

McMahons Farm Trial Sat 21st September By Clive Gracey

The Sporting Trials Car Club held their 1st event of the 2013/14 Season at Jim McMahons Farm near Poyntzpass, Known as 'the fun day event' as it does not attract Championship points but really is more of a chance for drivers to test the various tweaks made during the summer break.

Traditionally, cars are driven by passengers or newcomers to sporting trials and Saturday was no exception. Willy Woodside had brought along his car christened 'Mycros' to be driven by granddaughter Rebecca Booth, Reece Armstrong was driving Tom McKinney's Concord which he normally passengers and Michael McBratney was double driving with Geoff McKay as his Sherpa is not quite ready after a rebuild. Graceys Snr and Jnr were spectating as were Tom McKinney and Alan Flack, photos were taken for the Club's Web site by Simon and John McKinney was acting CoC.

Nine drivers signed on in 8 cars with only one independently sprung car on the grid-the Mycros. After competition numbers were given out and the CoC had given his briefing the field set off to do 4 sections 4 times, the ground was dry and there was no bright sunlight, in fact perfect trialling conditions. Andrew McKinney sailed round all day and did not lose a point winning on zero, it was certainly possible to do given the conditions and Andrews skills but was it wise - Trevor would think not pointing out what happened to last year's winner but Trevor was not present and The Chairman held his tongue! Reece Armstrong was driving well had a super second lap on 6 and a brilliant third lap for a zero ending on 27 lost and won the Novice Trophy and well done him, second in the novice trophy stakes was Rebecca Booth driving Grandfathers Mycros, on her 1st hill of the day she lifted an 11 which cost her dearly however she recovered and before days end had scored 8 cleans with a clear lap 4 and in doing so (the clear lap) ended on 39 lost to Reece's 27, super stuff.

What to say about the rest well Mervyn McKinney and grandson Ryan cruised home on 3 lost both looking prepared for anything wearing new lightweight helmets used I think by the rock climbing fraternity. Helmets were much in evidence and why not, though some styles were nicer than others I think. Reece and passenger won the fashion stakes on this although Michael McBratney was not far behind. Mervyn and Ryan were more 'Hells Angels' looking. Never the less the use of helmets is an idea which may grow. Geoff McKay had a good day slipping ahead of Class B Champion D Webster and Peter Frost drove home to 5th place enjoying his day away from the sailing. Gerard Currid improved as the day wore on starting with a lap of 29 lost ending on a lap for 2 lost that's progress for you.

Results 1st Novice Reece Armstrong

2nd Novice Rebecca Booth