



## South Dorset Trophy Trial Hogcliff Hill Mark Hoppé cruises to victory

Words and photos: GEOFF PICKETT

The pairing of Mark Hoppé and his diminutive 993 cc Suzuki Alto conquered challenging ground conditions at Hogcliff Hill to claim overall victory in the South Dorset Trophy Trial organised by the Woolbridge Motor Club. Heavy rainfall preceding the event yielded slippery and muddy conditions once the early runners had broken the top surface but the previous British and reigning South-West Champion produced a consistent performance across five rounds each comprising of six tests.

The Sherborne driver, competing in the Front Wheel Drive without ballast class, was actually bettered in terms of penalty points by championship adversary Charlie Dovey but the driver of the Japanese machine secured the winner's trophy by dint of a better index than Dovey when their penalty scores were expressed as an average against those of the competitors in their respective classes.

Twenty-nine drivers embarked on the first round of tests including Trevor Moffatt who travelled south from the Stroud area to gain running in a Woolbridge trial prior to the British Championships which the club will promote at the end of this month. The previous British Trials and Rally Drivers Club champion and gold medal winner conducted his Vauxhall Corsa driver without penalty in the first round as did Charlie Dovey (Renault Clio) and Adam Smith (Reliant Scimitar SS1) in classes 2 and 3 which catered for Front Wheel Drive Cars and Rear Wheel Drive cars respectively. The eventual winner dropped a single point as did Citroen Saxo driver Elliott Timbers whilst Citroen Saxo drivers Andy Webb, Clive Morgan and Mike Dore all collected two penalties.

The second stanza of tests saw Andy Webb move into the joint lead in Class 1 with Hoppé now six points clear of third placed Morgan. In Class 2 the battle was equally competitive with Moffatt and Elliott Timbers all square on seven penalties just one ahead of Dovey whilst Adam Smith had eked a four point advantage over fellow Wool driver Ryan Whincop in the SS1. Hoppé and the Suzuki continued to prevail in the third round with an increased lead of six points over Webb with Morgan closing to within four points of the Weymouth driver. Meanwhile, Moffatt gained a single point margin on his Class 2 rivals Timbers and Dovey whilst Whincop halved the deficit to Smith.



Final test disappointment for Trevor Moffatt ..... enabled Charlie Dovey to take Class 2 win

With twelve tests after lunch the battles resumed in all the classes with both Hoppé and Moffatt making significant progress. The Alto driver enhancing his lead over the 1600 cc Saxo of Webb to a healthy margin of fourteen points as Morgan claimed one back from the second placed driver and Moffatt completing the fourth round with nil penalties against the three of Dovey to go four points clear with six tests remaining. Elliott Timbers lost touch with the class leaders leaving his father Graham, sharing the driving with Mike Dore in the Saxo to move into third with a superb fourth round which netted just one penalty point.

The final round saw the status quo maintained in classes 1 and 3 with Mark Hoppé finishing fifteen points clear of Webb who claimed the class win (following Hoppé securing the overall victory) by a single point from Clive Morgan with Swanage driver Alistair Moss joining them on the virtual podium. The final round was not kind to Ryan Whincop as he dropped points to his co-driver Smith to finish thirteen adrift but not as dramatic as the finale in class 2 in which Trevor Moffatt squandered his four point advantage on the very last climb of the day by incurring a seven point penalty and in the process elevating Charlie Dovey to the class win by, two points, and strengthening his position at the head of the championship. Graham Timbers was third just a single point in arrears of Moffatt.

His strong morning performance helped to secure the Best Novice award for Elliott Timbers whilst his co-driver in the Citroen AX Charlie Etwell collected the award for Best Junior. The best score of the day, eighteen penalties points, was carded by Alistair Stevenson who was competing in his Liege but was not eligible to be included in the index calculations for overall placings.



Andy Webb working hard for Class 2 honours in his 1600 cc Citroen Saxo



New mount for Donal Doyle. MX5 replaces Nissan Awards for Charlie Etwell and Elliott Timbers

