

MSCC Techniques Speed Championship 2011

Event Report

Venue: Olivers Mount

Date: 1st May 2011

Weather: Dry and warm

Olivers Mount at Scarborough is a track that is more usually associated with vehicles of the 2 wheeled variety but on the Mayday weekend, Auto 66 invite an interesting mix of both 2, 3 and 4 wheeled machinery to tackle the hillclimb course. The event is run over 2 days with the 2nd day being the Speedmog championship round. As is often the case, 5 of this year's entries were getting in some useful practice on the Saturday.

Sunday welcomed the arrival of father and son team, Granville and Chris Martin to the venue for their first time, together with regular runners Chris and Michele Bailey, Simon and Jonathan Baines, Clive Glass and Nigel Ledger Lomas.

Due to some confusion over the double drives during practice, only one practice run was achieved by most runners although Chris Bailey didn't manage to get further than the first corner due to a broken throttle cable. A hasty trip to the local Halfords store to purchase a bicycle brake cable followed by a little fettling had the Bailey machine back on the track by the time the 1st timed runs were underway. Meanwhile Chris Martin already looked to be getting his eye in with a run that was only 0.14 seconds over bogey.

Timed runs were soon underway and Granville Martin was exploring the limits and beyond, collecting a cone at Farm Bends. Son Chris was not to be outdone by Granville by outbraking himself into the Mere Hairpin to collect his cone. Clive Glass was also having a good day, with a run of 49.95 seconds, whilst Jonathan Baines posted his fastest time of the weekend so far with a time of 48.95 seconds, keeping Simon on his toes who was slightly faster with a time of 48.34 seconds.

Following lunch, and an opportunity for Michele to pass around "chocolate nests", no doubt in an attempt to slow the field down, 2nd runs resulted in improvements for all bar Granville and Chris Martin who were both complaining of understeer although Chris also had a "loose moment" exiting the Kink just before the finish line. Simon Baines managed his fastest time breaking the bogey by 0.76 seconds, with Jonathan Baines, Clive Glass and the Baileys also posting their fastest times.

On the 3rd and final runs, Clive Glass managed to repeat his time from Run 2 leaving Chris Martin and Nigel Ledger Lomas to find slight improvements.

As the final results were calculated, Simon Baines was in 1st, closely followed by son Jonathan with his best result to date in 2nd and Chris Bailey in 3rd. Clive Glass took a closely fought 4th place, only 0.01 seconds ahead of Chris Martin who unfortunately could not repeat his form in practice.