

RRND

Reigate & Redhill North Downs Motorcycle Club



Chairman's Chatter

I guess the threat of heavy rain put a lot of members off attending the evening trial last week and you will know that we had decided to forego the barbeque. In the event the small group of riders (18) who braved the venue had an excellent trial and enjoyed some well thought out sections, including two in the rarely used southern part of the stream. I have included some photographs of the event which wasn't nearly as dark and gloomy as the flash on the small camera I had with me makes it.



As far as I am aware Colin Don was the only person to take a plunge but he had the consideration to do it in front of a large crowd of admiring onlookers and received marks of 8.5 for style. *(ED's note: more to come on this next month - a broken elbow was sustained!)*

Pete J nearly followed him - when leaning over and feeling with a stick for the depth of the stream he received a large shove from Malcolm (clearly still concussed and not thinking straight- see enduro notes). Pete recovered and Malcolm had to be very vigilant for the rest of the trial!

Because of unresolved parking issues at Sparticles Wood the South Coast Trial in August will now be held at Beare Gill. We may plot 12 sections for this event for which we need your help as observers and we may need to have a small working party at the venue before the trial. Please keep an eye out for further e mails.

Now I have good news and bad news. The good news is that the letters of protest you wrote about proposed closures to Byways in the Horsley area did have an effect despite the first impression that SCC and the Parish Council were going to press on regardless. The volume of complaints means that one will not be closed and that the other may have been saved or will at least go to Public Inquiry. SCC rights of way staff were excellent through out and did their best to steer the committee on the correct policy. It remains to be seen if Council cuts will result in less closures because of the associated cost of doing so or the converse with more closures as a result of cost of maintenance and reduce RoW staff to advise on the issues.

The bad news is that the threat of closures of rights of way around the country seems to be increasing. The individuals responsible seem to be blind to the fact that closure of routes result in increased pressure on legal

byways and may then lead to complaints of increased use! Also that localised closures break up networks and may lead to illegal use elsewhere by those frustrated by the apparent unfairness of the system. In this newsletter you will see a link to a TRF petition that is trying to amend the closure process. You will also find an appeal to lend your weight to the protest against the closure of an old trail near Butser Hill in Hampshire. I will not reiterate what that circular says but would urge you to respond and to do it now- the process shuts on
13th
July!

Finally - Godzilla has gone but the curse remains. In future episodes you will read - if you dare- toe curling tales of disaster of my ventures into the second hand enduro bike market and learn how to part with more money in a service than my daughter could spend in a week in Bluewater! You have been warned!

Richard Coles

Camping Weekend

A reminder that the Club's annual camping weekend is fast approaching. Camping is permitted from Friday evening, 26th August, to Monday evening, 29th August. Dinner will be provided on Saturday evening and a cooked breakfast on Sunday morning.

The cost is the same as last year, and is excellent value for money at £25 for adults and £15 for under 16s.

Entertainment will be arranged for Saturday evening in the marquee including frog racing, and the traditional Sunday night bonfire will be held.

There will not be an open trial on Monday, but sections may be laid out on a 'closed to camp' basis, followed by a fun arena section.

The booking form will shortly be available to download from the Club's website at www.rrnd.co.uk please get your form in as soon as possible with your full remittance.

The Committee

REME Hare and Hounds series

Every year team REME hold an evening enduro series. This year it comprises of four rounds, two of which have already taken place, and the third is only a few days off. I decided to try and make every round this year so on the first Wednesday of June I took the day off work and made my way down to Slab Common near Bordon.

They hold a two hour hare and hounds race for this series which in essence is a 2 hour motocross race with a mix of mx style sand sections and jumps, and technical wooded going. With about 50 riders in each class starting at 10 second intervals the starts are pretty hectic and the dust meant it was hard to even see the flag drop! I managed to get away in third place which I was pleased with only to miss a corner a few miles in and drop over 10 places. By the hour mark the computer screen was showing I had moved up to 5th so I decided to pull in for a quick fuel stop and get back out. The following lap I caught the leading riders and moved through into second place. Typically my biggest rival this year was holding the lead and although I started to close the gap I was still 20 seconds off him when the chequered flag came out.

