



STAN'S NEWSLETTER-05

The West of England Youth National in Devon attracted thirteen riders from KYTC with varying success. As it was our first National for 36 years it was a new experience for Harley as a Dad. I asked him to write a report on it. He has looked at it from the difference between a national and a club KYTC trial.

We cautiously entered Freddie into his first 'National' as we figured although he may lack some close control, he doesn't mind attacking things and eating dirt! So we trundled off to the West of England BTC in the sauna-van in 35C heat to 'Hound Tor' as a spectacular backdrop.

Right from the start, we had to adjust. Freddie lined up in Youth Foundation 2 on the blue route—which threw him a bit, as he's used to following the red flags! The event rules were also a step up. No dad interference - including parking/moving the bike or walking/advising - I was only allowed in the sections as a minder to catch at the last minute, obviously in full Tarres-Ducados body suit and fluoro helmet as per the regs. Then there was the tech side: bike, rider and minders kit fully scrutineered - somehow for the first time in 3 years I forgot his back protector (thanks to the Mundy's for bailing us out there!) a digital score logger on his wrist- which he had to ride back to the start to activate each lap and a cool live scoreboard.

He also had to handle refueling the bike himself for the first time as it was so far back to the car park - he worried me a bit as he rode off saying he was going to use his water bottle (with nutrient rich water in it). I'm not sure Stan would have appreciated another rebuild.

As for the riding, Devon served up two different trials over the weekend. Day one was a masterclass in tight, tricky rock sections that we struggled a little on and had two classic Fred-go-the-wrong-way-on. But on day two, the terrain opened up, allowing Freddie to just 'launch it' at the obstacles and he claimed to be "locked-in", he had some great rides and beat a couple of series regulars.

To be honest the highlight for Fred wasn't the riding, every evening, the massive contingent of KYTC lads and lasses went scrambling up the actual granite tors. From the safety of the beer coolers this looked way more dangerous than anything they faced in the sections! Freddie thoroughly enjoyed his weekend with his mates, and we're already looking forward to the next one that we can do.



I am sure to get grip the tyres should be on the ground!

Here's another piece from a first-time national rider, Sophia. Thanks Matt, it looks like your life is about to get even busier!

Sophias National Debut

We decided it was time to try the trials GB youth nationals; we entered Debutant girls. We loaded up and hooked up the caravan for a drive down to west Devon with many of the KYTC gang. The venue Hound Tor in the middle of the national park was beautiful, and we got to enjoy it in glorious sunshine throughout the whole weekend

Day 1 lots of nerves and excitement from Sophia she was first rider off at 10:30am. We had 3laps of 12 sections ahead and it quickly became apparent this would be the most testing trial she has faced to date. However, by lap 2 and 3 she was riding with a smile and really enjoying the occasion. We finished the day on 66 marks 14 cleans and if we mixed in with the boys on the same route, she placed 20 out of 23.



Day 2 again first rider off 9:30am Sophia was buzzing with confidence after Saturday however the trial Sunday was new sections and they had made them tougher than Saturday for all classes, section 1 was extremely difficult dropping into a rocky stream and riding all the way up and turning out. She fived this on a time penalty and she got inside her own head up to about section 10 lap 1.

Finally, two good rides on section 11 and 12 and she was back smiling again. Lap 2 and 3 she kept her spirits up and had some great rides. She dropped 75 marks with 11 cleans Sunday which we were more than happy with. Again, looking at the boys, she placed 17 out of 20. The main thing Sophia learned is what the local riders called "rollers" literally everywhere in every section your tyres were rolling over rocks, either solid in the ground or constantly moving around under the tyres. It was something we just don't experience here in Kent.



We didn't know when entering but Sophia was the only rider in her class so assuming she finished the trial she would get a 1st place finish. She still had her work cut out to complete 36 tough sections each day and she fully deserved her two 1st place podium finishes. As I said to her, entries are out of our control, and you can only ride who or what is in front of you. So, she left Hound Tor with the red championship leader board.

