

# Tasmanian Motorcycle Trials Club

(The year is half over!)



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**June 2021**

## President's Report

G day all.

Well what an awesome trials we just had. It's a great place to ride but so diverse depending on the weather. In the dry it's got bulk traction like our Royal George property, but when it's wet my word does it get slippery on that mossy granite? As the day progressed the sections did seem to ride a little easier, or maybe it was the fact that we all learnt how to open up the knees and find some traction.

Fantastic job to the North West team, the sections were set spot on for the conditions. The points dropped through out all the grades was spot on. A lot of riders after debrief commented on the fact that A grade and B grade didn't have much big stuff that needed a minder or was risky. Great setting if you can take points without setting the big obstacles.

Something that is super exciting for our club at the moment is the upper and lower grades have fantastic numbers. Clubman has a large selection of riders that are very competitive within the class. A and B are very similar. It's so good for the sport.

Thanks to all those who set, observed and helped pack up at Natone, we have a fantastic club at the moment and many hands make light work. Also thanks to the scorers who made the result possible to be read out at the end of the day. Thank you all.

A shout out must go to the Southerners who made the effort to travel to Natone. I know the North West crew travel south but not all the way to Hobart. Our Hobart riders out of the Hobart area had a big drive to and from. Really appreciate the effort. Moving on from that, a few of the Southern crew travelled up on the Saturday, meaning they could potentially get a practise in. Nobby booked for a counter meal at the Penguin pub. Was a great night and a great way to make a weekend of it. A good bit of banter at the table. Better not mention to much more about team Lunn and their oysters.

Looking forward to the up and coming mainland events that a few of us are organised for, but I'm not sure how the COVID situation is going to pan out on it. All we can do is suck it and see, fingers crossed we'll be able to follow these nationals and a few states titles through. Just between you and I, a man is a tad keen for some national competition.

Seeing as there is so many clubmen and juniors and there is a few people out there who have recently purchased a trials bikes but are yet to turn up to an event, I dare say we as a club should run another coaching day here in the near future. I reckon we could see some great progression in our lower grades, and also attract some new members.

Anyways, that's enough from me. See you all at the next trials. Keep up the practising and the good work. Enjoy.

Regards, Baylesy

## Digital report

I don't have much to report on the digital front. I will say that two months in a row, Alysha Lunn has entered online, without me posting about it on Facebook, a week after the previous event. Good stuff and thank you Alysha!

An interesting point and something I'll keep an eye on... Almost all webmasters say hits from mobile phones make up a very large percentage of their traffic and that the desktop or laptop is way down on the stats. I recently put an analysing tool on the website, just because I am interested in what times of day people are hitting us and with what. I'll leave the proper stats until later in the year but at the moment, mobile hits and desktop hits are almost identical, 50% and 48% respectively. Why is this important? I can modify the site and entries to be easier to use on one or the other, rather than the current 'well it works for me on my laptop, she'll be right' approach. If you've got quirks or problems with the site, let me know.

Also, Alysha gets another mention, as does Toni Pickering, thanks heaps for doing some of the scoring at Upper Natone, much appreciated.

**We only had four or five people not enter online, bloody fantastic effort, thanks heaps!**

## Upper Natone

Upper Natone. I'm not from around this area so I relied on Google Maps and let me tell you, the voice guidance pronouncing it as Upper Natony provided a lot of laughs for us.

I may have started a trend. I rocked up with my new bike at Oatlands, then I get to Upper Natone. Dylan was aboard a brand new Vertigo and both Chris and Brendan picked up new bikes on the Friday, a new TRS and Electric Motion respectively. The Electric Motion got a fair bit of attention, except in sections where we couldn't hear it and had to rely on Brendan's wonderful imitation of a two stroker getting a bit of a clean out. Looking at the results, those on new bikes did well. Do your bit for the economy, get better results, buy a new bike!

Surprisingly, it wasn't freezing cold like I predicted last newsletter. It wasn't shorts and t shirt weather but it was nice enough and at a couple of points we had actual, real sunlight break through the clouds. The lack of bright sun did make sections one and three fairly dark, I know the cameras there were waiting a bit more light.

