

10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Techniques Trophy.

It seems like only yesterday that the first edition of the Techniques Trophy was run at the Bentley Drivers Club Meeting as part of the MG 'T Register, AC & Morgan Race but here we are 11 year later and the event for four cylinder Morgans was once again incorporated into the race. Twelve of these iconic cars were entered and had seven MG's as competition for the outright win, all of the AC's having been scared off, apparently.

Last year John Henry Williams was forced to retire while disputing the lead with Richard Plant, however, twelve months later he had less Richard Plant and more reliability, stroking to a comfortable win over James Sumner, although never able to fully relax as the bright yellow car was never far away. Behind these two a string of MG's followed on with the lone Moggie of Brett Syndercombe trapped in their web, as he fought to break free from the faster MGA's. Obviously the lack of 'T' Types had lead to revision of the entry criteria allowing the quicker 'B's and 'A's in. Brett eventually snatched seventh spot. Paul Bryant ran close behind this squabble for 9<sup>th</sup>. with Ian Sumner 10th. Mark Shears claimed twelfth place just two ahead of Jonny in his MG Midget that, must have been a relief for Dad.

Brian 'Techniques' Gateson led home Mrs and Mr Bailey, John Bevan and the redoubtable Leigh Sebba in his very old Morgan. JB had been involved with the Gateson /Bailey mob until his tyres started to fade, whereupon he made the decision to coax them to the finish rather than go for a pit stop for fresh rubber.

It was a shame that more of the four cylinder cars were not entered, as Brian and Tracy put so much effort into making everyone welcome, and deserve support for catering for such cars. Alan House presented the awards to the first three, and Chris Bailey was adjudged 'Driver of the Race' by a jury of his peers, and received a bottle of something sparkly for his efforts.

After the race the action really got underway as the buffet was thrown open to the lurking hoards, who set about demolishing the pork pies and scotch eggs ... oh! And the occasional bottle of beer.

Despite once again failing to win his own trophy, Brian seemed very cheerful, and Tracy looked as lovely as always. Mum and Jacquie were on hand to assist with the hospitality, but who were the two Glamour Girls gracing the scene?

Roll on 2017, and even more 4 cylinder Morgans on the grid, please!

Pictures can be found on BHP, and pretty darn good they are. Congratulations to the photographer, whoever he was.