



TENTERDEN TRIALS CLUB NEWSLETTER

June 2014

www.tenterdenmcc.co.uk

This coming weekend is our second Tenterden Trial of the year at the Rakins Venue nr Hawkhurst. Entries have now closed but we will still take them on the day. Observers will also be needed so if you can spare a couple of hours that will be great.

More details below

The Cornish Dabbers

As some may know a few of us made the long trip to Cornwall for some much needed rest and practice. Due to a last minute work hiccup Francis Jr was unable to Join Mario, Damps, Steve Wormley and myself on our little Cornish Sabbatical. The van was insured so that everyone could drive, at least then we could all share the driving, all have a drink and relax. I picked the boys up from Marios and we went on our way and with immediate effect the banter started.

The Van started to play up virtually straight away, originally I thought it must have been the weight (sorry Mario) and towing a trailer but later in the journey we discovered there was a technical fault with the van and it was losing power. At one point in Bodmin, we were stuck at uphill traffic lights not being able to generate enough power to accelerate away. Finally we worked out how to keep the revs up and we made it to our destination.

After the long eventful journey (driven by me) and a hearty breakfast, we landed around mid afternoon and within an hour we were out on the bikes. The woods have changed quite considerably over the past couple of years, due to the storms last winter, so many parts revealed more areas to practice. The stream seemed more of a challenge this time but with so many fallen trees it was impossible to ride the entire length in one go. Nevertheless the stream was still a tough challenge and one that none of us really mastered all weekend. After the first afternoons practice we locked up the bikes and headed into Fowey (I drove) for some fodder. After finding our favourite restaurant, we arrived 5 minutes after they officially stopped serving food only to be turned away... with our tails between our legs we scampered off and found another trough who wanted our hard earned pounds in exchange for some overcooked food. The town of Fowey can only be described as "Doc Martin".. The streets are about 6ft wide and the van was 5'11" so it took us about 30 minutes to navigate the streets to find somewhere to park. My history of driving in Cornwall is somewhat chequered, after the famous DB9 incident, so naturally the boys thought it highly amusing. The locals must use bikes or boats to get anywhere, heaven only knows how anything gets delivered to this town, but, it really is the most picturesque place to enjoy your evening.

After filling our bellies we made it back (I drove) to enjoy a few beers and to watch some trials DVD's for inspiration the following day.

Contents

Cornish Dabbers

Team Trial

Club Aggregates

Alf Austen trial

BBQ Trial

MOK trial

Practice Trials

Beginners and
Wobblers

Upcoming events

Contacts

Our second day was delayed by some heavy rain so this allowed Mario the time to cook us up a fine breakfast. We got going late morning and practiced hard all day. Most of us only ever ride at trials and rarely get the time to practice, so we set up sections in various areas and practiced each one until we mastered them. That evening we visited St Austell (I drove), a larger town with streets wide enough for 4 wheeled transport ! and found the Weatherspoons for a better value food and refreshment. We spent all night here not quite believing that you can eat and drink so cheaply, so abused ourselves. I drove home as the boys had all had a couple of drinks. When back at the caravan, Damps set up his helmet camera and we watched back our recordings from during the day. Maybe tomorrow will be my turn to be chauffeured.

Our last full day was much the same, using different part of the woods and stream we made some new sections, I think everyone made improvements over the 3 days especially Steve who, new to the sport has been riding Beginner for the past 18 months but is now definitely ready for the Novice Route. Mario knocked up breakfast again and there were enough snacks to keep us full till dinner time.

After such a good meal the night before we decided to hit St Austell again and take advantage of their Steak Night (I drove). Having stuffed our faces and enjoying the sites of Cornish life in the evening we made it back to watch more Videos of the day (I drove).

Our last day we rode until Lunchtime, packed up and started to head home (no prizes for guessing who drove !) with our vans technical problem this was going to be a long drive and one that we were not sure would make it. Luckily enough we made it back to Maidstone and I drove the last leg back to Canterbury. It turned out to be an Air Mass sensor (I'll pay lads).

It's quite safe to put all this into writing, as it was apparent the lads don't read the newsletters so probably won't read this one !!

In summary, we had a great time, lots of laughs, lots of practice and blisters, great company and would do it again at the drop of a hat but would not insure the van for myself next time !! . It was nice to get home and have a beer and start to relax after 3 days of taxi driving.

Unfortunately this landowner is stopping these holidays at the end of the year so we will need to look for any alternative venue for the next time.

Team Trial "Quaiffe Cup"

We fielded 2 teams, The Tenterden Tigers were made up from Joe Millen, Connor and Jack Beck and the 2nd team The Tenterden Todgers were Kev and Emma Morphett with Dave Luck.

This really is a great piece of land with around half of them in rocky streams. This year the sections were a little easier than last year, despite all the rain the previous week, but were still a good test for all abilities. We rode around together for the first lap and it was clear that the sections were going to get harder the second lap.

For Jack this was his first time riding this venue and this event. Over the past year he really has made huge leaps forward and was able to ride all sections well despite only riding for around 18 months.

Despite some mistakes we all seemed to ride well for the first lap, soon after the sections did start to get much slipperier but this didn't seem to faze Kev who has ridden really well all year and again at this trial. There was one impossible section on the second lap, section 14, we all dismounted and then proceeded to watch rider after rider get stuck in the muddy ditch. All the tigers attempted the section but all got beat. Kev then stuck the Gasser into 4 gear turned the bike straight, bounced the throttle off the stop and launched the bike over the ditch half way up the bank the other side, gripped and rode through the end cards for a clean. Not blowing smoke up his trousers but it was the ride of the day on a section which I didn't even attempt.

