

RRND

Reigate & Redhill North Downs Motorcycle Club



Chairman's Chatter

After the driest trial the Club has ever held at Blacklands Farm the torrential rain of the last few days will have come as a shock. Astonishingly it has yet to have any affect on the dry streams and ponds in the area I work. I often get time to ponder on Club issues and events and even articles for the newsletter when I am walking or driving around, but the hard part is setting time aside to write it all down. I write this having come in through the door and turned on the computer to find a plea from Debbie for the article that I promised last time and the Chairman's Chatter asap! Well I guess it's time to come clean and admit that the article that I promised last time, and suggested was nearly finished this time, is nowhere near completion, and with every night this week committed one way or another it might be foolish to even promise it for the next!

And while I am on the subject of honesty I want to make a plea that everybody is as honest as possible when filling in their own score cards. I do so after an observation made by a prospective member who has visited a couple of trials that our marking system does not seem to correspond to the one that he is used to! Without going so far as to suggest that some members have to have an open helmet because their noses would not fit in a full face one (Pinocchio) it is clear that one or two riders give themselves far too much leniency. If you dab it still counts even if you didn't mean to, and standing on one side of the bike is a five even if you keep the engine running! It's not true to say that you are only fooling yourself if you cheat on scoring- you may be depriving someone of a well-deserved award at the end of the year.

On nicer note I am sure we wish FINS M/Cycles all the best in their new premises on the Holmethorpe Industrial Estate. Fin Reynolds has built the business to a point where it has outgrown the old site and with his supporting staff has moved to a better unit to continue the sale of good quality used bikes and to be able to expand the sales and service side. Fin and most of his staff have been members of RRND at some point and are regular attendees at the camping weekend. Give them your support and you will be rewarded with a discount on production of the membership card!

If you picked up in last month's newsletter that I had finally got my Husqvana sorted enough to enter a Long Distance Trial you will find an account of the event in this newsletter. No fairy tale debut for me - I was out with a puncture before the first section. The first enduro for it is on the 20th on Salisbury Plain so we will see if it redeems itself. Before that Malcolm is riding an extreme enduro event in the Portland Quarries on the 13th. All of which means that once again I am relying on Rob to cover the training trial - thanks Rob. Next year we have a new training and social event planned - partly as a result of

the response to the survey the Club undertook and we will tell you more next time.

Richard Coles

Witley Long Distance Trial

Hi all. Recently, Dick Coles and I entered the Witley 100 Long Distance Trial for a bit of fun. I rode it last year and can recommend it to anyone who has a road legal off road bike.

The event is run during the day and goes for 100 miles of green lanes and small country roads. Along the way are 10 simple observed sections to make up a final score. At the end is a tie breaker timed blast round a large field for about 6 minutes, excellent fun!

The week before the competition, Dick took me out for a 4 hour reliability run on the green lanes of Surrey. All went well but as Dick does have a few mechanical issues with his bikes it was worth checking.

On the day of the event Dick set off as No 5 and I followed on 30 mins later as No 93. I hoped that I could catch him up by about lunch if I pushed on a bit. 15 mins after my start I had already overtaken quite a few bikes when I arrived at the first section to be greeted by Dick! His bike leaning against a tree with its rear tyre off the rim, not good as we had no spare tube or even tyre levers. Dick then had to wait for all 180 riders to go by as the lane we were in was too narrow for two way traffic.

I then carried on as fast as possible as we had both gone to the event in my van so Dick could not go home until I finished the event. The trials sections were quite hard this year, probably club red standard but on my down geared Suzuki DRZ 400 they were tricky. The first section was my only 5 when it stalled trying a very slow turn into a deep rut. After that I did improve but my main aim was to get to the finish as quick as possible.

Half way round many riders were stopping for lunch in the rather nice country pubs in that area. I opted for a sports drink and chocolate bar at the West Meon Hut petrol station (I must be mad). In the afternoon I teamed up with another rider who was obviously an ex motocross man, i.e. he didn't slow down for bends, just gave it more gas!

