

## **“SOMETHING FISHY”**

Round 1 C&NW Centre Adults Championship  
Report, Judith Mellor

Manchester 17's Fisher Trial lived up to its usual standard on a wet, blustery day in the heart of the Three-Shires. 100 Riders set off for two laps of twenty sections at number one on Hawks Nest, which made them all cold and wet as some queued for nearly an hour. Once this section was complete everything ran as smoothly as it possibly could.

Reigning C&NW Expert Champion Mark Atkinson wearing the number 1 bib tried his best to fight off Josh Woods, who eventually took maximum championship points. The expert route was won overall by Gas Gas rider Dan Thorpe with “teamster” and local lad Craig Robinson hot on his heels finishing with just three points between them.

Maria Conway had a remarkable ride and blasted her way through to first place in the Inters and still managed to come back with the cleanest bib!!! Liam Robinson just missed out on a 1<sup>st</sup> Class Award after deciding to take the most difficult line on his mum's section, resulting in a 5 on the first lap. Reports came back from many that this particular section was the best one of the day, which was both set out and observed by Gas Gas spares department supremo, Dot Robinson.

The Guy Allott Trophy was won by Anthony Cooper in the Novice Class, just taking first place away from Andy Turner and Ben Powell to whom fought second place using the most cleans method. It was a good start to the year for Chris Allison who took maximum championship points in the Novice Class.

Maximum points also went to Colin Sagar in the O/40's, who was fighting for 1<sup>st</sup> place with brothers, Kev and Andy Hipwell. Kev took the O/40's win, with Colin and Andy finishing on a tie which was also settled by most cleans. Another rider who is usually battling for a top position in this class decided to go for a swim in EXACTLY the same place as he did last year. The remarkable thing was that the section he was looking for had been closed before the second lap, due to Ruth Pearson's observer board careering down the river out of sight. This area may now be referred to as “Thorpey's Dip”!!!

### **Expert:-**

Dan Thorpe 11, Craig Robinson 14, Richard Timperley 25,  
Chris Pearson 29, Miles Jones 32.

### **Intermediate:-**

Maria Conway 5, Gavin Black 9, Steve Hitchcock 15,  
Liam Robinson 19, Shaun Hazlewood 20.

### **Novice:-**

Anthony Cooper 15, Andy Turner 19, Ben Powell 19,  
Richard Culf 40, Lee Black 46.

### **O/40:-**

Kev Hipwell 3, Colin Sagar 12, Andy Hipwell 12, John Hulme 18,  
Mark Timperley 18.