TRIALS & TRIBULATIONS

December 2012 Vol. 2 Issue 24

Tony Woods on his Matchless 350 at the Thumpers.
Photograph by Sarah Pateman

THE EASTERN FOURSTROKE ASSOCIATION & THE ANGLIA CLASSIC TRIALS CLUB

MONTHLY MAGAZINE

THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL

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www.eastern-fourstroke-association.co.uk

Visit the Eastern Fourstroke Associations website for a wealth of club information, results, pictures and videos of club trials.

(all submissions gladly accepted - keep your club alive)

Disclaimer - The articles and comments published herein do not necessarily represent the views of the Eastern Fourstroke Association, they are the opinions of individual contributors and are published with a view that free expression promotes discussion and interest.

Pedro's Patter

An excellent work party turn out to ready possible sections a fortnight before the event, 22 I'm told, they determined several 'old' sections waterlogged new were then produced. On Saturday prior to it was wet, wet but they provided an 'old fashion' trial course, not a ride in the park! It is a national trial, was blessed with good weather on the day tricky van parking started proceedings most coped ok first lap then the 'wet' riders came into their own, Graham and James had it sorted with awesome displays from Matthew & Paul on their 'thumpers', young Daniel Carter goes from strength to strength, great ride! Gary Baker a lone representative of one the Eastern centre's older club used his 'cub' to effect tidy as always. The 'gentlemen' didn't have it easy though some made it look so 3 marks adrift of Paul Houghton ex- cub rider Trevor Hill worked the 'bantam' to a well ridden 2nd Roger lost more than usual, his fly by wire exercise didn't work out and he had to re-attach twistgrip to handlebar and he then resumed falling off in a normal manner! Greg had his best trial result ever after considerable work on bike weeks preceding, it paid off! Flyer!! Mark Gibb out on the TJR BSA (built by the late Trevor Rumsey) completed his 3 laps before many had done one & half to achieve 6th, I reckon it's got a race cam in it! Kevin's Bantam didn't need one to stay ahead of Gordon's luvly Triumph both well ridden, Ryan Hyde will soon be a hard router, determination paying off. Just behind on another trusty B40 'big' John had a good day together with Alan 'R' on yet another. Cub, Bantams or B40's the user friendly trials iron. What a sterling performance by our blacksmith columnist John Daly equalled by the smokey litewate Enfield of Colin whilst the younger Colin incurred another unnecessary dab all very close! Howard won this round off the ongoing competition twixt he and Gary both on sponsored mounts (where's the brake syndrome) both enjoyed the day, Brian managed with a few less than consistent performers Richard, John, Dave & Bruce. Philip Smith finished in front of son Elliott who didn't disgrace riding a back to front BSA instead of usual Honda. Robin Slater (Clarke?) is getting back in groove or should that be rut! Chris and Bob think they enjoyed wrestling the lumps around only a dab between them good to hear and see the 'thumpers' maybe not the mutterings of the owners! press on lads! Graham shouldn't be disappointed with his progress on the Cub whilst Brian Cook manages to look happy when getting into and sometimes out of a muddle his mate Gary (who is a better country and western singer than trials rider) felt better after his leg waving exercises, you should join the ramblers mate then

you don't need the bike! Hats off to Tony Woods last but not least on his very 'honest' looking Matchbox well done from one enthusiast to another. Unfortunately the day ended with some walking wounded twisted knees, wrenched joints, wish you well lads. I was impressed by the Kentish contingents performance I hope they continue to support us. Big thank you's to John Beasley, Colin Rose, Brian, Mark Fletcher, Ted Smith, Graham Braybrook, Dave Kent, Peter Sigournay, Mick Brown and CoC Chris Mace for section laying in the wet Friday and Saturday. Thank you Karen SoM and provider of observers 'cuppa's' the results appeared quickly excellent as were all the observers thanks lads and lasses. I'm sure you'll be pleased to hear Dave Bickers is progressing well after a heart op . Keep warm!

