

Editorial

It looks as if the country and our sport of off-road motorcycling got away very lightly this past month following the outbreak of Foot and Mouth disease down in Surrey. It would appear that DEFRA may well have got it right and I think they, and the concern and involvement of our new PM, should be congratulated and it may bode well for future outbreaks which will certainly occur. The outbreak did in fact occur very close to some very well known and well used venues such as Hungry Hill.

Mick Brown has provided us with details of the final amount raised at the Charity Trial for the Leonard Cheshire Seven Rivers Home. Let us all congratulate and thank Mick for all the hard work that he put into this event and we must not forget all the helpers and of course the co-operation of the Home itself as without their help the event could not have taken place. I have included a couple of photos (supplied by Seven Rivers) of the Spitfire over the Home and I hope you appreciate them.

May I remind you that Brian Horrigan would like anyone to visit him to help speed his recovery - his phone number is:

01206 822381

Thumpers time will soon be with us - please read the item by Tracey regarding the distribution of regs. The system she will be using has been in use for the past couple of years and would appear to work very well.

The Presidential Harley is up for sale! For those of you who can't afford one of James Bond's Aston Martins or a Roller previously owned by the Beatles, well why not purchase the Presidential Harley? I am afraid that I don't know whether the obligatory leather cap (including chains) or the Harley belt buckle come in the deal. No need to wonder about how to get along with tattoos all the way up your arms - just get a set of the transparent tattoo sleeves. Seemingly these are very popular with the surfing fraternity and can be obtained in this country.

Following last months over abundance of articles I am sorry to report that this month I have just managed to print mainly what was left over from last month. So . . . A big thankyou to Peter and Mick for their items. If I were to receive one item a month from our readership then that would see the Trials & Tribs through for the next 13 years! Yes, we have that large a circulation. So hows about coming up with something - surely everyone has a story to tell and of

*Still your last chance to buy at current prices!
Get your EFA sweatshirts from:*

EeDee Tailoring

sole concessionaires for EFA regalia

Tel: 01206 841519

The September Plonkaround

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

Saturday 15th September 2007

Gates will be open at noon.

Trials practise for:

Pre 65 solos • Pre 65 sidecars • Twin Shocks
Youths/Juniors • Twin Shock sidecars

course if it really is that embarrassing then create yourself a pen name.

Many of you will know Bryan Walker, a centre steward and member of the Marshals club. Well I am sorry to report that Bryan, although not at all well with cancer has now broken his femur, I believe in 3 places, and is to the best of my knowledge in Broomfield Hospital. Anybody who goes that way, please go and see Bryan to raise his spirits.

I gather that Tim's Tour on the 1st of September was very good and it would appear the Fletcher 'Connie' misbehaved once

again and that

was before leaving the abode of our esteemed chairman whom I now

believe to have been re-christened following his expert diagnosis and repair of said bicycle. Arise 'Super Ted'!

SUPER TED



How are you getting on with or appreciating this years MotoGP? I for one, and here I agree with BBCs Suzi Perry, are nowhere near as enthralled

with the spectacle, for that is what it is, as I believe it should be. So, we have Valentino who has had a poor year by his standards but his dominance has been replaced with an Australian who oozes not charisma by the bucket full. According to Suzi's article in Saturday's Telegraph, Stoner, the new Australian wonder boy reckons he is only there to race motorcycles and not entertain the audience. Wrong! Surely we have only just recovered from the damage done to the sport by that other charisma laden Aussie Mick Doohan! What do you think - I for one would like to hear your views - preferably in writing and in such a manner that they can be printed without too many 'expletive deleted's'.

Please be aware that there will be a very early deadline for items for the November issue of T&T but more details next month.

Best wishes,

Jim

Secretarys Scribblings

"It's Show Time", the fundraising rally supporting Little Havens Childrens Hospice at Althorne was unlucky with the weather this year. Although a lot of people did come along it was obvious the thought of getting wet deterred others as numbers were down on last year but hopefully a healthy sum was still collected for the Hospice.

