

# MSCC Techniques Speed Championship 2021

## Event Report

Venue: Harewood

Date 6<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Weather: Glorious sunshine.

Following a stuttering start to our hillclimb season due to cancellations and inclement weather, we finally arrived at this scenic hillclimb course, at 1,584 yards, the longest hillclimb course in Britain.

What could be better, clear blue skies, perfect conditions and a paddock full of a variety of cars including 8 Speedmogs. Time for us to perform the customary walk of the course and catch up on 18 months of doing very little, it was great to be back.

No sooner than we were back in the paddock than we were being called for 1<sup>st</sup> practice. With many not having driven their Morgan more than a mile or two in the past 12 months, this was the opportunity to find out if “it” was still there. The answer was a convincing yes, it was just like riding a bike, you never forget.

Practice 2 and the times were starting to improve as everyone was still bedding themselves in, everyone except the Good Doctor (Clive Glass) who produced his best time of the time of the day, a personal best of 66.71 seconds – pity it was only practice.

Timed run 1 and time to get a banker in before lunch. As the times were revealed, it was clear that several were getting into their stride, JBS and Chris Bailey in the 4 cylinder cars and Messrs Clarke, Glass and Baines in the larger engine classes.

After the lunchbreak which included copious amounts of the sorely missed contents of the Bailey’s Brownies Box, it was back to business.

The Timed Run 2 results were a bit of mixed bag, Michelle Bailey posted her fastest time of the day with a 78.91 seconds, only a fraction off her personal best, whilst George Proudfoot, Nigel Housley, Clive Glass and Chris Bailey went slower – Michelle’s Brownies were working.

Timed Run 3 and the afternoon was still young. 1<sup>st</sup> up the hill was George and his time across the finish line was almost 2 seconds quicker, all thanks to him not changing gear through the Esses – only George would try that.

Paul Clarke meanwhile was trying a different line into the top corner, sideways where you don’t go sideways, it may not have looked pretty but he found nearly a second from his previous time. Simon Baines was on target to get into the 65’s but then missed gearchange going through the farmyard, still improving his time though.





Paul Clarke on a different line into top corner.

Michelle decided it was now or never on the run down to the Esses – sadly it was never as she outraked herself and couldn't make the corner – she did choose probably the safest place to park though – gentlemen take note.

Now something that you don't normally see at Harewood – a 4<sup>th</sup> timed run. This is due in part, to a limited entry size to comply with paddock spacing requirements – every cloud ....

The final run of the day always brings out the best in everyone, well almost everyone. Fastest times of the day were recorded for all with the exception of Simon Baines and Clive Glass. Simon couldn't quite find the rhythm from earlier in the day whereas Clive was trying a little too hard and had a grassy moment on the exit of Farmhouse Bend – not much grass there to have a moment.

John Stephens – who had been quietly getting on the with job during the day suddenly found over half a second and quietly moved in 1<sup>st</sup> place.

2<sup>nd</sup> place went to the ever hard charging Paul Clarke who managed a personal best of 66.28 seconds leaving Clive Glass to take 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Other notables were Steve McDonald who found nearly 2 seconds and Chris Bailey who managed to post an identical time to his Run 3 time that secured him 4<sup>th</sup> place.

And that was it, our 1<sup>st</sup> Hillclimb of 2021. What a day, what a crew, JBS back on top, roll on the rest of the season please.



1<sup>st</sup> Place goes to John B Stephens

Simon Baines