

MSCC Techniques Speed Championship 2013

Event Report

Venue: Harewood

Date: 2nd June 2013

Weather: Warm, sunny and dry.

Harewood Hill Climb always attracts a good number of Morgans and this year was no exception. It also attracted some not so familiar faces to the venue for 2013, Alan Foster had last competed at the hill over 15 years ago, Ian Hargrave was a Harewood “virgin”, having made the trip all the way from Surrey, and it was good to see the return of Granville and Chris Martin on their first outing since 2011.

First practice was soon underway and early runner Ian Hargrave was a little too gentle on the startline and stalled. Chris Martin however was pushing hard on a surface that many thought was lacking in grip and this resulted in him including a gravel trap in his route to the top.

Second practice times improved for all bar Chris Bailey who was later to be found frantically adjusting tyre pressures. John Stephens was in his customary position of being only 0.23 seconds over bogey whilst the Martin family were only split by 0.2 seconds.

A first timed run before lunch saw Chris Bailey post a personal best for this hill, only 0.4 seconds over bogey, John Stephens was, by his own admission too cautious into the Esses and still only 0.58 off target. In the +8's, Clive Glass and Simon Baines were only split by 0.09 seconds and Alan Foster was improving on every run. Class 10 runner Tim Harrison was also going quicker on every run and now had his sights set on the Morgan Class Record of 65.68 seconds.

After a relaxed lunch break, the second timed run saw improvements for many. Ian Hargrave had his fastest time of the day whilst Michele Bailey took 2 seconds off her previous time. John Stephens edged closer to his bogey time but still failed to beat his 2nd practice time whilst Tim Harrison had now beaten the class record. Granville and Chris Martin both improved their times, although Chris returned to the paddock with most of his coolant now on the outside of the engine, thanks to a hose that had detached itself. Hasty repairs were carried out and made ready for the next run.

With a total of 4 timed runs available, there was still time to “try something different” and so it proved on run 3 as Chris Martin found almost a second from his previous time, recording a time that was in class 9 territory! Michele Bailey also improved again managing another personal best whilst in class 9 Simon and Clive both managed their best runs of the day.

On the final run of the day, the only improvements were John B****Y Stephens who moved to within 0.2 seconds of his bogey, and Tim Harrison who reset the class record again with a time of 64.96 seconds. Chris Martin was giving his all, however this wasn't to be as the gear knob gave way as Chris approached the Esses, leaving Chris fumbling for gears.

The final results were Chris Martin 1st, John Stephens 2nd and Chris Bailey in 3rd place. Well done to all for an excellent day's entertainment.

Simon Baines