

Eastbourne & D.M.C.C.

An AMCA Regulated Club. Affiliated to the South Eastern Centre A.C.U.



visit our website
www.edmcctrails.com

Twistgrip

CLUB NEWS APRIL 2025

Club Officials

President:- Thomas Moss

Chairman:- Steve Stretton

Vice Chairman:- Steve Baldock

Secretary:- Pete Collins

Treasurer:- Alan Peach

Trials Secretary:- Gloria Moss

Club Captain:- Derek Strudwick

Twistgrip Producer:- Roger Strudwick

Committee:-

Made up from club the membership all members welcome. Meetings are held at the British Queen Willingdon Triangle 1st Tuesday of the month 7.30 start members welcome.

News.....

What a fantastic turnout for the March trial the ground was in prime condition and everyone I spoke to seemed to have enjoyed the ride round, the car park just about held up with only a few needing a tow, well done the setup crew. and the **few** that stayed behind to help with the clearing up!

The survey carried out on Facebook re;- Evening trials revealed 34 votes and 9 comments, taking into account the non facebook members taking us to an average of 16-20 riders per event so looks like weather permitting these events will happen. Start time is under review at the moment as some think 6pm is to early, maybe from 6pm start could work, keep an eye out for any updates.

Dogs If you need to bring your dog to our trials can you please ensure it's kept on a lead at all times. A concerned bystander asked me to remind anyone bringing a dog to the trials that it is their responsibility to ensure it's on a lead at **all times**, they witnessed a bit of a scuffle in the car park

with two dogs one on a lead the other running free, this could have caused a lot of distress to young children had adults not been present.

Stop Press Good news an old piece of land may be up for trials use again soon, Very strange when a land owner contacts the club keen for us to return, keep you posted on any progress.

In this months issue

Scoop goes on a journey as to how we all arrive at trials, and what upgrade we need should them lotto numbers come up.

Report and pictures on March club trial from Little Holmstead.

As always if you have anything to say, or, want to include something, you can e-mail me direct rogerstrud@hotmail.co.uk

March Club Trial

Little Homestead Rushlake Green

Report Gloria Moss
Pictures Moss trials pics

The setting out team Steve Stretton, Derek, Keith and Roger Strudwick spent a lot of Friday setting out some sections, and were joined by John Moore and Nigel Hains on Saturday to complete them.

I arrived to get signing on underway and was greeted by a rank of the 'gravel gang' who had grabbed any tools available and were shovelling tarmac in the wetter areas of the entrance, to give some grip to drivers without 4 wheel drive.

Ten sections were set up rather than our usual eight, in an effort to speed up the queues as we knew about 40 riders were expected. Some of the sections did prove to be on the long side so took longer to negotiate, so queues were still in evidence.

The results however do show a pretty consistent scoring relative to the experience of the riders, with some ties requiring the number of cleans to decide the placings.

Whites were supported by Will, Dougie and Charles all keen to egg each other on. Will and Dougie sharing a bike in the sections, did not work out too well as Dougie was missing a lot of scores and ended up 'retired'. Charles hasn't ridden for a few years and on his second outing, went top route, and scored better than Will. Good to see you three in the mix though. Dan topped the class with 23 marks lost, Ben having an off day on 59.

Blues were topped by Tony Dobbs on 34, with Charlie Simpson now riding adults in second place on 47. The remainder of the riders scored within the range



Top man Tony Dobbs winner of the Blues & a good sportsman amending his results when we'd missed his scores on section 2



Dan Bevan winner of the whites

of 51 to 63 so reasonably close, with Kevan C on 83 - his first ride after shoulder surgery a few months back.

Reds were keenly contested, Frank Puttock just pipping Roger Strudwick by one mark on 3. Close behind Ian M on 4 with ties on 9 and 10 marks and 1 clean separating both ties. Very consistent riding. Again there were close scores in the 20's range and the higher ones incurred by less experienced riders. Out two youth red routers excelled themselves, with Oscar equalling Frank's winning score, and James 8 marks behind him. I think the blue route will be beckoning them both in a few more months.

