



Slot Car Racing 2026

Words by Dean Carpenter

Photos by Alison Bailey & Noel Robertson

Date: 22nd March 2026

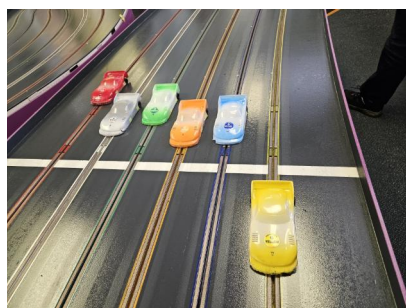


It was that time of the year when members of the Southern Section, regular and new, gather together to bring out their inner Lewis Hamilton (or Graham Hill for the older members) at Pinewood Raceway - Slot Car Track.

18 members arrived at 10am on Sunday 22nd ready for the pre-race briefing. When we were told that the track had been cleaned on Friday with special chemicals, which included lighter fluid, this did raise the question of carrying out some extreme racing if the track accidentally caught fire (enter Mr Tite with his lighter). The answer was "NO". Oh well.



In previous years, this event has been run as individual competitors, with 1 person being named the overall winner. This year, Steve (the owner) arranged for us to race in teams of 3, which brought a new element to the competition, and promoted team adhesion & tactics. We were split into 6 teams, named Chevy, TVR, Jaguar, Toyota, Ford and Radical.



Each race was 9 minutes long, split into 3 minutes segments per team member. Slick handover drills were required for this which did become slicker as the morning progressed. Every team had 9 minutes on every car of which there were 6. If you weren't in the cockpit (holding the controller) you were positioned around the track, by Chief Marshall, Noel Robertson, just in case any vehicles left the track. Needless to say, the marshals, were kept busy on the tight bends.



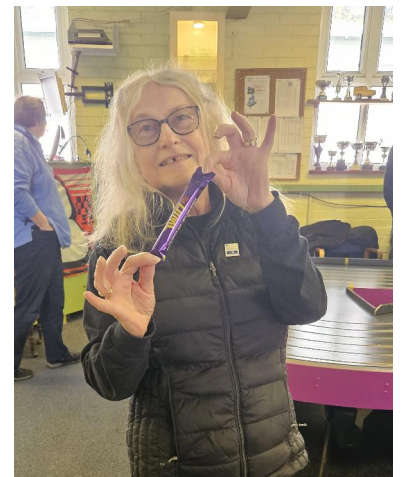
We were allowed a practice session prior to the 1st race to allow us to get used to the accelerator, (trigger control). Once this was mastered, we went straight into the 1st, 9-minute session, which we all needed a break after to engage in the Bacon Butties we had ordered. This break brought about an opportunity for Team tactics to be discussed or the weather, whichever was your want. Once suitably fed, we engaged in 5 more races of cut throat racing, which saw the lead swap hands regularly and at times, on every lap. As with all these events, there does have to be a winner and below you will see the final standings.



Congratulations go to Team Chevy on a well run race and for this they received a Red Ribbon and the Kudos that goes with it.

Congratulations to Lesley, who won a chocolate bar for stopping her car closest to the start/finish line.

I would like to thank Steve Clark of Pinewood Raceway for hosting and controlling the event which was made a little difficult at times by a lack of roadcraft from some members. I would also like to thank him for his generous donation to The Hampshire & Isle of Wight Air Ambulance. Altogether we collected £40, a big thank you to all those who made a donation.



I would also like to thank Noel Robertson for Marshalling the Marshals.

We look forward to returning again next year and I in particular am looking forward to retaining the title of Southern Section - Demon Racer.



1st Place, Team Chevy
Dean, Lesley & Kevin



2nd Place, Team Radical
Paul, Erica & Freddie



3rd Place, Team TVR
Jim, James & Chris



4th Place, Team Jaguar
Alison, Mel & Chris



5th Place, Team Toyota
Mike, John & David



6th Place, Team Ford
Anne, Charlie, Julie & Zara

Corporate 5/6 [1/1 Heat race] ** End of race **							Intermission 00:00:00	
Name	Position	Laps	Total Laps	Lap time	Best time	Track Record		
1 Toyota	5 ¹	35	259.65		8.488	6.752 - 07/03/23	TVR	
2 Radical	2 ¹	36.97	273.66		8.212	6.181 - 15/02/23	Chevy	
3 Jag	4 ¹	38	260.71		9.195	4.563 - 22/03/21	Chevy	
4 Chevy	1 ¹	40.51	274.09		7.838	4.529 - 12/02/23	TVR	
5 Ford	6 ¹	32.09	256.64		7.838	8.366 - 22/03/21	TVR	
6 TVR	3 ¹	35.33	272.42		8.941	3.901 - 07/03/23	TVR	

