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CLUB**



NEWSLETTER

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NOVEMBER 1988

IMPORTANT DATES

TRIALS' SPECIAL MEETING Wed, 23rd November, 8.30

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, December 6th, 8 pm, "Grey Horse", Wharf St., Stockport. (off Lancashire Hill)

CHRISTMAS CLUB-NIGHT Tues, December 20th, 8 for 8.30

SEE BELOW FOR FURTHER DETAILS ABOUT ALL THE ABOVE

VIDEO SHOWS Now on TWO nights: 1st AND 3rd Tuesday every month, 9.15

Annual Club Dinner: On a FRIDAY, date to be announced later.

TRIALS' SPECIAL MEETING, at the Swan Hotel, Disley (on the A6, at the New Mills traffic lights).

Phil Munday (Trials Secretary) writes:- Could I please draw the Club's attention to this meeting, which is to discuss the future of our Dave Rowland National Trial. Another purpose is to find suitable candidates for the position of Trials Secretary of the Club.

This meeting is important and I would be grateful if as many Man '17' members as possible would turn up. Non-members are just as important, and anyone who wishes to offer help or advice will be welcome.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

New Rule:- Adoption as Club Rules of the proposed rules shown on page 5.

Proposer:- Vernon Leigh; Seconder:- Denis Taylor (see also "Rights of Way", page 3)

Reports by Club Officials

Election of Club Committee :- The Committee consists of the following:- (present holders in brackets):- President (Ron Weale), Chairman (Denis Taylor), Club Secretary (Edgar Rosenthal), Treasurer (Joan Burgess), Membership Secretary (Bill Bristow), Newsletter Editor (vacant), Enduro Secretary (Jack Chatwood), Trials Secretary (Phil Munday), Social Secretary (Peter Cunningham), Rally Secretary (vacant), Club Captain (vacant), Rights-of-Way Officer (Vernon Leigh), Training Scheme Organiser (Roger Richards), Publicity Officer (vacant) and two committee members (Jim Capper, Brian Starkie).

AUDITORS Two to be elected for 1989

Nominations are needed for all the above (except Club Secretary which is a 2-year office). Nominations -

- can be made at any time up to the start of the AGM.
- must be made by two full members and with consent of the nominee, who must be a full member of at least 12 months standing.
- must be made on the official notice board on show at Club Nights.

All now serving may be reelected if willing. The following may vote at the AGM:- paid-up full members, paid-up full youth members, vice-presidents, honorary life-members.

CHRISTMAS CLUB-NIGHT Peter Cunningham (Social Secretary) writes: All members and their partners are welcome, we look forward to seeing you there. There will be duo singers and a free buffet.

PRESIDENT

Ron Weale writes:- Our Secretary asked that the Committee should make a contribution to this Newsletter which gives me the opportunity to thank all '17' members for their support during my years on the '17' Committee. I now feel that the time has come for me to step down and let new blood into the '17'. I hope you go from strength to strength; please remember we are one of the top clubs in the ACU and we must keep it there. To my successor I wish a happy term in office. Again, thank you.

CHAIRMAN

Denis Taylor writes:- After a long time without a Newsletter Edgar and I thought it about time we had one so here it is. Many thanks to the members who have supplied us with material, we hope you enjoy reading it.

My term as chairman has almost come to an end now and I hope that the next elected person, male or female, gets as much enjoyment as I have had over the last two years. Many thanks to the Committee members who have attended all the meetings and supported me. Nice to see Club Nights more interesting, with our Social Secretary, Peter Cunningham, showing video's once a month. These have proved so popular that we have asked him if he could show them every fortnight. Peter is also working with Brian Starkie to put on the Xmas party for us again - thanks fellas, the last one was great.

Congratulations to our team, both riders and support crews, for their efforts in the ISDE in France. I think Ian Ruffley has only just about recovered from his aches and pains.

Sorry to see Jeremy Wall break his leg in the same place again; poor lad, he has lost a lot of time off work over the past year. Dave Farndell has recently had major surgery on his shoulder, hope this proves successful when all the slings and bandages are removed. I hope you both recover soon.

Finally, please all try to make a special effort to attend the forthcoming AGM. Last year we had to delay the start until enough members had arrived. This is your chance to air your views and comments. The Club can only survive with your help, so come along and play an active part, if only once a year.

Edgar Rosenthal (Club Secretary) writes:- Any points I might have wanted to make have been fully covered by others. I thank members for their support during the year and for their contributions to this Newsletter. Several of them claim, quite falsely, that they have written their contribution under duress.

