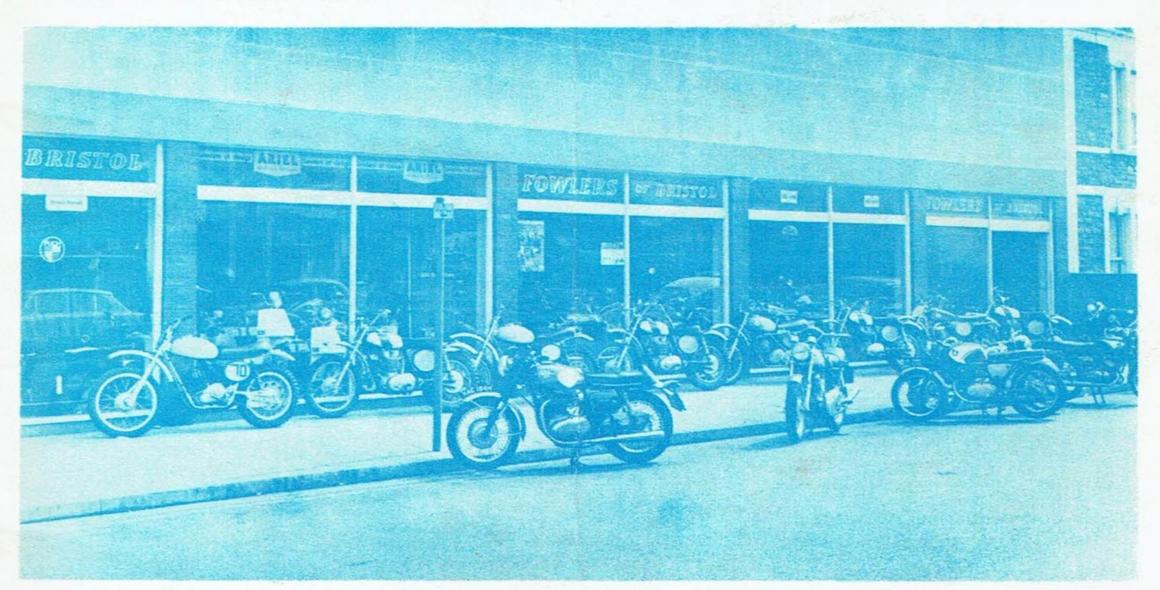


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WESSEX CENTRE

FEBRUARY, 1973.

No. 392

GAZETTE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY



EDITOR: J.E.WEBB, 1, Whitbourne Farm, Corsley, nr. Warminster, Wilts. Chapmanslade 204.

All communications must be addressed to the Editor. The closing date for Editorial and advertising matter is the 12th of each month, but clubs are recommended to book space for regulations by the 10th of each month, for the following month.

All copy typed if possible please at the request of the Printer. Advertising Rates will be supplied upon application to the Editor.

The Centre disclaims all responsibility for the views, expressed by contributors to the "Gazette".

Report on the Board Meeting

REPORT ON THE BOARD MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 9th JANUARY 1973 AT THE PORTER BUTT, BATH.

Noise Meter. Further to the report in the January Gazette it was pointed out that this was for checking and recalibration. The possibility of calling for checks to be made under more closely controlled conditions than those experienced in actual racing was being considered. There was no intention to abandon effort to reduce the noise.

Betting at Motorcycle Events. The Centre were not in favour in changing the rule which prohibited this.

Centre Boundaries. It had been reported that a review of these would probably be made by H.Q.

Gradings of Green Lanes. The Map of Wiltshire showing proposed changes in gradings were now available for inspection and Norman Smith of B.M.F. had written to urge action. Mr.Broadbery Sayer of Gillingham, Dorset, who had been covering the problem in South Wiltshire attended the Meeting and pointed out that the withdrawal of permission for motorcycles to use a green lane (RUPP) might seriously affect the planning of trials courses. Minety Vale and West Wilts were checking their local maps and an active subcommittee was to be appointed at the next Board Meeting.

League Trial 25th February. As no offers to provide a course for this had been made it appeared that this event would not be run but fortunately the Frome Club offered their course. This offer was greatly appreciated. Several Clubs had been unable to volunteer due to the proximity of their own events.

1

Gazette. Jim Webb's offer to take over the Editorship had been accepted by the Emergency Committee, and it was agreed that the charge would be 90p per year.

Mrs. Kibby's Offer of a Trophy to be awarded annually to the best newcomer in the Kickham Trial was accepted with thanks.

Centre Championships. The Comps Committee would discuss changes in the rules for these.

Centre Dinner. A provisional booking had been made at Top Rank for 1973. No reply had been received to the Centre's letter of comment after the 1972 Dinner. In contrast to previous years it was reported that only £4 ticket money was still outstanding.

Wessex Scramble 29th April 1973. The Tor Club suggested race programme was approved.

General Competition Rule 142. IRREGULAR ENTRIES AND ABSENTEES.

"Any driver who has entered or who has been nominated for a competition and does not drive therein, but drives or has been nominated to participate in another competition at another meeting on the same day shall be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of Chapter IX of these Rules.

Any driver who has entered or has been nominated for a competition and does not present himself at the start shall be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of Chapter IX of these Rules unless he can justify his absence. In the case of International Competitions see the International Sporting Code".

FUTURE EVENTS

February 1973	
4	Tor Scramble 0* at Yarley Kingswood Ken Avery Trial 0
10	Mendip Vale Trial C Minety Vale Trial C
11	Wilts Border—Border Cup Trial 0* North Somerset Timed Trial
18	Bristol M.C.C. DON MOUNTSTEVENS TRIAL R.R. B.S.S.A. Timed Trial C
25	LEAGUE TRIAL. FROME.
March 1973	
4	Bath Spring Trophy Trial O
11	Mendip Vale Traders Trophy Trial 0*
17	KICKHAM TROPHY TRIAL. NATIONAL.
	2

INSCRIPTION FEES

Those Clubs who have not paid the Inscription Fees for their 1973 events are reminded that they are now very much overdue and that any further delay in paying them may lead to withdrawal of permits.

The amounts due for each event are as follows:-

Closed to Club **Trials** 25p 50p Restricted to Centre

Speed Events Scrambles or Grass Tracks, closed to Club or restricted to Centre £2.00

Cheques for the total amount due with details of the events involved should be sent to The Permit Secretary:-

L.Nott, 15 Midford Road, Combe Down, Bath.

