



December 2009

Wessex Gazette

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From the Editor

Happy Christmas every-one.

May it be a peaceful 2010 for you with much sporting success.

As you know this is your last printed Gazette, In years to come you will have a valuable relic to sell on eBay!

Thank you to all our readers contributors & reporters for years past, as we move into the unknown by ceasing the printed word & moving to on line access.

The Centre hopes that moving to the web site at www.wessex-centre-acu.org.uk will showcase the Centre & our Clubs, will give our Clubs' riders & supporters a shop window, and be a source of information for any sporting rider, where-ever they are in the country, who wants to know where to ride when they come down here & visit us.

It won't be done without the help & feedback of contributors & users - so please let me know what you want & I'll see if it can be done - maybe that should read *if I can do it* - because we all know anything is possible.

My Special Thanks:

go to all of your correspondents for their help & support over the years, especially Nipper Allen, Andy Luff & Dave Male who have made regular contributions at different times, about the sport in general We look forward to more of their wisdom, wit & waffle.

& to all Club Secretaries who have sent me their Regs by my deadlines



Contact the Editor at: snail mail Frank Sweeting, Editor Centre Gazette, 185 Great Ashley, Bradford on Avon, Wilts BA15 2PP / Tel 01225 862506 / e-Mail frank@sweet-sites.co.uk
The Gazette is normally published each month from September to April & also in June & August.

Any contributions about motor cycle sport are welcomed.

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 (January 2010) issue by Friday 15/01/2010 please.

The Gazette is available free to all on line at www.wessex-centre-acu.org.uk & is provided as a service to Wessex Centre Clubs & Competition Riders wherever they live.

West Wilts Notes

So what news this month? The "Workers Dinner" at the Dog & Fox was enjoyed by the "workers" & their better halves. The do was organised in exemplary fashion by Buster James & Babs Phelps who had to forego one of their holidays (I forget which one - there's so many!) because of Terry's recent stay in RUH mentioned last month. Good to see Terry at Club & the Workers do though.

Which reminds me that our Club Dinner & Disco will be at **Cumberwell Park on Friday 19th of February**. We've managed to keep the Ticket price at £25 again & please talk to Chris Kelly on 01225 865497 or Babs Phelps on 01225 723158 to get your tickets in good time - we don't want to turn you away. As an experiment this year, because recently not too many award winners have come to be presented with their Award, we offered a choice of a traditional award or a voucher exchangeable as full or part payment for a future Club Event.. Interestingly there's no overwhelming majority for either choice. See you there after you've enjoyed the James Cup the previous Sunday 14th with Brian Shutt as CofC & Phyllis as Secretary.

Have a good Christmas everyone - Frank

Whats still on in December?					
27th	BSSA	Phil Sparkes	Trial	Solo AB, B, C, S/car	RTClub
28th	Kingswood	4th Club Series	Trial	Solo, Youth	RTClub
& Next Year (!!), in January 2010					
Fri, 1st	BSSA	1st Alan Brown	Timed Trial	Solo, S/car	RTClub
3rd	Wilts Border	Kington Cup	Trial	Solo	RTClub
10th	Swindon & Dist	Brian Freegard	Trial	Solo, Youth A & B	RTClub
10th	N Somerset	Phillips Trophy	Timed Trial	Solo	RTClub
17th	Wells & Dist	Miller Cup	Trial	Solo, Youth	RTClub
24th	Kingswood	Avery Cup	Trial	Solo, Youth	WCR *
31st	BSSA	2nd Alan Brown	Timed Trial	Solo, S/car	RTClub
and in February we have					
7th	Wilts Border	Border Cup	Trial	Solo, Youth A	WCR *
14th	West Wilts	James Cup	Trial	Solo, Youth A & B	WCR *
14th	N Somerset	Terry Bunn Trophy	Timed Trial	Solo	WCR *
WCR * = Centre Championship event,					

Bath & WoE-Notes

Our thanks to all our friends who came and supported us at the Knut. It seemed to go off very well this year, with few problems. We are especially grateful to Mark and Theresa Talbot for organising the event for us. Thank you both, you did a super job.

