

2022
March

Norfolk

Suffolk

Essex

ACU EASTERN GAZETTE



Volume 62
No. 3

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MOTORCYCLES



Riders including defending champion, Luke Parker, at the start of the opening round of the 2022 ACU Eastern Solo Enduro Championship, supported by GH Motorcycles & Husqvarna, held at Santon on 27th February.

Photo: Andy Waters

REGULATIONS IN THIS ISSUE

Date	Club/Promoter	Type	Status	Venue	Pages
March 27th	Eastern Fourstroke Assoc.	Trial	Restricted	Chattisham	4
April 10th	Halstead & DMCC	MX	OPEN	Wakes Colne	10
April 10th	Ipswich MCC	Trial	OPEN	Badwell Ash	20
April 24th	Woodbridge & DMCC	MX	OPEN	Blaxhall Circuit	21

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ACU Eastern Web Site

www.easternacu.org

Results, Events Calendar, News, and more



Most of us in grass roots (motorcycle) sport take part because we want to. Whether it is helping out a rider, or getting stuck in to the myriad of jobs that need to be done to organise and run an event to the exacting, and very necessary, safety standards that the ACU requires. And most do it purely for the love of the sport, not looking to gain any financial reward whatsoever; probably as a way of putting back into a sport that they have enjoyed participating in for many years. However, there are many that do file an expenses claim, and there is nothing wrong with that – especially against the current backdrop of rising inflation and hefty fuel pump prices. Exceptionally, there are one or two jobs that could actually lead onto part, or even full time employment – one of which is commentator. The excitable tones of some of the TV motocross, and road race, commentators are examples of how people who started in a muddy field at a club or Centre event have progressed through to high profile positions at major International racetracks around the globe. Why do I mention this? Well elsewhere in this issue you will see an advert for just such a job, and it could be the start of something really big – if you like to travel and mix with the stars!

Foreword

Phil Armes



I mentioned in the previous issue about the great news with regard to the sponsorship of the Centre motocross championship, and hinted that there may be a little bit more to come. Well I am delighted to be able to confirm that Lings Motorcycles have agreed to support the championship and will be taking the advertising opportunity of the back cover of the race-day programmes at all rounds of the series. This goes hand in hand with their support of more than one rider out on track and underlines their commitment to Centre level off road motorcycle sport.

One of the constant issues that raises its head, year on year, is the provision of insurance. We are well aware that in recent years most, if not all, speed events have migrated over to run on Basic Insurance permits, as opposed to the more comprehensive Premier Insurance permits. This leaves riders with total responsibility for sorting out their own insurance 'safety net' should they have an injury that keeps them off work – either in the short or long term. Never mind a life changing injury – I know, I spent six months in hospital after breaking my back at the Ulster Grand Prix, and now cause trouble charging about in my wheelchair!! But my personal insurance was a financial lifesaver when it happened. I am really pleased that in the next issue of the gazette I can publish a Q & A about insurance with our new motocross championship sponsor, PP Sports Insure, and debunk a few myths about personal insurance, and how it actually works.

And for one last time, this year, don't forget that the Centre Function is on March 19th at the Needham Market Community Centre, commencing at 7.30pm. Tickets are available for the remarkably modest price of £10, although if you have been clever enough to win an award you are entitled to a free ticket... please contact the Centre secretary Lyn Ralph to book your tickets; secretary@easternacu.org

Never did find out if Charlie will be doing the 'Master of Ceremonies' as usual – perhaps we can add this to the opportunity of new commentator under the 'mix with the stars' part of the remuneration package!!!!!!!

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**Eastern Fourstroke
Association**

Restricted - Club Permit Trials

Sunday March 27th 2022

Club Trial
Chattisham, IP8 3PU

National Grid Reference: TM088432

Permit No.: ACU 62831

Sign On: 08.30am

Start: 10.30am

OFFICIALS

ACU Eastern Steward:	N/A
Club Steward(s):	tbc
Clerk of the Course:	Richard Challis (<i>Licence 38598</i>)
Child Protection P.O.C.:	Richard Challis
Secretary of the Meeting:	Hugo Rose 7 Oaks Drive, Colchester, Essex CO3 3PR <i>Tel: 07717 662131 email: hugo@decantabl.com</i>
Start / Finish:	The Water Run, Chattisham, Suffolk IP8 3PU
Course:	4 laps of 10 sections
Routes:	Red/Blue, 50/50; White;
Classes:	Solo Rigid; Pre-Unit; Unit; Two Stroke; Twinshock
Awards:	None

JURISDICTION

Held under the NSC and the Standing Trials Regulations of the ACU and ACU EASTERN, these Supplementary Regulations and any Final Instructions which will have the force of these Regulations. Open to Adult & Youth members of the ACU riding solo machines.