IRREGULAR ENTRIES AND ABSENTEES

The above is the heading of No.142 of the General Competition Rules of the Auto Cycle Union and all Club Members would be well advised to take note of the full text of the rule which is given below.

The Board and the A.C.U. take a serious view of any rider who enters two events on the same day and could impose penalties of reprimand, fine or suspension.

You will also note that a rider who makes an entry and does not compete must justify his absence to the organisers. Serious penalties can be imposed for failure to do so.

Wessex Centre riders should note that one of our neighbouring Centres applies automatic suspension for failure to give a good reason for absence from an event so it would be advisable to get into the habit of writing to the organisers immediately you find that you are unable to compete.

Club Notes

THE BATH & WEST OF ENGLAND M.C.

When the time comes to inscribe these notes it often feels as if the best thing would be to ask the worthy Editor to arrange six inches (or 150 m.m.) of blank space in the magazine under the clubs heading so that the response to the notes was exactly equal to the content thereof but, as we enter a new Gazette year obviously the hope is that things will improve.

A better paid scribe than myself (one R.G.V.) has recently touched upon the high costs now involved in "schoolboy scrambling". This fact is nothing new but with some fond parents willing and able to pay vast sums for quite exotic machines for their lads to ride on (I advisedly did not use the word compete, because when a few only are favourably placed the "also rans" cannot compete in the sense of being in the running for a place, they can only do their best and, in the end become disenchanted with the sport.

My thoughts on this are prompted by a letter I have to answer from a youth club leader who is asked by some of his local lads how they can get into the sport. Quite frankly I am at a loss as how to reply truthfully without

being discouraging. This to me is a matter of much regret as, if the circumstances can be made a little favourable, here is a chance to try to stem the gradual decline in membership as riders cease to carry mulptriple club membership as they try to plug the holes in their pockets.

Elsewhere in this issue will be found the rules and regulations for our Spring Cup Trial for which Dave Roberts is doing his first turn as clerk of the course. He will welcome all possible help on the day, March 4th.

A month earlier the Dinner will be taking place at the Guildhall so the March Gazette will carry a report.

KINGSWOOD M.C.C.

The Club Trial run at Splatts Barn on the 17th December was a little more strenuous than I intended, but the riders seemed happy with the morning's sport which is the main thing, apart from perhaps friend Savage who had the misfortune to bust a chain adjuster almost as soon as he started which meant retirement after about three sub-sections. This was the first trial of the new series, the leading contenders being Mike Fear and Colin Noad, "A" class, Alex Livingstone and Brian Newbury, "B" class, and Rob Crew and John Winton, "C" class. Our entry for this event was smaller than usual, a Western Centre event no doubt attracting some chaps, our Stroud Rob Taylor was, I know, eligible for the Southern Experts on that day. That trip was something of a nightmare, it involved dismantling two machines and somehow loading them into the boot and back seat of a Volvo when a trailer wheel came off on the way down, Rob and Doug Nolan, the other riders arrived with two "kit-form" bikes which were assembled quickly in time for the start. "Didn't they do well"!

Boxing Day, several members made the trip to the "Old Inn". I'm not too sure which has priority, Trial or Inn, some of our observers were in action, the flu bug had reduced their regulars so Farmer Webb was glad of our help. The riders, Rob Stroud Taylor and Olly Price along with our hither-to-mystery rider from Cheltenham, Roger Hands, enjoyed both Trial and Inn, and Roger was in the Awards with the only Novice 1st Class.

President Mellors was Steward, he had private troubles with his gum boots and the Minety mud, sufficient to say several steps were taken minus one boot, strange oaths were uttered dating back to army days! but back at the Inn, tribulations were soon forgotten.

Then onto Frome where the Stroud crowd were again in evidence, the ever cheerful Rob along with the Doctor, and our more local riders, Sec. Fear, Treasurer Andrews, Dennis Wiltshire and Rob Crew, Master Fear gaining a 1st Class Award as did Doug Nolan.

The Scramble side of the Club is brightening up, Steve Humphries, already established in A.C.U. events, tells me his younger brothers are moving up from the schoolboy events, Michael on a 250 Susuki and Andrew on a 400 CZ should, in time, be in the money if their past record is any indication, Mike having been 1971 Schoolboy champion and Andrew likewise in 1969. Meanwhile Steve continues on his faithful Greeves which has brought eleven points toward senior status. We wish them all the luck in the coming season.

Mike Church has, I believe, had the pin removed and is, I'm sure, keener than ever to get started again, make haste slowly at first mate.

At the A.G.M. this evening, there was little change in Officers of the Club. Seems the customers are satisfied, we shall hope to continue our progress in the coming year.

T.T.

NORTH SOMERSET (BRISTOL) MOTOR SPORTS CLUB

The Tanner Trudge on the 17th December gave Ivan a first class and a third best. Martin Bracey had the Motor tighten up on the second part, and John Noble looked like he had been in a Turkish Bath. Terry Phillips managed a few laps, but he appeared a little out of practice, perhaps the boat is taking up more of his time.

The sidecar class saw Geoff Rawlings and Pete Chapman in the chair, but all was in vain, 200 yards from the start, it seized up. The sidecar Timed Trial at Winford saw Dick Flowers sponsoring Martin Bracey, passengered by Ian Shinner on a stretched out scrambles outfit, and although they passed Ivans section five times, they were only credited with two laps. Doug Southcott won a first class award.

Our Wadsworth Trophy Trial at the Bungalow Inn seemed to go downwell, but we are afraid that none of our members managed an award, perhaps they were all assisting in the organisation. The Frome club Trial was greatly improved by the Single sub-sections, at the beginning of the trial with such good planning they could well manage the 30 seconds starting system. Rob Taylor made a brilliant attempt at Radford, but found too much grip at the top and looped it, bending his rear unit into a new U shape in the process. Meanwhile, our Chairman, who was busy riding away and watching at the same time, finished up on his ear.

Please note that at the A.G.M. Bob Bull was elected Secretary, his address, 69 Chelsea Road, Bristol, BS5 6AS now on the telephone, Bristol 554433, and not D.W.Plaster, as printed erroneously in the fixture list for '73. Dave (Ethel) Woolcock is again treasurer, and would like all you nice members to pay him 50p per person for the privilege of belonging to the illustrious NSMSC. Ivan Manning continues for the second year of his two year stint as Chairman, other Committee members as follows, Award Secretary, D.W.Plaster, General members, B.G.Britton, T.Bunn, D.Gunningham, M. Bracey, J.Ball, I.Shinner, B.Francis, J.Noble and N.Rumbold. Thank you to those who were prepared to stand, but unfortunately were not elected. I hope you will not hesitate in standing once again next year.