Upper Natone is a good little venue. The road and the parking isn't the best, but once you make your way in the narrow weaving single track in, you've got some pretty good places to play. Of course, with all the rain, there was a bit of mud about and made parts of sections pretty slippery. Section 1, tucked up to the right, got progressively more slippery throughout the day but wasn't too bad. Section 2, apparently made using almost all the red arrows available, had a couple of very tight B grade parts especially at the start and a nice tight turn at the end for the Clubman riders. Section 3, tight, so very tight for all grades. The big rock on the right was an Expert line, Tom came off, the magnet fell out of his lanyard and somehow Ashlee, even without her glasses, spotted the tiny silver item in the leaves and rubbish. Section 4 was a choose your own adventure style for C grade at least, multiple lines available. Section 5, didn't seem to have anything big in it but took points if you weren't careful. Section 6 didn't cause too many issues for the lower grades but claimed quite a few points for B, A and Expert. Finally, section 7. That bloody big rock with the slippery bit of tree root at the start took plenty of fives and panicked threes, it even munched at least one gear lever but get it right and you felt like a superstar. Whoever set the Junior sections (I think it was Kurt) did a great job, the junior riders don't need much and having their own little bit with a couple of rocks, a bit of undulation and some 'tight' turns is plenty.

Something I noticed, there were a lot of spectators. It's good to see, it might have been due to a bunch of North West people announcing the event on Facebook, something which we weren't encouraging this time last year, hopefully we get more of it for the rest of the year.

On to the results, and wow, some of them were tight. So many places were tied, I've never seen that before.

Chris won Expert, Tom finished second, the really interesting point here was seeing Chris' scores go from 22 on the first lap down to a 1 on his final lap as he got used to the new bike.

Close between the top three in A Grade. Will Thornbury finished third, four behind Dylan Bayles on the very shiny Vertigo. Brendan Smith returned after a break and showed that not only is he still good, the electric future might not be too bad. Side note – seven riders in A grade is a good thing!

Sam Wells grabbed third on the yellow line, Zak Lunn finished second behind a charging Kalam Langworthy.

C+, what ARE you doing? The top four places, scores of 23, 23, 23, 25. I went back and checked these to make sure no one had entered one set of score cards for three different people, but no, all good, you're all just really close or something. I'm really glad the computer does the scoring and I don't have to manually go back and count cleans. Nigel Munday with 23 zeros, Jarrod Chivers with 21 zeros, Simon Langworthy with 20.

C grade wasn't as... identical... but still tried. Mike Travica was untouchable with just 12 points lost. Stevie Homan 17 with 27 cleans in second and Samuel Lockhart (me) with 17 and 26 cleans. Forth and fifth also tied, a solid effort from newcomer/returned rider Jeremy Bishop edging out Mick Luscombe.

Twin shock had the father and son duo of Colin and Alex Woodberry. Colin won, Alex second and no wombat holes were discovered.

Clubman is looking healthy! Braith Lunn dominated, just five points lost, look out C grade, he's (probably) coming (soon)! Mervyn Bishop had a decent return to the sport, grabbing second, Rosie Viney third, but only just, Will Delanty was only two points behind.

One Junior rider, Cooper Lockhart, recovering from both a big amount of blood loss from a leech bite a couple of weekends before and a serious bout of sickness, piloted his Oset to the win and loved every minute of it.

## **75<sup>th</sup> Kaikoura Three Day Trial**

**4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> June 2021**

### **Ken Hosking**

The Kaikoura Three Day Trial is a three-day event that is organised by the Pioneer Motorcycle Club of Christchurch, New Zealand. Kaikoura is a seaside town about two and a half hour's drive north from Christchurch. The trial has a 75-year tradition, extending from just after the second World War until the present day. Originally, competitors in the trial rode their bikes from Christchurch, with sections being ridden on the way up and back from Kaikoura, but over the years the format has changed.

