

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 DECEMBER 2025

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!

Club Officials

President:- Thomas Moss

Chairman:- Steve Baldock

Vice Chairman:- Kevan Cornwall

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.....

Annual General Meeting (agm)

A massive turn out of three, and one of them isn't a member of the club! Plus the usual committee members. A bit disappointing, I wonder if the location of the venue puts people off, or they just don't care! But not all doom and gloom, No increase in club membership, and No increase in entry fee's, Kevans proposal of club funds to not drop under £10,000 was passed and has now freed up some funds for other things, like giving away some prizes at the December trial ie. Tyres, Oil's, chain lube, providing we can get some observers.

What would you like to see some money spent on? A few suggestions, coach trips to the British World round, training schools, better tools and equipment, etc. etc.

ACU licence holders

Be aware of the new annual licence fee £35 for trials. Think it is currently £20, so maybe a shock to those on auto renewal in January. Not sure if riders get a separate notice.

That was the year that was

Eleven club trials, three evening trials a beginners and wobbler trial, a summer fete, and the open to centre Lighthouse Trial.

The first evening trial went to plan with spring sunshine giving a dose of sun stroke to the setting out crew, but all was good in the end,

The second couldn't have been more different if you planned it, rain fell for most of the day but the few that turned up enjoyed the practice,

For the third and final one the weather played it's part on a beautiful summer evening some new ish sections down the bottom wood and the Little Dough Company rolled out the BBQ perfect.

The Dig for Victory village fete was also a new event, proving to be a good PR event for the club, throwing up a surprise or two in the balance the bike competition, the event organisers are very keen for us to return putting on an arena style display.

The beginners and wobblers trial was a bigger success than anticipated, it was nice to return to Moieties Farm and must now a permanent feature in next years fixture list.

The Lighthouse Trial was well received by all that attended, only goes to show that P,P,P,P,P, (proper prior planning prevents poor performance) I left a P out incase your wondering!

From the Chair

So I thought I'd look up the definition of the word "Club" after our AGM which took place this week 4th Nov We meet at the British Queen for our monthly committee meeting to discuss all things related to the running of EDMCC.

Definition

A "club" can refer to a group of people with a

common interest (like a book club or a golf club), a place where they meet (such as a nightclub or a private clubhouse), a sports team (like a football club), or a heavy stick used as a weapon. (I particularly like the last one) That is Google's definition,

My definition is pretty much the same however EDMCC have around 80 "CLUB" members & probably maybe if we're lucky a 3rd of these will ride monthly or let's say regularly, 26.6666666667 riders all having a great time riding a competitive battle against friends or at least other people we know from these monthly meetings.

This is extremely good fun but also there will be a few riders mooching about looking nervous & wondering if the day is going well & if that everyone is enjoying themselves or have we made it too hard / too easy / too long / too wet , did we put the marking boards out will riders find their way to each section ,, well you get the picture ! (I hope).

These Worriers are the riders who set out & usually give up their ride coz they are knackered or just busy sorting out route problems collapsed banks , broken pencils, missing flags or generally just making sure the trial is running OK.

I'm not even gonna go into permits, getting landowners permission, choosing venue accordingly

To weather, parking, etc this stuff is sorted at the monthly committee meeting so these 'CLUB' trials can take place .

Now each month at the committee meeting the 7 or maybe 10 people who give up their time to attend meetings try to figure out who going to set up the next couple of trials, was the last trial too hard, how well attended, who fell off & a whole load of other really necessary stuff usually falls to the same group of members within the 10 regular committee to do it, there is sometimes offers of help but not as often as we'd like, more often than not the same guys do consecutive trial set ups, well here it is the definition of " CLUB " people with a common interest,.

I mentioned right at the beginning Tuesday 4th November was the EDMCC AGM, 12 people came & ate £100 worth of Buffet laid on for them, we were able to conclude all the business that the AGM brings & the various titles for people who seem to do the same job as the year before, all sorted by 9: 01 PM, surely with (80) members we could get better attendance than 12 people?

It would be great to have a more varied selection of members attending to take up posts on offer, if you come along you can have a say how the "CLUB" is run, how trials are set up, less trials, more trials,

evening trials, how many laps, start time, what bloody ever but it's up to you guys to turn up, the "CLUB" needs input from all members, especially setting out, you know when you ride a section & you get the feeling you've ridden it before at this venue, well that's because you probably have & it was probably set out by the same guy who set it out last time !

