

EASTERN CENTRE

CAZETTE Volume 64
No. 11
November 2023



ANNOUNCEMENTS IN THIS ISSUE

Club/Promoter Date Type Status Venue Page 26th November Fastern Fourstroke Assoc. Trial **OPFN** Thorrington 9 Norwich Viking MCC 3rd December Trial **OPEN** Cadders Hill, Lyng 13

DON'T FORGET

Centre Board Meetings - 12th November - Gt. Blakenham Village Hall

2023 OFFICIALS OF ACU EASTERN

President:

Alan Penny 'Culross', Hadleigh Road, Elmsett, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP7 6ND

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Honorary Life Vice President: Roy Bannister

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Treasurer:

Andrew Hay 27, Tizzick Close, Three Score, Norwich.NR5 9HB.

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Centre Secretary:

The secretary position is vacant please contact via email

e-mail: secretary@easternacu.org

Permit Secretary:

Barbara Douglas The Old Cottages , The Moor, Reepham, Norwich NR10 4NL

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Vera Hearn 25, Quinton Road, Needham Market, Suffolk. IP6 8BP

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ACU Eastern Competitions Committee

(The President, Chairman, Vice Chairmen, Secretary & Treasurer are ex-officio members)

Chairman:

Chris Cook

82 Kingsmead Park, Coggeshall Road, Braintree CM7 9EA

Tel:- 07824 166985

email: cjcook1904@yahoo.co.uk

Vice Chairman: Alan Penny

Other Elected Members:

Chris Keeble, Paul Fenn, Alan Foskew, Alex Wright,

Martin Beadle

Sport Committee Chairmen:

Motocross – Andrew Hay Enduro – Jack Hearn Trials – Paul Nash Grass Track – Alan Foskew

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ACU Eastern Web Site

www.easternacu.org

- Results
- Events Calendar
- News
- and more





It's a wrap for 2023 Charlie Ralph - motocross recorder

The final round of the Eastern Centre Motocross championships at Lyng brought the curtain down on the series for 2023.

Big thanks go to the title sponsors, Antony Skerry at Stebbings Car Superstore, and to Paul Shorter of PP Sports Insurance.

Originally scheduled for seven rounds, unfortunately the Wakes Colne round in March was cancelled due to weather conditions, so the six rounds saw two rounds at Lyng and Blaxhall, with the Diss and Halstead clubs hosting a round each.

Luke Parker retained his Premier title, despite riding with an ACL problem in the latter stages of the series. The Norwich Vikings star has now won the title for the third time, 2016,2022 and 2023.

Former champion, Shaun Southgate, was runner up, with Sam Nunn, despite only competing in four of the rounds, tied up third place.

Norfolk's Charlie Nudds rode well all year to top the Junior series, with Connor Bunkle runner up. Shane Lock was 3rd in the series, despite missing a round.

1st year expert rookie, Joseph Leeks, won the HRM Boilers expert rookie trophy, and for the second year, Tim Warnes has won the Ralph trophy for best over 40 Centre rider.

Norwich Vikings won the Championship Club trophy, wrestling the award from the Woodbridge club, who had won the trophy many times previously.

Best regular MX2 expert was Joseph Leeks, with Connor Bunkle finishing as the leading regular MX2 junior.

TOP 6 EXPERTS

Luke Parker	357 points
Shaun Southgate	335
Sam Nunn	247
Ben Cole	203
Will Farrow	200
Joseph Leeks	185

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

Norwich Viking	717 points
Woodbridge	636
Halstead	475
Diss	470
Norfolk/Suffolk	419
Sudbury	40

TOP 6 JUNIORS

Charlie Nudds	350 points
Connor Bunkle	302
Shane Lock	272
Joe Hall	255
Tim Warnes	228
Finley Jarvis	221

EXPERT ROOKIES

185
106
29
27

ACU Eastern MX Championship 2023

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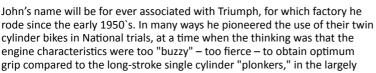
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It would be quite wrong of me to say I personally knew Johnny Giles, who died last September at the age of 92, but many years ago, I was privileged to have a long conversation with him, in his van about Triumph Tiger Cubs, I think the venue was the excellent Sudbury venue at Gt Cornard.

John Giles Obituary

'Sidge' Kenny





muddy National events of those days. His spoken policy of dealing with the mire was to "burn" his way through! A sight well worth the seeing.



However John did also compete on the smaller Triumph machines from the 'Terrier' based, trials models up to the successful 'Cub' and then a larger, bored out single which he scrambled to some success. Nonetheless, his name in trials, scrambles, (motocross) and the long distance International trials, where he represented his country many times and won several gold medals, was made on the bigger capacity twins. John had an astonishing long riding life, right into his middle 80's and additionally, as I seem to recall, due to an accident at work, he only had the sight of one eye! This added to another admission I must make, for he lapped me twenty-one (yes. 21!) times in

the 1963, Motorcycle Mechanics 100 mile scramble, held at Pirbright, simply emphasises a most extraordinary man in motorcycle – or any, sport.