By the time I started competing in trials, in the late sixties, the format had already changed, in that trials competitors using dedicated trials bikes transported their bikes in vans or on trailers rather than riding on public roads. However, on the journey to and from Kaikoura, groups of sections at various locations were ridden, requiring the unloading and reloading of bikes along the way. The middle day was ridden at a single property. However, in keeping with the spirit of the original trial, there was a trail bike grade for riders of road/off-road machines and the competitors in this grade rode their bikes on the road as well as in sections. A group of riders on road going machines would also accompany the event, with it being common for well-known road racing competitors to be involved.

Although it might be difficult to believe when watching my declining skills in present day trials, I rode in the experts grade in the early 70s and even thought I might be a contender for the New Zealand Championship following a win in the first round of the 1972 series. That was not to be, but I continued to have a strong desire to win the Kaikoura trial, and I came close on three occasions. In 1972, I was leading the trial going in to the final day, only to be beaten by fellow Bultaco rider Bob Cooke from Motueka in the overall results.

In 1973, when I was riding an Ossa, former national champion Robert Rush on his Montesa and I finished the three days on equal points, but Robert had more cleans and I was second again. In 1974, the trial was won by Bruce Mitchell on a Yamaha TY250 and I was second again on my Ossa, although I had the small consolation of winning the third day. After that Bruce and other young riders dominated the top end of trials in New Zealand and my chances of winning the Kaikoura trial were over.

Today, the trial is held within the Kaikoura area at different properties on each day. This year day 1 was held at the Trewin family's farm just south of Kaikoura, day 2 was held at Dairy Farm Road, in a somewhat remote location inland from Kaikoura and the final day was held at Mt Fife station, North West of Kaikoura. With the travel bubble between Australia and New Zealand being open and in view of this being the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the trial, I decided I had to enter.

The Kaikoura trial has the following grades: Experts, Intermediates, Clubman A, Clubman B, Twin Shocks, Juniors and Sidecars. The Intermediate grade resembles our B Grade, Clubman A is similar to our C+/C grade etc. Whilst my brother, Peter, and I have ridden the Intermediate line before in the Kaikoura trial, as it is a little less severe than in other Pioneer events, we both opted for the Clubman A line for this year's event. Peter was carrying a knee injury sustained in a recent trial and I was just feeling my age. After selling my former NZ bike, a 2010 Beta 250, I was riding the 2015 Beta Factory 250 that I had bought from Peter after he had acquired a new 2020 Beta 250. A visit to a practice area at Weedons, near Christchurch, gave me a little time to familiarise myself with the change in bikes.

The sign-on formalities were held at the decidedly informal Whalers Inn in Kaikoura on the Friday night. The following day it was off to the Trewin farm where a three lap, twelve section course had been laid out. The steep banks, stream crossings and slippery logs and rocks were familiar, but there were also sections in areas new to me. I started the day badly with a five when my bike slipped out of gear on the first section I rode. Just how much of a handicap this would be was highlighted by the overall easiness of the sections. Numerous clean laps were recorded in Clubman A. Peter lost zero points for the day, and after a few stray dabs to add to my five, I had lost nine points. That put Peter in the lead and me in 13<sup>th</sup> place; not a great place to be. Three riders had lost just 1 for the day in Clubman A.

I had been hoping for more difficult sections for day two, but the course at Dairy Farm Road was not conducive to catching up, as it was another relatively easy day. Four laps of ten sections were laid out on a delightfully long course that took competitors from the car park to the top of the surrounding hills with excellent views over the surrounding countryside.

Peter lost a single point for the day and I lost two points, putting Peter in the joint lead with three other riders on one point lost. I made it to ninth position overall with a total of 11 points for the two days. The Kaikoura trial sections do not have boundary tapes. This has led to the phenomenon of the "Kaikoura turn". In essence, the Kaikoura turn means that between section markers, deviations from the natural section line are permitted, or at least overlooked, with the routes taken through sections being limited only by the imagination. It was a Kaikoura turn resulted in one of my points lost on day 2. Somebody had helpfully parked their bike on my planned Kaikoura turn and in correcting my line, I lost a point. I have yet to discover what are the limits to a Kaikoura turn, but it seems that if you stay roughly within the Kaikoura regional government area it is OK.

