



September 2009 Wessex Gazette

Dig Deep

Centre News & Info
What's On
A Backward Look (will be resumed)

West Wilts Notes
Errington Cup Regs.
Inter Centre Team Trial

What's buried in your Gazette?

The View from BaHouse
Scott Trial - Free Offer!

| What's left in September? | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|-------------|--------------------|--------|
| 20th | BSSA | Brian Hudson 2hour | Timed Trial | Solo, S/car | RTClub |
| 27th | Kingswood | Hawkesbury Trophy | Trial | Solo, Youth | WCR* |
| 27th | N Somerset | Ivan Manning Trophy | Timed Trial | Solo | WCR* |
| In October we have | | | | | |
| 4th | BSSA | 5th Alan Brown | Timed Trial | Solo, S/car | RTClub |
| 4th | Wilts Border | Endeavour Trophy | Trial | Solo | RTClub |
| 11th | West Wilts | Errington Cup | Trial | Solo, Youth A&B | WCR* |
| 18th | Swindon | Jack Croston | Trial | Solo, Youth A&B | RTClub |
| 18th | N Somerset | Two hour | Timed Trial | Solo | RTClub |
| 25th | Mendip Vale | Brockley Cup | Trial | Solo, Youth A&B | RTClub |
| 31st | Bath & WoE | Peace Trophy | Trial | Solo, Youth, pre65 | RTClub |
| & in November we have | | | | | |
| 1st | BSSA | 6th Alan Brown | Timed Trial | Solo, S/car | WCR |
| 1st | Wilts Border | Autumn Trophy | Trial | Solo, Youth A | WCR* |
| 8th | Remembrance Sunday | | | | |
| 15th | N Somerset | Presidents Trophy | Trial | Solo, S/car | WCR* |
| 22nd | Frome & Dist | Selwood Novice & Bradley Cup | Trial | Solo, Youth A&B | WCR* |
| WCR * = Centre Championship event | | | | | |



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The Gazette is normally published each month from September to April & also in June & August.

Any contributions about motor cycle sport are welcomed.

Annual Sub £10 by post, or £5 by email. Any opinions expressed are those of the contributors & are not necessarily endorsed by the Centre or the ACU. Every attempt is made to ensure information published is accurate. E&OE

Copy for next (October) issue by Wednesday 14/10/09 please.

Read the Gazette on line at www.wessex-centre-acu.org.uk

Centre News & Info



The September Board Meeting dealt with its routine business.

The Board noted that a statement re dogs attending events was to be included in future Grass Track programmes. Guidance was also issued re pre 75 class silencers & about the "guidance for Marshals" booklet.

Inter Centre Team Trial:

Nicola Golding gave a verbal report about the Youth Event. In summary the Event left a lot to be desired on the organisational front. The sections had been laid out to challenge the best national Championship riders, they were difficult, quite technical & too long. They finished with 1 minute to spare after the organisers decided to sign them off at the start of Section 19 & allowing all competitors to complete their Lap afterwards. Unfortunately it seemed as if Riders punch cards were not checked to ensure Sections 1 -18 inclusive had been ridden before "signing off". Thus some riders signed off & then went back to ride previous sections all apparently within the 6 hour time limit and the teams 20 mark @1 mark a minute time allowance before exclusion.

The sidecar team did not travel to the event.

Tom Crease submitted a written Report, which explained why we only had 4 starters & why the team had a DNF - because Darren Butcher suffered a gearbox failure early in the 2nd lap & consequently had to retire. Again the team took well over 4 hours of the 6 hour limit to complete their 1st lap starting as the 19th team away.

Tom also wrote that he had considerable misgivings about our future participation in this event because of the severity of the sections. In his opinion as a number of riders are reaching the "senior" stage. & as we have scarcely any young riders riding Trials of National status - which builds the base of knowledge & experience needed to ride events which seem designed to take marks from the best riders in the country, we may not have competent riders to choose from.

In the light of these reports & the ensuing discussions, Frank Sweeting agreed to write to the Chairman of the T&E Committee voicing our concerns & to make some suggestions for change.

The Board also confirmed that it delegated all decisions about team management to the Managers after some parents questioned the Youth Team selection.

ACU Handbook 2010. Please advise Pat Richardson of any changes needed for the 2010 Handbook by the end of September, [or Emma Connop by 09/10/09]

Frank Sweeting told the Board that former Centre Champion, Chris Ludgate had passed away the previous week-end. He had emailed the family to express the condolences of the Centre & those of us that had competed with him.

Mark Talbot asked if a T&E Licencing Seminar could be arranged as a number of our Officials needed to be Licenced again. *Ed. I'm working on it, confirmed details in the next Gazette, but a Tuesday evening at Warmley Community Centre - about 20 -25 people are involved!*

West Wilts Notes.

Remember I told you a WMCC team was entered in the 24hour "Dawn til Dusk" event?

