

Melville Motor Club Hare and Hound 11th February 2007

The weather for the Melville Hare and Hound event at Lochhouses took a turn for the worse this weekend. The rain had been heavy on Saturday and it continued on Sunday, this made the going very slippery for the 140 competitors riding in the first round of the Melville Motor Club Cross Country Championship. This series includes all Melville Hare and Hound events plus all the Melville Enduros.

2006 Scottish Enduro Champion and Melville Motor Club reining Cross Country Champion Murray Thomson took the hole-shot, winning a pair of goggles supplied by Ecosse Motorcycles in Penicuik. Murray battled it out initially with Richard Hay and Derek Little until Richard took off and was never to be headed again. The conditions were terrible with standing water after the start finish area, although the worse it became the more Richard enjoyed himself. Richard was the only rider to complete 13 laps. Murray finished second as he always revels in the mud. Winner of the last Hare and Hound, Derek Little lost a bolt for his seat and had to slow until he could stop and replace it costing himself some time, ultimately finishing third. Paul Chatham flattened his exhaust on a tree stump and was forced to retire, Grant Smith and Ally Lauder charged on through the mud with Grant winning fourth place.

Andy Flockhart became entangled in fence wire, while looking down to see what the trouble was he hit a tree, damaging his radiator. Amazingly this did not stop him winning the Over 40 class with 11 laps completed. David Salkeld finished second on ten laps and Martin Pennycook finished an excellent third.

In the Clubman class Stuart Mowbray was on a mission and won ahead of Neil Chatham in second place. Neil was kicking himself for a poor start and a difficult first lap coming through the field, both riders finished with 11 laps. James Harvey was preparing himself for the full Fast Eddy Championship that starts next week and finished a gritty third.

65 Sportsmen started this event and nearly 15 of them finished in a dash to the chequered flag from the pits. It was too difficult to complete another lap so several riders waited for the last few minutes in the refuelling area allowing the time to tick away, thus ensuring them a place in the results. Michael Wilson won with Anthony Robson second and Leam Beaty third.

The ladies lap scoring had as difficult a day as the riders, standing in the rain being blasted with mud as the riders passed by. As always, and especially as the weather was so bad, the Melville Motor Club would like to thank everybody who helped in any way at this event. The Melville Club will now move on to run the 2nd and third round of the Scottish Enduro Championship at Pathhead on the 28th and 29th April. Photographs can be bought from www.ecossepix.co.uk and the regulations for the Melville Enduro can be downloaded soon from www.melvillemc.co.uk or www.scottishenduros.co.uk

Please find attached the provisional results.