ENTRIES

Entry for this event is via the ACU online entry system - Go To <https://members.acu.org.uk> LOGIN or REGISTER then go to 'Search for an Event'; find the event and follow process to enter. As an option, entries may be made on the OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM and sent to the Secretary of the Meeting with a fee of £17.00 adult, £17.00 youth. Include one 9x4 SAE. Cheques to be made payable to Eastern Fourstroke Association

Entries Open: 7th March 2022

Entries Close: 25th March 2022

No Entries On the Day

All Entrants, Riders or Passengers must be prepared to produce their current Licence/
Trials Registration when signing on, N.S.C.7.11

ENVIRONMENTAL MATS - USE THEM or you may lose your ride

Recollection Section

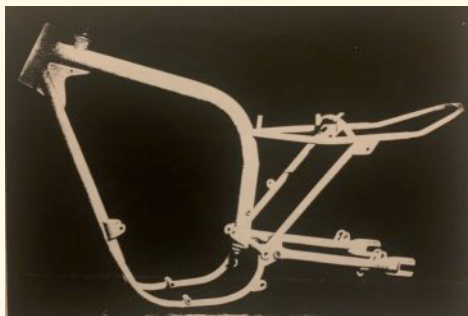
Sidge Kenny



I recall in the past I have referred to the brief period in the 1960's and early 70's, when certain competition motorcycles were available in kit-form. To clarify what advantage there was in this, it meant, the purchaser paid a sum of money to the manufacturer and received all the necessary bits to build up a complete machine. What he did not pay in those pre-VAT days, was 'purchase tax', as the final assembly process was left to the customer. The kit form bikes were mainly for trials and grass track competition though other disciplines were catered for as well. DOT scramblers most certainly were available in kit form – and I have a feeling that Metisse, Cotton, Sprite, and Cheetah, were similarly marketed. I myself bought a kit bike manufactured by Maclaren, the racing car people, which was constructed almost entirely in aluminium and powered by a 118 Suzuki engine – whose importers then, Heron, were also associated in the – unhappily short-lived – project.

Many of our own Eastern Centre riders bought and competed on kit machines and some rode them to great success. When VAT was introduced in 1971, these advantages to the purchasers of kit construction bikes were instantly removed. Oddly enough, whilst our own major Eastern Centre manufacturer, Greeves, from Thundersley in the extreme south, did not enter into the kit market, we did have quite a few small manufacturers relatively locally producing kit bikes and possibly the smallest was located up in Lowestoft. This machine was the "Firefly." The bike was the brainchild of Phil Jones and in designing the frame, he replicated the geometry of the BSA C15T. What he did not do was to use lugs for the various frame tubing connections which rendered the BSA frame rather heavy. Using air craft quality tubing, he welded the joints and the resultant frame was several pounds lighter with good ground clearance and very strong. For the BSA four-stroke engine, Phil made the major frame tubes serve as the oil container of just over two litres in capacity. The completed bike certainly looked the part and Phil began to campaign it himself in local trials. No doubt because of the quality of the bike and its construction attracting favourable attention, he then began to market these as kits. The value was extraordinary, the frame kits which later became chrome plated, were selling at under £50.00!

Even in the 1960's, that was an amazingly economical price. Phil clearly also realised that there would be a demand for alternative engines to be installed, so Firefly kits were also made available for the fitting of Villiers and Triumph, "Tiger Cub" engine units. As it was such a tiny operation, kits were being produced at a slow pace but nonetheless more trials riders in the Centre were seen competing on them. However, there was stiff competition from those other kit manufacturers as well. Nonetheless, and on reflection, it seems that Phil Jones' Firefly project might have prospered greatly if the machines and kits were promoted more vigorously, as riders particularly Johnny Lee, in the South Midland Centre, were achieving a good deal of success on the bike. Yet Phil's talents, as a brilliant fabricator and engineer, is very different from being a salesman and it seems that he was happy enough to let his products talk for themselves. Thus the Firefly did indeed shine for a while - and one or two examples are still to be seen at Pre 65 and Classic events.



