

Editorial

What about all this global warming then? When was the last time that we had enough snow to cause the cancellation of a trial? Little Bealings had to be cancelled but I am pleased to write that it will now be run on the 28th February. I guess by now that you will have caught on that I am more than a little sceptical about the current craze of global warming. Don't get me wrong - I am very concerned about the devouring at an ever increasing rate of the worlds scarce resources but climate change due to global warming - I need to be convinced by reliable scientific evidence rather than unsubstantiated evidence.

Many of us have enjoyed our forays into the back garden and bird sanctuary at Wivenhoe owned by Brian Horrigan. As I am sure you are aware, Brian has been suffering very poor health in recent times and that is the prime cause of us not holding our very popular trials at Wivenhoe. Well - we are looking into holding more trials at Wivenhoe, on Brian's land but this will involve some really hectic working parties. Previously we have benefited by Brian doing a fair amount of clearing and keeping his orchard, our car park, under control. If you are interested in helping then have a chat with Chairman Ted.

It seems many years ago now that we had an entry of girder rigids in the Thumpers. Discussion took place at a recent meeting of your Revolutionary Council as to whether girder rigids would be interested in riding the

sidecar route. From what has been gathered from the riders of these machines, most of whom are trying hard to catch up age wise with their machines, the current gentleman's route is a tad too hard - mainly due to those 'pinnacles' so beloved of El Presidente. Legitimate girder rigids have a ground clearance normally associated with a grass snake! No final decision has been made but feelers are going to be put out to see whether we can encourage an entry from our friends 'south of that river'. Please be aware that at present it is not thought that this 'easier' route will be made open to riders of 'newer' Pre-65 machines.

Continuing on the theme of the easy route. There was a lack of riders on the easy route at Boxford back in December. Your Revolutionary Council is interested in hearing just why. A very easy route was laid on for the sidecars (who didn't turn up after stating their intention so to do) and the old and heavy brigade as well as those who could well have enjoyed themselves on an easier route considering the underfoot conditions. If you want the section plotters to lay on this easy route then please make yourselves known. It is a bit soul destroying laying a trial route out in torrential rain and then no-one takes advantage of it.

The AGM will soon be with us - who will be the proud recipient of the the club's main award, the 'Po'? Are **YOU** sure that you've kept **YOUR** head below the parapet over the last 12 months? Of course the year is not over as yet so you may still have the

Quotes Taken from Performance Evaluations:

"If you give him a penny for his thoughts, you'd get change."

The Mid Anglia MCC
present
for your enjoyment



The February Plonkatound

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

Saturday 27th February 2010

Gates will be 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

opportunity of getting your name on the shortlist in readiness for the AGM.

Its that time of year again - Subs are due - see page 16 for more info.

I made mention that the Chelmsford club was anticipating the loss of the land at Mid Essex Gravel Pits, Broomfield. Well I am sorry to admit that one of the 'longest serving' pieces of land in the Eastern Centre would appear to be lost due to the

damage done to the site on an on-going way by our 'friends' from the 4 wheel drive fraternity. Sad to say but eight 4x4s on one Sunday can do more long lasting damage to a piece of land than 50 years of trials.

Best wishes,

Jim

email... to the editor...

From Hon. Sec.

I had a letter from John Phillips to say that he had a heart attack in August last year and as he put it has been fitted with 2 Villiers clutch springs. After rehab he is now back to normal and hopes to start riding again later this year.

On behalf of the EFA I wish him full recovery and look forward to seeing him riding again.

In Peter Eaves fashion who signs himself as Pedro, I will sign off as Pierre.





Did you hear about the thoughtful Scotsman who was heading out to the pub? He turned to his wee wife before leaving and said, "Margaret - put your hat and coat on lassie."

She replied, "Awe Jock that's nice - are you taking me to the pub with you?"

"Nah", Jock replied, "I'm switching the central heating off while I'm oot."



