



**James
Williamson**
ENDURO
CHALLENGE

THE JAMES WILLIAMSON ENDURO CHALLENGE 2013

The sun shone, the skies were clear and conditions were perfect for the third James Williamson Enduro Challenge, held at Wingello State Forest on Sunday, 10th March.

Five hundred riders lined up to race in four distances of 13km, 25km, 50km or 75km. The open male 75km category shone with stars, including Shaun Lewis, Sid Taberlay, Dylan Cooper, Andy Blair, Trent Lowe to name just a few. With this talent on the line, it was always going to be a tough race and it didn't disappoint, with Sid Taberlay taking out the 75km Open Male win just one second in front of Shaun Lewis, with Dylan Cooper, Brendan Johnston and Andy Blair close behind. Jenny Fay took out the 75km Open Woman category, ahead of Michelle Ainsworth and Kathy Bicknell. Mark Tupalski, entered in the 75km U23 category, rode an amazing race, with a time which would have placed him third in the Open Male 75km category.

The James Williamson Endurance Challenge is a special event. It brings together many aspects of the things that James loved - mountain biking, a well-run event, meeting new people, encouraging everyone, riding fast and having a good time. And it brings together people from all sections of the mountain bike industry – elite riders, beginners, juniors, seniors, mountain bike race organisers – all there for the day, to enjoy their riding, compete with each other, and celebrate the Willo legacy.



Categories range from U13 to Supermasters. The latter was introduced in 2013, and it was great to see these categories well represented. At the other end of the scale, the junior categories were packed with talent. Riley King took out the U13 13km race in a faster time than the U15 13km group. He was so fast, that the adult marshal rider who was meant to be leading the 13km group, could not keep up with him up the final hill!

Many juniors who had attended the James Williamson Development Camps in 2011 and 2012 were present with the following juniors taking out positions in their categories including Cameron Prosser, Bryce Clark, Lucy Brearley, Alysha McNee Darrach, Jackson Streeter, Zoe Binder and Jack Lavis.



Riley King, winner U13 13kms category

Some things remain the same - Alysha McNee-Darrach won the 25KM U19 female category in 1hour and 50 minutes – giving her exactly the same time as in 2012. In both 2012 and 2013, Lynne Vaughan and Alison Anderson came first and second in the 25KM Masters Female category (but Lynne is getting faster!) And Brad Morton and Andrew Arthur came first and second in the Open Male 50km category in 2012, swapping places with Andrew coming first in 2013, and Brad second.



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Some comments from riders immediately following the event, sum up the day well.

What a fantastic race - my first cycle race ever - I competed in the 25km Women's Open. Stunning scenery and well run event

Guys what an awesome race, first time for me and just loved everything about it, some of the views I saw along the trails, made me forget that I was in a race. I really appreciate you guys putting on such a great event, can't wait for next year keep up the good work.

A huge thanks to everyone at the James Williamson Enduro for yet another fantastic event. I have been at every edition thus far and without doubt it is my favourite event of the year. The perfect way to honour a great guy.

Awesome day at the Willo on Sunday, couldn't have asked for better weather or a better prepared track! Thanks heaps to all involved.

The Willo Enduro is a team effort. Organised jointly by the Southern Highlands Cycling Club, CORC, with many friends and fans of James completing the team and supported by local businesses and groups as well. As racing continued throughout the morning, rolling presentations were held swiftly and promptly as riders came in, providing constant momentum and entertainment at the Event Centre. This culminated in the Final Presentation for the Open 75KM categories, and the excitement of the Radical Light Raffle draw and Giant Anthem Bike win.

Commentator Stu Plant put everyone's thoughts into words when he said: "This event is about James Williamson. I wish we didn't have to be here to remember James, but we do. This is a wonderful event which strongly embodies the legacy of James. All proceeds from the race will once again be used to support Junior Development, with a camp to be held for around twenty juniors in late 2013. Thanks once again to the generous support of all our sponsors, and to all those who support this event with donations, raffle tickets purchases and entries. And thanks also, to the many others, who support this event in so many other ways."

Clean up

As we rode around the track and checked the Event Centre on Monday, there was so little rubbish, it was amazing. So thank you everyone for helping us look after these forests areas with leaving our litter. A few items of lost property were found, and have been listed on Facebook. <http://www.facebook.com/groups/155870957841149/>

Images

Thanks to Dan McKay who took a whole lot of great images, the link to which will be posted on the website soon. <http://jameswilliamson.com.au/enduro/race-details/cycle-photos/>

Results

I am sure you have all found your results by now, but just in case you haven't, check them out at <http://jameswilliamson.com.au/enduro/the-race/results/>

Feedback

Thanks for the great comments on Facebook. If anyone has any other feedback (good and bad) we love to hear from you. We value your input, to help us run a top event that James would be proud of!

We are looking forward to next year's race already – watch for the extra event we are going to bring in for Saturday afternoon, and an expanded Event Centre! See you out on the trails.

More details about the race, including Sub Juniors coverage on the website <http://jameswilliamson.com.au/enduro/newsletters/>



www.jameswilliamson.com.au/enduro