

McMahons Farm Trial Sat 20th April.
By Clive Gracey

This was the last trial in the Sporting Trials Car Club 2012/13 season, the Class A championship was already in the hands of Trevor Aston who had enough of a lead to make this event a stress free 'drive around' he could not be beaten, in Class B the luxury of a stress free final event did not exist, Messers Barr and Webster were only separated by 1 point could David in his SRB (or is it not a Lol Hurt car?) win against Harry Barr in his Crossle, we would have to wait and see.

This site had been brought into use because of weather considerations-snow at Tweeds and more snow around Dromara had meant that calendar changes had to be made, it's a site not possibly up to championship standards but one which we use yearly for training days and which land owner Jim McMahon very generously makes available at very short notice.

5 Sections had been set up on the previous Saturday, The Chairman was doing CoC duties so that all could drive and in the event 12 cars made the journey down to Clare with 13 drivers competing. Among the missing John Keatley off racing his Healey Silverstone at Kirkistown and Tom McKinney not driving but there helping, he has been suffering from a bad back, 'too many roll's' said Trevor.

Ground conditions were just ok, rain during the week helped and tyre pressures were set at 4lbs later raised to 7lbs, this tyre pressure alteration made all the difference to an event which looked at one stage to be a sort of zero score trial.

By the end of lap 1 5 cars were on zero-tyres went up and by the end of lap 2 nobody was on zero! John McKinney was on 1 lost, Andrew McKinney and Simon Gracey 2 and the rest followed. In Class B David W was on 21 to Harry Barr's 31, an 11 on Hill 2 had been very costly for Harry who despite the handicap of an injured right shoulder and also because of this a position change of brake levers from the right hand side of his Crossle to the central position still comes out to play.

By the end of lap 3 John led with 1 lost to Simon Gracey on 2 and Brian Edgar and Andrew McKinney both on 5 in B David W was pulling away from Harry with 28 lost to Harry's 43. In Class C Peter Frost had the lead which he held to the finish.

In Class B I forgot to mention that Geoff McKay had had a super start but fell away on lap 3. In Class A no pressure, Trevor had already won the Championship, John had left his 'run for the lead' too late and Simon Gracey had due to work missed 3 events and was happy just to qualify for next years Gold Star Final on the mainland. This was not the scenario to be found in Class B – marker pencils were broken, faces were ashen and passenger's were being shouted at! All unnecessary as it happened because David Webster stormed home to win on 34 to Harry's 49. Is a move to join the calmer waters found in Class A necessary- 'good idea' said Tom.

The final lap saw Simon lose concentration (he does this too often) and get a 4 on Hill 1 this slipped him down to 4th place John added 1 to a super score finishing on 2 and Brian Edgar who does not lose concentration claimed 3rd place on 6.

Final scores	1 st	Class A	John McKinney	2
	2 nd		Andrew Mck	5
	3 rd		Brian Edgar	6
	4 th		Simon Gracey	8
	1 st	Class B	David Webster	34
	2 nd		Harry Barr	49
	3 rd		Geoff Mckay	55
	4 th		Mike McBratney	79
	1 st	Class C	Peter Frost	84
	2 nd		Ryan McNeill	97
3 rd		Gerard Currid	123	