

RRND

Reigate & Redhill North Downs Motorcycle Club



Chairman's Chatter

This has been a month of contrasts for Malcolm and me. The first week saw us trail-riding in just riding shirts for four days in Southeast Spain in temperatures of 24c. The last week saw us competing in the SETRA enduro in temperatures of -5c on a very bleak Salisbury Plain.



It was whilst musing over the month and its adventures that it occurred to me that there had been some interesting incidents along the way and that it would be a good idea to share some of them so that we could all learn from the experiences:

1. Do not store safety helmets on the top shelf in the garage otherwise, when retrieving the laying out gear for the Training Trial, you may dislodge one which might fall on your head and give you a nasty knock.

2. In the half hour before a particularly demanding hare and hounds, when your son has been running up and down trying to bump start your normally reliable 400cc four stroke, do not admit that it finally started after you turned the fuel on.

3. Carrying a camel-bak in temperatures of -5c becomes irrelevant as the contents freeze to a solid block.

4. In those conditions ruts become as hard as kerb stones, slippery with black ice, and likely to throw you off line. When that happens do not let your bike bounce towards the lake.

5. When sitting astride your bike on 2" of ice above 5' of mud and water on the lake keep very still, try not to think about dropping the bike, which will inevitably punch its way through the ice, and signal for help by shouting and nodding your head.

6. Don't forget to thank the nice marshal who has managed to slide the bike sideways towards the edge of the lake with you on it even if the water was still a foot deep when the ice finally gave way.

7. You will fall off on the cambers and inevitably bail out on the high side, no matter what you do. Get in practice by throwing yourself on concrete from a 5' step ladder.

8. Always remember, no matter how cold you are, no matter how wet the water, how hard the ground, you are doing this because you enjoy it!

Because of the SETRA enduro we missed the Blacklands Farm Club Trial. I should imagine that you may have also experienced some very slippery conditions as water carried up the bank froze. I have yet to hear any reports but our thanks as always to those who turned out early to lay out, and those who stayed on to clear up. I hope the weather may be a little warmer for the Star Group Trial on 12th December, and repeat a plea for observers for the day. This is particularly important as some of our regular helpers ride the South Coast series and the dates clash.

I will be publishing the 2011 Training Trial dates in the near future. There is no

Training Trial in December because of the other commitments and we hope to see everybody at the Christmas Trial.

Lastly, for those I don't see before, I wish you a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Richard Coles

Membership Renewals

You are invited to now renew your RRND membership for the 2011 season. A form can be downloaded from the website www.rrnd.co.uk.

Please send your completed form and correct remittance to the Membership Secretary, Rob Edwards, at the address shown on the form, and please include an SAE.

Copies will also be available at the December Club Xmas Trial on 27 December, so please bring along some extra money and renew on the day!

Star Group Trial 12/12/2010

I have volunteered to collate the observers for the Star Group Trial the Club is running at the Old Quarry Betchworth on 12 December. I already have a small group of volunteers but will ring to confirm arrangements next week if it looks like the event will be able to go ahead. I still need more observers please - If you have not yet put your name down please consider observing - you can contact me on 07770543337 or e mail richardguy.coles@virgin.net. Please save me having to ring you on the preceding Friday evening!

Richard Coles

SETRA Hare & Hounds

Whilst most RRND members were off to Blacklands Farm on the 28 November, Richard and I headed down to Chalkpit Hill, Tidworth, on Salisbury Plain for the last round of the Southern Centre Hare and Hounds Championship run by SETRA. Neither of us had done any of these events this year so we weren't in the running for a championship.

The venue on Salisbury Plain is an army tank training area and is very open so it was no surprise that we were met by a bitterly cold wind. Having signed on and been through scrutineering we put the bikes at the start and had a look at the first few corners which were covered in black ice, as was the rest of the 8 mile loop.

Chalkpit Hill has a mix of big chalk climbs, open moorland and deep water/bogs and there was a good mix in the lap.



We had been put on the same start time and were sent off at 10 15am. After about half a mile a big hill was in our path surrounded by spectators, (which is normally a good sign that it's a tough bit), a sheer chalk climb that dropped over the top into a bowl of water and then immediately onto the second step of the climb. Normally it rode ok if enough momentum was kept but as we both found once during the day, it was easy to get it wrong!

A Hare and Hound events format is that each rider is given three hours to complete as many laps as possible. In the Clubman class I finished on 7 laps which gave me a gold award and in the Sportsman Dad finished on 5 laps and took a bronze award. He no doubt could have got onto 6 laps but about half an hour in he decided that he may have been better off trying a different sport for the day and kicked out of an icy rut flying onto a frozen lake. Not able to push himself off or even get off the bike without slipping and inevitably breaking the ice it was fortunate a marshal was soon on hand to throw a rope out and tow him off!