Yellows had a hot sibling rivalry! Keith having seen Derek have a dab on section 7 lap 1, was inspired to complete the trial to try to beat him. He finished on 1 as well but lost his one on Section 3 lap 2, so won on furthest clean. With his mate Kevin Reed riding the trial, Keith was on cloud 9, haven't seen him so happy in a long time. Hope he has plenty of pain killers when the endorphins wear off! Brian T has improved a lot, he is enjoying his Beta, which gives him confidence, and also seemed to go the right way in the sections, so less marks lost! Good to see Jim C back on his bike, he has re-joined the



The concentration on these two young faces



club, so we may see him more often. Two youngsters on their recently acquired petrol bikes, seemed to riding well. Jack finished all the sections, riding for the experience rather than scoring, and poor Brinley wasn't very well so had to go home early. Hope you recover soon.

a popular trial as not a lot of options on that day normally. It could be necessary to limit numbers if we have too many riders, due to parking constraints, so sign up when the entry is advertised in early April. See you then.

Thanks to Pat Puttock, Steve Stretton and Glenn Baker who manned scoreboards on the day. It was a test of your hardiness, or how warm your clothes were to stay in once place for so long in that chilly breeze!



The final test was leaving the ground, several vans needed some assistance, thanks to Ben and Elim who were very helpful in towing people out. The larger entry, longer sections and a few stuck vehicles did mean a later finish than usual. Thanks to all who helped to clear up the sections, so speeding up departure time.

Next month we are running on **Good Friday** with a **morning start**. This will doubtless be



Another young man on the move Charlie Simpson now riding adults on the Blue route

Results Little Holmstead Farm 15.3.2025 4 Laps x 10 Sections

No	Name	Class	Total		Section 1	Section 2	Section 3	Section 4	Section 5	Section 6	Section 7	Section 8	Section 9	Section 10
2	Dan Bevan	Expert	23		5	0	0	0	0	1	14	2	1	0
25	Ben Smith	Expert	59		6	9	0	10	0	9	10	10	2	3
97	Charles Courtney	Expert	96		1	11	12	12	1	7	18	11	11	12
8	Will Rossi	Expert	127		9	12	12	11	16	9	18	14	12	14
10	Dougie Blackford	Expert	Ret		Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret
20	Tony Dobbs	Inter	34		0	0	2	9	1	0	4	10	7	1
9	Charlie Simpson	Inter	47		0	6	1	9	2	4	3	7	11	4
26	Richard Brush	Inter	51		0	7	0	4	1	0	8	9	13	9
13	Ian Cole	Inter	59		0	10	1	10	0	1	2	16	8	11
19	Steve Jones	Inter	60		0	10	1	11	1	0	7	13	16	1
21	Alan Paton	Inter	63		0	7	5	12	6	0	7	11	11	4
49	Kevan Cornwall	Inter	83		0	6	6	20	3	5	6	20	13	4
32	Peter Collins	Inter	90	3 laps	6	13	3	11	8	3	14	10	11	11
27	Mike Jones	Inter	Ret		Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret
65	Frank Puttock	C/Man	3		0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
5	Roger Strudwick	C/Man	4		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0
60	Ian Mortimore	C/Man	5		0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	0
62	Kevin Reed	C/Man	9	36 cl	0	2	5	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
86	Dom Jarrett	C/Man	9	35 cl	0	3	2	1	0	1	0	2	0	0
4	Ian Cheshire	C/Man	10	36 cl	0	2	2	0	0	0	5	1	0	0
87	Elim Lillywhite	C/Man	10	35 cl	0	0	5	0	0	0	1	4	0	0
16	Nigel Hains	C/Man	14		0	5	2	1	0	1	5	0	0	0
12	Piere Lainchbury	C/Man	21		0	0	6	1	0	0	7	1	6	0
73	Paul Chapman	C/Man	22		0	2	7	1	2	1	2	2	2	3
84	Steve Wadey	C/Man	23		0	0	3	4	0	3	8	5	0	0
31	Mark Worsfold	C/Man	27		0	4	7	6	0	3	2	0	5	0
30	Charlie Worsfold	C/Man	28		1	1	5	4	0	1	1	10	0	5
67	Jordan Ropke	C/Man	40		0	8	8	7	0	2	7	5	3	0
90	Dan Stewart	C/Man	43		0	2	13	10	1	0	8	5	3	1
52	Kareen Capstick	C/Man	56		5	5	20	15	0	0	0	10	1	0
74	Chris Mephram	C/Man	78		1	9	11	9	5	3	9	16	7	8
14	David Little	C/Man	No Score		No Score	No Score	No Score	No Score	No Score	No Score	No Score	No Score	No Score	No Score
53	Norman Capstick	C/Man	Ret		Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret
82	Nick Tait	C/Man	Ret		Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret
95	Simon Webb	C/Man	Ret		Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret
39	Oscar Kirkin	Yth Club	3		0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0
81	James Hutton	Yth Club	11		0	0	3	1	0	0	3	1	1	2
17	Keith Strudwick	Sports	1	Furcln	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
79	Derek Strudwick	Sports	1		0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
43	Brian Thompson	Sports	12		0	0	0	1	0	0	1	4	5	1
93	John Moore	Sports	28		11	0	0	0	3	2	4	4	4	0
38	Jim Cottingham	Sports	37		0	4	0	5	1	7	1	2	16	1
91	Colin Webb	Sports	Ret		Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret
15	Jack Little	Yth sport	No Score		No Score	No Score	No Score	No Score	No Score	No Score	No Score	No Score	No Score	No Score
29	Brinley Jones	Yth sport	Ret		Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret

