

**MSCC Morgan Speed Championship**  
**Shelsley Walsh, Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September Weather ... SUNNY !!**

The MSCC Parc Ferme Speed Championship Circus rolled into its penultimate meeting at the famous Shelsley Walsh Hill Climb. Early arrivals were greeted with mist hanging in the valley, which, I was reliably told by a local farmer “will be gone by nine” followed by a lengthy explanation as to why this would happen, crows circling and not tumbling, foxes seen on the wrong side of the river, sheep facing south and so on and so on. Sure enough by the start of practice the skies had cleared, we were in for a nice sunny day “Hurrah” I for one, have had enough of wet events as I think we all have.

This Sunday we welcomed 3 new entrants to Shelsley, Philip & Margaret Parkes and from the world of racing, Andrew Potter. It is always good to see new faces at this wonderful event or in fact at any event. Practice started well with the unique Shelsley tradition of picking a batch number for each of your two practice runs. Some were keen as mustard to get early runs in while others held back to let the morning dew dry off, bottom and top “S” can be very unforgiving in the wet! I understand that John Stephens had an uncharacteristic excursion going over the grill at top “S”. Practice went well with everyone knocking off 2 seconds on average on their second runs with Margaret managing a magic 10 seconds.

The lunch break was taken sitting in the sun shine where anecdotal conversation revolved around, new fashion accessories for Morgans such as gem stone additions to the steering wheel boss, the fact that Clive Glass had seen buzzards circling above him as he drove up the hill (did they know something he didn't ?) and John Stephens frantic efforts to lighten his car by giving away petrol. Dave Simpson mused that the most important solution to extra speed for him was that he just imagines a beautiful bird at the top of the hill, as this vital point was being discussed by the men folk as to whether the bird was one with feathers or not, Nigel dropped in that the hotel he stayed in was “Gay” friendly, ok...., moving swiftly on we also enjoyed seeing Philip P and Nigel happily puffing on their pipes. Maybe we should rename it the MSCC Pipe Fumee Championship.

Down to business. The first timed runs went well with no problems except Dave S “trimming” the grass out of top ”S”. Clive H managed to bust his bogy on both runs, which kept him in the lead to the end with a magnificent 1st at 1.56 sec under. Paul nearly bust the bogy on his first run but managed it on his second with a superb 37.95 to take a well deserved second amid remarks by the commentators on how smooth his lines were. John, seemed to struggle, which is unlike him, but he managed a good 3<sup>rd</sup> being just under a second off bogy. Nigel, having moved to class 3 with twin Webbers encroached well on the new target time. Martyn and Greg made good inroads on their tight target times, and the “first timers” also did very well, Margaret dropped nearly 11 seconds and Philip P 2.5 seconds. As for Andrew Potter, well, he triumphed by getting FTD and on his very first visit to Shelsley by 1/100 sec! Well done Andrew, No hard feelings, but that is the last time I show him a line !!.

All in all everyone seemed to have a good day and we all left in one piece.

Philip Tisdall