Congratulations are due because the Guys won! As you can imagine it wasn't without problems for all the teams, but we came out on top - so we're very pleased for the 3 man squad of Freddie Broadway Tyson Maytom-Jones & Dave Nuttall ably backed by the support crew

The next Event for Team WWMC is the Natterjack BEC Round this week-end.

Frank



Rob Scott had a tough day at Rosewall Hill in the ICTT Not getting a 5 was a challenge all day. Here's Rob feet up & still feet up as he exits an early section. These rocks were slippy, only Rob & Lee got out of this one!

The View from Ba House

Well it's September and time for the trials rules to change again. Evidently this time it's the bike manufacturers that are behind it, because they are finding the cost of competing at World Championship trials to be unsustainable. With the present parlous state of the market they are now actively seeking ways to cut their costs and are pushing for a return to the non-stop rules. That way, they figure, it should be possible to make the course a bit simpler, and safer, and they could then do away with the need for minders, saving themselves a lot of money in wages.

Let's hope that these savings will allow some of them to survive the Recession, but I have my doubts because making trials bikes for sale is a mugs game. There's just not enough money in it to make a viable business, unless you're able to charge Mr Honda's prices.

As for the actual events, the World and the British Championships are in real trouble, with fewer spectators and riders. The lack of spectators should come as no surprise to anyone for, to be honest, watching modern Championship trials is boring, you wouldn't want to pay much to watch it. All you get to see is someone in a ski-suit jumping up and down on the spot all day, it's rubbish. It would be far better for all of us if they got back to their roots and started riding up natural hazards again, then maybe it would get more interesting.

Recently, in a weak moment, I agreed to observe at a trial with five routes marked out. I'd done it before a few years ago and had forgotten what it was like. Well I've remembered now, it's just about impossible to observe properly, because there are so many combinations of route that you can't keep up. All you can do is mark what you see and if anyone goes off route then they will get away with it, which makes it all a bit of a nonsense really. Still to be fair it's very popular with

the riders, for there were over seventy entries, so maybe that's the future. Let's hope not.

It's rumoured that the Scottish-Six-Day's Start may be moving away from Fort-William. They are looking to go to the Aonach-Mor complex, a few miles along the Spean-Bridge road from the Fort, where there's a large covered Market-hall set out of the wind in the lee of a hill. It seems like a sensible move, for the present start is now too small to accommodate everyone and it's way too exposed to the damaging Westerly gales, that regularly blow up Loch-Linnhe. I suppose the bad news though is that it would mean the end of the Sunday Parade, and it could also kill off Mark Talbot's Nemesis, Town-Hall-Brae.

Personally I wouldn't just move the trial a few miles down the road, I'd get out of Lochaber altogether and go North of the Great-Glen, where the weather is generally dryer and warmer. Somewhere in Wester-Ross or Skye would do nicely. I could observe at Applecross, if you like. Ba

It's very sad to report that Chris Ludgate has passed away, after a long illness. Chris was a proper all-round motorcyclist. He won the Wessex Trials Championship in 1962 on a Royal-Enfield Crusader, went Road-Racing (Solo and Sidecar), and Sprinted. He always went well and was a very serious competitor. For a living, when he was round here, Chris worked at the Royal-Enfield factory in Westwood, where he helped to develop and test their Interceptor big-twin. When the factory closed he went off to London to be a motorcycle courier. Later on he married and went to live in Yorkshire to his wife's home near Pontefract. In time his two sons took up trials and, up until quite recently, you would see Chris at all the big trials giving them his support.

Chris was a gentleman, always good to chat to, and he'll be missed by many of us oldies. Our Sympathies go to Penny and the family. Ba

A Backward Look

Old Maler has not been well - in & out of hospital - but when I last spoke to him he threatened to resume normal service ASAP.

So Dave, when you read this, you'll know all your readers are thinking about you. ---Ed.

From the Editor

Scott Trial 2010

A reader reminded me that I have in the past, offered to pay the entry fee for Centre resident riders. I hadn't thought about it until then, but it has, as they say, "focussed the mind" so the offer is there again for this year's event. To limit my financial exposure this "free offer" is restricted to just 3 of you, but as the Closing Date for entries has gone I reckon there will be just a couple of you that might be a few quid in. We will see you in the start field, & somewhere around the course as well.!

ICTT Report & Pictures

This month's Gazette fits nicely into 5 sides. On average Gazettes are 8 sides, so to avoid having 3 sides of blank paper (If you write em I'll get em printed) so I've decided to put the page with my Report & some Pictures on the Web: see it at. www.wessex-centre-acu.org.uk/inter-centre-team-trial-2009/

There's work to do on the web-site before migrating there permanently in January as you'll see but hopefully it will expand as we go on

WEST WILTS MOTOR CLUB

ERRINGTON CUP TRIAL
A ROUND OF THE WESSEX CHAMPIONSHIP

SUNDAY 11th OCTOBER 2009
PERMIT No. ACU26374

The West Wilts Motor Club will hold an Open to Centre Trial for solo drivers including Expert, A&B schoolboys, who are members of Clubs affiliated to the Wessex Centre ACU. Held under the NSC of the ACU, the Standing Regulations, the Wessex Centre Rules, the following Supplementary Regulations and any final instructions which have or may be issued.