Overall, the whole event was a lot to take in and a real learning curve. From signing on, to getting the bike and rider checked to the having a start time and time limits. The riders must walk the sections alone, no help from Dad !! She took everything on board and in her stride, the ACU team particularly Donna Fox, Kaylee from West of England Motor Club and SW Trials made an effort to make her first weekend a memorable one.

We had a total of 13 KYTC members in attendance and a rider or riders in each class. The camping atmosphere at a beautiful venue was great fun. And Sophia has decided she would like to continue with nationals so a trip up north for rounds 5 and 6 in Guisborough is now in the calendar before the KYTC 50th Anniversary Cowden weekend.



Oliver and Joshua Silvester

This piece makes me exhausted just reading it. It always amazes me how many other pastimes our members take part in. Read on.

Away from the excitement of the KYTC Championship, both Oliver and Joshua Silvester are keen triathletes. Both boys have been active members of the Sittingbourne Striders Tri Club for the last few years and take part in weekly training sessions and competitions throughout the summer.

Both boys are keen swimmers and attend swim training twice a week on Mondays and Fridays. They also attend run training once a week on Tuesdays and will often be found

at the start of either a junior or adult parkrun on a Saturday or Sunday morning. Frequent trips to the Gravesend Cyclopark complete their training regime.

The boys have competed at The Crystal Palace Triathlon, Eton Dorney Triathlon, the Medway Tri Duathlon and Oliver has also competed at the Ocean Lake Aquathlon. These events can be very competitive but also lots of fun and the boys enjoy taking part.

The boys thoroughly enjoy the triathlon disciplines which complement their trials riding extremely well, providing a fantastic opportunity to develop their fitness, strength, stamina, balance and coordination.

In addition, both boys competed at the Hyrox Youngstars International Competition at Olympia in London this year. This was a multidiscipline test of speed, strength and stamina with competitors undertaking eight physical challenges interspersed running. The events included: Ski Erg, Sled Push, Sled Pull, Burpee Broad Jumps, Farmers Carry, Weighted Lunges, Indoor Rowing and Wall Ball Squats. Although this was a gruelling test of fitness, both boys had a great time and are keen to take part again when the event Returns to London Excel Centre in December this year.

Richard



I had just finished putting this piece about Oliver and Joshua into the Newsletter when I had news about the accident that Oliver had at Detling. The footrest went into his leg and badly gauged it down to the bone. He was taken to hospital and had 10 stitches. He was upset that he would not be able to ride at the next 2 day camping weekend. Lets hope he manages to come and watch his brother Joshua upholding the Silvester name. Oliver is doing well in the red route championship, and the good news is for this year you can drop two rounds, which I think is a good new rule.

Aiden Camfield

At the Horsmonden two-day Camping weekend Aiden Camfield no87 not only won the yellow class on both days but amazingly cleaned it both days! I think that deserves an article in the Newsletter don't you. Aiden is 11 years old and started riding trials in 2023 and he won his first trial. His new bike for this year is the Oset TXP 24. Sister Alice no 112 has taken over his Oset 20 R. Aiden started trials when he started watching his cousins Amelia and Oliver. His interests outside trials are mountain biking and cyclo trials both of which will help his trials riding. His Dad Chris thinks he will keep Aiden on the electric bike next year as well.

You may remember Chris had an accident at Detling last November when he fell off the top of the car obstacle. He suffered a terrible injury to his leg and had a double rupture of the quad tendon, and he is still in pain now. Chris wrote me a letter detailing the injury and the repairs it required, it didn't make nice reading! Let's hope he makes a full recovery, and it will be good therapy following Aiden and Alice at trials.



Aiden



Alice

Tech Tip

Oset 16R and 20R

I see so many riders of Oset 16Rs and 20Rs losing the front end on loose turns. The problem is there is too much lock on them. The riders turn more than the arc needed and it acts like a shopping trolley. The cure is to limit the lock. When my grandkids had them I attached a metal strip approx. 5mm thick to the lockstop on the frame with the ends bent across the stops. You can do similar with screws tapped into the stops. This would also be adjustable.

You will be surprised with the results.

Regards Stan,

Newsletter

Don't forget Mums and Dads and more importantly you kids send me any news about you or your riders and trials or whatever.

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