

Editorial

I regret having to write this but . . . Decision Time has arrived! If you wish your monthly magazine/newsletter to continue in its present form then the decision is up to you to make. I cannot create the Trials & Tribs without your co-operation. Thanks to Don Daley I have one, yes just one, article to include in next month's issue and as you should be able to appreciate I need more than one article to fill up the magazine.

You will notice that there is no Dabbers Diary this month and also this is the last month that Peter Eaves will be writing on a regular basis. I am very indebted to those of you, including this month's contributors Dave Blanchard and "Uno Hoo", who do and have written for this publication.

Each month, I let June have 170 copies of Trials & Tribs for her to distribute. In the 16 years that I have been editing this magazine I have only received articles from about a dozen members - that leaves approximately 158 of you who haven't bothered. Just work it out - 3 articles written by members per month and you would only need to write another article every 4 + years. Is this too much to ask? If you want guidance on what you wish to write about or are worried about your grasp of English grammar or spelling then you have no worries. Myself and 'er indoors are quite able, and happy, to do any editing/corrections that may be necessary. The best thing to do, I have found, is to try and write as you would speak.

I gather that the Steam Rally went very well. My Special Correspondent

tells me that a certain well known Mower Specialist (no not Sidge) attempted to 'do harm' to one of our more respected members by allowing him a ride on his bike but apparently the rear brake anchor arm suffered damage, it being thought that it was made from 'very soft' aluminium and not the accepted Dural. Also, it is normal for front mudguards to be firmly attached to the forks. Some, in fact most of us, would use Nylocs for this purpose but I suppose mowers are still catching up with the 20th century leave alone the 21st century!

I read that the ex-Formula 1 racing driver Peter Arundell has died aged 75. It is my understanding that he regularly rode trials in the late 50s early 60s in the company of Peter Ashdown and the late Alan Stacey who were both Chelmsford members. It was not unusual for our premier racing drivers to ride trials in those far off days - the last British driver to do so was Graham Hill who campaigned a Bultaco in South Midland events whilst in the 'modern' era it was left to Alain Prost who I believe to have been a regular competitor in the French championships.

It would appear that this summer is not proving to be a good time to organise trials. I understand that the Braintree club is suffering much reduced entries for their Summer Series of events whilst the Dunmow club have decided to cancel, thoughts being that they would not have been able to cover the cost of hiring the Beazley End Trials Park.

Things are looking a little fraught for the Chelmsford club as well. The club has used Broomfield Pits several times a year, each year, since the early 50s - quite some time. Now, the land

The Mid Anglia MCC
present
for your enjoyment



The September Plonkaround

Raydon Pit, Wades Lane, Raydon, Suffolk (Grid Ref TM043389)

Saturday 5th September 2009

Gates will be open at noon.

Trials practise for:

Pre 65 solos • Pre 65 sidecars • Twin Shocks
Youths/Juniors • Twin Shock sidecars

For further information contact:

Mike Harden 01473 310537

email: mikeharden@mypostoffice.co.uk

has been 'taken over' by an organisation which intends to run it as a 4 wheel drive practise ground and (cough now please) expect to be charging Land Rovers £35 per day! Apparently they are willing and more than able pay those sums. At the moment the Chelmsford club are in negotiations but the long term situation does not seem good from both the financial point of view and also the further damage they, the 4 wheelers, will do to the land. I wonder whether they have considered the various tree preservation orders that are in place?

This year's Pre65 Inter Centre Trial will again be held in the Derbyshire Peak District and if the

last one held in that area is anything to go by it should be well worth a visit. I have primed Clive Dopson to keep me informed of what is happening as far as the Centre is concerned.

You will find included in this issue a couple of adverts for upcoming events. Make sure you put them in your diary as both sets of organisers are putting the events on for **YOUR** benefit and enjoyment.

A word of warning! I shall need material for the October issue of T&T by September 15th **at the latest** as we will (hopefully) be sunning ourselves in Benidorm come clubnite.