A Firefly frame designed for four-stroke engines. Note the oil filler on the top tube and feed connector at the bottom

(I am grateful to Richard Snowden for his assistance in compiling this article - who does indeed ride a Firefly)

Thoughts on our Tattingstone trial

What a weekend to run an event after weeks of dry weather, we were hit with the worst storms for many years.

Ten days prior to event we planned a number of sections some being in adjoining neighbours' woodland not used before. Then came the storms,

with thoughts of Can we, Should we, Do we run, late Friday afternoon we braved the storm, made a site inspection and made the decision to go ahead

Saturday seven of us, five being regular riders ignored previous ideas and laid out what we believed to be reasonably easy sections, then came the deluge of overnight rain, wooden pallets put over a trickling stream as bridges were floating away. Some sections were eased but there was a limit to what could be done, hills became slimy, the woodland that had never previously been used a muddy mess.

Best rides of the day on the main Red route were inters Neil Fenn on 86 & Stephen Bland 89 with Experts David woods 91 and Richard Beales 108 close behind.

Best on White route were Novices Neil Richardson 68 and William Richardson 88 with Inters Nick Ogden 72 & Simon Donnelly 88 close by.

It was inspiring to see Youth B Charley Kendall and Youth C Daniel Adcock battle on to the end with a score of 143 & 123 respectively

Our thank must go to the land owner not only for the use of land but for being about most of the day for anyone needing a tow off the park

We have been invited back again in the Autumn hopefully with better weather and hoping riders will again support us



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Circuits in the Eastern Centre

Part 2

Charlie Ralph

Following on from mentioning motocross, (scrambling) circuits in Norfolk and Cambridgeshire in the previous gazette, I have counted an amazing 28 venues in the county of Suffolk of which I can remember. Some of these were only used once or twice, and sadly, only Blaxhall and Wattisfield remain, plus of course, the privately owned Mildenhall and Chippenham facilities. Practically all of the club's who organised these meetings are still in existence, but for several reasons, including lack of available land, lack of club officials/members to host events etc, we have seen the demise of so many venues. Unfortunately, it is the same in so many other ACU Centres also.

Starting in the North of the county, the Lowestoft Invaders hosted some great meetings at the picturesque Herringfleet Hills circuit, owned by Lord and Lady Somerleyton. I recall the 1966 St. Nicholas Grand National, which was won by Dorset's Badger Goss, after a battle with John Banks and the tall Arthur Browning. The 1970 version saw Freddie Mayes taking the honours from Stuart Nunn and the fast, but crash prone Maldon youngster, Richard "Tubby" Hughes on his factory Greeves. It is interesting to know that the club secretary of all of the Lowestoft meetings in the 60,70,s and 80's was Ron Greengrass, who is still active in the club which also held enduro events as well as trials meetings. Ron still oversees the distribution of the gazettes as well.

Just a few miles down the A12, the now defunct Leiston club had some really good meetings at Mumberry Hills at Westleton, including hill climb events. Many National rider's rode there, thanks to the persuading charms of the late Jeff Burrell. Watched by thousands around that time, we all loved to see our home hero, Dave Bickers, battling with some of England's elite. Sadly the circuit was lost, and is now part of the Minsmere Nature Reserve. The club did run a couple of meetings at the nearby Heveningham Hall estate, and I can remember a young unknown lad called Stuart Nunn turning up with a brace of CZ'S, and proceeded to dominate the junior races in both classes on his 250 and 360cc bikes, then gave the established experts a run for their money in the allcomers races.

Further down the A12 at Blaxhall, the Woodbridge club, which was formerly called the Rendlesham club, have been hosting meetings since 1966. Originally just a disused sandpit, the club very wisely purchased the venue, and during the 1980's and 1990's held 125 and 250cc British championship meetings, plus a couple of Inter Centre events. The British Championship meetings saw the likes of Rob Herring, Paul Malin and the elegant Jem Whatley to name just three of the stars of that time, and as at Lyng, the TV companies visited there. Nowadays of course, the whole facility always looks immaculate, thanks to the hard working crew, who tend to spend more time at Blaxhall than at their own homes ! Since 2015, the club has hosted a round of the modern day British Championships, and Blaxhall is recognised as one of the top venues in the UK.

The BBC Saturday afternoon sports programme Grandstand often featured motor cycle scramble racing. In March 1964 the outside broadcast came from Mumberry Hills at Westleton.

