



The Vintage Motorcycle Club Ltd.
South Durham Section
48th BEAMISH TROPHY TRIAL RESULTS
Sunday 19 September 2021

07 October 2021

Dear Entrants

The results of the 48th Beamish Trophy Trial held on 19 September 2021 are enclosed. Your date bar is also enclosed.

I sensed that there was a general feeling of relief at finally achieving some degree of normality after the long periods of lockdown.

In total there were 111 starters on the day from a total entry of 118. There were 100 finishers, after 11 riders failed to finish. Many thanks to Dave Crone, Mike Laidler and Colin Goode for providing the recovery service.

The weather forecast for Sunday was pretty dire but on the day itself there was a little, very light, rain and some quite extended periods of sunshine.

The off-site parking arrangements at The New Board Inn were as before. The reason for this is that the site is limited in space and the pub must retain parking for their lunchtime paying customers. Those who are camping with the pub's blessing, free of charge, can usually leave their vehicles on the field on the Sunday morning, however there is not enough space to accommodate all entrants vehicles without occupying the pub's car park hence we have negotiated (once again free) overflow parking in a farmer's field about 500 yards away. Unfortunately this year, two entrants pleaded to be allowed to unload their bikes in the car park on the promise they would move the vehicle before setting off. Despite three reminders from marshals they then rode off on the event leaving their vehicle in the car park. They will not be riding in the Beamish in 2022.

We printed two separate route cards this year – one for tarmac only and one including the green lane sections. I hope this was clearer. We also emailed the route cards in advance to all entrants so that they could, if they wished, print them at home before the event. This seemed popular as we had a lot of printed ones left over.

The morning route was quite heavily modified partly to avoid some of the very roughest green lane but also to avoid the main street closure in Alston.

The new lunchstop at Nenthead seemed to work very well. The burgers and cakes were excellent, many thanks to the Nenthead community for making us so welcome.

I have been asked how we go about arriving at the final scores for the Beamish Trophy Trial.

Points.

The event is a little unusual in that we have quiz style questions – the more correct answers the higher the score, whereas the observed sections, traditionally, would be scored by losing marks – the lower the score the better. To get round this, although the marking is the same as any trial – clean, one foot, multiple footing etc, we turn it round and award 20 points for a clean and

lesser numbers for the various footing/stopping options. The quiz-type checkpoints generally give a maximum of 10 points and then there are bonus points as listed in the Regulations:-

BONUS POINTS

- These will count towards all trophies listed above, as follows:

Machine built before 1930	30pts	Two speed	12pts	Single speed	20pts
Machine built 1931-1945	20pts	Each passenger	6pts	Road tyres(normal road tread)	10pts
Machine built 1946-1960	10pts	Sidecar	5pts	Under 200cc	10pts

Where two riders tie on equal numbers of points the order is decided by machine age.

Trophies.

Our trophies are split into two categories – Main Awards and Class Awards. We only award a single trophy to any rider in each category. For example, if you were to win the *Richard Hore Memorial Trophy for Best Overall Performance* and you also happened to be riding the oldest machine in the event you would not be awarded the *Northumbria VMCC Trophy for Oldest Vehicle to complete the Trial* – that trophy would be awarded to the next oldest vehicle to complete the trial. It would be possible for example to win both – *Northumbria VMCC Trophy for Oldest Vehicle to complete the Trial* in the Main Awards as well as *South Durham VMCC Trophy for Best Performance by a pre-1931 motorcycle (unlimited)* in the Class Awards.

In summary, it should be remembered that the Beamish Trophy Trial is first and foremost intended to be a good day out and the competitive element is very secondary. As we say in the Final Instructions:

Appeals

If you feel that the results are incorrect for any reason you have the right to appeal. All appeals should be sent to the Trial Secretary at the address below accompanied by the £20 appeal fee. The appeal will be disregarded and the £20 donated to a charity of our choice.

The **Robert Atkinson Cup** is for outstanding achievement and this year it has been awarded to Michael Steele. Michael dropped his 350cc AJS towards the top of Haggs Bank. He picked it up, remounted and restarted. He then rode out of the top of the section, answered questions at the checkpoint then rode on down the tarmac and into the next green lane section. He had started to feel some discomfort by this time however he continued into Alston for fuel but then required help to restart the bike. He decided to retire from the event but rode back to the foot of Haggs Bank to await recovery which Colin Goode kindly provided back to Nenthead and subsequently back to The Board. In total he rode about 8 miles after falling off – not bad going with a fractured collarbone!

Thanks to all our many helpers including: North Durham Motor Club, The Friends of Killhope Lead Mine, North East Classic Motorcycle Club, BSA Owners Club, Rievers Section VMCC and Northumbrian Section VMCC. Thanks also to the many members, partners and friends of South Durham VMCC who worked so hard prior to & on the day to enable all of the sections to be open & the event to be completed successfully.

We are also indebted to the Mark and the team at The New Board Inn, who allowed us to use the pub site for the start/finish again and the facilities at the pub for tea/coffee/meals/toilets. We would also like to thank all of our trophy sponsors. A massive ‘thank you’ to all the landowners and users who allowed us access to their land and property once again.

As you may be aware we are strong supporters of LARA (Land Access Recreation Association). Their work is vitally important in protecting our use of green lanes. This year we raised £236 as a donation to the Lara Fighting Fund.

The 'Beamish Awards Night' will be at our regular venue: Middleton St George Cricket & Social Club, Water View, Middleton St. George, Darlington, DL2 1JQ starting at 7:30pm on **Thursday 11 November 2021**. There will be a buffet, distribution of goodies for the marshals, and a still photograph display and the presentation of trophies. We are also inviting all the marshals, observers and helpers so it is an opportunity to thank them. We really hope you can make it.

Looking ahead, Sunday 18 September 2022 is the date for the 49th Beamish Trophy Trial. Entry invitations will be sent out by email in the second week of January 2020. We can only do this if we have your email address so if you don't receive periodic emails from us please contact us at Beamishtt@live.co.uk. If you do not have access to email we can send you a paper entry if you send us a stamped addressed envelope to the address below.

Hope to see you next year

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom". The letters are cursive and slightly slanted to the right.