Malcolm Coles

Bultaco Tales

Hi all, I'm sitting at home with about 12 inches of snow outside unable to do much. Debbie (the Editor and wife) has asked me to write a short something for the newsletter as the content is a bit thin this month, (any articles are always welcome and it saves me rambling on).

In the now distant warmer months of the summer, the Club ran its series of evening trials at Sparticles Wood. I had been doing some work on the 1978 199 Bultaco I own. I had put in a new little end & bearing to try and cure a rattle, and had also fitted a new Barnett clutch which utilises proper friction plates and some of the original steel plates in my quest to try and lighten the extremely heavy Bultaco clutch action. Being unable to source one in the UK, the clutch was purchased from a seller in the USA via Ebay - be aware that although no import duty was payable, the Post Office does charge £8 to handle such imports! I am lead to believe that Bultaco UK is now stocking friction plates for those who may be interested.

I planned to use the bike at a Sparticles Wood event to try out the new clutch etc. On the evening the bike performed really well, the clutch was genuinely 'one finger' operation with a consistent biting point. I was therefore really happy with the clutch. The rattle unfortunately was still there (should have changed the piston and rings).

The bike was faultless until the chain broke on the second to last section - I had turned at the bottom of the hill, rev-ed the engine, dumped the clutch and the chain was then spat out the back. For those not familiar with Sparticles Wood, the route back to the car park is luckily all down hill. On arrival back at the car park I discovered that I had lost the plastic cover from the side casing through which the clutch can be adjusted!

On the whole this was an enjoyable evening, and up until the chain breaking I had been pleased with the performance of the bike - except the brakes which were on occasion nonexistent! Trying to improve the braking performance would be my next project.

Colin Don

(ED's comment: you would not believe how many times those clutch plates were in and out of that bike).

November Club Trial at Blacklands Farm

A decent number of riders (41) turned out at this popular venue. The full results for this very cold and from what I hear hard trial are now available on the website at www.rrnd.co.uk.

Best of those on the day were as follows:

Route/Class	1st	2nd	3rd
White Expert	Stuart Read - 19	Scott Dark - 48	Eric Clarke - 50
Inter	Sam Brightman - 46	Pat Lloyd-Jacob - 55	Antony Read - 110
Novice Blue	Mike Husband - 49	Danny Haste - 52	Robert McKenzie -

			90
Blue Over 40	Rob Edwards - 74	Andy Hutchinson - 111	Colin Don - 115
Red	Bob Collins - 39	Mark Stubberfield - 41	Martin Howell - 46
Red Under 16	Joshua Brimecombe - 47	Tom Hutchinson - 54	Ethan Whatmore - 64
Yellow	Brian Walpole - 55		

Current Championship Standings

Club Championships 2010, showing best 8 from 10

Championships are run over 11 rounds with best 8 scores counting

Expert

Stuart Read	96
Scott Dark	76
Eric Clarke	52
Malcolm Coles	37

Inter

Antony Read	64
Samuel Brightman	57
Pat Lloyd-Jacob	46

Novice Blue

Robert McKenzie	96
Keith Cross	50

Over 40 Blue

Rob Edwards	92
Pete Jenkins	88
Mark Stubberfield	73
Andy Hutchison Snr	50

Novice Red

Paul Newman	87
Luke Edwards	76
Paul Brightman	49
Richard Osborn	48
Bob Collins	44

Under 16 Red

Ben Edwards	92
Tom Hutchison	59
Grace Dark	53

Handicap

Ben Edwards	161
Samuel Brightman	160
Stuart Read	151
Luke Edwards	146
Mike Hammond	136
Rob Edwards	118
Robert McKenzie	112
Bob Collins	111
Pete Jenkins	106
Mark Stubberfield	103
Paul Newman	103

Club Christmas Trial 27 December 2010

Venue	The Old Quarry Betchworth
Start	11am on 27 December 2010
Clerk	Eric Clarke
Laying Out	Volunteers required for all routes
Course	May be either five laps of eight sections or four laps of ten sections. In both cases there will be a break after the second lap. It is preferred that riders ride the course as laps starting at whichever section they prefer and not keep riding the same section continuously.
General	<p>Please note that all parents/people with parental authority are responsible for under 18 year old riders and it is required that you sign their entry forms. Under 18s do not have personal insurance cover, only third party. For safety reasons do not ride around the course alone but in small groups observing each other in the sections. Always check a section is clear before entering and no practising in the sections before or during the trial. If caught practising you may be disqualified. Helmets are optional for adults but you are strongly advised to wear one. All under 18 riders MUST wear a helmet.</p> <p>This is an AMCA event run by Reigate & Redhill North Downs Motorcycle Club.</p>
Entries	Please download an entry form from the website at www.rnd.co.uk (under What's on) and bring fully completed to save time when signing on, together with the correct money