Picture: DAVID KINDRED originally published in the IPSWICH STAR



Despite only running trials events nowadays, the Essex and Suffolk Border club hosted meeting at Bentley, just off the A12, for many years during the 1950's onwards. I remember cycling to many meetings at Bentley when I was a lad, and once again, thousands of fans, (photo's do not lie), watched the action at Falstaff Manor. In the early days, the top Eastern riders in the 1950's were Geoff Revett, Jack Hubbard, Tony Howe, Dickie Rix and Ron "Tubby" Argent, and I recall the late, brilliant Brian Stonebridge arriving at one meeting and completely destroyed the opposition. The club did try a new venue for one meeting at Holton St Mary in the 1990's, but it could never live up to the Bentley track.

The riders line up for the start at Bentley in 1991

Credit: John Kerr/Archant



I often mention the large crowds which was a regular occurrence back in the 50' and 60's. Obviously in those days, there were no shops or supermarkets open. No football, and not many people had TV sets, so with regular meetings in so many villages at the time, it was a cheap form of entertainment back in the day.

In the next issue, I will cover the remainder of Suffolk

venues, which includes the two Ipswich clubs, along with Bury St Edmunds, Sudbury, Stourbourne etc.



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ACU Eastern
Solo Motocross
Championships

2022

Halstead & DMCC



Open Permit Motocross

Sunday 10th April 2022

Stebbing's Car Superstore & PP Sports Insure ACU Eastern Motocross Championship

Round 1

Wakes Colne CO6 2BH

National Grid Reference: TL890314

Permit No.: ACU 62544

Sign On: 8.00am

Practice: 10.00am

Start: 11.30am

OFFICIALS

ACU Eastern Steward:	John Blyth
Club Steward(s):	Martin Beadlie Mark Mitchell
Clerk of the Course:	A Wright (<i>Licence 187442</i>)
Child Protection P.o.C.:	Karin Beadle
Secretary of the Meeting:	Karin Beadle <i>Tel: 07787 544418 email: karin6@sky.com</i>
Start / Finish:	Little Loveney Hall, Wakes Colne, Essex CO6 2BH
Course:	Undulating grassland with man made jumps
Classes:	As per Championship Conditions
Awards:	As per Championship Conditions

JURISDICTION

Held under the NSC and the Standing Motocross Regulations of the ACU and ACU EASTERN, these Supplementary Regulations and any Final Instructions which will have the force of these Regulations. Open to Adult members of the ACU riding solo machines.

ENTRIES

Entry for this event is via the ACU online entry system - Go To <https://members.acu.org.uk> LOGIN or REGISTER then go to 'Search for an Event'; find the event and follow process to enter. Entry fee £57.00 Late Entries + £10.00

Entries Open: 14th March 2022

Entries Close: 4th April 2022

No Entries on the day

All Entrants, Riders or Passengers must be prepared to produce their current Licence/
Trials Registration when signing on, N.S.C.7.11

ENVIRONMENTAL MATS - USE THEM or you may lose your ride

The insurance cover for this event will be BASIC (limit of liability £10m) and Medical Malpractice insurance (limit of liability £5m) is included. There is NO Personal Accident Insurance for Competitors. Competitors are therefore strongly recommended to purchase such Cover - which is available through the Locktons website (www.locktomotorsport.com) or the ACU website (www.acu.org.uk)

ACU Eastern Solo Enduro Championship

Round 1

Richard Snowden



Sunday 27 February saw Diss MCC run the Santon Enduro in Thetford Forest. The weather was perfect with wall to wall sunshine and the going was dry with a superb 1.6 mile test near the start which was ridden on laps one and two.

The action kicked off at 9:00am and first man on the test was 2021 ACUE champion Luke Parker on his 450 Matt Pope Gas Gas. As the championship times were confirmed it was clear that he remained the man to beat. His first test was a blistering 2 minutes 29 with Ben Cole on his 450 GH Husqvarna, the 2021 runner up, hard on his heels, some 4 seconds back. Former British Championship MX rider Lewis Tombs, 450 John Bank Honda slotted into third with British Championship runner, Alex Walton, 300 MRS Sherco in fourth. Ben Clark on another MRS Sherco rounded out the top five.



Husqvarna
MOTORCYCLES

When the championship riders returned the test was much rougher but most championship riders were still able to improve on their first test times. Again Parker dominated gaining a further 4 seconds on Cole but this time Walton was able to slot into third but still some three seconds behind Cole. Tombs was just over a second behind Walton with former ACUE champion Jamie Roper, 450 Walters Medical/Jim Aim KTM slotting into fifth.

