

Scottish Classic Motorcycle Club

Round 5 Cumstone Farm Lockerbie

Sunday 13th August 2017

Report by Chris Montignani

The Scottish Classic Motorcycle Club's 2017 racing championship continues to gather pace after their hugely successful and superb two-day event that was held at Drumlanrig Castle only a month previous. Cumstone Farm Lockerbie on the Scottish borders was the chosen venue to hold Round five of their current seven round championships.

Set among the beautiful Lockerbie countryside this superbly maintained hillside track was in great condition for this championship meeting as the first formula of riders made their way to the start line.

In the Pre 68 Over 350cc class it was another ding dong battle between Peter Dobinson and Dougie Meek as they flew around the superbly laid out Lockerbie racetrack. Although at this round it would be Peter Dobinson who was standing on the top step of the podium with the overall win in his pocket. Fergus Moodie was also very quick on the day and took the runner up spot from Dougie Meek third and Stewart Riddell on the CZ in fourth.

There was an unfortunate lengthy delay halfway through the first Pre 75 Over 300cc race when spectator Eddie Farrish took ill trackside and had to receive medical treatment by the very efficient medical staff that were on hand for the day's race event. Eddie had to be taken to hospital for checks although the latest information we have is he is now out of hospital and at home thankfully on the mend, so it goes without saying that the entire club wish him the speediest of recoveries and we hope to see him back with us again very soon.

After the re-start of the Pre 75 class it was Lewis Bell who shot from the gate and he would go on to secure top dog status overall for his efforts over the three moto's. John Fleming on the AMD CZ was also on the pace and had some good racing exchanges over the course of the day against his team namesake Derek Faulds on the Bultaco. Iain Stainton was also in fine fettle during the three legs of racing despite having a pre racing encounter with Dougie Meek

during practise when both riders had a coming together just after the finish line. Nevertheless Iain would finish in fourth position overall when the points were calculated just ahead of Les Calderwood in fifth who unfortunately missed the start of race two when he was chilling into full-on relaxed mode in the paddock for his up-and coming trip to France.

It was a breath of fresh air to see a good turnout of Pre 1984 bikes on the line at this Lockerbie Round 5 event with at least 26 riders filling the gate to capacity, the assembled riders supplied a great racing spectacle for the many visiting spectators who had come to watch all the action trackside. Paul Chiappa took the win for this class over the three legs and rode superbly to take the title. David Houston continues to impress us all with his full-on racing style riding the legendary Tony Caig's 480 Honda and a runner up spot was a decent reward for his commitment in this very competitive class. It certainly is a joy to watch these very quick riders strut their stuff at our classic race events and we hope they will continue to attend many more of our meetings for the remainder of 2017. Jim Grieve was one of the quickest riders on the track at Lockerbie although a racing accident with a couple of other riders into turn one at the start of race two would put him well down the pecking order by the time he got his big Maico up and running and back on track. Willie Pentland also suffered some injuries in this melee at turn one and has done some damage to his cruciate ligament and could be out of action for the remainder of the season.

The Pre 75 Upto 300cc class was yet another entertaining formula that served up some good racing from these little 250cc smokers. Derek McAulay and Tommy Anderson were at it again although neither rider would give an inch to the other whenever a passing move was attempted. McAulay would take full points on the day riding his very quick little Bultaco Pursang, Tommy Anderson gave as good as he got over the piece and did well enough to stay with McAulay's very fast pace although a runner up spot is surely good enough to keep him in the fight for this year's championship. Ian Robertson filled the final step on the podium with a third place finish on his antique but very fast little Can-Am.

Ian Ridley took the win in the Pre 68 Over 350cc class although the numbers were somewhat down in this class for this round five meeting which was

probably due to this event taking place in the middle of the holiday season. Tom Lewis on his immaculate Rickman Metisse BSA took the second place spot from Mark Abbott in third just ahead of Ian Ward in fourth.

There was still a lot of racing to get through in the second part of the day's race programme in the age related classes. Dougie Meek made up for his disappointing result in the Pre 68 class by taking the win in the Pre 75 Over 60's this time round. Peter Dobinson had to take the runner up spot but was still worthy of a better place with the turn of speed he displayed around the now dusty Lockerbie circuit. John Fleming was flying in the Pre 75 Over 50's class and brought his blinged and tricked up little CZ home to the overall win from Fergus Moodie in second and Ian Robertson in third. This was all good training for these riders as they began limbering up for their next assault at the forthcoming Nostalgia Scramble next weekend.

The young pup's in the Over 40's class was another two-stroke shootout between Derek Faulds and Tommy Anderson to see who would take the overall win. The AMD sponsored rider Mr Faulds was the eventual winner although to be fair Tommy Anderson had an unfortunate fall from his machine into turn four while trying a passing move on the flying Bultaco mounted Faulds but he soon re-mounted to take the chequered flag and a second place finish. Daryl Wylie got the better of Sarah Louise Nelson in the Pre 75 Under 40's class, and I must admit it is still great to see these relative youngsters battle it out for position on these smokey old classic dirt bikes.

The old codgers in the Over 60's class can still show the young un's a thing or two and there was a wealth of experience circulating the Lockerbie circuit when these guys took to the track. Brian Hamilton was the man to beat and brought his Suzuki home to the overall win just ahead of Alistair Brown in second. Wulfsport owner Bill Brown is still doing the business in his maturing years and a third place finish is without doubt a superb result for this legend of a man.

Jim Grieve made up for his disappointing result in the Pre 1984 class by winning the Over 50's class in good style. Grieve was lightening quick on his old Maico and was seldom bothered by the chasing pack over the three legs. DMC

Motorcycles owner Paul Chiappa finished in second spot just ahead of John Stokes in third and Andy Malloch fourth.

Summing up this was another successful Round 5 event at this Cumstone Farm venue and the weather was so much kinder to us this time than we encountered in our previous visit earlier in the year. Next up of course will be Round 6 from Kirkness Farm near Ballingry in Fife on the 3rd of September. Luckily for you though I will not be in attendance at this round as I will hopefully be sunning myself in Lido De Jesolo in northern Italy for my summer break. Nevertheless have an enjoyable and safe race-day and I will return for our final racing encounter of 2017 at Whitekirk on the 3rd of October.

Chris Montignani (Monty)