

CAMBRIDGE MATCHLESS MOTORCYCLE CLUB  
BRIAN STONEBRIDGE TROPHY TRIAL SUNDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2022

REPORT: COLIN NUNN

PHOTOS: COLIN NUNN

Despite the horrendous weather conditions over the weekend the Cambridge Matchless Clubs Brian Stonebridge Trophy Trial went ahead as planned. Although there were a high number of non-starters 108 riders tackled 35 sections over the single lap cross country course.

The 13 Experts tackling the hard route and starting at the back of the entry found the deteriorating sections challenging but this did not stop previous winners, Joe Collins and Tom Moss, fighting it out at the top. Both circulated without recording a failure. Tom got off to a bad start losing 3 on section 2 but pulled this back when Joe lost 7 of his total of 11 over the tree trunks at Chesterford Park. It was the last 3 sections of the day that sealed it with Joe going clear and Tom with 2 dabs and a total of 12. Third place was taken by Cambridge Matchless member Sam Rolls 18 marks adrift from the top 2.

Chris Koch headed the Expert B class made up of down-graded experts riding a 50/50 mix of the hard and easier routes. With no failures and his worst score a 3 at the Clunch Pit Chris finished on 12. Mark Reason and Martin Carter 8 marks clear of the rest of the class.

The Arden brothers from Norfolk took 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> spots in the Intermediate class who rode the same 50/50 route. It was Mick Marshall who split the pair, only 4 marks separating the 3.

On the easier route the Clubman class attracted 32 entries with scores ranging from 6 to 128. Darren Phypers rode consistently losing just a 3, 2 and dab overall while Dad Roy was observing the section at Hildersham Woods. There was a good selection of Twin shock machinery present. Talmag runner up Chris Collins on his immaculate Honda was once again runner up to another Norfolk rider Clive Dopson, just one mark separating them, 7 clear of Gary Baker who finished on 14.

Although at the front of the entry the Novice riders found conditions testing but scores were not unreasonable bearing in mind the conditions. With 24 cleans overall Sidcup rider Sten Pringle topped the class on 29 followed by Colin Mew and Marcus Anthony both with a total of 38.

The fact that the event took place at all under the extreme conditions is a credit to the Cambridge Matchless team who worked tirelessly over the weekend to make it happen. Also thanks to the 30 plus observers who braved the high wind and rain. They all deserve a medal.

Altogether a very successful event once again, but it was not without its problems.

#### RESULTS:

**Expert:** Joe Collins (300 Beta) 11, Tom Moss (MRT) 12, Sam Rolls (Gas Gas) 30, Byron Jenness (225 Gas Gas) 35, James Gammons (Vertigo) 39, Ronnie Day (300 Gas Gas) 40. **Expert B:** Chris Koch (300 Fantic) 12, Mark Reason (250 Beta) 19, Martin Carter (250 Vertigo) 20, Steve Bird (250 Yamaha) 28, Mark Nunn (300 Beta) 32, Andrew Barrell (250 RTS) 40.

**Intermediate:** James Arden (250 Beta) 20, Mick Marshall (250 Gas Gas) 22, Fraser Arden (250 Beta) 24, Martyn Rushbrook (260 Montesa) 30, Ian Watts (300 Beta) 31, Tom Norman (300 Scorpa) 39, Josh Hewitt (250 Gas Gas) 40.

**Clubman:** Darren Phypers (260 Montesa) 6, Tim Carter (250 Gas Gas) 12, Paul Owen (300 Gas Gas) 13, David Dale (Gas Gas) 14, Kevin Miller (250 TRS) 16, Stephen Butcher (300 Beta) 16.

**Twin shock:** Clive Dopson (250 Honda) 6, Chris Collins (249 Honda) 7, Gary Baker (350 SWM) 14, Geoff Muston (125 Honda) 14, Stephen Clements (350 Triumph) 27, Robert Cameron (320 Majesty) 35, Ken Mansfield (200 Honda) 37.

**Novice:** Sten Pringle (300 Beta) 29, Colin Mew (250 TRS) 38, Marcus Anthony (250 Beta) 38, Julian Mair (4RT) 47, Andrew Mason (260 Montesa) 51, George Austin (250 Montesa) 51, Gavin Prior (300 Beta) 612