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T RIALS & RIBULATI NS



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Visit the Eastern Fourstroke Associations website and [Facebook Page](#) for a wealth of club information, results, pictures and much more.

(Submissions gratefully received)

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.

23rd April, 2022.

Dear Chris,

I would like, if it is possible for the following to be included in the “Trials and Tribs” next month.

Firstly I would like to say sorry for this to have taken so long in coming. Next I would like to thank all of you who donated to Ian’s chosen charities you raised an amazing £1400 plus pounds, then, my family and I thank all of you that came to Ian’s funeral, your support for us on that day was more than you can even imagine and much appreciated.

Secondly congratulations to Ted on being voted in as “The President” of the E.F.A. I’m sure he’ll do that job as well as he did as Chairman. I am pleased to hear about the new venue for club night it sounds really good, I hope I get to see it in the not too distant future, that’s if I can get a lift there.

The past eight months have been a very hard learning curve for me in many ways, to say “Ian” but not hear his voice. To be surrounded by his achievements and not be able to share them anymore. We met in 1959 and had been together ever since. Those years flew by. He was stubborn, belligerent, always right according to him and mostly he was. A male chauvinist who said we should have never been allowed to vote. He liked Classical music and Country & Western. He was an expert on Arctic & Antarctic exploration and could ride an unicycle. He was so many things but never boring. I miss him so much, but I feel so lucky to have spent most of my life with such a wonderful man.

I hope to be seeing some of you in the future at trials and some other events if I can. Stay safe and keep healthy, these are different times we live in now and I don’t think they will ever be the same again. At this point I can hear a voice in my head saying “*When you’ve finished spuffeling on, it’s time you put the kettle on!*”

My regards to you all,

Sylvia Preedy.

(Ex Presidents Lady)

Front Cover

Mark Chapman, Greeves/BSA 250 at the Woodbridge DMCC, Blaxhall Trial, Good Friday. Photo by Mark Gibb.

TOWARDS “SECTION ENDS”

PART TWENTY

My BSA “Shooting Star,” which I adapted to use in the 1976 Welsh Two-day trial, (Enduro) was not the fondly remembered twin but their `last-gasp` single cylinder version which, I believe, utilised the “Victor” scrambler (motocross) frame and the engine converted for road use. I used the bike on the road and the Moto-Guzzis apart, it was probably the best road bike I ever had. Looking it over, I could see it needed modifying for competition use but it must be remembered that these long distance trials were, in earlier days, eagerly supported by motor cycle manufacturers to test and assess their products, which eventually would be sold to the public for use on public roads. `Out-and-out` specifically designed Enduro bikes had yet to arrive.

One area of concern was the front forks, as I felt the BSA ones were not quite good enough. I had some Suzuki ones with longer movement and fitted these as well as the front brake. Number plate brackets were made and then the dilemma was, should I retain the battery?

The bike ran perfectly on its battery system which was charged by a Lucas alternator. However, it was claimed that for “competition use,” Lucas stated that the battery – potentially liable to damage or spillage in a fall (of which, I expected many!) - could be removed and the engine would run reliably if their

special capacitor was installed in the ignition circuit. Known as a `2MC`, this odd little component, supported on a wibbly-wobbly spring in the manner of some children's toy, was clipped into the existing wiring loom. So, that was the way I went. For some silly reason my brain connected `Lucas 2MC` with Einstein's law of relativity ($E=MC^2$ where E equals “energy”) Sure enough, the bike had previously been a “one-kick” starter but immediately I dispensed with the battery and fitted the “magic capacitor” it required two or three. Obviously a weakened spark – less energy - but as it was seemingly still reliable, I persevered with it.

All prepared and the required International Licence obtained, I duly set off, part of a group led by Ian and Sylvia Preedy, who had found from their previous expeditions, a glorious camping site run by a most pleasant Mr Jones, (who else in Wales?) at Dissearth. We were sited near to the luscious green banks of the serene river Wye, conveniently not far from the trial's start at Llandrindod Wells. We had a day or two to settle down and get used to the different atmosphere of an international event. The machines were examined and various parts daubed with paint with the riding number scratched in – this to ensure no changing of these items during the event. A clear flashback to the former purpose of these trials in testing machines.

The town has an attractive lake in its centre and on the starting day, the Mayor and his wife conducted the first “aways” at minute intervals – with a penalty if your machine did not start within one minute.

