

Macaulay's Farm - 23rd February

By CoC Tom Mc Kinney.

STCC

The ninth round of the Sporting Trials Car Club Championship was held at Macaulay's Farm which overlooks wonderful views of Slievenaslat and Slievebeg in the Mourne Mountains.

With the absence of Michael Henderson, Trevor Aston was left to deal with scrutineering duties on his own. During his inspections and having seen some new wheels on the Gracey Crossle' he was heard to say "Have to get a set of those". Time will tell. With signing on, scrutineering and drivers draw completed it was time to proceed to the 5 hills which had been set up on a south facing grassy bank. After **2 whole** weeks of dry weather tyre pressures were set at 6 psi for Class A&B and 5 psi for Class C.

After round 1, just how much grip there was became evident with 6 of the 13 competitors not having dropped a point.

Some alternations to be sections before round 2 did little to alter the situation and still left 2 drivers clean. Leading Class A were Simon Gracey and John McKinney on zero, followed by Trevor Aston, John Keatley and Andrew McKinney on 1. The order in Class B was David Webster 4, Harry Barr 5 and Geoffrey McKay on 6, Michael McBratney having retired at this stage with a broken suspension pick-up point. Alistair Booth on 7 was leading Class C from Gerard Currid who was being passengered by Clive Gracey on 12. The chairman imparting his wealth of experience to newcomer Gerard.

Further alterations were carried out to most sections for round 3 but a rather ambitious change to hill I saw everyone fail at the 4 mark. So at the end of round 3 the order was Simon Gracey, John Keatley and Andrew McKinney on 6. Brian Edgar had an excellent third round to move into 4th place on 7. Father and Son, Mervyn and John McKinney were tied on 8 points but Trevor Aston had a poor round and slipped to 7th on 9 points. Geoffrey McKay now led Class

B on 12, David Webster 15 and Harry Barr on 17. Alistair Booth was still leading Class C on 26 from Gerard Currid on 30.

A costly 3 on his last hill probably cost Simon Gracey the overall win but the positions at the finish were John Keatley 7, Andrew McKinney 7 (John furthestest clean) Simon Gracey 9. Class B, Geoffrey McKay 18, David Webster 29, Harry Barr 30. Class C Alistair Booth 35 and Gerald Currid 45.

1. J Keatley / G Currid	Crossle'	A	7
2. A McKinney / c Millar	Concord	A	7
3. S Gracey / A Flack	Crossle'	A	9
4. J McKinney / S Ogilby	Concord	A	10
5. T Aston / A Aston	Concord	A	13
6. B Edgar / P Flack	Crossle'	A	14
7. M McKinney / R McKinney	Kintec	A	14
8. G McKay / A Mackey	SRB	B	18
9. D Webster / E Peyton	SRB	B	29
10.H Barr / L Knox	Crossle'	B	30
11.A Booth / E Hodgson	Concord	C	35
12.G Currid / C Gracey	Facksimile	C	45

Our thanks must go to land owner Maurice Macaulay for his continued help and support.