

Tasmanian Motorcycle Trials Club inc.

(The Most Challenging Motorcycle Sport)



President:	Brendan Smith	First Aid:	Colin Woodberry, Fiona Munday
Vice President:	Ken Hosking	Life Members:	Neil Berne, Peter Lockhart
Secretary:	Ian Gabbedy	Publicity Officer:	Ian Pickering
Treasurer:	Mick Luscombe	Scrutineers:	Mike Amey, Nigel Munday
Newsletter:	Samuel Lockhart	Photographer:	Ashlee Silk
Section Checkers:	Steve Harris, Neil Berne, Peter Lockhart, Kurt Pickering		
Committee:	Neil Berne, Craig Ferrall, Nigel Munday, Steve Harris, Peter Lockhart,		

Section Cleanup: Section 1 = Clubman, Sections 2+3 = C Grade, Section 4 = C+ Grade, Section 5 = B Grade, Section 6 = A Grade & A+ Grade

Anyone who can bring observers to a trial please do to help make it a better day, we can't ride without observers.

April 2015

There has been something of a time gap between the Tasmanian Two Day event and the latest round of the Club Championships. However, competition resumed at a new venue near Melton Mowbray on 19 April and there are many activities coming up in the next few months. Keep an eye on the Club's events calendar on the new website, www.tastrials.org.au. The website is intended to be the prime source of club information, with the Facebook page being largely used for photographs and videos. The reason for this move to a website rather than using Facebook is that a web page offers much better control of the way in which information is presented and we can make our page less vulnerable to unwanted attention from internet trolls. Many thanks to Samuel Lockhart for setting up and hosting this new site in a very short time. If any members have requests for additional features on this website (for example, a blog has already been suggested) please contact Samuel directly.

Motorcycle Trials have been an established part of motorcycle competition for over one hundred years. However, it is fair to say that the sport, if not actually in decline, is not growing as rapidly as we, who enjoy the sport so much, would like. The committee is looking at ways of promoting the sport in Tasmania and has considered various ideas, including public displays, come-and-try days, X-trials and arena events. I have the view that arena style trials will have a big role to play in promoting the sport in the future. Events like the Manchester City Trial, held right in the heart of the city at peak shopping times, attract large, often incredulous, crowds of spectators. Such events bring trials to the attention of people who have never heard of the sport prior to seeing the event. Could we hold such an event in Tasmania, in say, the Elizabeth Street Mall in Hobart, or at a similar venue in Launceston? Could we convince Metro Tasmania that it is a good idea to ride over a bus? Any and all suggestions are welcome.

As you read this, President Brendan will be in Scotland competing in the Scottish Six Days Trial. The SSDT was first held in 1909 and celebrated its 100th event in 2011. It is a tough event, having 30 sections each day for a total of 180 separate sections over the six days. There are long distances between groups of sections and each day the route covers up to 160 kilometres on road and on the moors. We wish Brendan well and look forward to hearing of his experiences on his return.

Meanwhile, our next event is at Melrose on 17 May. See you there.

Ken Hosking

Vice President

Scottish Six Day Trial

President Brendan is off to find out what Scotsmen wear under their kilts and hide in trees with a camera waiting for Nussy to stick her head out of the Loch! And when he's not doing that, he'll be piloting a Sherco through some very famous terrain in the Scottish Six Day. Good luck Brendan, we look forward to hearing about it when you return. Och wee laddie, the Six Day stuff, not the kilt bits! Gie it ladly! (Scottish for do it with gusto)

2015 Australian XTrial Championship Brendan Smith

It was a considerably quiet group of riders that made their way to Thornlie, in Perth's south-eastern suburbs, for the first ever X-Trial Australian Championships. An ex-tropical cyclone had already wreaked havoc on the sections in the week leading-up, with the forecast for more to come, and given the elevated platforms installed in place, the apprehension was apparent on everyone's faces.

Section inspection not long after arrival revealed sections based on skips, timber, concrete, excavator tyres and two from cable reels, gladly which the organisers had set very well to cope with the expected low grip levels. A quick modification or two, and we were allowed a little practice on the sections to familiarise ourselves with them; after all, arena trials are typically more about entertainment than competition.

First thing I did was idle on up to the skips and popped up on the first one, before sliding backwards with the back wheel spinning. "Hmm, painted surfaces and water doesn't give much grip..." Tried again, got up on top, and then smashed the front brake lever trying to bounce to the next skip. "Untreated steel even less!"

The first night was reasonably quiet, with many of us feeling the nerves. The timing of rain seemed to influence the results a little, but I was delighted to end in 5th place. Chris performed very admirably, qualifying in 3rd place, though he was rueing a costly 5 on the balance beams in the final to see him finish in 4th.