I'm glad to report that the BSA got away “clean,” though not at the first kick. From then on it was a day of hard riding over all kinds of terrain and surfaces from checkpoint to checkpoint. The weather was dry and the going fairly easy, except in some of the lower areas of

the hills which were decidedly boggy. I soon learned the useful technique of jumping off and running – or pushing – alongside the bike to get through the soggy mires. Several hours later, I finished the first day, as I recall, with a clean sheet time-wise and duly returned to the “Parc Ferme” at the Llandrindod Wells lakeside in exultant mood. Yet it was not to last – there was another day to come.....

Sidge



"All went well enough with the BSA for the first day - hence the smile. "

Sidge

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENTS IPAD

Re: May T&T Hi Chris sorry for not doing this sooner. The new venue for club night has proved to be a hit. Hope to see a few more in May. Soon be time for Bromley the track will be checked in the next few days, all this dry weather you can bet your ...

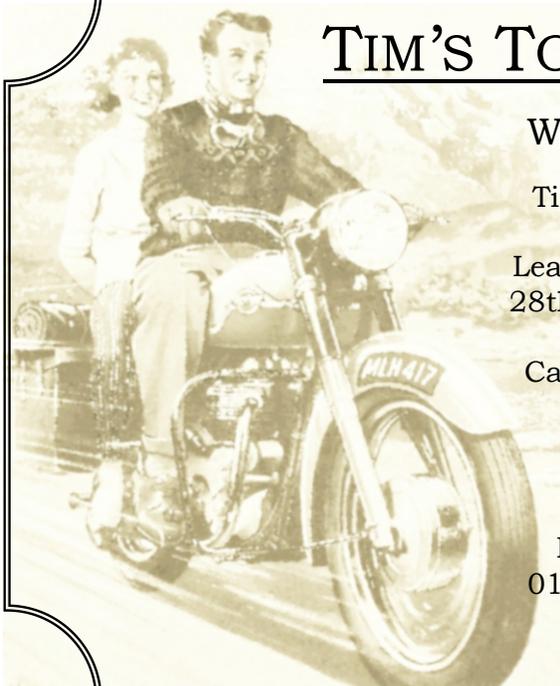
Ted.

JOB (?) VACANCY

A vacancy has arisen within the revolutionary council for the position of Club Chairman.

If you would like to put yourself forward, nominate someone or find out what would be involved please contact Ted.

TIM'S TOURS 2021



Wakey Wakey you lot !

Tim's Tours proudly present
The Border Tour.

Leaving Ted's 'plaice ' Saturday
28th May at 2.00 p.m. prompt.

A 'comfort' stop at
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By appointment
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Enquiries to head office
01206735520/07761822223.



EASTERN FOURSTROKE ASSOCIATION

OPEN to all members of ACU AFFILIATED CLUBS

Roger Birch Memorial Trial

PRE 70 SOLO AND TWINSHOCK TRIAL

(Including Round 2 of the E. C. Class C P70 Championship)

Sunday May 22nd 2022, Start 10:30 am.



TRIAL:

VENUE:

WHAT 3 WORDS

ACU PERMIT No:

CLUB STEWARD:

CLERK OF THE COURSE:

SECRETARY OF THE MEETING:

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Chris Chapman

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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 ACU affiliated members of the Eastern Centre only.

COURSE: Approximately 4 laps of 12 sections - multi route course - all on private land.

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

ENTRIES: Entry for this event is via the ACU online entry system - Go To <https://members.acu.org.uk> LOGIN or REGISTER then go to 'Search for an Event'; find the event and follow the process to enter. Entry Fee; £20.00, Entries open 1st May and close 19th May. Any entry queries please contact the Secretary of the Meeting or Club Secretary, Richard Challis. 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 Refunds to online entry trials are available if you are unable to make the trial BUT only if you give the secretary of the meeting adequate advanced notice

ENTRIES OPEN: 1st May

ENTRIES CLOSE: 19th May

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

ROUTE: Hard Championship, 50/50,
Easy & Rigid/Veterans

WOODBIDGE DMCC, BLAXHALL

Photos by Mark Gibb





BLAST FROM THE PAST

EFA News and Views April 1987, Sylvia Preedy.

Yet another month has come and gone and things weather-wise seem to be getting better, things floral are starting to peep up and out of the one time frozen soil and there are groans from the lawn-mowing department as the afore said mentioned is showing signs of life.