Our next Time Trial is on February 11th. At Scars Wood, start at 10.30 prompt, which means riders being there at 10.00 at the latest to prepare for the start. There will be a Working party the day before, Saturday 10th first axes away at 2.15 p.m.

WEBB TROPHY TRIAL

MINETY VALE MOTOR CLUB

on SUNDAY, 18th March 1973

Permit No.M415

SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS OF THE WEBB TROPHY TRIAL

Open to drivers of solo machines who are paid up members of clubs in the Wessex Centre A.C.U., and held under the G.C.R.s of the A.C.U. and Standing Rules (1966 Edition).

- OFFICIALS. Wessex Centre Steward: H.Ayres, Club Steward: S.R.Curnock. Clerk of the Course: J.R.Webb, Hayden End Farm, Swindon, Wilts. Machine Examiner: M.Webb, Secretary of the Meeting: C.H.Telling, Royalty Cottage, Minety, Malmesbury, Wilts. Phone Minety 358.
- 2. AWARDS. Webb Trophy for the best performance of the day, and souvenir award, Jack Williams Trophy for the best performance by a Minety Vale member, and souvenir award. 40 Plus Cup for the best performance by a driver over 40 years of age. Special Award for the runner-up to best performance. First Class Awards to the next best 15% finishers. No driver may win more than one award. Cups and trophies to be held for one year.
- 3. ENTRY FEES. Paid up members of Promoting Club (30p) club subscription (75p) other Wessex Centre members 50p (5p) of entry fee is to cover Personal Accident. No entries accepted without completed entry form and correct entry fee. Entry fee returnable only if the event is cancelled or postponed for, more than 24 hours. Entries to reach the Secretary of the Meeting no later than Tuesday, 13th March 1973.
- 4. START. Blunsdon Speedway Stadium, near Swindon. First man 10.31 a.m. Others to follow at one minute intervals.
- 5. COURSE. One or two laps, subject to weather conditions, of a sporting course. All sections will be on private ground.
- 6. SCORING. Dab-1 mark lost. Footing-3 marks lost. Failure-5 marks lost. Clean-no marks lost.
- 7. Machines. Machines will be examined at the start and no machines will be permitted to start if it does not comply with legal requirements in all respects.
- 8. SPECIAL TEST. Furthest round course clean.

MINETY VALE MOTOR CLUB

DRIVER'S NAME (block letters)	on Su	nday, 18th Mar	ch 1973.
ADDRESS		••••••	•••••
REGISTERED MEMBER	CLUB.	NOVICE	······································
MAKE OF MOTOR-CYCLE		NOVICE	Y es/No
ENTRY FEE ENCLOSED		Total	Solo
INDEMNIFICATION		TOtal	••••••

I have read the Supplementary Regulations issued for this meeting and agree to be bound by them and by the General Competition Rules and the Standing Regulations for Trials of the Auto-Cycle Union. In consideration of the acceptance of this, my entry, I agree to save harmless and keep indemnified the promoting Club, the Wessex Centre of the A.C.U., and the Auto-Cycle Union (including the owners or lesses of any land used for this meeting) and their respective officials, servants, representatives and agents from and against all actions, claims, costs, expenses and demands in respect of death or injury to myself, or my passenger howsoever caused arising out of or in connection with my entry or my taking part in this meeting and notwithstanding that the same may have been contributed to or occasioned by the negligence of the said bodies, their officials,

servants, representatives or agents. I declare that whilst taking part in this meeting I have an operative Policy of Insurance covering me against Third Party Risks including Road Traffic Act cover.

I declare that I am over 1	6 years	s of a	ge.			Dat	e		
Signed	Driv	er.		Sign	ed				Parent/Guardian
f an entrant/driver is under arent or Guardian.	18 y	ears	of	age	the	form	must	be	

Mr.Perry, once again you have been fed incorrect information as always. It was not Roger Oxenham who had a spell in Winford Hospital but Geoff Rawlings. Roger was in Frenchay for his spell after his very serious intercentre meeting accident at Folkestone, neither did he break his leg there.

Centre officials and club members note. Three Wessex members have been quite seriously injured, one very seriously, whilst representing the Centre and yet I have never heard a word of condolence or offers of help to cover them whilst only National Insurance money coming in and two of the three were self-employed.

Let's get back to the final part of Mr.Perry's notes (who's the Prince of Waterloo?) I hope Mr.Perry did not imply that the Bristol Grass Track was dangerously dusty from his mutterings he must be an ardent anti-grass track fan. Which Steward should have the authority to call off the event? The A.C.U. steward is only an agent for the Insurance Company and a watchdog for the Racing Committee. He can consult the Club Stewards and then it is generally up to the riders whether to continue or not. As for Mr.Perry attending many dusty meetings this year, I have ridden every week and have only seen three dusty meetings. Our own meeting was not very dusty, certainly not dangerous, although riders were going slower than usual. It was very dusty over the Bridge but the worst was Bridgwater. I cannot recall seeing Mr.Perry at any of these meetings? and when it comes to the point of stopping the meetings, then look in the pickups, vans and on the trailers, the riders themselves decide when to stop. We are not speed crazed clowns. Most of us are married and have children. But then, how does Mr.Perry get his facts? I have not seen him at a grass meeting for a long time, and as I said before, no-one saw him at Hanham.

The Club Presentation Dance clicked O.K. and everybody seemed to enjoy themselves. The B.S.S.A. have tried to book the Group and it was great to listen to a Midlands version of the West Country way of life performed by Cyril Jones and his Wurzels, even though the accordian went on the blink. I must admit it was the first time that I have gotten up to dance for many years and after telling the babysitter that we would be home by 12 o'clock we were witness to some clown rushing around the car park at Yate with a young darling in a shopping trolley at 2 o'clock, home by three o'clock. We have lost the babysitter for good and my head did not stop spinning for at least 30 hours. But what a night!

BRISTOL M.C.C.