Two weeks later we headed down to round 2 at Hogmoor Enclosure with high hopes of a win having been so close at round 1. It had rained heavily a few days beforehand so dust was not a problem. Once again I had a good start and with only the winner of round 1 ahead of me I pushed hard. Luck was not on my side this time and after a lap of wet sand my new goggles didn't live up to expectations and left me riding blind for a lap and he slipped out of sight. The timing computer still showed me as being second as I came into the pits for a new set of goggles but I had lost valuable time to the leader.

Heading back out half a lap on I had another setback realising that the support bolt on my footpeg had snapped on the landing of a jump so with another problem there was no option but to put up with it and push on. A maximum of one minute separated us for the two hours however we were a lap up on our other competitors and once again he took the win by just over 30 seconds!

The next round is only a few days off and with only two rounds remaining and two points between us in the championship, it's all still to play for!

Malcolm Coles

Update on Reme series

Malcolm got a good start in Round 3 of the series last Wednesday and soon found himself in a prolonged battle for first place. Unfortunately on lap 9, about half way through and whilst overtaking to take the lead, a log was flicked up by the adjacent bike and through Malcolm's front wheel! Fortunately he was thrown to the side of the track rather than into the trees but hit the ground hard ending up with concussion, a very sore and bleeding nose, and goggles and helmet filled with blood. The concussion meant he had no option but to withdraw.



Rider Numbers at Trials

Overall this year it is pleasing to see that Club trial numbers are up, with the average being 35 riders. The lowest (26 riders) was at Dunsfold with the others being 37, 38, 36, 35 & 38.

Land prices and other costs continue to increase, so it is vital that events are well supported to avoid losses. It is YOUR Club, so if you enjoy riding a particular piece of land, or think somewhere is utilised too often, or you have any ideas to assist in the running of the Club, please contact any member of the Committee who will raise your views at the monthly Committee meeting.

We are keen to retain existing members and to attract new ones. In particular it would be nice to see more youngsters coming through as our juniors are rapidly approaching age 16, (if not there already). If anyone has any ideas regarding attracting more members/riders, please contact a member of the Committee.

Airborne Forces Day at Southsea

Sunday 4th July saw us travel to Southsea, where Pompey Paras were hosting the Airborne Forces Day.

One of the attractions in the main ring was a motorbike display team with a difference - the Solent Eagles Children's Motorcycle Display Team.

This team consists of boys and girls ranging from a 4 year old girl to 18 year olds.



They produced a fantastic display, including fast crossovers and a hint of comedy when the 4 year old was supposed to have had an accident, but her bike was stretchered off instead!

If you get the chance to see them perform go along and watch - it was well worth seeing.

Debbie Don

Race for Life

On 22nd June Grace (running) and I (walking) successfully completed the Cancer Research 'Race for Life' at Tilgate Park, Crawley. We took part with two friends and also a group of seventeen others from the school where I work. Despite the heavy shower before we started we actually finished in sunshine, though I don't think any weather would have dampened the atmosphere that evening.



We would like to thank the Club for sponsoring us for this event and also everyone who sponsored us individually. Thank you for giving to this worthy cause.

Carol Dark

Results from June's Evening Trial at Sparticles Wood

Some 22 riders turned out for the first evening trial of the year. The best on the night were as follows:

Route/Class	1st	2nd	3rd
White Expert	No finishers		
Inter	No riders		
Novice Blue	Pat Lloyd-Jacob - 8	Alan Stanley - 27	
Blue Over 40	Francis Sydenham - 51		
Blue Under 16	No riders		
Red	Jason Keen - 24	Martin Howell - 28	Stuart Hescott - 29
Red Under 16	No riders		
Yellow	Mike Hammond - 2	Curtis Howell - 14	

Full results are on the website at www.rrnd.co.uk

Results from June's Club Trial at Hookwoods

A decent entry of 37 riders signed on to ride this trial, however 13 were guests.



