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Full Chat

The magazine of the

Corsham Schoolboy S...

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Dear Members,

Well boys, by the time you get to reading this letter you should at least have had your first practice of the season, or maybe a meeting will be over and you will have even have made your debut by winning every race or broken down in the first lap and are wondering if it really is all worthwhile. Still, it is a full time hobby (for Dads as well as lads) and that is what really counts.

Portsmouth Club ran a meeting in February which was a very hard track, in a chalk pit with a steep decline (most people had trouble in walking up it) so how to ride down was the question but all members completed the full circuit very successfully. Well done boys.

The Severn Valley Club ran their first meeting of the season on the 17th March which was supported by many of our members dying to get the season started - Kevin Marshall, Chris Bryan, Francis Parker, Pip Peasegood and many others did well to figure high in the results for the Senior and Experts. Bart Toogood, Paul Collins, Andy Sugg, Keith Turner to name but a few did extremely well in the Intermediate class, and the Junior class was well represented by Richard Hughes, Martin Lake, Robert Shears and Alan Rossiter. Well done boys. Several of our old schoolboys have managed to get rides in various parts of the county and they all have put up a tremendously good show. We are all proud to be able to say he is an ex-Corsham schoolboy member. Keep it up boys.

A Skittle Evening held at Oldland organised by Mr. & Mrs. Smith was attended by about 20 members who enjoyed several legs of skittles, refreshments, etc. Thank you for all your trouble Mr. & Mrs. Smith, it was appreciated.

At the last Committee meeting one item on the agenda was "Boys riding in Adult Scrambles and continuing in Schoolboy Scrambling, should this be allowed?" It was proposed by Mr. Meaden and seconded by Mr. Tench that there should be a rule to stop this completely. It was decided that you should vote. Please use the ballot form in this magazine to vote and return the form to me or any committee member today.

We regret any inconvenience caused by the change of course from Burton to Attworth, but the course was water-logged. We hope to get there at a later date. Please check venues each week as at this time of year it is difficult to be sure of conditions. Your next meeting will be on the 7th April, check race board for venue.

Looking forward to an entertaining and enjoyable new season.

Len Shears (Chairman).

* * * * *

Andrew first became interested in Scrambling when he used to ride with his old friend Andy Taylor. They used to ride Andy's old Bantams around the paddock, broadsiding and practicing wheelies. Andy taught him everything he knows and he would like to say "thank you" Andy.

He started riding motor bikes about four years ago, but it was not until three years ago that he joined the C.S.S.C., straight into 'A' Group on an old 125 cc Bantam, (in the good old days as Dad would say) then they bought another Bantam this time a 175 cc but not having a lot of luck with this, it was decided to change it for the good old faithful Tiger Cub.

He had a fair amount of success with this, but it had the rather expensive habit of blowing big ends. After three new big ends Dad decided it was time to lash out on a new bike and Andy is now the proud owner of a 125 cc Suzuki and Dad says he has never regretted a penny of it as he can now walk around with his hands in his pockets instead of running everywhere with his tools doing 'on the spot' repairs.

Apart from Dad's interest in scrambling, sister Cheryle who is fifteen, is also an ardent supporter as it gives her a chance to make a lot of friends of both sexes she says and Andrew knows several scramblers who asked Santa if they would find her in their Xmas stocking. Mum too is another keen supporter as is the Thorpe's latest addition to the family their new mascot Pèpè the Yorkshire Terrier.

Andy has nearly a full season left with C.S.S.C. and then will move up with the A.C.U. He has no fixed ideas about what bike he wants to ride in Senior Scrambling but it could well be a 250 cc Bultaco.

In his spare time he works as a mechanic's apprentice so it looks as if that's the way his career is going. But right now he is looking forward to a successful season with the lads. Best of luck Andy.

* * * * *

News for Dads of little lads:

I understand from Cross-Country Runner, Reg Hughes that 50 cc Suzuki road bikes can be found now for around £8 - £12. Tyres £5 - £6 then with a new pair of handlebars, ball end levers, twist grips and number plates, coupled with a bit of work and determination, junior can soon be in the saddle. Reg has a workshop manual and is willing to give any verbal help he can (surely with two 'C' Group lads he must be an expert). So if you need help with 50 cc Suzuki's spares or information give him a ring at Bristol 670450 as to use Reg's own words, "I help anyone who can help themselves."

* * * * *

PRACTICE RUN.

All hello's have been said.
We shall miss Gordon and Fred.
Now I'll climb up the hill,
Is it my marshalling point still?
All 'A' boys on the line,
My, don't they look fine,
All "rarin" to go,
Some fast and some slow.
Now watch it you chaps
you'll get plenty of laps.

Next we have the 'B' Group,
they're a great little troupe,
they leap into the scrum,
with a sly glance at Mum.
They'll be right round the track
before you can say "Jack".

Here come the little 'C' lads
with some help from their Dads.
When put to the test
They're as good as the rest.
All take to the hills never
minding the spills.
Well that's all I will say,
Now have a good day.

Joyce Brezeszkiewicz.
(Mrs. No.11).

OUT & ABOUT.