With the championship order established the significant group of enduro supporters and pit crews waited for the sixth and final lap, reduced to a mere 25 minutes, which would surely decide the final results. But the drama happened sooner, at the time control at the end of lap five and turned the expected results upside down. Not one, but six of the early championship runners clocked in early at the end of the fifth lap which would drop them all out of the top 10. The only rider starting on the first two minutes to keep his head was Dan Willis on the 250 Ranson Racing/Putoline/TMJ Interiors Honda who held back to his correct minute which would see him finish in a great fifth place, his best result since moving up to championship class.



Lewis Tombs
Photo by Mike Bennett



Luke Parker
Photo by Mike Bennett

Parker and Cole were the only two championship runners to finish their final lap with three minutes to spare but the damage had already been done and their “schoolboy” error (their words) saw them finish in twelfth and thirteenth positions with the other riders all trying to forget the outcome and focus on their next event.

With good test times and a clean ride, Lewis Tombs took a well earned victory from 2021 British Enduro Expert champion Harry Houghton, on his 300 MotoFit Beta UK. Ben Murphy on a 450 ET James KTM took third with veteran, and former ACUE champion Chris Hockey, 300 Kiwi's Bike Shop Sherco in fourth with Willis in fifth.

The expert class was dominated by Aaron Coupland 450 Team REME KTM who won both tests and was clean on time. Coupland won the first test some four seconds faster than Matthew Harries, 250 ET James Sherco. Hertfordshire's Doug Lote, 250 Apico Beta slotted in third with Hayden Maller 150 Team REME KTM in fourth, with less than a second separating the second to fourth runners. Adam James 300 ET James Sherco slotted into fifth position.

Coupland was again four seconds faster on his second test and in the extremely competitive expert class there was a quarter of a second between second, third and fourth but the order had changed. This time Diss club member Joe Hall, 250 Roger Warnes Gas Gas was second from Maller, then Lote with Harries two seconds back in fifth. After the two tests there was less than half a second between Lote and Maller for second and third and less than 3 seconds between second and fifth.

With no drama in the expert class the final lap would see Coupland, Harries and Lote clock in two minutes ahead of their scheduled finish time and with the top 19 riders staying clean the order was determined by the tests. Coupland ran out the clear victor from Lote, Maller and Harries with Hall's stronger second test securing him fifth overall.

In the expert over 40's class Julian Harvey, multiple ACUE trials champion dominated the class. Harvey on the 125 KTM was over 7 seconds clear of 2021 British Enduro Expert Veteran champion John Shirt on his Gas Gas. Chris Tett 390 Beta was third with 2021 ACUE champion Paul Spurgeon 300 Husqvarna fourth and Jonathan Pearson 250 Husqvarna in fifth.

Paul Nash

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The second test saw the order maintained with Harvey gaining a further second on Shirt. Harvey's test times were the fastest for a 125 at the event. At the end of the event, the top runners all stayed clean with just Shirt managing to clock in with two minutes to spare so the order remained unchanged.

There was a tight battle in the clubman class between Jake Purcell 250 Royal Engineers KTM and Sion Evans 125 Husqvarna. Purcell won the first test by 1.5 seconds from Evans but Evans was top on the second test by 0.3 seconds leaving Purcell 0.8 clear after the two tests. Lewis Holmes 350 Saxmundham Service Centre Gas Gas was third on both tests and again with all the top finishers remaining clean after their four laps the order was decided by the tests.

The clubman over 40's class saw Spencer Newland victorious, winning both tests from William Lloyd 250 KTM and Raymond Otaka 200 Beta. However, after the first test both Lloyd and Otaka were tied. The ACU require times to a hundredth of a second as shown in the results but their times were still identical to the thousandth. Lloyd gained the advantage on the second test relegating Otaka to third with the test times again determining the final positions.

The hugely popular clubman over 50's class saw some 48 riders competing, the second largest class after clubmen at the event. The Super Veterans class was dominated by a very on form Mark Chapman 250 KTM, from the host Diss club. Another former ACUE champion, Chapman's test times would have seen him finish in fifth in the clubman class! On the first test Paul Armstrong 450 Husqvarna was second, some 9.5 seconds back with Jez Moss 150 KTM in third. The second test saw Chapman nearly 2 seconds clear of John Hilton 300 Fab Weld Engineering KTM from event sponsor, Gavin Hockey on his immaculately prepared classic 250 Huqvarna. Hilton and Hockey's faster second test times saw them rise to second and third after the two tests with Moss and Armstrong rounding out the top five. Again the main contenders were clean on time at the end of the event and so maintaining the results achieved on the special tests.