Variety is the spice of life after all!

You could make a difference & we could all end up with better trials , if you're not sure how then come along & set one out with experienced guys or even better get the guys you ride with regularly together & set one out , with the amount of members / regular riders we have if just a few more people over the year gave up a morning before the trial we could take the pressure off the usual group who set up regularly & get a more varied trial, here's the thing you would probably only ever have to do it once a year & you get a free ride, if you don't ride it gets carried over, it's also a lot of fun to devise sections that catch riders out, especially if you know their weaknesses.

It is your "CLUB " after all, Every "CLUB" member is more than welcome to come along & bring new ideas, talents, organisation skills, it's advertised in the brilliant Twistgrip that you are reading at this moment for a start, so if you knew about the next trial you also knew about the AGM .

Committee meeting are held 1st Tuesday of the month sometimes we have food but always a free drink to start .

One thing to mention is that the club is very profitable & has a healthy balance, the committee would love ideas on how to use funds to improve our "CLUB".

The "CLUB" can only buy so many new flags before it becomes laughable.

Charities are supported regularly & it sponsors riders in the SSDT all this is done by voting, wouldn't you like to have a say in where your "CLUB" funds end up ?

As a "CLUB" it has been noticed a lot more people are staying behind to help clear up & sort out the flags before they are used for the next trial, this is very welcome & this time can also be a source of banter recalling the days events, so thank you to those that do.

See you all at the next trial, you better be there or else I have to use a "heavy stick as a weapon " as per definition of 'CLUB '

Thanks for reading

Chairman

Ps I bet some of you checked 1/3 of 80

Letters to the Editor

[Email sent to all SE clubs that ran trials in 2025]

Hi trials clubs,

Each year I maintain the website of the South Eastern Trials Combine (SETC), with regularly updated South Eastern Trials Championship and a calendar of events. The website is www.southeasttrialcentre.com – note it's 'east' (not eastern), and 'trial' (not trials), and 'eastern' although there is no South Eastern Centre as an organization.

Don't blame me; I didn't initiate the website!

I am asking all clubs to send me their list of trials to be run in 2026 – British Championship, Open, Combine, Club, Long Distance, Practice, etc.

Please include whether you wish an event to be a round of the SETC Championship and for which classes. If a Combine trial, state which Combine.

I have the dates of Bexleyheath, Wickham, Sidcup and the Kent Trials Combine – thank you.

The South Eastern Trials Combine has existed without a management committee for ten or so years. It really needs some trials people to discuss and decide trials matters in Kent, Surrey and Sussex – Championships, awards, classes, electronic observing, Centre Team Trial to think of just five items. Maybe no need for regular meetings, and Zoom could be used instead of face to face. If you or someone in your club may be interested, please let me know their details.

Looking forward to hearing from you with dates and names.

Regards,

Peter Burrell

Pj.burrell@btinternet.com

Sir

Regarding the Annual General Meeting (agm) held recently, I have to say what a disappointment it was! A massive turn out of three members! Plus the usual committee members, it's no wonder the ALL post are being filled by previous people simply put, this just isn't good enough!

Why, Oh why, Oh why, with a membership of over 70 is all it ways the same people being voted to the main positions in the club.

My proposals got shot down so looks like I'm now going to join the ranks of the do littles, I'm happy to do my one event instead of the 20 I did last year plus working parties. Plus making up crap to put in the club news.

Angry from Polegate.

Twistgrip

Well angry from Polegate, sorry I had to edit out your opinion of the none attendees at the AGM. I think that's told them, lets see what happens next. p.s. I noticed that you was down for November trial again!

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

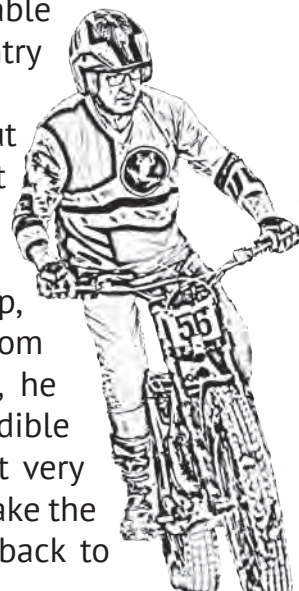
November Club Trial Coney Burrow

A trip to Coney Burrow down Street End Lane in Heathfield always produces a good trial, with the recent work party freeing up some of the streams it was always going to be a cracker.

