

DEAD EASY TRIAL HEATON HOUSE FARM MACCLESFIELD SUNDAY 20th NOVEMBER 2022
REPORT: Roger Townsend

The final Dead Easy Trial of the year was held at the same venue where the series all started last April, Heaton House Farm. The previous Friday night the club hosted its annual dinner for farmers and landowners in the Wedding Barn at the farm as a thank you to them for allowing us to use their land for our events. As Ken Roberts, Club President said at the dinner, without the farmers and landowners co operation and permission we have no trials!

Overnight rain caused a panic at the start when it was discovered that heavy overnight rain had made the planned car park field inaccessible.

The team swung into action and quickly came up with alternative emergency parking but for a short time it was a little chaotic.

As for the trial, four laps of ten sections had been laid out and despite it being a fairly compact piece of land, two sections were at the outer extremities of the available land in order to spread the entry and give riders a longer ride.

Forty nine solos, the lowest all year, no doubt some riders put off by the weather forecast, and ten outfits set out to do battle.

Due to the wet conditions prior to the trial, it spiced things up and the leaves, mud and grassy banks all required concentration. In fact for the first time in a long time there were no totally clean rides on either route. On the Harder route, section five was probably the trickiest. Situated at one end of the long wood, it was turns up and round a bank but with a tight turn between two trees in which there was a root just where you wouldn't want a root. On the harder route nobody cleaned it on every lap. In fact the winner on the Harder route, David Butler, lost his only mark of the trial on this section, dabbing on his first lap but then cleaned it every time on subsequent laps.

In joint second place was regular competitor John Wilson who cast both his dabs here, along with Martin Allen.

Nathan Manzano continues to improve and was fourth with a loss of four marks, his smooth riding and throttle control becoming a feature of his riding.

On the Easy route, two riders tied on six marks lost. Young Henry Hardman rode his little Oset while Maria Bryceland in only her first trial came home in joint first place. She beat Bryceland senior by quite a margin thus having the bragging rights, while Brother Josh campaigned the Harder route so keeping out of family arguments.

The sidecars as ever seemed to be really enjoying themselves. Ten outfits is a superb number these days in what seems to be a declining aspect of the sport and credit to all concerned for keeping going when there were only two or three outfits turning up. Claire and Thomas McDowell headed the Easy route with a loss of five marks while Stuart Riches with Spencer Wright took the honours on the Harder route losing twenty two marks. Watching them in action they are all heroes and thank you for giving us so much entertainment throughout the year.

So ended another highly successful season of Dead Easys. Huge thanks to the small but dedicated team who run these events, the observers, and of course the landowners. The venues are all in superb locations and the key is trying to achieve the same level of section severity throughout the season, always remembering these are Dead Easy events.

Thank you as well to all the riders who have supported us throughout the year.

And it all kicks off again next April

For full results see the Results page on the website.