

Yorkshire Classic MCC

Rd. 3 Pre Unit Trial

Report: Neil Anderton

Yorkshire Classic held the latest of their Pre Unit series events at Keighley Gate near Bingley. Sixty Five riders turned out for this rocky stream venue, some no doubt getting in a bit of last minute practice for Scotland. Clerks of course Tim and Colin Pawson didn't disappoint with a variety of slippery sections in the water.

Duncan Macdonald on the beautifully prepared Ariel was still on top form after many recent good performances and shared top spot with Tom Emmott on the Triumph twin. How they both stayed clean on section three (not literally of course as it was thick mud) in the company of Pete McCanna on another rasping twin and Mal Cocking is amazing and was the big factor in winning the trial. The section was long between banks but cut up to leave deep ruts near the start and finish. Speed was the order of the day and a triumph twin couldn't have been better suited for this type of section. High speed approaches were quickly nullified as the muddy slot near the end got deeper and rider after rider struggled to reach the cards. The pre unit riders were also joined by four of the non competitive riders, Norman Shepherd on the James, Hedley Cockshot Cub and Owen Hardisty and Alan Mills both on Bantams, to register cleans. Surely one of the best pre 65 sections in this area.

Sections five to ten were all in the river with varying degrees of difficulty. Most of the rigids found them quite tricky but Dave Emmott did clean three of them and was the only rigid to clean section ten, the longest section in the trial. Whilst being a challenge through out its 60 yards, only two amongst the pre unit springers, Macdonald and Dave Wear Enfield, managed to clean it, a huge queue built up on each lap waiting to tackle it which made the trial a bit longer than normal but a small price to pay for a cracking section. However it did not detract from a very enjoyable event for riders and Observers in perfect weather.

RESULTS

Class A Pre Unit Springer: Duncan Macdonald (Ariel) clean, Dave Wear (R/E) 14, John Feather (Ariel) 15.

Class B Rigid : Chris Nutter (Ariel) 19, Steve Cordon (AJS) 20, Dave Emmott (AJS) 24.

Class C Tele Fork Rigid : Ian Barker (Norton) 16.

Class G Twin Cylinder: Tom Emmott (Triumph) clean, Pete McCanna (Triumph) 1, Mal Cocking (Triumph) 3.

Small Pre Unit Springer: Mick Clarke (C10) 19, Adrian Brayshaw (C12) 51.

Non Competitive: Norman Shepherd (James) clean , Hedley Cockshott (Cub) 2, Steve Thomas (Bantam) 3.