

THE LITTON CHAMPIONSHIP TRIAL

Round 4, Club Championship, at Wilkinson's Field, Litton, Yorkshire Dales – 20th April 2014

Report by Steve Rayner

Three Clean up at Litton

The sun shone on the otherwise chilly hillside in Littondale on Sunday for the 54 pre65 riders. As usual, the event was the rocky practice for the forthcoming Pre-65 Scottish 2 day.

Dave Emmott, Judy and Duncan MacDonald set out a challenging route that suited both experts and clubman perfectly.

Sections 1 to 3 were the calm before the more serious rocks as the stream rose up the hillside with many clubmen taking the chance to try the harder route.

The rocks of Sections 4 and 5 marked the beginning of the larger rocks but they failed to trouble the experts with only Dave Emmott dropping 1 of his final total of 3 here. It was a different story for the Clubmen with no 5 taking the most marks from the class with only Phil Holey (Cub) leaving here unpenalised.

Section 6 was the first of 4 sections that saw only three riders keep their clean sheets for the day. Ben Butterworth (Ariel), Norman Shepherd (F Barnett) and Yrjo Vesterinen (Cub) took the honours in their respective classes. The clubmen were saved from the horrors of the big rocks but only Class K winner Gordon Imrie (Ariel) and Bob Baker (James) stayed clean on section 7. Indeed it was here that John Brindle came close to serious injury when his C15 decided to turn right over the edge of a 6 foot drop. John managed to bale out but his machine was not so lucky snapping the sliders of both fork legs nose diving on to the rocks below.

Section 8 was the final stream section and was deceptively tricky with embedded rocks becoming slippery and Tony Calvert lost his only mark here.

The sting in the tail was the lengthy and extremely steep Section 10. Speed was the essence on the harder route with the difficult final climb causing several hair-raising tumbles. The best found little problem keeping the front wheel on the floor with Triumph twins sounding particularly good, but others suffered here at the end of a great day's sport.

Results

Harder route

Class A- Pre-Unit Springers

1st Ben Butterworth Ariel - 0 2nd Chris Haigh Velo – 10 3rd Mick Clarke Ariel – 26

Class G-Twins

1st Jack Butterworth – 6 2nd John Patefield Triumph – 62

Class D-Cubs

1st Yrjo Vesterinen – 0 2nd Tony Calvert – 1 3rd Andy Scott – 22

Class E- unit over 250

1st Andrew Sharp C15 - 18 2nd Neil Buckley R.E. – 22 3rd Paul Wilson C15 – 43

Class F- 2 strokes

1st Norman Shepherd F Barnett – 0 2nd Nigel Greenwood Bantam – 9 3rd Terry Raw James – 9

Class S – Specials

1st Chris Gascoigne Ariel – 2 2nd Dave Emmott Triumph twin – 3 3rd Duncan Mac Donald Armac Cub – 7

Eased Clubman Route

Class B- Pre-Unit Rigid

1st Chris Bacon Matchless – 58

Class H- Vintage 2 strokes

1st Ady Brayshaw James – 12 2nd Eric Atkinson James – 51

Class K – open Clubman

1st Gordon Imrie Ariel – 3 2nd Steve Cordon James - 6 3rd Colin Benson Ariel – 10 4th Phil Holey Cub - 12