In the morning deep water was crossed very slowly with great caution like a proper trials rider. By the afternoon it was lean back and go for it and hope there are no holes to drop into! We were only a few minutes behind the first riders back in the car park.

Overall a fantastic day out and my score was 48th out of 180. Hopefully by

next year we will do a bit better and maybe some other RRND riders will come along too!

Thanks all

Pete Jenkins

2012 Camping Weekend - Help Required!

Marquee Hire

We have been advised that the marquee we usually hire is not available for our use next year, having already been booked out by the Scouts to someone else. We have also been led to believe that with the Olympics etc, we will struggle to find an alternative for a reasonable price. Does any one have any contacts with Scout groups etc, and could find out whether a reasonable sized marquee is available for hire for the August bank holiday weekend next year (from Friday through to end of Monday), and if so, what the rental costs would be?

Volunteer to organise

On the subject of the camping weekend, no volunteer has yet stepped forward to replace Jo Jenkins in organising this. Unless someone comes forward, it is likely that next year's event will have to be a much more low key affair, with everyone catering for themselves!

Club Trial Routes

Firstly this is not a criticism of the clerks of the course and the time they spend laying out but a suggestion of severity.

What is a club trial?

It is a trial to introduce new members into the sport of motorcycle trials riding so we have the basic Yellow route.

Secondly it is for the other members to progress to harder routes and to practice their skills and develop their abilities.

So how difficult or testing should the route be?

Yellow route for the beginner to learn how to ride between markers and to be able to negotiate small hazards. Also to learn how to mark and observe.

Red route (should be the same as the Star Group yellow route). This will be the introduction of being able to negotiate slightly more testing routes than the yellow route.

Blue Route

For riders that can confidently ride the red route at group trials

White route

Again for the more experienced riders that ride the blue at group level

So What about the expert riders?

There is no reason why harder deviations can be added to the whites to make it as hard as they want.

Club trials are to introduce people into the sport and to get people to want to ride Star Group trials and to practice.

We need more people to want to ride Star Group as well as just club trials.

Your comments would be most helpful to the Club and the sport.

Neville Lewis

Many thanks to Neville for the above guide to laying out and encouragement for members to progress to Star Group trials - hopefully, you will be able to see that riding Star Group is not a huge leap from riding in our Club events. If you would like to ride a Star Group or South Coast event, but would like to team up with others to ride round, please contact the Committee and we can put you in touch with other members wishing to do the same. If you have any other comments, again please pass them onto the Committee.

Four Wheels Not Two!

Steve Mims recently enjoyed a visit to the Forster Racing School in West Sussex for what he describes as a morning of fun! The pictures below certainly seem to bear this out:





Visit www.forsterracingschool.co.uk - they do Christmas Gift Vouchers too!

Thanks to Steve Mims for the above information - I can feel a Club trip coming on!

Club Nights

A small number of people came down to the Club night on 2 November, at the new venue of the downstairs room at the Red Lion Betchworth.

They were entertained by a very good DVD of the South Coast event we ran in August. There were motorbike related magazines for members to take away, and even a game to play!

Several members of the Committee can highly recommend the food at this venue too!

Come down to the next one and see a training video of that excellent showman, Steve Colley, and see if you can learn a thing or two.

Join us on Wednesday 7 December at the Red Lion Betchworth.

Next Club Events

Beginner Training Trials

The next Beginner Training Trial will be on Sunday 20 November at Tilburstow Hill, from 11am.

Next Club Trial

The next Club trial is at Beare Gill, Ockley on Sunday 27 November. Volunteers to sign on and take down are required - laying out is already covered thanks to Mike Hammond, the Darks and the Dons - please contact Richard Coles at diccles221@gmail.com if you can assist in any way.

Club Trials - General Regulations

Course	Club trials 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>Club trials are AMCA events run by Reigate & Redhill North Downs Motorcycle Club.</p>
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.

