

Castle Combe, 15th October: dry and, sunny but it's always like this when Clive Glass doesn't appear.

Leaving home at the unearthly hour of 3.30 in the pitch dark, I wondered where I would be at daylight, and from which direction the sun would appear. Finally, at about 6.45, it dawned on me.

This sprint was, as you all know from the backs of your Techniques-sponsored tee shirts, the last of the season, and the one where heroes would be made and the also-rans forgotten until next season. The main protagonists Greg D-S and Andy Miller were quite polite with each other, but deep down, I reckon each were wishing the other was out shopping or playing golf or pasting stamps into albums, anywhere but here in direct competition but hey, the opposition is here and I have to make the best of it.

It was the BIG day of the Baines Einstein Theory because the track, although being the same bit of tarmac, was longer, having an extra bend, a new bogey had to be set. No eleven points here. Eventually, it was a Millertime that set the standard for the rest of us, which proved to be a tough call for some. Well, for me anyway.

It was really great to have a crowd of Moggers to support: Rob Toon, still glowing from his stint as commentator for the Club Sprint, Graham Wright, Dave Sapp, Steve Bridges, Andrew Potter, John Bevan, Alan Foster, someone in a three wheeler, and at least two other Mogs in the car park, not to mention the MillerBand who very kindly provided lunch for us all.

Sprinters were the afore mentioned Miller and G D-S, the Baines Boys Simon and Hairy, the Parkes Department Margaret and Phil, Tim Harrison, Paul Bryan, Brian *Bloody* Lee and me.

So, after a superb MillerLunch, we set off for the first of our two timed runs, very aware that the autumn sun was sinking lower, and would be right in our eyes for the last bend of the circuit. Following each run, the times were posted, which attracted a crowd of drivers eager to know who might lift the Speedmog crown. Times were fairly consistent, and generally improving over the day, but It was not until the final wheel had turned that Andy Miller had resigned himself to second place tying with Simon Baines, meaning a longer line has to be engraved on the SpeedMog trophy with the name "Gregor Dixon-Smith". The notable success was young Hairy, who is now posing an even greater threat to his dad's times.

So congratulations to Greg on a great result, but sincere thanks must also go to Simon for setting it all up and encouraging us all, particularly those new to the sport, and to Brenda for keeping tabs on the scores throughout the year. We can now look forward to the Drivers Dinner on Bonfire Night, then a long, cold, lonely winter until we can again burst from our mogbarnation to breathe fresh new life into the 2012 season, when we will all be leaner and faster.

* Yes, Brian Bloody Lee: I made an old man very happy, by not being able to beat his quick time!



best mates



Baines-Einstein



who's leading?



MillerLunch



who is it to be?



ace reporter