

RRND

Reigate & Redhill North Downs Motorcycle Club



Chairman's Chatter

The death of Roger Farmer was reported in the last newsletter. I am pleased to tell you that RRND was represented at the funeral by Eric and myself. The chapel at the crematorium was packed with friends and family. Every seat was full and mourners stood two deep around all four walls. The family invited everyone to Walton Heath Golf Club afterwards for a real celebration of Roger's life. The Club has made a donation of £100 in memory of Roger to the charities Cancer Research and the Meningitis Trust.

This month's Club trial is at Sparticles Wood on the 24th. Please give some thought to laying out if you have not yet done so, and remember that volunteers are always required at the end of the event to clear away. We are back to the training trial as well, this time at the end of the month; Halloween! Perhaps we'll have some scary sections!

On the subject of volunteering – our Star Group trial approaches in December and volunteers are required to observe. Please support the event. I am aware that very few members now ride Star Group which always clashes with the South Coast Trials but if you are not committed elsewhere please help us put on an event that we are proud to run in the RRND name.

Lastly, thank you to everyone who responded to the request to object to the Traffic Regulation Orders set to close two byways at East Horsley. This closure will be considered by the Council in December and I will let you know the outcome. In the meantime, all byway users need to exercise care following extreme action that has the potential to cause serious harm to any user, and potentially fatal injuries to horses. Last year a wire was strung across a byway near Newlands Corner. This was taken very seriously by Police and investigated thoroughly, although without result as far as I am aware. Recently a rider in that area had his front tyre punctured and the wheel locked by a crude "stinger" device made of 6" nails in a plank which was hidden in the undergrowth. It seems unbelievable that anyone can be so stupid as to leave such an item that could cause huge damage and distress to any user.

Richard Coles

RRND South Coast Group Trial – Betchworth – Sunday 8th August 2010

RRND held their round of the South Coast Group Trials Championship at The Old Quarry, Betchworth on Sunday 8th August. We were lucky with the weather this year as although we had rain overnight on Friday and Saturday it did not affect the ground that much, owing to the weeks of dry weather we had prior to that.

Stuart Read (Whites), Bob Collins (Reds) and myself (Blues) set out the 12 sections on the Saturday and with the weather changeable we did err on the easy side, having been caught out in previous years when rain overnight had made the sections horrendous. I still had to rein in Stuart though, who wanted to route the whites up and over everything in sight!

Sunday dawned dry and bright and the car park was soon full of cars and vans and we were well organised dispatching the observers to their sections with Sandra and Bob Collins doing the signing on whilst Stuart and I checked the route marking and sections.

The trial followed the clockwise route around the quarry with most sections in areas familiar to club members. However, the Thomas family have been busy and a whole new section of banking has been cleared and a few logs and steps introduced to make for a fearsome challenge (on the whites at least). This was utilised for section 11 and certainly raised a few eyebrows when the first riders arrived, especially those on the Blue route who still had a massive climb to attempt even if it was not quite as severe as the white one! This concern proved well founded for some and a few machines (and riders) were seen to come back down to earth the way that they had come! I even saw a very nice Sherco take a bit of a tumble on the white route, resulting in it sounding a bit off 'song' for the rest of the day. I resisted the urge to point out to the young man that I had in fact cleaned the white route climb the day before, when we were setting the trial out lest he took offence and smacked me one!

Overall everyone seemed to have a good day, with no complaints and plenty of smiles around the burger stall at the end. We had lots of helpers on the day (even though I had the usual dearth of volunteers to observe before the event) and I was most grateful to all the pairs of hands who joined in with sorting the cards when we returned to the car park. As they say 'many hands make light work' and all the section cards and flags were sorted back into their bags and colours before I left for home! Brilliant! We had numerous Club members or 'friends' of the Club who did observe, so many thanks to you all – namely Steve and Julie Mimms, Trevor Howell, Alex Clarke, Mike Hammond, Brian Walpole, Derek Tickner-Wand, Dick and Malcolm Coles, Dave Charman and the Dark family (who had the pleasure of observing the infamous section 11). See the superb photo below, taken by Bob Collins, of an anonymous rider abandoning ship on the climb on the blue route, which gives you some idea of the section. Scott Dark wisely fends off the rearing Sherco whilst Steve Forrest looks as if he is pulling an invisible rope to steady the rampant steed. Yours truly is hiding behind a large leaf hoping the no-one will recognise him!