South Dorset Trial										2nd April 2023						Round 1						Round 2					
Class	No.	Driver	Club	Car	cc	FIN	J	1	2	3	4	5	6	Sub Total	Cum Total	1	2	3	4	5	6	Sub Total	Cum Total				
1	101	David Meers	W/MC	Polo	1300	N		0	0	3	0	4	2	20	20	0	5	4	0	4	0	25	45				
1	102	Mike Black	W/MC	Hyundai	1200	N		1	1	1	1	1	1	30	30	4	1	1	1	1	1	33	63				
1	103	Ailie Meers	W/MC	Polo	1300	N	J	1	9	7	6	5	0	28	28	1	8	8	9	5	3	34	62				
1	104	Mark Hoppé	W/MC	Suzuki Alto	993	E		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1				
1	105	Alistair Moss	W/MC	Ford Fiesta	1300	E	J	0	0	4	0	1	0	5	5	0	0	0	1	7	1	6	9				
1	106	Andy Webb	W/MC	Citroen Saxo	1600	E		0	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	4				
1	107	Clive Morgan	W/MC	Toyota MR2	1900	E	J	1	5	4	6	6	3	23	23	4	5	1	1	1	3	33	56				
1	108	Clive Morgan	W/MC	Citroen Saxo	1600	E		0	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2				
1	109	Tim Dovey	W/MC	Toyota MR2	1900	E		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
1	110	Richard Wilson	W/MC	Renault Clio	1600	N		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
1	111	Ry H Whincop	W/MC	Reliant SS1	1000	E		1	1	1	0	2	0	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
1	112	Dave Hissax	W/MC	Toyota Yaris	1300	E		1	1	1	1	1	1	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
1	113	Sa Aziz	W/MC	Skoda	1400	E		1	6	5	8	5	3	35	35	5	6	5	9	2	2	34	68				
2	201	Charlie Etwell	W/MC	Citroen AX	1300	E	J	0	0	0	0	2	0	12	12	0	7	1	0	1	0	9	21				
2	202	Trevor Moffatt	W/MC	Vauxhall Corsa	600	E		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	1	0	7				
2	203	Elliott Timbers	W/MC	Citroen AX	1300	N	J	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	4	1	0	6				
2	204	Jack Millard	W/MC	Ford KA	1300	N		0	0	0	0	2	0	17	17	2	6	6	0	2	0	29	46				
2	205	Chris Morgan	W/MC	Mini	1275	E		12						12	12												
2	206	Terry Potts	W/MC	Ford KA	1300	N		0	0	0	0	2	0	17	17	2	3	6	0	5	2	33	50				
2	207	Mike Dore	W/MC	Citroen Saxo	1300	E		0	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
2	208	Charlie Dovey	W/MC	Renault Clio	2000	E	J	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
2	209	Graham Timbers	W/MC	Citroen Saxo	1300	E		0	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	0	7	0	1	3	2	13	15				
2	210	Stephen Tim	W/MC	Ford KA	1300	E		0	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
2	211	Phil Potts	W/MC	Citroen Saxo	1124	E		0	0	0	0	2	0	10	10	0	10	0	0	0	0	10	20				
2	212	Eleanor Tice	W/MC	Ford KA	1300	N	J	0	8	1	0	4	1	20	20	5	6	5	3	5	0	33	53				
3	301	Ryan Whincop	W/MC	Scimitar SS1	1600	E		0	6	0	0	0	0	9	9	0	0	1	0	3	0	12	21				
3	302	Donal Doyle	W/MC	Maazda MX5	600	N		1	7	5	6	0	0	20	20	5	6	9	4	0	0	20	40				
3	303	Adam Smith	W/MC	Scimitar SS1	1000	E		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	8	2	0	17				
5	501	Alistair Stevenson	W/MC	Liege	600	E		0	0	0	4	0	0	4	4	0	0	0	4	1	0	5	9				

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Class	No.	Driver	Club	Car	cc	FIN	J	1	2	3	4	5	6	Sub Total	Cum Total	1	2	3	4	5	6	Sub Total	Cum Total										
1	101	David Meers	W/MC	Polo	1300	N		0	0	3	0	4	2	20	20	0	5	4	0	4	0	25	45										
1	102	Mike Black	W/MC	Hyundai	1200	N		1	1	1	1	1	1	30	30	4	1	1	1	1	1	33	63										
1	103	Ailie Meers	W/MC	Polo	1300	N	J	1	9	7	6	5	0	28	28	1	8	8	9	5	3	34	62										
1	104	Mark Hoppé	W/MC	Suzuki Alto	993	E		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1										
1	105	Alistair Moss	W/MC	Ford Fiesta	1300	E	J	0	0	4	0	1	0	5	5	0	0	0	1	7	1	6	9										
1	106	Andy Webb	W/MC	Citroen Saxo	1600	E		0	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	4										
1	107	Clive Morgan	W/MC	Toyota MR2	1900	E	J	1	5	4	6	6	3	23	23	4	5	1	1	1	3	33	56										
1	108	Clive Morgan	W/MC	Citroen Saxo	1600	E		0	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0										
1	109	Tim Dovey	W/MC	Toyota MR2	1900	E		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0										
1	110	Richard Wilson	W/MC	Renault Clio	1600	N		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0										
1	111	Ry H Whincop	W/MC	Reliant SS1	1000	E		1	1	1	0	2	0	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0										
1	112	Dave Hissax	W/MC	Toyota Yaris	1300	E		1	1	1	1	1	1	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0										
1	113	Sa Aziz	W/MC	Skoda	1400	E		1	6	5	8	5	3	35	35	5	6	5	9	2	2	34	68										
2	201	Charlie Etwell	W/MC	Citroen AX	1300	E	J	0	0	0	0	2	0	12	12	0	7	1	0	1	0	9	21										
2	202	Trevor Moffatt	W/MC	Vauxhall Corsa	600	E		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	1	0	7										
2	203	Elliott Timbers	W/MC	Citroen AX	1300	N	J	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	4	1	0	6										
2	204	Jack Millard	W/MC	Ford KA	1300	N		0	0	0	0	2	0	17	17	2	6	6	0	2	0	29	46										
2	205	Chris Morgan	W/MC	Mini	1275	E		12						12	12																		
2	206	Terry Potts	W/MC	Ford KA	1300	N		0	0	0	0	2	0	17	17	2	3	6	0	5	2	33	50										
2	207	Mike Dore	W/MC	Citroen Saxo	1300	E		0	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0										
2	208	Charlie Dovey	W/MC	Renault Clio	2000	E	J	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0										
2	209	Graham Timbers	W/MC	Citroen Saxo	1300	E		0	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	0	7	0	1	3	2	13	15										
2	210	Stephen Tim	W/MC	Ford KA	1300	E		0	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0										
2	211	Phil Potts	W/MC	Citroen Saxo	1124	E		0	0	0	0	2	0	10	10	0	10	0	0	0	0	10	20										
2	212	Eleanor Tice	W/MC	Ford KA	1300	N	J	0	8	1	0	4	1	20	20	5	6	5	3	5	0	33	53										
3	301	Ryan Whincop	W/MC	Scimitar SS1	1600	E		0	6	0	0	0	0	9	9	0	0	1	0	3	0												