Pedro

Trial Entry Fees Increase

The entry fee for our club trials has remained at a modest £12 for a number of years and looking through the Eastern Centre gazette they are well below that of other clubs in the centre. As with everything these days our costs continue to rise and the time has come for an increase. The money paid to the ACU for insurance and other levies has risen over the past few years as has the money we pay to the land owners.

Another increasing expense is the cost of materials to actually lay out the trial. Many of us currently involved with this are either retired or soon will be and the opportunity to 'find' items at work is no longer available and everything has to be bought.

As from January 2013 the cost of entry to an EFA closed to club trial will be £14.00 for adults and £10.00 for youth.

Merry Christmas

Scrooge

WHAT LARKS PIP!

Whoa my baby, steady girl, steady girl, good lass. I raise myself from my slumber and risk a tentative squint from the back of the van. I blink and look again as I'm greeted by a scene that would have been familiar to Constable or Dickens as the early morning September sun slowly burns through

the mist "Pride and Patients" both ¾ tonne Shire horses are put through their paces pulling a Ransomes Plough. In the distance I hear the familiar thrump of a field marshall tractor accompanied by Fergies, Fordsons and Dextas.

Memories of the night before begin to flood back as I recall at one point the Beer Tent (serving real ale I hasten to add) was completely surrounded by every make and size of steam engine, lorry and roller etc. a very good live band was knocking out songs that everybody knew the words to and one of those hit the hammer and sound the bell things, rigged of course, plenty of red faced burly farmers and gob smacked elated children and females! Needless to say I have a bit of a 'Head' this morning but as my old Farrier sergeant mate says "If you can't be man in the morning don't try and be one at night!" this was the Barleylands show and we had a Blacksmithing demonstration to put on. We lit our forges, cooked our bacon and once demolished got on with some work. Our idea for the weekend was to make a hanging basket bracket from scratch incorporating four different types of scroll fire welded together

Continued page 12

The Mid Anglia MCC
presents for your enjoyment

Plonkaround

Raydon Pit, Wades Lane, Raydon, Suffolk (Grid Ref TM043389)

Saturday 15th December 2012

Gates will open at noon.

Trials practise for:

Pre 65 solos • Pre 65 sidecars • Twin Shocks

Youths/Juniors • Twin Shock sidecars

For further information contact:

Mike Harden 01473 310537

Email: mikeharden@mypostoffice.co.uk

ANGLIA CLASSIC TRIALS CLUB

Affiliated to the Amateur Motor Cycle Association

THE BOXFORD BASH TRIAL

PRE-70 & TWINSHOCK TRIAL

Sunday December 9th 2012, Start 10:30 am.

AMCA Permit No.: **AMCA/CT/4222**
VENUE: **Scout HQ, The Spinney, Boxford, Suffolk, CO10 5HL**
GRID REF: **TL 966408**
CLERK OF THE COURSE: **Phil Smith**
SECRETARY OF THE MEETING: **Peter Siquornay, 125 Keene Way, Galleywood, Chelmsford, Essex, CM2 8NS**

COURSE: Approximately 4 laps of 10 sections - multi route course - all on private land.

MARKING: Will be 1,2,3,5 - Non-stop basis.

ENTRIES: Will be accepted from members of the EFA and other invited riders. To be made on the OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM and forwarded to the Secretary of the Meeting with a fee of **£12.00** adult, **£10.00** youth. A competitor becomes a member of the Anglia Classic Trials Club for the day of the event. **If you are a member of the AMCA please quote your membership number.** Please make cheque's payable to the **ANGLIA CLASSIC TRIALS CLUB** or **ACTC.** If you require the results to be posted to you please supply a S. A. E. Alternatively results will be posted on the EFA website at; www.anglia-classic-trials-club.co.uk / www.eastern-fourstroke-association.co.uk

ENTRIES CLOSE: One Hour Before the Start

CLASSES: Rigid, Pre-unit, Unit, 2 Stroke, Twin Shock & Youth.

ROUTE: Hard / 50/50 / Easy (Suitable for Old, Big & Heavy bikes & riders!