Scores were lowish on the day, with James Graham having a brilliant ride cleaning everything well on the white route, apart from Section 11 on his last lap. Thomas Moss was also riding well and would have taken the win had he not had brain fade on the easy section 4 on his first lap, when he got caught in a tree and fived. The other ride of the day came from Clubman B rider Frank Puttock, who sped around on his Beta and kept a clean sheet all day. He was finishing his third lap when some of the whites were still on their first! Louise Cannom also had a good day taking the win on the Clubman A route (half red sections and half blue) beating Keith by just a solitary mark. Well done.

Once again a successful RRND event at this popular piece of land.

Cheers,

Eric (Clarke)

Inaugural London Fire Brigade Sprint Enduro

Malcolm's first enduro event on the new bike, a 2008 Yamaha YZ125, was at Four Marks, near Alton, Hampshire, where the London Fire Brigade Enduro Club had obtained permission from the ACU to stage a new type of event for the first time in the South East. On an area that sees quite a lot of general practicing and 4x4 use and which is quite tired, Chris Salt, of Docklands Riders fame, had managed to build an extreme course on LFB's behalf. The motocross track and the worst sections of the 4x4 area had been combined, and extreme obstacles including cars, tractor tyres and oil drums in various configurations had been added.



In the Clubman Class, 38 riders had two hours in the morning to set a time to put them in the top 15 who would then go on to ride two, two lap heats, gaining points dependent on position, to decide overall position. Riders could ride as much, or as little, as they wished with a place in the heats their goal.

The track was difficult, relatively dry, rutted, dusty and stony. The woods were a different story, with slippery going, and standing stagnant water in deep ruts!

Lap times were posted and the atmosphere was tense as those on the margin struggled to keep their place in the top 15 as the session drew to a close. Rain 25 minutes before the end of the session made the track lethal and it became clear that the fastest times for that qualifying session were already posted. Malcolm had secured a 6th place so was assured of a place in the heats.

The heats started with a Le Mans type start, a sprint to the bikes, start and away. That was the

theory anyway, but Malcolm's bike took three kicks to start in the first heat, and he was 12th away. Spectacular effort saw that position changed to 5th as he crossed the final line, despite the track now being very slippery and horrendous conditions in the woods.



Malcolm's second heat was even more successful. He made a brilliant start and was away in second, a position he was to maintain almost until the finish, just being pipped to the post and pushed to third. The two laps saw excellent racing and a brilliant ride on his part being pushed hard by two very experienced and capable riders who were to be placed second and third overall. You tube video shows every trick of the book being used including ramming and pushing to decide the outcome!

At the end of the day 5th overall (by one point) was an excellent result, and a format had been tested that gave excellent spectator sport and a real test of riders.

Richard Coles

Wickham Harvest Trial – 19/09/2010

The Dark family once again convinced me to come ride the Wickham Harvest trial which I have had some mixed results at in the past. I have ridden it a few times with various people with my worst attempt two years ago on the Elite Expert route - this is a hard trial and needless to say I came last, with the added humiliation of having a full dunk in the stream on the first lap....thanks for catching me Scott!

This year I played it safe, riding the normal Expert route with Scott which is still pretty tough. Chris Dark's encouraging words of 'go on ride the Elite we could do with a laugh' secured my

decision and rightly so, the Elite this year was pretty full on!

The day looked like it was starting with a bad vibe, after Scott and I managed to ride through some seriously smelly cow **** on the way to the start, covering our lovely clean bikes and clothes, luckily this wasn't the case, it just meant we had a slight pong about us for the whole day. The trial was really well laid out, and after we got over the first section jitters we settled in and started to have some fun. There were some top riders attending the trial including our recent trainer Sam Connor, which did add a little intimidation to the riding, but nothing too off putting.

On the first lap both Scott and I both dropped fives but we also had some good rides mixed in there as well. I fived a climb that I never managed to get up the last time I was there so assumed it would be the case again for the whole day, but I did manage to get up it a couple of times later which I was pretty happy about. There were a couple of tough sections including a very awkward camber route on a bank that we both struggled with, but did eventually get through for a 1 just about. I managed to stay on the bike for the rest of the day, and Scott only dropped a couple more fives, some were due to mechanical issues though so not entirely his fault!

