

# Scottish Classic Motorcycle Racing Club

## Round 7 Kirkness Farm Fife

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2018

Report by Chris Montignani

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Wow round seven already and it seems like only yesterday we were all looking forward to a brand new season of classic racing at Finavon Forfar for our first meeting of the year way back in April.

Our last race event at Carnduff Farm in Strathaven back in early August was a fantastic race meeting and surely one of our very best so far this year, but of course this is now round seven of our current nine round 2018 championship and its back to Kirkness Farm near Ballingry in Fife for our second visit of the year.

I don't know what it is about this track that brings people back year after year but it certainly has that something special feel about it with its compact course layout and natural ups and down's of its varied landscape. There was another decent turnout of riders for this round seven meeting although many club members were missing due to injuries or other unknown factors, in fact I'm sure I heard Richard mention on the PA that there were at least twenty racing regulars absent from this round seven meeting which is quite a lot when you think of the missing riders and the various classes that they race in. Nevertheless the hardy competitors who did make the effort to attend the Kirkness event could not wait to get down to business.

Our travelling marshal at this round 7 event was local man and all round good guy Sandy Cook. Many of you may not already know that Sandy was a handy rider himself back in the 1970's and won the Scottish Grass Track Championship on at least three occasions in that era. So I hope if you saw Sandy buzzing around on his KTM Freerider checking the track you gave him a wee wave in appreciation.

During my paddock walkabout I could see for myself the many riders who would otherwise race at this Kirkness event as they hobbled about on crutches and other assisted devices to keep them mobile. Jim Colligan and Billy Pentland were just two that were currently on the injury list, and it goes without saying that we wish all our club members the speediest of recovery's and hope to see them all back with us again soon.

When the racing finally got underway we kicked off with the Combined Pre 68 Over and Under 350cc class although naturally these two classes were scored separately in their individual categories.

In the Pre 68 Under 350 class it was another emphatic win overall for Ian Ridley on his beautifully prepared BSA. Ian rode superbly throughout the day and never put a wheel out of place over the three legs, although mind you it could have been another team Ridley one two again on the day had Clifford Hardistay not split the pairing of Ridley and Gordon Watson with his superb runner up spot.

The Pre 68 Over 350cc class provided the spectators with some good old fashioned bar bashing and wheel roosting classic dirt bike antics as it was now the turn of the brothers Bell to take to the stage. I must admit it is a joy for me personally to watch these guys battle for supremacy on the track at each and every

Scottish event as neither will give an inch to the other when it comes to racing their machines for the overall win. Nevertheless this time it was Lewis's turn to taste victory on his very fast Jawa with brand new father and older sibling Liston as the eventual runner up. Fergus Moodie also started well in this class over the piece and had some good pace over much of the chasing pack but he would still finish in third overall because it was going to take something very special indeed to beat the speed of Lewis and Liston Bell on the day.

Derek McAulay seems to have now exorcised all the ghostly gremlins that haunted the mechanical workings of his Bultaco in the past as the little Spanish screamer (*that's the bike not Derek*) is now behaving itself and Derek is back to the winning formula he used to enjoy all those months ago. Derek has been let down by the strange unreliability of his bike in the past but three wins at Kirkness put him back on the top spot of the podium for the overall win. Tommy Anderson was always clicking at the heels of McAulay in each leg but a runner up spot on his Husqvarna was still a decent result for him at the end of the day. Daryl Wylie put in another sterling shift to bring his 250 Honda home to third place overall in what now is fast becoming a very competitive class.

The big boys in the Pre 1975 Over 350cc class appeared to like the tight and twisty turns of the picturesque hillside Kirkness racetrack. Stewart Roden started where he left off at the last Kirkness event in June and once again secured three holeshots to give him a good starting position at this round 7 championship event. Roden was super quick from the gate in race one and proceeded to head off into the distance in great haste with Les Calderwood and Lewis Bell in hot pursuit with all three riders mounted on CCM's. It

wasn't long before Lewis Bell hit the front leaving Roden and Calderwood to slug it out for the remaining podium places. It was a great scrap watching the CCM mounted riders of Roden and Calderwood battling it out at every corner for track position to see who would be the best of the rest on the day. Although when the points were tallied and the dust eventually settled it was a win overall for Les Calderwood with Stewart Roden second and Lewis Bell in third. Lewis may have had a better overall result in this class had it not been for his CCM packing in into turn one soon after the start of race two leaving him with an unfortunate DNF.

The Twinshock's or Pre 1984 class as they are now known were slightly down in numbers at this round seven event at Kirkness as we have in the past had as many as 15 riders on the start-line for this formula so hopefully things will improve at our last two meetings of the year.

Nevertheless we have some really fast riders following our Pre 84 championship and they still provide spectacular entertainment at each and every Scottish Classic round. Normally it is a battle between Neil Glendinning and Davie Loudon for the points although there was never much to split these two riders apart on this fast flowing Kirkness racetrack this time round. John Stokes appeared to be the holeshot kid as he was quick from the gate in almost every moto, but it was Neil Glendinning who once he got firing on all of his one cylinder would take the overall win even although that very fierce 480 Honda looks like it wants to spit him off at each and every corner when he turns the power on. YZ465 Yamaha mounted Davie Loudon was never far from the rear wheel of Glendinning over the three legs and in fact challenged Glendinning for the pole position a few times but could not make it stick. Still Loudon was equally quick and well worthy

of his runner up spot on the day for his tenacity and doggedness and sheer speed around the tight and twisty Kirkness landscape. John Stokes was a fast starter from the gate and did some of the early running at the front of this class still brought his 490 Maico home to sit on the final step of the podium come the final chequered flag.