Raydon trial went off very well, El Presidente was on his own as I was at home making Desperate Dan Pies for the illustrious one to nibble on. If anyone has ever heard El P. say that he doesn't eat a lot. Then know without a shadow of a doubt that he is lying through his teeth!

Talking about food, I would like to congratulate Richard for the superb way in which he organised the clubs evening out. The place chosen was The Silver Springs Motel on the way to Brightling sea. We all gathered in the lounge at the appointed hour and had pre-dinner drinks and half an hour later we were ushered into the dining area for our meal. We sorted our-selves out to the various places allocated to us and proceeded to settle down for our nosh. One of the waitresses wanted to bring Roger Finch a high-chair but he said he could manage using a cushion and some of his famed body leaning. El P. got in a bit of a state because I'd forgotten his Tupper-Ware bib and his mug with the Bunny Rabbits on it , but after I promised he could have all my chips as well he soon settled down. The meal was very good and I marvelled that they could serve so many at one sitting and that everyones food was still piping hot. Although we were all sitting in one area of the dining room we were not cramped up and the service was good and I can thoroughly recommend the house white wine. After the meal we all sauntered out to the lounge and there we all discussed the various dishes we had just consumed and proceeded to sort out what we would have next time! Then came the dancing. I was whisked onto the dance floor by El P. He might not be John Travolta but his got a good line in stomp and shuffle! We both thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and thank Richard once again. I only wish that we all could have been there but perhaps next time.

A PURPLE RICHARD. by EL P.

No a purple Richard is not a pill popped by those who wish to freak out nor is it the nickname for the fifties singer Little Richard. I will explain all. I was spectating at Raydon with a group of E.F.A. elders, at section 2. When along came our young sec. After walking around the section muttering to himself about it being ***** imposible he decided on a flat-out approach. Shortly afterwards Richard and B.S.A. could be seen rolling backwards down the hill before ending up enmeshed in a large bramble bush! Up he jumped doing what appeared to be some kind of war dance, " I told you it was ***** imposible" he said. Along came Jumping Geof Daw, who is well supported by the Sudbury Truss Company, to try the section. Geof made the section look easy with a couple of blips on the throttle he was through, a perfect ride. After watching this display Richard jumped on his B.S.A. turned deep purple and did the customary half length of Raydon on the back wheel. Youth really is wasted on the young!!

2
I along with the other elders of the E.F.A. are always taking the micky out of the youngsters, but they really are a credit to us. With Richard doing a tremendous amount of paper work, organising trials and of course our excellent club dinner recently. The Higgins boys Simon and Kevin, who never miss a working party and Sally and Wendy Smith. Sally has been doing the secretary of the meeting job recently, whilst Wendy observes clears sections of markers un-ravels tapes and helps all round. Many thanks to them all.

Well I think he got his self out of that one nicely, what do you think Richard?. He is a boring old fart some times! All this business of youth being wasted on the young. Its a job to know what to do for the best. Exits are on the way out. Don't keep a dog and bark yourself. Too many chiefs and not enough indians! I could write a book of all his favourite sayings. He is without a doubt the king of proverbs!

The Frating trial was well organised as usual. Many thanks to all and the Peake brothers. The weather was fine and the sections were good from a spectators point of view but after the first laps got tougher for the riders, in the end of the day saw some very tired riders indeed. The day was however overcast by an incident that left an atmosphere I hope we will never experience again. It would probably have gone un-noticed at a two-stroke trial but not at one of our trials. We pride our-selves on the fact that our meetings are like the coming together of a big family. They are infact organised by families and observed by families, and when one of the family is upset in any way it affects the rest of us. We are noted for our amiability and comradery and are the envy of all the clubs in the Eastern Centre. We help each other, we all know each other by name, we are sportsmen in every sence of the word. These are the foundations on which the club was founded and on which it will carry on God willing for many years to come.

Continued over

the last three weeks seem to have been quite fortunate for me, by that I mean that I seem to have been in the right places to hear people putting their Alpine Stars in their mouths largely.

