



October 2009

Wessex Gazette

Dig Deep

Centre News & Info
 What's On
 A Backward Look
 Trials Champ Tables

West Wilts Notes
 1 set of Trial Regs.
 Southern Experts Trial
 1 set of Timed Trial Regs

What's buried in your Gazette?

The View from Ba House
 Scott Trial
 T & E Licencing Seminars

What's left in October					
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*
7th	Frome & Dist	Annual Dinner/Awards night	Call Jim Webb	or Mary Crease for	Tickets
8th	Remembrance Sunday				
10th	Regional	T&E Licencing Seminar	call Frank	Sweeting	
15th	N Somerset	Presidents Trophy	Trial	Solo, S/car	WCR*
10th	Regional	T&E Licencing Seminar	call Frank	Sweeting	
22nd	Frome & Dist	Selwood Novice & Bradley Cup	Trial	Solo, Youth A&B	WCR*
29th	Kingswood	3rd Club Series	Trial	Solo, Youth	RTClub
Early in December there's					
6th	Wells & District	Mike Cornish Trophy	Timed Trial	Solo	WCR*
6th	<i>Sunbeam MCC</i>	<i>Southern Experts</i>	<i>Trial</i>	<i>Solo, Expert, Clubman</i>	
13th	Bath & WoE	Knut Trophy	Trial	Solo	WCR*
WCR * = Centre Championship event					



Contact the Editor at: 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.

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 (November) issue by Monday 16/11/09 please.

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

Craig Talbot & Scott Cameron are the only Centre residents that are in the Scott from the Entry List. Mark Cameron is also entered & they've all got early starts; 34,18 & 6 respectively. Dougie Lampkin has withdrawn so if they get round they've a sporting chance of being within time & getting a Finishers Certificate. It'll be a tough day for all of them. Who would have thought all those years ago when Craig was a little lad on a TY that he'd get to do the Scott Trial which is a "real" Trial that all us Southern Softies just talk about but can't ride? Good luck to all of them. We will see you in the start field, & somewhere around the course as well.!

There seems to be less entries from our part of the world this year, just perennial Chris Shorey & newcomer George Pollard from the SW Centre & Andy Blackman Geoff Herbert & Tony Moulder from Southern Centre. No Gary Jenkins this year either. I see old favourites Harold Crawford, Philip Alderson & Nigel Birkett are all there together with the younger generation like Alexz Wigg, Ross Danby, Jonathan Richardson & Michael Brown. If I were to wager I might incline to top 3 placings for Gaham Jarvis, Wayne Braybrooke & Ian Austermuhle. As I write it's possible your Gazette won't be published until after the Event, so we'll wait & see

Gazette on the Web: see it at. www.wessex-centre-acu.org.uk



Scott on the left had a great ride to the finish, just at the moment we're on tenterhooks to see if he's got a Finishers Certificate, in our opinion he deserves it "Minder" Dave Norris tells us that he ran out of fuel between two checks, & was pushing to the next stop. Without that he would definitely have been in time. He was though shattered at the finish. When I said I'd get the cheque in the post Scott said send it to the Scott Charities not to him. A wonderful gesture don't you think?

Craig on the right, in the mist, confessed he was a bit nervous on the start line - I'm not surprised, the Scott is a "mountain to climb" He was on for

a finish until the rear tyre rolled off the rim around the 6th petrol stop, & fixing it put him out of time. A brave effort for the first time. Craig & crew did it the hard way, left Chippenham at mid-night on Friday, drove through the night, competed & then drove home again straight away. Mark didn't get so far, after the chain wrapped itself round the sprocket, & the bike began "fluffing" he pulled out after Section 36, but not before he'd had a generous round of applause from an appreciative, knowledgeable crowd when he got a steps Section just right & cleaned it.



