

Yorkshire Classic MCC

1st. Championship Trial

Report :Neil Anderton

Sixty One riders turned up to try a new venue at Addingham Moorside Silsden (courtesy of the Yeadon and Guiseley club) for the first championship trial of the year. With a vast choice of rocky terrain to choose from ten varied sections were laid out that resulted in five clear rounds.

The ground was frozen so the hill climbs, that would have been over loose rocks were easier, as they were all welded together giving plenty of grip. The two strokes were dominant with Alan Whitton , Chris Gascoigne and Norman Shepherd all James mounted going clean together with Cub duo John Maxfield and Keith Hobson.

Section two was a gully that was icy to start with but became very muddy after the first lap. While most coped well the step out up the bank caught some accomplished riders like Derek Brooks and Steve Raynor who added fives to their scores on this tricky section.

Section four took marks off all the cub riders except Maxfield and Raynor. Small rocks had to be ridden before a step and turn onto a flat slab with a drop off through a narrow slot and a jump over rocks to the finish. The section became slippery as water carried onto the rocks froze and needing extra care as the trial progressed.

Section seven was a graded hill climb which was steep and rocky and would have been a lot more difficult with loose rocks. The big Pre unit bikes without exception sailed up unpenalised led by class winner Chris Bradley on the AJS who had an outstanding ride on the day. Section eight was another climb over large and small rocks with much the same results. With no frost this would have been a testing section but once again riders found grip easily and most recorded clean climbs.

Section nine had the biggest rocks and with a choice of lines some impressive rides were seen by the onlookers. Maxfield and Andy Littler on the Triumph twin showed just how easily big rocks could be ridden over with nerve and technique to shorten the distance to the end flags. This was very much a section for the lightweights although Bradley recorded a clean as did Bob Baker and Mick Clarke on the B40's.

The sun came out to enhance the enjoyment on the day of most riders at this very special trials venue.

RESULTS

Class A Pre Unit : Chris Bradley(AJS) 2 marks lost, John Feather (Enfield) 12, Dale Harrison (Ariel) 16.

Class B Tele Fork Rigid: Colin Pawson (Matchless) 44.

Class D Unit Machines under 250cc: John Maxfield (Cub) 0, Tony Dillon (Cub) 13, John Greenbank (Cub)15.

Class E Unit Machines over 250cc: Bob Baker (B40) 3, Mick Clarke (B40) 7, Peter Gaunt (Enfield) 8.

Class F Two Strokes: Alan Whitton (James) 0, Chris Gascoigne (James) 0, Norman Shepherd (James) 0.

Class G Twin Cylinder: Mal.Cocking (Triumph) 2, Andy Littler (Triumph) 2, Colin Benson (Triumph) 13.

Class H Vintage Two Stroke: Eric Atkinson (James) 15.

Class K Clubman: Frank Anderton (James) 12, Pete Kitching (James) 16, Neil Anderton (James) 28.

Specials Class: Keith Hobson (Cub) 0, Maurice Brayford (James) 5, Richard West (B40) 10.