Sunday September 28th
 Moor Hall Ninfield
Open To Centre Lighthouse Trial





How do you get there ?

Well I know how the MX boys get to their events, it's normally in a small or these days in a large house on wheels, some actually bring a garden with them (ok that's an exaggeration but only a little one) they have a water supply for a jet wash, a garage for multiple bikes, all current year models too full snap on tool kit & obligatory surround gas Weber BBQ, (very happy at this point to take on some product placement freebies) some of them tow a garage on wheels behind the massive motor home too, it amazes me to see the amount of money invested in the MX guys hobby. What kind of jobs do these people do, I mean let's be fair here not in my experience do Accountants & Lawyers, Dentists, Vets seem to be the dads standing at the side of a track 300 miles from the family home egging/encouraging their little darling to go faster at the expense of broken bones. So I'm thinking it must be average families sacrificing just about everything for the kids to race each weekend (how annoying must it be to be preparing the bike in between races while the lad/lass is engrossed on TikTok while drinking a redbull), enough about my jealousy of the MX world let's get to trials.

Back in the black & white days riders actually used to ride to events (apparently my dad actually rode from Germany back to the UK while on national service to ride in a trial once).

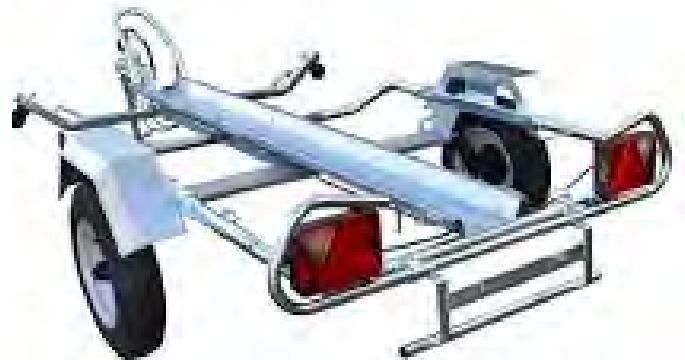
This was normal practice in those days, mad Englishmen travelling massive distances in all weather to ride in a competition that involved personal health risk (no crash helmet & the possibility of being impaled on their tobacco pipe while riding)

Can you imagine riding to events now, almost impossible I guess, bikes had seats back in the day for a start, insurance much more tricky too.

I have seen a few guys ride to events but they are mostly LDTs so doesn't really count.

So Trials transport, I love walking around a club trial looking at the various set ups of the Trials riding community, it rare to find massive motorhomes, mostly it's trailers towed by the family car, I bet a lot of wives out there are immensely displeased with jumping back into the car on Monday for the work commute to find mud, discarded sandwiches boxes, empty cans & worst of all a soggy smelly change of clothes accompanying them on the journey to work or wherever!

I used to enjoy club trials when there was a lunch break because everyone sat on their trailer with flasks & homemade sarnies, no M&S packaged stuff



from a garage or McDonalds then (sorry getting a bit sentimental there).

This works for some, but I believe the bigger majority of trials guys travel by works van, emptied of whatever trade they use to finance the hobby of trials.

These vans can be sole traders & some are reappropriated from national companies for weekend duties (on this note I once witnessed a City electrical factors van & a Blockbusters drainage clearance wagon go to head to head at Santa Pod at a "Run what you brung event" (CEF won btw) not trials re-

lated but fun to watch & thought it merited a mention.

Vans if have one are easily the best if you ask me, you can jam in many bikes or just one, plus tools, camping chairs, small cooker for a mug of tea, it's also brilliant for the weather in the UK, somewhere to get changed or shelter, portapoti if you really are desperate & need to lighten up so to speak, nothing worse than riding with the feeling of "Christ I wish I'd gone before I left".



My goal is to retire from work & set my van up purely for weekend fun, it's a way off but the thought keeps me going through the winter months.

Pick up truck, now here's one I like but struggle with. There is in my opinion absolutely nothing as cool as rolling into a trial in a Toyota Hilux (preferably an 80s model) or some other brand with big off road tyres & lifted suspension.

