

CVMG Lanark Trials, May 17th

Doug Hunter

The dust (mud and water) has settled on the annual spring trials and thanks once again go out to Dave and Judy Makin for hosting at their place near Watson's Corners. They were even kind enough to order up a cool, windy, bug-free day which was perfect for the occasion. We had a decent turnout of 18 riders plus spectators checking out the 10 section course... which offered everything from mud to rocks, trees, water crossings and lots of elevation. This has been a long running area event put on for the Ottawa section of the Canadian Vintage Motorcycle group, of which the BMA has been an invited club. As in the past the range of bikes (and possibly riders) spanned over 50 years however the winds of change are blowing and modern-era monoshock bikes have become prominent, as the once dominant 1970's twinshock bikes (and possibly their riders!) perhaps begin to show their age! Yours truly appears to be the last dinosaur-era classic Brit bike holdout (with my 500 Ariel) with Yves Doyon now moving on to a beautiful new 08' Beta Rev 3 from his venerable Triumph Cub. Dave Southam had along his very trick 09' Montesa-Honda 4RT fourstroke... with a number of later model monos in support. No question, it is easier to wrestle a 150-pound monoshock, disc braked lightweight (with real suspension) machine through the "knarl" than an old 300-lb lump...regardless of the "character" factor!

Trials is non-racing form of off road competition where the key is maintaining control over marked off "sections" of rugged terrain. Every "dab" of the foot in a section costs a point (to maximum 3 points) while a costly "5" is incurred if you stop, stall or go out of the section. Zero points is a "clean"! Points are added up at the end and like Golf, low score wins. The "A" lines in each section proved challenging enough to cost even the expert riders a few points...with plenty of steep steps, slippery slopes and tight turns! As Dave M. pointed out, veteran rider Andre Burke riding a twinshock Yamaha (with a broken foot) was the only rider to clean the challenging "A" line in section 9. Great stuff! Anthony DiLabio showed that he is still an expert rider (despite many years of not riding) on the very clean Bultaco Sherpa he has owned for 36 years!

The intermediate B line provided plenty of challenge as well, while being perhaps just a touch kinder to older bikes and bodies! The C line was very popular, allowing newer (or rusty) riders to get a feel for the sport, have fun and hone their trials skills without getting over ones head. With some deep water around, that would have been very possible! Long-time area racer Reid Masson rode his first trials with his new/old Yamaha TY. BMA members were well represented with Mike O'Reilly campaigning his TY (while being goaded by "photographer" Kevin Eastman) and Andy Jasiak blew out the cobwebs from his TY-250 monoshock. Jim Kolman proved as adapt at riding slow as he is at going fast. Feedback was positive and it seems we were reasonably successful in catering to most levels of skill under one roof...a difficult task in any off road event. Additional thanks go out to John Lebrecque for providing lunch as well as Patrick Hampson and the CVMG crew for helping out with the event. The fall round will be September 27th at the same venue, with a follow up play day on Oct 18th. If you haven't been to one before, come and check out the action in the Lanark highlands this fall.

Results below are from the scorecards we could find...or what riders would admit to!

Keep in mind, scores are not directly comparable, as the challenge of the A-B-C lines is quite different as noted above.

Rider	Bike	Points lost	Class
Doug Hunter	Ariel	11	(Heavyweight Vintage B line)
Dave Southam	Montesa 4RT	14	(Monoshock A line)
Jim Kolman	Yamaha	22	(Twin shock) B line
Anthony DiLabio	Bultaco	24	(A line)
Reid Masson	Yamaha	32	(C line)
John Makin	Suzuki	37	(Twin shock)
Tony Funnekotter	Montesa	38	(Monoshock A line)
Michael Vinten	Montesa	43	(Twin Shock C line)
Mike O'Reilly	Yamaha	58	(Twin shock A line)
Patrick Hampson	Yamaha	87	(Twin Shock C line)
Andre Burke	Yamaha	27	(DNF) riding with a broken foot!
Neil Hossack	Honda	6	(DNF)
M. Giroda	Beta	39?	(Monoshock, DNF)
Andy Jasiak	Yamaha	65	(Monoshock, sections 1 - 7 only)



Yves Doyon negotiates a rocky step on his Beta while searching for his missing scorecard!