

Editorial

Well, the Roger Birch trial took place at Bromley Brook without the Championship round that we had agreed to organise. It does seem a great pity that the Eastern Centre saw fit to make a complete cock up with the dates for the championship. Personally I agree that the Pre70 championship and Twinshock championship rounds should not take place on the same day but surely this could have been thought about somewhat sooner. Included in this issue you will find a copy of the letter received by the club from David Cordle who is not only the Chairman of the Competitions Committee but Trials Championship recorder and chairman of the Eastern Centre Trials Sub-committee. Together with this letter you will find the thoughts of the EFA's Revolutionary Council on the happenings. I believe you can be sure that the EFA will not let the matter drop as we do seem to be treated with disdain by our Lords and Masters(?) of the Eastern Centre.

Following phone calls made and received since last months T&T from both members and other concerned parties so far I have received six options that could be considered by the Revolutionary Council. Watch this space!!!

The most recent Plonkers trial which took place at Snaque Pit sadly was poorly supported by both riders and helpers/observers. However, I understand that those who did attend enjoyed themselves. It looks as if the problems of perceived unauthorised use of Snaque Pit is rearing its ugly head again. Mr Blobby and Shaun Sear, it would appear spent their



The headless observer
photo: Mick Brown

Saturday dodging quads etc whilst attempting to lay the sections.

Quotes Taken from Performance Evaluations:

"Takes him 1 ½ hours to watch 60 minutes."

The Mid Anglia MCC
present
for your enjoyment



Plonkers Trial

Sunday 23rd May 2010

Sheepcoates Farm, Sheepcoates Lane, Gt Totham, Nr Maldon, Essex

Start at 11:00 am

Entries accepted on the day

A Trial 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

Mike Harden is organising another Plonkers in May at Great Totham so please, all of you who are starting out in the 'game' or need a fairly straightforward ride, the please make a date at Great Totham.

The Pre65 Scottish has taken place in what I understand to have been good weather for Scotland. Clive Dopson won the rigids whilst Matthew Neale gained a Special First and James Newstead gained a First Class award - well done!!

The Braintree club are once again holding a series of Summer Trials, one of which is solely for Pre65s and Twinshocks. They have also got two new bits of land. More details on page 12.

The Charity Trial at 'Bromley Brook' will soon be with us - regs in

this issue of the magazine. Please support this worthy cause - I am sure Mick Brown would like to make this a real success before he moves house to Wessex.

Summer must have arrived! The first Tims Tour of the summer season takes place on Saturday 22nd May, starting as normal from the Alma at 3:00pm.

I have included a couple of job adverts - both of these will need filling so if you are interested/able to undertake one or other of the positions then please contact Ted.

Just about to watch the MOTO2 race from Jerez. Hope it is as good as the first one!

Best wishes,

Jim

LCD/Plasma Wall Mount

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Tracey or Jim 01245 466815



Job Opportunities

All enquiries should be addressed to the
Revolutionary Council.

Editor

The current editor will be retiring from the post at the end of 2010 having published approx 200 issues.(18 years tenure)

Secretary

The Anglia Classic Trials Club is requiring a Secretary as Mick Brown is about to move house to the Wessex area.

The Eastern Fourstroke Association is an equal opportunity employer

More than Expected . . .

It was in the far North that it happened, up way beyond Norwich when the Motoplat ignition expired. "Never mind" said the used car salesman, "we have only six sections to go, you can use my bike."

It was slightly heavier than the Ossa but it had some grunt and being slightly less smooth seemed to find grip easily. This fine looking machine had a red cover over its alloy tank and the brakes were better too. Just as well because it had a six speed gearbox which meant it had to go faster on the road, even if it was borrowed and the roads were rather icy at the time. With a bit of rule bending the trial was completed.

"Did you like it?" said the man and before I knew it the bike was mine.

