

Benenden 2 day Camping Week-end

Once again lovely weather all week-end. A good piece of land, with varied terrain. The riders were promised that the sections were going to be more difficult than they have been recently but being so dry they were still very rideable, some rain would have made them tricky!

Pink Small Wheel.

Charlie, Mya and Millie were close and swapped places over the two days. An interesting rider having their first ride was Holly Kemp, Hectors sister. She had a good day and didn't lose a five. She had that same determined look as Hector and I think she will be one to watch in the future. She won Rider of the Day.

Pink Big Wheel.

Archie and Ryder had some good rides with the wins going to Ryder.

Yellow

Although Aiden won both days Louie, Charlie, Sophia and Harry were all very close. The five of them are making their Championship very close. Freddie Laughton had a crash on Sunday and broke a tooth, but it won him Rider of the Day.

Reds

On Saturday after a poor first lap Freddie got it together to win on a tie break from Enzo with Jack Hayles having his first podium in the Reds. Like most Yellow Oset riders Jack has taken a season to get to grips with the Beta. Joshua had a good ride in fourth. After a very late night, early morning leavers party Freddie missed the Sunday. Enzo aged Eight had an amazing ride to win. That must be the youngest ever rider to win the Red route. With the Alfrey Family sponsoring one of the trophies days he did them proud. Henry came second with Jack again on the rostrum.

Blues

In the Blues there have been five different winners this season and its a very competitive class. On Saturday it was Mat, Ethan and Lilly. On the Sunday it was Tristan, having his first win on the blue route, then Ethan and Mat and all very close. The Championship is close as well.

Whites

This time it was Fletcher from Kayden on both days. Kayden is riding a lot better lately and more consistent.

I observed on section 4 on Saturday and Julie came to watch again in her wheel-chair/walker. So many people stopped to chat to her with their babies and their dogs she enjoyed getting out in the fresh air.



Holly “RIDER OF THE DAY”!

Tristan had his first win on the Blue Route!



Alfie's top tip for trials success, His cyclo trials bike

This year in the very competitive Blue route Alfie Scott, last years Red route Champion has improved impressively and had his first win in the Blues. He puts his improvement down to endless practicing on his cyclo trials bike.

These are his unedited words!

I've had my cyclo bike for over a year now and it's helped me a lot, like in the proper mighty trials, with like balance and body control. I take it to the camping weekends to show my skills. I ride it at every opportunity, I get really keen. I get it out every night and just practice stuff and try things, bigger stuff all the time.

My favourite tricks are crank and back hop, they look good and they help when coming off big obstacles and all that. I really enjoyed the big rocks at the Devon National.

Another is at Scarborough, it's all big rocks and you can just hop from one to another.

With a cyclo bike you can practice in a small garden with pallets. Definitely for kids with Osets get a cyclo bike to practice on, it helps so much with body position and control and balance. You can practice and practice, that's what I done, I was awful when I started, I got better and better and then you do bigger and bigger things. The bikes are so good you can get so many types and you can develop your own style on them. Thanks for that Alfie, I must get one!

Alfie showing us how it's done!!!



Likes and Dislikes

A nice easy one to get some input from the kids, (and adults). Send me an email or phone me, just a list will do but some comments would be even better.
I'll start it off as a kid from the 1950s.

1/ Favourite sport to watch on TV. Me, football (unless there is a Moto GP on).

2/ Favourite sport to be involved in. Me, trials.

3/ Favourite food. Me, a good fry-up.

4/ Favourite KYTC rider to watch. Me, Hector.

5/ Your top 3 likes. Me, Moto GP, Blues/rock music, beating authority.

6/ Your top 3 dislikes. Me, acoustic guitar, jazz, authorities.

7/ Favourite KYTC venue. Me, Crowborough

8/ Favourite type of sections, Me, rocky streams.

Now your turn!

Scarborough 2 day trial

Our intrepid bunch of travellers were at it again. This time the Scarborough 2 Day. They then stayed on afterwards on the Monday for a practice day! Tom Kemp sent me this report from his phone whilst driving back.

Hector, Alfie Scott, Harry Dennis, Tommy Tidd, Mason Tidd and Mowat rode the youth. Me JP and Lennie Tidd rode the adult.

Hector was joint 1st after the Saturday trial. Unfortunately he knocked a flag out on a section that put him into 2nd on the Sunday.

Hector is really happy to do so well on ground conditions we are not used too. Big rocks. Step after step after step. Rocky rivers.

Scarborough is such a great club. Very welcoming. I'd recommend it to everyone. It is well worth the 7 hour drive and I'd go again next weekend if they were doing a 2 day again.

Thanks Tom. I love the looks on their faces on the rostrum



Kent County Show

What an impressive acknowledgement of all the hard work that went into Detling.



17th July 2026

Dear Joseph & Crew

Kent County Show 2026 (95th Year)

On behalf of the Kent County Agricultural Society, I would like to extend my sincere thanks for your dedication, commitment and the considerable time and effort you gave to supporting the 95th Kent County Show.

This year's Show was a tremendous success, with excellent attendance across all three days and a fantastic atmosphere throughout the Showground. We have received a great deal of positive feedback from visitors, exhibitors and competitors, and your contribution played an important part in making the event such a memorable occasion.

