

WESTERN CENTRE GAZETTE CHRISTMAS 1992

CENTRE SECRETARY

T.Hunt
Daren View,
Bishopstone,
Hereford.HR4 7JE.
Tel. 098-122-325.

CHAIRMAN

T.Noel
9 Finchcroft Lane,
Prestbury,
Cheltenham.GL52 5BD.
Tel. 0242-244553.

PERMIT SECRETARY

A.F.Wyatt,
4 Kingshill Park,
Dursley,
Glos. GL11 4DG.
Tel.0453-543751.

WOTS ON

Dec. 26th. West Gloster O/C Trial @ Clearwell, Coleford, Glos.
Jan. 10th. Chelt. Home Guard (ctc) Trial.
Jan. 11th. WESTERN CENTRE ANNUAL GENERAL BOARD MEETING. CMC HQ 8.00 PM.
Jan. 17th. Gloster & Cotswold CENTRE C'SHIP TRIAL @ Sheepscombe, Stroud.
Jan. 31st. Malvern (ctc) Trial.
Feb. 8th. WESTERN CENTRE BOARD MEETING. CMC HQ 8.00 PM. Feb. 14th.
Cotswold 90 (ctc) Trial.
Feb. 20th. North Gloster Road Race Practice Day.
Feb. 21st. Stroud Valley O/C Trial.
Feb. 28th. CHELTENHAM HOME GUARD NATIONAL TWIN SHOCK TRIAL.

JAN. 11TH. WESTERN CENTRE ANNUAL GENERAL BOARD MEETING. CMC HQ 8.00 PM.
FEB. 8TH. WESTERN CENTRE BOARD MEETING. CMC HQ 8.00 PM.

*
* ***** It is my sad duty to have to report the death of the *
* LES PITT Centre President Les Pitt on the 4th of this month. Our *
* ***** Chairman is writing elsewhere to record the Centres loss *
*

HELLO THERE,

Firstly I have to thank those good people, namely Eric, Wilf, Mike, Bob, John, Jon and Bogart who have taken the trouble to help to make the Christmas Edition a little bit more interesting than the usual boring mutterings of yours truly. I wonder why it is that there are so few people willing to do anything other than take what they want without any thought of contributing something themselves. Typical of the attitude of about 99% of todays Trials Riders I'm afraid, which allows for those very few notable exceptions of course.....

ALMOST THIRTY apprehensive, sceptical, hostile(?) Club Officials met in Cheltenham recently to obtain the safety inoculation of a Trials Clerk of Course or Stewards licence. An equally apprehensive Tutor, (thats the ACU's title not mine), shepherded them through the many dark, seldom seen, and less often applied passages of NSC's, SR's and the 'Handbook' before the evening came to a successful conclusion with all of them finding enough correct answers to gain the qualifications they were aspiring to. Without a doubt we all learned something, some of us much more than others, and I trust that it was not felt to have been a wasted evening. I know that there are others who wish to obtain Licences but who were unable to attend that evening so it is intended to run another Seminar in the New Year. Please let me have your name and address if you are one of them.....

SORRY TO SPOIL YOUR FESTIVITIES - but I have to remind you that your Gazette subscription ends with this issue. £6.00, payable to 'T.Hunt' is all that it needs to keep you in touch for another 12 months, send it off today so that I shall know the number required in January. Thanks, Ed.

DON'T KNOW WOT IT MEANS MISTER, or in the words of poor old Will Shakes "To Delete or to Indicate - that is the question. Whether tis better to cross out or to underline".... Last month, at the suggestion of One more tuned-in to the standard of todays education than myself, I was advised that the word 'Delete' was beyond the comprehension of many of todays Riders who have to face the awesome task of filling in an Entry Form. On his advise I changed 'Delete' to 'Indicate'. It was reasoned that this change of wording would reduce the time Secretarys of Meetings have to spend either researching (or guessing) at the qualifications and/or the requirements of the Riders who fail to understand the meaning of the word 'Delete'. I'm afraid that I was sceptical of their understanding an even longer word and if the Entry Forms for the Chadney Trial were any indication then my scepticism was justified. The number of 'Over 40' Teenagers who wanted to ride both the Standard and Alternative Routes at the same time, on Mono-framed Pre'65 Twin-Shocks and who then complained at the 'Start' that they had been put in the Class, makes one wonder if an advanced Course in Mind Reading should be a required qualification for a Secretary of the Meeting. Never mind, there aren't many of us 'Bureaucratic Old Sods' left now and when we've gone the way of all clapped out Pirelli's, 'Youth' will no doubt be eagerly waiting to leap in to replace us. Giving up their 'rides' to do the organising will come as naturally as it does today and they'll all live happily together for ever after. At home moaning that theres nobody doing anything for them anymore!!!..... Ed.

