

MOTOCROSS WORKING PARTY PLAN

Enter the site from the A120, 150 metres Colchester side of Marks farm Tesco roundabout before Stisted turn-off, CM77 8AA. Replace the bolt to keep the gate closed (wait if necessary for a Committee member to arrive and unlock).

MONDAY 23rd May through to FRIDAY 27th May evenings, starting from 6.30pm.

We allow all week in case of bad weather holding things up. Aaron Smith and myself (and now the promise of Mark Wilson, who despite his young appearance has now retired..) will prepare the site during the day ready for the evening gangs to get straight into the real work of staking, roping etc. With the back-saving methods we have introduced in the last couple of years, this is quite gentle work and we usually have fun (except when Mark annoys me). If the weather has really been against us, we will need **SATURDAY 28th May (daytime)** to catch up, but usually we are clear by then, leaving just the signing-on tent and pits boxes to set up. Please don't think that when the main stakes and rope all look to be in place the job is done and you don't need to make another appearance. It is like thinking a house is ready to move in when the walls are up and the roof is on! If you are coming from a distance and don't want a wasted journey in case all is complete, then just give me a ring on 01376 584092 or 07985 046716 to check the situation. If you know of any riders from other clubs keen on being in on the action, then bring them along too.

RACE DAY SUNDAY 29th MAY

We always need plenty of hands on the day - it's a long way round the site as a whole - but several officials and marshals have to be booked in advance. Don't be surprised to get a phone call from me! Apart from me as Event Secretary/Clerk of Course, these fine people are booked: Dave Clark and team: big advertising sign at track entrance on A120 (1st week in May) + supply/erection of sign-on pagoda, and with Eric S + , admission gate; Andrew T paddock; Mark W/Gary P start gate; John Y/Chris C assistant C of Cs; Sam C supply of water pump and Chief of Course Maintenance; Steve B between-race course watering; David S announcer; Christine Y, Tony P and outside help: lap scoring; Emily Hughes: points and results; Kevin Wager: results charts to pits; Roy R/John B: Club Stewards; Dave F: finisher. We have outside expertise lined up for signing-on, technical inspection, marshalling but it is a bit sketchy so please be prepared to help out if approached. I am looking for a couple or 3 trials riders and their bikes for between-race duties on track. Full training given (not how to ride a bike) - I can think of several candidates; age no bar. All helpers and officials must sign-in and be ready to go for practice at 10.30am.

CLEARING UP

Ideally, we like to put as much away as possible at the end of racing, so don't run off please! If it's been hot and we are all knackered, we usually re-assemble Tuesday evening 6.30pm, to finish off (Monday is Bank Holiday and I shall be writing the report for the papers!) - and Wednesday if really necessary. Bearing in mind that the farmer is impatient to get his cattle back on the re-instated fields, the sooner this is cleared up the better for us all.

HISTORY

This will be the Club's 56th year of scrambling at Stisted, a useful promotional fact and something to keep any would-be complainers at bay. It's our heritage - let's not chuck it away through apathy.

Richard Sillett

COMING CLUB EVENTS

Sunday 29 May: Motocross at Stisted - see elsewhere in this Tail Light for all details.

Saturday 4 June: first Summer Series trial at Twinstead Hall Wood.

Saturday 9 July: second Summer Series trial at Beazley End.

Saturday 6 August: final Summer Series trial at Snaque Pit.

Note: all the above trials kick off at 5.30pm so be there in good time. Observers as well as riders needed. Sections will be aimed at beginners and occasional types.

NEW MEMBERS: Welcome to the Club husband and wife team Michael and Trudy Morgan from Boxted, both interested in trials but hopefully willing to support the MX!

COMMITTEE MEETINGS: Braintree Club goes transparent! All are welcome to sit in on these and see what is going on behind the scenes - Wednesdays at 8pm: 11 May, 8 June, 13 July, 10 Aug., 14 Sept., 12 Nov., 14 Dec at The Onley Arms Stisted.

RECENT EVENTS: Thanks to main players Stuart Penfold, Chris Cook, Sam Cook, Adrian Parker and Steve Butcher, the Centre trial at Spansey's Wood Gosfield on 20 March went very well, with terrain and sections all to a very high standard. Ditto Mark Hughes, Chris Cook and John Yearley for doing the substantial amount of pre-event work and making the second Long Distance Trial on 3 April a great success. Both events were blessed with good entries, which makes all the hard work worthwhile. Watch out in next month's Tail Light for some member snippets from these events.



GETTING READY FOR STISTED MX!

Our regular MX riding members John (left) and Aaron Smith pose for the camera beside their KTMs at Great Cornard in April. Both will be heavily involved in the preparation of the track for the 29th and will be going all out to do well in the racing on the day. John has had to be nice to Sally since his ribs injury at Hanningfield last year threatened his future on the track (and at home!!).

BRAINTREE CLUB SERVICES

The Mark Wilson elastic start gate system Mk 3 (patented) is in demand across the Centre. Here two of our Club stalwarts Chris Cook (centre) and John Yearley (right) are seen providing an on-the-day service to the Sudbury Club for their April MX at Cornard. Mark was probably too busy on the phone taking bookings to be part of the operating team.....

