

MANCHESTER 17 MCC LTD. DEAD EASY TRIAL. SUNDAY 3rd FEBRUARY 2013.
HEATON HOUSE FARM , RUSHTON SPENCER.

Report : Roger Townsend

The first of the clubs Dead Easy trials for 2013 was run last Sunday at the picturesque Heaton House farm, near Rushton Spencer in Staffordshire.

The course plotters would like to apologise straight away for the sections which turned out to be far harder than was ever intended for an event of this nature. When the sections were set out the previous day, the weather was clear and frosty, perfect in fact. Overnight a thaw followed by rain meant very greasy and slippery conditions. Although the course is on a steep hillside the ground was extremely wet. Apologies once again and every effort will be made to get the next Dead Easy back on track. Having said that the majority of the riders said how much they had enjoyed the trial, some with long memories likening it to a good old fashioned mud plug of days gone by!

With the exception of section nine which became virtually unrideable ,all the other sections were not dangerous, just hard work if you got off line.

A splendid entry of 90 riders turned up to do battle and as ever what a spread of riders and machines.

Special mention has to be made of two ex works riders from the '60's, both now in their seventies and still riding superbly, Mike Ransom, ex works 'Barnett, and Wilf Cauldwell, ex works Dots.

As to the course itself, ten varied sections had to be ridden consisting of twisting climbs on grassy (muddy!) banks, a few rocks, and a hill climb for good measure. On the harder route, section nine, a drop down to a wall, sharp turn and cambered climb out, became virtually impassable as the event progressed, apart from the more experienced riders, and even then, a "three" was a good attempt.

The final section on this route, tight turns around trees, all on the level, proved tight and again got very rutted as more riders passed through.

The harder route was won by Llangollen rider Gary Huxley, dropping nine marks, an excellent ride in the conditions. Runner up was Jono Blount on his Montesa on twenty one marks, and in third place, a superb ride by that man, the evergreen Mike Ransom on twenty three marks lost, on another Montesa.

On the Easy route, another veteran rider had a superb ride. Phil Granby piloting his little 125 Scorpa dropped a miserly ten marks, beating youngster Scott Hipwell into second place, on twenty one marks. Thomas Lister, another youngster was third. Thank you to all the riders for supporting the event, and to those hardy souls who picked a board up and observed, in what were not very nice conditions to say the least.

RESULTS

HARDER ROUTE

Gary Huxley (Gas Gas) 9, Jono Blount (Montesa) 21, Mike Ransom (Montesa) 23, Andy Atkinson (Gas Gas) 26, Ian Robinson (Yamaha) 33, Daniel Taylor (Beta) 35

EASY ROUTE

Phil Granby (Scorpa) 10, Scott Hipwell (Beta) 21, Thomas Lister (Gas Gas) 23,
Stece Gould (Sherco) 23, Daniel Renshaw (Gas Gas) 34, Thomas Shepherd (Gas
Gas) 39