* * * *

* * * *

* * * * *

* * * * *

* * * * *

* * * * *

-----EIGHT - NINE - TEN ---- NOT OUT !!!!!

"It's a pity, but he's past it" ; "Sad to see him go but the young 'uns will take over this year" ; "He's lost his motivation" ; "It's no good he's left it too late to catch up now", we heard it all over the last few months of the Season didn't we. Yet somehow, from somewhere, he regained his motivation, came back from where-ever 'past it' was, and not only caught up but overtook those 'Young Uns' who were so certain to put an end to his long spell at the top. The day before he started on the long road back at the Allan Jefferies, I was with him at our local airfield, where he was picking up a scrapeing of jam to go with the bread and butter he was to earn on the following day. I remarked in the next Gazette on how he was enjoying himself and how completely relaxed he was despite the crucial ride that he faced the next morning. I also said, (and this was at the time when the gloom and doom merchants were in full flow), that if he stayed that way he would be home and dry for that Number Ten. My opinions aren't worth much but just for once I got it right and I can't think of a better occasion to be right when so many of the 'Experts' were getting it wrong. Just one small criticism. It was most unkind of you to snatch the 'Young Un's' prize out of his hands like that at the last minute - and was it really necessary to keep your Supporters and Friends agonising right down to the last mark of the day.

CONGRATULATIONS MATE - IT WAS A HARD YEAR BUT - STEVE STILL RULES - OK ?