Andy Waters, clerk of the course and all the organising team at Diss MCC would like to thank everyone that made the event run smoothly, and specially Forest England, GH Motorcycles and all helpers who ensured the event was a great success. The fantastic February sunshine was a bonus and the organisers were relieved that the event hadn't been scheduled for the previous weekend when Storm Franklyn would have caused cancellation.

With such an upset to the form book in the championship class it looks like being an exciting championship season with everyone looking forward to round two of the ACUE championship which Sudbury MCC are running on 13 March at their popular Foxborough venue.

Results:

CHAMPIONSHIP

1. Lewis Tombs 450 Honda 310.80
2. Harry Houghton 300 Beta 324.12
3. Ben Murphy 450 KTM 324.94
4. Chris Hockey 300 Sherco 326.60
5. Dan Willis 250 Honda 326.95

EXPERT

1. Aaron Coupland 450 KTM 322.06
2. Douglas Lote 250 Beta 330.36
3. Hayden Maller 150 KTM 330.80
4. Matthew Harries 250 Sherco 332.01
5. Joseph Hall 250 Gas Gas 333.06

EXPERT VETS

1. Julian Harvey 125 KTM 339.72
2. John Shirt 300 Gas Gas 348.16
3. Chris Tett 390 Beta 351.50
4. Paul Spurgeon 300 Husqvarna 354.03
5. Jonathan Pearson 250 Husqvarna 356.10

CLUBMAN

1. Jake Purcell 250 KTM 340.91
2. Sion Evans 125 Husqvarna 314.77
3. Lewis Holmes 350 Gas Gas 350.95
4. Rhydian Rees 125 Husqvarna 354.23
5. Joel Tett 390 Beta 358.67

CLUBMAN VETS

1. Spencer Newland 350 KTM 364.45
2. William Lloyd 250 KTM 371.65
3. Raymond Otaka 200 Beta 377.36
4. Philip Waldron 250 Yamaha 378.38
5. Ben Hovell 250 Husqvarna 407.03

CLUBMAN SUPER VETS

1. Mark Chapman 250 KTM 358.34
2. Gavin Hockey 250 Husqvarna 373.12
3. Jeremy Moss 150 KTM 375.23
4. Paul Armstrong 450 Husqvarna 375.82

Full results available on www.easternacu.org

Jake Purcell



VIEW FROM THE

Julian Harvey



VIEW FROM THIS SIDE

Harry Houghton



VIEW FROM THIS SIDE

Commentator needed

Graham Muff

If you have an anorak level of knowledge of motocross as a sport, you bore your mates/friends down the pub with an encyclopedic depth of stats about the riders/teams and plethora of characters in and around the paddock, and you love the sound of your own voice then this might be the chance you have been waiting for!

Due to the retirement of Charlie Ralph at the end of last season there is a requirement for a new commentator for the Stebbings Car Superstore & PP Sports Insure ACU Eastern Motocross Championship events from this year onwards. (And a good deal of other events I should imagine!)

Or, if you have none of the above attributes, but you fancy just giving it a go, because it can't be that difficult, can it, then please get in touch with the Chair of the Centre motocross committee, Graham Muff; motocross@easternacu.org. If he thinks you could be the person he is looking for the next step will be to tie you to a chair in the middle of a field (probably on top of a caravan) thrust a microphone in one hand, and a programme in the other, and let you have a go!!

The bonus to all this, is that you won't have to pay to get in, like you have been for the last umpteen years, and you may even get a brown envelope with folding paper inside to cover your expenses. Some clubs might even treat you to a full gourmet lunch in their hospitality facility.....

Go on, give it a go!!!





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The Phil King Trial

'Sidge' Kenny



Phil King was a very talented trials rider who was coming into his best at the time of the tragic road accident which cost him his life. He was in his early thirties, married and with a young son. It was his father who put forward a memorial trophy and it was his home club, the Castle (Colchester) MCC, which ran the first of the trials which bore his name in 1984. The meeting has become unique in this Centre in it being run over a single lap circuit embracing groups of sections joined by roadwork. Accordingly the bikes have to be taxed and insured, which in today's trials scene is something of a rarity. The "Phil King East Anglian" is the Centre's only National status trial in that it has taken over from the former: "Suffolk Mardle" event, which was organised by the Ipswich MCC and The "East Anglian National," run by an allied organisation of the Sudbury, Halstead and Colchester clubs. With only breaks through heavy snowfall and Covid, the Phil King has now run annually for longer than either of those.

