



Kent Youth Trials Club

AFFILIATED TO THE AUTO-CYCLE UNION

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10 Albion Lane
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NEWSLETTER

No. 24

June Nationals: one at Peter's Pit, organised by us, and the other at Crowborough, organised by the North East London Motor Cycle Club.

Two completely different venues: one on hard white chalk and the other on soft, gungy mud and hard brown rocks. One in hot brilliant sun, the other had sun, hail and wet, wet rain.....

But the one thing very obvious in both trials was the atmosphere: old 'uns and young 'uns all enjoying themselves, helping out, heaving and hauling as one. The older men comparing their past efforts on Ariels, James and Greeves, to the lads striving on today's Montesas, Bultacos and various Japanese jobs, doing their bit and, at the end of the day's work, Dads and Lads sharing a joke and loading up. Mums exchanging news and ideas, and all off home, tired and, we hope, pleased with a hard day's sport.

Now off you go....with three Trials to write about this month, there's a lot of reading to do. So, in with your bionic eye and read on McDuff.....

NATIONAL TRIAL - PETER'S PIT - JUNE 11th

We spent a very pleasant night, camping out, with a huge bonfire and hot dogs, and a "bar", in the evening.

Sunday dawned very hot and a fair breeze helped us later on in the day, as the sun got fiercer - it was like the surface of the moon out on the chalk areas in the blinding sun which was reflecting off the snow white chalk.

The riders got away dead on 10.30 a.m., out of the compound and away across towards the pylons and Section 1.....

ED'S DABS

S. 1 - Mr. Crosby

In the trees and cool! Up the side of the steep chalk, up and over a crosswise leaning tree (very annoyed, it was!), past this and away into the undergrowth.....Anthony Dobbs completely unrecognisable in his new gear, and sporting a new head of hair, came to grief and collected a 5.....

S. 2 - Mr. Morphett

Further along, up the same ridge of chalk as S.1, but in and out of the elderberries, up an adverse camber, turn and blast up a steep hill smothered in loose shale, another sharp left turn, down and out. Steven Brooker did a lovely clean on this. Peter Cressey and Michael Moreland came to grief here: Peter gummed up the rear suspension and rode all day with a rigid framed Honda; Michael bent his handlebars and a kind, strong Dad straightened them.

S. 3 - Mrs. Legge

Very high and narrow hill, impossible to walk up, going way up into the trees, then in and out, wind around the top with a steep slope down and out onto the chalk road. I waited quite a while here, but didn't see anyone come out the right way. A lot of you disappeared, never to be seen again. And then Grant Lemmon got out with a 3. Poor Lee Crosby came a nasty cropper here and was carted off to Medway Accident Centre with a nasty right ankle.

PETER'S PIT (contd.)S. 4 - Mr. Skinner

This one looked nasty right from the very start: went in over the rim of a steep chalk pit, swoosh down to the bottom and up the other side, all nurgery nadgery in the trees, up, around and out the same bit of rim near where you went in. Got there with the first group of riders about - 11 o'clock, very quiet, sat on a rock and listened to a nightingale.....

S. 5 - Mr. Ridge

Set deep in the woods, a lot shot clean past and had to trail all the way back to find it. This one had a hard chalk step to ride up, then weaving in and out of the trees along the edge of the ridge, return down bank, sharp right turn, back up bank and lots more tree stuff to do on the way out. Paul Cuckow wriggled and squiggled his bike through here and finally got out for a 3.....

S. 6 - Mrs. Moreland

Way out on the top path, right out in the blazing desert. UP steep camber with very loose fine shaley chalk and round bush at the bottom, and up an even more crumbly hill which defeated a lot of riders. Shane Edwards did a very neat clean.

S. 7 - Mrs. Lemmon

Still up along the top path and even hotter. Crumbly, crunchy, chalk adverse hill, up, across, down, slipping all the way, round in between the markers and swoop up the steep slope with an even finer shale than before. Can't you just see Don grading the finer grains??? Steven Simcock could have kicked himself - he drove in, stopped, his back brake was jammed, for a 5. Next time round, he made up and only collected a 1. David Skinner cheered - he got up with a zero.