1. OFFICIALS: Wessex Centre Steward – Tom Crease; Club Steward - Frank Sweeting; Scrutineer – Ian Shuttleworth; Clerk of the Course – Brian Shuttleworth; Secretary of the Meeting – Phyllis Sweeting, 185 Great Ashley, Bradford on Avon, Wilts, BA15 2PP. Tel 01225 862506

2. AWARDS: "A" Route: Errington Cup for Best Expert. Non "A" Route: H J Giddings Cup for Best 'A/B'; Bob Missen Cup for Best 'B', Trials Cup for Best 'C'. An award to the Best Over 40 and 50. All awards are subject to minimum of 3 entries in each class with the exception of the premier award. Runner up awards will be given if there is a minimum of 10 entries in the class, if there is over 15 entries in a class a 3rd award will be given, etc. Club cups are held for one year only.

There will also be a class for Expert, A&B Class schoolboys. An award will be given to the winner in each class if there are three or more entries in the class.

3. ENTRIES: Adult £10 Schoolboy entry fee will be £8. Entries must be made on the form below and accompanied by the entry fee and sent to the Secretary of the Meeting at the above address. Closing date - Wednesday 6th October. Entries received after the closing date and up to 1 hour before the start will be accepted with an entry fee of £15. Club subscription £5. Cheques to be made payable to West Wilts Motor Club Ltd. One motorcycle to be ridden by one driver during the trial.

4. START: Folly Woods, Easterton Sands, Near Devizes. First mans time 10.30 a.m. and the rest at 1 minute intervals.

5. TIES: If there is a tie, the driver with the most cleans will win. If there is still a tie, the driver to gain advantage will win.

6. COURSE: All on private land and consisting of a number of laps depending on conditions. On some sections there will be an easier route for 'A/B, 'B', 'C' and Over 40 riders and to be eligible for their class awards, they must ride the easier route. Only riders riding their class defined route – main or alternative to qualify for championship points.

7. STAMPED AND ADDRESSED ENVELOPE WITH ENTRY PLEASE.

**WEST WILTS MOTOR CLUB
ENTRY FORM**

ERRINGTON CUP TRIAL
SUNDAY 11th OCTOBER 2009

FOLLY WOODS, EASTERTON
PERMIT No. ACU26374

Drivers Name.....

Address.....

Postcode.....Tel.No.....Club.....

Make of Motorcycle.....cc ACU Affiliated No

| | | | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|---------|-----------------------|
| Course Application | Main Route | Adult Expert (A) | Youth Expert | | |
| Secondary Classes | Alternative Route | Clubman Expert (A/B) Youth (A) | Clubman (B) Youth (B) | Over 40 | Novice (C) Over 50 |

Please circle class entered

Entry declaration: I / we the undersigned apply to enter the event described above and in consideration thereof-
I / we hereby declare that I / we have had the opportunity to read, and that I / we understand the National Sporting Code of the ACU, the ACU Standing Regulations, such Supplementary Regulations as have or may be issued for the event, and agree to be bound by them.
I / we further declare that I am / we are physically and mentally fit to take part in the event and I am / we are competent to do so.
I / we confirm that I / we understand the nature and type of event we are entering and its inherent risks and agree to accept the same notwithstanding that such risks may involve negligence on the part of the organisers or officials.
I / we confirm that the machine(s) as described above which I / we compete on shall be suitable and proper for the purpose.
I / we confirm that if any part of the event takes place on the public highway, the machine(s) described above shall be insured as required by the Road Traffic Acts, or equivalent legislation, and that it / they will comply with the regulations in respect thereof.
I / we agree that I am / we are required to register our arrival by "signing on" at the designated place not less than 30 minutes prior to commencement of my/our practice or first competition, whichever occurs first.

I / we enclose entry fee of £.....Club membership (£5).....Total

Acknowledgement of the risks of motorsport: I / we understand that by taking part in this event I / we are exposed to a risk of death, becoming permanently disabled or suffering some other serious injury and I / we acknowledge that even in the event that negligence on the part of the ACU, the promoter, the organising club, the venue owner, or any individual carrying out duties on their behalf were to be a contributory cause of any serious injury I / we may suffer, the dominant cause of any serious injury will always be my / our voluntary decision to take part in a high risk activity.

I / we have read the above and acknowledge that my / our participation in motorsport is entirely at my / our own risk.

Rider's Signature If under 18 state date of birth*.....

* For riders under 18 years of age – I accept the above conditions of entry to this event and give my approval:-

Signature of parent or person with parental responsibility:

Riders and Passengers under 18 years years of age who cannot produce a valid ACU Competition Licence/Trials Registration must also complete a 'Parental Agreement form (Single Event)' in addition to this entry form.