Overnight rain during the Sunday night caused the final day at Mt Fyfe to be muddy and very slippery in places. Peter and I found we were approaching many sections in second and occasionally in third to achieve enough traction to enter the section start gates. This presented a chance to catch up, as this day was clearly going to be more difficult than the preceding two. However, Shane Ace, from Auckland, on an Ossa, quite literally aaced the day with a score of 12 points. His total of 13 points for the three days this gave him the overall win in Clubman A. Peter lost 22 on day three to give him an overall score of 23 for second place overall. Mike Ward and Tony Smith finished 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> with scores of 31 and 37 respectively. My score for the day was 29. I had managed to recover to 5<sup>th</sup> place overall in the grade with a total of 40 points for the three days.

The Expert grade was won by Warrick George from Manawatu (44 points lost) despite a late challenge by Paul Mountstevens (Christchurch) that brought him to within three points of the winner on 47. Tom Beedles (72) (Christchurch) took third place from Kevin Pinfold (77) (Manawatu).

In the Intermediate grade, John Regan (48) (Christchurch) kept his lead to take the overall win from Peter Osbourne (55) (Hamilton) and Roger Dunkley (60) (Wellington). Ross Bristol from Christchurch followed closely on 61 points.

The hotly contested sidecar results saw Christchurch competitors make a clean sweep of the top three positions, with Paul Jackson and Rob McKay winning, Kendal McDonald and Hamish Barnett finishing second and Josh Stones and David Trewin taking third place. As always, the prize for the noisiest competitors clearly went to the Wellington team of John Lawton and John Ravenscroft.

The trial ended with a photo display, a buffet and the awards presentation at the Lobster Inn back in Kaikoura

The Kaikoura trial is a most enjoyable event, combining competitive activities with social gatherings. The weather can be challenging given the time of the year in which the event is held, but that does not seem to matter as this is all part of the atmosphere. Cleaning the bike after the event is also a challenge, but not as great as it was in the 70s when the middle day was held on a dairy farm north of Kaikoura where the muddy slopes and dairy farm effluent created a clinging, aromatic sediment that was decidedly difficult to remove from the bike.

If the thought of three days of trials combined with three (almost four if the presentation is included) nights of social activity in another country appeals the Kaikoura Three Day Trial is for you.

Ken Hosking

### **Next State Round events**

Head south to Melton Mowbray, specifically Lovely Banks Road. We've not been there for a couple of years, it's usually top notch for spectators because it's all along one long bank, there's plenty of big rocks and small tricky rocks and it's usually freezing cold. July 18<sup>th</sup>, entries are now open on the website (<https://www.tastrials.org.au/entries>), be there!

Section setting is THIS WEEKEND, Sunday the 4<sup>th</sup> July.

### **Christmas Dinner**

Are you bloody serious? It's the middle of the year, calm down!

You've gotta get in early, it's the Southerners turn and because I picked a bloody excellent wife, she's doing all the work for this, so everyone down the bottom end of the State, thank me later.

Specifically chosen to not clash with the Toy Run, it's in our calendar, 4<sup>th</sup> of December at Mt Joy in the shearing shed. Yes we could have it on the hill, yes we could have had it at Bisdee Tier/Melton Mowbray, yes we could have had it at a sit down venue, but, if it rains like last year we'd be washed out and who knows what'll happen in terms of COVID and functions later in the year. Kaitlyn has promised to set up the shed with a Christmas tree and fairy lights, there will be catering from The Golden Roast, we'll get more details later, it'll be a good one.

