



NORTHERN LIGHTS

● **WINNING** the Manchester 17 Club's trials is becoming almost a habit with Dave Thorpe. The Ossa-mounted Yorkshireman has topped four of the club's last six events.

Most recent was the Christmastide John Hartle Trial, when he dropped just two fives and a two (the club uses the five-three-two-one system) to beat Henry Rosenthal by fourteen.

Thorpe contested only one of the other two 17 Club events — the Northern Experts, in which he finished sixth.

Rosenthal's runner-up spot gave him the much-prized club championship by two points from veteran John Roberts. If, instead of being third, Roberts had beaten his young rival in the John Hartle Trial, they would have tied on average.

● **FOR** the first time since the event was inaugurated in memory of the Manchester 17 Club's famous road racer four years ago, a sidecar class was included in the John Hartle Trial.

But organiser Dave Roland, himself, of course, a very successful newcomer to the ranks of the chair men, was disappointed because there were not enough entries to enable the class to be run.

On the whole, though, he is encouraged rather than otherwise by the response to efforts to make the sidecar class a going concern in the north once again.

Safe ride to success



Dave Rowland pictured with some of the motor cycling awards he has won over the years.

AS a top flight trials motorcyclist with the B.S.A. works team, Dave Rowland, of Coniston Drive, Handforth, tucked a good number of local and national titles under his belt.

Now Dave, who is a motor mechanic with the Cheshire Constabulary, has won what must be the most important title in anyone's book — he has just been voted his club's safest rider.

At the 35th annual dinner of the Manchester "17" Motorcycle Club, in Stockport, on Friday, Jeff Smith, a BSA works rider, presented Dave with the road safety badge of the Auto Cycle Union presented through Shell-Mex and BP Ltd.

To qualify for the award Dave had to show an accident free record for the past three years, take more than average pride in his machine and satisfy a number of other road safety requirements.

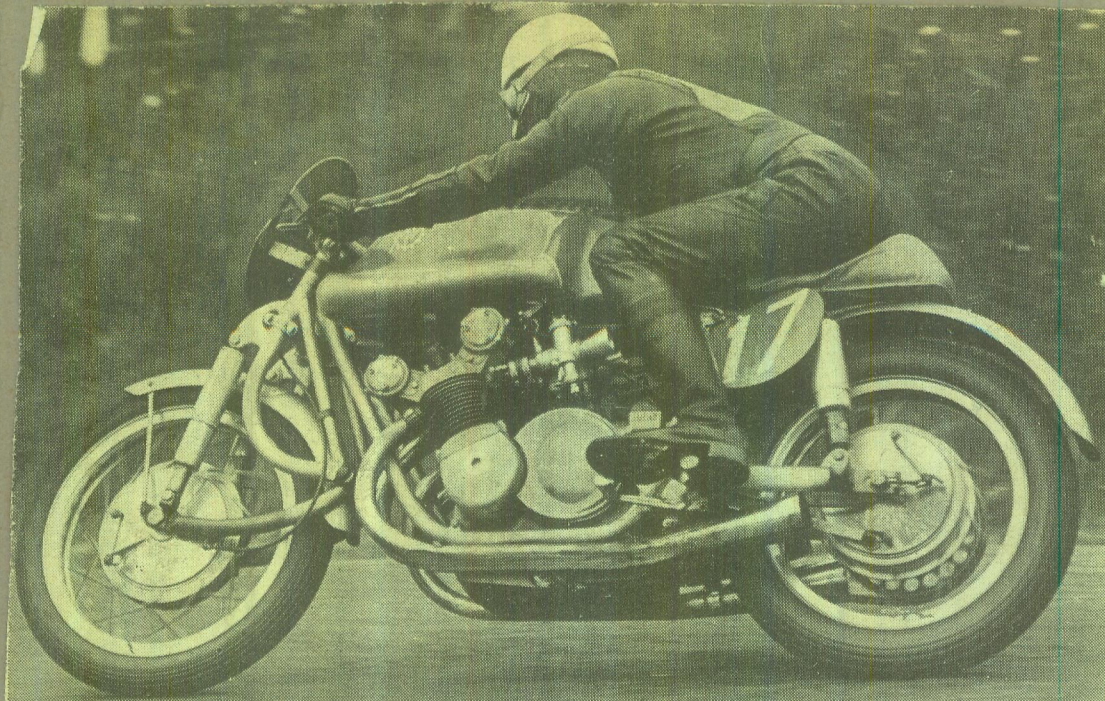
THORPE JUST PIPS ROWLAND

DAVE THORPE (250 Ossa), won the Manchester 17 Club's trial, held on a new course near Macclesfield, Cheshire, on Sunday, beating Dave Rowland (250 Bultaco) by a three-mark margin.