Our A.G.M. is over for another year, with the following members holding office. President, John Pearce, Secretary, Ken Blampied, Treasurer, Alan Sharples, Chairman, John Pearce, Club Captain, Phil Steadman, Yours Truly is still in charge of these notes although I have had trouble drying out my deerstalker after last month's Gazette notes of a certain club whose name eludes me at the moment. As this is a family journal I will not tell the anonymous scribe where to stick his 33 1/3% off Ball Races, for if I did he would not be able to foot through a section for the rest of the season.

Enough of the frivolity now otherwise 'Beaverbrook Webb' will have to use his red pen for the first time.

on SUNDAY, 11th MARCH 1973.

Wessex Centre Permit M417

Star Trial.

SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS OF THE TRADERS TROPHY TRIAL, restricted to drivers of solo motor cycles who are members of clubs in the Wessex Centre, and held under the Standing Rules for Trials and G.C.R's of the A.C.U.

- OFFICIALS. Centre Steward: Mr. Valentine, Club Stewards: L.Smith & R.Rutherford. Secretary of the Meeting: D.Smith, 13 Westbury Crescent, Oldmixon Estate, Weston-Super-Mare. Machine Examiner: D.Smith.
- 2. AWARDS. TRADERS TROPHY AND REPLICA to be held for one year only for the best performance. LOXLEY CUP & REPLICA to be held for one year only, for the second best performance. ANDREW JOHN CUP & REPLICA to be held for one year only for the third best performance. COMMITTEE CUP & REPLICA to be held for one year only for the best performance by a club member. NOVICE AWARD to the best driver who had not previously won an award in an open to centre trial, league trials excepted. FIRST CLASS AWARDS to the next best 1 0% finishers, no driver to win more than one award.
- 3. ENTRY FEES. WESSEX CENTRE members. 60p MENDIP VALE members. 50p ENTRIES will close FIRST POST WEDNESDAY MARCH 6 1973. Each entry must be accompanied by an entry fee.
- 4. START. WEBBINGTON COUNTRY CLUB CAR PARK, Nr. LOXTON, between Axbridge and Weston-Super-Mare. First man away 10.30 a.m. Others at one minute intervals. NOTE. Any driver found riding around the car park unnecessarily or riding over the turfed banks WILL BE EXCLUDED from the event.
- 5. COURSE MARKING. One lap of approximately 15 miles, a route card will be issued at the start, and drivers MUST follow the markers over the cross country routes, and not wander over the grazing field, and PRIVATE TARMAC DRIVES.
- 6. TIES. In the event of a tie the driver farthest around without loss of marks will be deemed the winner.

ENTRY FORM.

INDEMNIFICATION.

I have read the Supplementary Regulations issued for this meeting and agree to be bound by them and by the General Competition Rules and the Standing Regulations for Trials of the Auto-Cycle Union. In consideration of the acceptance of this, my entry, I agree to save harmless and keep indemnified the promoting Club, the Wessex Centre of the A.C.U., and the Auto-Cycle Union (including the owners or lessees of any land used for this meeting) and their respective officials, servants, representatives and agents from and against all actions, claims, costs, expenses and demands in respect of death or injury to myself, or my passenger howsoever caused arising out of or in connection with my entry or my taking part in this meeting and notwithstanding that the same may have been contributed to or occasioned by the negligence of the said bodies, their officials, servants, representatives or agents. I declare that whilst taking part in this meeting I have an operative Policy of Insurance covering me against Third Party Risks including Road Traffic Act cover.

I declare that I am over 18 years of a	ge. Date	
SignedDriver.	Signed	Parent/Guardian

Minety Vale's Presidents Trial on Boxing Day had a quality if not quantity entry which brought out the spectators, I haven't seen so many at one section since the International Trial last year.

Mike Perry's runner Brian Higgins won the trial with our man from Filton finishing a very creditable fourth considering he was suffering from the after effects of the 'flu.

The Frome star trial was a very good event, judging from reports from riders who took part, with Chris finishing joint third and gaining some more valuable points. Mike Naish complete with new Bulto missed the Novice Award by one mark. One thing that struck me when reading the results, why didn't you have a second tie decider Frome? Or perhaps a tie decider common to all centre trials is urgently needed.

In 18 days time or so, depending on when you receive your gazette our Don Mountstevens Trial will be run. Richard Jones is in charge once again and I am sure he will be pleased to welcome anyone with an offer of help. The Regulations for this event were posted to riders rather late, this was mainly due to having to wait almost a month for a form to come from the A.C.U., remarking to Les Nott about this delay I was surprised to hear that Les has been waiting three months for a new permit book, so perhaps I was given the express delivery service, A.C.U. style.

Finally the Club has changed its meeting place, it now meets at the BLUE BOY INN, LOCKLEAZE, with business meetings on the first and third Wednesdays in the month and a social evening on the fourth Wednesday in the month. Why not come along to voice your opinion, if not voice your opinion just to pay your sub.

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THE BATH & WEST OF ENGLAND M.C.

on SUNDAY 4th MARCH 1973

Open-to-Centre Permit No. M21

Held under the General Competition Rules of the A.C.U. together with the Supplementary Rules and Regulations. A.C.U. Standing Rules will apply. Restricted to members of clubs affiliated to the Wessex Centre of the A.C.U. riding solo or sidecar machines.

- OFFICIALS. Stewards: Wessex Centre E.Parker: Club J.Parkin: Clerk of the Course: D.Roberts: Secretary of the Meeting: — Mr.B.Edmonds, 47 Green Bank Road, Hanham, Bristol. Machine Examiner: — R.Wright.
- 2. START. Langridge Village Hall, Lansdown, Bath.
- 3. ENTRIES AND FEES. Entries will close Tuesday 27th February 1973. A sidecar class will not be catered for unless at least eight entries are received. Paid up members of the promoting club solo, 40p. side 40p; other entries 50p solo, 50p sidecar.
- 4. AWARDS. Best 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th: Solos: Best sidecar and souvenir Passenger Award; Club Cup for best Bath member; First Class Awards next 15% solo and sidecar; Novice Award (a "C" Class driver will be considered a novice.) No driver may win more than one award.
- COURSE. All observed sections on privately-owned land. Riding members and suggested route to be issued at start.
- 6. SPECIAL TEST. In the event of a tie the winner will be the driver completing the most sub-sections without penalty. In the event of a further tie the winner will be the driver with the least number of failures.