Braintree offered a trial which seemed to bring out different sides of people we had not been ~~privileged~~ to view before. Norman (Arbuthnot) Blakemore felt that the first eight sections were easy enough to follow the path from the saddle (I suppose that should be seat, O Northern one). Section twelve seemed to have the effect of turning Jackles into Hydes & vice versa. Grayham (Mc Enroe) Braybrook threw a tantrum (Preedy spells it "PERCY") here after doing a variation of the dance of the drowned rat. However the same section was cleaned twice by Pop Coomer (Amend that to Poser) when I would not have attempted it in a tank. He was later heard to utter the immortal words "Well some people can walk on water, some can't".

At Frating Simon Higgins seemed to get above his station & won the best novice award. That makes tree Higgins so now your an expert, all that means is that in future a good ride will cost you £10 per section instead of £5. At the same trial Geoff Daw performed the odd miracle or two, and scared the life out of me when I read the results.

This brings me to my next point. It has been noticed by members of the EPTA that certain people have been "TRYING" of late, and taking things all together seriously, So come on chaps, play the game, think of our image, all footing coats & silly old spuffling idiots on rigids & girders. So chaps be reasonable follow the example of our President & above all enjoy yourselves.

Talking about our illustrious El President'a he was heard to utter at a recent committee meeting, he tends to do that sort of thing but people rarely listen. However on this occasion a certain young female normal seemed to catch the drift of what he was getting at. It ran something like this, "Course the problem all started when we gave them the vote, let them drive, let them smoke, and even let them in pubs". So ran the befuddled mumbblings of our own Alf Garnet, I can say that the young lady was to say the least unimpressed.

I am afraid to say that the club dinner whilst being a great success, did not offer great opportunities for a bit of p*** taking except to mention that the Higgins family are adept at making paper air planes out of name cards, & to mention that the dancing was led by Princess Di (el president'a) & prince Charles (Our beloved Editor, who I bet won't print this bit).

Please note this section is designed to be as libelious as possible so if you don't want to appear be very very careful .

A S Cribbler

For the second month running the committee has felt the need to introduce a new rule.

In future members will only be allowed to enter events under the EFA name when riding british bikes.

We would like to point out that if you want to ride your Enfield ect against Fantics in a modern trial Please feel free to use the EFA name.

Also It has been decided to introduce a special lower membership fee to any ladies who would like to join the EFA . we owe a great deal to these regular observers & if any would like to join the EFA the fee is only £1.

R.J.Percival.

AT A RECENT MEETING THE COMMITTEE DECIDED TO FORMALLY
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FORTHCOMING SHOWS BEING ATTENDED BY THE E.F.A.

Weeting Country Show. July 15th, 16th & 17th
contact Ted on 01206 841519.

Langford Bike Meet. August 7th
contact Don Daly on 01787 477045.

Copdock Bike Show. September 4th
contact Don Daly.

Kempton Park Bike Show & Auto Jumble. December 3rd
Contact Don Daly.

Anyone interested in showing their bike/s please contact the
above

people in GOOD TIME as passes have to be organised.
Passes cannot be obtained at short notice.

*My next-door neighbour worships exhaust pipes.
He's a Catholic converter.*

*"I had a dream last night that I was cutting carrots with the Grim Reaper –
dicing with death." – Tim Vine*

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KEEPING TRACK!

MAY 2022

Club Fixture List & some other classic events in East Anglia

May 1st	Pre-65 Motocross Club	AMCA	Maylandsea Scramble
May 3rd	EFA		Club Night at Stanway Rovers FC Club House, The Hawthorns, 50 New Farm Rd., CO3 OPG
May 22nd	EFA	ACU	Bromley Brook, ECACU, Class C Champ Rnd 2
May 28th	EFA		Tim's Tours, The Border Tour, Ted's 'Plaice' 2pm
May 29th	Pre-65 Motocross Club	AMCA	Marks Tey Scramble
June 7th	EFA		Club Night at Stanway Rovers FC Club House, The Hawthorns, 50 New Farm Rd., CO3 OPG
July 30th	Diss MCC	ACU	Wattisfield, Class C Champ Rnd 3
Oct 2nd	EFA	ACU	Snaque Pit Trial
Oct 30th	Woodbridge & DMCC	ACU	TBC Class C Champ Rnd 4
Nov 27th	EFA	ACU	Ian Preedy Mem Trial, Thorrington, Rnd 5 Class C
Dec 11th	ACTC / EFA	AMCA	Boxford Bash Trial, Boxford Scouts Spinney
Dec 27th	Woodbridge & DMCC	ACU	Butley, Class C Champ Rnd 6

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