

MSCC TECHNIQUES SPEED CHAMPIONSHIP

Venue: Debden Sprint
Date: 12th May 2013
Weather: Cool and breezy

Four Morgans were among the eighty plus competitors at this popular sprint which takes place on an historic airfield now used for Army training.

The continuing Army activities do not respect the course layout and once again there had been an alteration, this time to the initial section, where the infamous roundabout was now bypassed.

There was a cold early morning breeze as we walked the course but it was dry and the revised course layout looked interesting with plenty of variety and an ageing but grippy surface.

Practice went quickly and the reaction to the new course was enthusiastic – fast and twisty and terrific to drive. Paul Bryan had set the pace for the target times and the challenge was set for the three competitive runs.

For the first run Paul Clarke had tightened up the suspension all round and went two seconds faster straightaway but Paul Bryan was below target by 0.57. In the second run Trevor Firmin had his best time but a prior engagement meant that he was unable to take any further part.

As the third runs started we were keeping a close eye on the weather as rain had been forecast for 3 o'clock and we were at the end of the running order. Paul Clarke decided to put up his custom hood in readiness for the drive home and found that the car went even quicker as he managed to beat the target time by 0.13. Paul Bryan's quickest run was to no avail as a slight brush with one of the plastic dustbin chicane markers was spotted by the marshalls and a 5 second penalty was applied but he had already done enough to win and at least next year's targets would not be any harder.

Ian Hargrave also had his best run of the day and so as not to spoil things the rain held off until just after we finished.

"Great fun", "A Cracker" were verdicts on this event. Hopefully it can remain unaltered and we will be back.

PB