Saturday saw some sunshine as we arrived at the venue, but again the rain came before qualifying and made things very difficult, but ultimately made for some incredible riding displays! Neil Price's wife Jessica gave birth to their second daughter Charlotte earlier in the day in possibly the most ironic timing in human history, so the qualifying round saw state battles abound, with the WA, Vic and Tassie boys all riding the sections alongside each other! I was disappointed to end in 7th, but Chris rode like a man possessed, qualifying in 1st by a good margin.

Chris was on fire from the go in the final. Demonstrating his innate capability to thrill the crowds, and with the others struggling to go backwards through the spools, he showed his sublime back-wheel skills to get his nose ahead. However, the best was to come; having watched Tim Coleman and Sam King not make the undercut, 5-foot gap, 4-foot undercut step to the highest concrete slab, he lit a fire under the crowd by nailing it, before launching out the end cards, some 8 feet high in the air, while off-balance. Perhaps a bit of a whack to his "Pol Tarres", but the clean effectively sealed the win for him on the night, and second for the championship!

In all, it was a spectacular weekend for different reasons than we first expected. Even the championship winner, Tim Coleman, expressed he was mostly relieved to not be hurt, but it's certainly demonstrated to the trials community that the X-Trial format works brilliantly and provides some excellent entertainment. I think Chris and I are certainly keen to try again next year!

Event wrap up

New venues are something most trials riders look for when they're driving around. They'll go driving down a country road and see a group of rocks or some steep terrain with some logs and instantly think "gee, I wonder who owns that, they might let us ride there" and sometimes, just occasionally, the land owners do let us there. And that, kids, is how we met Melton Mowbray.

Back in 1851, Samuel Blackwell purchased land at Cross Marsh, at which point he named it Melton Mowbray, after the English town he came from. He set about building Melton Manor, which was a very popular destination for hunters and horse racing enthusiasts. Melton Manor eventually became the Melton Mowbray Hotel, which unfortunately doesn't operate any more. Lovely Banks, just up the road from our event, was owned by Edward Bisdee. Edward's older brother John had migrated out here from England with Anne, his new wife in 1821. John Bisdee owned property on Spring Hill (keep an eye out for Bisdee Tier when you're on the Midlands in that area) and convinced Edward, as well as 3 of his 13 siblings, to move out to Van Diemen's Land. Edward would have had no idea that the areas around his new Lovely Banks parcel of land would be home to such great trials country.

Round Two of the State Series was set just off Lovely Banks Road, along the side of a hill littered with rocks. The trial was set in one small portion of the property, which was off limits at the time due to the farmer's crops. I personally haven't

ridden the other areas but from all reports from the other Southerners who have, there's some mighty fine riding areas, and plenty of them. This event consisted of 7 sections, some of which were considerably longer than what you'd normally expect to find at a trial. What you wouldn't normally expect to see is a tree growing through a bedhead, but there was a section with that too. While we were fortunate it didn't rain, it wasn't exactly the warmest of days but at least there's no risk of snakes.

One of the 'perils' of a lovely steep hill with great rocks is that it our little kids can sometimes find it very intimidating and the last thing we want is for them to get scared and not want to ride. For this reason, Junior riders rode sections 1, 4, 6 and 7. Will Thornbury won this class, from Broc who was just one point behind. Third was Billy Berne, followed by Ruby Statton and Millie Silk. One thing I noticed while riding around, all these kids are super keen to ride. They'd all finished their cards for the day, but they were all off riding around finding obstacles to ride over, practicing wheelstands and bouncing the front wheel up. These kids are the future of the sport so to see that level of motivation is great. As a side note, it's bloody hard work and I certainly didn't appreciate how hard it is to ride your own event and encourage a child to ride a section, so for all the parents who ride and mind at the same time, you do a great job. For the parents that don't ride and instead walk between sections, you also do a fantastic job, that'd make for a tiring day. Finally, thanks to all the riders who happily let a lagging parent rider jump ahead of them in queues.

Will Ferrall was our only Clubman rider for the day, so he took the win and maximum points for the Championship.

C grade was well represented with 13 riders. Welcome back David Catt! Not only did we have the familiar faces, we had the return of David as well as Ron and Daniel coming along and an International! Neil Berne rode like an 18 year old to take the win from our visitor from Ireland, Shelly Hanlon aboard a borrowed bike. Third place belonged to Mike Travica.

Peter Bayles did well to only lose 20 points in C+, with young Jordan Perkins continually improving to take second. Nigel Munday was just one point behind on the Sherco, which is for sale if anyone is interested. Special mention to Mike Hull for wheeling out a brand new beautiful Gas Gas to a trial very likely to scratch it.

B grade was a family affair with Kyle Buckley having a decent crack but ultimately unable to beat Uncle Mike Amey.

