

East Berks

The proposed section ride to The Phoenix car & bike meeting at Hartley Wintney on New Year's Day was called off due to the inclement weather and our motto "rain or snow we don't go!" This motto however did not apply to the six section members (Roger Ashby, Ralph Brown, Andy Head, Steve Horn, Carl Kiddle and Graham Lloyd), competing on solo motorcycles in the MCC's Exeter Trial the following weekend. It rained from leaving Maidenhead at 6pm to the 8pm Popham start and all the way from Popham to Somerset and beyond. I think it was still raining at 2am! Anyway all 6 of us got wet and muddy and the best performance was achieved by Crashby on his Ariel HT5 who only failed one section and therefore claimed a Silver Medal. Regrettably much later on the Saturday after we had reached the Finish at Torquay a car driver was killed when his car rolled whilst backing down the same section eventually resulting in the abandonment of the trial. Our thoughts go out to his family and friends and the team of Marshals who up until the tragic incident had been enjoying manning the section.

Ralph Brown