

## **Yorkshire Classic MCC**

### **Round 1, Pre unit Championship, at Nab End, Sowerby**

26th January 2020

Report by Steve Rayner

Photo by Barry Pickard

#### **Cooke Nabs Top Spot Again.**

After a dry week, 46 riders approached the Nab End quarry venue above Sowerby near Halifax, to be greeted by the start of the day's continuous rainfall.

Surprisingly a good turnout of riders were there on pre-unit machinery despite several club members having made their way south to the TALMAG trial. Johnny Cooke on his excellent Ariel completed the double by taking top spot for the second year running with a brilliant ride to win the Pre-Unit springer class without losing a single mark. Close behind also Ariel mounted were Dave Ingram and visitor Mark Smith on a single mark each.

The non-championship class also saw a healthy turnout with Duncan Macdonald (Ariel), Steve Gossop (Bantam), Tony Davison (Cub) and Olly Cooper on his Bantam framed Cub all staying penalty free for the day. As always ties go in favour of the older rider giving Duncan the win. Steve Thomas (Bantam) and Adam McCanna on his Leading link forked Greeves lost one apiece and the tie was again used to sort the order.

The first three sections were old favourites. The up and over with a 180 deg return between rocks at section 1 troubled few but north east visitor Mark Smith lost his only dab here. Section 4 turned out to be the biggest mark taker of the day. Starting on the coal debris of last year's Bronte film set, the riders headed across rocks to a sharp downhill left turn that dropped them to a sharp right over more jumbled rocks with a run to the exit over a deceptive slab. Tony Calvert (Cub) was unlucky to run over a flag on his second lap here to spoil his day.

The rocks at 8 took more marks as it was exposed to gusts of wind. The rocky ledge always causes bother to some and Steve Thomas lost his only mark here. Ken Oates arrived here clean on his final lap but was unlucky to run off the side to be trapped under his Ariel in the heather. The climbs and drops at 10 took its fair share of the points but few from the top riders.

Thanks to Neil Anderton and Mick Culf for setting the excellent sections and to the landowner and especially to the Observers for standing out in such abysmal cold and wet weather.

#### **Class A - Pre-Unit Springers**

Johnny Cook (Ariel) 0, Dave Ingram (Ariel) 1, Mark Smith (Ariel) 1.

#### **Class B -Pre-Unit Rigid**

John Feather (Ariel) 11.

#### **Class G Big Twins (all Triumph)**

Graham Wilkinson 12, John Patefield 29, Rob Lowther 43.

#### **Non-Championship**

Duncan Macdonald (REH Ariel) 0, Steve Gossop (Bantam) 0, Tony Davison (Cub) 0, Oliver Cooper (Cub) 0, Steve Thomas (Bantam) 1, Adam McCanna (Bantam) 1.