Sunbeam MCC with Frome & District United MC & LCC & Blackmore Vale MCC announce the National Restricted "Southern Experts Trial" on Sunday 6th December 2009

The Southern Experts is on our doorstep again this year. Classes for Experts (obviously) Youth A & for Clubman Experts on an easier route. Entry Fee is £24 & Entries close on 23rd November. The venue is Kings Wood Warren, Kilminster nr Warminster

Your senior Officials are: CofC Tom Crease, Course plotter Geoff Guy, Secretary of the Meeting Chris Mawer
tel 07710 211913 See you there??

Bath & WoE-Notes

Just to let you know that we've all woken up and we're up and running. To begin with, on Saturday 31st October, we will be holding our Peace Trophy trial, closed to club, at Rodney Farm, Bannerdown, near Colerne, near Bath, start at 10 o'clock or thereabouts. It's usually quite a simple trial and this year we'll probably only run two routes, a flattish one and a bumpy one.

A date for your diary. On the second Sunday in December at Dyrham Woods, just off the A46, it's the Knut Trophy, (A Wessex Championship trial - Ed), so if you fancy trying some big hills be sure to enter, because Herbie Talbot put out some real crackers last time. Full details next month.

Wessex Centre Championship 2009 - A Class

	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10	R11	Total
Colin Crease	15	15	15	10	12	12						79
Lee Hassall	5	8	12	5	2	10	10					52
Craig Talbot	12	12		6	1		8					39
Ben Bramwell			10	8	4		15					37
Ricky Wiggins				15	15							30
Kevin Hart	10						12					22

Wessex Centre Championship 2009 - AB Class

	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10	R11	Total
Rob Scott	12	10	12		2	6	12					54
Jason Atwell			10	12	15	12						49
Ross Thurlow	15	12	6	2		8	4					47
Trevor Ashford				4	8	15	15					42
Jason Hamblin	10	15	8		6							39
Alan Strang		1	5			5	10					21

Wessex Centre Championship 2009 - B Class

	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10	R11	Total
Adam Colburn	8	12	15	8		6	12					61
Andrew Shave		10	12	10	5	10						47
Richard Cairns		15	10				10					35
Tom Pike			10	12	8							30
Sam Harding				15	12							27
Gary Harding		8	4		15							27
Dan Udall	12	6				3						21

Wessex Centre Championship 2009 - C Class

	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10	R11	Total
Paul Drake	15			8	15	15	15					68
Wayne Holmes	10	15	15		10	8	10					68
Stuart Simpson	4	10	12	10	4	8	6					54
Terry Potts	8	4	10		15							37
Andy Wilcox	2	6		6	3	12						29
Gary Dando	12			15								27
Shaun Sweeting		8	6		8	3						25

Wessex Centre Championship 2009 - Over 40 Class

	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10	R11	Total
Tim Wheeler	15	15	15	12	15	12	15					99
Colin Bennett	12	12	12	8	12	10						66
Bill Bailey	5	8	10	3	10							36
Chris Wrigley	10	10		4	8							32
Martyn Wilmore						15	12					27
Pete Penton	6			6			8					20

Wessex Centre Championship 2009 - Over 50 Class

	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10	R11	Total
Martin Strang		15	15	15	15	15	15					90
Phil Marsh	15	6	8		10	8						47
Dai Clothier		12	15									27
Richard Taylor	5			10	3	5						23
Ray Pekala	12	8										20
Steve Hodge	10		10									20

**Championship Tables after 7 Rounds of 11. Best 9 scores to count.
Criteria for inclusion: 20 points scored**

WILTS BORDER MC & LCC

AUTUMN TROPHY TRIAL

A CENTRE CHAMPIONSHIP TRIAL

SUNDAY 1ST NOVEMBER 2009

PERMIT NO: ACU26849

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 C Sawyer 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:- Mr N Blackmore.
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 A B 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. Draycot Woods, 10.30 am signpost from junction 17 M4.
- 5 Ties. As per NSC
6. Course. Entirely on private land. Dual sections may be used.
- 7 Protests. As per NSC

ENTRY FORM Wilts Border MC & LCC

Autumn Trophy Trial

Sunday 1st November 2009

Permit No. ACU 26849

Riders Name.....