ENTRY FORM

SPRING CUP TRIAL

THE BATH & WEST OF ENGLAND M.C.

on SUNDAY 4th MARCH 1973

DRIVER'S NAME (block letters)	
ADDRESS	
PASSENGER'S NAME (block letters)	
ADDRESS	
REGISTERED MEMBER CLUB	NOVICE Yes/No
MAKE OF MOTOR CYCLE	c.c Solo/Sidecar
ENTRY FEE ENCLOSED	Total

INDEMNIFICATION:

I have read the Supplementary Regulations issued for this meeting and agree to be bound by them and by the General Competition Rules and the Standing Regulations for Trials of the Auto-Cycle Union. In consideration of the acceptance of this, my entry, I agree to save harmless and keep indemnified the promoting Club, the Wessex Centre of the A.C.U., and the Auto-Cycle Union (including the owners or lessees of any land used for this meeting) and their respective officials, servants, representatives and agents from and against all actions, claims, costs, expenses and demands in respect of death or injury to myself, or my passenger howsoever caused arising out of or in connection with my entry or my taking part in this meeting and notwithstanding that the same may have been contributed to or occasioned by the negligence of the said bodies, their officials, servants, representatives or agents. I declare that whilst taking part in this meeting I have an operative Policy of Insurance covering me against Third Party Risks including Road Traffic Act cover.

I declare that I am	over 16 years of	age.	Date	
Signed	Driver.	Signed		Parent/Guardian
Signed	Passenger,	Signed		Parent/Guardian

If an entrant/driver/passenger is under 18 years of age the form must be countersigned by the Parent or Guardian.

BRISTOL M.C. & L.C.C.

Well we are out of the "Castrol Quiz" the chance of an easy £100, did I say easy! What rubbish. Hereford M.C. and ourselves met at Chepstow and I must admit I expected our side to win. But that was before I listened to the questions. In my opinion whichever team wins will be a matter of luck not brains. I feel that if this competition is run in subsequent years then the questions should be intelligent, not the "lucky for some" type.

In the previous issue I said the Grand Cup trial would be run over a similar course to last year but since we have 7 motorcycle trials to organise in 73 the load has to be spread evenly over the countryside. As the entry secretary for the Grand Cup Trial lives at Congresbury and is involved with farming (which doesn't leave much time for other things) it has been decided to run in the North-Somerset with a start situated on the B3134 at Charterhouse.

Book the date, March 31st 1400 hrs. route about 30 to 40 miles we hope some new sections — dependant on my persuasive powers. Economic pressure, the advent of V.A.T. has forced us to segregate club subscriptions (rates as standard) from A.C.U. affiliation fees (which we assume to be classed as exempt) a matter that headquarters should clarify with the clubs under their jurisdiction. Will the Wessex Centre representatives please raise this matter at the February council meeting.

At the time of writing I can not give you the answer to our "Allen" Trial - what I can say however is that after 6 months of planning and many route mods - several of which were compulsory within the last few days prior to the event (due to vesicular disease). All tests other than those on the public highway or situated in quarries were deleted from the course and the route card looked as though it has the measles with the modifications we had to do.

This left Dave Hains with 10 tests but an event saved.

From our point of view it is hoped the next green lane run won't present the problems that this one did - by the way, do you want another this year or wait until January 1974.

If you have won a major award from our events in 1972 then please attend our Annual Dinner and Dance at the Grand Hotel, on the 9th March 1973. Our new policy is that because of excess insurance rated and problems associated with posting NO major trophies will be presented to other than persons attending our annual function. We trust that all winners will appreciate the sense of this decision.

Tickets are available from any of the directors for cash no promisory notes accepted. We hope to have our usual excellent turnout and invite you to dig to the bottom of Special notice to Control of the series to the s

Special notice to Scrambles Organsiers. Roland Owen of Hereford has been upgraded to expert.

SHEPTON MALLET MOTOR CLUB

Not a great deal to report on this month. Most of the time after Christmas has been taken up with the preparation of the new sections at Combe Woods, Horrington, which will be used for the first time in the B.S.A. Trial on January 14th.

The vast scope of new sections at this new find is unlimited, enough in fact, that to run a complete trial there would be very easy. For the B.S.A., we have picked out three sets of sections, spaced out through the valley, which gives a most enjoyable run for riders between sections. The sleeper Bridge was completed in 3 hours, with materials supplied by Tony King, with added design help from Messrs Young and Davey. It only remains now to see how things go on the 14th.

Remembering the B.S.A. last year, we are apprehensive on how severe sections should be. The entry at the moment is bordering on 150 so it will be important to keep riders moving.

BORDER CUP TRIAL.

WILTS BORDER M.C.C. & L.C.C.

Sunday, February 11th, 1973.

Starred Event.

Permit No. M411

Restricted to members of Clubs affiliated to the Wessex Centre A.C.U. riding Solo machines only. Held under the GCR's of the A.C.U. and Wessex Centre Standing Rules, together with the following Supplementary Regulations.

1. OFFICIALS. Wessex Centre Steward, M.Parker. Club Steward. P.Crook, Machine Examiner, E.Parker. Secretary of the Meeting, Mrs.J.Lovelock, 88 Bristol Road, Chippenham, Clerk of the Course, J.Lovelock.

2. ENTRIES. To the Secretary of the Meeting not later than Wednesday 7th February 1973 on the official form with the sum of 50p. Club members 40p.

3. AWARDS. Border Cup., Best Solo, Bailey Cup. Best Club Member. Awards for the 2nd, 3rd, 4th best performances. 1st Class Awards for the next best 15% of starters. Novice Award for the best 'C' class driver. All named cups to be held for one year. Replicas retained.

4. START. The Salutation Inn nr. Castle Combe on the B4039 at 10.31 a.m.

5. TIES. In the event of a tie the farthest round the course clean, if still a tie the greatest number of cleans.

6. COURSE. Will be one lap of approx. 25 miles. Route cards will be issued.

7. PROTESTS. To be in accordance with GCR's of the A.C.U.

BORDER CUP TRIAL WILTS BORDER M.C.C. & L.C.	C	Sunday Feb	oruary 11th 1973
DRIVER'S NAME (block letters)			•••••
ADDRESS		CLUB	Novice/Expert
MAKE OF MOTOR CYCLE		c.c	Solo/Sidecar
ENTRY FEE ENCLOSED	CLUB	SUBSCRIPTION	1 50p NOW DUE
INDEMNIFICATION:			

I have read the Supplementary Regulations issued for this meeting and agree to be bound by them and by the General Competition Rules and the Standing Regulations for Trials of the them and by the General Competition Rules and the Standing Regulations for Trials of the Auto-Cycle Union. In consideration of the acceptance of this, my entry, I agree to save harmless and keep indemnified the promoting Club, the Wessex Centre of the A.C.U., and the Auto-Cycle Union (including the owners or lessees of any land used for this meeting) and their respective officials, servants, representatives and agents from and against all actions, claims, costs, expenses and demands in respect of death or injury to myself, or my passenger howsoever caused arising out of or in connection with my entry or my taking part in this meeting and notwithstanding that the same may have been contributed to or occasioned by the negligence of the said bodies, their officials, servants, representatives or agents. I declare that whilst taking part in this meeting I have an operative Policy of Insurance covering me against Third Party Risks including Road Traffic Act cover. Traffic Act cover.

