

## Hillingdon and Uxbridge Motor Club

## 7<sup>th</sup> December 2014

The Hillingdon and Uxbridge MC Bruce Dominey Cup Trial suffered this year with a clash of major events, which unfortunately led to a much lower than expected entry of just 45.

The setting out day was glorious and frosty, so it was difficult to set out sections to cater for the following day where rain was forecast. But the very keen team of club helpers produced a great set of sections, their efforts were proved to be correct as the predicted rain came in with vengeance just after the start with a very strong and bitterly cold wind driving it though the observers and riders alike.

The first lap of the chalk pits, sections 1 and 2 were difficult enough, then the rain came which forced some very skilful rides. Sections 3 and 4 are situated on an old hedge bank which have been enhanced by JCB over the years, are always very tight and nadgery, but with the no stopping rule they had to be eased to keep a ride flowing. Next was a Graham Haslam special, a long and very loose steep climb with in the gravel quarry. One might think that this was easy until you realised that there was a significant bomb hole just after the start gate, this had to be successfully cleared to enable a rider then to be launched half way up the very loose camber. Well, Daniel Greeves was the only one to clean it, with his Beta screaming for it's supper, the clutch just dropped, a leap of faith in to the unknown he crested to the highest point, from then on it was all down hill, but not for some who became victims of soft sand syndrome.

Sections 6,7 and 8 were all with in the confines of the quarry and all with a tale to tell, especially 6 which cut up quite badly. Section 9 had a very gentle flow, punctuated by two tricky tree stumps which teased marks out of every body. Number 10 "the muddy slot" which isn't, is a composition of a long cambered bank laced with some large tree roots, which is one of those annoying sections which you either clean or end up on your ear. Not necessarily literally. The three distinct groups of sections are linked by a good half mile or more of blast, which I think was used to full effect to rid the frustrations of dropping silly marks in the early difficult conditions. By lap 2 the rain had stopped and the whole course changed character. Then there were a lot of smiley faces.

Unfortunately with a spate of varying shades of man flue we were unable to provide an observer for a couple of sections, but the riders took it all in their stride and marked each other, with two riders in particular doing more than their fare share, it's with generosity like this and helpfulness from all concerned when things are not quite perfect which makes an event a success. And I feel that with the favourable comments, we achieved that, so to all the riders, observers and many club helpers a big thank you, I and the club wish you all very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Beta 300, 28 ml Bruce Dominey Cup, Daniel Greeves, Results:

> Beta 250, 26 ml Best Inter. Martin Greeves, Best Novice Andy Earnshaw, Suzuki 325, 28 ml.