

## MSCC Techniques Speed Championship

**Event** Debden Sprint  
**Date** 9<sup>th</sup> May 2021  
**Weather** Warm and dry

The Debden sprint circuit has become a fixture in the Speedmog calendar in recent years and it is a testing mixture of fast straights and tricky bends. The less than pristine surface of the old airfield only adds to the challenge and determined driving is rewarded by copious amounts of grip. So it was no surprise that the event was fully subscribed with drivers eager for some action after so much restriction in the last year.

The lack of overnight accommodation probably deterred some of the more distantly based drivers but five competitors in the Morgan Championship were present, Father and Son Simon and Chris Baines in their Roadster, Paul Clarke in his Roadster, Paul Bryan in a plus four Supersports and, in his first ever event, Andy Hatch in his immaculate Duratec engine plus 4, having driven to the event from Surrey. Also having its first outing and fresh from a tour of Suffolk was the Baines' new campervan.



The previous days rain had given way to a pleasantly warm day with some strong sunshine to heat up the tarmac. We were all able to walk the one and a half mile course and then wait our turn for the practice run which went to form with Simon Baines setting the pace. Paul Clarke had forgotten the way through the layout of cones and had veered off course and Andy Hatch was wondering what he had to do to make up a fifteen second deficit to the next competitor. We were eager to give advice and it was apparent that he was taking this on board as he was soon getting his times down to very respectable levels.



Lunch in the sun

Everyone was going faster during the day and after four competitive runs Simon was quickest overall with a time of 79.53, closely followed by Chris's 80.70, Paul Clarke in 83.84, Paul Bryan in 88.66 and with a huge improvement of 15 seconds during the day Andy Hatch's time of 90.59 on road tyres was very impressive. Good enough for second in handicap behind Simon.

Interestingly the best Morgan performance of the day might not have been a Speedmogger but the 4/4 driven superbly by Herts County member Jonathan Gibbs who was timed at 79.99 and was obviously at one with his Father's car. Watch out for the U tube video to see how he does it.

It was a really good day, great to get together with fellow competitors again and we all left tired, not a little sunburnt and eager for the next event.

Paul Bryan