Going back to the conversation, we had, I had nervously gone up to him in the Cornard paddock to ask how Triumph could make their works bikes run so cleanly on the then notorious Lucas "energy transfer" ignition system. He was very helpful and very frank about the differences in the works bikes and those sold to people like me! Sorry, as I am over his demise, I look on cheerful, approachable John, as a very great rider and essentially nice man who had time for people and in a highly eventful life in motorcycle terms, also closely achieved the "ton", age-wise.

As a tribute to the late Johnny Giles, we have uploaded an interview with him to the ACU Eastern website at https://www.easternacu.org/2017/FilmArchive/

This was filmed at the 2016 Classic Motocross DeNations event held at Ballyblack Northern Ireland, and John talks about his time racing with legendary film star Steve McQueen and Bud Ekins who as we know was the actual rider who performed that iconic fence jump in the world war two movie "The Great Escape".

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'A' Class Trials Championship Round Middleton Pit Clive Dopson

On Sunday September 24th Wymondham and District MCC ran their John Charley Trophy Trial at Middleton Pit, near Kings Lynn, as the fifth round of the 2024 Eastern Centre A Class championship. The sections were set out using both the rocky end and the sandy end of the large pit to suit the mostly experienced and capable entry. The club was pleased to have a full complement of observers in place before the start time at this unique to Eastern Centre venue. Most of the 10 sections rode well and took a wide selection of marks and there were very few fives showing that all the sections were rideable for each of the classes.

It was section 10, with the ascent of a steep, deep gully, to be followed by an equally steep drop-down loose sand, then a turn through another deep gully to a final step out that demanded the fullest concentration and effort. All routes took many marks on this section, but it was impressive how few fives were recorded. On top form Andy Nunn, riding his immaculate twin-shock Honda two stroke, cleaned this four times on the white route. Expert A Kieron Tovey matched this achievement of four unpenalized visits, regrettably he was the only Expert A riding, and in completing the event became the 2023 ACU-EC Expert A Trials champion.

At the rocky end of the pit for section five the yellow and red/blue route had to twice traverse a huge pile of rocks before climbing to the ends cards, it was here as the only rider on the yellow route that Kieron Tovey demonstrated his superior skill and confidence on top of the larger rocks.

Andy Nunn went on to win the Intermediate B class, as did Mark Banham in Expert B and Jordan Bailey in Intermediate A, all these classes are still to be decided for 2023 and will go to the last round at Badwell Ash on October 22nd.





Youth rider Daniel Adcock, aged 12, rode the red/blue route with a calm maturity that is making many of the established older riders raise their game.

Photos:

Above- Daniel Adcock (by Roy Ayres) Left: Kieron Tovey (by Peter Yarham)

Yellow route

Expert A Kieron Tovey, Sherco, 23 marks lost

50/50 route

Expert B Mark Banham, TRS, 53 marks lost Scott Baldwin, Beta, 53 marks lost MC

Red/Blue route

Intermediate A, Jordan Bailey, Vertigo, 40 marks lost Stephen Bland, Montesa, 41 marks lost Youth Daniel Adcock, Beta, 64 marks lost

White route

Intermediate B, Andy Nunn, Honda, 4 marks lost Richard Snowden, Bultaco, 10 marks lost Novice Lewis Roper, Montesa, 44 marks lost









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Stroke Association

Ian Preedy Memorial Thumpers Trial inc. ACU Eastern 'C' Class Champs Round 5

Populars Chase Farm, Station Road, Thorrington CO7 8HZ

What 3 Words: downturn.unable.lavished Permit No.: ACU 202061

Sign On: 9.00 am **Start:** 10.00 am

OFFICIALS

Club Steward(s): Chris Chapman

Clerk of the Course: Christopher Mace (Licence 38767)

Child Protection P.o.C.: Christopher Mace
Secretary of the Meeting: Chris Canham

10 The Close, Waldingfield Rd., Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 2QA

Tel: 07963467922 email: chriscanham@outlook.com

Course: Streams, banks, hills, trees & roots

Routes: Red/blue, 50/50 , White Classes: All 'C' class entrants

Awards: As per championship conditions

JURISDICTION

Held under the NSC and the Standing Trials Regulations of the ACU and ACU EASTERN, the 2023 ACU Eastern Trials Championship Conditions, the Supplementary Regulations and any Final Instructions which will have the force of the Regulations. Open to Adult members with an appropriate licence riding Solo machines

ENTRIES

All entries will be via the ACU Online Entry System. Entry Fee £20.00. Entries will not be refunded unless the entry is refused, or on presentation of a doctor's certificate. In the event of cancellation refunds may be made less £3 to cover administration costs.