Our scores on the second lap were too high to be contenders, tiredness and a hangover (Emma) all took over and we faded fast.

After watching our young Tigers it's clear we have great potential in the club for the future with continued practice and commitment.

EKTC – Tenterden Alf Austen Trial at Rakins on 8th June.

Mike Nutbrown will be setting this trial out along with myself and Robbie's better half (Karen) will be the secretary for the meeting. We will be planning to set out on the Saturday 7th June so if anyone can come along to help that would be great. We will also be looking for observers, at the last trial we were short of volunteers so some of us gave up our rides to observe. Lastly, helping to clear away at the end is always well supported so if you could all just lend a hand we can all get home and enjoy our dinners on time.

Evening BBQ trial – Wednesday 9th July

On Wednesday 9th July, Colin Millen has very kindly allowed us to use his land to hold an evening trial followed by a BBQ. We will set out around 8 sections and will keep the evening very informal so you can use the evening as a practice, we will not be marking or observing the trial. Please bring along a burger and we can get the BBQ burning and have a beer or 2 after.

We aim to set up around 5pm so please come along when you can after.

I will let you have more details shortly

Man of Kent Trial – 20th July

This is our South East Centre Round held at Crabtree Farm. This is the biggest trial of the year for us so we will need as many helpers beforehand and help on the day to observe. We normally set out around 12 sections so even more helpers are required. If you can help please let Dave Luck or Sandra Franic

Club Aggregates and EKTC Championship

The next round of the Club Championship and EKTC aggregates is this Sunday at Rakins. Looking at the current scores I think the Novice class is going to be a closely fought battle all season between "Pot Hunter" Pete Southcott and the "in form" Jack Beck.

Website

The launch of our new website www.tenterdenmcc.co.uk has gone well. We are now starting to update with regs, results and there is a new calendar option which we are updating on a monthly basis.

Again, if anyone rides a trial where either myself or Keith are not present please do a quick report or email me the results so that we can update the website.

Practice Trials at Hook Woods Trials Centre on 4th Saturday each month 2014

A perfect opportunity to bring in new people to Motorcycle Trials Riding. Open to Youth & Adult - Total beginners and Sidecars are welcome with 5 routes available to suit all abilities of riding.

Gate open at 10.00am - sign on until 1.00pm, Refreshments and Toilet facilities on site

Have a go - for anybody who has a friend or member of family who would like to try riding a bike there will be a section of the field made available free of charge. This is subject to the signing of a disclaimer form and the wearing of a suitable helmet and protective clothing.

Local clubs are invited to provide details of themselves (including membership forms) and these details will be displayed at the signing on point. The Practice Trials are all about local clubs that wish to support them. Clubs can incorporate a small conducted trial of their own within the duration of the day if they so wish.

Practice Trials at Hook Wood on 4th Saturday each month 2014. As follows

June 28th, July 26th, August 23rd, September 27th, October 25th, November 22nd, December 27th

Costs - Beginners will be FOC, All other adult riders £15 for the day, Juniors £10

Beginners and Wobblers

For those that are not aware, anyone wanting to ride in the beginners and wobblers events run by North Kent Trials Combine are allowed to do so. These are great events for anyone wanting to just practice and ride alongside other guys of similar ability without the pressure of competition.

Classifieds

My 2009 Gasgas TXT250 Pro is still for sale at Inta Motorcycles in Maidstone – anyone interested please speak with Austin on 01622 688727 or call me on the numbers below

Upcoming Events (all 10.30am starts)

8th June – Tenterden MCC – EKTC Combine and club championship at Raikins – Karen Lorimer will be secretary 07980 528166, entry details are in the April edition of the SM.

Wed 11th June – Sidcup MCC – Evening Trial at Canada Heights – starting at 5.00pm just turn up and pay on the day and enjoy the whole site for practicing.

29th June – Owls MCC – Whitley Mill Trial at Penshurst – South East Championship trial for all classes except beginner. See SM for full details

6th July – Double Five Beginners and Wobblers trial – Chad Farm, Ridley, DA13 OQP, 3 routes available

Wed 9th July – Tenterden Evening BBQ trial – Colin Millens in Tenterden, start around 5.00pm but turn up when you can

20th July – Tenterden MCC – South East Round for all classes - Crabtree Farm, Cranbrook – Sandra will be secretary for this meeting.

Wed 30th July – Sidcup MCC – Evening Trial at Canada Heights – starting at 5.00pm just turn up and pay on the day and enjoy the whole site for practicing.

See SE Website for all details

Regs for above can be found in Jan 2014 "The Sporting Motorcyclist"

A full list of trials in the south east for 2014 for all levels can be found at

<http://www.southeasttrialscombine.org.uk/>

Useful Contacts and information

Keith Francis 07889 138411, keithfhomeuk@hotmail.co.uk

Roy Francis 01622 745393 or 07708 437770

Dave Luck 01227 860402 or 07912 512 994, david@ducron.co.uk

Membership forms can be downloaded from our website www.tdmc.co.uk or by getting in contact with Dave and he can email you through a copy.

There are lots of useful links on the site to help set up in trials and to maintain your bike. Along with these there are a number of sites that also contain lots of information about the sport both locally and nationally.

For more information about our centre, Beginners Trials and the Practice Trials at Hook Woods visit ...

www.SouthEastTrialsCombine.org.uk