

Beamish Trophy Trial



The Vintage Motorcycle Club Ltd.
South Durham Section
51st BEAMISH TROPHY TRIAL RESULTS
Sunday 8 September 2024

The results of the 51st Beamish Trophy Trial held on 8 September 2024 are attached. Trophies are awarded by category. Each entrant can win only one main and one class award. This means that the trophies are spread wider and one person does not, for example, win six. In the event of entrants tying on the same number of points, the trophy will be awarded to the rider on the oldest bike.

In total there were 127 starters on the day from an initial total entry limited to 150. The event seems to maintain its popularity and this year we had more than 200 applications. There were 107 finishers, as 20 riders failed to finish. Entrants retire before the event for a wide variety of reasons but the principal reasons are health or because their bike is not ready.

I remarked last year that the weather on the morning of the event was dire. This year was, if anything, even worse. I feel sure that the laws of probability will ensure that the 52nd Beamish Trophy Trial will be held in tropical conditions!

Overnight camping at The New Board Inn is proving very popular. The field was crowded but we seemed to cope.

We printed two separate route cards again this year – one for tarmac only and one including the green lane sections. This year we printed on slightly heavier paper in the hope that it would be slower to disintegrate in wet weather. We also take a stock of spare route cards to the lunch-stop in case any do deteriorate too far. We emailed the route cards in advance to all entrants so that they could, if they wished, print them at home before the event.

The lunch-stop at Nenthead worked well as always. Both the burgers and the cakes were excellent, many thanks to the The Hive and Nenthead W.I. for making us so welcome.

The **Robert Atkinson Cup** is named after the founder of the event and is awarded for outstanding achievement. This year it has been awarded to Summer Wigglesworth who has ridden pillion with her father for a number of years now. Even during the worst of the weather on Sunday, she still had a big grin on her face.

There are literally hundred of pictures on our Facebook page – literally called – ‘BEAMISH TROPHY TRIAL’. Many thanks to everybody who has uploaded them.

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.

I should also mention Dave Crone and Mike Laidler for providing the recovery service and Brian Smith and Matt Morris for performing back-marker duties and ensuring nobody was abandoned on a remote moortop.

We are also indebted to 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 arranged on-site portable toilets again this year which appear to have been popular. We would also like to thank all of our trophy sponsors. Thanks to the generosity of Martin Adams we have been able to update some of our trophies this year. 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 and minor roads. This year we raised £429 as a donation to the Lara Fighting Fund.

In past years we have collected donations on behalf of MacMillan Cancer Support. This year you were pursued at the lunch-stop by three of my grand-daughters who appear to have worked their charms on you because we collected over £200 for MacMillan

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 7 November 2024**. 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, the date of the 2025 Beamish Trophy Trial is not yet finalised but I hope we will be able to run on Sunday 21 September 2025. Entry invitations will be sent out by email in the second week of February 2025. 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.



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CANCER SUPPORT**

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