EFA Club Championships 2009

	11-1-09	8-2-09	15-3-09	29-3-09	26-4-09	27-9-09	18-10-09	22-11-09	13-12-09	Total Position	
	Little Bealings	Snaque Pit	Wrabness	Chattisham	Roger Birch	Wrabness	Snaque Pit	Thimpers	Boxford		

Pre Unit

Mark Fletcher	-	-	10	10	10	10	9	10	10	69	1st
Graham Braybrook	10	10	9	-	-	9	8	-	-	46	2nd
Alan Farmer	-	7	-	9	7	8	7	-	-	38	3rd
Trevor Baker	-	-	-	-	9	-	10	9	9	37	
Chris Mace	-	6	8	8	6	-	-	-	-	28	
Sam Appleton	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	
Russ Bunkall	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	8	-	16	
Brian Fletcher	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	
John Daly	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	
Stephen Parker	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	

Unit

Colin Sadler	-	10	7	-	7	7	8	-	9	48	1st
Trevor Hill	-	-	9	10	8	10	-	-	10	47	2nd
Gordon Blackburn	-	-	8	9	9	-	9	-	-	35	3rd
John Kendall	-	-	10	-	10	-	10	-	-	30	
Alan Robinson	-	9	4	8	6	-	-	-	-	27	
Chris Canham	-	-	6	-	-	9	-	-	8	23	
Colin Rose	-	-	5	-	-	8	-	-	-	13	
Kevin Davie	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	6	
Bruce Davie	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	5	
Chris Byford-Smith	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	5	
Colin Moss	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	

Two Stroke

Mike Smith	7	9	10	9	8	10	-	7	9	69	1st
Roger Finch	-	10	9	8	9	9	10	-	8	63	2nd
Dave Spurgeon	8	-	-	-	10	7	9	10	10	54	3rd
Brian Fletcher	-	-	8	7	-	8	8	-	6	37	
Graham Braybrook	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	8	7	25	
Graham Brown	10	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	16	
John Beasley	-	-	-	6	7	-	-	-	-	13	
Kevin Plummer	6	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	11	
John Kendall	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	
Greg Radley	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	9	
Gary Eaves	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	
Ryan Hyde	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	5	
Terry Sewell	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	5	
Jason Sigournay	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	
Colin Teager	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	4	



The 2010 AGM will be held at “The Alma” next clubnight, the 2nd March. Proceedings will start when Chairman Ted is ready!

It is anticipated that food will be laid on as an encouragement to attend (as in past years).

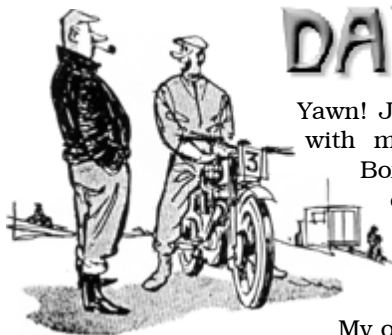
The Chief Timekeeper, Bob Drane, has no doubt by now got the stop watch overhauled and ready to check for a new world record.

The AGM is usually one of the best, if not the best, attended club night of the year. The majority of clubs of whatever discipline must be envious of our AGM attendances - is it perhaps the way the Revolutionary Council is constructed?

So, if you want a plateful of chilli (hopefully), to collect one of our awards, or just to see and heckle the winner of the ‘Po’ then “The Alma” is the place to be on the 2nd March.

See you there!





DABBERS DIARY

Yawn! Just woke up from my long hibernation, what with my early retirement from the action at the Boxford Bash, that long sleep Christmas, and cancelled Little Bealings due to snow, it came as a rude awakening to be driving down to Aldershot for the annual thrash around Hungry Hill at the 'Talmag'.

My old girder hadn't seen the light of day since the Arbuthnot, last September, when it was subjected to an impromptu gear box service, lent against a fence in a field!

After a bit more attention back home, testing was limited to a spin around the front garden, where I think I found four gears! At the 'Talmag' the old girl behaved beautifully and was clean until the famous Hungry Hill itself brought about a dose of pilot error and we lost our only maximum of the day, lets wait and see what the results say.

Looking forward now to the Snaque Pit on February 14th, the rearranged Little Bealings fixture on February 28th and Priory Farm, Wrabness on March 7th.

Now! Talking about Wrabness, the small band of organisers who have prepared the course since we started using the great piece of ground would like some new ideas, so we have organised a working party on Saturday 27th February at 9.30. Please come along with trimming & cutting tools.