I declare that I am over 16 years of age.Driver Signed......Parent/Guardian If an entrant/driver is under 18 years of age the form must be countersigned by the Parent or Guardian.

All types of Bearings and Chains for Motorcycles and cars including timing chains, 33 1/3% off list.

Contact I.K.Manning, Lulsgate 2551.

I am pleased to report that Vic Keeling has been released from Hospital. We hope he will continue to make good progress.

The Annual Dinner date has been fixed for 27th April and again this year it will be held at the Red Lion, Shepton Mallet, as the atmosphere always seemed to be right at this venue, it was feared if we moved out of town, some of this may have been lost. Tickets will be limited strictly to 100, so please clubs that are interested in coming along get in touch with Betty Male (Mells 463) to avoid disappointment.

Tony Sugg is overjoyed with the power and handling of his latest mount from Yeovil. This year he has stepped up to the bigger class, so Younger had better watch his step.

John's latest mount a Cheyney B.S.A. certainly looks a winner, his first ride of the season will be the Yarley Moto Cross on February 4th. Father Cyril has dropped his plan to up the CCs using a one off piston machined from apple wood. He just couldn't find a piece with a knot hole that would line up with the gudgeon pin!

An entertaining day out at the London Show with Messrs Young, King, Davey and Brittain plus Tor madcaps Marty Strang and Major Cook. To go to London anytime is always entertaining but with the added humour of Strang and Cook, Well!

Our Radstock members, Mike and Gary Moon have decided to make their Huskys last another season. Seems the promise of a test ride on the Oriental Flyers from Bristol at our Mendip course failed to materialize.

Socially we look forward to a Skittle Match with Frome at the Crown, Pilton on February 10th at 8 p.m.

I must take this opportunity to welcome new Editor, Jim Webb, you must be up to your chain in paper Jim. Good Luck!

SWINDON & DISTRICT M.C.C.

Since this is the first time that a Swindon & District note has appeared in the Wessex Centre Gazette for about twelve years we thought we should fill you in on what we have been up to over in the Southern Centre.

Briefly, scrambles have been our main activity except for a couple of years when we lost all the funds on a disastrous wet meeting and started the following year with £3 in the kitty. After that we laid low, building up funds until we were able, with the greatest assistance from the Grass Track riders, to run a couple of good grass meetings. We were then able to resume promoting scrambles and support for the Club has grown to such an extent that we have now progressed to full blown open to Centre events with those great crowd-pullers, sidecars. This year we hope to run a Grass Track as well as our two scrambles.

Our one event that has kept going annually is the Layton trophy Trial, although due to lack of suitable Sections in our neck of the Southern Centre, it became necessary to run it as a timed event, just as it was at Binknoll in earlier days. The trial caught on and Venables approached us with the suggestion of the Southern Counties Timed Trial Championship. We are

LEAGUE TRIAL 25th FEBRUARY 1973. THIS IS THE THIRD TRIAL OF THE 1972-1973 SERIES.

ORGANISER: Frome & District United M.C. & L.C.C.
WESSEX CENTRE STEWARD: J.F.Parkin.
CLERK OF THE COURSE: J.E.Webb.
SECRETARY OF THE MEETING: A.C.Fedden, 52 Smithcourt Drive, Little Stoke,
Bristol. Tel. 692607.

START: Asham Woods, Leighton, on A361. First man away 10.31 a.m.

ENTRY FORM THIRD LEAGUE TRIAL 1972-1973 SERIES. 25th FEBRUARY 1973.

DRIVER'S NAME (block letters)			
ADDRESS			••••
PASSENGER'S NAME (block letters)			
REGISTERED MEMBER	NOVI	CE Yes/	 No
MAKE OF MOTOR CYCLEc.c		Solo/Sideo	car
ENTRY FEE ENCLOSED	. Total		

INDEMNIFICATION:

I have read the Supplementary Regulations issued for this meeting and agree to be bound by them and by the General Competition Rules (10th Edition) and the Standing Regulations of the Auto-Cycle's Union. In consideration of the acceptance of this my entry, I agree to save harmless and keep indemnified the Promoting Club, the Wessex Centre of the A.C.U., and the Auto-Cycle Union (including the owners or lessees of any land used for the meeting) and their respective officials, servants, representatives and agents from and against all actions, claims, costs, expenses and demands in respect of death or injury to myself, howsoever caused arising out of or in connection with my entry or my taking part in this meeting and notwithstanding that the same may have been contributed to or occasioned by the negligence of the said bodies, their officials, servants, representatives or agents.

I declare that whilst taking part in this meeting I have an operative Policy of Insurance covering me against Third Party Risks including Road Traffic Act cover.
Entry forms must be countersigned by the Parent or Guardian in the case of entrants, drivers or passengers under 18 years of age. I declare that I am over 16 years of age.

I declare that I am over 16 years of a	ge. Date	
SignedDriver	Signed	Parent/Guardian
SignedPassenger	Signed	Parent/Guardian
If an entrant/driver/passenger is under 18 by the Parent or Guardian.	years of age the form must	be countersigned

NOTE

All entries must be made through your Club Secretary and must be made in time for him to get it to the Secretary of the Meeting by Saturday, 17th February 1973.

Please note the address of the Secretary of the Meeting.

pleased to say that ours was the first event in that Championship and we have had a round in every year that the Southern Counties has been held.

Most of the faces that were familiar to Wessex members have retired from club life now with the notable exception of our Chairman and Treasurer, Jack Croston. The Secretary is Brian Freegard and Comps are looked after by Ron Jennings. The Social bloke who will be pleased to arrange beer and/or skittles is Roy Wheeler who will be known to many of you as a demon scrambler.

