

Report:
Manchester 17 Open club championship trial
Sunday 10 June 2007
Beardhall Farm New Mills Near Manchester

366 words by Ken Roberts

'Factory Kev' Hipwell brought his very trick looking all black and red Gas Gas to Manchester 17's new venue at New Mills on hot sunny Sunday and made off with the best performance award. Kev really did manage to keep things cool while the temperature soared to hold off a strong challenge from the local young guns. Liam Robinson was top of those taking best youth while pushing Kev to keep his cool ending up just 4 marks behind on 23 from Kev's 19.

Chris Garlic was runner up expert and always in touch on his 4RT on end up on 25 while Yorkshire 'Novice' visitor Sam Clarke looked at home in Manchester 17 territory with just one 5 too many on 31. Young Will Emmott lost out to the vastly experienced Yoomee by 4 cleans on 34 apiece. Equally close was the fight for best Inter amongst the just into adult group of Andrew Hallam, Ian Robinson and Rob Bowyer with young Hallam taking the day on 51 from Dan on 54 and Robbo junior on 55.

The easy route turned out to be just a little too easy on the day as things were so dry and grip was almost limitless. Both Andrew Shaw and Mike Edwards conspired to end the day faultless although Mike's elderly Fantic made sure that he had to work for that result. Ever consistent clubman Ade Bellis and very welcome returnee to trails after over a decade, Carl Machin had to be separated on furthest losing least with Adrian getting the decision on this occasion by 2 sections after both had just 2 prods each.

Best of the Novices was Ben Hickinson on 3 with remarkable Jonny Stewart taking his tiny Beta and equally tiny frame to an amazing 3 point finish ahead of always strong YB runner Corey Dubik on 5.

With 2 deep rock filled gullies, a 50 meter tunnel under the railway, a ride blind section and a huge bolder which entertained the hard route riders for the first two laps at least Mike Finch's new venue proved to provide just what was wanted. Perhaps a little proper Manchester weather will make things more interesting in future?

Results:

Hard route:

| | | |
|---------------|-----|----|
| Kev Hipwell | Gas | 19 |
| Liam Robinson | Gas | 23 |
| Chris Garlick | Mon | 25 |
| Sam Clarke | Bet | 31 |
| John Hulme | Gas | 34 |
| Will Emmott | Gas | 34 |
| Tom Stewart | Bet | 50 |
| Andrew Hallam | Gas | 51 |
| Dan Bower | Sco | 54 |
| Ian Robinson | Gas | 55 |

Easy route:

| | | |
|------------------|-----|----|
| Andrew Shaw | Gas | 0 |
| Mike Edwards | Fan | 0 |
| Adrian Bellis | Bet | 2 |
| Carl Machin | Gas | 2 |
| Ben Hickinson | Bet | 3 |
| Jonny Stewart | Bet | 4 |
| Corey Dubik | Gas | 5 |
| Ken Roberts | Gas | 7 |
| Simon Critchley | She | 8 |
| Nick Stott | Gas | 8 |
| Lee Hutchinson | Yam | 9 |
| Neil Marsh | Bet | 9 |
| Steve Garthy jnr | Gas | 11 |
| Ollie Moorfield | Gas | 11 |
| Henry Rosenthal | Gas | 14 |
| Brian Cottrell | Gas | 15 |