

Yorkshire Classic MCC
Rd. 1 Championship Trial
Report : Neil Anderton
Photograph : Barry Pickard

The first Championship Trial of the year finally got under way at Lady Lane Bingley and 71 riders turned up keen to get trialling again. Clerks of Course Colin Pawson and Colin Lawrence laid it out on the easy side as the ground was still very soft and slippery in places and was probably appreciated by most of the entry. The four lap ten section course had plenty of variety with rocks, climbs and the traditional stream at the far end of the course.

Four of the classes had riders on clean with Mick Grant, John Maxfield, Mark Feather and Steve Thomas joint winners. The first four sections along the wall side didn't cause much bother with only the odd marks being taken. Section five was the first section that needed care as it wound its way downhill through the rocks and then climbed back up again to the end cards. The lightweight two strokes and the cubs all coped really well only registering the odd dabs, whereas in Class E the bigger unit bikes struggled with only Mick Clarke and Brian Irwin staying clean. Dave Emmott on the Triumph Twin and Chris Haigh Velocette lost their only mark here and possibly the class win.

Section six was a rocky path with a tight turn back up to the end flags. You would have again expected the lighter bikes to have the advantage but not this time as every one of the ten pre unit riders in class A cleaned it while everybody else had dabs and the odd fives. The stream a long time favorite at Lady Lane was fairly calm. The drop in got slippery and the rocks and steep path out took the odd dabs but Eric Boocock had an unexpected five and amongst the Clubman runners only winner Eddie Bull and Frank Anderton kept clean sheets.

Section ten was the sting in the tail catching out many who thought they were going to go clean only to find the angled rocks on the muddy horseshoe shaped path caught them out. Mick Ash out on the cub spoiled his ride with a dab as did Mick Whitlow which cost him the class win in the Twin Cylinder section. Again Eddie Bull was the only rider in Class K to clean the section four times. Many thanks to our band of observers, who were fortunately favored with a fine day and to the riders who travelled to join us at this special venue.

RESULTS

Class A Pre Unit: Mick Grant (Ariel) 0 marks lost, Neil Gaunt (Ariel) 0, Dave Emmott (Triumph) 1.

Class B Tele Fork Rigid: Tim Pawson (Ariel) 49.

Class D Unit Machines under 250cc: John Maxfield (Cub) 0, Paul Heys (Cub) 0, Mick Ash (Cub) 1.

Class E Unit Machines over 250cc: Mick Clarke (B40) 1, Brian Irwin (C15) 2, Steve Culf (C15) 13.

Class F Two Strokes: Steve Thomas (Bantam) 0, Owen Hardisty (Bantam) 0, Peter Gaunt (Bantam) 1.

Class G Twin Cylinder: Mark Feather (Triumph) 0, Mick Whitlow (Triumph) 1, Mal Cocking (Triumph) 1.

Class H Vintage Two Stroke: Eric Atkinson (James) 25, Barry Doran (James) 30, Bill Hill (James) 65.

Class K Clubman: Eddie Bull (C15) 9, John Brindle (Bantam) 13, Bernard Whitaker (B40) 14.

Specials : Robert Moore (Cub) 12, Paul Harrison (Bantam) 43.