

Wet and wild Warmden

Most trials have a star or 2, but there were 9 stars at the Red Rose Classic Trials club's February trial - the 9 observers who braved high winds and horizontal rain to allow the 46 riders to enjoy their sport - though some of those riders may not agree with the enjoy!

A late venue change to Warmden Quarry due to waterlogged parking at Primrose Park meant Clerks of the Course Andrew Scott and Trevor Bennet spent Friday looking for some variations to the sections in this well used venue. They planned an expert only section out of the gulley, but it had to be scrubbed on the morning of the trial as only submarines could've reached the begins card. An extra section for all classes was quickly plotted to complete 10 sections.

Marks lost proved low on the hard route, with both the unit under 250 and twinshock classes won with no marks lost. Dave Fallows was the Pre 65 man to keep his feet up all day, beating the interesting Enfield Bantam of Ryan Smith by 1 mark and Andrew Scott by 5. Ryan lost his only mark of the day on the very exposed section 2, maybe it was observer Neil's waterproof trousers being at half mast that put him off!

The twinshock hard route was taken by John Holdsworth feet up on his Fantic, with Vesty dropping a mark on section 9, closely followed by Darren Mitchell, who dropped his 2 on the twisty banks of section 6.

The 50/50 route only had twinshocks entered. Andrew Walters dropped 5 on section 6 to take the victory with the 50/50 guys riding the hard route on this section and it proved the major mark taker, runner up Stephen Wilde dropping 6 of his 10 marks here.

The clubman route had 3 classes represented. Clive Smith was the only entry in the pre unit class on his Triffield, loosing 8, only 3 more than Steve Gossop on a Cheetah lost to win the unit under 250 class. He was 1 less than Carl Winstanley and Rob O'Connor, who finished 2nd and 3rd in that order on the oldest rider rule.

The twinshock easy route was a Bultaco battle. John Wilson took the win loosing 4 (3 on the wild section 2) 2 less than Phil Haygarth, with the Fantic of Bill Brown and Honda of Stephen Hall a further 5 behind, with the age rule in Bill's favour.

Thanks again to the hardy observers, hopefully the weather will be more spring like at the next trial on 13th March.