S.8 - Mrs. Garner

Overlooking the world and set high on the left of the top path. Nasty drop if you turned left instead of right in the middle of the section. Along a narrow ridge, with a drop either side, gentle right hander and in front a nasty front wheel-grabber of a dyke with nowhere to foot if you got caught out, not unless you got a left leg of about 30 foot long! Over this, a sharp

PETER'S PIT (contd.)

S. 8

heave-ho to the right and out - Phew! Steven Wilkinson and Trevor Miles both came a cropper and were posted off to the Accident Centre; Robert Prior finished up as well and was later seen supporting a bandaged foot. Surprisingly, there were very few 5's here.

S. 9 - Mr. Mitchell

Nearly opposite S.8, leading on to the top plateau and the highest point. Very short, sharp section with a tight turn up onto REAL rocks and boulders, sharp left up the hill, round against the camber and then down and out. Anthony Errey did a nice zero here, hauled his Fantic around as though it weighed nothing.

S.10 - Mr. Walker

At the end of the top plateau, tucked away in the far corner, all chalk and dips. In, down, chalk dip and up, around the ridge, down into another dip, up via adverse banking, on through slippery shale slope and off out. Jonathon Morris got away with 2 here.

S.11 - Mrs. Edwards

Best section ever, a real sight to make you quiver and quake. A white chalk version of the best Scottish Six-Day effort - all rocks, steep and craggy, and all gleaming white in the relentless sun! In you go, up steep solid chalk blocks, along a ridge, nasty adverse slope, up and yet more up loose rocks and stones, turning right and with a last gasp out onto the chalk road again. Calvin Platfoot did a nice cool, clean, clean! This didn't make so many 5's as expected. Most tried it, found they could, and did!

S.12 - Mr. Cooper

A nasty short, choppy ditch, just to stop you dead for a start, and if you got over that, there's still another, just a bit further on. Up awkward slope into the wooded bit, up, up a steep slidy hill in between two very friendly, clingy trees, on and around the back, out via slithery camber. David Borrowoughs was the only rider who did not collect a 5 on the first lap.....

PETER'S PIT (contd.)

S.12.....

Later, this section was eased and several romped through. Across a chalk plain, taking in the speed test on the way - this was run by 'Old Father Time' again, alias Dennis Morris.

Through this hazard, on and off on to.....

S.13 - Mr. Simcock

All set deep in the trees, along a deep gully, sort of a wash-day special. Into the gully water here, up steeply and out, up round trees, left back down onto the wet stuff. Up the left hand bank, swing in and out the water again, round the post, up the bank and out. This section was also made easier after the 1st lap.

S.14 - Mr. Cressey

Back round the edge of the plain, near the car park. Deceiving one this. Up a straight steep slope into the woods, high, and a wiggle along a ridge, in and around trees, back down ridge and out. James Smith gained a 5 and even Steven Higgins collected a oncer.

S.15 - Mr. Geoghagen

A real blaster. Standing at the bottom looking up the hill, it sort of disappeared into the trees and clouds. Up with a roar, into the blue, round on the top and down, down a steep drop out, a real roller-coaster, and cheaper than Dreamland. Ross Edwards came unstuck half-way up. It was like that...if you got up you cleaned it, otherwise back to the 5's!

S.16 - Mrs. Simmonds

The prettiest section ever, with a pretty observer as well to boot - and you needed them an' all, I can tell you. Into the water you go, cool and nice for boy and bike, left turn out up the slimy bank, round and down into the real deep stuff - got your flannel and soap? Right o'..... In left turn and up it comes, keep going, it's over your wellies, and heave ho, out you go up the steep bank. Great fun! Quite a long queue formed, while we all waited and watched when lucky Doreen had to retrieve a marker that was gently floating away downstream - she did enjoy that! ...

PETER'S PIT (Contd.)

S.16...

