

MSCC Techniques Speed Championship

Venue: Blyton Park
16 June 2013

Like so many sprint circuits Blyton Park is a former airfield, and a great circuit. It claims to be in the East Midlands, but is actually somewhere near Gainsborough and not too far from Scunthorpe. It was a breezy and sunny morning that saw 8 Morgans and 10 drivers arrive, with Jono Baines interloping in a Formula Ford.

Newcomers Simon and Tracey (but known as Charlie) Ashby made their introductions and were welcomed to their first SpeedMog event. The Baines family were managing a passable imitation of new age travellers in the paddock with a motor home, trailer and Morgan, estate car, trailer and Formula Ford. 'Reggie' the Baines new Roadster was making a debut appearance, disproving the rumour that it was merely a figment of Simon's imagination.

First practice proved interesting for Paul Bryan, recording for him a rather sedate time. Subsequent investigations by wife and results recorder Brenda discovered that he had an astonishing 64ft time of some 16 seconds. We put the blame firmly on the startline marshals not holding the car at the start. Pockets of competition appeared throughout the field, with Paul Clarke, Trevor Firmin and Simon B within 2 seconds of each other. Further down Ian Hargrave, Nigel Housley and Moi were separated by 3 seconds. No times had been recorded for Chris or Simon A, and Charlie was smiling after her first run out in the Roadster.

Second practice saw everybody posting faster times, notably Paul B who had improved by 17 seconds, not surprising really. Chris's first recorded time of the day was less than 0.5 over target and put a marker down for everyone else. He was later seen bouncing on the rear wings of Rudolph, to then announce a broken shock absorber.

First timed run was before lunch and saw Chris break bogey, and Paul C break (well crack) a panhard rod. Everyone else continued to improve, with Paul B joining the Baines/Clarke/Firmin fray at the top.

Paul C removed the cracked panhard rod, and Chris and Simon B tried, but failed, to swap the rear shock absorbers on Rudolph over lunch. Most then took advantage of some portable scales provided by one the TVR drivers to weigh their cars.

Runs 2 and 3 generally saw improvements across the board, particularly Simon B and Paul B. We then had the luxury of a 4th timed run, where Chris went further under bogey sealing his win. Simon B took second and Paul B third. Paul C and Trevor were separated by less than 0.4, and Ian took the laurels in the Hargrave/Housley/Moi battle further down the field. Charlie and Simon A announced that yes they had enjoyed themselves and would be returning.

Fastest time of the day was Jono, but he wasn't in a Morgan so it doesn't count.

A good day all round then.

Michele Bailey