The 750 Walsingham Trial – Event Report

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By Ivor Throttle

Walsingham greeted competitors in the traditional British fashion — with rain. Plenty of it overnight.

The opening round was properly greasy. Slippery chalk and clay, shiny cambers, leaf mould, and the sort of grip levels that make you question every life decision halfway up a climb. The rain finally stopped around 11am and, as the day progressed, the ground began to dry slightly for rounds two and three. The sections were eased a touch, but most still demanded momentum, finesse, and mechanical sympathy rather than brute force.

Some drivers adapted beautifully.
Others… less so.

■ Overall Result

A hugely popular and long-overdue victory went to **Ian Wright (Sherpa 1500)** with a winning total of **65**.

Ian drove with calm authority throughout the day. While others were collecting 7s, 8s, and the occasional adventurous 10, Ian kept things tidy where it mattered. A superb climb on *Paul Faulkner's Hill 2* proved decisive and kept him firmly in contention.

It has been a long time since his last win — and this one was well worth the wait.

Second overall was reigning British Champion **Thomas Bricknell (Crossle 1500)** on **70**.

Thomas kept the pressure on throughout and even won Round 1. However, as conditions evolved, he let things slip slightly in the latter stages and, on this occasion, had to settle for the **Red Independent** class win rather than the overall honours.

Third overall went to **Stuart Beare (Sherpa 1500)** on **85**.

Renowned for thriving in wet conditions, Stuart looked composed all day. Whether he was unlucky in the morning slime — or simply not quite able to match the leading pace — he remained firmly in contention during rounds two and three to secure an excellent podium finish.

■ Top 10 Overall – Final Totals

Position	Driver	Total
1	Ian Wright	65
2	Thomas Bricknell	70
3	Stuart Beare	85
4	Peter Fensom	87
5	Richard Sharp	92
6	Josh Veale	93

7	Andy Wilks	96
8	Alan Murton	99
9	Ian Veale	99
10	Simon Kingsley	102

A highly competitive top ten, with several drivers separated by only a handful of points.

■ Class Winners

- ■ **Red Class (Overall Winner)** – Ian Wright – 65
- ■ **Red Independent** – Thomas Bricknell – 70
- ■ **Blue Class** – Darren Underwood – 117
- ■ **Blue Live Class** – Max Burton – 127
- ■ **750-A** – James Tickle – 116
- ■ **750-B** – Frank Willard – 185
- ■ **750-N** – Mark Morgan – 164
- ■ **Rookie** – Jamie Bartholomew – 142

■ "Character Building" Moments

The conditions caught plenty of drivers out — particularly in the opening round.

- **Trevor Wood** posted a round one total of 82 and finished on 201 — proof that Walsingham was not feeling charitable.
- **Colin Seaward** ended the day on 220 — and may still be cleaning mud out of places previously thought sealed.
- **James Hepburn** (208) encountered at least one hill that clearly preferred Sherpas stationary.
- Several drivers flirted with double-figure section scores in Round 1 — a clear sign that enthusiasm briefly outweighed available traction.
- A respectful nod also goes to those who recorded Retirements/Non-Starts, including **Mike Readings** and **Dave Overy**. Sometimes discretion really is the better part of valour.

■ Thanks & Acknowledgements

A sincere thank you to **Kevin Judd** for organising the event and ensuring everything ran smoothly — no small achievement given the overnight weather.

Special thanks also to the **750 Motor Club** for laying out the trial. The sections were challenging, technical, and perfectly suited to the evolving conditions — slippery early, progressively grippier later. Exactly what you would expect from a well-set Walsingham trial.

Final Word

Walsingham delivered everything:

- Proper wet morning sections
- Changing grip levels
- A long-awaited comeback victory
- A reigning champion pushed hard
- And at least a few hills that will be talked about (or blamed) for weeks

A superb day's motorsport — even if some drivers are still replaying certain climbs in their heads.