Friday dawned a bit damp, So the customary trip to the butchers Hook cafe, to get the setup crew of Glen Pete, Derek and Keith well greased and fed before the start of what can be a long day setting out sections, the weather did it's utmost to make thing as unpleasant as possible, the water levels in the stream had risen making some of the planed section out of bounds. But we managed to carve out eight good sections for all routes.

Saturday dawned bright with glorious autumn sunshine everywhere except Coney Burrow, we where covered with a fine misty fog but dry in the main. I managed to squeeze everyone in the car parking area, and I thank everyone for their cooperation. It was good to see the boss back behind the signing on table assisting Pat with a good entry for a club trial,

What an amazing turnout & so many people I didn't recognise, as a club we must be doing something right as our numbers are going up, One chap was on holiday from Jersey along with his bike, he thought we were an incredible group of people and he felt very welcome. He is hoping to make the Christmas trial as he goes back to



Jersey the next day.

I was keen to see how the section would hold up, first stop was section one for experts, Rowan went through and had a silly dab, Charlie Simpson was inducted into the EDMCC diving club as he didn't quite make the climb and slid back down into the stream, for a good olé soaking, Oscar gave it large amount of revs and went clean. Reds and yellow's held up just fine as did the blues on the opening group of sections. As I made my way round it became apparent we got it right with the use of the streams to keep the tyres clean and clog free of leaves and mud.

The blue's were having a good ride round thanks to Pete for setting them out, Tony Dobbs made a rare EDMCC appearance with a score of only four good to see he hasn't lost any of his form. Eastbourne boys Steve Baldock (12), Charlie Cole(14), and Kevan Cornwall(15), with only five marks separating second place to sixth, throw in



Poised like greyhounds in the slips



If I hadn't seen it for myself I wouldn't have believed it

Oscar Kirkin seven marks lost and James Hutton 17 marks lost, It was a close blue route contest.

Reds were equally close, Factory Frank had a clean first lap, but as the sections deteriorated so did his form dropping to third on seven marks lost, behind winner James Datcher two marks lost and Jack Knowles on three marks lost. Only a hand full of mark separated the rest

Eighty year old yellow route rider Derek Strudwick showed the youngsters how to do it with a fine win over rival Glen Baker, and the ever improving John Moore, youth jake Hutton on (22) would have been right amongst them. Mark Stevens antics on the yellow route had to be seen to be believed, wowing the crowd with his fearless ditch jumping on section eight! Sadly I didn't have a camera to record it, you'll have to take my word for it!

Next months trial is at Squirrel Wood on **SUNDAY 28th December 11 O'clock start,**

If we have managed to get eight observers for this one, we intend to give out some awards.

Results of Coney Burrow 15.11.2025 4 laps of 8 Sections

No	Name	Class	Total		Section 1	Section 2	Section 3	Section 4	Section 5	Section 6	Section 7	Section 8
40	Rowan Puttock	Expert	8		1	0	1	0	0	5	1	0
34	Charles Courtney	Expert	32		5	1	3	0	9	5	6	3
100	Oscar Peach	Expert	40		1	1	10	1	8	11	6	2
9	Charlie Simpson	Expert	87		18	17	13	6	8	10	11	4
20	Tony Dobbs	Inter	4		2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
7	Steve Baldock	Inter	12		0	0	3	0	3	5	0	1
13	Ian Cole	Inter	14		0	0	2	0	3	7	2	0
49	Kevan Cornwall	Inter	15	24cl	1	0	3	0	6	3	2	0
56	Luc Best	Inter	15	23cl	1	0	3	0	3	8	0	0
32	Peter Collins	Inter	17		0	0	4	0	4	7	1	1
39	Oscar Kirkin	Yth Inter	7		0	0	2	0	0	3	2	0
81	James Hutton	Yth Inter	17		1	1	4	1	2	3	4	1
61	James Datcher	C/Man	2		0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
59	Jack Knowles	C/Man	3		0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0
65	Frank Puttock	C/Man	7		1	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
16	Nigel Hains	C/Man	8		1	0	4	0	0	1	0	2
70	Harry Powell	C/Man	10		1	0	3	0	2	4	0	0
60	Ian Mortimore	C/Man	12		0	0	8	1	0	0	0	3
90	Dan Stewart	C/Man	15		0	1	8	1	0	2	0	3
4	Ian Cheshire	C/Man	16		6	3	3	0	1	0	0	3
78	Wade Matthews	C/Man	18		2	1	6	1	1	3	3	1
22	Will Copsey	C/Man	19		1	1	5	0	4	3	1	4
8	Shaun Stocking	C/Man	20		0	5	4	6	0	5	0	0
84	Steve Wadey	C/Man	33	16cl	2	6	10	1	2	4	5	3
50	Daniel Laurens	C/Man	33	14cl	3	4	10	0	4	7	1	4
57	Chris Exall	C/Man	44		6	5	18	1	0	2	1	11
15	Luke Van Der Meer	C/Man	71		8	6	16	5	8	9	7	12
12	Ned Jenner	C/Man	98		16	16	18	5	4	16	12	11
6	Joe Norris	C/Man	Ret		Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret
26	Chris Forman	C/Man	Ret		Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret
82	Luke Knowles	C/Man	Ret		Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret
79	Derek Strudwick	Sportsman	4		0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0
36	Glenn Baker	Sportsman	5		1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0
93	John Moore	Sportsman	11		1	5	0	0	0	0	0	5
44	Darren Mitchell	Sportsman	20		1	1	1	0	1	8	3	5
54	Keith Bean	Sportsman	21		1	15	1	2	0	2	0	0
23	Iain Rich	Sportsman	27		7	8	3	0	3	6	0	0
42	Simon Webb	Sportsman	33	3laps	1	9	10	5	5	1	1	1
2	Quico Candeia	Sportsman	Ret		Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret	Ret
97	Jake Hutton	Yth Sports	22		3	9	4	0	0	5	0	1