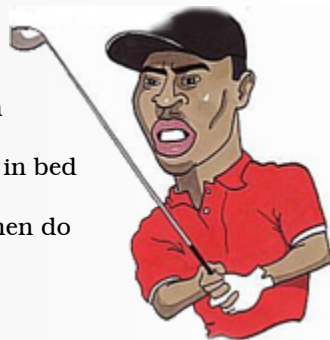
The 5 rules for men

Here are the five rules for men to follow for a happy life:

1. It's important to have a woman who helps at home, cooks from time to time, cleans up and has a job.
2. It's important to have a woman who can make you laugh.
3. It's important to have a woman who you can trust and who doesn't lie to you.
4. It's important to have a woman who is good in bed and who likes to be with you.
5. It's very, very important that these four women do not know each other.

Sincerely,

Tiger Woods



Now some of you will know the problem of planning holidays etc. during the trials season and sorting out events you can ride in if you are on shift work. To this end we have prepared a fixture list that will cover all classic motorcycle events in East Anglia and some further afield. It has been called 'KEEPING TRACK' and will be updated monthly. Unfortunately, we cannot include Eastern Centre events until sometime in March when their fixture list will be published. If you would like the updated list to be emailed to you on a monthly basis, please send your email address to: mick@solannmick.org Below is a sample of what it will look like.

This Fixture list is intended to assist riders and organisers to plan their sporting year.

It is not comprehensive and if you know of an event that warrants inclusion, or spot any errors, then please let me know.

KEEPING TRACK!

FIXTURE LIST OF CLASSIC MOTOR CYCLE EVENTS IN EAST ANGLIA
& SOME FURTHER AFIELD

Provisional dates are shown in 'Normal Type'.

Firm dates in '**Bold Type**'.

Events with regulations & entry forms available in '***Bold Italic Type***'.

2010 Fixtures

Date	Club	Authority	Venue & Event
<i>February 7</i>	<i>Castle Colchester</i>	<i>ACU</i>	<i>Phil King Trial</i>
<i>February 14</i>	<i>EFA</i>	<i>ACU</i>	<i>Snaque Pit Trial</i>
February 21	Dabbers Trials Club	AMCA	South Runcton, Downham Market.
February 21	Southend & DMCC	ACU	Danbury
February 27	MAMCC	AMCA	Raydon Practice
<i>March 6</i>	<i>S. Midland Group</i>	<i>ACU</i>	<i>S. Mid. Classic Trial, Colliers End, Herts.</i>
March 7	ACT	AMCA	Wrabness Trial
<i>March 14</i>	<i>P65MX</i>	<i>AMCA</i>	<i>MX Marks Tey</i>
March 28	EFA	ACU	Chattisham Trial
March 28	Dabbers Trials Club	AMCA	Little Lodge Fm. Santon Downham,
March 28	West of England	ACU	SMP Vic Ashford Trial

Dabber

Hi Everyone

Just thought I'd write a little for the TnT regarding the latest happenings regarding the Thumpers website. Some months ago we decided to go for a new website creation program, Webplus, and having had a look at the facilities it contains Jim and I decided to try and migrate all our websites to the program. However, that means a lot of work in recreating the sites in the new program. Jim and I are of the firm opinion that we've made the right move so we are continueing the process.

Having already migrated Norman Blakemore's website (www.njbshocks.co.uk - which is now live on the internet), I'm now in the process of doing likewise with the Thumpers website. Initially I'm recreating the site exactly as the old one but I'm seriously considering changing the style.

Once I've done that before anything goes live there will be a check of all the text on the site in an effort to bring it up to date and correct anything that is wrong - and I've found a quite a few things already. If there is anything that people may wish to have added to the site then please get in touch and we'll put it in. One thing I am thinking about is a Forum where people can leave messages seeking help or opinions or whatever. Certainly, without help from a Windows 7 forum a few weeks ago I'd have been right in the cart. Anyway, if you have any opinons on that then let me know. As always you can email me on tracey@seasoft.co.uk.



Mick Brown - mounted on a Trophy at the Beamish

Once I've done the Thumpers website, I've then got the Chelmsford website to do which is an even larger site but probably less complex so maybe it won't take quite so long as the Thumpers site. We'll have to see.

