

MANCHESTER 17 MCC
Dead Easy Trial 27 July 2008
Report: Roger Townsend

Conditions were very hot and sunny for the eighty one riders who contested the latest Manchester 17 Dead Easy Trial held at the popular Haslin venue near Buxton.

Karl Green and his band of course plotters had set the ten sections out around the “big lap” of the land which gave riders a great ride around and a chance to give the engines a good clear out.

Section two was the one that attracted the most comment which turned out to be a ride over a “midden”! When the sections were set it appeared to be a heap of soil. Sadly it wasn't, and after a lap when the top soil had been removed by the bike tyres, the true, much smellier, contents of the pile were revealed, much to the dismay of the riders and the observer! A hot day, manure and flies, a heady cocktail!

There was a wide spread of scores as usual at these events, but only two clean rides by Simon Williams and Michael Jones, both on the Easy route. Ian Robinson was best overall on the Hard route with a loss of two.

Mention must be made of recovered veteran campaigner Wilf Couldwell, who travelled all the way from Abergavenny to lose just one mark on the Easy route.

The hard luck story of the day had to be Ray Critchlow who managed to ride despite thieves having stolen his bike a few weeks ago, returned and stole his tools, burnt his shed down, destroying his boots and riding gear. What a sad reflection on some elements in our society today.

Thanks to Karl Green and his band of helpers for the course and the event and to the observers who this time got a nice tan instead of a soaking at this exposed venue.

Results

Hard Route

Over 40	Steve Cocker 19
Over 50	Tony Field 6
Adult Beginner	Paul Wainwright 54
Inter	Iain Robinson 2
Pre 65	Mike Ransom 24
Twin Shock	Andrew Cooke 19
Youth A	Robert Blackburn 36
Youth B	Samuel Lander 33

Easy Route

Over 40	Rodney Howarth 7
Over 50	Wilf Couldwell 1
Adult Beginner	Simon Williams clean
Twin Shock	Michael Jones clean
Youth A	David Newman 24
Youth B	Jordan Foot 1
Youth C	Andrew Eley 1
Youth D	James Frost 34