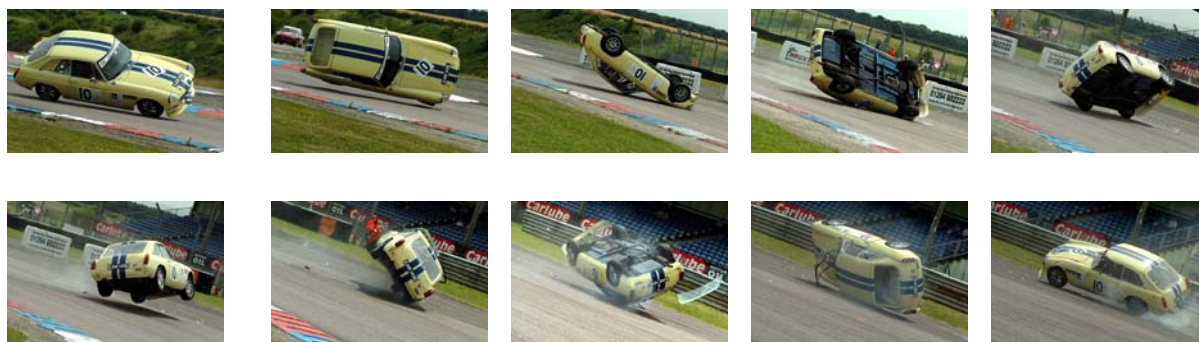


**MOSS EUROPE
MGCC BCV8 CHAMPIONSHIP
RACE REPORT
THRUXTON Round 4
28th June 2009**

The first outing to Thruxton in five years was not a disappointment. We last visited Thruxton as an invited club with AMOC in 2004, ie through the back door, as BARC have never had a meeting that they said was suitable. This year they have found a space at one of their meetings. We had received various weather reports over the week but on the day the sun shone and a lot of red faces resulted. Many of the drivers had not competed at this circuit before so it would be an interesting experience for many of them.

Nineteen drivers had turned out to race at this Hampshire circuit, which is 'allegedly' the fastest circuit in the UK. Four A, one AB, nine B, one C and four D class cars assembled for practice on the 2.3560 mile track and seventeen drivers completed practice with no problems until lap six when the practice was stopped. Simon Cripps had electrical problems which would eventually be resolved and.....

One particular red face was not due to the sun as during the practice Terry Savory managed to obtain his flying wings on his approach to the chicane on lap five when he clipped the curb and that was that, two rolls later he came to earth, unharmed himself, but a lot of work to get the MGBGT back to shape. To say Terry was not hurt is another commendation for the strength of the MGB. When he arrived home late on Sunday afternoon he found himself helping his local medical centre by climbing onto the roof to sort out a leak.



Photos by Derek Binstead

Practice

Pole position went to Paul Sibley with a 1.26.930 alongside the welcome return this season of Adrian Beer with a 1.28.119. Row two Peter Collis who had spent most of the time between practice and race under his bonnet trying to find a couple more cylinders on a 1.28.469 alongside Joe Parrington on a 1.29.050 now with his car running sweetly.

Row three the lonesome C class Phil Walker, waiting desperately for Silverstone when another two C class cars will join him, on a 1.31.271, sitting alongside B class Pole Tom Jones on a 1.33.099. On row four, first time out for the 2008 Champion Peter Samuels with a 1.33.465. Row five the dynamic duo of Jonnie Wheeler on a 1.34.625 alongside Ian Prior with a 1.34.687.

Row six James Wheeler and Brian Cakebread with 1.35.266 and 1.35.941 respectively and on row seven the electrically challenged Simon Cripps with a 1.37.094 alongside a first time out for 2009 Babak Farsian on a 1.40.530. Row eight a welcome return of Ron Moorcraft with a 1.44.557 alongside A class Pole Steve Okines on a 1.47.126. Row nine the only AB car out of Brian Smethurst with a 1.48.721 alongside Victoria Stones with a 1.48.942. Finishing off the field Bob Fisher with a 1.51.304 alongside the vacant spot for Terry Savory.

Race

The race was exciting throughout the field, Peter Collis led soon after the start while Adrian Beer and Paul Sibley dived behind for second position with Joe Parrington keeping a short distance but his car now on the pace waiting for an opportunity. Peter Collis maintained his overall lead with Adrian and Paul swapping places behind until lap seven when Paul Sibley passed at the Chicane and Peter and Adrian made slight contact Peter carrying on to catch Paul by the flag to take the race honours on the last lap, Joe Parrington coming home third overall. Adrian coming into the pits for checks and returning to finish the race down in ninth.

Phil Walker held off the persistent Tom Jones and Peter Samuels for four laps then gave in to their demands and Tom then Peter flew past their battle continuing to the flag. Behind the close battle of the 'Priory' and the 'Wheeler Bros' was close until lap three when James pulled off at the entrance to the Pits. Simon Cripps after a slow start started to close up to the Prior and Wheeler dealers until lap five when the fuel pump failed and he retired. A little further down the field Babak Farsian and Ron Moorcraft kept close with Babak managing to pass Ron by the flag. The exciting class A and AB battle of Steve Okines, Victoria Stones and Brian Smethurst continued to the flag with Brian just managing to pass Steve these three having a close race long battle. Bob Fisher finishing the order a little lonely but enjoying the Thruxton experience.

It really was a great race, from what I remembered.....I always video the race and do my race report from the video. I got home and loaded the tape into the machine. A lot of grass one minute and then a shot of the grid and then.....nothing until a lot more grass. I thought green in the viewfinder was on and red was off, that was the colour of my face as well when I tried to show Roy what had happened at his favourite circuit !!!

Many congratulations to Peter Collis for a hard fought win
To Tom Jones for a great B class win
And to Steve Okines for a great A class win

Commiserations to both Phil Walker and Brian Smethurst for being the only contenders in their class but making a great effort. To Simon Cripps for his electricals, to James Wheeler for not completing the race (DNC) and to Brian Cakebread who just didn't finish, or start.

Even more commiserations to Terry Savory who has lots of work to do before we see him out again but he will be at Silverstone to cheer us on.

Results

Class A

Steve Okines	1.43.740	Ron Moorcraft	1.41.123
Victoria Stones FL	1.43.453	Simon Cripps	DNF
Bob Fisher	1.48.878	James Wheeler	DNC
		Brian Cakebread	DNF

Class AB

Brian Smethurst 1.43.976

Class C

Phil Walker 1.31.362

Class B

Tom Jones FL 1.31.058
Peter Samuels 1.31.450
Ian Prior 1.33.139
Jonnie Wheeler 1.33.652
Babak Farsian 1.37.776

Class D

Peter Collis 1.26.476
Paul Sibley 1.26.953
Joe Parrington 1.26.938
Adrian Beer FL 1.26.440

Pam McCarthy