

MSCC Techniques Speed Championship

Venue: Aintree
Date: 28th June 2014
Weather: Wet

As I battled my way up the M6 in driving rain doing 70 mph plus through the spray from lorries, there was little to recommend the British weather or hood up Morgan ownership. However the prospect of Aintree and the hospitality of Liverpool Car Club is always good so with that in mind it could only be hoped that the weather would get better.

Just 5 Morgans booked in for the event with over 120 cars taking part, a disappointing turnout for us but less competition gives a better opportunity to score championship points.

On arrival our parking field was full of Westfields. Gavin Rintoul had correctly set up camp and battling with the elements putting up a small tent. Not long after Paul Clarke arrived making us a trio, Robin Wright and Clive Hall not showing leaving us to uphold the Morgan name.

Scrutinising out of the way the drivers briefing revealed there was diesel on the rain covered track at the final run off point, a worrying and lethal cocktail. As might be expected we had two very hesitant practice runs with Paul putting up the fastest time of 60.11 secs. With delays and other drivers falling off the track it was a long cold and wet morning leaving us no option but to find the warmth of the club house for lunch. At this point we caught up with racer Jonathan Baines who was suffering with no grip on his car, the diesel had even found its way into his parking area.

Things did start to look up as the rain started to clear. I put in a time of 61.88 followed by Gavin who was obviously thinking it was time for some entertainment with a big off across the fields at turn two. Paul Clarke was following and had a rerun which pleased him as he was able to get his eye in placing a much improved time of 56.70 secs.

Gavin appeared back at the pits with a big smile following the entertainment that he had caused, his car covered in undergrowth. Our companions watching in the Westfield camp were obviously concerned but curious at our laid back approach cleaning all the silage off Gavin's car.

Runs two and three developed into a needle match between Paul Clarke and yours truly. Just over one second dividing the two cars. The track was getting much drier, tyres were being pumped up with firmer suspension giving much better speeds. My time took the day of 58.80 sec. against a bogie time of 57.46 sec.

My first win, making the wet day very worthwhile for me. Sorry to Gavin and Paul for being so insufferably pleased with myself.

Good company, humour and Morgan fellowship as always.

Results best run times:

Rob Stones	58.80	Gavin Rintoul	64.87	Paul Clarke	53.85
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Rob Stones