

MSCC Techniques Speed Championship

Venue: Goodwood
Date: 7th May 2016
Weather: Warm

Having spent the night prior to the event in the commendable Horse and Groom (car park not suitable for trailers) I pitched up at the circuit at seven to find Mr Hall already in residence having risen from his trundle bed at 2:30 am! Ever the sportsman I thought that's good, he will be useless by midday! Slowly the paddock filled up with the usual eclectic mix of the weird, wonderful and downright preposterous (viz one 1962 5ltr Dodge grungy hot rod.) At 8:30am Obergruppenfuhrer Von Marshall gave us all a lengthy dissertation on the do's and don'ts and warned of public floggings for those transgressing the rules.

Toon, Baines, Hargrave, Hall, Bryan, Proudfoot, Housley, made up the Morgan contingent. This is the fastest circuit on our calendar and if you don't do circuit racing the speeds are something to be respected and relished.

First practice resulted in the usual post lap debate on tyre pressures, circuit conditions, grip levels and times. One thing was clear; it was going to be a quick day.

Several "offs" delayed second practice with the most serious being damage done to an immaculate Dax Cobra that now needs a new chassis and a considerable amount of cosmetic surgery. I believe the driver was unscathed.

Everyone had got their eye in and in an attempt to find the last millisecond Chris Baines had applied his aerodynamic knowledge to dad's car and attached various shiny plastic sparkly bits to the cowel of the V6 creating what can only be described as a motoring vagazzle! Obviously 300+bhp isn't quite enough!!

Down to business.

Run one saw some dramatic improvements. George in the Series one bettered his first practice by 26.73secs with a time of 144.48 which was eventually to net him valuable points and 4th position. Ian Hargrave was determined to get a personal best and set about it diligently (he's an accountant!). His efforts were rewarded with a fine pb of 116.31 and 5th place overall. Big Baines had a bogey time of 93.95 and he immediately went under that to achieve a creditable 92.41 in a car that is now handling as intended. Simon is looking for the double this year and his campaign has started too well for my liking! Your scribe was plagued by fuel starvation but still managed an improvement taking him within 1.25secs of bogey. Paul Bryan was chasing 97.11 and achieved 107.70 on his second run and 6th position. Nigel Housley ended 7th with a 127.78 enjoying the day with his usual panache. Mr Hall was on his usual form and the early start left him undiminished, chasing a bogey of 102.36 he popped in a 106.48 on run one only to shave it down to 105.71 to finish third and

earn some comfortable points. Like its owner my Morgan had a drink problem ...i.e. not enough, however, on the last run of the day I managed to shave enough off my time to finish 0.5secs over bogey and 2nd place. Hot sweaty and tired we all headed off into the blue yonder unscathed and with a great days sport firmly set in our Morgan memory banks. Roll on Harewood!

Rob Toon

“Toony”