TREASURER

Joan Burgess writes:- The club's finances have been in a healthy state for the last few years (to my knowledge), so much so that it was decided at the beginning of this year to subsidise members' tickets to the Annual Dinner and Awards Presentation in an effort to restore some of the funds to the members. A TV set and a video-recorder (second-hand) have been bought and put to good use on Club Nights. The Brinks made a healthy profit and membership subscription income, although down on previous years, is still fairly healthy. The Club made a donation to our ISDE riders by paying half their entrance fee. As you will see at the AGM there will be a good balance to carry forward to 1989.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Bill Bristow writes:- Membership is down for '88 on '87; the reasons are hard to find. Most of the membership consists of long-standing Club stalwarts. This has been topped up with a few new Enduro riders, which is always encouraging. From the Trials side most of the members are sporting members, a phenomenon caused by the number of clubs a rider has to join to enter Trials. It is good to see some road riders at the Club, mostly retired Enduro riders. Perhaps the reintroduction of the Newsletter will help in 1989. The introduction of video sessions, run by Peter Cunningham, has been popular; publicity for it in the Newsletter may encourage additional members to join in 1989.

TRIALS

Phil Munday (Trials Secretary) writes:-

Dear Club Members,

Just a word or three about this year's Trials scene at Man '17'. The turnout for all trials has been good and with some more new blood we have a good basis for better things in the future. We still have one more Trial left this year on Boxing Day at the new land acquired for our use by Ron Hulae. It will be a damn good day-out, with drinks at the 'Shady Oak' afterwards. Lastly, thanks to my happy band of helpers for the help I have received over the year. Happy trialling.

Future Trials:-

26-12-88 Boxing Day Madness; 22-1-89 Dead Easy; 27-3-89 Hartle*; 1-5-89 Dead Easy; 29-5-89 Dead Easy; 19th OR 25th June 89 Dead Easy; 2-7-88 Dave Rowland (National); 8-7-88 Hawks Nest; 17-9-89 Simister*; 12-11-89 Fisher*; 4-12-89 Northern Experts (Regional). All the Trials are open-to centre for wider. Trials starred (*) are Clubmen Road-Trials.

Feet-Up Stuff by Ken Roberts

Next year looks like being quite exciting for the feet-up fraternity.

Plans are afoot to run three separate types of event. Firstly everyone will be glad to know that the infamous Dead Easy Trials are back with a 3-event series. There's also the traditional "Hawks Nest" Saturday-thrash for old folks/old bikes and old die-hards, like me and Rick Stewart, who like our sections on the easy side.

For the more skilled clubmen we're putting on traditional road trials with the "Martle", "Simister" and "Fisher" sporting events. These will give good reasons to tax and insure now compulsorily car-taxed trials-irons.

The stars still get a better deal with us than with most clubs, the "Rowland" and "N.Experts" providing sought-after crowns, in exchange for beating the best, in real national bike-bashing doos.

ENDURO

Jack Chatwood writes:- 1988 has been a very good year for the Enduro side of the Club. The Club championship's new format seems to have worked well, as the Clubman Trophy could still be won by either of two people with one round, the Ceri, to go.

Andy Turner has the upper hand with 7 finishes out of 7 starts but Dave Green could overtake him if he finishes the Ceri with few marks lost AND Andy does not finish.

Experts competition has been quiet due to the cost of taking part in the ISDE.

The Novice class has been won by Matthew Holmes, a new face in the Club; he is uncatchable with three good finishes and one round to go. The same goes for Ian Burgess in the Intermediate class. The new fourstroke class has not been well supported with only Peter Lockwood finishing one event.

The ISDE in France was a fairly successful event for the Man'17' team. Excellent support and an excellent course enabled myself, and Ian Ruffley by the skin of his teeth, to get to Day 6 and a hard-earned bronze medal. Carl Roebuck was unfortunate to break his frame on the Wednesday and, although it was rewelded on Thursday morning, the severity of Thursday's course and the tightening-up of time made Carl's task impossible. The Club finished 48th from 82 club teams.

Going to next year, I will be standing again for the position of Enduro Secretary and will be putting forward a Club Championship similar in format to this year's and using the same events but with the addition of the Snowrun. Entrants must be full Club Members and must fill-in a registration form to enter. These will be available from 1st January.

I hope Club members will support the Brinks (23rd July) as they have in previous years and put back into the sport what they take out in other events.

RALLYING

Roger Richards writes:-

A motorcycle rally usually starts with inscription from midday on Friday. After inscribing you find your spot and set up tent for the weekend. A rally site is usually a field near a pub or club with a bar with food or with a caterer on site. It is usually run by invite only to the rally.

Friday night is just arriving, meeting other rallyists and friends in the bar having a few drinks or until you fall down.

Saturday morning: an organised run to a place of interest, then back to the site for silly games on the field, i.e. tug-of-war, welly throwing, slow riding or any other games somebody can think of. There are awards for each game and for longest distance travelled, male and female, biggest club turn-out and Best Bike on Site. On Saturday evening in the bar, they have the award presentations, a raffle and often a disco or group. The bar usually has an extension as well at night.

On Sunday morning, after a good night's sleep, when you eventually get up and breakfast or whatever, you break camp and head for home and think of the next rally.