As far the the Thumpers is concerned, as you should all know by now, the last Thumpers was my final event and the task has been taken over by Karen Mace, Chris' wife. So far I've not got everything sorted out to pass onto her but I shall hopefully by the next clubnight when I can pass the stuff to Chris. One thing I have done is to inform the ACU of the change of Secretary so any further mailings re-trials will go to Karen.

Now as I said in the results for last year's Thumpers, that event was my last one as Secretary and I'd like to repeat what I said in those results. I'd like to say a big thank you to all entrants and helpers for the way they helped me over the years particularly during the hectic process of signing everyone on. As I'm sure you are aware, it is a very hectic time and could quite easily lead to hassle. However, over the years, you have all been very understanding and helpful in the way you have been patient and that in turn has helped me a very great deal, resulting in very little hassle over the 18 years I was Secretary. I trust you will be just as understanding with the my successor, Karen Mace. I wish you all the very best in your riding and I particularly wish Karen all the best in her new task. No doubt I shall see most EFA members at the monthly club nights and hopefully I'll meet some of our visitors from other centres at future Thumpers events.

Tracey

Why men shouldn't write advice columns

Dear John,

I hope you can help me. The other day, I set off for work, leaving my husband in the house watching TV. My car stalled, and then it broke down about a mile down the road, and I had to walk back to get my husband's help. When I got home, I couldn't believe my eyes. He was in our bedroom with the neighbor's daughter!

I am 32, my husband is 34 and the neighbor's daughter is 19. We have been married for 10 years. When I confronted him, he broke down and admitted they had been having an affair for the past six months. He won't go to counseling, and I'm afraid I am a wreck and need advice urgently. Can you please help?

Sincerely, Sheila

Dear Sheila,

A car stalling after being driven a short distance can be caused by a variety of faults with the engine. Start by checking that there is no debris in the fuel line. If it is clear, check the vacuum pipes and hoses on the intake manifold and also check all grounding wires. If none of these approaches solves the problem, it could be that the fuel pump itself is faulty, causing low delivery pressure to the injectors.

I hope this helps,
John

You think English is easy???

- 1) The bandage was wound around the wound.
- 2) The farm was used to produce produce .
- 3) The dump was so full that it had to refuse more refuse.
- 4) We must polish the Polish furniture.
- 5) He could lead if he would get the lead out.
- 6) The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert.
- 7) Since there is no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present
- 8) A bass was painted on the head of the bass drum.
- 9) When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes.
- 10) I did not object to the object.
- 11) The insurance was invalid for the invalid.
- 12) There was a row among the oarsmen about how to row ...
- 13) They were too close to the door to close it.
- 14) The buck does funny things when the does are present.
- 15) A seamstress and a sewer fell down into a sewer line.
- 16) To help with planting, the farmer taught his sow to sow.
- 17) The wind was too strong to wind the sail.
- 18) Upon seeing the tear in the painting I shed a tear.
- 19) I had to subject the subject to a series of tests.
- 20) How can I intimate this to my most intimate friend?

Let's face it - English is a crazy language. There is no egg in eggplant, nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple. English muffins weren't invented in England or French fries in France . Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat. We take English for granted. But if we explore its paradoxes, we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig.

And why is it that writers write but fingers don't fing, grocers don't groce and hammers don't ham? If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth, beeth? One goose, 2 geese. So one moose, 2 meese? One index, 2 indices? Doesn't it seem crazy that you can make amends but not one amend? If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them, what do you call it?

If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught? If a vegetarian eats vegetables what does a humanitarian eat? Sometimes I think all the English speakers should be committed to an asylum for the verbally insane. In what language do people recite at a play and play at a recital? Ship by truck and send cargo by ship? Have noses that run and feet that smell?

How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites? You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up as it burns down, in which you fill in a form by filling it out and in which, an alarm goes off by going on.

English was invented by people not computers and it reflects the creativity of the human race, which, of course, is not a race at all. That is why when the stars are out they are visible but when the lights are out they are invisible.

PS. - Why doesn't 'Buick' rhyme with 'quick' ?

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More than Expected . . .

