

Merryfield Airfield - 17.09.12



Chipping Sodbury School zoomed to Merryfield Airfield for the next race in this season. Three teams were day on the day from this school - Rotary Racer, The Pod Movement and Alderley Express. Greenpower is an engineering challenge within schools where pupils design, build and race their own electrical powered cars. There are 3 races involved - Goblins (primary aged pupils), F24 (Secondary aged students) and F24+ (6th and above in education/training). Chipping Sodbury School holds two of the national champions in this challenge - both in the F24 and the F24+ races.

The day was cloudy, but dry - perfect conditions for racing. The first race was the F24+; a 90 minute race involving a minimum of 1 driver. Both Rotary Racer and R-PodS took part in the race, competing it out for the positions.



Rotary Racer started off well; using telemetry and a speed controller to limit the amount of current being used by the car. The driver - Ben Miller- and his pit crew - Gareth Barnaby and Dan Dando - raced incredibly well, fighting for 1st position with fellow team mates R-PodS. By the end though, R-PodS had the advantage, giving Rotary Racer a respectable 2nd position. Over the 90 minutes, the team managed to complete 48.6 miles with an average speed of

32.4 mph.

R-PodS also had a good race, gaining 1st position after competing with Rotary Racer. This team had one driver - Matthew Hunter - and Gavin Woodruff as his pit crew. This team managed to complete a total of 49.4 miles with an average of 32.9 mph.



The second race started soon after, with all teams from Chipping Sodbury School competing in this race. Rotary Racer managed to blow their motor at the end of the F24+ race, causing them to become very inefficient and taking up much more energy than usual. This meant that the car wasn't on best form, but the team still managed a very respectful 4th place. The team managed to complete 92.1 miles in the 4 hour race with an average of 23 mph. This is 5 mph less than the usual speed. The drivers

and pit crew for this race were Dawn Barnaby, Louise Barnaby, Jacob Lucas, Thomas Allington, Michael Lockyer and Steph Dando.

By-PodS (another car from the team 'The Pod Movement') had an excellent race gaining 3rd position overall. This team completed 92.8 miles, 1 lap behind 2nd place. This resulted in an average speed of 23.1 mph. This was a fantastic result

for the team, gaining a podium position. The drivers and pit crew for this race were Oli Cason, Louis King, Felix King, Gavin Woodruff and Richard Millard.

Alderley Express took to the track for their 3rd race with their car. The team competed extremely well, managing to complete 89.9 miles - a very likely mileage to get them into this year's final. This helped them gain 6th position with an average speed of 22.4 mph. The drivers and pit crew for this team were Matthew Johnston, Max Hodge, Oli Sayer and Lauren Hodge (a new member).



Overall, all the teams competed fairly and it resulted in an enjoyable day for all. Thank-you to all our sponsors and Mr McMorrow for giving up his time during greenpower evenings.

