

MSCC Techniques Speed Championship

Date: Saturday 14th August 2010

Venue: M I R A

Weather: Wet - Wet - Wet - cool - blustery winds

It never rains but it pours gives a good idea of how the day at our regular MIRA event went on. Speed Championship Organiser Simon should really be known as Admiral of the Fleet as this is not the first event where the rain this season has made for very interesting driving.

All present and correct in the car park, apart from the new Mrs Miller who finds her marital status so exhausting she slept in the back of the vehicle until ready to emerge trackside. We patiently waited to be escorted through to the track by MIRA pilots, although slight spots of rain the open exposed track gave us very good views of the oncoming storms that spent the day with us.

Everyone took practice runs seriously as the track was wet and there were large areas of surface water all over the place. Brian Lee commented when asked "how was it" - "alright on the straight but tricky on the bends". This was the way it was and as forecasted the weather was all over the place all day.

Eventing Porche, production saloons, Formula Ford, Ferrari, classics all gave eventful runs and entertaining driving getting through the stormy conditions and wet track.

However, we now have a new dimension to our sprint entries in the form of Morgan aerobatics. Wing Commander Andrew Miller with his usual enthusiasm power on through the speed trap straight and in front of the Control Tower launched number 55 to the skies. Reliable eye witness account gave a height of 4 feet all four wheels off the ground back onto the grass for a showman spin and returned to the track to finish his run. The gasp of the onlookers caused immense interest and excitement in the paddock. Parking up and onto the trailer for inspection revealed no apparent damage and a cool pilot. Sadly Run 2 was a FAIL as all four wheels left the track.....

Two good practice runs and a first run gave Clive Glass the confidence to take on the world for final run 2. However life has a funny way of biting back when you mix inclement weather and sprint events as this was to be a merry go round which incorporated Clive taking on board a small but attractive selection of local stones for Judy's rockery back home very neatly stored in and around his seatbelt together with some attractive blue design on the red paintwork - sure it will polish out. Was it not the same colour Clive tried from the blue MIRA cones in past years ?

Chris and Granville Martin had good practice and two good runs, there was some serious discussion in the paddock looking over the paintwork as to what could be called a brush with the cones but all was well in that camp.

Number one of the day went to, Mr Cool, Greg Dixon-Smith, 2nd to Ray Eatock with his loyal fan club who weathered wind and rain to support him, well done Carol, a well earned 3rd went to Anne, Mrs Miller who also beat husband Andrew - sorry Andrew you were handbagged.

Tim Harrison and Brian Lee bringing down their times as did Phil Parkes, Trevor Firmin and Greg Parnell but in such conditions getting to the finish and staying on the track were a major part of the event.

Finally the two runs over it was put the cars back together and pack up all the bags but it took seven people over 30 minutes to assist the Parkes put away their "Quickpitch " tent - oh so quick to pop out but oh so annoyingly slow to put away - yes there is a method it is just remembering it.

A big thank you for Jonno who drove all the way down from Marple to do the score sheet and keep everyone posted of times and positions.

Yet again, the weather was horrid but the friendly rivalry, enthusiasm and professional way Morgan drivers and crew are was yet another great day out in the MSCC Techniques Championship.

Margaret