

Andrew's benefit.

Red Rose Classic Trials club's July trial was held at an old Darwen club venue, Fickle Hall Farm just outside Darwen on 17th of the month, and it was hot.

Clerks of the course Mel Dibb, Andrew Scott and Ben Butterworth had cleared the ground for 10 sections in the compact venue – though it was nearly nine, not sure who has the missing finger!

A disappointing entry of 27 included only 1 big British Bike, but Damian Morey's Velocette suffered issues and he had to retire.

The expert pre 65 under 250 class was a Bantam benefit, with Andrew Scott enjoying his sections to lose only 8, 20 ahead of Keith Knowles who was a further 18 ahead of the bloodied Stuart Ormisher. Andrew's losses of 3 in the steam at section 6 and up the gully at 9 costing him three quarters of his marks.

The Pre 65 50 / 50 route turned into an unchallenged victory for Mark Newman on 22 after Jeremy Clarke's Cub decided it didn't like to have a nipple at both ends of the clutch cable. Keep your eyes open for Cub soon to be advertised for sale!

The easy route Pre 65 was taken by Carl Winstanley on his James, losing 2 on the twists and turns on the bank at section 2 and a further 2 on the stream and mud of section 8. Runner up was John Holdsworth's Cub on 13 from Ian Gent on 28.

Twinshock experts was a close finish, with both Andrew King and Ben Butterworth losing 1 each – Andrew on the tricky bank at Section 8, Ben on the twists and turns of section 2. With Ben being a mere whippersnapper Andrew took the victory on the oldest rider rule. Alan O'Connor was only 1 mark behind the leading duo having lost 2 marks on the steep banks and drops of section 10 observed by Ben's Grandad.

Chris Forshaw won the Twinshock 50/50 class on 20, with half his losses on section 10, 7 ahead of Ian McClean's Honda and 9 ahead of Colin Slater on his SWM.

Finally, the twinshock easy course had the largest entry and was a battle of the medical returnees. Danny Lord, in his first trial for over 12 months after injuring his ankle ligaments at a Red Rose Trial in June last year, taking the victory by 6 marks from C of C Mel Dibb who was taking it gently after his heart attack.

Thanks go to the Clerks of the Course for clearing the land and the observers for standing out in the heat and midges. Hopefully we'll get to see a few more riders at the next Red Rose trial which will be a Wednesday evening trial at the great Lee Dell venue on 3rd August.