Best of the riders on the day were as follows:

Route/Class	1st	2nd	3rd
White Expert	Stuart Read - 16	Scott Dark - 22	Scott Farley* - 25
Inter	Mark Watmore* - 12	Tom Horsburgh* - 31	
Novice Blue	Harriet Shore* - 20	Chris Roos - 30	Alan Stanley - 34
Blue Over 40	Rob Edwards - 30	Antony Read - 34	Pete Jenkins - 34
Blue Under 16	No riders		
Red	David Cutler - 30	Stuart Hescott - 38	Luke Edwards - 43
Red Under 16	Ethan Watmore* - 14	James Dark - 88	
Yellow	Len Hart* - 3	Mike Hammond - 26	

* Denotes Guest Rider.

Full results are on the website at www.rnd.co.uk

Current Championship Standings

Championships are run over 11 rounds with best 8 scores counting

Name	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	Total	
Expert								
Eric Clarke		10	11	11		10	10	52
Stuart Read		11	10			12	12	45
Scott Dark			9	12		11	11	43
Luke Thomas		12	12		12			36
Inter								
Samuel Brightman		12	11	10	10			43
Jake Pope			12	11	12			35
Chris Dark			10	12	11			33
Novice Blue								
Alan Stanley		12	12			12	12	48
Tom Charman		11		12	12			35
Over 40 Blue								
Pete Jenkins		11	10	11	10	11	10	63
Rob Edwards		10	7	8	9	10	12	56

Antony Read	12	8	9	12		10	51
Robert McKenzie		9	12	11	12		44
Chris Roos		11				12	23
Novice Red							
David Cutler	11	11	9	10		12	53
Trevor Howell	9	5	7	9	10	5	45
Luke Edwards	8	10	5	5	6	10	44
Stuart Hescott		6	6	8	11	11	42
Martin Howell		7	8	11	5	8	39
Toby Robinson			11	12	12		35
Handicap							
Ben Edwards	14	6	14	5	19	24	82
Luke Edwards	11	13	8	9	18	23	82
David Cutler	23	11	17	12		16	79
Rob Edwards	10	12	1	20	14	21	78
Trevor Howell	20	1	22	15	13	7	78
Eric Clarke	14	21	20		12	9	76
Pete Jenkins	20	7	1	21	10	14	73
Scott Dark		10	25		20	17	72
Antony Read	24	4	1	25		14	68
Mike Hammond	9	1	7	17	23	10	67
Robert McKenzie		18	7	24	17		66
Grace Dark		1	25	22		18	66
Stuart Read	15	17			21	12	65
Alan Stanley	25	9			9	22	65
Keith Cross	18		11		16	20	65
Stuart Hescott		1	16	13	15	19	64

South East Centre Team Trial

On 5th June we entered two teams in the South East Centre Team Trial run by Kent & Sussex MCC at Home Farm, Crowborough.

Scott Dark, Chris Dark and Rob McKenzie made up one team and Mike Husband, Mark Stubberfield and Alan Stanley the other. The course consisted of 20 sections ridden twice. Grace and I observed on section 19 (in the rain) as all clubs who entered were required to provide an observer.

The day certainly turned out to be memorable, though not for all the right reasons. Unfortunately, Alan Stanley was the only member of his team to finish after Mark had to retire with brake problems and Mike dislocated his finger! This was the second year Mark had to retire but hopefully he will come back next year and make it third time lucky! Scott, Chris and Rob managed to finish in 11th place out of the 24 teams that entered. Full results can be seen on www.southeasttrialscombine.org.uk

We could have entered a third team if more riders had been interested as we did have another willing Novice rider but not enough Expert or Intermediate riders.

Perhaps next year some more riders could think about giving it a try.

Carol Dark



Quaife Team Trial & Camden Cup

As Carol says above, The Kent & Sussex MCC Camden Cup incorporating the Quaife Trophy SE Centre Team Trial was held on 5 June 2011.

