

2016 Reg Porter Competition - Round 1 - The Tourist Trial - Sun 8th November 2015

Reg Porter Competition 2016 Round 1 - The Tourist Trial Sunday 8 th November 2015					
Pos	Name	Points	Penalties	Final Score	Reg Points
1	Chris Martin	14	0	14	30
2	Paget Cohen	17	4	13	29
3	Micky Turner	19	8	11	28
4	Ian McGuckin	16	8	8	27
=5	Dom Lowden	16	10	6	26
=5	Ali Brockhurst	16	10	6	26
=5	Dave Hodgson	16	10	6	26
=5	Simon Yates	16	10	6	26
=9	Brett Davis	5	0	5	22
=9	Lisa Davis	5	0	5	22
11	Aiden McConville	4	0	4	20
12	Dan Street	0	0	0	19
	Martyn Crawford		DNF		0
	Darren Brockhurst		DNF		0

Promoter's Report from Paul Gibbons

The usual controversy has already raised its ugly head once more with handbags and hair flying in all directions! Talking of directions, I think everybody managed to find their way along the mostly flat route. All the questions were once again based around pubs to make that part really easy too. So, all in all, a flat route with easy questions-what could possibly go wrong?

With our chairman making all the excuses under the sun about being rubbish, he seems to have come up trumps and taken overall victory - there will be no living with him now! However, having not completed the course and finishing ahead of the organiser, tongues started wagging about the legitimacy of his victory. That is one for the adjudicators to decide - i.e. Chris?!!



As for the rest, Micky, Paget and Notso Retro answered most of the questions with reasonable success, but all arrived late back and therefore lost points. Team Dom, Ali, Dave and Simon rolled in last, losing the most points, whilst Brett and Lisa arrived early due to Lisa having had to go home for a bike swap and riding straight to Hurst Green. Aiden and Dan rolled in very early and hadn't really taken it too seriously! Darren got bored and disappeared, Martyn never arrived at the finish and nobody knows what happened to him! **PG**

- Round 1 - The Tourist Trial - Sunday 8/11/15
- Round 2 - The Freewheeling - Sunday 10/01/16
- Round 3 - The Speed Judging - Sunday 7/02/16

Photo: Team Reg by Brett Davis

The power of the press - this how Paget Cohen reported it to the world media

Meanwhile back amongst the leafy lanes of Sussex a motley crew of Lewes Wanderers amused themselves with round 1 of the club's Reg Porter Competition. The traditional curtain-raiser is known as the Tourist Trail and last year's overall winner of this tripartite challenge Paul Gibbons had devised a suitably devious test to divine his successor. Each competitor was issued with a set of directions that would lead them on a circuitous tour up hill and down dale past, but not into, a succession of the Weald's finest hostelryes. At each of which they would have to stop to look for the answer to at least one question; as if this wasn't sufficient exercise for body and mind some of these relied on a small amount of general or even local knowledge, making this something between a pub quiz and a pub crawl, only without the beer.

Fastest to complete the 27 or so mile course that ultimately led to the rendezvous cafe in Hurst Green was your correspondent, albeit at the expense of stopping long enough to ensure correct answers were provided in place of educated guesses. Top scorer in this wild guess chase was Michael Turner who arrived shortly afterwards along with Ian McGuckin who was only one mark shy of your correspondent. While this is supposed to be a competition there is nothing within the rules prohibiting collaboration so whether by design or happenstance Ali Brockhurst, Dave Hodgson, Dom Lowden and Simon Yates ended up with identical scores to Ian even if they all rolled in together a few minutes later.

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Strangely due to a quirk of the rules none of these entrants was the winner as Chris Martin, realising come Cade Street that he was running late, decided to cut his losses, avoid the prescribed route via Dallington and Robertsbridge and make a bee-line down an A-road in order to reach the finish before even the organiser. With penalty points for lateness and other competitors Lisa and Brett Davis, Aidan McConville and Dan Street providing even fewer answers having ridden even less of the course due to mechanical issues or poor navigation Chris was duly proclaimed the surprise victor. **PC**

A few dignified words from the victor - Chris Martin

Thanks Paul, a great event. It's all down to planning and having a strategy, plus the fabulous Captain Carbon Flight Deck (which Brett thought was an iPad). I have ridden the Tourist Trial for many a year and through its various convoluted guises. Some year's it's been about finding mileage info of finger signs and other year's it's a route with questions that need answering. The one consistent rule is that you get to the preordained finish at 11:00 and if you're late you get points deducted. I arrived at one minute to eleven and assumed I'd be well beaten by all those fit and fast club run gazelles, but I wasn't!

Next stop the Freewheeling. **CM**