Results from October's Club Trial at Blacklands Farm

A good turn out of 38 riders signed on. Full results are available on the website at www.rrnd.co.uk, but the best riders on the day were as follows:

	1st	2nd	3rd
White/Expert	Stuart Read - 4	Steve Moore - 14	Stephen Farrall* - 20
Inter	Chris Dark - 57	Mike Husband - 87	
Novice Blue	Pete Jenkins - 37	Antony Read - 46	Alan Stanley - 50
Blue Over 40	Rob Edwards - 50		
Red Pre 65	Stan Metcalf - 30	Scott Dark - 34	

Red	Toby Robinson - 15	Grace Dark - 41	Trevor Howell - 42
Red Under 16	Joshua Brimecombe* - 9	Ethan Watmore* - 11	
Yellow	Hannah Moore - 3	Morgan Watmore* - 15	Oliver Brimecombe* - 52

* = Guest Rider

Current Championship Standings

Championships are run over 11 rounds with best 8 scores counting

Name	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Sep	Oct	Total	
Expert											
Stuart Read	11	10				12	12	12		12	69
Eric Clarke	10	11	11			10	10		10		62
Scott Dark			9	12		11	11		11		54
Luke Thomas	12	12		12					12		48
Inter											
Chris Dark			10	12	11					12	45
Samuel Brightman	12	11	10	10							43
Jake Pope			12	11	12						35
Novice Blue											
Alan Stanley	12	12				12	12	12	12	12	84
Tom Charman	11		12	12							35
Over 40 Blue											
Pete Jenkins	11	10	11	10	11	10		12	12		87
Rob Edwards	10	7	8	9	10	12	12	9	10		80
Antony Read	12	8	9	12		10		11	11		73
Robert McKenzie			9	12	11	12					44
Mark Stubberfield			6	7			8	11	8		40
Novice Red											
Toby Robinson				11	12	12		12	12	12	71
Trevor Howell	9	5	7	9	10	5	9	9	10		68
Luke Edwards	8	10	5	5	6	10	8	6	7		60
David Cutler	11	11	9	10		12		8			61
Martin Howell			7	8	11	5	8	10			49
Keith Cross				3		8	9	11	10	8	49

Stuart Hescott		6	6	8	11	11				42
Handicap										
Trevor Howell	20	1	22	15	13	7	19	17	25	138
Rob Edwards	10	12	1	20	14	21	21	13	15	126
Keith Cross	18		11		16	20	22	18	18	123
Alan Stanley	25	9			9	22	20	13	20	118
Ben Edwards	14	6	14	5	19	24	15	9	16	117
Luke Edwards	11	13	8	9	18	23	16	4	17	115
Pete Jenkins	20	7	1	21	10	14		21	19	113
Grace Dark		1	25	22		18		25	22	113
Stuart Read	15	17			21	12	17		24	106
Antony Read	24	4	1	25		14		19	13	100
Mike Hammond	9	1	7	17	23	10		13	11	91

Myth Busting with the BMF

As many of you will know, the EU is proposing to change the way new bikes are approved in bulk for use on public roads. This will have some effect on the motorcycles we buy in the future. However, this is a complicated document and discussions are still far from being completed. Lots of myths and fallacies have arisen recently about the issue. We have tried to clear some of them up here.

www.facebook.com/notes/british-motorcyclists-federation-bmf/proposed-eu-rules-on-motorcycles/245778662139733

Codger!

The Codger lives on, no not run by RRND as the Committee decided that it had overstayed its welcome and we could not run it but that's another story.

Last Sunday Talmag Club (famous for the pre 65 4 stroke trial at Hungry Hill in January) put on for the second year a sidecar, pre 65 and twin shock trial at Hungry Hill. The trial was run with the help of the Sunbeam Club so I was observing as well as general helper.

The entry was 121, yes 121 riders with the format the same as the Codger, so I am pleased to say that pre 65 and twin shock trials are worth the effort.

This is another point, you only get out of our sport what you are prepared to put in. The other week the young Watmores were riding our Club trial and this week all three of them observed all day on one of the sections, and I just want to say it was very much appreciated and thank you. Thanks also to Dad for bringing them this is the true spirit of the sport.

Neville Lewis

Editor's Appeal