NOTICE: **Helmets must be worn** & it is recommended that you wear other appropiate protective clothing. Excessively noisy machines will be barred. **Competitors parking on the hard car park outside the gates must not start their machines until they are pushed well inside the Spinney.**

OBSERVERS: Please assist the organisers by bringing with you someone who is prepared to observe. Training given - *it's quite easy.*

ENTRY FORM ***The Boxford Bash Trial*** **9th December 2012**

Declaration: Motor Sport can be dangerous and may involve injury or death. You must read and agree to the following declaration and paragraphs below, which are designed to create a legally binding relationship in return for you being allowed to enter and compete.

1. I confirm that the information in this entry form and the information and my acceptance to the terms of my competition licence are correct.
2. I confirm that I understand the nature of the competition I am entering and I am competent to take part.
3. I confirm that any vehicle I use will comply with the regulations and will be safe and fit for use in the competition.
4. Before taking part in the event, I will ensure (unless prohibited) that I have inspected the venue, the track and the facilities and geographical features and that I am satisfied that it is safe for me to compete.
5. I will not take part if I have any doubt about my ability or the safety of the venue.
6. I accept that the competition in motor sport may involve the risk of injury or death and I agree to take part at my own risk.
7. Before taking part in the event, I will read and be bound by and comply with general regulations, any supplemental and final instructions issued by the AMCA, the organisers and the circuit owners and the regulatory body.
8. I will not participate whilst under the influence of alcohol or intoxicating drugs and that if I am taking any prescribed medication, I will inform the event organiser and seek approval to participate before taking part.

Riders Signature: _____Date_____

***Date of Birth (if under 18) _____AMCA Membership No.._____**

Riders Name: _____

Address: _____

_____Post Code: _____

Telephone: _____email:_____

Class Entered: _____Route: _____Machine:__ _____CC: _____

***Parent/Guardian Declaration and Agreement:** to allow the applicant to enter the competition you must agree to the matters set out below, which are designed to create legal obligations on you. Sign below only if you agree.

I (print name) _____ I am the parent/legal guardian.

I have read the entry form and declaration completed by the applicant and confirm the answers are true.

a) I confirm that he/she is competent to take part in the event and that any vehicle which he/she will use is safe and fit for competition.

b) I will, before allowing him/her to take part, satisfy myself that the course and the facilities are safe and will inspect same.

c) I also AGREE that if the applicant should sustain any injury from any cause whilst taking part in the event and as a result bring a claim for compensation against you or the organisers or officials or sponsors or entrants or owners of the venue. I WILL INDEMNIFY AND PAY BACK TO YOU any sum which you may be required to pay as a result of such a claim.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Richard Challis lets his BSA 250 find the ends cards
by itself at the Thumpers.

Photograph sequence taken by Sarah Pateman

Graham Brown, James 250
Winner of the 2-stoke hard route and least marks lost overall at the Thumpers.
Photograph Mick Brown.

Mathew Neale, Ariel 500
Winner of the Pre-unit hard route at the Thumpers.

Photograph Mick Brown.

Gary Baker
Triumph 250
Winner of the Unit hard route at the Thumpers.

Photograph
Mick Brown.

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM **CENTRE RESTRICTED**

EASTERN FOURSTROKE ASSOCIATION **DATE . 6th JANUARY 2013**

LITTLE BEALINGS TRIAL

ACU PERMIT No. TBA

This event is held under the National Sporting Code of the Auto-Cycle Union, the Standing Discipline Regulations of the ACU and the Eastern Centre, Supplementary Regulations and any Final Instructions issued for the meeting.
The ACU National Sporting Code and Standing Regulations are published annually in the ACU Handbook.

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/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 signature: . . . . . .Date: . . . . . .DOB (under 18) . . . . . .

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 under 18 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.

RIDER

Surname: . . . . . .First name(s): . . . . . .

Address: . . . . . .

. . . . . .

Postcode: . . . . . .Tel: . . . . . .

Email: . . . . . .

ACU Licence/Registration No: . . . . . .ACU Affiliated Club : . . . . . .
(of which I am a member)

Class/Grade Entered: . . . . . Route . . . . . .