The team element consists of an Expert, and Inter and a Novice rider all from the same Club, all riding the same route. Clubs are required to provide an observer and Carol & Grace Dark fulfilled this role for RRND - thanks ladies.

Thanks also go to our teams for representing RRND.

In the Expert individual class, Scott Dark came 14th out of 25 riders, losing a total of only 12 marks, so you can see how tight this class was - the last placed rider only lost a total of 19 marks!

In the Novice class, Rob McKenzie did extremely well finishing 6th with a total of 25 marks lost. The winner of this class lost 18 marks, so again it was fairly close.

This really is a fantastic trial on lovely land and we hope to enter more teams next year!

"Breaking News"

As well as Malcolm's concussion, and Colin's broken elbow, we have just heard that Rob McKenzie suffered a broken collarbone at the weekend's South Coast Trial!

A swift recovery is wished to them all.

Next Club Trial

Details of the Club's next Trial are set out below.

Venue	Faygate				
Start	11am on 24 July 2011				
Laying Out etc	White	Blue	Red	Yellow	Signing on
	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer
	Needed	Needed	Needed	Needed	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	Please download an entry form from the website at www.rrnd.co.uk (under What's on) and bring fully completed to save time when signing on, together with the correct money. Please remember to bring your Membership Card. If you cannot produce a current Membership Card, you will be charged as a guest rider - it is not the responsibility of the volunteer(s) undertaking the signing on to check whether you have renewed your membership.				

Please contact Richard Coles if you can assist at this trial.

Byway14 Butser Hill : Langrish Hampshire

As mentioned by Richard, the following information has been received:

Can you please find a minute to look at the information on the Hampshire County Council website about a proposal to put a TRO on Buster Hill which will ban motorcycles from this 'Byway Open to all Traffic' in Hampshire. If you could send your objections the e-mail address is below.

We recently had 900+ objections to the proposed TRO in Surrey which had a positive result. It seem that it is numbers that count, and I would like to thank all that helped on that occasion. It would be good if we can achieve the same result in Hampshire.

Feel free to plagiarize my letter of objection below but please don't 'Copy and Paste' in the same order but also try to add some objections of your own, or just say you strongly object to the proposed order. *you must use the words "I object"*.

Do ask for an acknowledgement of your objection. *Closing date 13/7/11.*

Ps. *please forward to other groups or individuals that could help .*

e-mail To: Harry.Goodchild@hants.gov.uk **CC** vicky.bowskill@hants.gov.uk

"Dear Mr Goodchild.

Proposed Traffic Regulation Order Boat 14 Langrish (Butser Hill)

I am objecting to the proposed TRO on the above byway.

The Report contains inconsistent, inaccurate and contradictory statements.

Failure to fulfil obligations set out in Section 122 of the Road Traffic Act 1984, the decision to make a TRO is not based on a adequate balancing exercise as required by Section 122.

In terms of the avoidance of danger to users of BOAT 14 it seems to me that there is no objective measure which could be applied to the generally held local perception of such a threat.

The report states the route is difficult to access in case of accidents and would require helicopter rescue this is true about many rights of way throughout the countryside, if this is the case should we not close all public access to the countryside.

The report states that on two occasions funds have been raised to repair this byway, but repairs have proven unsustainable due to motorcycle use and the erosion has reoccurred, the real problem is that water erosion forms a gully in the first place and motorcycles and mountain bikes are forced to ride in the gully which adds to the problem.

The problem is a poor standard of maintance, when the route was diverted some years ago cross drains should have been added these drains divert run off water from the top of the hill and the high ground at the side away from the byway such drains stop the gully forming in the first place, use of such cross drains is standard practice in the northern counties and now also in Surrey but alas not in Hampshire

The longstanding legal rights of motorcyclists to enjoy riding BOAT 14 on road legal machines should not be taken away.

Please acknowledge receipt of my objection.

Yours sincerely"