National Rally 1988

Peter Potts, Scott Jones and Geoff Winstanley

all won Special Gold Awards. Congratulations on a great effort. A full account by Geoff Winstanley will appear in the next issue.

RIGHTS OF WAY

Vernon Leigh writes:- Hello, Good Evening and Welcome - Date Line: 8-11-88, time 10-45 pm. Instructions from ER: "write 200 words for Newsletter in the next ten minutes.":-

This year all may have appeared quiet on the R-o-W front but behind the scenes there have been an awful lot of technical meetings. I will not bore you with all the details, but I must say many thanks to ER and Geoff Bostock for all their support and help this year. I also ask you to support the Man.'17'/TRF code of conduct for trail riders (see last page), as it will surely help to preserve our rights for future users.

Attractions in forthcoming Newsletters:-

- a detailed account of the National Rally by Geoff Winstanley
- a diatribe against chains by Rick Stewart
- memories of on and off-road motorcycling in Derbyshire and the Highlands half a century ago, by Rick Stewart from notes made by his late father.

Letter to the Editors

Dear Full Trials Member,

Are Norman Eyre and Ken Roberts really the only persons who can lay out trials sections and accept the responsibilities of Clerk of the Course for a major event ?

Were the Man '17' trials riders who rode at the Inter-Club Trial at Rough Heys Quarry full members ?
How many trials riders could produce a competition licence if asked to do so ?

Do trials riders really care about the Manchester '17' Club or shall we just forget about 'em ?
Are Trials a viable proposition considering entry fees, costs and awards and considering that a recent push-cycle event at Rough Heys drew 200 entries at £5, plus club membership ?

It would be most appreciated if the majority of riders could be encouraged to assist our hard-pressed officials and help stop what appears to be a real threat to the Trials side of our Club.

Yours,
Gordon Ruffley

As a result of circumstances outside our control some current members may not receive this Newsletter by post. We ask them to bear with us. If you know of any member in that position please let us know. In any case, extra copies will be available at the Club.

We very much appreciate the contributions we have received for this Newsletter and we are sorry that some have had to be held over for future issues.

The Club does not necessarily agree with all the opinions expressed by our contributors.

Where to contact Secretaries

Membership: Bill Bristow, 397 Manchester Rd., Droylsden, Manchester. Tel: 061-301-4918

Enduro: Jack Chatwood, 104 Warwick Rd., Heaton Moor, Stockport, SK2 4NL

Trials: Phil Munday, 39 Walnut Ave., Weaverham, Northwich. Tel: 0606 853471

Social: Peter Cunningham, 061-456-5701

Road Training: Roger Richards, 061-456-4941

Club: Edgar Rosenthal, 192 Compstall Rd, Rowley, Stockport SK6 4JF. Tel:061-427-1755

TRAIL RIDERS CODE OF CONDUCT

Manchester '17' M.C.C. - Trail Riders Fellowship

ADVICE TO MOTORCYCLE RIDERS RIDING ON R.U.P.s etc.

Motorcyclists are advised to take care, and to be aware that other users, i.e. family walkers, horses, cyclists or even other motorcyclists may be using the highway. Follow the T.R.F. Code of Conduct!

SPECIAL PROCEDURES WHERE THE ROUTE IS NARROW OR THE VIEW AHEAD IS RESTRICTED:-

- the leading motorcyclist should approach bends on the route slowly and sound his horn to alert other users.
- if other users are met going the opposite way, the whole group must STOP, move if necessary to a position allowing the other users to pass and switch-off engines.
- if other users are met going in the same direction, all machines must STOP and switch off engines and wait until the other users have cleared that part of the route.

Our local R.U.P.s are under threat!

USE ONLY VEHICULAR RIGHTS OF WAY

Trail riding is only legal on unsurfaced public roads. It is an offence to use Bridleways and Footpaths without permission. If in doubt check with the County Council or TRF.

KEEP TO DEFINED WAYS ACROSS FARMLAND

Wheels can damage crops and grass. Wandering from the road onto farmland or moorland is trespassing. If in doubt, ask.

GIVE WAY TO WALKERS, HORSES, AND CYCLISTS

They have right of way. On narrow lanes, stop and switch-off engines.

FASTEN ALL GATES

Except those tied open for farming purposes. An open gate invites animals to stray endangering themselves, crops and traffic.

TRAVEL AT A SAFE SPEED

Ride at a reasonable speed taking regard of conditions and visibility. This should not exceed the voluntary maximum of 25mph.

RIDE QUIETLY

Machines must be effectively silenced. Use the throttle with discretion as exhaust noise can offend.

HONOUR THE COUNTRY CODE

Respect the countryside and those who live, work and recreate in it.

Issued by the Trail Riders Fellowship, Sonwell House, Youlgreave, Derbys.
Approved by the ACU-BMF Countryside Committee.

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FROM TEAM SLUG.