

The Pete Fear Trial - 3rd October 2021

Ross & District Motor Club
Pinford Farm, Linton, Herefordshire.

Report by Stuart Perren

It was not until the regulations appeared for the Pete Fear Trial, did I realise how long it was since the Pinfold site was used last; 2009. Always challenging, with a variety of terrain, the 2021 return certainly did not disappoint the 26 starters, who tackled the 8 sections, set out in torrential rain on the Saturday by Peter Fensom and his gallant band of helpers. Sunday dawned bright, and Alan Baker's forecast at the drivers' briefing of occasional light showers, was very accurate!

A mixed day of both slow and fast trickles, lusty blasts, and tight manoeuvres, produced a battle for the honours all the way, constantly changing due to the predicted showers.

The hills were very well thought out, most used in past years, but with variations; one bone dry, others a mix of grippy grass, slippery mud and crushed nettles. My learning curve with the 'new' car had some peaks and troughs, first real attempt at coping with greasy mud, and fast approaches in high gear, but I came away happy, onwards and upwards in the literal sense!

Round one saw three zero scores; Stuart Beare, Ian Veale, and Colin Flashman. However, by the end of Round 2 it was a two horse race with zeros again for Beare and Veale, other challengers caught out by the treacherous dogleg on Hill 8, with Mike Salton third on 1 point.

After lunch, Ian moved into the lead by one point over Stuart, Mike Salton having now fallen foul of the notorious Hill 8 dogleg, Boyd Webster taking his place.

On the Final round, a 2 on Hill 2 for Ian Veale dropped him down to 2nd overall on a total of 6 points, Stuart Beare winning with an outstanding 5, Boyd Webster remained in 3rd, and 4th after a splendid drive was John Cole.

Sadly, there were three retirements due to mechanical woes, so 23 finishers.

An excellent event, full marks to Alan Baker, Hilary doing the results in her tent, Peter Fensom as C of C, all the marshals for their efforts, Ross & District MC, and our host, landowner Chris Goulding for inviting us back to this excellent venue.

Awards :

1st Overall: Stuart Beare/Peter Meakin 5 Points

1st Red Independent Ian Veale/Sandy Veale 6 Points

2nd Red Independent: Boyd Webster/Andrew Gains 15 Points

1st Blue Independent and best Ross & District member John Cole/Ann Cole 26 Points

3rd Red Independent Mike Salton 28 Points

1st Blue Live Axle: Stephen Barnes/John Miller 53 Points

1st Rookie: Matt Sharp/Dawn Sharp 111 Points