

MSCC Techniques Speed Championship 2013

Venue: Aintree
Date: 29th June 2013
Weather: Dry and windy, sunny afternoon

Had it been sunny earlier it would officially have been a CTF day, but as it was we couldn't complain. We welcomed Rob Stones to his first sprint in 15 years with Julia acting as Pit Crew (I don't think he'd told her before they arrived.....!!!!). With it being their first sprint it seemed a little churlish to point out Julia had put the numbers on in the wrong order (we left that to Rob...).

I'd remembered Rob's registration (MOG 8) from my old registration documents, and sure enough my red Plus 8 used to be his pride and joy!!! What a day for reminiscing, but sorry Rob, Rupert's not for sale!!!

We were also joined by Ray and Carole Eatock, fresh from their meeting with Barack Obama, or something like that. I know it involved a flight to and from Florida and they looked tanned and rested, but I might have got the first bit wrong.

Oops, nearly forgot - the sprinting.....

Practice one blew the cobwebs away, and P2 saw Chris Martin within 0.6 of bogey. Didn't bode well for the rest of us, and sure enough, in typical Chris Martin style, it went even further downhill for the rest of us as in the first timed run he broke bogey. Michele set her first ever sub-60 and went on to finish with a best time of 59.48 – over 1.5 seconds quicker than ever. Rob Stones gradually got the measure of his car and ended up with a creditable 60.87. We'll have to keep our eyes on him..... In fact, a lot of people already have. As an auctioneer he's been roped in to do Bargain Hunt – as Chris Martin is a big fan of the series (he has his Sky box set to series record!!!) it was all we could do to stop him asking for his autograph!!!!

Sorry, back to the sprinting....

Granville and Chris Bailey were having a fine old tussle for second place and at one stage were separated from their target time by 0.09 seconds, whilst Paul Clark and I were having fun seeing who could be the biggest hooligan and get FTD – needless to say Paul won, with a best speed over the finish line of 115mph, against yours truly's 111mph. So it ended up, Chris Martin, first, 0.78 under bogey (still, makes it easier for us all next year.....), Chris Bailey second and Granville Martin third.

The weather stayed fine and we had four timed runs (well five, but as no one set a better time on the last one and there was no space on the scorecard we ignored it!!!) and we still got away for 5.00pm. Marvellous organisation by LMC, as usual, and a fine day out.

And no, Johnno, no one got their wheels nicked!!!

Clive Glass