

MSCC Techniques Speed Championship

Venue: Aintree
Date: 27th June 2015
Weather: Fine and Dry

The Aintree sprint is run by the Liverpool Motor Club and uses part of the Historic Grand Prix circuit of the 50's and 60's where Stirling Moss beat Fangio to be the first British driver to win a British Grand Prix.

Seven Speedmoggers joined no less than 138 competitors for this fantastic event at Aintree. The weather was perfect and my fellow competitors were all great blokes, enjoying great banter and camaraderie.

It was the first time at Aintree for Simon Ashby, assisted by his wife Tracey. Also Martin McHugh was a newcomer, assisted by Robin Wright.

Practice started with most competitors a few seconds off their bogey times except Clive Hall in his Class 3 4/4 4 seater who matched his best time of the day on 2nd practice. WOW, is he quick!

The first timed runs were before lunch and Rob Toon, like me(JBS) and Clive Hall all went slightly slower than practice. I blamed it on the weather getting too warm with the wind in the wrong direction but Rob heard some worrying noises from underneath his bonnet only to find the alternator very close to the inner wing. He decided to call it a day, worried that if he kept going, the noise would get worse and do serious damage. We later found out it was a broken engine mount and was wise to retire.

After lunch we had another 3 timed runs with Clive Hall a worthy winner 1.15secs below bogey, JBS 2nd 0.33 secs over bogey and Martin McHugh a commendable 3rd only 0.92 secs over.

If you only compete once next year, make sure you go to Aintree. You feel welcomed by the Liverpool Motor Club, their organisation of the event is very slick and the cars entering were so interesting from a single seater that took fastest time of the day at 37.25 secs and 159mph over the finishing line to a little Austin 7 who took 100.83 secs and 44mph. The little Austin started just ahead of Simon Ashby who had to wait about 2 minutes on the line due to its lack of power, but it did look the part with a fluttering Union Jack on its wing. Simon wasn't impressed as his concentration was ruined. He had to concentrate as the car is very sensitive and needs about 7500 revs for a good start.

WOW! What a great day we had.

JBS (John Bloody Stephens)