Address.....

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

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

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

* A/B will ride some white route sections as stated on begins card Please Circle Class Entered

DECLARATION

Ithe 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 inherent with the sport and agree to accept the same notwithstanding 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 its 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 parental agreement form signed by at least one parent /guardian and witnessed.

Regional Trials & Enduro CofC & Steward Licencing Seminars - have been arranged at Warmley Community Centre, Bristol on Tuesdays 10th & 17th November from 19:30 - 22:30hrs inc. Please bring your 2009 ACU Handbook & something to write with!

Seminars are not restricted to Centre Residents, neither do you have to have had a previous Licence

Contact Frank Sweeting on 01225 862506 or by email frank@sweet-sites.co.uk for more info. I'll try to fit around your preferred date but more than 20 at a time is too many.

The lists below refer only to Wessex Centre residents whose Licences run out this year

Surname	ForeName	Activity	Grade	Expiry Date
Bracey	Martin	T&E CofC & Steward	Regional	31 Dec 2009
Crease	Thomas	Trial Clerk of the Course/Steward	National	31 Dec 2009
Cuff	Timothy	T&E CofC & Steward	Regional	31 Dec 2009
Hodge	Greg	T&E CofC & Steward	Regional	31 Dec 2009
Lawford	Kerry	T&E CofC & Steward	Regional	31 Dec 2009
Peaker	Richard	T&E CofC & Steward	Regional	31 Dec 2009
Plaster	Denys	T&E CofC & Steward	Regional	31 Dec 2009
Scrivens	Gary	T&E CofC & Steward	Regional	31 Dec 2009
Shuttleworth	Brian	T&E CofC & Steward	Regional	31 Dec 2009
Shuttleworth	Ian	T&E CofC & Steward	Regional	31 Dec 2009
Simmons	David	T&E CofC & Steward	Regional	31 Dec 2009
Sinclair	Stuart	T&E CofC & Steward	Regional	31 Dec 2009
Sweeting	Frank	T&E CofC & Steward	National	31 Dec 2009
Talbot	Craig	T&E CofC & Steward	Regional	31 Dec 2009
Talbot	Theresa	T&E CofC & Steward	Regional	31 Dec 2009
Taylor	Richard	T&E CofC & Steward	Regional	31 Dec 2009
Tuck	Roger	T&E CofC & Steward	Regional	31 Dec 2009
Webb	James	T&E CofC & Steward	National	31 Dec 2009
Winter	Darryl	T&E CofC & Steward	Regional	31 Dec 2009
Wooster	Keith	T&E CofC & Steward	Regional	31 Dec 2009
Former Licence Holders who have let them lapse include				
Adams	Chris	Cottle	Dave	
Adams	Colin	Cottle	Andrea	
Crease	Colin	Lees	Bob	
Crease	Mary			



Scott Trial 2009
Award Winners

Jonathan
Richardson
left -11th & the
best first timer

Alexz Wigg
right - 3rd
overall this year



North Somerset (Bristol) Motor Sports Club

President's Trophy Trial
A Wessex Centre Championship Trial

Sunday 15 Nov 2009
Permit No ACU 26948

Restricted to members of the Wessex Centre clubs driving solo or sidecar machines. Held under the NSC of the ACU and the following supplementary regulations.

