

EX 121 *Mark II*

ALSO INCORPORATING THE ORIGINAL EX 121

September 2009 Newsheet

"DID WE DO IT AGAIN?" - Belchford 2009

2009 saw the MG Car Club Lincolnshire Centre Gravity Team taking a decision to simply maintain and service both racers. This, along with the fact that there were a lot of new carts and new technologies this year, meant that our expectations for Belchford were perhaps not as high as last year. However the Men's team still managed second overall in the Team competition and we took fastest and third fastest ladies awards.

Congratulations to all the drivers involved: Fran Noble, Sheila Laurence, Caroline Hewson, Dave Noble and Doug Samuel and also to our pushers, Adam Key, Roger O'Neill (- hope the leg's better now!) and Daniel Fairweather (- hope the arm's better now!)

A special thank you to all the MG Car Club members who helped with the marshalling on the day – David Stonehouse, John Noble, John Laurence, John Collier, Roger & Ann O'Neill, Neil Bradbury, Roger & Freda Booth, Daniel Fairweather, and Stephen Wright – without your help the organisers would have struggled to put on any sort of event.

Thanks also to the build team and helpers for all their efforts throughout the year and on the day: Peter & Jane Hermite, Nigel & Wendy Pack, John Hebb, Jean Ellis, Veronica Stonehouse, Edna Noble and Lorraine Noble-Thompson and to any other MG Car Club members who came along to support us on the day including David Allen and Mervin Garton.

A big thank you and well done to you all from the Belchford Team.



I would like to add my personal thanks to everyone mentioned above and to anyone else who has helped over the years including all the sponsors listed below. Roll on next year!

Peter Ellis

Team Manager

MG Car Club Lincolnshire Centre Gravity Team



Ps Woz We Robbed?

I must admit to becoming somewhat frustrated by gravity racing. Having been a fairly active MG Car Club member for over 30 years and knowing how professionally a 'bunch of amateurs' can organise any number of different types of event, I get aggravated when others can not or will not act with the same professional attitude. Or perhaps I am just getting 'Grumpy Old Man Syndrome'!

The 2009 Belchford Regulations clearly state:-

C.18 To qualify for the Team Competition there must be at least two drivers in a team.

C.19 At least two drivers in the team must drive at least once each for the team to be eligible for the Team competition

At the prize presentation, the Team Trophy was presented to an individual who raced in all four runs because "someone had helped him build his cart"! You may think this would be worth a protest – however the organizers have already thought of that and added a further regulation:-

C.2 In all matters relating to any of the rules, the organisers reserve the right to apply and/or interpret them in as arrogant, arbitrary, illogical, inconsistent and capricious a manner as they choose. No appeals will be allowed.

Soooo.... – I have come to the conclusion that in future I need to take a much more casual attitude to the whole gravity racing affair or 'get out of the kitchen'. But for now, as far as I am concerned, we took the moral victory for the second year running.

The organisers also managed to transpose two of our ladies names and presented one of the awards to the wrong driver.

Finally, once again, and despite a reminder before the day, the organisers forgot to thank the MG Car Club marshals.

Peter

The Lincolnshire Centre of the MG Car Club would like to thank all the Sponsors of EX 121 and EX 121 *Mk II* for their generous support.

Lincolnshire Aviation Heritage Centre Halls Garage Drayton Manor Theme Park
Sterling Bolt and Nut Co Ltd D A & J A Noble FluidAir Power Ltd Strutt and Parker MG Enthusiast
Magazine The MGB Hive G W Autos TMP Embroidery MA & M Taylor D & B Allen Wazel
Wood Floors Gunby Hall F Tempest & Sons NSK Europe JDEES Acorn Engineering (Holbeach)
Ltd Click Workwear Silverline Tools Boston Engineering Supplies and Services Halfords