

55 Newsletter

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The Jack George NKTC Trial

Freestyle Sherco rider Simon Bird won his latest and arguably his best victory this season taking the Jack George Trophy. The trophy was set up to honour the clubs hard working Jack George, who passed on in 2005.

Bird's Sherco flew the 45 sections launching crests, slicing cambers and air turning on logs. The pre-trial favourite was however under pressure from a talent of Kent & Sussex, Mark Baker. It wasn't until mid way through his first lap did a gap begin to appear between the pair. As the two clashed section by section it was the pressure and perhaps a lack of concentration at section 12, which was to hand the lead to Bird, who then set about one of his greatest rides by totally obliterating his challenger and pulverizing all his rivals in that stylish, composed but focused fashion we have come to expect from him.

Second placed Beta rider Mark Baker, could have had the win! Baker's rides on sections 5 and 11 would have left a bitter taste for Bird. It was sections 12 and 13, which only until the end of play did he overcome and too late to defeat him.

Third placed Lee Brocklehurst, rode well with only a few errors. Riding a Scorpa 4-stroke the bike excelled in the dry conditions and with some great rides matched both Bird and Baker on some sections and from what I see made had the best ride on section 15 laps 2 and 3.

Expert B winner, Gary Stephen had his best day ever! Gary the raging bull famed for revving a trials bike like no other trials bike has been revved before hit the BIG time with his first victory of perhaps many to come in the North Kent. An excellent ride and defeating the big name talents from Bexleyheath MC may result in a bruising encounter when this victory is discussed with the bigger men.

Second place went to another up and coming star Scott Dark. But for some very silly schoolboy mistakes Dark could have had the win! Dark, like Stephens will have his work cut out for now the mantle has been thrown down, youth over age will never prevail us 30+ riders will have our day.

Third place Chris Dark (father of Scott) had an excellent ride and I'd be interested to know if this is the first time in recorded history of the North Kent, Scott beat Chris? It's always a good day when son beats dad and the reassurance that dad is on the downward slide of competitive trials and son is on the up slide....so no new bike for Scott next season perhaps. Chris fended off the talented Gary Roberts taking third place on the final count of cleans.

Jerry Green rode fought less to take the win in the Intermediate class. This class was fought between fellow Owls MC members and Green taking the win against my favourite to win Richard Brush. Mitchell Parfitt a little off Green and Brush had no worries taking third.

Derek Baker sealed the win in the Intermediate B class ahead of his younger rival The Very Old Paul Stephen. Baker a man half his age fended off Stephen the man double his age, or so it appears. Baker, now having switched to Beta could have been the reason for the winning ride. Third place went to John Bird the father of Simon. The big upset was the unfortunate non-starting from Allan Lown an excellent rider.

Steve Wright made easy work of the course taking an easy win in the Novice Class ahead of Ron Fry in second and Ian Pape in third.

Graham Bridger had his work cut out when returning Roy Purvis set about showing he's still got what it takes to challenge Bridger in the Pre67Twinshock class. Bridger had the win by just 3 marks over Purvis, but for a mistake on section 7, Purvis would have taken an easy win. A little adrift from Bridger and Purvis was John Pattinson - not discounting Pattinson the best ride on lap 2, but with couple of bad rides on section 3 which halted his challenge for the win.

Youth Intermediate rider Dougie Blackford had an excellent ride losing just a hand full of marks. Youth Novice rider, Jenny Stephen the only lady in the trial rode well with some excellent rides at section 15. Kieran Fry just one mark off Stephen put in an excellent result with a very respectable result.

My thanks go to the best club in the North Kent the Double Five Kent MC Ltd. The land owner and not forgetting all you observers who managed to eat far too many chocolate bars and crisps. Next year if you'd like more chocolate bars and drinks or fish and chips this could possibly be arranged.....and not forgetting all you guys who helped lay the trial out on the Saturday.

CB

Riding Tip:

Only put in the tank enough fuel to get you through the sections you intend to ride before returning to your vehicle. Each litre of fuel weighs approx 1kg

Club Night at the Pied Bull – 5th August

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.

Technical Talk.

The crankcase compression two stroke engine was first patented in 1891 and the Scott was the first motorcycle to have a kick start.

Any more technical tips or notes – email them in for the newsletter.

Extra NKTC Trial on 10th August

The NKTC are putting on an extra event at Burwash Common with all the usual NKTC routes but it is not a championship event, meaning that if you are thinking of entering this series this event is an excellent chance to try it out. The full details are on www.nktc.org.uk

What's on? Directions follow at the end.

Sun 27th July invite to Bexleyheath club trial at Wainscott

Sun 3rd Aug Thames 'old boys' trial at Bagshot – contact Paul Sims 01932 229403 info in July TSM p45

Sun 10th Aug NKTC event at Burwash Common

Sun 17th Aug Owls B&W trial at Sevenoaks Weald

Sun 31st Aug invite to Bexleyheath club trial at Guestling, Hastings where we had the team trial a few years ago

Sat/Sun 7th Sept British Championship round at Hook Woods – assist as part of the observing team – get in touch with Neil Martin or Steve Westley will be advertised in Aug TSM

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

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