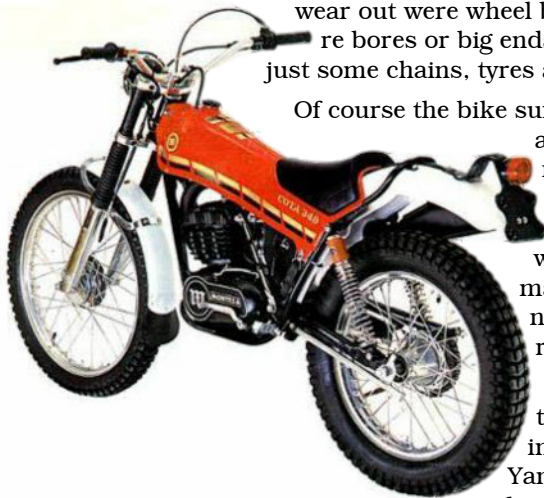
For all that it turned out not to be a bad buy. After some initial problems with the kick start the bike went on to complete well over a hundred trials during the next nine seasons. Every failure was due to rider error, there was nothing that bike could not do and any part could be replaced by return of post, it was a 348 Montesa after all. It was tough too, the over exuberent rider tried chucking it away all ways possible to no effect. Over the front, over the back, off each side and if it was stuck half way up a hill it could be tipped end over end to the bottom with negligible damage. In nine years the only parts to

wear out were wheel bearings and throttle slides, no re bores or big ends required in that time, maybe just some chains, tyres and a sprocket.

Of course the bike suffered the indignity of being cut about to suit the whims of the rider. The rear shocks were laid down in the fashion of the day and some loops were welded on the frame to aid the man handling that was often necessary. There was no easy route in those days!

So what ended those happy times? Some clever party invented the mono shock Yamaha and changed trials forever and perhaps many new riders prefer

things this way but if you are reading this you probably prefer your trials the way I do. Sections big and wide with a choice of lines and room to keep moving. Certainly the Montesa preferred the bigger sections. It would not come out of the shed for the tight corners, big steps and vertical climbs from zero that had to be introduced to challenge the light, powerful mono shocks.





Deprived of proper trials the rider was sidelined by other interests and the big Mont took to sulking in the shed. For years.

And so it stayed in the shed until some time later it heard about a beach race at Weston-Super-Mare. Now that did get it motivated and with some new fuel and a new owner it soon got fired up. It did not disgrace itself at the race either. It did so well that someone bought it on the spot at the end of the race. Sadly it was sold on before I had the chance to return the cheque!

If you have one of these you will probably never need another motor bike.

Uno Hoo

Canon Fax Machine

As new condition • Surplus to requirements

Tracey or Jim 01245 466815



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's been choosing records for the teams with the assistance of the elderly staff of the BBC gramophone archive. Some of their old 7 inches are looking a bit worn now, but they were all quite big back in the 60s."

CHARITY TRIAL

Bromley Brook, Great Bromley, (on B1029)

Saturday 15th May @ 3pm

**Leonard
Cheshire
Disability**

The Charity Trial will follow a similar format to last year.

Riders will be invited to get themselves sponsored by friends & family.

You will find the 'Gift Aid' sponsor form available from Mick Brown.

We will not be actively seeking section sponsors this year.

But if you know anybody who would like to sponsor a section, please put them in touch with me, Mick Brown 01206 250462

There will be a refreshment van in attendance.

**All profit from the Trial will be donated to
Leonard Cheshire Disability at Seven Rivers
Please support this event.**

THERE WILL BE THREE ROUTES

Yellow route for Over 65's, Beginners, Girders & Sidecars

White route for Clubman, Improvers & Big Old Bangers

Red route for Experts and those wanting that extra challenge

An EFA & ACTC Production

Yorkshire man and the Stone Mason

A Yorkshireman's wife dies and the widower decides that her headstone should have the words "she were thine" engraved on it.