Best wishes,

Please Note:

The closing date by which all articles and adverts to be included in the next issue of Trials & Tribulations should reach the editorial office is normally the 25th of the month preceding publication.

Material for inclusion in the magazine may be supplied in the following forms:

handwritten • typed • computer hard copy • fax • email • floppy disc

If providing computer hard copy, a font size of 12pt minimum is preferred whilst articles supplied on floppy disc or sent via email should preferably be saved in text or RTF format.



Disappearing Wife



A man left from work one Friday afternoon. But, being payday, instead of going home, he stayed out the entire weekend partying with the boys and spending his entire paycheck.

When he finally appeared at home on Sunday night, he was confronted by a very angry wife and was barraged for nearly two hours with a tirade befitting his actions.

Finally his wife stopped the nagging and simply said to him: "How would you like it if you didn't see me for two or three days?"

To which he replied: "That would be fine with me."

Monday went by and he didn't see his wife. Tuesday and Wednesday came and went with the same results.

Come Thursday, the swelling went down just enough where he could see her a little out of the corner of his left eye.

This and That!!

Back down memory lane helped by Ted Smith's programmes!

5th December 1976 - Ilford Amateur held their "December Cup" Trial. The scene had become so saturated with two strokes that sections had alternative routes for the uninitiated on four strokes. (editors note: I believe that Malcolm Adams who was likely to have been the Clerk of the Course was trying to get people to ride their 4 strokes). Many of our members and friends entered including Roger Gulliver (on his travels) well no actually on a 250 Montesa and scored 101 (no award). Laurie Bird aced it losing 4 whilst Best Intermediate was Steve Nelson (250 Kwacker) on 19. John Williams from Stowmarket was Best Novice on 26. Other results of note: Second Class - Ian Wheeler, Dave Spurgeon, Tim Robinson, and Roger Finch each lost 28 whilst C. Rogers from Southend 'lugged' a 350 AJS around (last of the dinosaurs!!).

Newmarket ran their "Whipround Trophy" trial the following week. Colin Sadler was first man away but first in the results again was on form Laurie Bird on 12 with John Kendall (13), Nick Robinson (19), Ray Humm (21), Geoff Rank (22), 'young' Graham Braybrook (26) and Dave Bickers (27). Roger Gulliver went backwards - 102.

On to 1977, New Year's Day at Caddes Hill - the "Jack Kersey" Trophy trial. Young bodies giving their best efforts after Xmas indulgence! A difficult event where Eddie Cordle needed several 3s and a couple of 5s to take the premier on 55 aboard his TY175 - streets ahead of Trevor Kemp on 80, John Kendall 83, Peter Ashton 84, Dave Bickers 113 and Ray Humm on 114 for the last of the second class gongs.

20th February - "The Mardle". This was tough but Eddie Cordle got going for the second week running losing 84 for the premier with another five behind Allen Collier. Another five back was Laurie Bird with Dave Bickers just 3 back. Roger Finch took a good second class award with 119. M. Teager was best novice on 141. The Cordle brothers and Dave Bickers took the team award. Fairly obvious scanning the results that there were lots of lads who did well to finish, some of them with scores of 200 + - Hi Ho!!

Sudbury presented the East Anglian National on the 27th February with Trevor Andrews and Ian Preedy backing up Clerk of the Course Barry Chaplin to provide a course that took 46 marks from Premier award winner Mark

FOR SALE

BSA 250cc trials bike £650

Ring Claude Crowder for more info:
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Quotes Taken from Performance Evaluations:

"Gates are down, the lights are flashing, but the train isn't coming."

'BVM' Kemp. 95 solos and 40 sidecars as it was the first round of the Sidecar British Championships. Alan Clarke and Mick Bailey won the chairs on 51 and Braintree's John Turner and Reg Miller gained a well fought for second class award..

On March 20th, 30 solo experts and 11 chairs gathered for the Eastern Experts under the auspices of the Essex Trials Group with Jim Woodmason as the Secretary of the Meeting. Laurie Bird was solo top gun on 87 from John Kendall on 108 and Ray Humm 109 - obviously a hard course (*editors note: Derek Clampin was Clerk of the Course!*). John Turner and Reg Miller lost 38 to take the chairs from Will Stock and Tony Clarke. Norman Blakemore and Peter Kelly finished 7th ahead of Mr & Mrs Ruth, 102 and 103 respectively.

