

## KIRK MICHAEL TRAILQUEST - SUNDAY 12TH MARCH 2017

The area around Kirk Michael offered a wide variety of terrain for the second of the 2017 Trailquest events. Although a scattering of checkpoints provided some low-hanging fruit around Cooldharry, Lhergycholvine and Spooyt Vane, the remainder required some serious ascent to reach them.

There was sufficient challenge for even the hardest rider, with a particularly challenging loop around Glion Gill, Cronk Breck and the Millennium Way/St Luke's. To the North, the course included Ballaugh and Tholt-y-Will.

In the days preceding the event, winds were light and there was plenty of sunshine with (dare one say it) spring-like conditions.

Unfortunately, very different conditions prevailed on the day. Steady rain all day on Friday and Saturday soaked the hills and Sunday itself featured dense low-cloud and fog that persistently hugged the hills until mid afternoon. The trails were wet, slimy and running with water! Testing conditions for riders, bikes and clothing.

In the 5-Hour event, Neil Helks was the first man home in under 3 hours having suffered terminal map failure – being reduced to a soggy ball of papier mache! Despite offers of a replacement map, the option of a warm, shower, hot drinks and cake proved the more tempting option...

Stephen Kelly put in a huge ride to pick up 670 of the 885 points available and was the overall winner, closely followed by the team of Guy Whaley & Dave Goberman on 665 points.

Craig Hindle put in an impressive ride to come 2<sup>nd</sup> solo with 635 points, with Andrew Dunn picking up 3<sup>rd</sup> Solo on 575. Second team were Darran Leadley & Lee Tyrer on 575, with Lee Clayton & Dominic Willams in third place. Julian & Colette Corlett were the only and winning mixed team on 305. Claire Cavanagh was the only and winning solo woman to tackle the 5-hour epic on 375 and came in still-smiling and within the time limit ☺

In the 3-Hour event, Ralph Jackson was the winning solo on 315 points. Cameron Crabtree was 2<sup>nd</sup> with and Les Creer & Dave Newsham tied in 3<sup>rd</sup> on 265 points. Looking at the times, Simon & Gary Cooper arrived on almost the same time and with the same checkpoints, so they probably rode together?

Peter & Robert Clague were the top team, although one of them had to retire and limp home with a broken chain. Brendan Fargher & Diane Motley did well to come 2<sup>nd</sup> team on 250, with Mark Corkill & Andy Done third on 165.

Well done to everyone who took part and completed their own personal epic. The full results analysis is on [manxtimingsolutions.com](http://manxtimingsolutions.com), including the list of checkpoints visited by each team – so you can see the different routes attempted.

There are no firm plans for another event this year – turnout seemed low for this event and a busy calendar throughout the year precludes a summer event. But there is the possibility of another in the final quarter – watch this space!

Results: Position, Name, Points; = 5-Hour Trailquest = 1, Stephen Kelly [670] 4hr 55min 23sec; 2, Guy Whaley David Goberman [665] 4:59.41; 3, Craig Hindle [626] 5:06.57; 4, Andrew Dunn [575]

4:54.39; 5, Darran Leadley Lee Tyrer [575] 4:58.26; 6, Lee Clayton Dominic Williams [535] 4:33.35; 7, Michael Craine Jon Jurczynski [425] 4:56.16; 8, Claire Cavanagh [375] 4:41.33; 9, Colette Corlett Julian Corlett [305] 4:44.44; 10, Neil Helks [145] 2:51.43; = 3-Hour Trailquest = 1, Ralph Jackson [315] 2hr 58min 46sec; 2, Peter Clague Robert Clague [280] 2:55.46; 3, Cameron Crabtree [265] 2:55.43; 4, Dave Newsham [265] 2:56.00; 4, Les Creer [265] 2:56.00; 6, Simon Cooper [265] 2:56.04; 7, Gary Cooper [265] 2:56.08; 8, Brendan Fargher Diane Motley [250] 2:52.55; 9, Kevan Gelling [205] 2:47.25; 10, Mark Corkill Andy Done [165] 2:50.10; 11, William Cooil John Nippres [145] 2:40.27; 12, Kyle Collister Rachael Looker [115] 2:41.25; 13, John Barker [70] 3:26.52; Results by: [www.manxtimingsolutions.com](http://www.manxtimingsolutions.com).