MACHINE

Make: . . . . . Capacity: . . . . . cc Stroke: . . . . . mm

EASTERN FOURSTROKE ASSOCIATION

Restricted to members of the Eastern Fourstroke Association

LITTLE BEALINGS TRIAL

PRE-65 AND TWINSHOCK TRIAL

Sunday January 6th 2013, Start 10:30 am.

TRIAL: **CENTRE RESTRICTED**
VENUE: **Sunfield Farm, Little Bealings, Nr Ipswich, Suffolk**
GRID REF:
ACU PERMIT No: **TBA**
OFFICIALS:
CLUB STEWARD: **TBA**
CLERK OF THE COURSE: **Eddie Hood (Licence No. 9449)**
SECRETARY OF THE MEETING: **Lesley Willmore, The Haven, Maldon Road, Steeple, Essex, CM0 7RP**
Tel: 01621 774077

JURISDICTION: Held under the NSC and the Standing Discipline Regulations of the ACU and the EASTERN CENTRE, these Supplementary Regulations and any Final Instructions which will have the force of these Regulations. Open to members of the Eastern Fourstroke Association riding Pre-65 solo machines, twinshock machines and EFA Youth members only.

COURSE: Approximately 4 laps of 10 sections - multi route course - all on private land.

MARKING: As per TSR 22B - Non-stop basis.

ENTRIES: To be made on the OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM and forwarded to the Secretary of the Meeting with a fee of **£14.00** (adult), **£10.00** (youth) which includes Insurance Premiums, Licence Subscription and all levies. Please make cheque's payable to the Eastern Fourstroke Association (EFA) If you require the results to be posted to you please supply a S. A. E. Alternatively results will be posted on the EFA website at; www.eastern-fourstroke-association.co.uk

ENTRIES CLOSE: Half Hour Before the Start

CLASSES: SOLO, Rigid, Pre-unit, Unit, 2 Stroke, Twin Shock & Youth. All solo.

ROUTE: Hard / 50/50 / Easy

Three EFA members, Gary Eaves, Colin Sadler and Howard Plush (who seems to have let his recent bought of vertigo overcome him) tackling section 11 at the Thumpers
Photographs Neil Canham

clipped and collared to the frame, this was to be presented to the owner and organiser of Barleylands Mr Philpot.

At about 11 o'clock through the din of hammer blows I heard another familiar sound that of a 500 International Norton! The old man had decided to have a ride down from Halstead. Once parked in our little pen he then wandered off for a good look around leaving me to keep an eye on the bike. I then found myself answering more questions about the Norton than the bloody Blacksmithing! "What year's that mate? I used to have one of them" oh and " Is it an ES2?"

So after a brilliant weekend I couldn't help coming away feeling particularly impressed with the passion involved and hard work put in by the owners of the steam engines, classic cars, bikes and by no means least those who keep a pair of working horses in tip top condition as well as their harness and implements.

With the trials season fast approaching and the fact that the Ajay hadn't seen a spanner for a few weeks decided to take a few days off work and 'book a slot' with the Halstead branch of tuning and development, after having preyed to the God of East Anglian topsoil and fallen trees to get me to a finish one too many times, major surgery was needed! Ajay was booked in for a hip replacement (swinging arm spindle.) Three words summed up two days of head scratching and hard work "What a B**t**d!" As with all undertakings of this kind it wasn't straight forward. The swinging arm spindle was 'welded' in both sides (nice!), nylon bushes were worn to b*ll*cks, bell mouthed and to added insult to injury mum was on holiday (sunning it up) so we had to do our own cooking and washing up! Ajay now sports new aluminium bushes as well as a rather neat spindle and clamping arrangement complete with grease nipples. Her back wheel actually rotates in just one plain now and

no longer feels the need to deviated from this. *(and judging from the Thumpers a good job done. ed)*

A break was needed from all these engineering headaches (and washing up) so a day out was hastily put together. Our first port of call was to see Dave Bickers. Dave, in the middle of three or so rebuilds, was only too pleased to see us and show us around his 'stunt' workshops and bike collections. He really has 'been there, done that and got the tee shirt.' There were racing posters on the workshop walls of him riding 10 years before I was born, a more amenable, helpful and genuine man I've yet to meet. Then over to see the proud new owner of dads old 500T, Roger Lye, bit of a character is Roger. He's in the middle of building a V twin J.A.P. American long tracker with an interesting exhaust note modification (don't tell plod) all this is "Just popping down the shops," then a quick stop in Melford for a cuppa with Canham senior and then back home.

