

Tim Takes The TT.

The Bentley Drivers Club Silverstone meeting would not be the same without the Annual Techniques Trophy race for the humble four cylinder Morgan, and this year's edition was a cracker.

Run as a class in the BDC Sports Car Challenge Race, a total of 16 Mogs took on not only each other, but also a single AC Ace Bristol, two Triumphs, and four MG's, the other marques never stood a chance.

Tim Parson started his bilious yellow 4/4 from pole and that was the end of that, as he ran away with the win, with another Yellow Peril as first loser, James Sumner's 4/4 getting the better of a wound-up Paul Bryan. PB had lead the feisty young Sumner for many laps before his more gentlemanly style allowed the somewhat more aggressive James to get in front when lapping slower cars. I have no idea of what Paul had for lunch, but he should have it more often. Mike Bell an occasional Morgan driver was allowed out in Simon Orebi Gann's red Plus 4 SS, and set about embarrassing the Club Sport models of Tony Hirst and Craig Hamilton-Smith. Mind you the works lads were not willing to let Mr Bell have things all his own way, and he and Tony swapped places all around the track with Craig joining in the fun until enthusiasm overcame road holding, and he swapped ends at the Complex. Despite this minor delay he held on to 6th place to the flag. Simon Gurney anonymous in his hard top Plus 4 SS, battled mightily with David Gibson for 8th. and 9th places with a Triumph holding down 7th. A close fought scrap followed this duo, consisting of Brian Gateson, Graham Coles in an MGA, Peter Cole in the Plus 4 previously owned by Richard Plant, and Roger Whitehouse. Brian lead the quartet most of the time, until the MG slipped passed, as did Peter Cole (well he is a good customer of Techniques), and that is how they finished with Roger 12th. Kathy Sherry bereft of a Morgan drove her MGA Coupe to 13th, refusing to get involved in any histrionics, staying well away from the scramble ahead, and from John Bevan, Mrs and Mr Bailey and Leigh Sebba behind. Mark Shears experienced some problems with his nice red Plus 4 SS, but I doubt anyone really cares, apart from Mark himself, and his good friend Phillip Tisdall who will be contributing towards an engine rebuild, no doubt.

As always Tracy Techniques called on Family and friends to help with the traditional buffet provided for the prize giving, with James Techniques giving a polished performance ably assisted by Rick Bourne. Tim collected the claret jug, while James Sumner picked up a smaller version, and Paul Bryan an even smaller one. A delighted Mike Bell found himself the proud owner of a bottle of something looking suspiciously alcoholic, apparently for being adjudged 'Driver of the Race'. Well it is a matter of opinion I suppose. (To be honest Mike is a 'good bloke' and thoroughly deserved the accolade).

Back in 2008 I was asked to present the prizes, but I have not been asked since. I knew the joke about Brian and the Plus 4 was a mistake.