Another activity that we are proud to be associated with is the Swindon school of the RAC/A—CU Training Scheme. Chief Instructor is Ken Hoult and several of our members are Instructors. They are all happy to tell us that the Swindon school has one of the highest percentages of passes in the country. We also have two members who are Representatives on the Swindon Sports Council so that we are able to counter the 'Ape-hangers and leather-jacket' image. Our other affiliation is to the B.M.F. mainly because of their go-ahead attitude to Public Relations and their good work on the Green Roads and Rights of Way.

It goes without saying that we are anxious to renew our friendships in the Wessex Centre and hope to play an active part in the Centre.

FROME & DISTRICT UNITED M.C. & L.C.C.

Although in the middle of the trials season, we must already turn our thoughts to scrambles. Trial entries have been going up for some time, and has now reached an all time record of 145. Shall we in the near future see two open to centre trials on the same day as in other Centres. This must make one wonder how many Junior riders will be unable to get rides if scramble entries show a similar increase. We of course have a spare venue for running Junior events, but no workers, this plus having to remove all the necessary equipment from Leighton to Whitham means that once again, unless of course more help is forthcoming we shall be unable to run a Junior meeting. Now its up to you, Riders, Dad or Mums, or even maybe some other club without a course available.

When you read these notes the track at Leighton will have received its face lift at a cost of some £80. We shall be running sidecars on Easter Monday. Working parties will begin during February, give Jim a ring at Chapmanslade 204 on any Sunday to check that a party has been arranged. The Rob Walker on July 29th will include a 500 c.c. Championship Round and it seems that Castrol will not be supporting the Championships this year. But we have been lucky, a sponsor has offered to help with the Rob Walker, and we will give you more details later. Going back to trials and the Wyndham Haines on January 7th, it was good to see so many helpers in fact there were ten out on the 6th, including two new boys and thanks to them we now have plenty of new begins and ends, and many thanks lads for your help.

A Skittles Match has been arranged by Shepton Mallet on Saturday 10th February starting at 8 p.m. at the Crown, Pilton. We have yet to win a match so lets have a good turn out.

WILTS BORDER M.C. & L.C.C.

My apologies for lack of notes over the past two months, but there was not much to report. Our Christmas Party was a great success and was well supported.

Our next competition event will be our Border Cup trial, a starred event, starting at the "Salutation" at 10.30 a.m. on February 11th.

By the time these notes are read our A.G.M. will have been held and all officials for the coming year elected. On the social side we have two film shows at the club room on 1st February and 15th March, a skittles match at Tetbury on 17th February. I cannot remember the name but it's the usual pub. We hope for a good turn out so that we may keep our unbeaten record. Then we have the highlight of the year our annual dinner, dance and presentation of awards, at the "Old Bell Hotel", Malmesbury on Friday 2nd March. Tickets will be available shortly from our Hon. Secretary and Committee members.

What a surprise to see the Hon. Sec. return to the competitive side of the sport having acquired a "Bulto" he is set to show the younger ones, how it is done, or so he would have us believe. Good luck John.

TOR M.C. & C.C.

January has been a quiet month for the club but preparations are under way for the Yarley Moto Cross at Knowle Hill, Yarley on February 4th, and early entries for this meeting include:— "Badger Goss, Dick Clayton, Rob Taylor, Randy Owen, Rob Gapper, Jimmy Stuart, Roger Harvey and Robert Hooper, up to the time of writing 35 experts have entered, the junior entry was full after the second post on the opening date. Working parties for this scramble are on Saturday afternoons:—

27th January and 3rd February 2.0 p.m. Come out to the course if you can and help. Many hands make light work!

Preparations are also under way for the Annual Presentation of Awards Dance at the Town Hall, Glastonbury on February 23rd. There will be a buffet supper and a licenced bar has been applied for. Dancing will be to the Bernard Emm Orchestra with vocalist Terri Davis. Tickets are price £1 and can be bought from any committee member or by post from Mrs.M.Wood, 4 Portland Road, Street, Somerset.

There are still a lot of club members who have forgotten to renew their club membership and you cannot enter scrambles or trials as Tor club members unless you are a fully paid up member.

The club has been asked to include the fourth round of the Shell Under 21 Championship in the Wessex meeting on 29th April. This means a limited number of junior riders will be invited to enter, priority will be given to riders who have taken part in the previous three rounds. Junior riders are being catered for on the previous day Saturday 28th April when we shall run the Junior Trophy Scramble on the small course. We hope to take 200 riders and regulations for this meeting will be in the March gazette.

A car load of club members travelled to London to see the Sporting Motor Cycle Show and certainly had a good time but it was a bit of a strain having to keep to the speed limit with a police car on your tail for most of the motor way. What a meal they had! The bill gave them quite a shock, but it was worth every penny they said.

Club member Geoff Parker is going great guns and is certainly on form. He won the Wyndham Haines trial at Frome and now heads the Wessex Centre Trials Championship by 10½ points. Keep it up Geoff, but watch out for Martin, he is fast getting back to form.

Do not forget to come to the first of the 1973 series of skittle matches on Saturday night 3rd February 8.0 p.m. at the Crown Inn, Pilton. Come and enjoy yourselves.

Dates for your diary:-

3rd February, Saturday afternoon, Working party, Knowle Hill, Yarley. 3rd February, Saturday evening, Skittle Match, Crown Inn, Pilton, 8.0 p.m. 4th February, Sunday, Yarley Moto Cross, Knowle Hill, Yarley 12.30 p.m. 23rd February, Friday, Annual Party and Dance, Town Hall, Glastonbury, 8.30 p.m. — 1.00 a.m.

Monthly Mutterings by Mick Perry

As you will probably have heard through the 'grape vine' this issue is the first to be edited by Jim Webb of the Frome club as Phil Green the previous editor had to step down from the 'hot seat' at short notice because of business commitments and his forth-coming marriage.

Like Newspaper editors he won't be popular with everyone but he has a thankless job and I appeal to all clubs who send in monthly notes to get them in punctually and should, if possible, be typewritten. To help off-set the cost of producing this organ if you know any trader in your area who would like to advertise his wares for a modest fee let the editor know, his telephone number is Chapmanslade 204, and if you have any—thing to sell in the way of motor cycles, scooters or cars you can advertise it in this gazette.