The 14th Netley Marsh Eurojumble takes place over the-weekend of 8/9 September. As well as loads of jumble stalls there'll be a display of veteran, vintage and classic bikes. Open from 9 'til 5 on Saturday and 9 'til 3 on Sunday it'll cost £7 to get in or £5 if you can get away with calling yourself a Senior.



Sunday 16 September is the day of the Air Ambulance Run from Ford's Technical Centre at Dunton up to Harwich, where there's always plenty going on. If you fancy a day out that's a bit different.



If you're interested in pre-1939 bikes why not nip down to the Brooklands Relived event on Saturday 22 September when the Brooklands Museum are holding parade sessions using the Test Hill and Members Banking. There'll also be a static display plus a chance to look round the museum sheds and grab a bite to eat if you get peckish. We went a couple of years ago and it's a great atmosphere.



Looks as though the Pre-65 MotoX Club are at Marks Tey on Sunday 30 September. Contact for this one is Michael on 07969 641683.

Also on that Sunday, Battlesbridge Motorcycle Museum is hosting the annual Grand Motorbilia Day which includes a Bike Show and Jumble. They'll let you in at 10am and chuck you out if you're still there at 5pm.

Don't forget to pencil Little Bealings onto your calendar for Sunday 7th October. Regs will be in next month's newsletter.

And finally

It was mealtime during a flight on a British Airways plane. "Would you like dinner?" the Flight Attendant asked the man seated in the front row.

"What are my choices?" asked the man.

"Yes or no" replied the Flight Attendant!

Heather



Japanese Banking Crisis

Recent reports indicate the Japanese banking crisis shows no signs of improving. If anything, it's getting worse.

Following last week's news that Origami Bank had folded, it was today learned that Sumo Bank has gone belly up, Bonsai Bank plans to cut back some of its branches and the Karaoke Bank is up for sale and is going for a song.

Meanwhile, shares in Kamikaze Bank have nose-dived and 500 jobs at Karate Bank will be chopped. Analysts report that there is something fishy going on at Sushi Bank and staff there fear they may get a raw deal.

Please Note:

The closing date by which all articles and adverts to be included in the next issue of Trials & Tribulations should reach the editorial office is the 25th of the month preceding publication.

Material for inclusion in the magazine may be supplied in the following forms:

handwritten • typed • computer hard copy • fax • email • floppy disc

If providing computer hard copy, a font size of 12pt minimum is preferred whilst

Evil Woman



Jennifer watched as the check out girl rang up her purchases. "Cash, cheque or credit card?" she asked after checking the items Jennifer had bought.

As Jennifer fumbled for her purse, the check out girl noticed a remote control for a television set in her purse.

"Do you always carry around your TV remote?" she asked.

"No," Jennifer replied. "But my husband refused to come shopping with me, so I figured this was the most evil thing I could do to him."

Well! It's that time again! What time you ask - Thumpers Time of course. Yes we shall be getting ourselves sorted out for our annual bash at Thorrrington very shortly. As far as the regs are concerned, the permit has been applied for and I anticipate sending out the regs at the end of September/early October to those who have entered either/both of the last two events. A set of regs will also be placed on the internet by early October for those with suitable access. The address is www.thumpers.org.uk which will take you to the home page. Once there, simply click on the appropriate graphic at the top of the page to download the regs. As usual, any problems then give us a call and we'll do our best to help.

The entry fee for this year has unfortunately had to rise to £15.50 but we hope this won't put too many of you off from entering. Last year we were somewhat down on entries but quite why we're not really sure. Mind you, I have heard it said that it was perhaps better with the smaller entry. Snag is though that if we lose many more from out of centre we may as well apply for a closed to club permit rather than a national. Still we'll keep things going as long as we can. Please note that as last year I shall again be sending out the regs although I shall have a few with me at the October Club Nite for those I've not sent to. Before I finish I stress that if you know of anyone who has NOT been sent a set of regs but would like a copy, please feel free to copy yours or alternatively, contact myself or Jim on 01245 466815 with the relevant info and we'll get a copy to you in the mail.

