

MSCC Techniques Speed Championship

Venue: Loton Park

Date: 7th August 2022

Weather: Hot, Hot, Hot

Fun in the Sun, pretty much describes the Morgan Speed Championship's visit to Loton Park this year.

From the outset there were unbroken sunny skies, which promoted a false sense of bravado amongst our band of brothers and one sister. This resulted in some entertaining spins, luckily without consequence during our practice runs.

The Baines boys Simon and Chris were collaborating during practice, discussing the best gear selection and braking points to gain the best advantage from their shared car, as no doubt were Michelle and Chris Bailey in their double drive Plus 4.

Clive Hall had his sights set on beating the 2 litre class record for Morgan's, but just over stepped the mark on his first practice run to briefly bring out the red flag.

Michelle showed her determination to succeed in P2, but a spin at the end of Cedar straight going into Fallow bend found her limit. Her next run, which was her best, was the one that counted.

Spin and double spin followed at the same corner performed by Howard Burton, leaving a pall of tyre smoke to slowly clear, however his next timed run went smoothly.

Chris Bailey and John Stephens went about their business in their usual methodical way, whilst Rob Stones was coming to grips with his recently acquired ex Simon Orebi Gann's roadster ,after a five year sabbatical from competing.

Paul Bryan was running his lovely red Super Sport, saving his trusty green 4/4 for the Techniques Trophy Race at the Bentley Drivers Meeting. Missing was Brenda his wife who also helps with the Speed Series time sheets, due to covid, which meant that Paul had to put the kettle on himself in his motor home.

Andy Hatch and I discussed the braking point going into Hall bend, but after four attempts I certainly never got it right, however Andy's times progressed in the right direction all day.

As I arrived at the holding paddock after my final run I had to smile. Sheltering beneath the shade of a solitary tree, like a herd of cows on a hot day were my Morgan friends.

During our runs in practice and timed 1 and 2 it was Paul Clarke who was setting the hill alight with Simon Baines quickest on scratch. So top spot looked to be between the two of them. However George Proudfoot and Clive Glass both registered in our championship but electing to run in another class of cars shaved over half a second each of their last runs. This gave George the win with Clive second and Paul third after handicaps were applied, and Simon just off the podium in fourth place. It was that close

A great day with intense competition and the usual paddock banter.

Steve McDonald