Entries Open: November 1st 2023 @ 8.00 am Entries Close: November 22nd 2023 @ 11.30 pm

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

Please drive carefully & slowly when passing landowners house, there will be children in the vicinity.

All dogs to be kept on lead.

Recollection Section

Sidge Kenny

Quite apart from our efforts in trying to flog the merits of affiliation to the Centre and ACU to the Great British Public, I found September's Copdock motorcycle show a very absorbing event for a variety of reasons. This show has greatly increased in prominence over the years. Indeed it must be twenty years since I last attended when it was then held, as the name suggests, in Copdock itself.

The organisers, the Copdock Classic Motorcycle Club – not affiliated to the Centre nor ACU - have over the years, clearly generated a standard which has gathered, year-on-year, a high degree of operation which well warranted the current site at Trinity Park, Ipswich – the home of the highly prestigious Suffolk Agricultural Show. Just riding into the set-aside motorbike park showed an impressively large number of motorcycles, my own elderly Moto-Guzzi seeming very humble alongside such exotic machinery. As usual with these experiences, my first thought was: "..there's a few quid still around," but later on, as the show's stature slowly sunk in, I had to consider on top of that: "..why aren't all these riders joining clubs?" The fact is, they quite probably are - but not the ACU affiliated ones.

I've been in our game for many years and during last year's: "Centre Centenary" celebrations and being Centre archivist, I was able to check on the clubs who joined the Eastern Centre ACU, since its reformation from 1939, when the Second World War, obviously prevented any sporting, or with fuel rationing, much riding for anyone – unless you were a Forces dispatch rider. From the time the Centre was reformed in 1946, over the years we had some 115 clubs join the Centre and thereby the ACU. These included several "makes" clubs such as: Triumph, Matchless, and Vincent owners, and several "works" clubs – those made up of members working in a factory such as: 'Ford Sports', or 'Regentone', 'Dagenham Cables' 'London Electricity' even - bizarrely perhaps - another form of transport: 'British Rail'. All implying people in various locations, who owned motorbikes and wanted to join in with others, likewise. It would be from these large ranks of owners that many of the observers, marshals and helpers, stepped forward to help the sport. You only have to browse through the old issues of our "Gazette" - this journal - to see the club reports, several per month, giving out information or arrangements of club runs to help at various sporting events, or to support their own members who were actually taking part. One important factor is that sixty or seventy years ago, there were a great deal more motorcycles ridden on the road. Much less nowadays. Further, it is my theory that our once large body of riders who joined ACU clubs, have over the years and decades, slowly distilled into smaller groups of "specialist" clubs or organisations. The BMF is a good example, catering for the serious, high-milage road rider in particular. Even the AMCA – a Midlands founded group of off-road competition riders, pulled away from the ACU – which itself from 1926, has been mostly dedicated to administering motorcycle sport. "One make" or classic clubs, seem to be flourishing these days - and frankly, why would they bother to join the ACU? Our specific situation seems to rest on those individuals who wish to take part in properly organised motorcycle sport only - and the "club" element is way down their list. They will ride, yet are evidently less keen to assist in administration or organisation. That is the current dilemma which affects our Centre and its clubs. Not only in our Centre – it is a nation-wide problem.



However, there is a change on the way. The electric bikes are coming. Us old petrol heads will gradually have to accept and give way to this potentially irresistible development. Youngsters who will never hold a plug spanner are to be attracted into motorcycle sport, including, crucially, their parents. A whole new generation potentially keen to get involved and to their Mum and Dad, an electric competition motorbike is somehow less of wicked animal than a fossil-fueller.

That's why we were at Copdock - to give out our message and welcome them in.

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Tillett Cup Trial

Cadders Hill, Lyng NR9 5AL

What 3 Words: nets/tutorial/tinny Permit No.: ACU 202025

Sign On: 9.00 am **Start:** 10.30 am

OFFICIALS

Club Steward(s): James Douglas

Clerk of the Course: Barbara Douglas (Licence 70441)

Child Protection P.o.C.: Barbara Douglas
Secretary of the Meeting: Barbara Douglas

The Old Cottages, The Moor

Tel: 07484220349 email: barbara.douglas@hotmail.co.uk

Course: Sand banks and tree roots

Routes: Red/Blue;White;Orange;50/50

Classes: Expert B, Inter, Inter B, Novice, Twinshock,

Pre 65, Youth A,B,C,D,E

Awards: None

National Grid Ref: TG 066174

JURISDICTION

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

FNTRIFS

All entries will be via the ACU Online Entry System. Entry Fee £20 Adult £15 Youth. Entries will not be refunded unless the entry is refused, or on presentation of a doctor's certificate. In the event of cancellation refunds may be made less £3 to cover administration costs.