1. Officials: Wessex Centre Steward: M Bracey, Club Steward: R Lees, Scrutineer T Cuff, Sec. of the meeting; A. Colman, 23 Chestnut Rd, Long Ashton, Bristol BS41 9HR tel. 01275 392102 Clerk of the Course; D Plaster
2. Entries: On the Wessex Centre entry form to reach the secretary of the meeting by 14 Nov.
3. Awards: President's Trophy best solo, Main route runner up, Best performance in each class, First class awards to next 10% starters in each class.
4. Start: Malthouse Farm, Chelwood. All on private land. 1st driver away 10:30 am.
5. Special Test: In the event of a tie, the driver with most cleans will take precedence, then most 1s etc.
6. Insurance: Will be paid by the promoting club.
7. Fees: Solo £10.00, Sidecar £12.00 late entries plus £1.00.
8. Course: As per 2009 Championship rules. Number of laps decided on the day.

Entry Form

North Somerset (Bristol) Motor Sports Club

Sunday 15 Nov 2009

President's Trophy Trial

Permit No ACU 26948

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 below 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 a public highway, the machine(s) described below 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 the entry fee of: £.....

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 name _____ Passenger's name _____

Address _____ Address _____

Postcode _____ Tel. _____ Postcode _____ Tel. _____

Make of machine _____ cc _____ ACU affiliation number, rider _____ passenger _____

Entry fee _____ Registered member of _____ club

Rider: I am/am not (delete as applicable) under 18 years. Date of birth if under 18 years _____ signature of parent or person with parental responsibility _____ date _____

Course application	Main Route	Adult Expert (A)				
	Alternative Route	Clubman Expert (A/B)	Clubman (B)	Novice (C)	O/40	O/50
Secondary Classes		Sidecar				

Circle classes entered

Rider's signature _____

Date ____ / ____ / ____

Centre News & Info



The October Board Meeting dealt with its routine business.

Centre Secretary, Pat Richardson, announced she would not be seeking re-election at the Boards AGM & that she would certainly be standing down at the 2011 AGM if the vacancy was not filled in 2010.

Ken Lywood reminded the Meeting that the Centre still had not filled the vacant Treasurers post.

Ken also gave his opinion that, after inquiries, it was unlikely that there needed to be any increases in the cost of Permit Fees or Centre Levies for next year

So there you have it - the Centre needs two volunteers to keep running.

Regional Trials & Enduro Licencing Seminars: Frank Sweeting has arranged two sessions at Warmley Community Centre, starting at 19:30hrs on Tuesday 10th November & Tuesday 17th November.

If your current Licence shows it's only valid to 31/12/09 then you need to renew, if you don't have a Licence & want to get one then you must come along. Please contact Frank (tel 01225 862506) to book in. There's a small charge to cover costs.

Pat Richardson's said her word processor "was playing up" & needed fixing, this may delay her circulating the list of dates for discussion at the December 1st Dates Meeting

A Backward Look

OK then back to the grindstone.

We had a close encounter with the Grim Reaper at the end of August but managed with the help of the R.U.H medics, to forestall his scythework. So what can I dredge up from the past?

I heard a snippet emanating from Bob Burt that wife, Joy, failed in her attempt to walk on water in the canal. However I was sworn to secrecy, so I won't mention it.

Recently whilst slowing to turn into Tadhil Lane we were suddenly being overtaken by a posse of riders all intent on annihilating time between Long cross and Chantry. It was like being on the Ulster G.P. course at the start of a race.

They were obviously members of the **SCROTUM CLUB**

- ▶Speed
- ▶Crazed
- ▶Riders
- ▶Of
- ▶The
- ▶Ultimate
- ▶Motor cycles

Yes the old ones are the best ones!

Paul Hearn announced the **Results of the Centre Enduro Champs:**

Experts Champion Matt Ridgway, R/up Dave Nuttall,
Clubman Champion Kevin Barnes, R/up Glyn Thomas,
3rd Ricky Sage

Clubman O/40 Champion Terry Beacham, R/up Tony Hobbs, 3rd Malcolm Elliott

Martin Bracey expressed disappointment that there had been no coverage of Sidecar Trials this year in the ACU Sport Moto magazine, despite copy having been sent in.