The trial is long and set at a huge piece of land, and by the end of the day we were pretty shattered, the pit stops at section 5 where the Dark family entourage was in full effect got longer and longer as the day went on, and I think Scott's intake of doughnuts compared to my geeky energy gels was his undoing, and by the end of the day I finished up on 51 and Scott on 86. Sam Connor took the win on the Elite with an amazing display of skill, finishing up on just a single dab for the day! I didn't realise it, but I was actually riding well compared to a lot of others and my score was enough to get me third place just a few marks behind second. It was a shame that the event clashed with our Club round at Ockley, but I would recommend this event to everyone to try at least once.

Stuart Read

Club Trial at Sparticles Wood 24 October 2010

Venue	Sparticles Wood
Start	11am on 24 October 2010
Clerk	Eric Clarke
Laying Out	All routes: volunteers needed!
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	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.
	This is an AMCA event run by Reigate & Redhill North Downs Motorcycle Club.
Entries	On the day.

Beginners Training Trial

The next beginners Training Trial is on the 31st October 2010 at Harts Lane, South Godstone. Start time 11am.

New Members

Welcome this month to new members Matthew and Barry Boxall.

Assistance Required!

Prior to the last Club trial at Ockley, it was necessary for Eric to send out a reminder to all Club members that they should volunteer to assist in some way, if they have not yet done so. Thank you to those of you who stepped up and enabled the trial to be run.

No apologies are made for reproducing Eric's reminder here, as volunteers are required to assist at the October Club trial at Sparticles Wood, as well as at other forthcoming events. It would be a shame if trials could not be run, or run with fewer routes as a result of no-one being prepared to assist, and it is not fair to rely on the usual few who do make the effort.

"..unless we get volunteers then there will not be a trial - as simple as that!

I am sorry to be as blunt as that, but to date this year it has largely been the same few people laying out all the trials. This is unfair and whilst I would not like to resort to a rota system (which Horsham riders utilise) it would be nice to get a few new faces to help layout. Have you ridden Club trials this year? If so, then have you laid out a route as yet? If the answer is no then please lend a hand - it only requires getting to the trial a couple of hours earlier on the Sunday morning.

We will also need someone to do the signing on - which again is not arduous, but just needs someone to say that they will do it.

If you can help, at this or any other trial this year, please contact me."

Contact details are:

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Club Trial at Ockley 19 September 2010

Twenty two riders signed on for the September Club Trial at Ockley. Three routes were laid out to be tackled by the riders at this improving piece of land.

Best on the day were as follows:

Route/Class	1st	2nd	3rd
Novice Blue	Robert McKenzie 35	Keith Cross 115	
Blue Over 40	Rob Edwards 20	Pete Jenkins 25	Mark Stubberfield 47
Blue Under 16	Samuel Brightman 27		
Red	Paul Newman 39	Bob Collins 45	Richard Osborn 72
Red Under 16	Ben Edwards 88		
Yellow	Brian Walpole 17		

Current Championship Standings and Handicaps

Expert

Stuart Read	83
Scott Dark	54
Malcolm Coles	37
Eric Clarke	32

Inter

Antony Read	43
Pat Lloyd-Jacob	35
Samuel Brightman	33
Danny Haste	23
Mike Husband	20

Novice Blue

Robert McKenzie	84
Keith Cross	31

Over 40 Blue

Rob Edwards	88
Pete Jenkins	76
Mark Stubberfield	54
Colin Don	38
Andy Hutchison Snr	31

Novice Red

Paul Newman	69
Luke Edwards	66
Paul Brightman	45

Under 16 Red

Ben Edwards	80
Grace Dark	33
Tom Hutchison	24

Handicap

Ben Edwards	161
Luke Edwards	146
Stuart Read	130
Mike Hammond	113
Samuel Brightman	111
Robert McKenzie	97
Rob Edwards	94
Paul Newman	86
James Dark	85
Pete Jenkins	83
Bob Collins	79
Scott Dark	74
Mark Stubberfield	72