

## Carron Valley successfully hosts first Specialized Challenge Series and Giant Dirt Demo event of 2008

Last Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> March saw Carron Valley Forest brimming with quality bikes and happy riders as it successfully hosted the first Specialized Challenge Series and Giant Dirt Demo event of 2008.

In the only Scottish date in the 2008 series Specialized and Giant, in partnership with Singletrack, Lupine, Sram, SIS and Dirt Divas brought an extensive range of bikes to try, all backed by full technical support. In addition to an action-packed demo day, Carron Valley saw the first event of its kind - an exciting night-time demo which gave riders an opportunity to try out products from light-masters Lupine.

First launched in 2007, the series proved an immediate hit with riders up and down the country. The organisers couldn't wait to do it again so for 2008 they sought out a more central Scottish venue to cater for the MTB audience. Carron Valley, with its central location and mix of quality trails proved an ideal place to host the day. Organised by the legendary Patrick Adams of Mountain Mayhem fame, the day was hailed as a huge success with over 100 riders turning up to try out bikes during the day and almost 50 more out testing the kit and the trails in the dark.

CVDG were of course present to ensure the safety and enjoyment of riders and other forest users, allowing everyone to make the most of their day.

CVDG chairman David Russell said:

"It was truly a fantastic day. Two of the world's biggest bike companies, backed by some of the world's top bike brands descended on Carron Valley for the weekend. The awesome setup allowed riders to try out some great kit in a relaxed, safe and friendly environment and everyone seemed really happy on the day. We even managed to order in some dry weather!"

In addition to an Army of technical and support staff there was a few recognisable faces in the crowd including top UK downhiller and Giant rider Rob Warner. Rob, well known for being larger than life both on and off the bike, was spotted out on the trails at numerous points throughout the day. When quizzed about the trails he said:

"The trails at Carron Valley are really excellent – they have a great flow to them and being a downhiller I like the fact that you don't have to climb for ages to earn the descents! You also get a real feeling of remoteness up here too – the scenery is spectacular"

CVDG would like to thank Specialized, Giant, their partners and the event organisers for coming together to create a truly memorable weekend at CV - we wish them all the success for the remainder of the series. The next event will be held on 30<sup>th</sup> March at Hamsterley forest in the North East of England. For further details please check out the website.