Pinhard Trophy: Phil Steadman said that BMCC had nominated local rider, Josh Waterman, the profoundly deaf British 2009 Youth MX Champion for consideration by the Judging Panel

Swindon Adult Grass requested that the Centre pay for the Trophies & awards for the Presentation Evening which was being arranged.

Chairman & Secretaries Meeting: Rugby 10/10/09. Chairman & Frank Sweeting to attend, only one to speak (!) Agenda includes Confirmation of previous Minutes, Moto-X matters, Captive Insurance update, Role of Sporting Committees in Disciplinary matters. etc.

Subjectively the most important decision taken at this Meeting, I believe, was the support for a feasibility study costing up to £100k to develop a 37 acre facility owned by Cardiff City Council for Motor Cycle activity During the Meeting I interpreted the Chairman to suggest that the Basic Insurance Premium has been set too low for commercial reasons & may need to rise for next year. There is another problem with Basic Insurance events, no-one knows how many riders there were & hence the per head Levies (when & if paid) may be under reported. The Chairmans view seems to be that this will be resolved by imposition of a per Event levy, for both the "uninsured Losses" & the Basic event levy. There is also a feeling that the reduction in the costs of the Events are not passed on to Riders(!) - Frank

Frank Sweeting advised the Board that Chairman, Keith Wooster had won the British Clubman E3 Enduro Championship!

Whilst wallowing in nostalgia I came across an advert for a West Wilts event from 1938. It was a contest between West Wilts and Wroughton Speedway. What really caught my eye were the charges.

Admission 1/- including Tax & Children 6d.

Ringside parking 1/-

Motor Cycles 6d = 2 and a half p

Bicycles 3d = 1p approx

Refreshments available at reasonable cost.

For you young whippersnappers 1/-, a shilling, is 5p in todays money so sixpence is about 3p & thruppence for your bicycle is more or less the smallest coin you can have these days. How things have altered in 70 years and not always for the best.

The other thing that occurred to me was how the stars of day competed in many branches of the sport i.e. Road racers would have a go at Grass track and Scramblers would ride in Trials. Of course they didn't have a separate route for the slant artists. In those days it was a case of. One size fits all. -----Just like it should be.

That's all for this month. I'm already sitting up and taking a lightly boiled egg.

I'll sithee

Maler

The View from Ba House

Well the Autumn is with us and the trials season is beginning. It's always an interesting time for me because that is when all the new riders turn up. Sure enough at a Wilts-Border trial recently there were lots of new faces, all full of optimism, with their posh new bikes and gear. Sadly though, as in previous years, they all had a very hard day and I'm afraid that it will probably be the last we shall ever see of them. I suppose really that it's bound to end in tears because none of these new riders ever know anything about the basic skills needed to ride a trials bike, consequently they do a lot of crashing and pack it all in before they hurt themselves. That's got to be bad news for us, for we obviously need an influx of new blood every year to replace all the oldies that have left to do other things. It's a problem that we need to address.

During the War when I first took up Trialling things were very different. New riders had at least some idea of how to ride a bike, because all of us went to work on one. By the time we started trials the basic skills needed to survive were hard-wired into our thick skulls. We knew about icy conditions, slippery downhill and riding with no brakes, and were far better prepared than is the rider of today. Mind you that's not to say that our first experience of riding a trial was always an easy one.

My own first trial taught me a lot. It was in the 1950's and I entered one of Jim Cullimore's Marathons, starting at the Codrington-Arms, which used Pucklechurch lane to get to the first section. Byways in those days were generally abandoned and neglected, so

Pucklechurch lane was 3 miles of wet clay and Blackthorn thickets. I made such slow progress along it, using 1st gear and paddling all the way, that when I finally got to the other end and reached the first section it was so late that everyone had left. I was by then well and truly lost, but somehow I managed to find my way home, arriving back way after dark. From that experience I learnt four things. Get your entry in early, don't get lost, try to ride the biggest gear possible while riding on slippery ground, and very importantly, Blackthorn will hurt if you sit on it.