Again a very social vehicle for lunch times sitting in the back talking about how many cleans achieved that morning.

I've even seen in California guys cover the pick up bed in polythene sheet & fill it with water to make a pool to cool down between races, (that's a McQueen level of cool) But unless it's a works vehicle used



all the time it seems to me a bit annoying to have no where to leave tools & get changed, security for overnight stays risky too.

A few have the Dave Cooper set up on the tow bar which is a great simple alternative & very reasonable cost too, easier to store than a trailer but only any good if there is only one of you to transport I once came across a rider on his way down a bumpy lane standing behind his car sadly looking at his bike on the ground still strapped to the said Dave Cooper rack, we agreed he should have used high quality bolts rather than the EBay cheap versions.

I spotted this in a magazine, I believe it to be a works set up, cool in a retro way right?

Small Campers or Day vans are becoming popular too, here you can utilise the trailer approach or the DC rack, they are a good social hub at a club trial, I spot a lot of riders congregating around this set up hoping for a tea or bacon sarnie. These also have the added advantage of sleeping in relative comfort, handy if you are travelling a long distance if the event allows you can enjoy the surroundings & be fresh for riding too, Security can be a problem too these days with trailers or DC rack, the rascals can steal at leisure or follow you home & wait until you are out break & in, I've heard this story a lot these days so keep an eye out for those guys looking more closely at your rig as you travel home.

I've even seen a guy turn up at a trial on a motorbike towing a small trailer with a trials bike on it, now that surely is dedication to your sport.

Not this one but you get the idea!

My final thoughts on this subject (thank you for asking) are we are all riders & have different priorities & resources but the main goal remains the same for all of us is who cares how we get there!

"as long as we get there"

Provisional Dates for your Diary

Always check website or social media for any last minute updates as these dates are only meant as a provisional guide.

April 19th Good Friday

Conny Burrow Street End Lane Heathfield

Start Time 11.00am

SET UP CREW

For Pete Collins, Steve Baldock, Roger Strudwick

May 17th

Brook House Staple Cross

To be confirmed

SET UP CREW tba



EVENING TRIALS

May 1st

Evening Trial

Little Holmstead

Rushlake Green

Signing on 5.30 pm

Start Time 6.30pm

Set up crew

E.D.M.C.C Old boys Crew

June 5th

Evening Trial

Little Holmstead

Rushlake Green

Signing on 5.30 pm

Start Time 6.30pm

Set up crew

E.D.M.C.C Old boys Crew

July 3rd

Evening Trial

Little Holmstead

Rushlake Green

Signing on 5.30 pm

Start Time 6.30pm

Set up crew

E.D.M.C.C Old boys Crew



Provisional Open to Centre Championship Dates for your Diary

Always check ACU website for any last minute updates as these dates are only meant as a provisional guide.

30th March (BST starts)

Gravesend - Richard Bartlett Trial

E+ E I N y(E+ E I N) +40 +50 tw pre67

20th April

Tenterden - Weald Non-Expert

I N y(I N) +40 +50 tw Pre67 mono

22nd June

Bexleyheath - Langmaid

E+ E I N y(E+ E I N) +40 +50

6th July

OWLS - Brian Hodges

E+ E I N y(E+ E I N) +40 +50

20th July

Tenterden - Man of Kent

E+ E I N y(E+ E I N) +40 +50 tw Pre67

7th September

Gravesend/Wickham -

Watling Tyres Harvest Trial

E+ E I N y(E+ E I N) +40 +50 tw Pre67

21st September

Tenterden - Weald of Kent

E+ E I N y(E+ E I N) +40 +50 tw Pre67

28th September

Eastbourne - Lighthouse Trial

E+ E I N +40 +50 tw Pre67

19th October

Witley 100 Long Distance Trial

Sat 8th November

Witley - Charlie Wake

E+ E I N y(E+ E I N) +40 +50 tw Pre67

16th November

Barham - Mutton Lancers

E+ E I N y(E+ E I N) +40 +50

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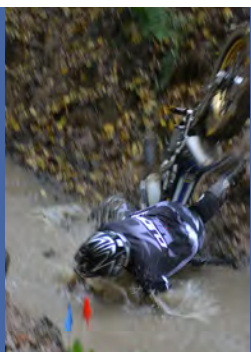
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SECTION
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EVERY
WEDNESDAY
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E.&O.E.

The views and comments expressed in this club news are not necessarily the views and comments of the committee, and are intended to be a bit of fun and not offend anyone!