

Tykes at the double!

THE MANCHESTER 17's Northern Expert trial on Sunday saw a Yorkshire double by young solo star John Reynolds and back-to-form sidecar men Adrian Clarke and Mick Bailey.

Held in bright sunshine and cloudless skies, this well-run event was closely contested in the solo class with only seven marks covering the first five riders.

Riding partners Reynolds and Chris Griffin matched each other and losing almost identical marks throughout, the youngsters settled the destiny of the cup and title at the third group of sections and remote Cumberland Corner with

Reynolds losing six marks on the six sections and Griffin squandering a disastrous ten.

Reynolds' solitary five was a steep climb on the first section of Cheeks where the near-vertical climb was made more difficult by

the water being carried from the stream immediately freezing.

Mick Andrews, riding number seven on a course which favours attempts would have added to his bag of Northern Experts titles, but for losing a five — his only one —

on the double waterfall in Plantation, which was cleaned by winner Reynolds and local motor mechanic Dave Porritt.

In the well-supported sidecar class Clarke had a super ride to annihilate the award-winning

former solo trio of Dave Pallas, John Gaskell and Mick Wilkinson.

Watched by Len Flowers, winner of the first sidecar Northern Experts in 1937 and last year's winner Barry Watson, Clarke lost only five at Plantation section four where 14 others went clean, and that was the only blot on a near-perfect performance.

PROVISIONAL RESULTS
Winner: J Reynolds (320 SWM) lost 34.
First class awards: C Griffin (325 Suzuki) 36, M Andrews (310 Ossa) 37, P Cartwright (325 Bultaco) 39, C Milner (325 Bultaco) 41, D Thorpe (325 Bultaco) 51, S Robson (310 Montesa) 58.

Best sidecar: A Clarke/M Bailey (310 Montesa) 14.

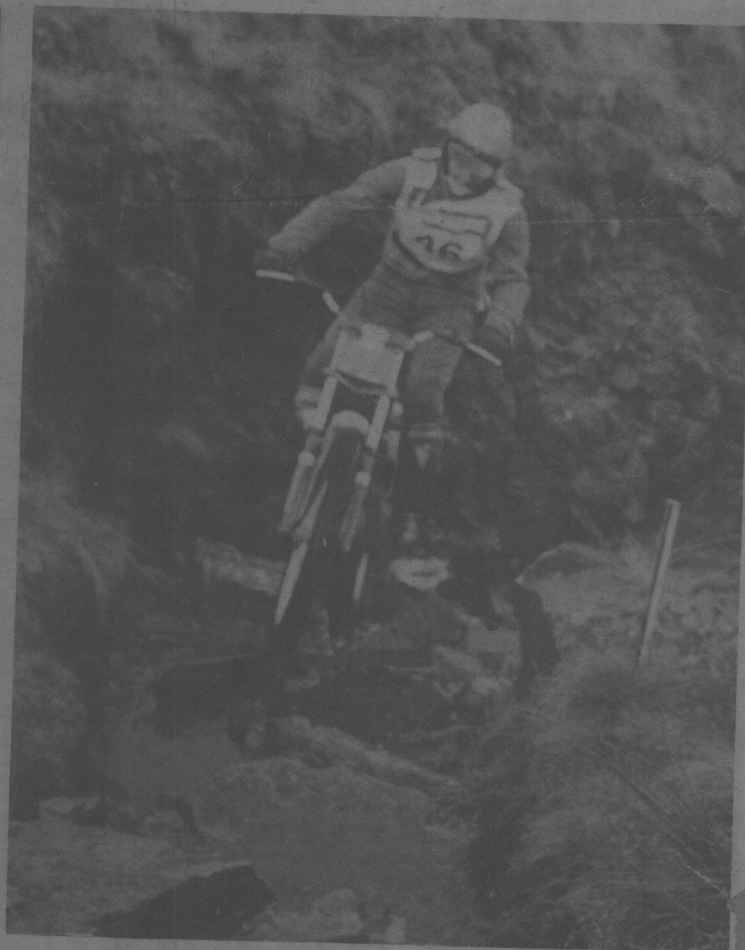
First class awards: D Pallas/P Croome (250 Suzuki) 31, J Gaskell/H Wood (250 Suzuki) 33, M Wilkinson/K Lockwood (310 Ossa) 34.

Castrol award: C Clarke (325 Bultaco).

Northern Experts by Dave Rowland. Pictures: Barry Robinson



Adrian Clarke and Mick Bailey (310 Montesa) bounced back to form with a sidecar triumph



After a ding-dong battle with Chris Griffin John Reynolds (320 SWM) nosed ahead for the premier solo award.

Rowland receives rock



Dave with some of his friends at the presentation. Front row (from l - r), Brian Hatton, Dave Rowland, John Roberts, Harvey Lloyd. Second row, Bob Jones, Eric Adcock, Jim Sandiford, John Ashworth, Dave Chadwick. Back row, Mike Greenhalgh, Frank Carter, Norman Eyre.

FORMER member of the BSA trials team, and one of the select few to win national trials as a soloist and also as a sidecar driver Dave Rowland later became a member of the ACU Trials Committee, and devoted a great deal of time to motorcycle organisation (in particular the Northern Experts Trial).

On Tuesday evening of last week, at the Robin Hood Hotel, High Lane, Stockport, a presentation was made to Dave by fellow members of the Manchester 17 MCC, in recognition of services rendered to the club, and to motorcycle sport as a whole.

It was no ordinary cup or tankard which was selected as appropriate to the occasion — but a lump of craggy Derbyshire rock.