

Boxing Day Madness Trial Report - Manchester 17 MCC - By Marty Hill

After much of the year postponed due to Covid, Manchester 17 MCC ended 2020 with their annual "Boxing Day Madness Trial" Utilising Watty's quarry owned by club member & former 2 wheeled Dakar competitor now focusing on 4 wheels in 2021, David Watson. The section marking team had spent 2 days clearing the land and found some new sections for the event. 69 Riders turned up on the day which after a bit of rain early morning ended up being a dry but cold day.

Six riders entered the Hard route with Mitch Brightmore making a return to Trials after a very successful year on the Enduro scene. 8 single dabs over the 12 section 3 lap event was enough to take the win. Second was newly JSM supported Tom Shepherd on his new 250 Gas Gas, a 5 on section 3 on the opening lap proving costly. Chris Garlick took third place on his brand new Busto rep Vertigo on 29 marks with Youth rider Ash Brightmore a further 4 behind. Todd Blenkinsopp another youth competitor had a decent ride on one of his 1st attempts at the hard route with the final place going to Ash Sugden.

On the clubman route 44 riders entered. It was a close run affair for the overall honours as Pete Ruscoe went round clean to take the win just a mark ahead of Chris Brightmore. Lee Granby slotted into third position on 4. Then a 3 way tie for fourth between Mark Reynolds, Matthew Thorpe & Liam Robinson all on 8. Mark & Liam both riding twinshock, a mark further back event secretary & marking team Marty Hill who will be cursing a 5 on the opening lap which ruined his chance of a top 3 finish. A worthy mention for Matt Hockenhull who swapped pedal power for horsepower finishing in the top 8 and bragging right over the rest of his crew.

Finally the easy route saw 19 riders entered, taking the overall was Twinshock entered John Wilson, dropping 2 marks 5 ahead of fellow twinshock mounted Carl Baker. Peter Wraith took 3rd on 10 then a gap back to Paul Laverty who's more accustomed to tarmac. Danny Rutter deserves a mention for a top 10 finish in his 1st competitive event with a total of 27.

Hard Route

1. Mitch Brightmore	Gas Gas	8
2. Tom Shepherd	JSM Gas Gas	13
3. Chris Garlick	Vertigo	29
4. Ash Brightmore	Gas Gas	33 (Youth)
5. Todd Blenkinsopp	Vertigo	66 (Youth)
6. Ash Sugden	Beta	95

Clubman Route

1. Pete Ruscoe	TRS 0	
2. Chris Brightmore	Beta 4T	1
3. Lee Granby	Gas Gas	4
4. Mark Reynolds	Honda TLR	8 m/c (T/S 1)
5. Matthew Thorpe	Gas Gas	8 2 nd m/c
6. Liam Robinson	Greeves	8 3 rd m/c (T/S 2)
7. Marty Hill	TRS	9 m/c
8. Matt Hockenhull	Gas Gas	9
9. Matthew Boam	Beta	11
10. Richard Plant	BSA	12 (T/S 3)

Easy Route

1. John Wilson	Bultaco	2 (T/S 1)
2. Carl Baker	Bultaco	7 (T/S 2)
3. Peter Wraith	Gas Gas	10
4. Paul Laverty	Beta	18
5. Michael Warburton	Vertigo	22 m/c
6. Eamon Talbot	Beta	22
7. Danny Rutter	Gas Gas	27 m/c
8. Kyle Belshaw	Sherco	27
9. Niall Warhurst	Beta	29
10. Dom Grocott	TRS 3	2