

MSCC Speed Championship 2008

Event Report

Venue: Wiscombe Park
Date: 6th September 2008
Weather: Very Wet

We arrived early to drying skies and a very greasy track only for the scrutineer to point out to Paul Bryan that his timing strut was missing. "It was there last night mlud" protested Paul to no avail, "you have to have one."

Applying the principles of the best agricultural engineering the Tisdalls came to the rescue, Phil deftly adapting the lid of Sue's famous flapjacks tin tie wrapped on to do the job.

For the first practice runs everyone was taking it steady, with practically no grip and a tree everywhere you looked nobody wanted to adjust their bodywork too drastically this early. The track was continuing to dry but still very slippery in places and by second practice confidence was returning with times falling by as much as eight seconds.

It was good to see Andrew Potter here in his lightweight roadster, he was trying to get the tyre pressures right for a short sharp run with cold tyres, being more used to longer duration racing in the Speed Challenge.

During lunch break the drizzle started and the track started returning to its greasy state especially through the Essess where the sun never shines and the track is green.

To the delight of the local spectators Nigel Housley decided to do wall of death demonstrations at Wis Corner on his first timed run, mounting the bank and nearly flying inverted, thankfully a full recovery was made and no damage done except to his time.

As a local lad I have noticed that Wiscombe has its own little microclimate, that is, if it is beautiful sunshine everywhere else, it is usually tipping down at Wiscombe. This time it was different, it was the same everywhere.

And so it started to really rain again, the usually quick Joe Phillips gave up in disgust and withdrew from the second run, at one point it was almost as difficult to get out of the paddock as it was to drive up the hill, does anyone know the coefficient of friction of wet sheep****? because it doesn't seem to be in the Blue Book. Anyway the rest of us persevered with the second timed run, Paul Bryan struggling to find enough grip from his 1A tyres to come a creditable 4th in the atrocious conditions, Phil Tisdall in his plus +8 making a very valiant dash for Morgan FTD. Son and father, Jim and Peter Mountain rescuing a stonking 1st and 3rd respectively in classes 1 and 5 and yours truly taking a fluke 2nd place.

Peter Turner