At a recent centre board meeting Cliff King a senior ACU official said that the gazette was now the best in the country. I don't quite go along with him at this stage, but it has shown signs of improvement recently, and I reckon that it is now in the top three.

With a very limited amount of spare time at my disposal these days I did promise my wife that I would ask Ralph Venables or someone with plenty of time on their hands to take over this column, but the editor has talked me into continuing for a further six months or so even though I seem to have upset a few members in one or two clubs from time to time.

As I sit on an orange box typing these notes (can't afford one of those typist's swivel chairs you know) news reaches me of another outbreak of the dreaded vesicular disease in Wiltshire. Like foot and mouth outbreaks of a few years ago in the west country, it is spreading rapidly and many farmers have lost a large number of animals and in many cases a life times work has been ruined in a few hours. During the next few weeks a number of events are scheduled to take place in the affected areas. To date there has been no centre ruling brought into force simply because clubs running in those areas are more in touch with the situation as a whole. If the land owners where the event is to be held are willing for you to run and the local police sanction the event you should be able to go ahead with caution but secretaries please let entrants know in good time if at all possible if you mean to postpone your event so that they have a chance to enter an alternative event. Looking on the bright side let us hope that the disease will clear up for the sake of the farming community in general as without their help there would not be many sporting events today with land at such an extremely high price.

Moto-X. Don't forget the scramble season opens on Sunday next with the TOR clubs scramble at Yarley. They have a fine entry so switch off the telly and come along. There will be quite a few riders competing who have just moved up into the expert category and the junior ranks will be swelled by the infiltration of several former school-boy champions. Neil Hudson and Graham Noyce are certainly a couple to watch this season. If they can reproduce the form that they have shown in recent Corsham club meetings there is no reason why they can't be experts at the end of the year. Both have potent machinery and with the right handling they could become Britains answer to Robert and Mikkola in time.

The National Wessex scramble will also be organised by the Tor Club. This time on a 'new look' course at Wick. There will be two races for 250 experts, three over 250cc events in the seven race programme but each will be separate races as quite a few

members of the TOR club hold the view that Moto-X events have done much to 'kill' scrambling during the past few years, and they could be right.

The West Wilts Club are still without a course for 74 and one member of the club actually forseeing that he will have more spare time then, has become very interested

in boats and maybe we shall see him messing about on the river, or is it canal? in possible company with North Somerset Clubman Ivan Manning who has a speed boat berthed at a desirable spot in the west country quite near to Pop Plasters holiday camp. Another North Somerset member Eddie Beazer has quit the sport in order to spend more time caravanning with his family, come to think of it there are many affluent members in North Somerset these days.

Bristol clubman Ken Blampied has some ideas that he is going to put before the competitions committee regarding a 'shot in the arm' for the centre's scramble championship. If you have any worth while thoughts on the same theme let Ken or your club delegate know.

Grass Track. Not much to comment on except that Geoff Rawlings and Roger Oxenham and Pete Robson and Dave Hopes will be having a crack at the National championships again this year. Geoff stated at the recent BSSA trial at Winford that he will have a complete new outfit. The motor being prepared by Lance Bell whilst Alan Brown in building the frame. Roger has recovered well from his leg injury and he hopes to be fit by the first round of the title chase. Peter will be using the ex John Miell outfit although I did hear that he is making one or two modifications during the close season. Maybe it will appear with a Kawasaki power house.

This year competitors have to compete in every round which is probably a good point as this may well put off some competitors who wish to compete in only the rounds local to them. I don't like saying this but it is they who spoil the chances very often for the really serious contenders. I know that contestants will have to travel long distances which is not so bad taking into consideration that there is quite a network of motor ways and more on the drawing board but I do wish that they would hurry up with that Bristol to Exeter bit. Last month I spoke of how I had hoped to obtain a suitable venue for the Bristol Grass Racing combine who had planned to use the site for the Wessex championship in August but I am afraid that my application has been refused with no reason tendered. However, I do have another site in mind which might be described as a mountain grass track.

Trials. Geoff Parker the twenty year old sheepskin factory worker is walking away with the centre championship. After six rounds he has a seventeen and a half point lead over reigning champion Lawrence Telling and Chris Watts who are level on points. "Parky" has now won four rounds outright and at this stage he must be an odds on favourite. He had an excellent ride in the recent Southern experts trial finishing in tenth place. He could have finished sixth but he is a little miserly where fuel is concerned and he forgot to switch it back on before tackling a section. He now carries a memo on the tank of his Bulto. The trial itself was excellent although some sections had to be cut out on the second lap owing to the limited hours of daylight. One or two people that have played a big part in organising the trial for many years were conspicuous by their absence. I know that one attended the Tanner Bridge trial in preference to his own clubs events—there must be a rift somewhere.

Oh! I almost forgot to mention that we had a fistic display too. The winner was Jon Bliss but he was later disqualified for hitting low. The incident cost him an on the spot fine which must have rendered him bankrupt as he hasn't been seen at a trial since.

Mark Kemp who holds sixth place in the championship had his first outing on a Gordon Farley sponsored Montesa at the Shepton clubs trial and he might well put Montesa back into the picture in the west country events which are at present dominated by Bultaco and Ossa. When Mark first had his Ossa he had a brand new Volvo to go with it but there was no new car at the BSA event.

The Cotton factory are showing interest in Martin Strang and don't be surprised to see him on a 220 for a trial period.

Life begins at 50 for John Lovelock and Trevor Chequer who have recently reentered the sport and I did hear that Ernie Parker and Roger Shuttleworth were both getting itchy feet.

Finally a note to competitors who ride in the Lyn clubs annual Traders trial at Whitsun. As you probably know by now this years event is a round of the National solo championship and a letter from Brian Pollard the secretary of the event tells me that entries will be taken in reverse order. That is to say riders who enter the event early will get an envious late number whilst those who leave their entry until the last moment will be first away. Its up to you chaps but I will remind you that the event has been oversubscribed for the three years. This year there will be a side car class for the first time if sufficient entries are received.

Entries will be available shortly on receipt of a SAE from Mr.Pollard, at 11, Forches Avenue, Barnstaple, North Devon.

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Secretaries Please Note

The services of our Mobile Canteens are available at any distance at Trials & Scrambles gatherings where good catering at reasonable prices is desired. The Hon.Secretary of a club in the Southern Centre writes:

"would like to express our sincere thanks for the magnificent service and quality of your catering ... everyone was full of praise and that is the sort of thing that does a club a whole lot of good".

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