

MSCC Techniques Speed Championship

It's only a number!

Aintree 24 June 2017

Weather: dry all day, cold in the morning then warming up and finishing in the sunshine

There was plenty of horsepower at Aintree of both the hooved and wheeled varieties. There was a horse show at the racecourse and almost 140 cars at the sprint circuit, including 7 Morgans with 8 drivers, and Jono Baines in support. The SpeedMog Scousers were noticeably absent, due to a house move.

Liverpool Motor Club run an efficient event and we were hoping for plenty of runs.

The Baileys haven't been to Aintree since 2013, so we tried to arrive early to allow time to walk the course and remind ourselves of the route. We arrived to find that almost everyone else was already there, apart from Paul Clarke. He arrived later complete with a misfire on the car, which he had only got back the night before following the problem at Harewood. George was at Aintree for the first time, but we didn't expect that to be an issue for him after his performance at Harewood.

First practice run saw no times for Simon or Chris but neither seemed to be bothered and neither had a rerun. George thought he would try it flat out all the way round and ended up on the grass. Second practice runs saw everyone going faster, even George who hit the green stuff again. Jono was acting as our time recorder; I was amused to see that the Baines mobile was parked as close to the paddock office as it was possible to get, just to save his weary legs?

We then moved to the first timed run before lunch, and everyone posted faster times again. I was getting close to the 60 second barrier, while both Paul and Simon (the Baron) went under bogey, with Simon breaking the 50 second barrier and taking a new Morgan class record into the bargain. Clive was only 0.3s over and Chris was less than 0.4s over. It was going to be close at the top.

Second timed runs saw improvements from George and Martin, and from Paul of 0.01s. The rest of us were all a bit slower. The sun came out and so did the lemon drizzle cake. Onto run 3, when only John and I posted times faster than T1.

The fourth and final run saw George lop another second off, Simon claim another Morgan class record, and I finally broke the 60s mark.

Simon won from Paul, with Clive 3rd.

As Paul was about to celebrate being 65 years young we adjourned to the bar for a cheeky beer and to support the award winners. During the chit chat John admitted to being 66; I couldn't believe him nor that Paul was 65! Certainly neither look it - after all it's only a number.

Mrs Shiny