs from 9.45am to 1.00pm and 2.00pm to 5.15pm each day

The event is no longer a timed motorsport event. The road is closed to the public, and today is classed as a commemorative run. Kop Hill in the 1920’s was just a dirt track up the open scarp of the Chilterns. Its surface was loose, stony, hard and bumpy. Near the top was a rut that could tear motorcycle tyres off, and a hump that sent many into the air. It was described as rising 304 feet in 3848 feet, 1 in 5 at its steepest, with a competitive section of 2709 feet. Today it has a smooth tarmac surface, has gentle bends and its verges are wooded. It starts with a gradual slope and is 1 in 6 at the half way mark. The road then eases off before getting even steeper at 1 in 4 for a short section just before the summit.

ACCREDITATION

Media wishing to attend the 2016 Kop Hill Climb (17-18 September) should apply via the Press tab on the Kop Hill Climb website [www.kophillclimb.org.uk](http://www.kophillclimb.org.uk)

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