Tracey

Vegetative State

Last night, my wife and I were sitting in the living room and I said to her, "I never want to live in a vegetative state, dependent on some machine and fluids from a bottle. If that ever happens, just pull the plug."

She got up, unplugged the TV and threw out my beer. She's such a bitch.





Chris Bater - big and heavy with no ground clearance - the BSA of course

Photo by Mick Brown

Council Complaints

The following is an extract from a complaint letter received by the council from a tenant

I request permission to remove my drawers in the kitchen. 50 per cent of the walls are damp, 50 per cent have crumbling plaster and 50 per cent are plain filthy.

This is definitely the final total for the Charity Trial, £2562, thanks to some late rider sponsorship coming in, thanks Rob. Any funds coming in now from the sale of any of the jumble I have will be put in the kitty for next year.



Photos courtesy Seven Rivers

Over 60 Qs and As

- Q:** What can a man do while his wife is going through menopause?
- A:** Keep busy. If you're handy with tools, you can finish the basement. When you are done you will have a place to live.
- Q:** How can you increase the heart rate of your 60+ year old husband?
- A:** Tell him you're pregnant.
- Q:** How can you avoid spotting a wrinkle every time you walk by a mirror?
- A:** The next time you're in front of a mirror, take off your glasses.
- Q:** Why should 60+ year old people use valet parking?
- A:** Valets don't forget where they park your car.
- Q:** Is it common for 60+ year olds to have problems with short term memory storage?
- A:** Storing memory is not a problem, retrieving it is a problem.
- Q:** As people age, do they sleep more soundly?
- A:** Yes, but usually in the afternoon.
- Q:** Where do 60+ year olds look for fashionable glasses?
- A:** Their foreheads.
- Q:** What is the most common remark made by 60+ year olds when they enter antique stores?
- A:** "I remember these".

USEFUL CONVERSIONS . . .

For those who thought the hardest part of Physics was the constant conversion from feet and inches to the metric system, including all its Newtons, Joules, and Watts, here is an example of another useful conversion:

Half of a large intestine

- 1 semicolon .

This and That!!

Having recently had sight of a 1951 Edinburgh and District Motor Club Yearbook, I was very impressed - 38 pages packed with information regarding the Scottish events calendar together with results from 1950 events including the 'Scottish'. What intrigued me was the fact that Glasgow Sporting MCC had a Scramble scheduled for January 28th! Other clubs were running another seven events before the end of April! Our area could be snowbound, and iced up at this time of year. I was of the understanding that the North had equal or worse weather? Communication wasn't so good then so maybe global warming came early!

However, results of the 1950 Scottish show that the Eastern Centre's sole representative, Monty Banks (350 Ariel) won a first class award. Monty was a formidable competitor in trials, scrambles and on the grass and produced three sons who figured in the results. Sadly, Monty, seemingly very fit, didn't make it to retirement. Another name whom many of you will remember, Malcolm Adams (500 Matchless). Although, I believe a Yorkshire man, Malcolm lived and worked amongst us for many years and enjoyed EFA membership together with being one of the stalwarts of the Ilford Amateur club. He also gained a first class award. I had the pleasure of riding a 'Greybeards' with him way back!

Among the other memorabilia that Reg Sargent handed over to Mick Brown for the sales pitch at Great Bromley was a sales brochure for Frances Barnett circa '53. The front cover announces 'satin smooth suspension' but better things were to come - NJB was still doing his paper round! The 200cc scrambles Falcon 64 could be purchased for £139/4/-.

