

MSCC Techniques Speed Championship 2016

Event Report

Venue: Ty Croes National Circuit

Date 19th June 2016

Weather: Damp, sea mist then torrential rain

After a glorious Saturday the Welsh Weather Gods decided that we had all been having it way too easy. We arrived back at the circuit on Sunday morning to be met by a fine sea mist that made everything damp. As the circuit was well rubbered in from the previous day's usage we were all aware that moisture of any kind was going to make the going tentative. The forecast was for worse to come but with a small field of fifty the Clerk of the course wisely elected to get the first timed run done before lunch.

With the demise of John Stephens CVH engine the day before we were one entry short. It would have been two but for the generosity of Clive Glass who kindly offered to share his 3.9 plus eight with Simon Baines who also had mechanical issues and had withdrawn his Roadster the day before. Having got off the line I was surprised to find much more grip than anticipated and if you kept to the racing line and made no sudden changes of direction the car behaved quite well. In spite of one or two competitors visiting the scenery all the Morgan's returned unscathed and eager to get back out before the rains came.

On run two Clive Glass was on it and recorded a 129.15 against his target of 127.21. Simon Baines in the Rent A Car put in a 133.75 with Clive standing on the pit wall fascinated by the sight and sound of his own car being driven at speed! Adrian Smith improved to 145.13 just 1.58 secs from where he needed to be. Mrs Shiny (Michele Bailey) reappeared in the paddock with an over excited facet pump hammering away in a very loud fashion in the back of "Rudolph". Husband Chris was settling in and chasing a deficit of 3.79 on his 1A shod Rover engined car. Your scribe managed to squeeze under bogey by 0.51 and the banter in the pit garage was up to its usual abusive standard. All was well!

Then the heavens opened. And within a short space of time the track was awash. The single seater's all went onto wets and waited patiently to be called. In the Morgan camp the initial discussions were based around "roof or no roof" but as the minutes passed it changed to shall we run or not run. There was nothing to be gained and possible a lot to be risked. The decision was then taken out of our hands as the Clerk of the Course called a halt to proceedings deeming it too dangerous to continue. In my opinion this was a wise move.

By consensus we elected to count the 2nd practice as a timed run thus allowing a result to be posted. As such Clive Glass was placed third, Adrian Smith second and your scribe first.

Apart from the racing my overall memory of this weekend will be of the camaraderie and support given to those suffering from "Mal de Motorsport". In particular Jonno Baines who loaded up the stricken class2 Mog of John Stephens and undertook a four hour round trip to make sure the car and John were delivered home safely and the generosity of Clive Glass

who willingly shared his Plus 8 to make sure that Simon Baines was able to have some sport following his withdrawal on Sat. This is a great championship for so many reasons.

Toony

Let practice begin



Now where was that apex?



Simon Baines road testing Clive Glass' +8.



- and the winning time was -

