

Wiscombe 8 May 2021

There had been much rain overnight but fortunately this had reduced to a light drizzle, which was to persist for most of the day. There was a healthy entry of 19 drivers in the singles class and 3 for the Wally Cuff Trophy for cars over 500cc. We welcomed four drivers from the Race Championship, and for his first outing in a 500, Ed Smith, sharing Stuart Wright's car. In all there were five drivers for whom this was the first drive at Wiscombe.



Fin's seat first thing ©Charles Reynolds

Practice

First practice went smoothly for most, it being a case of judging the conditions and learning the layout. Inevitably there were a few issues down the field, Ollie Dent had a drive shaft fail on the newly assembled Mark V Cooper, whilst brother Mark had the points rotor in the magneto come loose. Both Chas Reynolds and Richard Roberts were unhappy with their front brakes. Conversely, Stuart Barnes was pleased with the BSA gearbox now fitted in his Iota as a replacement for the Burman.



Bella Murray at Bunnies Leap ©Kitty Chisholm

Second practice saw improvements across the board although the weather had not got any better. The drive shaft repair to Ollie's Cooper again dropped him back to single wheel drive part way up, and the magneto repair to Mark's car let him down a second time. At this point Fin was clearly fastest and Alistair was the only other driver to dip below 60 seconds. John Chisholm was still having clutch problems and Stuart Wright was beginning to experience the same.



Max Mackintosh at Sawbench ©Kitty Chisholm



A fish out of water ©Kitty Chisholm

Timed runs

After lunch the weather had still not improved but times fell again for virtually all. Alistair had an uncharacteristic spin at Wis and the diminutive Monaco was experiencing gear selection issues. Ollie Dent was now sharing the Hornet with father Alistair. John Chisholm had been forced to pull out with more clutch issues and Mark's magneto problems also proved terminal, so neither recorded a time.



©Charles Reynolds

Mid afternoon saw no change to conditions but familiarity and confidence saw times reduce again for nearly the whole field but especially for Simon Dedman, Richard Roberts and Stuart Barnes. Simon managed the fastest to 64ft of everyone all day. JB narrowly missed dipping under 60 seconds and was comfortably the quickest racer. Stuart W's chain tension was giving problems so he withdrew but an adjustment allowed Ed to complete a full set of runs on what had been a challenging day for a first 500 experience. Alistair had yet another uncharacteristic spin.

Once all the times had been checked, John 'Rain Master' Dent had been quickest of all, marginally ahead of the ever-consistent Fin, who together with Max won the Forsyth Cup for best family performance.

Although there were only three drivers in the larger capacity class after Charles Reynolds had been forced to withdraw his Cooper twin (he did however bring a very pretty Renault Alpine), it was very close between another father and son pairing, Mark and Russell Haynes. On the last run of the day, Russell just managed to find that little bit extra to take the win.

A huge **thank you** must go to Xavier for organising a really good meeting especially considering the extra burdens brought about by Covid.

Results		Run 1	Run 2	Best
John Dent	Cooper Mk VIII JAP	58.61	56.72	56.72
Fin Mackintosh	Cooper Mk XI JAP	57.54	56.87	56.87
Max Mackintosh	Cooper Mk VI JAP	59.33	58.86	58.86
Mike Wood	Iota CB2 JAP	59.20	61.84	59.20
JB Jones	Cousey Triumph	61.33	60.33	60.33
Andy Rayner	Cooper Mk V Norton	61.47	61.66	61.47
Simon Dedman	Cooper Mk VIII Norton	66.37	61.90	61.90
Iain Rowley	Comet JAP	67.42	61.95	61.95
Chas Reynolds	Kieft CK53 JAP	63.01	62.96	62.96
Richard Robarts	Cooper Mk IV JAP	67.30	63.79	63.79
Angus Frost	Monaco Norton	72.51	65.63	65.63
Ollie Dent	Hornet JAP	70.61	66.32	66.32
Jonathan Morris	Waye JAP	67.51	66.88	66.88
Stuart Barnes	Iota P1 JAP	74.98	68.65	68.65
Stuart Wright	Cooper Mk XI Norton	69.36	---	69.36
Edward Smith	Cooper Mk XI Norton	74.55	72.60	72.60
Alistair Dent	Hornet JAP	Fail	Fail	
Mark Dent	Cooper Mk VI JAP	---	---	
John Chisholm	Arnott JAP	---	---	

Wally Cuff Trophy for over 500cc cars

Russell Haynes	Elva 200	63.02	59.48	59.48
Mark Haynes	Elva 200	61.89	60.46	60.46
Bella Murray	Cooper Mk V Harley	68.60	Fail	68.60

A fuller report will appear in the next issue of The 500