Fast forward. Of late our long distance enthusiasts have had outings and enjoyable ones but no specific info available.

The most recent Plonkers trial at Totham was very poorly supported and didn't justify the work that Clerk of the Course Ian Bennett and helpers put in as Jim commented in last month's T&T. Use them or lose them! Personally mid-summer trials are a no go.

Mick Brown's wander under the Tim's Tour heading allowed us to discover even more of Essex and Suffolk. Fish and chips were much needed and enjoyed at Mistley.

At this point I would like to thank Jim for his perseverance with my rambling and crap handwriting. As this column has got stale, it's the last.

Don't let Jim down, he needs material from you!!

Pedro E



Humphrey Lyttelton was famous for his deadpan delivery of outrageous double entendres on I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clue.

Most featured the erotic escapades of the show's fictitious scorer, Samantha.

Here is one of the funniest - printable - examples:

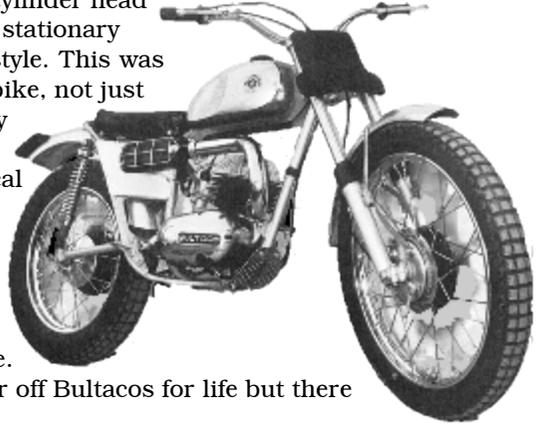
Samantha has to nip out again to see an elderly lord who regularly complains to Radio 4 about their parliamentary coverage. She says she thinks he's even going to start getting a little hard on Today In Parliament.

More than Expected . . .

The sixties had drawn to a close and nearly all the Greeves and DOTs had disappeared from the sections. They had gone into sheds and garages and cardboard boxes in the loft. Some less fortunate even went into hedges, ponds and foundations.

What was needed now was a Bultaco. Made famous by a famous man they became necessary just as the sections became zippy, nippy instead of clonky, plonky. So was that cause or effect?

This one had been superseded and therefore became nearly affordable. It had a four speed gearbox and a cylinder head that looked as if it belonged on a stationary engine, you know the radial fin style. This was highly appropriate as the whole bike, not just the engine, usually was stationary just inside the begins cards. The great man himself and all our local stars could make these bikes go anywhere but this one with its super sharp power and ultra hard Dunlop tyre could only spin. Sand, mud or gravel, all had the same effect, usually a five.



This should have put the rider off Bultacos for life but there were some redeeming features.

The flat bottomed engine and gearbox was less likely to catch on a tree root or rock. Remember those in the Eastern Centre? A few lumps of concrete from a broken up wartime runway perhaps.

The left hand kickstart (*editors note: surely left foot kickstart?*) was also novel allowing the rider to kick with either leg. Pay attention! You will see many Tacos kicked with the right leg - never a Villiers with the left leg!

The wheel hubs were a definite improvement over the old British types. There were two brake shoe pivots to fettle instead of one and the chrome lining of the drum was much lighter than rusty old iron especially when it peeled off! The alloy rims wee lighter too, until the flanges filled up with mud of course.

Some time later there was another Bultaco. This was better because it was blue. It was brought by a very nice man from a long way away. The sharpness of the early one had gone and it would plonk around the local woods and grip beautifully until it whiskered the plug. This it would do approximately every half hour or so until all stocks of spark plugs had been consumed.

Salvation occurred only one week later. Another man from blessedly far away phoned up and wanted a swap. The Bultaco could not wait to get away! They can't possibly all be like that, can they?

