

MSCC Techniques Speed Championship

Castle Combe Sprint

27th October 2012

Weather cold and bright

The traditional end of season competition at Castle Combe had been moved back two weeks and the entry numbers were reduced to allow for possible bad weather and light with only 5 Morgan drivers able to make the entry list, Paul Bryan, Clive Glass, Ian Hargrave and the double drive of Andrew and Anne Miller.

Once again at this venue the Championship was being taken to the wire with Andrew, already assured of a class win, needing a first or second to take the main prize.

We arrived at the circuit in near darkness for the 7.00 am signing on and it was bitterly cold. For once the advance weather forecast had been accurate and we had sunshine for most of the day but not much improvement in the temperature.

First practice produced a number of early incidents with a cold track and cold tyres getting the blame but eventually, near the end of the running order, we were able to get out on track and straight away Andrew was taking a clear lead with a time just a second away from the class 7 target.

Second practice saw useful improvements for Clive and Anne and we anticipated a further fast drive from Andrew before the lunch break but it was not to be.

A bit too much speed into the Quarry bend was more than the tyres were able to take and the unforgiving tyre wall was the inevitable result.

Fortunately Andrew escaped with only bruises but the car had serious front and side damage and will be a big winter rebuild - probably to emerge in Class 9 guise for next year.

Delays from further minor incidents during the afternoon meant that we were only able to have one timed competition run and it was nearly 4 pm before the three remaining Morgan drivers were back on track and unsurprisingly there was less enthusiasm for on the edge driving with only Ian continuing to improve on his times.

At the end Paul was first on handicap from Clive and Ian and the result meant that the overall champion for 2012 and for the first time was Chris Bailey with previous winner John Stevens in second and Andrew Miller still taking third despite only scoring in five events.

Our thanks to the Miller family for providing the lunchtime spread although they had other things to think about.

And well done everybody throughout the season. We look forward to 2013.

PB