

## Stewarts Farm Trial 27<sup>th</sup> Sept 2014.

The 1<sup>st</sup> event in the 2014/5 season following the driest September on record left CoC John McKinney with a difficult task, there is plenty of steep ground at Stewarts some of it actually too steep, there are also lots of natural hazards, large stones and rocks abound so motoring around the site requires concentration. In the event John had done an excellent job and produced 5 Hills all with a difference from those used previously.

Nine cars made the start among the missing Tom McKinney off to Sligo in his TR3a for the night, Trevor Aston working, Peter Frost on the French Riviera holidaying and John Keatley off playing with his Aston Martin.

Hill 1 at the top of the site had a tricky start which caught out car number 8 driven by D Webster rewarding him with a 10, the hill also handed 8 points to Andrew McKinney driving his Concord now fitted with a new 3 speed gearbox for going the wrong way, passenger's fault was the usual excuse. The rest of the field cleared with a couple of 1's spoiling cards.

Hill 2 was tricky, cleared all day only by Master Gracey; it had a difficult mid section over slippery nettles and a tight steep finish, actually cleans on this hill were to give Simon Gracey his win.

Hill 3 was an easy climb to a steep finish requiring care when cleaned and one started to descend, CoC John made mention of this at the drivers briefing all with one exception heeded his warning.

Hill 4 handed 1's to all on the 1<sup>st</sup> lap. Cleaned after this by the chosen few.

Hill 5 at really the start of the event gave little trouble.

And so we all went off, Brian Edgar driving his Crossle at this event, Simon Gracey passengered by his dad trying out his new 'X' McKinney Honda engine in battle for the 1<sup>st</sup> serious event since the Fun day on the previous weekend in which he had come 1<sup>st</sup>. Geoff McKay looking very glamorous in pink! And as already mentioned Andrew testing his new gearbox and David Webster driving the ex Aston Championship winning Concord.

By the end of lap 2 Gracey Jnr was on 1 lost to Mervyn McKinney's 4 with Brian Edgar after a stall on 15 as was Andrew McKinney. In Class B Harry Barr had the lead on 11 with Michael McBratney passengered by his Mrs on 18. Gerard Currid had Class C to himself and was gaining experience.

Adjustments were made after 2 rounds and off we set again, Gracey Jnr cleaned the last 2 laps as did Mervyn McKinney so that was that. We as a Club have a system where the car behind marks the car in front and as Mervyn was behind the Graceys he knew our score but we did not know his which as he was so close was no bad thing.

In Class B Harry Barr did the business passengered by his son in law who was seeing sporting trials for the first time-will he come out again-doubtful. Michael McBratney had a super day, his Sherpa went well no problems and Mrs McB enjoyed her day out, he ended well ahead of Geoff McKay who had a poor event is it the pink paint job or do we blame the passenger.

Results Class A 1<sup>st</sup> Simon Gracey 1 lost

2<sup>nd</sup> Mervyn McKinney 4 lost

3<sup>rd</sup> Brian Edgar 16 lost

Class B 1<sup>st</sup> Harry Barr 21 lost

2<sup>nd</sup> Michael McBratney 32 lost

3<sup>rd</sup> Goeff McKay 50 lost

Class C

1<sup>st</sup> Gerard Currid 81 lost