Uno Hoo

Off the rails

by Martin Fish

how is the wife Ted?

not so good Les,
she's struggling
with the booze
at the moment!

thanks luv, just pop it over
there next to the telly!

Martin Fish

Does this remind you of someone?

BUMPER STICKERS

ACCORDING TO MY CALCULATIONS THE PROBLEM DOESN'T EXIST

Trials & Tribulations

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Johnson's Reunion Extravaganza

It was the weekend of the 30th and 31st of May 2009 when another dose of nostalgia was absorbed into those ageing and cram packed memory cells of ancient rockers who wanted to pay homage to their wild and exciting youth.



Last year's reunion had been held very close to Johnsons Cafe on the A20 at West Kingsdown but due to the Horse and Groom public house closing down, the camping field and sustenance facilities were no longer available. An alternative venue was eventually found at the home of the 'Cuxton Rock 'N' Roll Club' at Hoo, on the Isle of Grain in Kent.



So Saturday night was live 'Rock N Roll' music with several 'Arthritic Jivers' strutting their stuff whilst simultaneously popping glucose tablets to top up their energy levels. Also, blood pressure tablets were in very high demand so the suppliers did a roaring trade! Some of 'Yesterdays Beauties' were really rocking' with the 'American Spin' and 'Lady Spin' being two of the most popular 'jive moves' of the night. Long tousled grey hair was seen flailing around in a wild and 'energetic frenzy' and that was just the men! After all those years of riding pillion our gorgeous ladies still looked as pretty as a picture, but some people just don't appreciate Picasso do they?



On Sunday mid morning about 80 or so enthusiasts had decided they would meet at Johnsons Cafe (also known as 'The Rising Sun') situated on the A20 between West Kingsdown and Wrotham. From there they 'unofficially' rode in convoy at a much steadier pace than would have been usual all those decades ago. On arrival at the new venue they parked their bikes and several were seen to go for their handkerchiefs to secretly wipe away a salty tear from an ageing



and myopic bloodshot eye. The toughness of the hardened rockers had clearly mellowed over the years and they were very glad there were no 'Mods' in the vicinity to mock their sentimentality.



It had been a great weekend with many motorcycle 'Owners Club Stands' plus a display of classic American cars of the kind seen in the block busting and 'technicolored' Hollywood movies of the fifties and sixties. A charitable collection was also held for the care of children with Cerebral Palsy. Many thanks go to 'Nigel Franklin and friends' for persevering with all the trials and tribulations needed to organise another 'Rockers Revival'.

Dave Blanchard



THE IRISH PRIEST

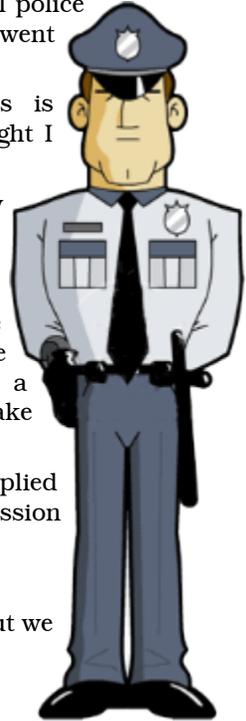
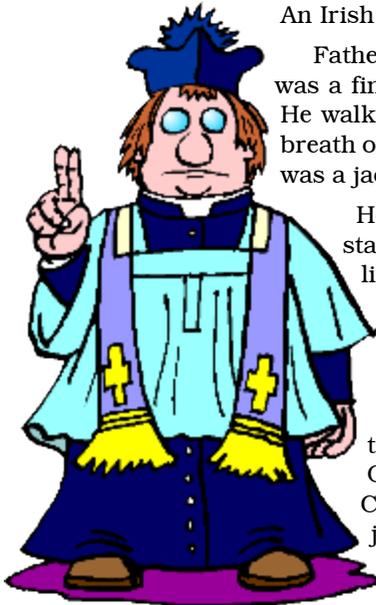
An Irish priest was transferred to Texas

Father O'Malley rose from his bed one morning. It was a fine spring day in his new Texas mission parish. He walked to the window of his bedroom to get a deep breath of the beautiful day outside. He then noticed there was a jackass lying dead in the middle of his front lawn.

