

MSCC TECHNIQUES SPEED CHAMPIONSHIP

Venue: Debden Sprint
Date: 11th May 2014
Weather: Cloudy, rain at first. Windy

“I know it’s an old airfield but I’ve never seen a car flying before”

The two 4/4’s of Paul Clarke and Paul Bryan arrived at a cold and windy Debden with rain threatening and by the time of the drivers briefing umbrellas were up.

First practice was necessarily cautious but fortunately the rain stopped and despite the forecast and dark clouds all around the weather remained dry for the rest of proceedings although we decided to keep hood and hard top in place as a precaution.

The wind helped to dry the track and by the time of the first competition runs it was full effort and both drivers were inside the target times set last year.

The second runs were going to be faster surely as we thought of where we could make up time but sometimes you just try too hard.

The left hand bend before the back straight was Paul Bryan’s undoing, understeering on to the very bumpy grass infield. All control could see was a hard top flying through the air – dislodged by the impact of taking the bumps at speed. Oh dear, end of play and a damaged cross-member to repair.

Paul Clarke could not improve on his first time and decided to miss the third run and start the long journey home.

So a day of mixed fortune but we will be back.

PB