

MANCHESTER 17 MCC. DEAD EASY TRIAL SATURDAY 17 SEPTEMBER
2011. HARRAT GRANGE FARM, PEAK FOREST, DERBYSHIRE

REPORT : Roger Townsend

Saturday afternoon saw the start of a double header weekend for the busy Manchester 17 MCC with another in the series of Dead Easy trials. This was a prelude to the Hipwell road trial the next day.

The venue was Harrat Grange farm, a piece of land used only once a year and although not a huge area it usually results in a good old fashioned type of trial. Being a Dead Easy event the idea was not to set out something too taxing. Who would be a course plotter? When the trial was set out prior to the event, showers made the terrain greasy. As the trial got under way out came the sun and some of the ground dried rapidly. Then guess what, a shower or two during the event made the sections interesting again.

Sixty four riders contested three laps of twelve sections comprising grassy banks, cambers, a few rocks and quite a bit of mud.

In order to use land at the far end of the venue, the muddy entry slot was actually observed and having got down into the valley bottom, enabled more new sections to be used. In order to get out of the steep hollow, spades had to be used to open up the cattle track exit and again this turned in to an interesting observed section.

On the hard route, there were a couple of clean rides, both over 40 riders. David Watson took his Montesa round clean as did regular National rider Kevin Stannard having a rare outing at one of these events.

Terry Harvey had an excellent ride in an event in which you had to concentrate, losing just a dab on his last lap on the first section observed by Harvey Lloyd. No doubt a bit of banter ensued there!

In the twin shock class, a pristine James was ridden by Liam Robinson who also dabbled once, followed home by Derek Brookes on one of his regular visits out of Lancashire, on a very tidy Francis Barnett, who cast away just six marks.

On the 50/50 route Cliff and Luke Bradley battled it out with Cliff coming out on top losing two marks to Lukes' ten. Six riders had a go at this route, giving up and coming competitors a chance to try a few of the harder sections.

Youngster Harry Lyons headed the easy route dabbing just the once. Another youngster Keiran Clowes was close behind on four. Surprisingly on this route section four took quite a few marks. A series of innocuous looking turns on fairly level ground turned out trickier than they looked. Peter Cottrell, making a welcome return to trials on an immaculate Bantam lost six marks here but still ended up best twin shock.

Another good event in the Dead Easy series with many positive comments at the finish.

Thank you to the Observers and all who helped on the day to make it an enjoyable afternoon out in a lovely part of the Peak District.

RESULTS

HARD ROUTE

OVER 40 : David Watson (Montesa) clean, Kevin Stannard (Gas Gas) clean,
NOVICE : Terry Harvey (Gas Gas) one mark lost, Karl Pickering (Scorpa) 6

TWIN SHOCK : Liam Robinson (James) one mark lost, Derek Brookes (Francis Barnett) 6

YOUTH B : Callum Cocker (Gas Gas) one mark lost, Dan Watson (Gas Gas) 72

50/50 ROUTE

Cliff Bradley (Montesa) 2, Luke Bradley (Gas Gas)10

EASY ROUTE

OVER 40: Dave Hibbert (Honda) 12, Rodney Howarth (Scorpa) 15

NOVICE : Geoff Newman (Beta) 8, Andy Heywood (Gas Gas) 17

TWIN SHOCK : Peter Cottrell (BSA) 16, Steve Bower (Bultaco) 22

YOUTH A : Kieran Clowes (Gas Gas) 4

YOUTH B : Daniel Linge (Gas Gas) 9

YOUTH C : Harry Lyons (Beta) one mark lost