

## **Yorkshire Classic MCC**

West Riding Trial

**Report : Neil Anderton**

**Yorkshire Classic were once again hosts for round four of the Northern British Bike Championship which attracted 58 riders to this 35 mile circuit of the Bronte country. Clerk of course Colin Pawson laid out 30 varied sections which overall clear winner Alan Whitton all but conquered except for two dabs, one on the climb at Lumb Waterfall and the second on the rocky climb at Lord Lane.**

Unluckiest rider was probably Darren Cooper from Derby on his James who superbly cleaned 29 sections and lost a five on the final section at Branshaw Quarry which only took nine marks from the entire entry. Chris Gascoigne on the Ariel normally the guaranteed master of most sections was joint third with a loss of six but will look back in horror at losing five at Ponden Farm a section where no other rider on the normal route dropped a mark.

Starting at the Guide Inn Cullingworth the first group of five sections was on Robin Luscombes land where a rocky stream gives plenty of scope for some interesting sections. Two of the rigids Graham Howes on the BSA and Harry Stanistreet on the James cleaned all five subs as did David Parry Cub winner of the Unit class and joint third overall and Frank McMullen winner of the Clubman class.

The next challenging group of sections was approaching the halfway mark at Lumb Waterfall where a hillclimb and three stream sections lay in wait for those who thought it had been easy up to then. Only four riders Gascoigne, Dave Emmott Triumph Twin, Cooper and Phil Clarkson B40 cleaned all sections plus S. West Cub on the Clubman route.

All six sections at Town End including four in the river were taking dabs but nothing too difficult. The single moorland section at Lower Slippery Ford looked worse than it was. The drop off the moor was followed by a beck crossing and a steep twisting rocky path to the ends cards. Some must have had good rides on this as over half the entry came away with a clean on a far from easy section.

The final four sections at Branshaw Quarry and three at Lord Lane Haworth were all different but rideable by most. The final hill climb section at Lord Lane caused most trouble with a trio of Pre Unit riders Emmott, Paul Jackson and Dave Wear amongst a dozen riders to register a five on this deceptively steep hillside.

The weather stayed fine and everybody seemed to have enjoyed this annual Yorkshire event and the superb scenery.

## **RESULTS**

**Girder Fork Rigid:** Ian Barker (Norton) 14 marks lost, Steve Dixon (Ariel) 55.

**Tele Fork Rigid:** Graham Howes (BSA) 9, Tim Pawson (Ariel) 41.

**Pre Unit Springer:** Chris Gascoigne (Ariel) 6, Dave Emmott (Triumph) 16, Paul Jackson (Velocette) 34.

**Vintage Two Stroke:** Frank Proud (James) 3, Harry Stannistreet (James) 11, Eric Atkinson (James) 16.

**Two Strokes:** Alan Whitton (James) 2, Darren Cooper (James) 5, Brad Jones (Bantam) 6.

**Unit Construction:** David Parry (Cub) 6, Robin Luscombe (Triumph) 9, N. Buckley (Cub) 13.

**Clubman:** Frank McMullen (Cub) 7, S. West (Cub) 12, Les Humphries (Cub) 12.

**Pre Unit Clubman:** Steve Cordon (AJS) 2, Neil Anderton (C12) 27, Barry DeBurgh (Matchless) 34.

**Specials:** Keith Hobson (McD Cub) 21, Tony Peat (McD Cub) 27