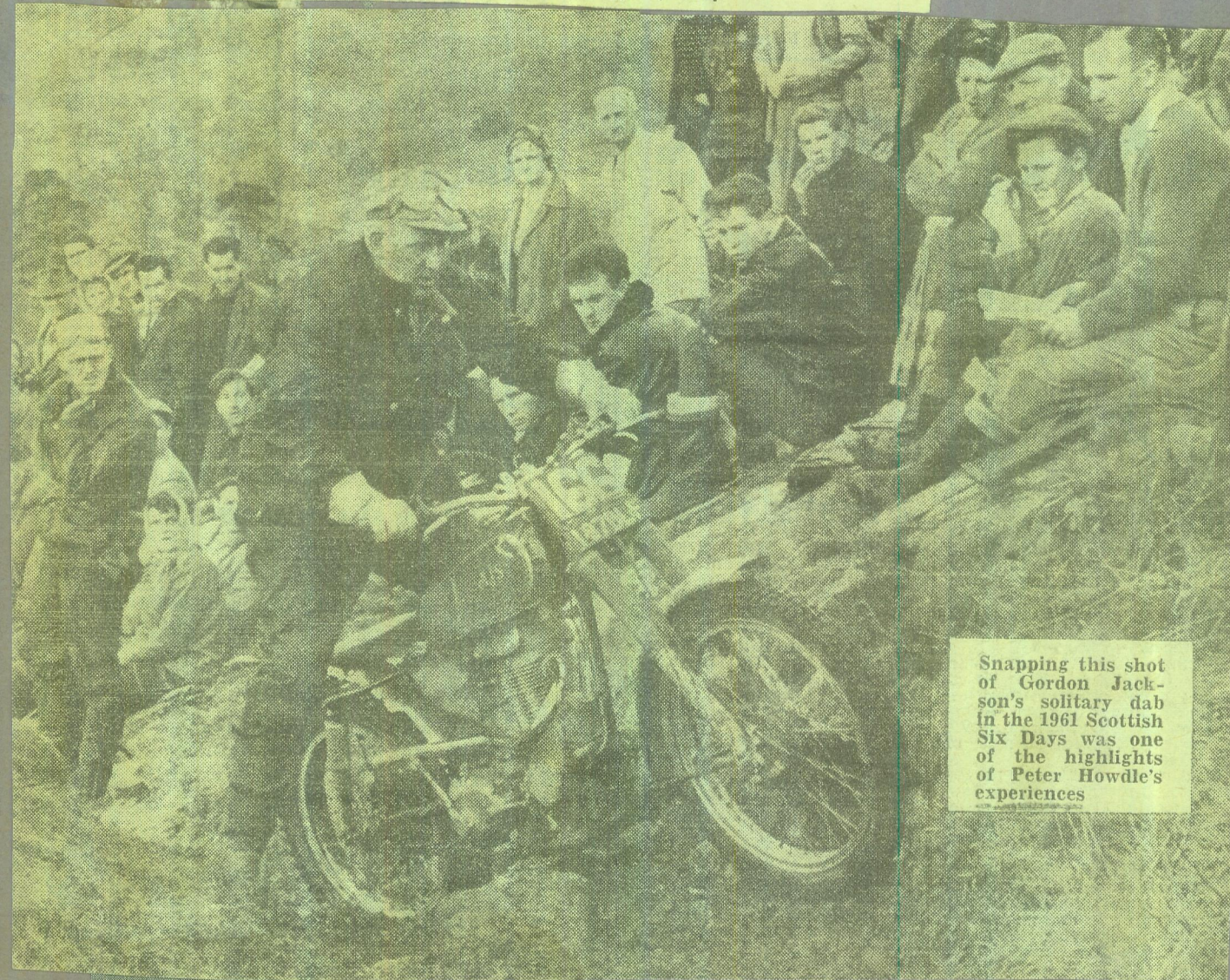
Thorpe won the trial on the rocks at Cumberland Corner, where he lost only a single mark on two laps. Rowland had a five on lap one and a dab on lap two. Both scored the only clean rides on each lap at Clough House, a drop into a stream over a high step, with a waterfall exit.

RESULTS

Best Performance: D. Thorpe (250 Ossa), 10 marks lost. **Runner-up:** D. Rowland (250 Bultaco), 13. **First-class Awards:** J. Statham (250 Ossa), 17; H. Doncaster (250 Bultaco), 19; S. P. Thomas (125 Sprite), 22; H. Lloyd (250 Bultaco), 23. **Best Novice:** P. Andrew (250 Bultaco), 74. **Novice First-class Awards:** S. Hill (250 Cotton), 91; F. Lalouette (250 Montesa), 100.



Runner-up in the 1952 Senior TT, 26.6s behind Reg Armstrong (Norton), Les Graham corners the MV Augusta four at Creg-ny-Baa on the last lap. Much earlier, a missed gear had blunted the engine's fine edge, and Graham lost more time through a sluggish pit stop.



Snapping this shot of Gordon Jackson's solitary dab in the 1961 Scottish Six Days was one of the highlights of Peter Howdle's experiences.

Rowland's five

DAVE ROWLAND (250 Montesa) dropped his foot just five times to win the Manchester Eagle Club's hard-fought Charles Markham Trial near Buxton on Sunday.

Jim Sandford (250 JAS Bultaco) had only three dabs and looked a certain winner until he dropped a soft five at Manor Steps, cleaned by almost everyone else, which put him behind both Rowland and local ICI engineer Harvey Lloyd (250 Bultaco).

The event was the eighth round of the Cheshire Centre Championship.

PROVISIONAL RESULTS

Premier award: D Rowland (250 Montesa) 5 marks lost.

First class awards: H Lloyd (250 Bultaco) 7, J Sandford (250 JAS Bultaco) 8, D Thorpe (250 Ossa) 8, N S Eyre (250 Ossa) 8, J Roberts (250 Montesa) 11, J Statham (250 Ossa) 11.

Second class awards: R Salt (175 Greeves) 16, K Thompson (250 Bultaco) 18, 2 S Miller (250 Montesa) 22, D Brookes (250 Bultaco) 22, G Rushfor (250 Bultaco) 25, R Wood (250 Bultaco) 27.

Best Manchester Eagle member: C Carey (125 Sprite) 54.

Best novice: V Hardy (250 Villiers) 63.