

## Gurston Down Sunday 21 April 2019

The opening opportunity for hillclimbers was Easter Sunday at this picturesque Wiltshire setting. As it was not a round of the speed championship it only attracted three cars but the BARC made us very welcome and did everything possible to ease our journeys up the course. We were the last cars of the batch and so did not need to switch off at the top, as we were also the first cars back down.

Under warm clear blue sky Ainsley, who now had a 500cc Tiger engine fitted, was the first car up followed by Mike and then Stuart. No one had any mechanical troubles and we all treated it as a shakedown. On practice run 2 everybody improved, especially Ainsley, who chopped nearly 9 seconds off his first time.

After lunch, and with the sun still beating down, the competition runs got underway. Yet again times fell and we were hopeful the pattern would continue on the second climb. This proved not to be the case, although Stuart had found half a second by the intermediate mark, until sadly a gremlin was soon to put in an appearance, as the float chambers worked loose causing the engine to splutter. However this was not the end, as on the return down the hill, they fell off and he had to make an emergency stop at Ashes as the fuel in the undertray ignited. Fortunately, the blaze was soon dealt with by the marshals and the car suffered virtually no damage!

<b>Results</b>		<b>Run 1</b>	<b>Run 2</b>	<b>Best</b>
Mike Wood	Iota CB2 JAP	<b>44.50</b>	44.81	<b>44.50</b>
Ainsley Barwick	Cooper Mk 6 Triumph twin	<b>47.31</b>	49.45	<b>47.31</b>
Stuart Barnes	Iota P1 JAP	<b>50.13</b>	52.12	<b>50.13</b>