

CROWTHORNE CYCLE TRIALS Round 3 Championship NASH MILLS, HERTS.

Nash Mills in King Langley was the venue for the 3rd round of the C.C.T.C. championship. This is the first time we have visited Nash Mills which is Berkhamsteads training ground for trials motorcycles. It was also the first time that a Cycle trial has been staged here. Six sections were laid out to be ridden 3 times which comprised of cotton reels, tractor tyres, hill climbs, rocks, boulders, and even a see saw all to play on. Today we would be very lucky with the weather Sunshine all the way.

Section 1 smack bang in the middle of Nash Mills this had big rocks and boulders and a concrete staircase. Clive Smith observed this one. Experts were straight up onto the big boulder. Ben Walsh (Echo), was superb on the jumps from boulder to boulder and had all cleans here. He was the only Expert to have received all 3 cleans. The beginner route saw the only girl rider Miss Josie Keep (Mission). This was her very first cycle trial with her previous sport being kickboxing so she would have enough power in her legs to tackle the later sections of hill climbs, anyway around the rocks for her and cutting through the middle of boulders up the brickwork and down the mound, a 3 went on her card but on her last attempt and with more control a 1 was punched on her card. Novices had a concrete staircase at the end gate but no one had difficulty with it. Section 2 this was dropping down the hillside to the fencing and then back up with sleepers to go over, a small concrete ledge was half way up for the inters to land on and this would prove costly to Daniel Greeves on his brand new GU 26 the chain would slip and both feet went down, if not he was going to go over the top. This would be his only 5 of the day and finished on just 14 points. Section 3 amongst the trees up over the huge concrete man holes and then tight turns amongst the trees a brief climb over the rocks then dropping down over the rubble. The journey back was hard for the inters and experts. Steve Sturt (Constellier) used plenty of hopping. Steve had trouble with his front brake but kept his cool and collected a 1 for his efforts. Edward Wheeler (Echo) dropped the same marks when he could not get this section right. Ben Walsh when showboating lost a big 5. This would put him in to 2nd spot on the podium, behind Richard Tickner (Onza Comp). Section 4 Richard Wheeler doing the marking here lots of cotton reels and a see saw, which all riders had lots of fun on. Three clean laps for inter rider Adam Boxall Section 5 A gully of rocks, drop offs and leaps. Max Harris (Diamond Back) a newcomer to completion trials rode with confidence and on his last lap had a solitary dab here. Danny Green (Onza Limey) after getting a 5 on his first attempt then went on to have 2 cleans on this tricky section. After all the scorecards were in Charlie Rolls (Hope MRS Monty) was the ultimate winner on the inter route cleaning all 6 sections 3 times well done to him. Brother Sam had 2 clean laps but dropped an unwanted dab on section 4 on his last lap, both Toby Smith (Monty 207) and Sam Rolls had tied on 1 lost point it was agreed by all parties that there would be a deciding leg to split the two youth inter riders and section 6 would be the place to use. The section would be rode in the opposite direction observed and timed by Sam's mother Kelly Rolls, two observers were on the corners to check the riders. Sam went first but had a stray dab coming over the rocks then another going up onto the tractor tyres. The time was good but the damage was done on the two dabs Toby got underway fast and went over the rocks and down them very quickly then one big swing to the right of the back wheel. He got lined up for the tyres to finish the section clean so the second spot on the podium was awarded to Toby. After this nail biting finish the awards were presented. Thank you to all the observers and to the Berkhamstead Motor Cycle trials club for allowing us to use their land and a big thank you to Ted North for helping to organise the event. Our next Cycle trials, Round 4 will be staged at Hook Woods 31st July camping available overnight and practice day 30th July. Graham Tickner signing off.