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# **T**RIALS & RIBULATI NS

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[www.eastern-fourstroke-association.co.uk](http://www.eastern-fourstroke-association.co.uk)

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.

# EDITORIAL

I've given facebook and the like a miss these last four months or so (and no plans to log back in) so haven't kept up to date with EFA happenings and I thought you were all conspiring for my 135<sup>th</sup> and last edition not to happen by not sending anything in. But first there was a trickle from Ted then Mark sent in a load of photo's from the Woodbridge DMCC Pre70 trial and of course Sidge came up trumps right at the last minute with another episode of 'Towards Section Ends'. Much appreciated and thank you to all those who have supported the T&T whilst I've been editing it and I'm sure you'll support any new incoming editor.

*Keep yer feet up,*



## **MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT'S IPAD**

November is Thumpers time. There will be a working party on the 13th of November at Thorrington start time 9:30. All the more the merrier. Also if you are able to observe please let me know in good time. There will be some changes to the management of the club. Watch this space. Just had some very sad news the demise of the TMX. Had it from day one.

*Ted.*

PS the chairman job is still up for grabs anyone who is interested please get in touch.

# TOWARDS “SECTION ENDS”

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## PART TWENTY SIX

I liked racing on the grass. I always think that a good and slickly run grass track meeting can provide a great days sport. Moreover, with the simplicity of a basically oval grass circuit, set in a large enough field, it is perfectly possible for a family to attend without having to get out of their car. Good for elderly grannies and grandads but perhaps not so advantageous if it is wet or dusty. The other great thing about grass track events, is the mix of bikes, either in capacity or age, plus sidecars performing in either direction, and at some meetings, junior age racing which will now be added to by electric bikes.

I must point out that I was fortunate enough to do my grass track riding when scramblers were acceptable. Actually, I don't think there is any rule nowadays that actually bans them but I suspect anyone turning up to race such a bike would get a fairly cold shoulder. Within the Eastern Centre of the 1960's, the fixtures were such that you could ride nearly every weekend throughout the summer at scrambles, interlaced with a few grass meetings. With a 250cc Greeves, this required very little alteration save that of putting a smaller rear sprocket on to the rear wheel. As regards fuel – whereas our grass track specialists riding “proper” speedway style grass machines, ran on methanol mixture, or “dope”, I always used normal pump petrol mixed at 20:1 with

Castrol “R”. No alterations to the main jet either. Life perhaps was simpler in those days.

The format of grass racing was very similar to that of speedway. Mainly oval circuits and for us, four lap heats, with six-lap finals. If you were lucky or rode well, you could get six to eight races per meeting but even so, after the bodily stresses of scrambling (moto-cross today) a day on the grass was something of a furlough.

If possible, it was nice to get hold of a bigger bike to get more rides and here my Clacton Club colleague, Pete Redpath and I used to share his 500cc Ariel. We would simply swop number plates and go to the start line. I remember if we both made a final we would toss for who went out.

Two memories run high in my grass track career. One was a tremendous scrap I had with then veteran, Monty Banks, in the 250 final of the Eastern Centre Championships of 1965, held at Langford. Crafty old Monty was past his best by then - but mounted on one of the then new Greeves “Challengers”, he held me off by holding a tight line in the bends, as I, like a demented gnat, tried to sweep round the outside. He blocked me every time and gave me a damned good riding lesson. He finished fourth - myself fifth. As we trickled into the paddock, Monty gave me a: “that'll show yer” wink. The race - and

championship - was won by the legendary Alf Hagon.

The second was at a meeting held at Needham Market, close to the railway station. At one time we were told to hold-off from racing and wait with dead engines on the start line as the Salvation Army Band got off the train and in full uniform and with their instruments, crossed the circuit on their way in to town. We watched their progress with interest and as the somewhat

portly members of the band passed in front of us, some wag on the line called out: "Give us a tune then - I ride better with a nice bit of rhythm!" Naturally we all fell about with laughter and there was quite a pause before racing could restart.

Isn't that odd? I recall that particular incident so well - but ask me how I did in the actual race and I cannot remember. Perhaps it is just as well...



"How would you like to ride that section today!  
Up between the white tapes! - but this is 1947 and the event is the Inter Centre team trial held, I think in North Wales. Attracted a few spectators as well.."

All the best,  
*Sidge*



# WOODBIDGE & DMCC TRIAL

PHOTOS BY MARK GIBB

















**EASTERN FOURSTROKE ASSOCIATION**

**THE IAN PREEDY MEMORIAL  
THUMPERS BRITISH BIKE TRIAL**

(Including Round 5 of the E. C. Class C P70 Championship)

**Sunday November 27<sup>th</sup> 2022, Start 10:00 am.**



**VENUE:** Poplars Chase Farm, Thorrington,  
CO7 8HZ

**ACU PERMIT No:** TBC

**CLUB STEWARD:** Ted Smith

**CLERK OF THE COURSE:** Chris Chapman, Licence No. 118097

**SECRETARY OF THE MEETING:** John Beasley, 44 Broom Knoll, East  
Bergholt, Colchester, CO7 6XN  
Tel: 01206 391360 / 07487 712396

**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.

**ELIGIBILITY:** The Competition is open to all adult members of ACU affiliated clubs, riding solo machines of BRITISH MANUFACTURE made before 31st December 1969.

**COURSE:** 3 laps of 16 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; £17.00,  
**Entries open 24th October and close 18th November.**

**ROUTES:** Hard: 50/50; Easy. (The 50/50 route is intended to present an increased challenge for middle ability riders not wanting/able to ride the full hard route. Each section start card will be marked by the C of C to indicate if you ride the hard or easy route through that section.)

**START:** Will be in order of entries received, riders away at half minute intervals.

**CLASSES:**

- A. British Pre-unit construction four-strokes
- B. British Unit construction four-strokes.
- C. Rigid Rear / Girder Front single or twin four-strokes.
- D. Rigid Rear / Tele Front single or twin four-strokes.
- E. Any British two-stroke, sprung or unsprung.
- F. Any British 'Special' (machines that the entrant and/or machine examiner do not consider conforming to classes A to E or fail to meet the spirit of pre 70 competition).

**AWARDS:** Best performance in each class on the hard route. Also classes C and D who will ride the easy route. Best in class awards subject to a minimum of 5 entries, second in class subject to a minimum of 10.

# KEEPING TRACK!

NOVEMBER 2022

## Club Fixture List & some other classic events.

Nov 12 <sup>th</sup> 13 <sup>th</sup>	Royal Mons Auto Club		Trial du Mont Panisel Pr�65, www.rmamc.be
Nov 27 <sup>th</sup>	EFA	ACU	Ian Preedy Mem Trial, Thorrington, Rnd 5 Class C
Dec 6 <sup>th</sup>	EFA		Club Night at Stanway Rovers FC Club House, The Hawthorns, 50 New Farm Rd., CO3 OPG
Dec 11 <sup>th</sup>	ACTC / EFA	AMCA	Boxford Bash Trial, Boxford Scouts Spinney
Dec 27 <sup>th</sup>	Woodbridge & DMCC	ACU	Butley, Class C Champ Rnd 6

### **Kempton Park Bike Show & Auto Jumble. December 3<sup>rd</sup>**

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.

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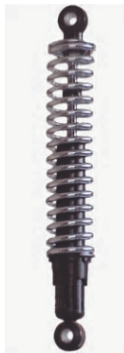
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