The event's status being the first round of the "Normandale" series and the trial's reputation must have gone in some part to a very impressive entry of 130 riders in all the eligible classes for this year's meeting which took place on the first Sunday of February. Riders as far away as Manchester, Cornwall and the Isle of Wight were on the entry list. The morning began with rain which rendered many of the sections more muddy and slippery than usual – a situation that usually favours the early numbers. However, as conditions improved, for the majority of the eight groups of sections there seemed to be some useful grip remaining throughout the day. This seems to be confirmed by impressively low scores such as Brian Francis who started late as number 98 and won class 1, on just 29 marks lost. Interestingly, the lowest scores were from Ashley Hall and Anthony Cowley both on 10 and respectively heading class 2 and 3. Further ties occurred when Tim Blackmore and Andrew Blackman took class 5 and 7 with 24 marks lost apiece. An Eastern Centre battle for class 6 was resolved when James Newstead on 51, pipped Mark Fletcher on 57. Martin Wilmore secured class 4 with 32 marks lost. Special mention must be made for sole lady rider, Katie Nash, who battled round for 142 and Liam Ford who saw it to the end at a round 150 marks lost. Finish the course they did, for there were 9 retirements – actually a commendably low number.

(I am grateful to Alan Day – who also rode in the trial - for his help in compiling this article)



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Ipswich MCC

Open Permit Trial

Sunday 10th April 2022

Mardle Trial

Badwell Ash, IP31 3FA

National Grid Reference: TL999693

Permit No.: ACU 62830

Sign On: 9.30 am

Start: 10.30 am

OFFICIALS

ACU Eastern Steward:	N/A
Club Steward(s):	G Timms
Clerk of the Course:	D Cordle (<i>Licence 5689</i>)
Child Protection P.o.C.:	D Cordle
Secretary of the Meeting:	Mrs P Cordle 4 Bullen Close, Bramford, Suffolk, IP8 4JE <i>Tel: 01473 462274 email: the.cordles@talktalk.net</i>
Start / Finish:	The Pit, Back Lane, Badwell Ash, Suffolk, IP31 3FA
Course:	4 laps of 10 Sections - Woodland
Routes:	Yellow, 50/50; Red/Blue 50/50; White; Beginners
Classes:	All solo classes
Awards:	To winner

JURISDICTION

Held under the NSC and the Standing Trials Regulations of the ACU and ACU EASTERN, these Supplementary Regulations and any Final Instructions which will have the force of these Regulations. Open to Adult & Youth members of the ACU with an appropriate licence and riding solo machines.

ENTRIES

Entry for this event is via the ACU online entry system - Go To <https://members.acu.org.uk> LOGIN or REGISTER then go to 'Search for an Event'; find the event and follow process to enter. Entry fee £17.00 Adult; £12.00 Youth

Entries Open: 20th March 2022

Entries Close: 8th April 2022

No Entries on the day

All Entrants, Riders or Passengers must be prepared to produce their current Licence/
Trials Registration when signing on, N.S.C.7.11

ENVIRONMENTAL MATS - USE THEM or you may lose your ride



Woodbridge & DMCC

Open Permit Motocross

Sunday 24th April 2022

Open Motocross inc NGR Championship Rd 2

Blaxhall Pit, IP17 1LG

National Grid Reference: TM356580

Permit No.: ACU 62858

Sign On: 07.30am

Practice: 09.30am

Start: 10.00am

OFFICIALS

ACU Eastern Steward: N/A
Club Steward(s): Charlie Ralph
Clerk of the Course: John Blyth (*Licence 39574*)
Child Protection P.o.C.: Debbie Blyth
Secretary of the Meeting: Debbie Blyth
Tel: 07963 118917 email: motocross@woodbridgemcc.co.uk
Start / Finish: Blaxhall Circuit, Blaxhall, Suffolk IP17 1LG
Course: Naturally Sandy with man made jumps. Note; Circuit direction has been reversed for the 2022 season
Classes: Allcomers & NGR
Awards: Prize money - dependant on number of entries

JURISDICTION

Held under the NSC and the Standing Motocross Regulations of the ACU and ACU EASTERN, these Supplementary Regulations and any Final Instructions which will have the force of these Regulations. Open to Adult members of the ACU riding solo machines.

