

MSCC Techniques Speed Championship 2023

Event Report

Venue: Ty Croes

Date: 29th and 30th April 2023

The TyCroes circuit on the south coast of Anglesey evolved out of a disused military base and was first used as a motorsport venue in 1997. An extensive redevelopment in 2006 resulted in most of the old circuit replaced by a brand new circuit design of 4 different configurations. This allows the MG Car Club North West to organise a 2 day event over a weekend, using 2 substantially different track configurations. The tracks are wide with a combination of slow and fast corners that produce an exhilarating ride for any motorsport enthusiast. It is due to this attraction that the MSCC Techniques Speed Championship always include a weekend at TyCroes in the calendar and this always produces a healthy turnout of Morgans. This year was to be no exception. Ty Croes regulars George Proudfoot, Paul Clarke, Simon Baines, Steve Macdonald, Howard Burton and Nick Bolton were joined by newbies Philip Cowpland and Colin Briggs.

Philip Cowpland



The weekend starts with the National Circuit, 1.8 laps of the 1.2 mile circuit, providing everyone with the 2 attempts at each corner during every run. The circuit boasts a number of long fast corners with late apexes so a pre-practice track walk is essential before practice. Unfortunately Phil Cowpland who uses his +8 as his everyday drive was late arriving and missed this luxury.

As we were getting ready for the 1st practice, George was doing his best to talk Phil round the circuit using a map on an A4 sheet, not the ideal introduction to Ty Croes. However despite all the preparation it was current Speedmog Champion Simon Baines who was the first to make an error with a spin at the final hairpin on the 1st lap. With no red flags waving, he continued to get his 2nd lap - every lap of practice is invaluable.



Howard Burton enjoying the views.



Ty Croes enjoys stunning views over the Irish Sea to the West and Mount Snowdon to the East.

The exposed nature of the circuit often results in changeable weather conditions with little warning. So the 1st Timed Run is often used to “get one on the board”, just in case. It gives you a platform to work from and such is the flowing nature of the runs at Ty Croes, there will always be at least another 2 runs to improve.

Others just push the limits and this was George’s plan but it unravelled

at Peel Corner with a trip to the grass and resultant spin.

In the following runs Paul Clarke and Howard Burton also suffered spins but with no harm done, the day finished with Simon Baines in 1st place, Steve McDonald 2nd and George Proudfoot in 3rd. Colin Briggs, still finding the limits of his Roadster was a respectable 5th and Philip Cowpland, still trying to find his way around the circuit had managed to find 9 seconds from his 1st practice.

Sunday dawned overcast and wet so, with plenty of time to the start of proceedings, Simon, George and Howard set off on a track walk of the International Circuit. This is 1 lap around a 2.1 mile circuit that includes a banked hairpin followed by the fast Church corner and a flat out charge to Rocket. Standing water, surface changes and corner grip levels noted, it was time to put it into practice.

As the clouds receded and the wind picked up, the practice runs soon revealed a drying line developing so time to push harder. However, the surface changes were still going to catch some out and this time it was Steve McDonald’s turn at Seamans Corner but again, with no harm done, he completed his run and still improved on his previous time.

George Proudfoot



Lunch was called and time to look at the scores – George was leading closely followed by Simon in 2nd and Colin Briggs in 3rd. The sun was now working its magic, we now had a dry track and time to push. The 2nd and 3rd runs came around quickly after which most drivers felt that they had “peaked”. The order was now Simon in 1st, George in 2nd, Colin Briggs in a well earned 3rd place and Paul and Steve tying for 4th.

A 4th and final run was offered but with a sea mist rolling in some thought that the best conditions were behind us. George, Rob and Howard thought differently and lined up in the pit lane.

Rob Stones on his way to 3rd place.



The boys soon returned, followed soon after with their times. Whether it was the weather will remain unknown but all had improved, significantly.

George had found enough time to take 1st place from Simon, Rob Stones had found over 2 seconds to take 3rd place from Colin and Howard had found over a second from his previous run.

Another great weekend of competition amongst great company at one of the best circuits in the UK.