Tasmanian Motorcycle Trials Club Inc  
Round 3 Upper Natone  
20 June 2021

Expert		Lap 1	Lap 2	Lap 3	Lap 4	Lap 5	Sun	Total	0	1	2	3	5
1	Chris BAYLES	22	11	8	2	1	44	44	19	5	4	2	5
2	Tom WOODHOUSE	22	23	22	22	20	109	109	2	3	4	16	10
A Grade		Lap 1	Lap 2	Lap 3	Lap 4	Lap 5	Sun	Total	0	1	2	3	5
1	Brendan SMITH	5	8	4	5	8	30	30	18	11	3	1	2
2	Dylan BAYLES	10	7	10	3	2	32	32	20	8	3	1	3
3	Will THORNBURY	6	11	3	10	6	36	36	18	8	3	4	2
4	Kurt PICKERING	15	9	9	4	11	48	48	13	11	4	3	4
5	Jordan PERKINS	11	14	6	9	8	48	48	11	9	10	3	2
6	Matt WOODHOUSE	19	19	15	12	12	77	77	3	12	7	7	6
7	Daniel FENTON	21	20	16	17	17	91	91	2	4	8	17	4
B Grade		Lap 1	Lap 2	Lap 3	Lap 4	Lap 5	Sun	Total	0	1	2	3	5
1	Kalam LANGWORTHY	9	11	12	5	2	39	39	16	10	4	2	3
2	Zak LUNN	12	5	12	10	4	43	43	15	9	5	3	3
3	Sam WELLS	19	8	14	6	4	51	51	13	7	7	5	3
4	Jenna LUPO	25	27	23	22	22	119	119	3	3	1	13	15
C Plus		Lap 1	Lap 2	Lap 3	Lap 4	Lap 5	Sun	Total	0	1	2	3	5
1	Nigel MUNDAY	6	2	7	8	0	23	23	23	8	1	1	2
2	Jarrold CHIVERS	10	10	2	1	0	23	23	21	11	1	0	2
3	Simon LANGWORTHY	7	5	6	1	4	23	23	20	10	2	3	0
4	Jack SALTER	8	4	4	7	2	25	25	18	12	2	3	0
5	Ian PICKERING	8	12	9	6	4	39	39	16	7	6	5	1
6	David PARKER	20	11	11	15	11	68	68	9	5	4	15	2
7	Ken HOSKING	18	21	12	13	12	76	76	5	6	6	16	2
C Grade		Lap 1	Lap 2	Lap 3	Lap 4	Lap 5	Sun	Total	0	1	2	3	5
1	Mike TRAVICA	6	1	0	5	0	12	12	30	2	1	1	1
2	Stevie HOMAN	11	4	1	0	1	17	17	27	4	1	2	1
3	Samuel LOCKHART	8	5	2	0	2	17	17	26	5	2	1	1
4	Jeremy BISHOP	9	7	2	5	2	25	25	22	5	6	1	1
5	Mick LUSCOMBE	9	3	4	9	0	25	25	19	9	5	2	0
6	Bryce SQUIBB	4	12	2	7	3	28	28	20	7	5	2	1
7	Lachlan LANGWORTHY	9	4	5	7	4	29	29	19	6	7	3	0
8	Mike HULL	8	9	6	9	2	34	34	20	7	3	2	3
9	Andrew ROYCROFT	4	8	10	5	8	35	35	21	5	3	3	3
10	Millie LOCKHART	15	12	9	7	13	56	56	13	5	6	8	3
11	Matt BESSELL	15	8	8	14	13	58	58	13	5	8	4	5
12	Elliott SALTER	23	22	17	19	16	97	97	2	5	2	21	5
DNS	Joel WRIGHT						0	DNS	0	0	0	0	0
Twinshock		Lap 1	Lap 2	Lap 3	Lap 4	Lap 5	Sun	Total	0	1	2	3	5
1	Colin WOODBERRY	1	8	8	10	5	32	32	23	4	2	3	3
2	Alex WOODBERRY	14	6	5	11	14	50	50	16	6	3	6	4
Clubman		Lap 1	Lap 2	Lap 3	Lap 4	Lap 5	Sun	Total	0	1	2	3	5
1	Braith LUNN	2	1	0	0	2	5	5	32	1	2	0	0
2	Mervyn BISHOP	9	7	5	5	1	27	27	21	5	5	4	0
3	Rosie VINEY	11	13	8	4	6	42	42	14	10	3	7	1
4	Will DELANTY	9	7	9	10	9	44	44	18	4	3	8	2
5	Alysha LUNN	12	9	11	6	9	47	47	12	9	4	10	0
6	Ian HOARE	18	19	19	11	17	84	84	6	3	5	17	4
Junior		Lap 1	Lap 2	Lap 3	Lap 4	Lap 5	Sun	Total	0	1	2	3	5
1	Cooper LOCKHART	7	1	10	6		24	24	10	4	0	5	1

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