We've had to move from our club pub because the Porter-Butt has closed and been sold to the Noreland Nannies, as future accommodation for their girls. We asked if we could stay on but they wouldn't hear of it so we're moving to the Hadley Arms, which is opposite the top of Ralph Allen's Drive on Combe-Down in Bath.

Subjects for discussion for January include the works of Chairman Mao and where to go for our annual outing. The World-Round at Fort-William seems favourite at the moment. **Ba**

You heard it here first: we didn't broadcast the fact that we expected Becky Cook to have a new minder (Craig Talbot) for next year, but now that Mick Perry has published his "scoop" in TMX we will give you another. Our European correspondent tells the Gazette that Eddie Lejeune will be in Scotland in 2011 for the 100th anniversary of the first SSDT, most probably taking a ride in the pre 65 event, or possibly riding for one day as part of a 6 man team in the main event itself. **Ed.**

Centre News & Info



The December Board Meeting dealt with its routine business.

Regional Seminars for CofC & Steward T&E Licences were successfully attended by around 25 people, a fee had been charged to cover costs & of the £5 fee, £1 had been donated to the ACU Benevolent Fund. It was also noted that the Ben. Fund was granting more cash than it was receiving & the Chairman asked if the Centre should consider if & how it could offer more support to it. The matter will be raised again at the Centre's 80th AGM on 2nd February 2010 to be held at 20:00hrs at Warmley Community Centre.

Insurance premia for 2010 - Correction - Despite having correctly reported last month that Gold Insurance would rise 5% across the board, as

A Backward Look

Another year is rapidly going down the plughole and its approaching that time when torpid and overstuffed bodies collapse into the armchair to sleep off the Yule tide excesses. It's also the time for 'Old Malers Quiz' just to stop the grey matter from seizing solid. So without further ado, here are ten fairly simple questions.

1. Who won this year's Harry Croft trophy?
2. Where was A.C.U. HQ before Rugby?
3. Name the Somerset scrambler who was the 250cc European Champ?
4. Name the Ben fund officer?
5. S.M.B. Hailwood, what did S.M.B. stand for?
6. Which German scrambler was nicknamed 'Fried rice'?
7. Which Swedish scrambler was nicknamed 'The Stork'?
8. Which Swedish scrambler was a dentist?
9. Which famous marque was made at Selly Oak?
10. Which Somerset man is still sprinting at 76 years of age?

There you are then a varied mix of questions for your delectation. Last year's quiz was too difficult for all except Brian Newbury, these are more simple. The prize for the winner will be a signed photo of Brian Shuttleworth in action with both feet on the pegs. Perhaps the only one in existence! Whilst mentioning his name it seems like a good

announced & Minuted by Directors, inspection of the Rate Tables shows Hare & Hounds Events are subject to a 14% rise. This has been confirmed by Gary Thompson **NOT** to be an error

Pat Richardson had received an enquiry about Clubs running Trials events for 4-6 year olds on Electric bikes in the Centre. It was clear every-one knew ACU TSR's did not allow this. The Chairman agreed to investigate. [*Editors note: the TSR's for 2010 will permit this class of competition, there is a capacity restriction of 750watts in the new class.*]

Under AOB, Frank Sweeting outlined to the Board his proposal that the "Gazette" ceased as a printed publication but continued to be available on a website see www.wessex-centre-acu.org.uk. He explained that the costs of printing & distributing hard copy far exceeded the subscription so that the email subscribers had begun to subsidise the hard copy people. [& 2nd class Post is going up again from 30p to 32p in April - Ed.] He said that he envisaged publishing Regs for all Restricted to Centre events, Results, Championship Tables, Links to Club web-sites, and Regular Contributions where available. & hoped that the Centre would cover the costs as a service to Clubs & Riders. This was agreed.

opportunity to wish him well following damage to his collar bone. No I'm not smiling. Honest.

In last month's notes I mentioned the clubs still running Dinner Dances. I forgot to include our old friends at Wilts Border. Very remiss of me. Put it down to my age. I'm going Ga Ga. Ring or E-mail Hon.Ed. with answers.

