

MANCHESTER 17 MCC LTD. DEAD EASY TRIAL, SATURDAY 19TH JULY 2014, WHESTON HOUSE FARM, TIDESWELL, NR. BUXTON.

REPORT : Roger Townsend

Well the forecasters got it right for once on Saturday morning. When the setting out team arrived at Wheston House Farm, it was teeming down. Many enquiries were received as to whether the trial was going ahead but the intrepid band carried on gallantly.

The venue is a superb piece of land for Dead Easy trials and has never been used before. It consists of Limestone rakes, with a series of rock strewn gullies, banks and grassy knolls.

Due to the incessant rain, the course was set out even easier than usual and the full potential of some of the gullies could not be used this time round.

Five laps of eight sections was the order of the day, with no particular section causing undue difficulty. Turns on grassy banks, dips, and a sprinkling of rocks meant that for the better rider concentration was key. For those just starting out on their trials career, they could attempt the sections without fear of injury or machine damage.

The only disappointment was that the weather clearly deterred people with just twenty eight riders coming under starters orders. By normal standards for these trials that was low. There was also of course a certain Mr Tony Bou performing up in Cumbria.

The rain actually stopped by the time the trial started, and judging by the many comments at the end, everyone seemed to really enjoy it.

Five riders went clean on the hard route, with Ben Townsend and Tony Shaw on old Yamaha and Bultaco machinery respectively ,through to Mike Kelly, Bill Brown, and Terry Harvey on modern Gas Gas kit. Local lad Dan Robins was close on their heels with a loss of only two.

Stephen Ward, and another local Ed Hibbert were clean on the Easy route, While Alan Critchlow and David Stewart enjoyed their bash at the 50/50route.

A conducted route was run and Liam Campbell and Euan Austin showed just how good the electric powered miniatures now are.

Special mention must be made of the Cook sisters, Katie and Libby, who both rode very well in Youth D class with Libby contesting the Hard route. Both finished with very respectable scores.

Big thanks to the farmer for the use of this great piece of land and to all who helped run the trial. Special thanks to the riders for turning out and supporting the event in the face of daunting weather forecasts. Let's hope next time for a better day!

RESULTS

HARD ROUTE

Mike Kelly (Gas Gas) Tony Shaw (Bultaco) Bill Brown (Gas Gas) Terry Harvey (Gas Gas) Ben Townsend (Yamaha) all clean, Dan Robins (Gas Gas) 2, Martin Allen (Gas Gas) 2

50/50 ROUTE

Alan Critchlow (James) 7, David Stewart (Beta) 12

EASY ROUTE

Stephen Ward (Gas Gas) Ed Hibbert (Honda) both clean, Ray Critchlow (Triumph)
5 Katie Cook (Beta) 17

CONDUCTED ROUTE

Liam Campbell (Gas Gas) 24, Euan Austin (Oset) 73