

MANCHESTER 17 MCC

DEAD EASY TRIAL SUNDAY 1 FEB 2009

REPORT: Roger Townsend

Last Sunday, Manchester 17 MCC held the first in the series of their Dead Easy Trials at Haslin on the outskirts of Buxton.

Despite the Arctic like conditions, 75 riders turned out for the challenge, with forty-one on the harder route and thirty-four on the easy, demonstrating once again just how popular these type of events are.

Temperatures never rose above freezing all day and with that in mind, the course plotters set out twelve sections to be covered three times in an attempt to keep the event moving.

The big issue on the day due to the extreme weather was Observers, and despite the fact that all sections could be observed from the warmth of the car, only three sections were covered. A huge thanks to Ken Eyre, Gail Critchlow, and the Ellison family for volunteering.

This meant that the riders had to observe the other sections and it actually worked well. Thank you to the riders for their co operation and understanding.

The limestone outcrops and grassy banks that make up the course soon became polished as the day wore on and as they did, scores began to mount.

There were only two clean rides all day.

On the harder route, Over 40 rider went round clean, followed by Youth B rider Gareth Salt who had a cracking ride to lose only a dab. It was good to see Harvey Lloyd, who does so much on the organising side of things, have a ride, and only lose three marks, which given the conditions was a great ride.

On the Easy route, Roger Townsend piloted the little four stroke Scorpa round clean proving it was the ideal tool for the conditions. Hard on his heels were Pre 65 rider Christopher Atherton, and Over 40 rider Ant Harris who were both on one mark lost.

On both routes there was a wide spread of marks but everyone seemed to enjoy themselves despite the conditions and went home with a smile in their face which is what these events are all about.

Thank you to the course plotting team and all who helped on the day.

The next Dead Easy is on 2 April when hopefully it will be warmer!

RESULTS

HARD ROUTE

OVER 40 Andy Foot clean, Harvey Lloyd 3

Youth B Gareth Salt 1 Michael Vennard 5

NOVICE Paul Davies 11 Gary Farnell 14

TWIN SHOCK John Wilson 12 Mark Newman 30

YOUTH A Thomas Pennington 53

YOUTH C James McCann 78

EASY ROUTE

OVER 40 Roger Townsend clean, Ant Harris 1

PRE 65 Christopher Atherton 1, Dion Osbourne 5

BEGINNER Stephen Goodwin 6 Shaun Birch 7

TWIN SHOCK Stephen Eyre 8 Mark Weston 13

NOVICE Wayne Fowler 11 Martin Vennard 20

YOUTH B Sam Mountford 36

YOUTH C Jake Machin 39

YOUTH D Edward Hall 97