He calls the stone mason, who assures him that the headstone will be ready a few days after the funeral. True to his word the stone mason calls the widower to say that the headstone is ready and would he like to come and have a look.

When the widower gets there he takes one look at the stone to see that it's been engraved "she were thin". He explodes - bludey 'ell man, you've left the bludey "e" out, you've left the bludey "e" out!

The stone mason apologises and assures the poor widower that it will be rectified the following morning. Next day comes and the widower returns to the stone mason - "There you go sir, I've put the "e" on the stone for you".

The widower looks at the stone and then reads out aloud -
"Ee, she were thin".





Right! Listen up you lot! The time has finally arrived to wheel the toys out after their winter break.

The first event of the year will take place on Saturday 22nd May and start from the Alma at 3:00pm. It is anticipated that we shall finish the run at one of our favourite chippies.

So get cracking with the Autosol and pencil this date in on your calendar.

By order of The Management

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IRC

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.



"HIS ABILITY TO FOCUS IS JUST AMAZING!"



Trevor Baker

photo: Mick Brown .

THE TIMES OBITUARIES

An Obituary printed in the London Times..... Interesting and sadly rather true.

'Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend, Common Sense, who has been with us for many years. No one knows for sure how old he was, since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape. He will be remembered as having cultivated such valuable lessons as:

Knowing when to come in out of the rain; why the early bird gets the worm; Life isn't always fair; and maybe it was my fault.

Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you can earn) and reliable strategies (adults, not children, are in charge).

His health began to deteriorate rapidly when well-intentioned but overbearing regulations were set in place. Reports of a 6-year-old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate; teens suspended from school for using mouthwash after lunch; and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student, only worsened his condition.

Common Sense lost ground when parents attacked teachers for doing the job that they themselves had failed to do in disciplining their unruly children.

It declined even further when schools were required to get parental consent to administer sun lotion or an Aspirin to a student; but could not inform parents when a student became pregnant and wanted to have an abortion.

Common Sense lost the will to live as the churches became businesses; and criminals received better treatment than their victims. Common Sense took a beating when you couldn't defend yourself from a burglar in your own home and the burglar could sue you for assault.

Common Sense finally gave up the will to live, after a woman failed to realize that a steaming cup of coffee was hot. She spilled a little in her lap, and was promptly awarded a huge settlement.

Common Sense was preceded in death, by his parents, Truth and Trust his wife, Discretion, his daughter, Responsibility, his son, Reason.

He is survived by his 4 stepbrothers;

I Know My Rights

I Want It Now

Someone Else Is To Blame

I'm A Victim

Not many attended his funeral because so few realized he was gone.

It's a bit early for Iceland volcano jokes.
We should wait a while for the dust to settle.

**Mr D Cordle,
4 Bullen Close,
Bramford,
IPSWICH,
Suffolk.
IP8 4JE**

Phone 01473 462274

The.cordles@talktalk.net

Dear Ted,

I feel I must write to apologise over the fiasco that has come about this month regarding the dates for the Gt Bromley/Wymondham trials. As Comps Chairman I must take responsibility for this. It was totally a mistake on the dates and a muddle up due to the calendar being moved to March and not January. The lapse in time and the bad weather meant the Calendar and Championship dates being rushed through without the usual consultation between clubs. I was under the impression that you were running on the 11th as that date is also on the EFA web site but unfortunately it looks like no one had confirmed this, and when the reg's came into Colin he did not notice the date clash.

The wording in the Gazette was misleading, as on the Web Site and for this I must sincerely apologise.

It was agreed at the Trials forum a few years ago at the outset of the Twinshock championship that they should not clash with a Pre 65 round as several rides wished to contest both, this being so we had to let Wymondham have the Championship rounds, as there are 3 classes being catered for and no other reason. I will endeavour to find another date for the other championship round; it's a shame, as I know a lot of people like Gt Bromley.

