

# Linwood Day Report

Linwood, Scotland, 6th May 2018

Ian Sinclair (Glasgow Area Centre Organiser), Stewarton, Kilmarnock, Scotland

Linwood Day, the annual event to commemorate the opening of the Linwood car factory, this year saw some 13 Imps gather at the St James Business Centre, as the site is now known. They came from the local Glasgow (Linwood) Area Centre of the Imp Club as well as from the two Edinburgh and single Aberdeen area centres.



*Boris, John Ross' Spring Special and Ian Sinclair's Super Right: Duncan and Sheila McIntosh, new owners of the late Joyce Snidall's lovely yellow Imp*

After some banter from members not normally acquainted with each other the

most powerful of cars so it is really important that their rolling resistance is as low as possible. This test was to prove whose car could travel the furthest without engine power and each driver was on trust not to use engine propulsion on

convoy set out on a run that would end at the Kames sprint track in Muirkirk. As is now almost traditional the leader led the convoy to the top of a hill just outside Stewarton where a 'Freewheel' test was to take place. Imps are not normally the



Wonderful mural greets visitors to St James Business Centre which, thanks to the efforts of Paul Coulter, maintains its Imp heritage

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Panoramic shot of the Imps in front of St James Business Centre, once Linwood's administration block  
All photos: Ian Sinclair

Above centre: Scott Fanning's Imp enjoying a somewhat tamer event than the Monte Carlo!  
Above right: Paul Coulter's Super



A photostop on the run at Kames' grand stand. *Right to left:* Ian Sinclair, Joe McMillan, Paul Conroy, Colin Laird, Scott Fanning, Jim McEwan, John Ross, Scott Clements, Paul Coulter and Duncan McIntosh

the way down the hill.

Each car was set off at one-minute intervals and their final resting place would be marked on the furthest travelled basis by the leader. The previous winner of this competition was Hugh Liddle in his Imp but as his distance was so much further that the others, the result is still talked about!

Slight confusion among the drivers at the top was soon dispersed on the way down and the puzzled faces turned into smiles and lots of chatter as the cars took varying distances to stop. This year's clear winner was John Ross in his Spring Special (aka 'Boris' on the forum) and was judged to be fair as there were some other very close finishers.

The run then continued, the route taking in some of the less pot holed roads in Ayrshire and passed through Galston and Newmilns before sampling some less well used country roads and finishing at the Kames circuit.

Kames is a circuit built and owned by East Ayrshire Car Club and holds many National sprints as well as Scottish Championship rounds. This day was one of the Scottish rounds and our own Alan Ramsay was competing in his Ralston-panelled spaceframe racer. It must have been quite inspirational (or frightening) to see the line-up of Imps in the grand stand, possibly the spur he was looking for because, although Alan had never broken the magic 100-second barrier, he lowered his best time to 91 seconds.

The organised run over, the drivers descended on the burger and coffee bar and watched the remaining runs with some thinking of taking part themselves in the future. The weather was fitting for the time of year with shades and hats saving our older members from resembling tomatoes. All vowed to repeat the experience next year.