

# 55 Newsletter

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## Canada Heights, Wobbler Trial, 16/11/08.

It's not usually the norm for me to ride these events being they are a little easy and having a choice of three events: South Eastern Centre trial at Dover, a club trial hosted by Bexleyheath MCC at Ash, or this Wobbler at Canada Heights. I was going to ride the club trial at Ash because Dover is quite a long way to go and the Wobbler as I mentioned would be too easy for me. However, on the Friday evening my bruv rang and asked what I was up to on Sunday and I mentioned the three events and he wanted to ride the wobbler, so with a bit of a debate I agreed.

Sunday morning I popped over to pick bruv up to get to the Heights for about 10am. Bruv had not ridden for over a year but like me is competitive especially when he's trying to beat his younger brother. He said he only wanted to have an easy ride "nothing silly", but I know he would always try to out ride me as it makes him feel good and then have something to wind me up with - sibling rivalry. So it's no surprise the ride turned into a competition and as I kept stepping up the pace egging him on, he would curse but still go for it. Not taking anything from him as he used to ride NKTC novice and the stuff I had him riding was Intermediate or harder and of course we never deviated from the sections. A difficult line, up a steep bank, or over some logs he would give it a go and surprisingly did very well. I couldn't help but laugh when he didn't make it but then he would do the same to me. I did say I wanted to have a big crash before the day was out to get my monies worth out of the day, so my riding was getting very silly. Riding my Scorpa without having observers can have me doing silly things like revving the granny out of it dropping the clutch and shooting up banks way out of control, laughing as I landed. I was attempting stuff which was beyond me but did I care? No - because sand doesn't hurt when you crash.

### My Off

The off I was seeking (why I don't know) came in the shape of stinking swamp. A combine expert rider was attempting to ride over a large log into some swamp mud then fire up a bank to exit. The swamp smelt disgusting, stagnant water and dog poo to be precise. It was deep too and lots of power would be needed to exit up the bank. The expert rider floundered half a dozen times so, stupid me, I stepped up to the challenge and for my first 2-3 attempts the bike would drive like a loony in the mud but I'd need to foot a few times to exit the bank because I needed more drive. I wasn't going to be defeated so on my fourth attempt I was gonna clean it or have a disaster crash. With gritted determination riding up and onto the log with the rear wheel resting on the log and at an angle of 45 degrees with the front wheel in the mud I paused. I then gave it full throttle and dumped the clutch slamming me into the mud; the bike gripped big time, wheeling and propelling me way out of control exiting the mud but I couldn't hold the wheelie and went straight back into the mud the face first!! "NO!" I shouted as could see the looming disaster; the swamp mud went up my nose, in my mouth and it was DISGUSTING!! But no surprise, guess who was laughing? Bruv. Some guy took some photos of it all and I'm not saying who. The only bad news was it ended my day because the handlebar grips were covered and most of the bike too after it followed me in. It was too dangerous to continue so the day's fun came to an end. The only consolation was it was 1.30pm and the heavens had just opened up.

Cliff

**If the photographer ever reads this please email the picture through on the clubs email address !**

**For Sale** Beta 2006 250cc £1,600 and 2-bike trailer + Montesa 311 250cc - any reasonable offers accepted. Contact Fergus Henderson on [Fergus.henderson@coopergay.com](mailto:Fergus.henderson@coopergay.com)

### **Club Night at the Pied Bull – 2nd December**

The first Tuesday night of each month we go to the Pied Bull in Farningham Village. This is a bike friendly pub so you can turn up in your car or on your road bike. The Triumph club also uses it sometimes on a Tue so it can be full of like minded people. We are usually there from 8.30pm and in the summer nights probably in the garden and it is not committee stuff just a chance to talk to other club members.

### **Help needed to set out trials**

Cliff has sorted a practice day at Rotherfield on Sunday 30th Nov as per email sent out this week.

### **What's on for remainder of 2008? Directions follow at the end.**

**Sun 30th Nov practice day at Rotherfield be there from 9.30am**

**Tue 2nd Dec Club Night at Pied Bull from 8.30pm**

**Sun 14th Dec NKTC trial Kent Youth at Whitepost Farm, Cowden round 10**

**Sun 21st Dec invite to Bexleyheath Club trial at Wainscott**

**Sun 28th Dec Thames Trial, Centre round includes Novice and Over 50 class – full detail in Nov TSM *note this is being held at Aldershot and not Hook Woods***

### **What's on in early 2009? Directions follow at the end.**

**Sun 11th Jan North Kent Team Trial at Horsmonden – each year this event is run for teams from the 10 clubs in the group – for Novice level upwards and we usually put in 2 or 3 teams – see [www.nktc.org.uk](http://www.nktc.org.uk) for more detail – we will need an observer for each team.**

That is it for the moment so hope to see you at a trial or down the pub.

# **CLIFF**