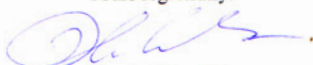
Next year we will go back to a January fixture list as the ACU dates don't seem to be any further forward in March than in January.

It is inevitable that there will be some date clashes, as we run a lot of events in this centre and many championships, but unfortunately there is only 52 weekends to fit them into.

I know you as myself have the main objective of putting bums on seats, and this you do very well and I hope this misunderstanding does not deter you from doing so.

I regret this mistake and hope this goes some way to explain it.

Yours regretfully.



David Cordle

Please pass this apology on to your members.



The Saga of the 2010 'Roger Birch Memorial Trial'

Members will have heard that, once again, the ACU Eastern Centre board have managed to let down the EFA, one of the largest clubs in the Eastern Centre.

Included, on the preceding page, is an undated letter of apology from the Chairman of the Competitions Committee, who is also the Centre Trials Recorder and Chairman of the Trials sub-committee. (a case of too many hats, maybe?)

This letter does not fully explain the unfortunate situation in which the club found itself.

Listed below is a timetable of events that led up to the EFA having the Pre70 Championship round taken away from the Roger Birch Trial on April 18th.

1. During the autumn of 2009 the EFA secretary received the 'Date request form' which had to be returned to the Permit Secretary by the end of December 2009.

This was returned, by post, on November 25th requesting April 18th 2010 for the Roger Birch Trial, with a reserve date of April 11th 2010.

2. The return date for the 'Date request form' of December 31st 2009 was much later than in previous years and in the November 2009 Eastern Centre Gazette it was stated that the '2110 Fixture List & Rule Book would not be published until March'.

No, that is not a misprint, but we are sure it was meant to read '2010'.

3. Nothing further was heard or read until the February 2010 EC Gazette was received.

Page 23, 'WHATS ON 2009-2010' stated:

18-Apr EFA	Trial	CR	Gt. Bromley
18-Apr Wymondham	Trial	CR	Middleton Pits B

(It should be noted that the Wymondham event was held on April 5th in 2009)

However page 21 carried the 'PROVISIONAL Trials Championship Dates 2010'.

This showed:

C Class. Pre 70 Rounds	–	11/04/10 EFA.
B Class. Novice, Twinshock & Youth	–	8/4/10 Wymondham.

These dates to be finalised at the Trials Forum on February 9th.

(It would have been hoped that members of this Forum would have read the Gazette and spotted the inconsistency of dates.)

4. On February 16th the EFA contacted the Centre Permit Secretary, by telephone, and pointed out the inconsistency in the fixture lists. It was agreed that the EFA event would be run on April 18th 2010. The EFA then contacted the Great Bromley landowner and booked this date.

5. March Gazette arrived and page 31 'WHATS ON' 2010-2011' showed:

18-Apr	EFA	Trial	CR	Gt. Bromley	P65 C class
18-Apr	Wymondham	Trial	CR	Middleton Pit	B class

6. In late March the EFA secretary was telephoned by the Permit secretary and told that the event on April 18th would have to be moved to another date as it clashed with a twinshock 'B' class event run by the Wymondham club. This information was passed to the EFA chairman who contacted the Chairman of the Competitions Committee and told him that the EFA date could not be changed. The recorder said that several riders wanted to compete in both championships and as the twinshock class was more important the EFA would have the Pre70 championship taken away.

7. April 2010 Gazette arrived with the following statement on page 3:-

'Unfortunately the Pre70 Trials Championship round for 18 April (EFA) has had to be postponed to a later date – as yet to be decided.'

Most people would assume from this that the trial was postponed, this was not the case. A lot of work was put in to inform riders that the trial was still on and it took several emails for this statement to be corrected on the 'on-line' version of the gazette.

That's about it; we ran a successful event with an entry of 59 riders, that's only just short of last year's entry. It should be noted that at no time between early February and late March was there any consultation with the EFA about the date clash, despite the EFA pointing this out to the permit secretary on February 16th!

