

JB TAYLOR REPORT, SUNDAY 15TH MAR 2026, TULLEYS FARM

The JB Taylor was initially meant to be held at the start of February, down at Blackmore Farm in Somerset. Those of you who attended the Gold & Silver Star there in the middle of January however will be aware of the state the site was left in, and with continued rainfall, there was no way the field could be used again anytime soon. With limited other options, Stu kindly offered the use of Tulleys Farm, and it was pencilled in for Sunday 15th March.

Perhaps due to the date clash with Mothering Sunday, it was a slim entry list, with just 12 competitors down on paper. Mike Readings unfortunately failed to get his car out of the car park, meaning just 11 headed to the hills.

There were six hills laid out earlier in the week by the Kentish Border Car Club, three of which were on the newish grass bank before you get to the hard track, one in a gully on the left as you drive down the track to the bomb hole, and then two in the classic bomb hole. Nothing down at the bottom on the bluebells that Thomas Bricknell was promised by Stu to encourage him to come...

With three marshals, and two obvious zones of hills, it was decided that all the drivers would do hills 1-3 twice, and then the all the marshalls and drivers would move to hills 4-6 where they would do these twice. Then lunch, then the same again. It meant every hill would be marshalled, there was less driving between sections, and actually, the event became more sociable.

From the get-go Darrens engine wasn't playing ball, and it wasn't long until he removed himself from the mix, leaving just ten cars in the mix. Seven red class drivers were fighting for the top spot - Barnes father & son, Beare father & son, Ian Wright (looking for his second win of the season after The Walsingham), Thomas Bricknell (also looking to take his second win of the season after The Whitmans last weekend), and Mr & Mrs Fensom. In the Rookies it was Jamie Bartholomew, Trevor Wood, and Ian Brooks fighting it out.

Tyre pressures were at three psi, and although the woods were visibly wet, there was more grip to be found than when we typically visit the farm in November (with a little bit of encouragement from the throttle), meaning after round one the scores were low and tight. Stu and George led the way dropping four points, but with all the red drivers under ten points, it was all to play for. In the Rookies Jamie was starting to pull away from Ian B, dropping 20 to Ian's 34.

Round two saw a couple of poles moved, nothing drastic but enough to keep drivers on their toes, and it did shake the scores up a little. Early leader George clipped a six post

meaning he came back for lunch on a total of 12, and Stephen Barnes underestimated a bog at a 12 gate to quickly ruin his day. Stu remained the man to beat, finishing the round on six, followed by Sam and Ian on eight, and then Thomas on 10.

Round three saw a more serious change to the sections, including Stu moving the two gate at the top of hill two so that it had an awkward dog leg. First car on was guess who... Stu of course, and guess what.. he missed the gate out! Two points dropped that he'd rather not have, as he had to watch Sam and Ian go round clean for the round, meaning he was now a point behind the two leaders coming into the final round.

The hill 4 stream was at this point becoming rather deep, so much so it was a difficulty to just drive out of the section, so this was altered, along with a couple of other tweaks here and there. The pressure was clearly getting to the two leaders, as Ian dropped three twos, making it an expensive round of six points. Sam had managed to clean his first four hills of the round, and then disaster struck as he clipped a ten post, ruining all his hard work, and meaning Stuart's round of one point was enough to bump him back up to the top of the score sheet, giving him another win on home soil. In the Rookies the story from round one continued for the rest of the day, with Jamie pulling away from Ian and Trevor to win the class by a long way, on 90 points.

Final scores:

Stuart Beare & Sue Underwood	10
Ian Wright & Chris Taylor	14
Sam Beare & Jemima Beare	18
Thomas Bricknell & Andy Beveridge	18
George Barnes & Rob Uryc	19
Peter Fensom & Liz Fensom	40
Stephen Barnes & John Miller	51
Jamie Bartholomew & Fiona Bartholomew	90
Ian Brooks & Matt Sunderland	155
Trevor Wood & Ralph Brown	185