The Yamaha had been a reasonably logical step from the Ossa but what came next was completely unexpected. It just came chugging round the corner one day and glued itself to the eyeballs.

It was a TL 125 Honda. The whole bike just looked so appealing with the nice slim tank and engine and the whole machine oozed with Japanese know how.



And.. being a four stroke, the carburettor was much higher up the engine. Much better for crossing those streams and ponds that had bothered the two strokes.

Of course it was only a 125 and not surprisingly had about half the power of a 250, but it would run slowly and it would rev well too. In fact it revved rather too well with the original Bridgestone tyre and the alleged superior grip of a four stroke was never discovered. Things that were discovered were that the steering was a bit dodgy the fork yokes having come from the trail bike parts bin, if the rider tried to turn too tight to the left there was a fifty fifty chance the front wheel would shoot out to the right and a few observers were collected by this method. Also the very neat looking front forks with about seven inches of exposed chromium had a travel of only about four inches and acted a bit like a pogo stick. Oh and yes, the standard rear shocks were crap too. But it was a

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 normally 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 articles supplied on floppy disc or sent via email should preferably be saved in text or RTF format.

beautifully made machine and never gave any trouble, The wheels were nice with good looking alloy rims and little need to dismantle the brakes either.

It could have been a very good bike with a bit of development and of course many riders did decide to do that. But not this one. Strapped for cash and yearning for another Ossa, the Honda only stayed for a dozen or so events. It really only made sense on a tight little course without any long hills and indeed did do well at the happy hunting ground of Kelvedon Hatch where it scraped onto the front page of the results sheet. Amazing that and the rider was amazed too.

If you have one of these now I would say keep it and make a few improvements and it will serve you well.

Uno Hoo



Peter Pesterfield - back on a sidecar



Humphrey Lyttelton was famous for his deadpan delivery of outrageous double entendres on I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clue.

Most featured the erotic escapades of the show's fictitious scorer, Samantha.

Here is one of the funniest - printable - examples:

- Samantha tells me she has to pop out now as she does a few chores for an elderly gentleman who lives nearby. She shows him how to use the washing machine and then goes out to prune his fruit trees. Later he'll be hanging out his pyjamas as he watches her beaver away up the ladder.

Working parties at Wivenhoe



It is hoped to arrange some working parties at Wivenhoe so that we can once again hold some trials there. This venue has always been very popular but due to the health problems experienced by Brian Horrigan, the landowner, we have not used this piece of land for several years now. Brian has been unable to undertake the 'scrub' and grass clearing

since he became ill so there is several years growth to attend to.

If you are interested in helping the club then please, in the first instance make contact with Chairman Ted. The Revolutionary Council are looking into the possibility of offering some free practice for those who have wielded the machetes and trimmers - no promises though.



If you can't find the book you are looking for you might be in the



Editor

The editor of Trials & Tribulations, Jim Woodmason, has indicated his desire to retire from editing, printing etc the club's magazine as of the end of the year. Jim has stated that the December issue will be his last - so the club is looking for someone who can take over the monthly task of producing (currently) 170 copies of Trials & Tribulations for our members and 'friends'.



By the time he 'retires', Jim will have produced some 200+ editions of T&T and will have attained the age of 70. He feels, with some justification, that this is the time to retire gracefully.

Jim assures us that the 'new' editor can expect to receive any help that is needed to take over the task and the club has invested in a copy of the DTP computer program Jim currently uses so that the new editor is given a flying start.



If you require any further information then give Jim a call on 01245 466815 or email him at:

jim@thumpers.org.uk

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Membership Fees for 2010

Membership subscriptions for 2010 are now due - ensure that you pay the subscription to allow you to ride in EFA events and to receive your Trials & Tribs.

Adult	£12.00 per year
Youths	£3.00 per year

Eastern Centre Gazette:

I have had no figures from the ACU for Gazettes, so at present can only quote £7.50 per year for existing orders.

If this goes up then obviously we shall have to pass the cost on.

If the ACU increase their costs I will inform you of this.

June Kent
Membership Secretary



Dick Hobart in the 'Beamish'

End Thought . . .

Marriage is the triumph of imagination over intelligence.
Second marriage is the triumph of hope over experience.