On 24th February Portsmouth Schoolboy Scramble Club held their first meeting. Corsham was well represented by Kevin Marshall, Keith Ree and Jim Parker in 'A' Group, Mark Webb and Martin Lake in 'B' Group and Robert Shears in 'C' Group, and we understand most of them got to the results. Well done lads keep the Corsham flag flying. Bad luck on the lads who had their entries returned.

So to the 10th March, the weather I understand kept several of our lads from reaching the Ringwood meeting, but however, Andy Sugg on his new Yamaha, and Nicky Toms on his new Maico, were there to represent Corsham and Severn Valley and they too finished well up in the results.

Again it was travelling time on 17th March when quite a lot of our members went to Severn Valley's meeting at Newent. The course was not what we have come to expect but after a few races we found that lads do adapt to the conditions and a very enjoyable day was had by all.

* * * * *

We hear another of our lads has gone to join the adults, namely Andrew Oswell (ex No. 113). I understand Andrew has taken delivery of his new 250 cc Montessa. Good Luck and don't forget we eagerly await the comics for news not only of Andrew, but all ex-Schoolboys.

* * * * *

OLD BOYS PAGE

Hello Folks,

Well here we go again with a bit of news about some of our ex-schoolboys. A little while ago I heard a whisper that the mag is for the schoolboys and not for the ex boys. Well, this may be so, but until your editor tells me there is no more room in the mag for this column I will try and keep all my friends in the Corsham club informed. One thing I would like to say and that is, unless Freda gets news from you, the members, it does make her job rather difficult, so come on let's have a few letters about the little things that you may see but she doesn't.

Anyway, back to the ex-lads. I was so very pleased to see so many of you at Yarley to see the boys ride, but disappointed that they could not give you a better show. This of course was no different to so many other riders there, even many of the experts could not manage to get up the hill. However, none of our lads disgraced themselves and some of them even did better than the more experienced riders. Two of our lads, Neil Hudson and Graham Noyce did better than most whilst Chris Clarke, ex-No.31 had a second in his final gaining 2 points towards expert status. Philip was doing very well and won his first heat but when it came to the final, the dreaded hill claimed yet another victim. Other lads riding and doing equally as well as some of the other more experienced riders were, Steve Daniels, Colin Chapman and Steve Ball.

The next meeting when some of these lads got together was Pirbright in Surrey. This was an all junior meeting with 200 entrants. Our lads riding were, Steve Daniels, Steve Ball and Phil. Steve Daniels had had luck when his swinging arm broke and put him out of the racing. Steve Ball rode well and had some good positions in heats. Phil rode well getting two seconds in finals and bringing away 4 expert points.

Entries are not easy to get so none of our latest ex-boys got a ride at Somerton the following week, but the experts did, and Neil and Graham were in fine form. Man of the day was undoubtedly Neil Hudson. With experts there such as Badger Goss, Rob Taylor and a host of others, Neil gained a 4th, 5th and 3rd in the Moto-Cross legs to finish a well deserved best overall. If Badger does read this I'm sorry to say he was beaten but I will say that Neil won on a Maico. O.K. Badge?

On to the Patchquick the Sunday after, this is the event where that magnificent trophy that Bryan Goss won 12 months ago and brought to our Xmas Party to show us all. Badger (Hell! he's getting more mention than our schoolboys) won it again this year but not without a fight. Anyway back to the ex-boys. None of our latest boys were here but amongst the boys that were Schoolboy trained were, Dave Wells, who won both supporting races, Mike Church, and Martin Davis, both ex-Corsham, and Neil and Graham.

The last meeting when a good turn out of ex-Corsham and other Schoolboy clubs were present was Ringwood all junior

meeting. Amongst the 217 riders were, Steve Ruddle, Andrew Carter 250 AJS, Roy Turner 250 Bulto, Andy Taylor 125 Rickman, Andy Oswald 250 Montessa, Steve Daniels 400 Susq. Another Andrew Carter 250 Rickman, Chris Clarke 400 Maico, Steve Ball 400 Susq, Phil Davis 460 Husky, John Zebedee 380 Greaves, Colin Chapman 250 Montessa, all ex-Corsham. G.Knight 250 Rickman ex-Severn Valley, Steve Breaker 250 Rickman, Colin Poole 410 AJS and Clifford 410 AJS. Nigel Revell 250/500 C.C.M. Ringwood ex-boys and Pat Row 250 Susq. from Horsham. Quite a line up.

Amongst our lads that did well was, Roy Turner who won his 250 heat and came sixth in the unlimited final. Steve Daniels had good placings in heats. Andy Oswald placed well in his 250 heat as did Colin Chapman. Philip had 3rd in the heat and 2nd in the final of the unlimited and 3rd in the heat and 4th in final of the 500 cc race getting 2 more points and a cup. Nigel Revell from Ringwood won the 500 cc final and in fact all the ex-schoolboy lads were always somewhere in the running. The meeting finished with Andy Taylor on his 125 Rickman coming 4th in the non-winners final. Chris Clarke was run over by someone who caused quite a bit of damage to his bike, but fortunately after St. John's treatment Chris was O.K. but unable to ride the rest of the day.

Well folks I do get carried away when I start writing for your mag so I will sign off for now and hope to be with you next month. Wishing you all a good season to come.

Gordon Davis.

* * * * *

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