* * * *

* * * *

* * * * *

* * * * *

* * * * *

* * * * *

HERE'S LOCKING AT YOU.
~~~~~

What weather!! Rain, rain and more rain has led to Western centre Trials resembling the good old cliché of a Mudplug, and the cry of 'Halleluyah' being joyfully exclaimed by one or two of the older Trials stalwarts. The technical 'Hop-Skip-Jump Boys' find their talent virtually redundant in such treacherous conditions. Anyway on with the Events....

18TH OCTOBER. MARTIN HOPE TRIAL. CHELTENHAM HOME GUARD M.C.  
The Centre Championship Penultimate Round took place at Langley Hill Farm, where the aforementioned 'Gloop' was much in evidence for the entry of 60 plus. As has been the case for most of the Championship Nick Draper demonstrated once again that if its slippery and wet, he knows how to come out on top. However the eager pursuit to fill Second place (in the Trial and Championship) was once again taken up by Steve "My Mum's a T&MX Journalist" Workman and full marks go to him as he has been the consistent No.2 to the Draper. Nigel Tomkins swapped his Majesty for the Mono to claim 'Best Old Codger', (aren't we all) as John Braithwaite and Richard Morman took the Inter. and Novice respectively. Premier - Nick Draper 32 marks lost. Runner Up - Steve Workman 38. Over 40 - Nigel Tomkins 77. Best Intermediate - John Braithwaite 76. Best Novice - Richard Morman 93.

15th NOVEMBER. DRAKE AND GIBB TRIAL. GLOSTER & COTSWOLD M.C.  
A little bit of a riding lesson was dished out at Whitecliff Quarry by one Samuel King making one of his increasingly rare appearances as he dropped a little over half the marks that Runner Up Nick Draper did. The three lap course catered well for everyone from Expert thru' Pre'65 (well done Doug Nolan), to 'D' Class Schoolboys (not another Nolan?). Every conceivable obstacle was laid out on the Standard Route and this must have given everyone at least one Section they could like. The general opinion afterwards was that it was a success. Premier - Sam King 22 marks lost. Runner Up - Nick Draper 33. Best Intermediate - John Braithwaite 77. Best Novice - Chris Haines 88. Alternative Route; Best Novice - Neil Davies 23. Best Twin Shock - Nigel Tomkins 18. Best Pre'65 - Doug Nolan 54.

6TH DECEMBER. PERCY CHADNEY TRIAL. WYE VALLEY A.C.  
Miserable weather failed to dampen the spirits of most Riders during the 16 Section 3 Lap event that saw incessant rain begin within half a lap of the start. Riders from many a far flung field emerged to give a 50 or so entry figure, one of the largest in recent years at Craswall. Lance Wake appeared, this time on a new Beta Synt, to take the 1992 double of both the Stan Hinsley and Percy Chadney Trials, although only just, as another Out of Centre Invader in the form of High Wycombes Alan Roe was squeezed into 2nd place - by just one mark. Mr Yamaha (alias Richard Ferrier put in a great ride to take 3rd spot and Best Western centre Resident thus netting him maximum points in the last Round of the 1992 Centre Championship campaign. As a result of this, and the non participation of Dan Bishop (away catching bigger fish at the National Knutt Trophy Trial) Rick has eased himself into third overall in the final (provisional) placings behind Steve Workman and the already crowned Champion Nick Draper. However, Stars of the Day were not the Riders, not the Clerk of Course or Secretary of the Meeting, but the Observers. Absolutely Brilliant! Each and everyone of them deserves thanking as the rain was driven into the the poor souls by the howling wind..... Continued >>>>

HERES LOOKING AT YOU - CHADNEY TRIAL - CONTINUED.

I fear one or two may not be seen Observing for some time as they will be questioning their own sanity in tolerating such weather for nearly four and a half hours. I'm sure the Riders would thank you all immensely.

Premier - Lance Wake 23 marks lost. Runner Up - Alan Roe 24.  
Third - Rick Ferrier 30. Best Intermediate - Dan Sanders 58.  
Best Novice - Richard Morman 83. Best Over 40 - John Sanders 42.  
Best Twin Shock - Nigel Tomkins - 43.

Finally just a couple of other brief results, one concerning Steve Venn who has shifted his competition emphasis to Long Distance Trials lately with much success. This art of Trialing used to be well frequented by such Western Centre big boys as Bob Miles and Nigel Ferrier on their DR Suzuki's and it could be argued that they displayed a degree of dominance in it. However increasing grey hair counts and injury (respectively) has led to semi-retirement for them and now it is Steve Venn who is the regular. Second recently at the Exmoor M.C.'s Neil Westcott Memorial Trial and victor at the Bristol Phoenix Trial on 22nd November seem to point to a successful start to his seasons campaign. Best of Luck for the remainder.

Obviously it cannot be forgotten that Steve Saunders produced a quite superb finale to the British Championship as he slaughtered his rivals in the last two rounds. Many members of the National Scene and the two Newspapers (including a few of his Home Centre Supporters) had written his chances of retaining the Title off. ((Not this one though - check your Sept. Gaz. Ed.)). However with a fair measure of support and encouragement from people that mattered most, and a huge dose of grit, determination and skill he rightfully laid claim to his Tenth consecutive Title. CONGRATULATIONS. Well, another bout of drivel dries up, but beware there is even the possibility that you'll be subjected to it in 1993. So as I sign off at the end of the 50th anniversary of "Casablanca" it leaves me only to wish you a Merry Xmas and Prosperous New Year.

BOGART.

\* \* \* \* \*

ERIC HAS BEEN DELVING into the past again and his findings will be seen throughout the following pages Ed.. For instance, did you know that past Centre Chairman Bob Pratt put up the Fastest Lap in the 1940 Junior Clubmans TT at 73.76 m.p.h. ?? and that..... E.B.

\* \* \* \* \*

THE BRISTOL M.C. & L.C.C. and the BATH & WEST OF ENGLAND M.C. are the only Clubs left from the original founders members of the Wessex Centre and that..... E.B.

\* \* \* \* \*

A Malvern Gentleman, John Hebden, who was a member of the Worcester Auto Club won 3 consecutive Golds in the 1948-49 & 50 I.S.D.T's riding a Triumph with a sprung hub. Incidentally his Mother was one of the first Ladies in the Malvern area to have a Motorcycle licence. E.B.

\* \* \* \* \*