Gentleman James Smith waded in later, water pouring from his wellies, to help, and then, after emptying them out, he went on to "clean" it. Coming out of here, Steven Higgins did a wheelie, just to empty his bike of water....

S.17 - Mr. Platfoot

Up the chalk hill overlooking the previous section, real high with a view of all the pit and, most of all, a breeze! As the bikes rolled up, they all paused to dry out their machines and empty boots of various fish, have a cool off before taking on one of the more impressive sections - looked like the Cresta run. Into the section and a steep drop down and a narrow wheel width gully all the w--a--y---down, a sharp left-hander and a not quite so narrow gutter up and flip out near the start. Fun, but difficult. Took a lot of marks, Grant grinning ground to a halt half way out....

S.18 - Mr. Legge....and a lot of extra long-armed strong men....

Steep down, adverse camber with a left handed thread, round a very agile bush, up, out a very steep goat size track of a path. If you cleaned this, everyone breathed a sigh of relief, otherwise it was all men to the pumps...rope to bike....to man-power, pull like mad. One Bultaco screamed its head off til it was killed! Robert Tilbury was most concerned - it was his!!

S.19 - Mrs. Rawlins

In the deep deep cool woodlands - what a relief! - right into the jungle, a very musty smelly hole, in and out of the bushes, tight turns and a crafty drunken tree trunk to throw you off, just before you got out. Lots aced through....good for your morale.

S.20 - Mr. Morgan

Along the tree-lined track, down a steep slope and out onto the chalk road, left to the last section. Consisting of an up and over nasty treacherous slippery slope, full of loose chalk gravel and if you got up, you turned and had to come down again, with the added charm of a steep chalk step to get out. Not so

PETER's PITT (contd.)

S.20...

bad for the Seniors, but it took a lot of Junior marks. Dave Smith collected a fiver...

Well, that was that, only three times round. I gave up after 2½ and retired to the water, the steam seen rising came from my poor tootsies! All-in-all a super day. Our thanks to George Lemmon and all the helpers who gave up their Saturdays off to lay it all out. A thank you to them all from Don Cuckow, the Clerk of Course. And we, 'the riders', give DON CUCKOW thanks. He thought it all out and gave us a nicely balanced Trial I thought you recognised some of "Don's specials"!..... Special thanks to the Riding Marshalls for their help at many sections.

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RESULTS.....RESULTS.....RESULTS.....RESULTS.....

The Premier Award went to R. Hinton, who lost only 13 marks. What a ride!

The Senior Class, No.1, went to Steven Higgins who, some way behind, lost a total of 36.

P. Doney and D. Branch came 2nd and 3rd with 40 and 41 marks lost.

The Senior 2nd Class Awards were: David Borroughs with 47, and close behind A. Brooke (54) and James Smith with 55 marks lost.

Intermediates

1st Class Awards: 1st R. Kerridge (37 marks lost); 2nd I. Rawlings (55 marks lost) and 3rd Shane Edwards with 66 marks lost.

Dave Smith also lost 66 marks, followed by J. Hinton who lost 85 marks.

NEWS FLASH

On ITV, starting on Monday, June 3rd, with a series of seven. You are getting Sammy Miller and Dave Taylor, to name but two, to give hints and views on what's what and who's who in the world of motor cycling. The first went out at 10.30 p.m. I hope you were allowed to stay up for it. At last TV knows Motor bikers exist.....!

WANTED - WANTED - WANTED - - -

Working party for July 23rd at 10 a.m. at Fax Farm, Winterbourne, Dunkirk, Nr. Canterbury - so don't go chasing off to France! It's Canterbury - please note. If we get on with the work, there is a practice in the afternoon.

August 6th at Little Ruckinge Farm, Nr. Herne Bay - a practice and a game of football (on your feet!) in the afternoon, so be there at 10 o'clock.

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If you are intending to OBSERVE at a trial, please contact Ken Moreland, the Observers Secretary, when you arrive or even sooner as Ken gets grey hairs with worry if you don't roll up until two minutes before the start.....

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WELCOME to the following new members:-

Class B: KENTON WILLIAMS
Silver Oaks Farm
Waldron, Nr. Heathfield, Sussex.