So what can be done to keep these new riders interested? I don't know the answer to that, all I can do is offer them some well-meant advice, in the hope that they will keep on riding.

Here it comes. When you start trials don't waste your time practicing, instead ride in as many events as you can. That way you'll gain experience of trials courses and find out quickly where you need to improve. Ask everyone for advice. The observers will gladly give pointers as to the best line and other riders will give you tips, if you ask them nicely. When you meet a section that is beyond your experience, ask for a five if you think you might get hurt. There's no shame in that, it's just good sense. Above all else try to ride in a smooth and flowing style, leaving the brakes and clutch alone as much as you can.

Really what is needed here is a proper training video demonstrating all the basic skills. It might be quite a good little earner for somebody. I'd give the job to Rob Pike. He's the only rider I know who's able to lose control and dive over the handlebars while riding on flat ground. I used to be able to do that. **Ba**

West Wilts Notes.

Thanks are due to Brian Shuttleworth & Phyllis Sweeting who were the lead Officials at the Centre Champs. Errington Cup Trial over at Easterton Sands. The weather was kind to us on the day & lowish scores resulted. Centre Champ Colin Crease had succumbed to Rowena's flu & couldn't ride so visitors Ben Bramwell & Kevin Hart fought it out between them with Ben winning on 23m/l gaining most advantage over Kevin who struggled with section 6 with a Five two threes & a clean against Bens three single dabs & a clean. It looked also as if Kevin had a slack five on section 11 where he & Ben only had a dab each otherwise. A special thanks to Chris Adams, who gave up his ride to observe for us,

I've been to a number of recent trials where there were more sections than Observers, it's a difficulty that isn't improving, & there always seems to be plenty of people around that could observe but don't (I excuse, of course any parent who is looking after a young rider as they need to act as mechanic/picker-up/sports psychologist etc.etc.). I suppose some potential Observers might feel they don't know how to, but we'd got little crib sheets to advise them with all the Boards. My advice to anyone who is brave enough to have a go is that consistency is all, even if you think you might get it wrong. As the good book says an Observer is a judge of fact - what you record on the Board goes. It's a fact!

Went up to the Scott by a different route this year. We discovered that it's possible to navigate by two wheel connections. We went past "Shuttleworth Business Park", through Sabden - (Bob Wright & CCM country) through Rathmell - well I never, it has a "reading room" & a green burial ground. On the different way back we passed "Villiers Park".. **Frank**

More snippets from the Scott We only watched two sections as the weather was inhospitable - Roys Rocks which was just one sub this year. As it was at Section 23 we hoped to see almost everyone through & we did. Tony Moulder went through & his spare inner tube detached itself from wherever it was insecurely stored & fell into the water. Mr Observer retrieved it & we have it, if you see this Tony we will have it at the Southern Experts for you. Saskia Baxter came through very very late covered in peat & obviously wasn't going to get round in time. Scott & Craig had good rides & Mark was workmanlike. Jarvis came through so late that I thought he wanted to clean every section rather than win. Must have had trouble early on. Dabill was clearly the leader on time here. Then we went off to Reeth for a pit-stop at the Overton House Cafe - a very nice pot of tea too & it was dry in there. Then it was off to Goats, no riders there when we got there but Dougie was checking out the line to advise the top lads. Later on he made a youngsters day as he left when Dad asked if he would pose with his lad. So there's going to be an A4 picture on the lads bedroom wall by now! Scott went through urgently, didn't need Phyllis's offered water, a finishers Certificate a possibility

So how about my predictions? Jarvis was the winner, Austermuhle was 7th, don't know if Braybrook started, the youngsters I mentioned had Wiggy 3rd, Ross 6th & Jonathan 9th. SW Centre entrants Chris Shorey & 1st timer George Pollard both got Certificates. Phil Alderson & Harold Crawford got Spoons & Birks was oldest over 40 finisher!