We leave it to you the, EFA membership, to make your own minds up!



Braintree & DMCC Summer Trial Dates 2010

Saturday 5th June	Twinstead Hall	All Classes	start 5pm
Sunday 13th June	Spansey Wood	P65 & Twinshock	10:30am
Saturday 10th July	Beazley End	All Classes	start 5pm
Saturday 7th August	Snaque Pit	All Classes	start 5pm

Twinstead Hall and Spansey Wood are new venues - well worth a visit!!!



Mark Gibb wrestling the M21

photo: Mick Brown

The Hypnotist . . .

It was opening night at the theatre and the Amazing Claude was topping the bill. People came from miles around to see the famed hypnotist do his stuff.

As Claude took to the stage, he announced, "Unlike most stage hypnotists who invite two or three people up onto the stage to be put into a trance, I intend to hypnotize each and every member of the audience." The excitement was almost electric as Claude withdrew a beautiful antique pocket watch from his coat. I want you each to keep your eye on this antique watch. It's a very special watch. It's been in my family for six generations."

He began to swing the watch gently back and forth while quietly chanting, "Watch the watch, watch the watch, watch the watch...."

The crowd became mesmerized as the watch swayed back and forth, light gleaming off its polished surface. Hundreds of pairs of eyes followed the swaying watch, until suddenly it slipped from the hypnotist's fingers and fell to the floor, breaking into a hundred pieces.

"Sh*t!" said the hypnotist.

It took three weeks to clean up the theatre.

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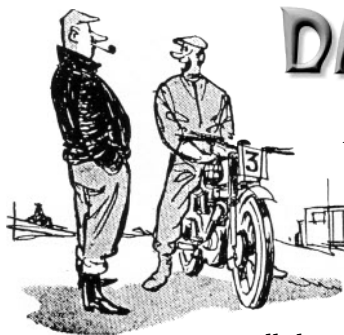
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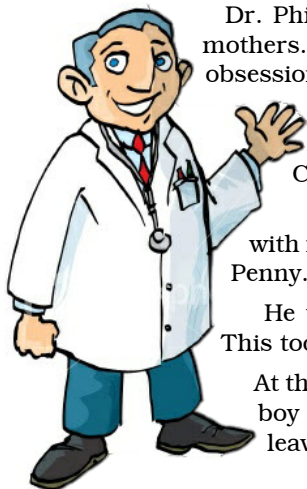
DABBERS DIARY

A lot of politics in this month's magazine, such a shame, as all we want to do is to get on and enjoy our sport, whether it be riding in Trials or organising them. Yes! Organising can be fun, come along and volunteer to help, and don't be afraid to give up a ride once or twice a year and observe, we are nearly always struggling to man all the sections.

Now, this month we have the last event of the season, the Charity Trial in aid of the Leonard Cheshire Disability Home at Seven Rivers, Great Bromley. More details on page 6, please help us make this a good event, get yourself some sponsorship or sponsor a section - entry form in this magazine.

Dabber

GROUP THERAPY



Dr. Phil was conducting a group therapy session with four mothers. He told the young mothers, "You ALL have obsessions".

To the first mother, he said, "You are obsessed with eating...You've even named your daughter Candy."

He turned to the second mom. "Your obsession is with money...again, it manifests itself in your child's name, Penny."

He turns to the third mom. "Your obsession is alcohol. This too, manifests itself in your child's name, Brandy."

At this point, the fourth mother gets up and takes her little boy by the hand and whispers, "Come on Dick, We're leaving."

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Peter Eaves 01245 353297

Sayings . . .

Sometimes, when I look at my children, I say to myself, 'Lillian, you should have remained a virgin.'

- Lillian Carter



A topical great cartoon of the SSDT from the pen of Jack Mortlake, or 'Morty' as he was better known.

End Thought . . .

Dijon vu - the same mustard as before.