

Yorkshire Classic MCC
Rd.3 Pre Unit Championship
Report: Neil Anderton

The event took place at Manor Farm, Lothersdale near Skipton and attracted a very respectable entry of 61 riders with nearly half bringing out their big bikes. The rigid class was popular once again with eleven entries to make it the biggest class in the trial. Heavy overnight rain had made the ground muddy and slippery but the sections were eased to take account of the conditions.

Mick Whitlow on the big Triumph twin rode very well to take the overall win on five marks lost from runner up Pete McCanna on the Royal Enfield on eight. Section one was had a sting in the tail as rider after rider lost marks on the narrow slot leading to the ends cards. Steve Cordon on the rigid AJS, John Patefield on the Triumph twin and McCanna were the only riders to clean it four times. Sections three and four used the steep drops and climbs of the rocky middle hollows which are a feature of Manor Farm but most riders coped well except Frank Proud runner up in the Rigid class who somehow managed to get his score into double figures on section three.

A run across some wet moorland took riders to the far end of the course for sections six, seven and eight. Section seven observed by injured rider Frank Anderton needed very careful throttle control on the twists and muddy turns but to their credit sixteen riders cleaned it. Mick Clarke took an unexpected five which cost him the runner up spot. Section eight was the traditional hillclimb which was in a fairly forgiving mood this time except on lap two when some large rocks got disturbed to block the path. Again riders coped really well particularly the big Triumphs who realized this section was tailor made for them.

Section nine was the big mark taker with only Norman Shepherd in the non competitive class cleaning it. Derek Brooks on his James was having a superb ride and only lost two here which was about as good as it got. The peat track became very difficult and the climb over the stones stopped most on the last lap as they lost all their momentum. The best ride in the pre units came from Mick Whitlow who got away with a three to seal his win.

The rain stayed away thankfully so our faithful observers were just cold but not wet and it allowed the riders to really enjoy this cracking Pre 65 event.

RESULTS

Class A Pre Unit Springers: Pete McCanna (R/E) 8 marks lost, Mick Clarke (Ariel) 11, Ian Barker (Ariel) 11.

Class B Tele Fork Rigid: Steve Cordon (AJS) 9, Frank Proud (Matchless) 20, Tim West (Norton) 22.

Class G Twin Cylinder: Mick Whitlow (Triumph) 5, Mal Cocking (Triumph) 10, Graham Wilkinson (Triumph) 13.

Class J Small Pre Unit: Neil Anderton (C12) 38, Adrian Brayshaw (C12) 42.

Non Comp. Class: Norman Shepherd (F/B) 0, Derek Brooks (James) 3, Malcolm Ellis (Cub) 3.