Eastbourne & D.M.C.C.



Christmas Club Trial

Sunday December 28th
Start time 11.00am

Squirrel Wood
Magham Down

Please enter on line www.edmcctrials.com



Merry
Christmas
Santa's coming



Prizes and Awards

Observers

Pat Puttock Roger Strudwick
Victoria Hutton and Mum, Keith Strudwick
Simon Courtney Bruce Simpson Glen Baker

The Little Dough Company will be on site...look out for the red van.

Banter! Is it healthy?

BY Billy Banter

It's a reasonable question, not every rider is the same, certainly not in riding ability but do we need to take into account the rider's mental state when he's frustrated over a poor choice of line in a section & heading for a massive 5 or getting the route wrong again after riding the same section 3 times already, now mostly I'm up for giving whoever it is a proper going over & laughing out loud at the poor guys obvious embarrassment & not letting up ever but that's just me.

Now here in these modern times I think people take their riding more seriously & I've witnessed at a few trials that some riders when they get something wrong are in danger of having a meltdown or a seizure at the very least, now here's the problem we can be faced with, me being me would rip straight in & positively revel in the reaction & possibly even cause a small off in the process.

It's very hard to gauge all riders Banter Scale, will they throw the bike on the floor & square up to me (if they do I'm very cowardly & will run away) or will they laugh, hopefully 2nd option.

I've managed to on many occasions get a few swear words directed at me when I've handed out words of advice, I can recall at a GEST trial a long time back a rider (I won't name the rider) who does not like riding over piles of logs flying over the handlebars & landing in a very nasty muddy puddle, looked painful too, a sympathetic rider (not me) asking the wet & very angry rider if he was OK? The rider replying Yes, (Me) Well get out the F%~~F~~% section then! This did not go down well & said rider glared very fiercely at me & promptly packed up & went home.

But lately I've noted that riding can be taken so seriously that I could be risking a severe look of disgust at a display of banter so I've reigned in my 1st heckle & just said bad luck mate coulda happened to anyone.

Saying this I've only ever seen the serious side of riding at above Club level events & rarely at local trials.

I pondered all this at the UK World round this year & silently & very in my own head heckled Toni Bou when he fived an impossible section (public are close enough for the riders to hear) thinking if I'd said it out loud would Toni get angry with me & would the massive crowd just hang me from a tree? Probably somebody in a Hi Vis jacket would have a quiet word with me & take my goody bag away.

Anyway again this is just stuff that rolls around my head all the time & I thought if I share it with you that when I heckle you or any rider it something I can't help doing.

Banter it probably isn't healthy but I can't help it.

I will tell the name of the unfortunate log rider if asked but first you have to guess who wrote this article

Yeth vevy woowd indeed

I told him get out the F%~~F~~% section then!

