

## Stewarts Farm Trial report — 6/10/12

This trial marks the start of the Stcc's 2012/13 championship season. A fine sunny morning greeted us all with only a slight drizzle around lunch time which kept the dust down. A small gorse fire earlier on in the year allowed for a lot more of this site to be used hence it was set up a lot different to other visits and it was clear after round one that there were only three cars in contention for the overall win with Andrew McKinney and Trevor Aston dropping only 7 pts each, closely followed by Tom McKinney on 9 pts. This round saw the demise of the ever popular Brian Edgar with suspension failure and with that the only real threat to the live axle cars was gone! Harry Barr was next up on 20 pts followed by Mervyn McKinney driving Peters Crossle, who was feeling a little worse for the wear having been at a wedding the previous day. John McKinney our ex gold-star winner was on 28pts and in sixth place. Round 2 and it was Andrew who went clear dropping only 1 pt with Trevor dropping a costly 6 on hill 2. Tom was still 3rd but John McKinney was now fourth dropping only 5 pts. Harry Barr continued to lead class B from David Webster and Gary Jennings who suffered a light roll with no lasting damage except for his feelings! Round 3 once again saw Andrew and Trevor dropping 5 pts each. Tom was next up dropping 8 followed by the ever sobering Mervyn who dropped 19. John McKinney suffered mechanical woes and dropped out of contention at this stage. Harry Barr the class B leader had now moved up to fourth overall widening the gap to the second place B driver David Webster. Gary Jennings still held onto third place. Geoffrey McKay was not having one of his better days but continued to use his rev limiter quite a lot. Michael McBratney last years newcomer had his best lap dropping only 24 pts. Alastair Booth also a newcomer was getting plenty of advice from ex silver star winner Harold McNeill and also had his best score on this lap. So going into round 4 Andrew McKinney had a 5 pt advantage over Trevor Aston and 17 pts over his father Tom and still a lot to play for. Trevor tried hard but could only reduce the gap to Andrew by 2 pts on this final lap dropping 7 pts with Andrew dropping 9pts, this was also matched by John McKinney who was back firing on all cylinders. This was to prove a better lap for Mervyn only dropping 14pts and Harry Barr dropping 19pts. Andrew McKinney and passenger Chris Millar were overall winners on 22pts from Trevor Aston and Club Chairman Gracey who must have wanted to see how it was done being Trevors passenger for the day on 25pts. Tom McKinney and Richard Armstrong were third on 39 pts Harry Barr was 4th on 79 pts and won class B from David Webster 94 pts and Gary Jennings 112 pts Alastair Booth inevitably won class C as there were no other contenders! The only downside to the event was the lack of competitors with only twelve turning up on the day and for whatever reason there is nearly as many cars parked up now than there is competing. On a lighter note im sure Michael Martin (Concord constructor) would be very pleased with this result his cars which are now 30 years + filling the first three places ! I would like to say thanks to those that help me set the trial up . A very special thanks also to all the marshals who turned up on the day (kitted out in their luminous jackets) this no doubt led to the smooth running of the event and it was good to see our club secretary Peter Frost turn up despite his recent illness and i'm sure you would all join with me in wishing Peter a full and speedy recovery.

Eric Hamilton