Put the Ajay through her paces at Raydon Practice, the old man turned up on the 'special' so had a good ole blast around on that, just a few modifications needed and that'll be in next years Thumpers! Then I spied Eaves senior setting out a section over by juniors big van. So thinking to myself Pete would never preside over anything too treacherous being a seasoned A.M.C. campaigner and that! How wrong was I. having waited until the coast was clear I thought I'd have a go and if I rode it once I rode it a dozen times and still never cleaned it! Gary of course, grinning like a Cheshire cat, cleaned it frontward's, backwards and bloody sideways on his Pogo stick. It's hard work trying to persuade him to put a leg across the Ajay or any 4 stroke for that matter. I don't know if it's a phobia thing or just nerves. I feel it's only a matter of time though, just let him get it out of his system then it'll be a natural progression. Once aboard 300 lb of unwieldy British iron he'll never look back and if he's on my Ajay he won't be able to – the brakes are hopeless! Mind you he may offer to give it a clean, he likes cleaning bikes and sections. Yes I definitely think it's the way forward for Eaves junior, I shall start scanning the adverts for suitable steed hence with!

John Daly

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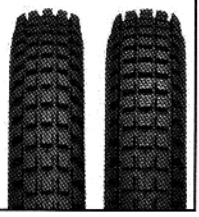

Wesley Butcher, AJS 500
Winner of the Tele-rigid class
at the Thumpers
Photograph by Karen Mace

Bernard Rodemark
BSA 316
Runner up of the
Tele-rigid class at the
Thumpers
Photograph by Mick Brown

Peter Bavin, BSA 185 at the Thumpers
Photograph by Sarah Pateman

KEEPING TRACK!

December 2012

Fixture list of Trials open to Classic Bikes in East Anglia & some further afield

Dec-09	ACTC	AMCA	Boxford Bash, Scouts Charity Trial
Dec 15	Mid Anglia MCC	AMCA	Plonkers Practice, Raydon Pit, 12 noon
Dec-23	Braintree & District DMCC	ACU	Turkey Trot Trial, Beazley End, P70 Champ Round
Dec 26	Triangle (Ipswich) MCC	ACU	Boxing Day Fun Trial, Raydon Pit
Dec-27	Somerton Classic MCC	AMCA	Gordon Francis Trophy Trial, Long Sutton
Dec-30	Woodbridge & DMCC	ACU	Laurie Bird Memorial Trial, Rendlesham.
Jan 6 '13	EFA	ACU	Little Bealings Trial
Jan-06	Wycombe & DMCC	ACU	Classic Trial, Great Wood, Stokenwood, Bucks. SMCBC
Jan 8?	EFA		Club Night at the Alma
Jan-27	Talmag MCC	ACU	Talmag Trophy Trial, Hungry Hill, Aldershot
Feb-10	EFA	ACU	Raydon Pit Trial (venue change from Snaque Pit)
Mar (tbc)	ACTC	AMCA	Wrabness Trial
Mar 24	EFA	ACU	Chattisham Trial
Mar 29	Woodbridge & DMCC	ACU	Blaxhall Trial

These events have been supplied in good faith but neither the Editor nor the E. F. A. can be held responsible for errors, omissions or cancellations of any event.

Trials and Tribulations would like to say a big "THANK YOU"
To *Pedro, John Daly, Mick Brown, Sarah Pateman, Karen Mace, Neil Canham, Don Daly, El Presidente & Scrooge*
for their articles, results and photographs contributed this month, those not used will be at a later date, *"Thanks"*

Following the recent request for help with Secretary of the Meeting duties at club trials it is with great **thanks from all members of the club** that three further people, Lesley Willmore, Tracy Henderson and Peter Siqournay have said they will help spread the load.

"Thank you"

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