Fast forward to 1970 and the British motocross championships at Wakes Colne on the 17th May. Several Eastern Centre hopefuls (wild cards) took part. Bryan Goss was man of the day (500cc) with Malcolm Davis the 250cc victor.

The next Sunday, back to Sunnybrook Farm, Felsted for the grassers to play. Tony Ryall from Southend won the main event with a very business like performance. There was nothing flash with Tony but he always turned in a spirited ride on well turned out JAPs. Arthur Livings, also a Southend member took 250 honours from CDACs top grasser Robin (Joe) Church. Harry Godding (Braintree) won the 350 final from Ken Dodd, now mounted on a Finn JAP. This was another great grass meeting albeit on a small track but the crowd had their money's worth. The event was well presented by the hard-working Dunmow club. Fittingly Steve Todd, a local lad, won the fastest six chair race with Frank Burke putting his weight in the right places. Ken Dodd turned up the wick to win the solo fastest riders. Seemingly, 50 per cent of grass chairman came via the Dunmow club for a considerable number of years with sons following father.

Serious stuff at Braintree on the 24th - a National at Lyons Hall - a lovely track. The entry included one Chris Pusey, a rising star with a 'polka dot' crash helmet and a crazy style that had to be seen to be believed. Also competing was John Yearley from Braintree who didn't set the world alight but his son James is currently turning in some good performances in enduros. I regret there are no results in my programme but scanning the entry it had to be a great meeting.

12th July at Down House Farm, Sandon - an ESSA presentation. Clive Noye (Castle) Colchester won the 250 from Colin Flexman with Les Vince (Braintree) third. The Stanford Brothers had forsaken their solos and joined forces on a Vee twin JAP to win both their chair finals ahead of John Bryant and Paul Rowlands - and 31 other crews - very formidable. Brian Gladwell took the 500s but not without aggro from Harry Godding who finished second. Then the dust settled and sanity reigned!!

Now into September - doesn't time fly - the CDAC grass at Claydons Farm with Mr and Mrs Ron Smith in charge. A good entry and a good day in prospect - we weren't disappointed! John Bryant, in very impressive style, won the first sidecar final with Dunmow's Warner Brothers second and Alan Flindall/ Ron Alderton (Ilford Amateur) third. Then, the solo all comers final was a 'ding-dong' twist Colin Flexman and Geoff Blower who finished in that order with Wally Scrivener a good third just in front of Ken Dodd. Next the 250 final winner was A. Gibbons from Woodbridge on a CZ with Mick Field (Southend) on his tail from Colin Flexman (the brick layer from Wickford). The second sidecar final winner was John Bryant from Pete Hutchings (Chelmsford) with Allan Mawdsley distributing the weight! The 500 final was won by J. Rhon (Castle) from A. Gibbons

To round off the Scramble season, the National Inter Centre team championships were held at West Stow Heath by the Bury club on 4th October. This was won by the Eastern Centre team of John Banks, Jim Aim, Fred Mayes, Adrian Yallop, Brian Atkinson and Stuart Nunn with John 'B' winning the Grand National also - he could ride couldn't he!! On the back page of the programme, Greeves announced the 'Pathfinder' at £259 (self-build)! This was to avoid paying purchase tax.

English signs in foreign countries

At a Budapest zoo:

**PLEASE DO NOT FEED
THE ANIMALS. IF YOU
HAVE ANY SUITABLE
FOOD, GIVE IT TO THE
GUARD ON DUTY.**

Now the recent past, a successful Tims Tour with fine weather so the B40 kept going! The end over end system worked well until Ted and Edie hid round a corner and then three point turn skills were called for! Fish and chips were enjoyed at Earls Colne.

Later in the month I enjoyed another run under the VMCC banner led by Peter and Jackie Sigournay. Very interesting meanderings in the Blackmore/Ingatstone patch where the wealthy live.