When it came to the age related races after the lunchbreak it was the Over 60's who lined up for the start of their first race. There was only really one rider who dominated this class over the three races and that was Fergus Moodie. Moodie left the start line and was basically never seen again until the chequered flag dropped and he went on to repeat this formula in the remaining two legs. Gordon Watson and Ian Ridley brought their BSA's home to the second and third spots respectively this time although sadly they could not match the pace of Moodie's extremely quick BSA over the course of the three moto's.

The veteran's in the Pre 75 Over 65 class still put on a good show for the many spectators that came to witness what our Scottish classic motocross is all about. Mr consistency Tom Forsyth brought his lovely BSA home to the top spot in this class while Philip Hardistay and big Jake Whitelaw on the CCM battled it out between them for the scraps of the remaining second and third placings.

Derek McAulay once again showed he was almost definitely now the comeback kid and put his old Bultaco on the top step of the podium again by winning the Pre 75 Over 50's class in some style. Mike Bell also showed some good pace in this formula and he would be very happy with the second place spot on that very nice BSA Goldstar. Stewart Roden may have finished further up the field when the eventual points

were calculated had he not lined up to take part in race two, although overall he was still one of the quickest riders in this class on the day.

Tommy Anderson was top dog in the Pre 75 Over 40's class with some cracking turns of speed riding his old Husqvarna smoker. BSA mounted riders Bryan Aird and Colin Flockhart on the Cheney also gave a good account of themselves over the three legs to bring home their very quick steeds in second and third place overall.

The young gun's in the Pre 75 Under 40's class turned into another battle of the Bell's as Lewis and Liston once again got down and dirty and prepared to see who was going to be the top dog and overall winner in this class. It can be tricky for me personally when these two are on the track because they often swap machines from time to time whereby Lewis will come out on Liston's bike and then Liston on Lewis's etc. This is more than likely due to mechanical issues of one sort or another they both encounter through the course of the day but this is often the reason I can get the machines mixed up from time to time when doing these report's. Anyhow it was another three races of utter enjoyment as they both slid and roostered their way around the Kirkness course. In race one it was Lewis on the Jawa who got the holeshot from the gate with Liston on his rear wheel whereby they both then began slugging it out again to see who would be the victor. Overall it was Lewis who would take the crown with Liston in second. Daryl Wylie could not do much about the speed of the front pairing and could only watch from afar as these two were battling it out for supremacy at the head of the pack, although he still brought his Honda home to the third place overall spot.

Finally in the Pre 1984 Over 50's class there was no one more deserving of a class win than my mate Andy Malloch who said he rode "*very fest*" ( these were his own words of course). The man from Burleton Perthshire was very quick on the 1983 500 Armstrong and was well worthy of the overall class win on the day for the superb effort he put in over the three legs. Davie Loudon was on track to finish the day with an overall win or at least a runner up position in this class but his YZ465 Yamaha let him down in the final race of the day when he suffered a bent chain guide while leading the race. Attempts were made to re-attach the chain to continue but to no avail and a DNF for him would put paid to what could have possibly been a top class finish.

Summing up it was another classic encounter at this round 7 at Kirkness and another good race event for the Scottish Classic Club. I know I keep going on a bit about it but the rider numbers have not been the best this year although we are still enjoying that decent spell of good weather which seems to have been following us around since our very first event at Finavon Forfar on that chilly April day.

As usual by the time you read this all the video's and going's on from this round seven at Kirkness will already be posted on my You Tube Channel for you all to enjoy. I hope you are all finding something to amuse yourselves on my channel as I am now having subscribers join it on a regular basis with 28 new members in the last week alone so I must be doing something right.

Of course you will by now all be aware that we at SCMRC have a brand new website now in operation, Creena Bell has been working hard over the last few months setting it up and getting it all operational. It

has everything a classic rider requires from photo's, video's, race report's, and information about becoming a member of our magnificent organisation, and of course all the entry forms for all our championship rounds are also there for you to download and print.

Finally let's not forget congratulations to Liston and Laura on the birth of baby Freya who did eventually put in an appearance after the long wait so all the best to you both from myself and everyone at SCMRC.

Ok two rounds now remaining in our 2018 racing season so get those entries in for our penultimate event at Whitekirk near the end of September and then our final bash at Ian Ridley's track at Penrith at the beginning of October so let's all make it a bumper entry and go out in a blaze of glory. Remember all 2017 class winners please hand back their trophies from last year at the next round at Whitekirk in order the new championship winners can have their names put on for the presentation night at the end of the season.

All the details you need with regards to entry forms, directions, etc. for the remaining two rounds of our championship are of course all on our brand new website at [www.classicscrambles.com](http://www.classicscrambles.com)

So until we all cross paths at Whitekirk in a few weeks' time keep safe and I'll see you soon.

Chris Montignani