

27th May 2026

STAN'S NEWSLETTER-02- Rakins 23rd/24th May 2026



The camping weekend trial at Rakins was held in a sticky 30 degrees. For the Mum's and Dad's 3 times back and forth across the rutted field was a good work-out.

I observed section 1 on the Saturday and managed to watch Freddie (69) for half the trial on the Sunday. He was unwell but managed to finish both days.

It's his 11th birthday this week and as a birthday present Harley is taking him to "Inch Perfect Trials" ground together with some other KYTC dad's and riders. It's a long trip up North for two days and I expect a report from one of them.

Some stand out rides over the weekend were headed by Charlie Steele (97) on the yellow route. Charlie lost 1 mark on the Saturday and bettered it on the Sunday by cleaning the whole day. To do that at whatever level takes a lot of concentration as well as skill. I am sure a lot of parents were watching and thinking about a Neutra Motor K5! You should get a sales bonus from INTA Motorcycles!

Mentioning Charlie Steele (97) as winning the yellow class for a clean ride reminded me of the Special Oset 24R I built for Freddie and we sold to Charlie. I thought it may be of help/interest to some 24R riders and parents. When we bought the 24R for Freddie's sister Summer it had been used and abused and when Summer retired Freddie inherited it.

I stripped it and replaced all the steering and swinging arm bearings and all the cables. I fitted a Boost battery. They are 40 amp hour lithium ion, they last 3 X the amount of time and will do a two-day trial weekend without a recharge. They give more power and are about 1/3rd the weight of standard. A lot of the Oset parts are from mountain bikes. I fitted a set of Rock Shox downhill racing mountain bike forks. I fitted the brilliant Hope brakes and discs in anodised red. Tyre wise if you fit a proper trials rear tyre the rim is too narrow and the tyre is the wrong shape. I fitted a wider rear rim, and the tyre was then the right shape.

I managed to obtain all the parts except the Hope brakes and Harley got them for a good price! All the other parts I managed to get second hand.

Charlie loved it and did well on it.

In the smaller classes Mya McVarney (46) had an impressive weekend! On Saturday she came 1st in my Ladies Cup and second in the Pink Small-Wheel Class. On the Sunday she came 1st in her class and 1st in the TXP Powered By Oset Cup and was awarded "Rider of the Day".

In my Ladies Cup on Saturday Mya McVarney (46) came 1st, Evie Payne (82) came 2nd and Sophia McVarney (71) came 3rd. On Sunday it was the same three girls, but Evie and Sophie swapped steps with Mya 1st Sophia 2nd and Evie 3rd. On Saturday Noah Bryan (44) was "Rider of the Day", that was his first trial, and I think he enjoyed it and hope to see him at the next one. I would also like congratulate young Carter Stratford-Holcombe (93) who got his first ever podium on the Saturday in Pink Small-Wheel.

Henry Lingham (77) had a good ride on the Saturday on the Red route, he tied with Oliver Silvester (32) but won on the tie break with one more clean.

On the Sunday Henry (77) took 1st place again with Enzo Alfrey (157) picking up his first podium on Reds since moving up this year. With Henry being 8 years old and Enzo 7 years old we surely have stars of the future coming through!

On the Blue route on the Saturday Matty Hann (28) had a good ride to win. On the Sunday Ethan Munday (33) took the win beating Matty by one mark. I think that was Ethans first win. Fletcher Ely (51) took the win on both days in Experts. I find it a shame that there were only 3 Experts, we will have to do something about keeping our Experts riding at the club, when my boys were riding KYTC the Expert class was the biggest class.

Just going back to yellows a very well done to Jack Payne (81) who only dropped 2 marks on the Saturday just one behind Charlie. He asked his Dad Tony Saturday evening if he could try Reds on Sunday. The team behind the desk sorted this and he rode Reds Sunday and did not look out of place. Well done Jack!

The Trials of Observing.

Because I can't get around a complete trial I usually observe. On Saturday I had some friendly banter with a dad, I won't give his name, I'll just call him Alfie's (39) Dad. He's a good friend of mine. I was observing on Section 1 on the Saturday, there was a nasty off-camber steep hill halfway through the section.

On lap 1 Alfie lost 3. On the second lap Alfie footed his way up the hill for 3 again, that was a good 1 says Dad. I said no it was a 3, Dad stomped off muttering. On the third lap Alfie had a good ride but still lost 3. Dad says that was a good ride for a clean, I said no it was a 3 again. Dad says no way. I watched him all the way, he cleaned it.

We had a bit of no he didn't, yes, he did. Dad called Alfie over and said, Alfie tell Stan how many you lost. Alfie said 3. Dad has booked in at Specsavers. I told him he had made it into the Newsletter

I have noticed that we have a few dads and Grandads who are ex-racers, could all ex-racers please contact me as I would like to write an article on this and do not want to miss anyone out.

Stan.

Don't forget any news about any of the members, trials or whatever send it in to me. My details are;

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