Kurt Pickering won A grade from Bradley who recorded a DNF after a nasty stack.

Chris Bayles was the sole Expert rider and put on a great display for other riders and spectators alike, no doubt still on a high after his great Day Two win at the X Trial earlier this month.

Finally, to the riders who DNF'd due to injury, hopefully you heal up fast, and to the riders who didn't ride at all due to injury, take your time recovering and we'll see you back on a bike soon.

Next Event

Our next event is at Melrose. There's a come and try day scheduled for the 10th of May which will also be the day of section setting, and the event proper is to be held on the 17th of May. The location is 67 Bellamy Road. The come and try day will be run by Ian Pickering, keep an eye on Facebook and the website for any additional information. Melrose is a great little trial, just be cautious of washing your bike off in the creek after the event. This isn't so much an environmental issue, the creek has sufficient depth in parts to swallow an entire Sherco. If you're concerned, ask Mick Amey where not to ride, he's well aware of the problem area.

Also, mark in your calendar (unless you're subscribed to the TMTC Google Calendar, in which case, it's already there) the Brass Monkey Ride will be on a Moina. More information will be available closer to the date.

2015 Tasmanian Motorcycle Trials Club - Round 2

Venue: Melton Mowbray	Lap	Lap	Lap	Lap	Lap	Lap	Lap	Total	Place	Notes
Expert A+	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			
Chris Bayles	1	0	6	8	2			17	1	
A Grade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			
Kurt Pickering	12	13	12	16	20			73	1	
Bradley Shadbolt	11	9	21	35	35			111		DNF
B Grade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total		
Mike Amey	25	28	16	18	21			108	1	
Kyle Buckley	33	29	23	22	25			132	2	
C+ Grade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total		
Peter Bayles	5	5	2	2	6			20	1	
Jordan Perkins	13	16	10	12	4			55	2	
Nigel Munday	13	13	9	10	11			56	3	
John Denison	15	13	12	14	6			60	4	
Josh Lockhart	19	14	10	11	14			68	5	
Ian Pickering	10	12	20	10	21			73	6	
Brooke Lendvay	19	19	18	19	20			95	7	
Mick Hull	23	25	22	20	20			110	8	
Steve Harris	20	18	14	12	35			99		DNF
C Grade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total		
Neil Berne	7	8	3	7	3			28	1	
Shelly Hanlon	4	13	7	3	12			39	2	Visitor from Ireland
Mike Travica	12	6	9	11	6			44	3	
Ken Hosking	8	13	10	8	10			49	4	
Ian Gabbedy	13	14	8	10	7			52	5	
Andrew Rouse	8	12	15	13	13			61	6	
Craig Ferrall	17	15	9	11	13			65	7	
Kirk Costello	14	17	12	9	15			67	8	8 cleans
Samuel Lockhart	17	15	10	10	15			67	9	5 cleans
David Catt	15	17	14	14	16			76	10	
Jack Costello	16	22	27	21	16			102	11	
Daniel Wilson	26	26	25	24	23			124	12	
Ron Leistra	23	20	22	35	35			135		DNF
Clubmen	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total		
William Ferrall	21	24	20	13	17			95	1	
Junior	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total		
William Thornbury	1	0	1	1	7			10	1	
Broc Gabbedy	1	4	0	1	5			11	2	
Billy Berne	8	6	4	2	0			20	3	
Ruby Statton	4	14	11	8	2			39	4	
Millie Silk	12	13	11	11	8			55	5	

Kurt looking pretty happy to be on the Ossa.



Ruby and her Dad, both looking determined.



Private Adverts

For larger pictures, please see the classifieds section of www.tastrials.org.au

For Sale 2005 125cc Sherco Trials Bike. Spare front and rear guards and decals and a chain guard. \$3600 ono. Call 0409 406 286



For Sale: 2013 Cabestany 305.

Made very late in 2013 & delivered Feb 2014. Factory bike with all the signature performance parts & bling that comes with a Cabestany Sherco. Only ridden in 8 or 9 trials. Excellent condition \$7000. Call Nigel Munday on 03 6432 1014



Dealer Adverts



For Beta sales & service in Tasmania contact:

Service Moto

Off Road specialists in the South - Unit 8, 121 Gormanston Road,
Derwent Park

See us for mechanical servicing/repairs, aftermarket spare parts, accessories, performance parts, cycle wear and casual gear, tyres, oils and more; if we don't have it, we can get it, FAST! Great advice from staff who ride!

Phone 6273 0401 & speak to Rob or Mel

Sherco & Ossa Dealer: See Nigel Munday or call 03 6432 1014 or 0419 155 811

2nd hand bikes available, various makes. Trade-ins considered and photos of bikes are available, bikes can be freighted into Tassie if interested.



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