

Yorkshire Classic MCC Ltd

Dave Emmott Memorial Trial and Round 4, Championship Trial, at Wilks Land, Litton
21st April 2019

Report by Steve Rayner

Photos by Barry Pickard

Greenwood Cleans up

The Dave Emmott Memorial Trial on Bill Wilkinson's land in Littondale is held two weeks before the Pre65 Scottish to give members chance to practise similar rocks and ensure their mount is in good working order. Out of the 59 riders, 33 rode the premier route and only 16 rode the clubman route. Clerks of Course Neil Anderton and Duncan MacDonald had plotted all 10 sections in the almost dry burn and the last 4 sections proved to be the hardest for the better riders.

Greenwood Stars

Chris Greenwood out on his newly build Bantam had a field day remaining feet up throughout. One mark behind also trying his new Bantam was Jimmy Noble closely followed by Nick Shield on his rasping Triumph Twin losing 4 and Tony Calvert (Cub) on 6.

On the new this year Intermediate 50/50 route Chris Wilson (Bantam) took top spot on 22, four ahead of Ariel mounted John Feather having an excellent ride, with rigid Bantam rider Steve Gossop a further mark back.

Top Clubman was Barry Fieldhouse (Bantam) losing 15 marks, two ahead of Malcolm Bell (Cub).

Rougher than usual

The early sections are usually quite gentle but the winter's rains had roughened up the rocks slightly increasing the challenge for all. With the sections being close together riders had to take care to ensure that they took the correct exit and many marks were dropped needlessly.

Sections 5 and 6 were the first to cause more than a little trouble with the larger rocks. Chris Myers on a very tidy Bantam framed Triumph Tigress four stroke twin lost ten here to almost double his score. Both sections were designated hard Intermediate sections and no one left unpenalised with Chris Wilson best losing 8 for the two. Section 5 was also the hardest for the clubmen with Malcolm Bell best losing 2.

The biggest mark taker on the Premier route was the rocky section 8, starting from flat rocks and getting rougher as it went, the 90 degree left uphill and tricky right hand hairpin to the finish took marks from all but winner Chris Greenwood. Jimmy Noble lost his sole dab and both Nick Shield and Tony Calvert lost two as did Pre-unit springer winner Michael Irving on his Ariel.

The final section was the second biggest mark taker with the initial slippery slab crossing causing many to drop marks before the rocky climb to the exit on the hard route and the innocuous looking grass slot for the others upsetting the balance for the unwary.

The low turnout of clubman riders is an indication of the reputation of the venue but they would have no doubt enjoyed what turned out to be about right for every level and with the backdrop of the Yorkshire Dales in the sun it was well worth the trip.

Results

Premier Route

Class A PreUnit Springers

Michael Irving (Ariel) 12, Mick Clarke (Ariel) 28, Chris Haigh (Velo) 32.

Class D Cubs

Tony Calvert 6, Steve Mephram 18, David Wilkinson 25.

Class E Unit over 247

Chris Myers (TriBSA) 23, Joe Bradley (BSA B40) 33

Class G Twins (all Triumph)

Nick Shield 4, Gary Marshall 51.

Class F Two-strokes

Chris Greenwood (Bantam) 0, Jimmy Noble (Bantam) 1, Yrjo Vesterinen (Bantam) 7.

Class S Specials

Ian Myers (Cub) 18, Peter Clibburn (Armac) 19, Duncan MacDonald (Ariel) 41.

Intermediate (50/50) Route

Chris Wilson (Bantam) 22, John Feather (Ariel) 26, Steve Gossop (rigid Bantam) 27.

Clubman Route

Class K Open Clubmen

Barry Fieldhouse (Bantam) 15, Malcolm Bell (Cub) 17, Steve Culf (Bantam) 18, Chris Forshaw (Bantam) 21.

Class T PreUnit Springer

Ike Myers (AJS) 23

Class K/Specials

Max Clift (BSA C15) 20, Keith Hobson (Armac) 20, David Cockroft (Cub) 26.

Photos by Barry Pickard

1. Gary Marshall rides Dave Emmott's Triumph Twin as a tribute.
2. Overall winner Chris Greenwood (Bantam) in sec 9
3. Will Harrison (Ariel) Sec 9
4. Barry Fieldhouse Bantam) clubman winner