

Yorkshire Classic MCC

Norman Pickles Rose Bowl Memorial Trial – Lord Lane, Haworth

New Year's Day Trial 2020

Report by Dave White - Photos by Barry Pickard

Yorkshire Classic Club's first trial of 2020 brought out 36 riders to compete for the annual Norman Pickles Rose Bowl trial at the picturesque venue of Lord Lane in Haworth.

A somewhat cool, dry, sunny day greeted the entrants at the start, but that was only the beginning of things to come, as the firm looking surface cut up and yielded a sea of mud on some of the later sections. As the trial progressed, this made some of these incredibly difficult.

A noteworthy entrant and eventual winner, Tony Calvert rode the ex- Norman Pickles Tiger Cub as a fitting tribute to its previous owner for this prestigious event, a lovely gesture from a very talented rider!

Section 1, was an up and down cross camber slippery bank which took marks from the majority of the riders, only Tony Calvert, Dave Wilkinson, Steve Thomas, Olly Cooper and Roy Hobson cleaning this section for the whole 4 laps!

Section 2, was an old favourite, here at Lord Lane, combining a steep slippery downhill off camber bank, then through a tight right hand turn culminating into a tight rocky climb out of the section.

Again, only a handful of cleans on this section almost a carbon copy of the first section with the addition of Nick Atha, Andy Littler, Ian Roper and Steve Glossop staying clean

Section 3, incorporated some tight and nadgery turns with random boulders strewn along the track for good measure, at the end of the section across a steep adverse camber, where the bank cut up badly and caused problems for some, Graham Wilkinson, being the best of the big bikes here, staying clean

Section 4, another old favourite here at Lord Lane, was a steep winding uphill climb, culminating in a long steep slippery exit out of the section, this caused problems for some as the ground became increasingly cut up, but around 20 riders cleaned this section throughout the four laps!

Section 5, a difficult steep adverse camber, dropping into a series of tight uphill turns caught out many, with only five riders keeping a clean sheet, Dave White, an early victim, on his Ariel, came to grief on the first lap with a five over the bars!

Section 6, took few marks from the majority of riders, although an interesting climb out of the section caused problems for some as the line through the section cut up

Section 7, presented a twisty, tight, rock strewn path through the brambles, over a wall onto slippery grass finish. This tested most riders and got progressively worse as the laps counted down. Best again here, were Tony Calvert, Steve Glossop, Olly Cooper and Chris Wilson, all on clean

Section 8, this is where the sections became very difficult as riders struggled to find grip on the long meandering off camber grassy banks. The only cleans for the day were Dave Wilkinson and Steve Thomas, Tony Calvert lost his only marks of the day here, with two dabs on this section, a fantastic achievement!

Section 9, comprised of a narrow, steep muddy drop into a marsh grass bog, with a tight turn back up the hill along a very slippery incline to the end cards, this was another section that caught out many taking high marks from all but the very best.

The only clean from the four laps was Tony Calvert on the ex- Norman Pickles Cub, giving him the lowest score of the day and making him the recipient of the Norman Pickles Rose Bowl for 2020.

Section 10, last but by no means least, this was a long straight hill climb up a steep grassy undulating bank. From the start gate, a 90 degree sharp turn up the hill paved the way. This section was a one chance only, where speed and horsepower was the order of the day. As condition deteriorated, this section took thirteen riders for five marks each!

A cracking trial for the start of 2020 where over £120 was collected in the Charity box, everyone's thanks go to the Clerk of the Course **Graham Wilkinson** for some excellent sections and to the small army of loyal observers, without who these trials would just not happen.

Dave White

Results

Winner of the Norman Pickles Rose Bowl – Tony Calvert (ex-Norman Pickles Tiger Cub) 2

Class A- Pre-Unit Springers

Dave White (Ariel) 73, Phil Holey (Ariel) 77, Pete Baldwin (Ariel) 84.

Class B – Pre-Unit Rigid

John Feather (Ariel) 65.

Class D-Cubs

Tony Calvert 2, Dave Wilkinson 20, Andy Littler 29.

Class E – Units over 246cc

John Holdsworth (C15) 40.

Class F- 2strokes

Steve Thomas (Bantam) 5, Steve Gossop (Bantam) 10, Neil Buckley (Bantam) 27, Olly Cooper (Bantam) 28.

Class G-Twins

Graham Wilkinson (Triumph) 50, John Patefield (Triumph) 74.

Class H- Vintage two Strokes

Neal Anderton (James) 89.

Class S (Specials)

Phil Kendrew (BSA) 33, Michael Dorricott (C15) 66, David Cockroft (Cub) 72.