

MSCC Techniques Speed Championship 2016

Event Report

Venue: Croft

Date 28th March 2016

Weather: Wet practice, Dry later – Cold!

Croft is always run on Easter Monday which usually guarantees that everyone who wants to enter can do so as there is little else happening at that time of year. As Easter fell early this year, the event was the first time many of us had sat behind the wheel of the Morgan in many months. Compound that with typical March weather, wet and cold, with temperatures in single figures, meaning that this would be a challenging day.

This year we welcomed a newcomer to the event – Adrian Smith and a returnee to the Speedmog arena - Steve Macdonald.

After a delayed start to allow the standing water on the track to drain, proceedings got underway with the saloon cars followed by the single seaters thankfully clearing the track before we ventured out. The rain had now abated and first practice was a cautious run for everyone, particularly so for Rob Stones who admitted to “getting lost” around the back of the circuit. Second practice was soon underway and with the track now damp rather than wet, times improved across the board.

A welcome break for lunch, time to retire to the warmth of the cafe and regain circulation to those extremities. As a cold wind was increasing in strength, it may have brought more of a chill to proceedings but it did help to dry the track and by the time of the 1st timed runs, the track was all but dry with the odd damp patch.

Significant improvements were again made by all and after all times were in, it was Simon in 1st, with Steve Macdonald 2nd, Rob Stones 3rd and Chris Bailey close behind in 4th.

Time for a round of the Bailey Chocolate Brownies before we were soon to be lining up again for run 2.

A completely dry track now, but still blooming cold.

Adrian Smith, now finding his way round, recorded his fastest time of the day as did Gavin Rintoul and Simon.

After a lengthy wait for the top 10 run off, and with the temperature now falling as the sun was heading for the horizon, we lined up for the 3rd and final run of the day.

Improvements were seen by Team Bailey, Rob Stones and Martin McHugh and once the times had been collected, the results were Simon in 1st, a great recovery drive by Chris Bailey to take 2nd and an impressive drive by Steve Macdonald to take 3rd.

Simon Baines