

Yorkshire Classic MCC

Round 10, Final Pre unit Championship Trial, at Branshaw Quarry, Oakworth, 14th December 2014

Report by Steve Rayner

Light as a Feather

The working ashlar sandstone quarry at Branshaw was the venue for the final round of the Pre-Unit Championship. Saturday's hard frost had given the Pawson brothers a headache of which sections would be okay if the ground didn't thaw. Fortunately the rise in temperature rendered the sections safe and muddy if a little easy on the day.

Only the winners of the two Blue Riband Championship classes were yet to be resolved.

In the Pre-Unit Springer class Paul Jackson (Velo) needed to win with Gordon Imrie (Ariel) finishing 3rd or lower to take the title. On the day Paul came 3rd and Gordon 4th both losing 2 with Paul taking the older rider tie. They were both beaten by excellent rides from Mick Clarke and Dave Wear so Tyne and Wear's Gordon Imrie is the new Class A champion at his first attempt.

The Rigid Pre-Unit class had 3 riders in contention for Class B. Steve Rayner (Matchless) was ahead on the best 7 rides rule closely followed by John Feather and current champion Steve Cordon (Matchless). Whoever won the class on the day would be the new champion. Steve R started badly losing 4 marks in the mud at sections 5 and 6. John went clean here as Steve C dropped his solitary dab but it went to the wire when John dropped a dab on the relatively easy camber at section 10. However, as always the older riding gets the advantage and so it was John that took the Rigid PU title ahead of Steve R.

Mick Whitlow brought out his twin to take class G with an excellent clear ride on 0.

As usual the riders on lightweight machinery joined in the fun and two riders kept their feet on the pegs with Steve Thomas (Bantam) taking the win from Dave Ingham (C15).

The riders can now have a rest until Boxing Day when fancy dress will be optional at the Club's annual Charity trial at Manor Farm (11-00am start).

The 2015 open Championship restarts on the 11th Jan at Lady Lane, Bingley. Fingers crossed for good weather!

Results

Pre-Unit Springers

1st Mick Clarke (Ariel) – 0 2nd Dave Wear (R Enfield) – 1 3rd Paul Jackson (Jacko Velo) - 2

Pre-Unit Rigid

1st John Feather (Ariel) - 1 2nd Steve Cordon (Matchless) – 1 3rd Steve Rayner (Matchless) - 5

Twins

1st Mick Whitlow - 0 2nd John Patefield – 5 3rd Andy Littler – 6 (All Tri twins)

Pre-Unit Rigid under 347cc

1st Chris Bacon (C10 BSA) – 3

Vintage 2 stroke Springer

1st A Witting (Francis Barnett) – 13

Just for fun

1st Steve Thomas (Bantam) – 0 2nd Dave Ingram (C15) – 0 3rd Rob Moor (Bantam) – 0 4th K. Witting (Bant) - 1

All ties decided in favour of the older rider

2014 Championship Final Table

Class A Pre-Unit Springers

1st Gordon Imrie 122 2nd Paul Jackson - 118 3rd Mick Clarke – 85

Class B Pre-Unit Rigid

1st John Feather 129 2nd Steve Rayner – 126 3rd Steve Cordon – 125

Class G Twins

1st Malc Cocking 137 2nd Graham Wilkinson 102 3rd John Patefield – 78

Class J Pre-Unit Rigid under 347cc

1st Chris Bacon – 140

Class L Vintage 2 stroke Rigid

1st Eric Atkinson – 137 2nd Paul Harrison - 58

Vintage 2 stroke Springer

1st Ady Brayshaw– 137 2nd Mick Preston – 111 Neil Anderton - 62