

Yorkshire Classic MCC

Final Pre Unit Trial of the series

Report: Neil Anderton

Leaving the decision on the state of play at Branshaw Quarry until the last minute proved a master stroke as two days before the event the huge snow covering disappeared leaving the Yorkshire Classic in the clear for its final Pre Unit Trial of the year.

Laid out by the Pawson Brothers, Colin and Tim put on a trial that was just right for the big bikes with sections that were wide and without tight turns. Some became slippery and required care to maintain traction but were a revelation compared to what might have had to be faced. The Pre Units did as well as the little non competitive bikes, both groups recording three clear rounds with the plaudits going to joint winners Mick Clarke Ariel, Mal Cocking on the ever faithful Triumph Twin and new on the leader board Addy Brayshaw on a revitalized BSA C12 who had his first ever clean round.

Thirty eight riders started and with only one retirement so everybody was glad they had made the effort to get out after the previous weeks nightmare weather. The opening section was tricky and care was needed on the final turn behind a big rock which left the observer slightly unsighted for the final yards. All the big bikes went clean without exception where marks were lost amongst the non comps. which was quite unique.

Section three was the first real challenge on a twisting path between the rocks with two slippery humps to get over before the cards. John Patefields Triumph Twin didn't like this section as he lost thirteen of his fourteen marks here. Tim Pawson riding his rigid Ariel to victory in Class B was the best of his illustrious contemporaries on this one and he made sure they new it with his good humored banter.

Section four was a steep drop followed by an equally steep climb with a tight turn which polished up and caught out plenty who applied the power and spun. Dale Harrison on the twin instead of the usual Ariel found the power a bit much and lost thirteen of his marks here. With rocky climbs and muddy switchback twists and turns the final sections were a real variety but amazingly on the last four sections only four marks were dropped amongst all the pre units, excellent riding skills and a fitting end to the series. Thanks to all our faithful observers for their support throughout the year.

RESULTS

Class A Pre Unit Springer: Mick Clarke (Ariel) 0 marks lost, Carl Winstanley (Ariel) 1, Paul Jackson (Velocette) 2.

Class B Tele Fork Rigid: Tim Pawson (Ariel) 10, John Feather (R/E) 12, Dave Emmott (AJS) 12.

Class G Twin Cylinder: Mal Cocking (Triumph) 0, John Patefield (Triumph) 14, Dale Harrison (Triumph) 17.

Class J Small Pre Unit Springer: Adrian Brayshaw (C12) 0, Odgie (OK Supreme) 13.

Non Competitive Class: Malcolm Ellis (Cub) 0, Phil Clarkson (B40) 0, Steve Thomas (Bantam) 0.