

Manchester 17 MCC Ltd – “Dead Easy” Trial – 1st April 2007– Report

The bright sunshine and steady, but chilling wind meant that it was a surprisingly dry Victory Quarry that greeted the 89 riders who attended the first Manchester 17 “Dead Easy” trial of 2007.

The usual format of four, ten-section laps and two routes were on offer, and as seems to be the trend, a fairly even split of riders chose to ride each route, 41 on the easier, 48 on the harder.

Youth B rider Tom Stewart excelled on the trickier sections of the harder route, a solitary dab on the most technical section of the day, section two, was all that spoilt an almost faultless ride. It was this section that took the bulk of the 5’s and 3’s of the day, the tight left turn over a jumble of awkward shaped rocks just prior to the exit causing the problem.

In the over-40 class it was good to see Neil Marsh back in the saddle and he and Andy Foot both went round for 6 dabs each, again on section 2. Andy having a 0-3-2-1, whilst Neil, possibly suffering a bit of fatigue after his time off the bike, got consistently worse with a 0-1-2-3!

Brian Cottrell on his immaculate Pre-65 James showed-up some of the modern bike riders, dropping a miserly 12, a brace of 3’s on, you guessed it, section 2!

In the novice class it was a hard fought battle between young-gun Andy Hallam and riding partner and neighbour Mike Finch. In the end youth prevailed and Andy finished up on 3, with Mike, no doubt ruing the 3 on his last lap, on 5. It was also noted that Andy was sporting some Finch-like facial hair, although it will be a few years yet before he wins that competition!

On the easier route three riders held their nerve and went “clean”, these being John Cantrell on his Cub, Stephen Elliot and deputy course-plotter Roger Townsend!

Unlike the harder route, there wasn’t one section that took the bulk of the marks, but it was probably Margaret Carter’s section 6 that was the most testing. A mixture of a rutted cambered climb followed by a mini-“whoop” and tight-ish right turn back down to the exit tested the riders throttle control, braking and balancing skills.

Once again there were a number of new riders in attendance and a few young riders on their rev’n’go Gassers & Betas.

Report: Karl Green

Summary of Results

Dead Easy Trial - Easy Route

40+	Roger Townsend	0
	Mike Batholomew	1
Beginner – Adult	Stephen Elliot	0
	Lee Dewsnap	1
Beginner – Youth	Andre Lone	8
	Charlie Green	11
Novice	Michael Jones	5
Pre-65	John Cantrell	0
Twinshock	Steve Blackburn	2
Youth B	Daniel Williams	1
Youth C	Wilfrid Wotton-Turner	6
Youth D	George Parish	5

Dead Easy Trial - Harder Route

40+	Neil Marsh	6
	Andy Foot	6
Beginner – Adult	Andrew Belfield	49
Intermediate	Dan Bower	6
Novice	Andrew Hallam	3
	Mike Finch	5
Pre-65	Brian Cottrell	12
Twinshock	Arthur Austin	20
	Daniel Turnock	23
Youth A	Samuel Wotton-Turner	34
Youth B	Tom Stewart	1
Youth C	Jonny Stewart	6