Entries Open: November 12th 2023, @ 9:00 am Entries Close: December 2nd 2023 @ 12:00 pm

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

2 Man Championship & Youth Race

Report & photos by Paula Day

A brand-new venue for 2-man enduro and youth events courtesy of Sudbury MCC chairman Paul Belton gave the riders plenty to think about with jaw dropping wooded inclines and descents, ditches, a bridge and twisty tilth paths through mixed woodland and the odd tactical log thrown in after fast stretches of stubble. Bathed in gorgeous autumn sunshine all day, the course rode well with end of season competitiveness in abundance.

Alderford Farm didn't disappoint providing a taxing course and plenty of questions for the 49 pairs who started the 2 man event. This was the final round of the Dave Barkshire Eastern Centre Championship with all 4 events counting after the cancellation of 2 earlier rounds. The 4-hour event had a break for lunch & the course was reversed testing the stamina of even the fittest most experienced riders on an unusually warm day for October. Great to see legend Jake Nicholls, making time in his usual flat-out season with his lively entourage to experience the second 2-man event that Sudbury have run this year, finishing second with Joe Blacker on the day in the championship class.



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RESULTS

2 Man - Championship

1st Ben Clark & Jack Nicolaou 2nd Jake Nicholls & Joe Blacker 3rd Connor Hughes & Callum Mccaul 4th Jamie Roper & Will Hughes 5th Jack Sheppard & Toby Morley 6th Ross Taylor & Ed Pooley

2 Man - Expert

1st Stephen Revett & James Yearley 2nd Billy Sargeant & Kelvin Vant 3rd Jack Edwards & Albert Van Dyke 4th Fred Stearn & Shaun Leggett 5th Adam Gordon & Ben Sandford 6th Jonny Finch & Dan Hills

2-Man Clubman

1st Will Belton & Frazer Lawrence 2nd Ethan Johnson & Stanly Delany 3rd Paul Belton & Graham Mays 4th Zak Beards & Tom Sutton 5th Andrew Woods & David Woods 6th Shaun Woodrow & Chris Wright







Main picture: James Yearly Left: Joe Blacker **Below: Jack Edwards**





MOTORCYCLES

YOUTH RESULTS

125cc

1st Jake Last 18 Laps

85cc

Eddie Belton 19 Laps 1st 2nd Jesse Gordon 17 Laps 3rd Rueben Hills 17 Laps 17 Laps 4th Finlay Roper 5th Ben Springett 17 Laps 16 Laps 6th Harry Fordham 7th Jensen Saxby 16 Laps 8th Lucas Groves 15 Laps **Hugo Louis** 14 Laps 9th 10th Jack Cooper 14 Laps







What's on

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

Date	Club	Disc.	Status	Venue	Championship
Nov 5, 2023	Essex & Suffolk Border MCC	Trial	OPEN	Raydon	ACU Eastern 'B' Class Trials Championship Round 6
Nov 12, 2023	Annual Centre Board Meeting	n/a	n//a	Claydon & Barham Community Centre	
Nov 19, 2023	Diss MCC	Enduro	OPEN	Thetford Forest	ACU Eastern Enduro Championship
Nov 26, 2023	Eastern Fourstroke Assoc.	Trial	Centre Restricted	Thorrington	ACU Eastern 'C' Class Trials Championship Round 5
Dec 3, 2023	Norwich Viking MCC	Trial	OPEN	Lyng	
Dec 10, 2023	Southend & DMCC	Trial	OPEN	Poles Wood	ACU Eastern 'D' Class Trials Championship Round 3
Dec 17, 2023	Braintree & DMCC	Trial	OPEN	Beazley End	
Dec 26, 2023	Ipswich MCC	Trial	OPEN	Raydon	
Dec 30, 2023	Sudbury MCC	Extreme Enduro	OPEN	Foxborough Quarry	
Dec 31, 2023	Woodbridge & DMCC	Trial	OPEN	Butley	ACU Eastern 'C' Class Trials Championship Round 6
Jan 1, 2024	Norwich Viking MCC	Trial	OPEN	Lyng	
Jan 7, 2024	Eastern Fourstroke Assoc.	Trial	Closed to Club	Little Bealings	
Jan 14, 2024	Wymondham & DMCC	Trial	OPEN	Great Ellingham	
Jan 28, 2024	Lowestoft Invaders MCC	Trial	OPEN	Aldeby	

Centre Board Meetings 12 November 2023

Please note that due to Remembrance day events elsewhere these meetings will be at a different venue Great Blakenham Village Hall , Mill Lane , Great Blakenham , IP6 0NJ

The hall is located down a narrow lane opposite the Chequers Public House, it is not the Parish Room which is on the corner of the lane but further down the lane on the recreation ground.



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