Our roving reporter, John Ruth, took himself to Hawkestone Park for the trials world round along with 40,000 others and a few fellow EFA members including Lord and Lady Preedy. Despite total crowd encouragement, 'our Dougie' didn't make the podium and was seemingly upset he couldn't manage it. But what a man, a champion. congrats to Tony Bau!!

Get out on your bikes - now!!

Pedro E



Chris Mace

photo by Mick Brown

Before



The old packhorse bridge at Allerford near the foot of Porlock Hill, Somerset. Sketched in the 1930's by Sydney R Jones to accompany an article by 'Ixion' in 'The Motor Cycle' and a recent photograph taken during a day on Exmoor retracing the route of day two of the 1925 ISDT.



and After



FOR SALE

Harley Davidson Sportster 880 cc

4000 miles only • Forward controls • Phase 1 tuned

A few extras otherwise completely standard

Very good condition • Comes from a good home

Price:- £3300

All enquiries to Ian Preedy

Tel:_ 01787 210908



Colin Sadler



Julian Pumb - welcome back!

BUMPER STICKERS

I'm not as think as you drunk I am.



Mark Gibb - photo Mick Brown

Birds and the Bees

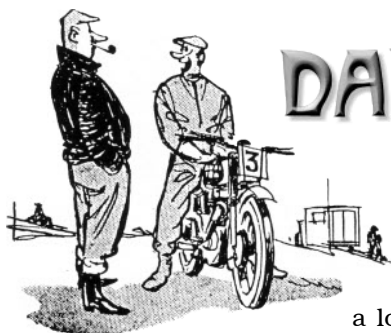
A father asked his 10-year old son if he knew about the birds and the bees.

"I don't want to know," the child said, bursting into tears. "Promise me you won't tell me."

Confused, the father asked what was wrong.

The boy sobbed, "When I was six, I got the 'There's no Easter Bunny' speech. At seven, I got the 'There's no Tooth Fairy' speech. When I was eight, you hit me with the 'there's no Santa' speech. If you're going to tell me that grown-ups don't really get laid, I'll have nothing left to live for."





(very brief)

DABBERS DIARY

Not much else to tell you about, except that I enjoyed two great runs out with the Essex branch of the Vintage Motorcycle Club over the August Bank Holiday. They were holding a long weekend, camping at The Museum of Power at Langford, Nr. Maldon. Great fun and I would recommend these runs to riders of any age

EFA members enjoyed a good Tim's Tour on September 1st around the Tendring Peninsula to commemorate the memory of Roger Birch, with a visit to Titchmarsh Marina and Brightlingsea for supper.

Two bits of information, that I am sure you will all be pleased to hear, is that two well known motor cycling celebrities that have been in the wars lately are making good progress. Andy Westlake, well known for his excellent articles in 'The Classic Motorcycle' is responding well to treatment for a brain tumour and is very upbeat and positive. Mike Jackson, ex Greeves works rider, southern area Greeves rep. and later captain of industry with the Norton/Villiers group both here and the USA is recovering well after a recent mild heart attack.



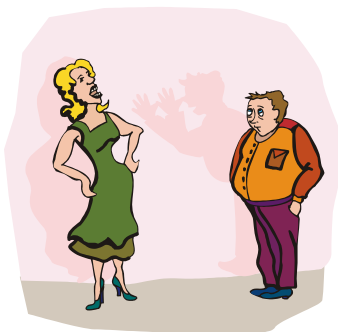
Celibacy

Celibacy can be a choice in life, or it can be a condition imposed by certain unintentional displays of stupidity, to wit:

While attending a marriage therapy weekend, Walter and his wife Ann listened to the instructor declare, "It is essential that husbands and wives know what is important to each other."

He addressed the men, "Can you name and describe your wife's favourite flower?"

Walter leaned over, touched Ann's arm gently and whispered, "Sainsbury's Self Raising isn't it?" And thus began Walter's life of celibacy.



Trevor Baker

End Thought . . .

Two wrongs are only the beginning.