

Yorkshire Classic MCC
Rd.7 Championship Trial
Report : Neil Anderton

Round seven of the championship was contested at Fell beck in glorious summer weather just like last years event. Laid out by Hedley Cockshot, Dale Harrison and Norman Shepherd on his home ground, the sections were rocky and challenging.

Ten sections were spread across the hillside with most of them on the steep slope overlooking the valley. Section one was a gentle opener which only took the odd dab here and there but gradually each section got more difficult until sections six, seven and nine were real mark stealers.

Section six caught out two thirds of the entry with the narrow rock channels followed by some daunting large stones set at angles causing plenty of footing. It wasn't easy on a big bike but Duncan McDonald on the Ariel and Tom Emmott on the Triumph twin defied the odds to record cleans.

Section seven was the toughest on both routes, with only four cleans recorded on the normal route and none on the clubman route. A steep uphill over various sized rocks with a tight turn between rocks to the finish caught out most. The Clubman route was so complicated that many elected to ride the rocks on the main track where Frank McMullen only lost one of his four on his way to winning the Clubman class.

McDonald and Emmott again excelled along with Alan Whitton on the James who all stayed clean. For sheer consistency however it had to be Norman Shepherd, playing in his own back garden, who rides rocks better than anybody else and who not only cleaned this section but every other one as well to become the outright winner of the trial for the second year running.

Section nine, another uphill rocky climb observed by Emmott senior who saw young son Tom pull off one of the rare cleans with another good ride along with Hedley Cockshot on the Cub and Brian Motley on a very nice turned out Sprite. A good trial in glorious Nidderdale, courtesy of our host Mr. Shepherd.

RESULTS

Class A Pre Unit Springer: Duncan McDonald (Ariel) 5 marks lost, Ian Barker (Ariel) 10, John Feather (R/E) 23.

Class D Unit Construction under 250cc: Hedley Cockshot (Cub) 2, Steve Rayner (Cub) 13, John Greenbank (Cub) 22.

Class E Unit Construction over 250cc: Mark Harrison (B40) 45.

Class F Two Stroke: Norman Shepherd (James) 0, Steve Thomas (Bantam) 3, Brian Motley (Sprite) 5.

Class G Twin Cylinder: George Emmott (Triumph) 11, Tom Emmott (Triumph) 11, Dale Harrison (Triumph) 22.

Class H Vintage Two Stroke: Mick Preston (James) 12, Eric Atkinson (James) 17, Barry Doran (James) 64.

Class K Clubman: Frank McMullen (Cotton) 4, Neil Anderton (James) 13, John Brindle (Bantam) 20.

Specials : Keith Hobson (McD. Cub) 8, Paul Harrison (Bantam) 70.