He promptly called the local police station. The conversation went like this:

"Good morning. This is Sergeant Jones. How might I help you?"

"And the best of the day to yerself. This is Father O'Malley at St. Ann 's Catholic Church. There's a jackass lying dead in me front lawn and would ye be so kind as to send a couple o'yer lads to take care of the matter?"



Sergeant Jones, considering himself to be quite a wit, replied with a smirk, "Well now Father, it was always my impression that you people took care of the last rites!"

There was dead silence on the line for a long moment.

Father O'Malley then replied: "Aye, 'tis certainly true; but we are also obliged to notify the next of kin."

FOR SALE

Unfinished project
BSA trials
Too many new bits etc to list

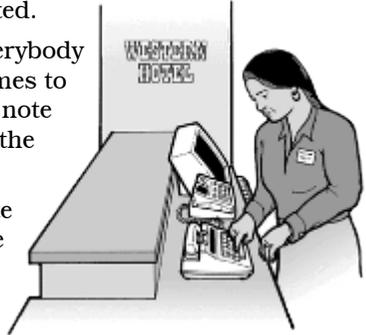
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The Stimulus Package Story

It is the month of August, a resort town sits next to the shores of a lake. It is raining, and the little town looks totally deserted.

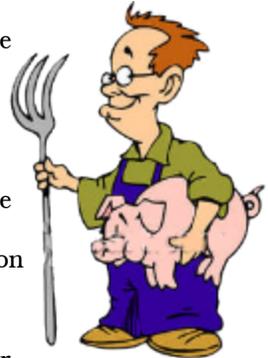
It's tough times, everybody is in debt, and everybody lives on credit. Then suddenly, a rich tourist comes to town. He enters the only hotel, lays a 100 dollar note on the reception counter, and goes to inspect the rooms upstairs in order to pick one.

The hotel proprietor takes the 100 dollar note and runs to pay his debt to the butcher.



The Butcher takes the 100 dollar note, and runs to pay his debt to the pig farmer.

The pig farmer takes the 100 dollar note, and runs to pay his debt to the supplier of his feed and fuel.



The supplier of feed and fuel takes the 100 dollar note and runs to pay his debt to the town's prostitute who in these hard times, gave her "services" on credit.



The hooker runs to the hotel, and pays off her debt with the 100 dollar note to the hotel proprietor to pay for the rooms she rented when she brought her clients there.

The hotel proprietor then lays the 100 dollar note back on the counter so that the rich tourist will not suspect anything.

At that moment, the tourist comes down after inspecting the rooms, and takes his 100 dollar note, after saying that he did not like any of the rooms and leaves the town.

No one earned anything. However, the whole town is now without debt, and looks to the future with a lot of optimism

And that, ladies and gentlemen, is how the United States Government and Australian Government is doing business today.

FOR SALE

Honda C90 1999

7000 miles • very nice condition
Unused since 2002 • dry stored since • currently on S.O.R.N.

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Wrabness Trial

Sunday September 27th 2009

Priority Farm, Wheatsheaf Farm, Wrabness, CO1 2TA

Map Ref: TM 167310

Open to Pre65 & Twinshocks

10.30 start

enter on the day

More info:

Mick Brown: 01206 250462

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The Mid Anglia MCC
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Plonkers Trial

Sunday 25th October 2009

Snaque Pit, Belchamp, Nr Sudbury
Start at 11:00 am

Entries accepted at the start

A Trial for:

Pre 65 solos • Pre 65 sidecars • Twin Shocks
Youths/Juniors • Twin Shock sidecars

For further information contact:

Mike Harden 01473 310537

email: mikeharden@mypostoffice.co.uk



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from algebra class because it was a
weapon of math disruption.***

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on purpose -

Awaiting your contribution!

End Thought . . .

They've taken Australian wine off supermarket shelves.
Its made of sour grapes.