I would also like to take this opportunity to once again congratulate Kent Youth Trials on reaching an incredible 50-year anniversary. This is a remarkable achievement and a wonderful reflection of the dedication, enthusiasm and commitment shown by everyone involved over the past five decades. It was a pleasure to recognise this important milestone during the Show, and I hope you enjoyed the surprise presentation. It was a small way for the Society to acknowledge the significant contribution Kent Youth Trials has made, not only to the Kent County Show but also to encouraging and supporting young people. Your continued involvement in the Show provides visitors with a fantastic opportunity to see the skills, enthusiasm and determination of young people, and we are extremely grateful for the time and effort that goes into organising and delivering the trials each year.

Thank you once again for your continued support, commitment and friendship over the years. We very much look forward to welcoming you back to the 96th Kent County Show, which will take place on 9th, 10th & 11th July 2027, and to celebrating many more years of Kent Youth Trials at the Show.

Yours sincerely,

Matthew Cullen
Chairman
Kent County Agricultural Society



I am always amazed at the variety of sports/hobbies that our young riders take part in and how enthusiastic they are. Henry is a force to be reckoned with on the Red route, in fact he is leading the championship. Whenever I watch him in trials he is always so determined. His other sport is boxing!

Henry Lingham's boxing journey

Henry Lingham, who trains at Leo Lions Gym, first started boxing just over a year ago. What began as a way to improve his fitness with one session a week has quickly grown into a real passion. He now trains three times a week and, as he gets older, is looking forward to taking part in more gym shows.

Henry particularly enjoys sparring and is always keen to learn, especially when it comes to improving his footwork and boxing skills. His dedication and enthusiasm have helped him develop rapidly in a short space of time.

The benefits of boxing have also carried over into his motorcycle trials riding. His fitness has improved significantly, and the hand-eye coordination, balance, and quick reactions developed through boxing have made a noticeable difference in his performances on the bike.

Henry continues to work hard, enjoys every training session, and is excited to see where both his boxing and trials journey take him next.

Ross



Henry with a couple of his sparring partners!!

The latest in the dad's ex racers stories

Jason Gunning

March 1992 and I'm off to Brands Hatch for my first race meeting with Kent Racing Combine (KRC) and my TZR250.

Practice went well until I fell on somebody's dropped oil at Druids, but I was unhurt and it was actually quite exciting and good to get my first crash out of the way. In the race I lead at first and finished 4th.

My second meeting was at Lydden Hill and I won my first race by around 8 seconds! I was overjoyed and soon convinced myself that I'd be challenging Wayne Rainey for his seat in the Kenny Roberts Marlboro Yamaha team. I had a great season and finished the championship in the runner-up spot.

1993 and I was back on the TZR. I won the first 4 races of the season and by mid-point I was leading the championship with a healthy points tally, but things went wrong with four successive mechanical failures (if only I'd known Stan Stephens back then) and with funds and moral running low, I decided to take a break and ended the year in 3rd place.

I took 2 years out, bought a Ford Escort RS Turbo, crashed it and wrote it off and realised now much I missed racing, and returned for 1996 and 1997 seasons, again on a TZR250. I finished 3rd again in 1996 after missing the first two rounds.

For 1997, I bought myself a lovely set of Marlboro Nankai leathers and had my bike painted in Marlboro colours and I was super chuffed with it. In the first race I was leading around Surtees Bend, beside the track was Darren Mowatt in the recovery truck mooning at me out of it's window, seconds later I'm sliding across the track next to my bike and my paint job and my leathers are doomed. Darren still laughs about this 30 years on.

I had always lusted after a pure racing 2 stroke TZ250 and with the older models becoming cheap, I bought a 1992 model for the 2000 season. In my first race I came 4th behind a couple of the top runners in the British Motorcycle Racing club (Bemsee). I had a great season, finishing top 6 in most races and with a couple of 2nds and 3rds along the way, too.

I thought I was done with racing after this, but in 2005 a work colleague was Team Manager for an Endurance racing team, 'Uprite Racing', who were competing in the British Endurance Championship, and asked if I could step in for one of his 3 man team who was out injured, and I did. The race went well and I enjoyed it a lot more than I thought I would, so this lead to 3 years of endurance racing, culminating in us winning the 2006 Class D championship and the 2007 Open class championship on a GSXR 1000.

After this I decided that it was time to stop for good as I'd enjoyed a few years of racing with no serious injury and I wasn't getting any younger.

Jason



Ava and George

Both of our Children, Ava and George have always loved riding their pedal bikes, I thought it would be nice to get the kids into trials and so I contacted Darren Mowat, as I knew that he and his family were helping run KYTC. So, we bought a couple of small Osets and we went along, and we all enjoyed ourselves, as we knew we would, and that was it, we joined up!

We all love our days on the bikes and the camping weekends are an especially good time for us all and we've all made some great friends within the club. The kids moved up to the Yellow routes this year and we are progressing reasonably well. Personally, I'm look forward to moving off the Osets and onto the proper motorbikes (Beta 80's) that we recently bought and that's our plan for next year. Learn to ride the petrol bikes this year and trial them next year.

Jason and Lucy

Beta 80 Tech Tip

The chain tensioner on the Beta is very vulnerable and not very strong and cost over £30. We were averaging one a month! A tip is when you fit a new one cut off the top and bottom of your old one and bolt (or weld) the old one to the back of the new one. At the same time drill out the two screw holes in the rubber tensioner pad and replace them with 5mm bolts and nuts. I have taken a picture of ours, a much stronger job.



Showman Hector!

