

MSCC Techniques Speed Championship

Venue: Croft

Date: 13th April 2009

Weather: Sunny, with later cloud

The merry crew assembled for the season's opener, with aqualung and snow goggles packed in anticipation, but were instead bathed in sunshine. There's nothing like being prepared, and true to form, we were nothing like prepared!!!!

All except John Stevens that is, who on his first practice cracked bogey and continued throughout the day, with metronomic efficiency, lapping repeatedly in the low 103's. Grumblings were heard from class competitors Richard Smith and Brian Lee, who never the less posted creditable times within a couple of seconds of bogey – that despite Richard's agricultural ballet class on the first timed run. Suffice to say the newly christened Hyphen-John Hyphen-Hyphen won the event, but was pressed closest by Paul Clark who ended up with fastest time of the day and only 5 hundredths off bogey.

A warm welcome was extended to Tim Harrison, in his first event, and to Stuart Kellett, returning to racing after a 'short' absence, who both put in creditable performances and from whom as the season progresses we will no doubt hear more. John Bevan brought along potential champions of years to come, although they'll need to get the hang of potty training first.....

Chris and Michele Bailey continue to share their Plus 4, aided this year with illegal tyre warmers – Jon and Chris Baines have inspected the offending items and will no doubt be undertaking an FIA sponsored inquiry which may yet result in a Brawn-esk international incident. The provision of chocolate cookies may well be the bribe (sweetener, surely – Ed.) which saves their bacon. Watch this space.....

Karena Carden continues to reduce her times round after round, spurred on, no doubt, by the thought of the impressive garaging she and Roger are building in Scotland to house Rupert.

Of the other seasoned racers, David Gibson was yet again smooth and consistent, eventually clocking in at only .69 over bogey and finishing third overall, equal with Simon Baines finding his feet in the family's new Roadster Lightweight (all too quickly for my liking!!!), with yours truly getting to grips with a new higher revving John Eales' engine finishing tenth. That's my excuse and I'm sticking to it!!!!

Here's looking forward to the rest of the season.

Clive Glass