So there you are dear reader. If Frank stands by his intention to do away with 'hard copy Gazettes' and go electronic then this will be my last effort at raising a smile. Sadly everything comes to an end eventually. I've enjoyed doing my thing in the old fashioned way, but cant engage with I.T. technology. In fact I'm still trying to master the ABACUS it's all too much for my tiny brain. On that somewhat down beat note, I'll wish you all a Happy Xmas and good riding in the New Year. To the multi lingual amongst you I'll say also Frohe Weihnacht & Prettige Kerstdagen. Even Martin Bracey is bi lingual. He's fluent in English n Rubbish.

Cheers and good health

Old Maler

From the Editor, Dave thanx very much for your regular helpings of history, humour & wisdom. It's been a pleasure reading them & do you know I get people phoning me up & talking to me about your backward looks? So now I'm asking them, & all the rest of you to ring you up <01373 812 463> & ask you to keep writing for us. You write 'em & I'll publish them on this new fangled web thing

The View from Ba House

Well December is here and I'm writing something to go in the very last ever paper Gazette. It's sad that this has had to happen for, like all old-fogies I still prefer the printed paper word, but things move on and hopefully the digital Gazette will be a winner.

I helped out at the Southern Experts Trial a few weeks ago, which was being held at the Stourhead Estate near Mere. Tom and Mary Crease were in charge and it was organised as a joint effort between the Frome and Blackmore Vale clubs. From what I heard from the riders it was a great trial with lots of big hills and a nice long ride round the woods. It was won easily by that wonderful young rider Alex Wigg who was truly in a class of his own.

I'm afraid that I had a really bad day for I upset quite a lot of the Championship riders with my wrong decisions. (I thought that balancing while stopped still scored a one) If I hadn't been such an awkward sod I could have remedied my mistake early on when a young rider and his dad started to argue the point, but they were getting up my nose, so I asked them to push off. Well the dad did push off but he returned with some reinforcements and they then all began to give me some proper verbal grief while I was observing. (One of them was kind enough to suggest that I should push off myself if I couldn't do the job, which seemed a bit hurtful but

fair comment really.) Anyway peace was restored when Tom turned up and put me right about the new rules.

The next Sunday it was off to the Knut trial held at Dyrham Park. We were treated this year to a rare visit from Steve Saunders who duly won the trial in great style, followed at a distance by Craig Talbot and Colin Crease. Herbie Talbot put on a good old-fashioned trial, with lots of big hills and some long rocky gully sections and everyone seemed to be enjoying themselves.

I suppose the unluckiest rider was Rob Pike who, on the first lap while leading the trial, had the silicon-backfeed in the ECU on his Honda pack up and force him into retirement. One of the best rides on my section came from Richard Fogg who, after cleaning it, modestly described his performance as, "Like a Gazelle "

For anyone considering whether to ride the Scottish Six Days in 2010 the good news is that you'll be virtually sure of getting in. Evidently the entry numbers this year are well below the maximum allowed so it seems likely that a ballot for places will not be needed this time. Go on do it while you can.

Ba

From the Editor, Nipper thanx very much for livening up the Gazette with your views & humour, it's so dry that some readers aren't sure if you are telling it as it is or pulling their legs! Whatever, there's many a home truth wrapped up in your tales.

Southern Experts 2009

I was fortunate enough to be asked to be a steward for this event which was held in the Centre a couple of weeks back

It turned out to be a cracker of a Trial with 15 sections to be ridden three times. Although it had been very wet in the run up to the trial, there were no bottomless mud sections, deep grooves appeared in some granted but all had a bottom in them. Oh and some cracking full on climbs. A lot of "our" riders & helpers gave a hand with observing, punching, results, timekeeping & the youthful travelling marshals [Gareth Talbot, Luke & Josh Golding].