ENTRIES

Entry for this event is via the ACU online entry system - Go To <https://members.acu.org.uk> LOGIN or REGISTER then go to 'Search for an Event'; find the event and follow process to enter. Entry fee £57.00

Entries Open: 28th March 2022

Entries Close: 18th April 2022

No Entries on the day

All Entrants, Riders or Passengers must be prepared to produce their current Licence/ Trials Registration when signing on, N.S.C.7.11

ENVIRONMENTAL MATS - USE THEM or you may lose your ride

The insurance cover for this event will be BASIC (limit of liability £10m) and Medical Malpractice insurance (limit of liability £5m) is included. There is NO Personal Accident Insurance for Competitors. Competitors are therefore strongly recommended to purchase such Cover - which is available through the Locktons website (www.locktomotorsport.com) or the ACU website (www.acu.org.uk)

The use of tear offs at Woodbridge & DMCC organised events are now, not allowed.



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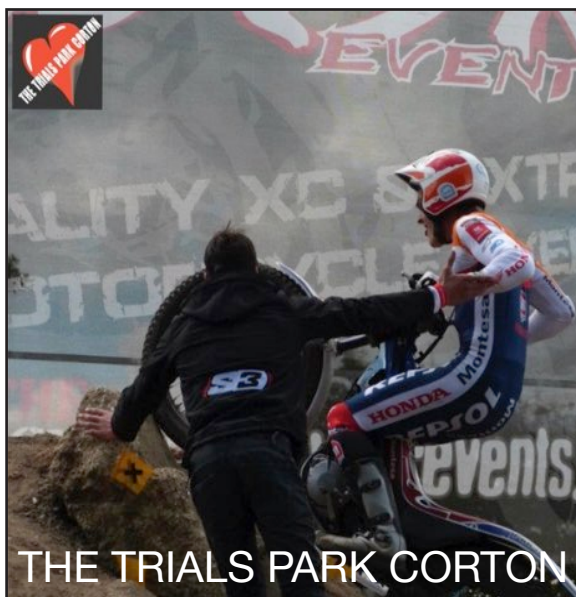


What's on



Date	Club	Discipline	Status	Venue	Championship
06 Mar 22	Norwich Viking MCC	Trial	OPEN	North Walsham	Norfolk & Suffolk Group
06 Mar 22	N&S Junior MC	Motocross	OPEN	Gt Hockham	ACU Eastern Youth MX Champs
13 Mar 22	Sudbury MCC	Enduro	OPEN	Foxborough	ACU Eastern Enduro Champs R2
13 Mar 22	Southend & DMCC	Trial	OPEN	Poles Wood	ACU Eastern 'B' Class R1
19 Mar 22	ACU Eastern	Social	n/a	Needham Market	Awards Presentation
20 Mar 22	Wymondham & DMCC	Trial	OPEN	Middleton	ACU Eastern 'B' Class R2
26 Mar 22	Woodbridge & DMCC	Motocross	Practice	Blaxhall	
26 Mar 22	Braintree & DMCC	Trial	OPEN	Beazley End,	Essex Oset Cup - Youth Only
27 Mar 22	Eastern 4 Stroke Assoc.	Trial	Restricted - club	Chattisham	
27 Mar 22	Littleport MC	Motocross	Open	Chatteris	NGR
03 Apr 22	N&S Junior MC	Motocross	OPEN	Gt Hockham	
03 Apr 22	Sudbury MCC	Enduro	OPEN	Halstead Hills	ACU Eastern 2 Man Enduro Champs R1
10 Apr 22	Ipswich MCC	Trial	OPEN	Badwell Ash	ACU Eastern 'A' Class R1
10 Apr 22	Halstead & DMCC	Motocross	OPEN	Wakes Colne	ACU Eastern Solo MX Champs R1
15 Apr 22	Woodbridge & DMCC	Trial	OPEN	Blaxhall	ACU Eastern 'C' Class R1
24 Apr 22	Bury St Edmunds & DMCC	Enduro	OPEN	Hawkedon	ACU Eastern 2 Man Enduro Champs R2
24 Apr 22	Norwich Viking MCC	Trial	OPEN	East Wretham	
24 Apr 22	Castle Colchester MCC	Trial	OPEN	Alphamstone Pit	ACU Eastern 'A' Class Trials Champs R2
24 Apr 22	Woodbridge & DMCC	Motocross	OPEN	Blaxhall	NGR
30 Apr 22	Braintree & DMCC	Trial	OPEN	tbc	Essex Oset Cup - Youth Only

NOTE: All dates are provisional, and subject to change.
Always check events are still on before travelling at www.easternacu.org.



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