

MWTRA

Round 1 of Winter X Country Forest Challenge

After a heavy overnight frost bright sunshine greeted the competitors with a very cold wind, to the first round of the Winter X Country Forest Challenge in the Ceri Forest straddling the Welsh / English border.

In the experts class Gareth Davies was the early leader before hitting trouble leaving Reggie Davies , Steve Ireland and Tom Crump to fight for lead but by the flag it was Reggie who lead over the line five minutes ahead of Ireland and Crump all completing 15 laps. As the case in a lot of off road events the veterans class was hotly contested with a photo finish for the top spot with Julian Rylance beating Colin Griffiths by less than four hundredth of a second both along with Philip George and Robert Murfin clocking up 13 laps on this challenging course.

Also completing 13 laps was a host of clubman with Rhys Evans coming out on top followed by Kevin Games and David Clack while top sportsman Phil Ball was a clear lap ahead of Sam Peake. A small beginners class gave riders a taste of motorcycle sport with George Moore getting the better of Callum Wilkinson and Nathan Best all posting ten laps to their names.

As the case with MWTRA events sidecars and quads were catered for and started first at 8.30 for 2.5hrs, with the solo's starting at 12.00 noon for 3hrs. Newly crowned British Sidecar Enduro Champions David Williams and Graham McPhee stormed to a win in the experts class from Alistair and Sharon Nevill with D Francis along with A Mills took the clubman class. In the Quad category clubman winner Aaron Coles beat all comers including top expert Andy Mellor to lead the quads home.

The series takes a break over Christmas with the next round on the 24 January 2013