Winner Alexz Wigg left the rest, including last years winner Ross Danby, to fight over the minor places when he posted a cracking 1st lap where he had 3 dabs in just 2 sections. Ross dropped 12 & local Ricky Wiggins pushed hard with just 13. Ricky couldn't keep up the pressure on his 2nd & 3rd laps finally finishing 4th overall. Alexz finished on time & with just 19 marks dropped all day. Ross Danby was R/up & 3rd man Sam Haslam lost 44 on observation + 2 on time. That time limit caught out all but 6 of the Experts & Ben Bramwell & Dean Lovelace were excluded for being more than 20 minutes late after their 5hrs 30mins allowance. Jon Tuck having a rare solo ride had laps of 63, 56 & 60 so you know it was quite tough. The slightly easier Clubman Expert route proved a real test with winner Neal Hubbard taking first place from Chris Koch on the second tie break with 10 single dabs against Chris' 9 single dabs both having lost 83. **Ed.**



Left: Brian Bonny of the Sunbeam Club presents Alexz Wigg with the Southern Experts Trophy in the gloom.
Below: another what is it picture quiz:.-hint, it's at the same place as the Gruyere cheese machine.



Above: Ross Danby shakes a leg in section 15 of the 2009 Southern Experts on his way to R/up spot



Maler has set you a quiz: here is a general knowledge picture quiz for you to research when you are in the easy chair munching mince pies & fighting to keep awake.
Above What Scott?, [year, capacity, model] Below what is it? [year, make, model], & where is it? and Overleaf your 3rd picture of a ?? & ? [year, make & model]



Wessex Centre Trials Championship 2009 Final Placings

Wessex Centre Championship 2009 - A Class

	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10	Total
Colin Crease	15	15	15	10	12	12		15	12	10	96
Ben Bramwell			10	8	4		15	8	15		60
Craig Talbot	12	12		6	1		8		8	12	59
Lee Hassall	5	8	12	5	2	10	10		3	3	56
Gary Marshman		10			8			12	10		40
Ricky Wiggins				15	15						30
John Luff	8				10					8	26
Kevin Hart	10						12				22

Frank says: The Knut [Round 10] sorted out the challenges to Colin. Even though Ben retired, winner Steve Saunders foiled Craig's spirited challenge for R/up spot to Colin. The 1st time Craig's beaten Colin?

Wessex Centre Championship 2009 - AB Class

	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10	Total
Jason Atwell			10	12	15	12		15	15	15	94
Rob Scott	12	10	12		2	6	12	12	6	5	75
Trevor Ashford				4	8	15	15		12	12	66
Ross Thurlow	15	12	6	2		8	4		12		59
Jason Hamblin	10	15	8		6				4		43
Alan Strang		1	5			5	10		3	4	28
Mark Holmes		2	2				6	12		1	23
Mark Talbot	2	4					8		1	8	23

Frank says: I was wrong! Even if Knut winner Jason hadn't ridden, Rob would have had to be 3rd or better to be Champ. I saw Rob was riding with Jason, maybe Rob was psyched out?

Wessex Centre Championship 2009 - B Class

	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10	Total
Adam Colburn	8	12	15	8		6	12	12	15	12	94
Andrew Shave		10	12	10	5	10				8	55
Richard Cairns		15	10				10		10	10	55
Ben Wilmore						15		15		15	45
Rob Pitman							15	12	12		39
Tom Pike			10	12	8				4		34
Richard Vinnell		4	6		1	4		8	5	6	34
Sam Harding				15	12						27
Gary Harding		8	4		15						27
Dan Udall	12	6				3					21
Steven Fogg	6	5		5	3				2		21

Frank says: Young Ben Wilmore wins his class at the Knut, & with 3 rides & 3 wins he could be one to watch

Wessex Centre Championship 2009 - C Class

	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10	Total
Wayne Holmes	10	15	15		10	8	10	12	5	10	90
Paul Drake	15			8	15	15	15			15	83
Stuart Simpson	4	10	12	10	4	8	6	15	6	12	79
Andy Willcocks	2	6		6	3	12		8		4	41
Terry Potts	8	4	10		15						37
Shaun Sweeting		8	6		8	3			3	6	34
Gary Dando	12			15							27
Freddie Broadway							8		8	8	24
Duncan Thompson				12				10			22

Frank says: Wayne's Knut ride confirmed his Championship. Paul took R/up by beating Stuart on the day.

Wessex Centre Championship 2009 - Over-40 Class

	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10	Total
Tim Wheeler	15	15	15	12	15	12	15	15		12	114
Colin Bennett	12	12	12	8	12	10					66
Martyn Wilmore						15	12	12		10	49
Bill Bailey	5	8	10	3	10				12		48
Dave Best	2	5			4		6	10	10		37
Chris Wrigley	10	10		4	8						32
Rob Pike			8	3					15		26
Pete Penton	6			6			8				20
Richard Elliott				5						15	20

Frank says: Great ride by Richard to beat Champion Tim at the Knut.

