

## **Report on the Levis Cup Trial and Marjorie Cottle Trophy - 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2010**

I groaned as I watched the brightly flashing patches of colour march inexorably across the BBC weather map towards Worcester. "What's the matter, dear?" said my wife. "It's the Levis tomorrow" I replied. Just then the Weatherman informed the nation of flood risks in the Worcestershire and Shropshire borders. And do you know what? The Weatherman got it exactly right and it bucketed down on the Levis Cup Trial!

We had 60 entries this year, the major disappointment being the dearth of veteran machines, but I guess it is a sign of the times. Much to my surprise, as many as 45 heroes set out on what must have been one of the toughest Levis Cups for many years. A few had water in the works before they had even started, and those with magnetos stuck out front must have wished they had a Sunbeam! In fact a few sunbeams would have been very welcome all round.

Most of our heroes made it to the lunch stop at Ludlow, although some fell by the wayside to be picked up by their support vehicle or the breakdown truck. There was much wringing-out of gloves and wiping of steamed-up visors, but there were a lot of wide grins on view as well. When asked whether the fords were OK, the general reply was that they had much less water in them than the roads! Someone asked why we had put so many fords on the route. On receiving the reply "We only put in two" our stalwart told us he had been through at least six!

Man and beast refuelled, our depleted band headed for the fun and games on Whitbatch Hill, whereupon the sun burst forth. By the time our remaining competitors reached the finish back at Shrawley, most had dried out, although some complained of wet underwear! In all, 33 machines completed the course, ridden, every one, by heroes.

The Winner of the Levis Cup was Mervyn Panting on a 1928 Model 5 Sunbeam and the Marjorie Cottle Cup went to Alan Jinks. The results are listed below. Even more this year, given the weather, I must thank our large band of North Birmingham members and their families for their efforts in making the running of this event possible. Next year lads?

Next year is the centenary of the Levis Motorcycle and since there is no UK club to celebrate this milestone, I hope next year's Levis Cup Trial will be a fitting celebration with a huge number of Levis machines, and sunbeams all day. As our regular competitors will tell you, the Levis Cup Trial is a magnificent and unique competitive event in the Club's calendar, so let's hear from all you Levis owners out there, and make it a day to remember.

The Levis Cup - Best performance – Mervyn Panting, 1928 Model 5 Sunbeam  
The Alice Round Cup – Best opposite class – Bob Ashwin, 1936 AJS Commercial Combo  
The Alec Ross Cup – Runner-up – Colin Lloyd, 1926 Triumph Model Q  
The Levack Trophy – Best performance on a vintage m/c – Paul Button, 1925 Norton Model 18  
The Calthorpe 100gns Cup – Best performance on a less than 250cc m/c – Martin Taylor, 1936 Royal Enfield Mod T  
The Albert Mattox Trophy – Team Award – Alan Jinks, Josie Stanley, Colin Lloyd  
The Rolley Newton Cup – Best performance on Sidecar – Mike Burton, 1939 Norton 16H  
The Omyga Trophy – Best performance on a post-vintage m/c – Jeremy Main, 1938 Ariel Red Hunter  
The Sgt H J Colley Trophy – Best performance on an ex-WD m/c – Reg Eyre, 1942 Ariel W/NG  
The John Greenwood Trophy – Best Performance on the Flexibility Test – Jeremy Main  
The Timekeeper's Trophy – Best performance on time – Steve Blench, 1929 Ariel Model F  
The Peter Ashen Cup – Best performance by a female rider – Josie Stanley, 1929 Ariel  
The Endeavour Award – David McKie, 1922 AJS Model B

Paul Hutton