Class B: STEWART ARTHUR
61 Brittain Lane
Sevenoaks, Kent.

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Our very willing helper for SOCIAL AFFAIRS is NANCY MORRIS - so any ideas, see Nancy.

REQUEST.....REQUEST.....

Please riders, if you up your stakes and move house, let the Editor have your new address or you won't get any - will you??

NATIONAL TRIAL AT HODGE'S FARM, CROWBOROUGH, SUSSEX

JUNE 25th

The course was amongst woodland with a deep, wet river well strewn with ROCKS!! - large and small.

Sections 1, 2 and 3 were the Denton variety - mud, slopes, trees and hills, only, when you got to S.4, a real river...and ROCKS.. steps and boulders, going upstream over a real hard high step, a proper sump basher, over more rocks and a sharp left turn up rubbery banks and along a wet mud-pudding, and out. Those who did get out got a round of applause from the appreciative spectators. Among those who did get out were Shane Edwards, Dave and James Smith, and Gary Parbutt.

Sections 5, 6, 7 and 8, all further up from S.4, had a varying amount of rocks, all difficult. S.5 had a huge smooth boulder in the middle and, much to everyone's surprise, plenty of grip. S.6 had a sharp right bender, only just room to get round. Shaun Mitchell got wedged and picked up a parking ticket. Grant Lemmon, riding his brand new 22 miles on the clock Bultaco, blipped very cannily round and through. S.8 was my favourite, not much to look at - bit like a farmyard when it's rained for years and the cows had a ball. I don't know how deep it actually was - most were too anxious to get out to bother to measure it. The tyres going through made a fantastic noise as they rolled past. Just like frying chips!

Sections 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 - rugged mud, hills, rocks, sharp bends and very narrow gulleys.

Section 15 - last one - with more Denton type hazards.

1st lap went fine with spectators strolling around, then.... the heavens opened up and it pounded hailstones and everything else onto us. Everyone got bogged down and even the vans cars in the car park had to have a tow out!

How hard it was can be gauged by the number of marks lost with Shane Edwards losing 50 and the Smith brothers copping around 70.

OUR THANKS TO
NORTH EAST LONDON M.C.C.
FOR
A GREAT DAY'S RIDING

FOR SALE

Nov. 1977, "S" Reg. T.Y. YAMAHA - only 380 miles. Very good condition. Miller front mudguard stay, Dunlop Champion rear tyre. £500. Phone Bob Lurcock - Harrietsham 530.

250 BULTACO 1977. £545. Apply Mr. Smith, 127 Windsor Drive, Chelsfield, Orpington, Kent.

MONTESA - 123 - Cota. Ideal schoolboy mount to suit 11-16 year old. Good condition. Rebuilt engine. £250. Phone Paul at Harrietsham 733

MEREWORTH TRIAL - 18th JUNE

This was our first Trial specifically organised for our Class 'C' members and they were very fortunate in having excellent weather, and it was nice to see most of our younger members supporting the event.

The course was laid out to provide a variety of sections which included short climbs, cambers, a stream section and plenty of nadgery. The riders completed three laps of ten sections before a further three laps of the sections in reverse. A total of sixty sections, yet everybody was determined to finish. No.69 was the only retirement, unfortunately, having machine trouble on the second lap.

No.8 Gavin Cooper had another excellent ride losing only one point on his second lap and winning the event by a margin of 99 points from No.46 Stephen Legge who was 'legging' (sorry) more than usual. No.24 Rae Riddell had his best ride yet, actually completing the course and finishing fourth overall. No.134 Michael Mowbray and No.138 Peter Salmon both deserve a mention for such a determined effort in their first Trial. Well done, lads!

The other thing that should be said is that the course proved to be more difficult than the riders expected, as the results show. Perhaps next time you will take a little more care and concentrate. Just because the older riders are not competing, don't assume it will be easy. This is where you all lost marks.

Having mentioned our older riders, it was nice to see some of our Class 'B' riders acting as observers and encouraging our younger members. Well done, lads!