Wessex Centre Championship 2009 - Over 50 Class

	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10	Total
Martin Strang		15	15	15	15	15	15	15	12		117
Phil Marsh	15	6	8		10	8			10	12	69
Dai Clothier		12	15						15		42
Ray Pekala	12	8						12			32
Kevin Miller						10	6	8	8		32
Vic Moran	4						5	10		6	25
Richard Taylor	5			10	3	5					23
Steve Hodge	10		10								20

Frank says: At the Knut Phil Marsh confirmed his R/up spot to Martin even with the black eye!

Criteria for inclusion 20 points scored. Shaded scores are dropped [8/10 Rounds to count]

Thanks from all Championship riders to Pete Dury for keeping us updated after every Round

BATH AND WEST OF ENGLAND M C

**KNUT TROPHY TRIAL
A CENTRE CHAMPIONSHIP TRIAL**

**SUNDAY 13th DECEMBER 2009
PERMIT NO: ACU 27240**

Restricted to members of a club affiliated to the Wessex Centre ACU, Riding solo machines and held under the NSC's of the ACU, together with the following supplementary regulations.

1. Officials. Club Steward – Mr R Burt Centre Steward Mr F Sweeting. Secretary of the meeting:- Mrs T Talbot, 5 Chestnut Rd, Sutton Benger, Chippenham Wits SN15 4RP Clerk of the Course:- Mrs T Talbot.
2. Entries. To be made on the standard entry form. Entry fee £14, Youth £10 returnable only if the trial is cancelled for more than 24 hours. Entries accepted up to half an hour before the start.
3. Awards. Best Performance by an A AB B C Class Rider, Best over 40 rider, Best over 50 rider (subject to 5 in a class) Grading as Wessex Centre List.
4. Start. Dyrham Woods, Dyrham Nr Bath Start 10.30 am Entries close half an hour before the start
- 5 Ties. As per NSC
6. Course. Entirely on private land. Dual sections may be used.
- 7 Protests. As per NSC

Entry form

KNUT TROPHY TRIAL

Sunday 13TH December 2009

Permit No. ACU 27240

Riders Name.....

Address.....

E-mail Address.....Tel No.....

Machine.....CC.....ACU AffiliationClub.....

Course Application	Expert Route (white)	Adult Expert (A)	Youth Expert		
	Main Route (red/blue)	Clubman Expert*(AB)	Clubman (B)	Youth A	O 40
	Alternative Route (yellow)	Novice (C)	T/shock	O 50	Youth B

*AB will ride some White route sections as stated on begins cards

DECLARATION

I .the undersigned apply to enter the event described above and enclose the fee of £..... in respect thereof.

In consideration thereof:-

I hereby declare that I have read and understood the National Sporting Code of the ACU Standing Regulations and agree to be bound by them together with such supplementary regulations as have or may be issued for the event.

I further declare that I am physically and mentally fit to take part in the event and am competent to do so.

I confirm that I understand the nature and type of events and the risk inherrant with the sport and agree to accept the same not withstanding that such risks may involve negligence on the part of the organisers/officials.

I further agree that I shall not seek to claim against the ACU, the organisers nor their officials, the landowners, the promoter or other bodies or individuals connected with the event in respect of damage to my property howsoever caused, and whether by the negligence or breach of statutory duty of the said bodies and persons.

I further agree that the machine which I enter and compete on shall be proper for it's purpose and that it will comply with the regulations in respect thereof, and is described above.

I understand and agree that I am required that as soon as I arrive at the venue to register my arrival and sign on at the race office or at any designated area.

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, being permanently disabled or suffering some other serious injury and I/we acknowledge that even in the event of 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 is entirely at my/our own risk.

Entrants signature.....Date.....

Parent/Guardians signature.....

NB: For each entrant rider or passenger who is under 18, this form must be accompanied by a completed parent agreement form signed by at least one parent /guardian and witnessed.