That was a bit rude



A Christmas Story

A true tale of mischief, deceit, and disappointment! Now we all like a Christmas story with a happy ending, sadly this isn't one of them stories.

It all began on a cold day in the winter of 1987, a cold concrete garage to work in, preparing a grass track bike ready for the annual Christmas hangover Grass track.

Why work in a cold damp garage when the missus is at work and the heating is on in the house, ping, I'll sneak in and get the bike prepped in the comfy worm living room, day time TV, tea, and coffee on tap, so Maggot my mate, helped me lift the bike over the thresh hold and bingo, kettle on and clutch stripped, new clutch and throttle cables ready for fitting, everything was going perfect. Then out of the blue the phone rang, instant Basil Fawlty mode, "SILENCE, turn the telly off, keep quiet maggot, it's bound to be, Sharon" trying to catch me out, But no I was pleasantly surprised.

Phone caller:- "Hello is that Mr Strudwick this is (lets call her Kelly) from Duke Marketing", the then famous motor sport video company, "I'm very sorry there is a delay in processing your order for the video your wife has ordered "On any Sunday" but should be with you before Christmas" "Oh, OK that's no problem", "thanks for letting me know".

Brilliant, I know what she's got me for Christmas, something decent to watch on Christmas afternoon.

Bike finished, Maggot and I moved it back to garage with a huge grin, a quick tidy up with the

hoover
and try and
keep the lid on my new found
knowledge.

Fast forward to the big day,
All gathered under the Christmas tree
we started to unwrap the presents, In
amongst all the cornucopia are socks, jumpers,
soap and deodorant, more socks, chocolates, more
socks. Even a magic box ignition system for grass
bike! But no video!

"Well!, Well!" (Basil again)

"Well what?"

Were is it then?

Where's what!

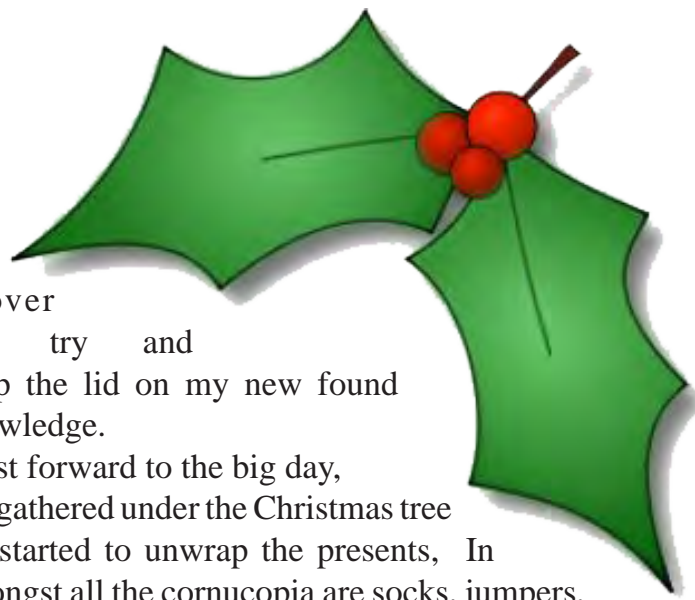
You know, the video

I haven't got a clue what your going on about.

You know the phone call, I kept it from you so not to
spoil the surprise!

What bloody phone call....Then the penny drops, 10
minutes of shrieks of hysterical laughter, Oh the one
from my mate! Pretending to be Duke Marketing!
Oh God I'd forgotten all about that, I thought you'd
move that bloody bike into the living room so I
thought I'd give you a fright thinking I might be
home early.

So convincing was that mischievous, deceitful
phone call, to this day he's still thinks that video is
on it's way!



Whats On

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

Provisional Club Trial Dates for your Diary

The website is www.edmcctrials.com

December Sunday 28th

Christmas Turkey & Pud blow out trial
Squirrel Wood Magham Down
Winter Start Time 11.00am

January 17th

Chairman's trial
Pilmer Woods Crowborough TBC
Winter Start Time 12.30am

February 21st

Club trial
Cow Farm **TBC.**
Winter Start Time 12.30am

March 21st

Club trial
TBC.
Start Time 1.00pm

Open to Centre Championship dates for your Diary

The website is www.southeasttrialcentre.com

January 18th

Sidcup Sixty Trial
Canada Heights

Have you taken your turn to help setup a trial yet, help is needed on all the above.

No sections No Trial.