Finally, our thanks to Mr. Gordon Brooker for setting out a challenging Trial for both novices and the more experienced riders, and our thanks also to the helpers and our ever faithful

MEREWORTH TRIAL (Contd.)

observers. A most enjoyable day was had by all.

Results:

1st - Gavin Cooper 53 M/L. 3rd - Karl Brown 165 M/L.

2nd - Steven Legge 152 M/L. 4th - Rae Riddell 178 M/L.

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YOUR VIEWS REQUIRED

Please answer via your Newsletter.....

ROAD TYRES to be worn at trials to prevent sections becoming too dangerous??? OR..... TELESCOPIC FRAMES - long for ups and shorter for nadgery???

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear K.Y.T.C.,

This will be my last contribution to the N/L. under my "Bike Major" alias, and I am sure the passing will not go amiss.

Thank you "Father Time" for your response to my previous effort and a big thanks to both Editors who have translated my attempts into readable English. No complaints from me this issue. I personally thought the National was a little more dangerous than testing. The boys as usual were more concerned with their bikes than themselves and their very good marks indicate that they have no grumbles. Perhaps one of the better things noticeable was the individual competitions going on between the more novice riders who did not aspire to the top placings.....not so many white faces in those groups. Peter Banham, who claims never to have been mentioned in the N/L. (No.73) now finds himself there because he went to a major trial without even a screwdriver to unstick that jammed throttle.

My AWARDS (two this month) must go to two of the most hard-working Marshalls I have ever seen - just a little officious perhaps, a trifle condescending to walkers....but what control! They are, of course, Nos. 24 and 99, Rae Riddell and Karl Brown. If their idle fathers had not kept pinching their bikes, the Trial would have been just that much smoother.

I am presenting a trophy to the Club for the rider nominated by parents and boys for the greatest show of SPORTSMANSHIP and PERSONALITY during the last year. The trophy and nomination forms will be available at one of the next All Class Trials, so please start the old brain box going.

Sincerely,

"BIKE MAJOR"

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To those of you who READ and STUDY your T. and M.X., what's your views on the lively correspondence - re hazardous sections in Youth Trials ?????

Come on, it's "Write to Ed. Week".....I'm lonely!

FORTHCOMING EVENTS (

1978

- JULY** 16 Trial - 11 a.m. Tibbs Court
23* National Trial - Denbigh & Mold MCC.
Working Party/Practice - 10 a.m. Fax Farm, Winterbourne.
- AUG.** 6 Practice/Football - 10 a.m. Little Ruckinge Farm, Herne Bay.
12* Traders' Trophy National Trial - Bolton MCC.
13* National Trial (5th Round Intermediate & Senior Championships) Rochdale & District MC.
20 Trial - 11 a.m. Fax Farm, Winterbourne.
27* Youth Division Championship Trial (Cadets & Juniors) Sutton Falcons MCC.
- SEP.** 9* National Trial - West Leeds MC.
10* McCrae Tray National Trial - Wetherby & DMC (6th Round Intermediate & Senior Championships).
17 Trial - If we find land!
- OCT.** 8* National Trial - Congleton & District MCC.
22 Trial - If we find land!
- NOV.** 11 Annual Party - Kempton Manor, Nr. Charing.
12 Remembrance Sunday.
19 Trial.
- DEC.** 10 Trial.
16 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 7 p.m.

1979

- JAN.** 14 Trial.
FEB. 18 Trial.
MAR. 18 Trial.
APR. 22 Trial.
MAY 20 Trial.
JUNE Trial.

* Denotes events not organised by KYTC.

PRACTICES

Riders may attend Practice Sites after previous arrangement by telephone with:

Mr. Trevor Dobbs - Tibbs Court - Brenchley 2375.

Mr. 'Doug' Douglas - Herne Bay 63815.

Mr. Bob Cooper - Mereworth - Maidstone 812839.

DON SMITH COURSE

Bob Cooper (Maidstone 812839) is making final arrangements for the next course in early August. Hurry if you want a place on this.