

# **Dunfermline & District Motor Cycle Club AGM 2008**

## **Minutes of meeting held 21st January 2009 at the Queensferry Hotel, North Queensferry**

### **Welcome and apologies**

Willie Gillespie welcomed 34 members to the meeting. Apologies were received from Linda who was ill.

### **Chairman's report**

Willie Gillespie outlined the Club's activity for 2008 (a summary of which forms much of the Secretary's Report). Willie commented on the difficult season we'd had due to the wet weather. Because of damage to the ground at Dunduff we have lost the use of this site for the 1st Support Championship trial of the year. Despite the weather related problems and the continuing difficulties finding new ground for trials, it has been another successful year for the Club.

### **Minutes**

The minutes of the 2007 AGM, held 23/1/08, were made available for those attending to read. They have also been on the website since the last AGM for members to view. Stephen Baird proposed their adoption, seconded by Neil Dawson.

### **Secretary's Report** – compiled Stevie Baird/Russell Whiteford. Read by Russell Whiteford

Club membership for 2008 was 93 which mirrors the last five years.

In 2008 we ran 11 trials - The New Year trial, The Jimmy Adamson Memorial tuition trial, 6 Club trials, 1 Support and 2 Adult Championships. The early season Support Round was held at Dunduff and we've lost this early use of the ground due to the damage caused. Later season use for the John Davies Memorial event is fine. We also lost the use of the superb Callander site as the farmer felt it was becoming a nuisance to him. He has taken on another farm and is too busy to move stock etc solely for us to hold a trial. In July, the second running of the JD Memorial event was again won by Gary Macdonald and, as last year, commemorative T shirts were presented to riders and officials.

Club honour was maintained at SACU Championship events this year with Neil Dawson coming 2<sup>nd</sup> in the adult Class to Gary Macdonald. This is as good as a win in some respects considering Gary's UK status and level of ability. In the Clubman Class, Stephen Baird came 3<sup>rd</sup> and might have made that 2<sup>nd</sup> had he not missed our own Round by observing! New member and returnee after a 9 year break, Lee Tinney, came 4<sup>th</sup> after amassing 2 wins and a runner-up place in only a month of riding. Mike McNiven also rode well to collect 6<sup>th</sup> place. Mike also ventured to the Scott in October and fought his way to around Section 25 of the 70 in what is considered to be the toughest one day trial in the world. In SACU Youth C Class, Joe Dawson rode only 4 of the 8 Rounds and still came home 4<sup>th</sup> in a class dominated by riders older than him. Joe also came 4<sup>th</sup> in the British Championship in the small-wheel Youth D Class on the Fastrax TY80.

At the Scottish Six Days Trial, Crawford Carrick-Anderson, Neil Dawson and Grant Adamson achieved 1<sup>st</sup> Class awards. Stephen Baird, Jim Tennant and Stephen Leckie (our host at Crieff Hydro) picked up 2<sup>nd</sup> Class awards. The event might be remembered for the blistering sunshine all week, the fuel debauchle on Thursday which saw riders sunbathing near Rannoch for over two hours, or perhaps for the return of Dougie Lampkin who of course won convincingly.

The Club will be represented in the 2009 SSDT by Neil and Grant as usual, Mike McNiven having a first ride and hopefully, from the reserve list, Wull Gillespie.

Perth & District, once again, held the annual team trial at Monzie in October and Dunfermline Club were well represented by 4 teams. Winners of the event, yet again, was our Adult A team comprising Neil Dawson, Wull Gillespie, Jim Tennant and Lee Tinney. In runner-up position was our Adult B team of Grant Adamson, Stephen Baird, Bob Malloch & Grant Dempster. Our Over 40 team of Ian Shedden, Dougie Bald, Russell Whiteford and John Garrioch came 2<sup>nd</sup> in their class. Scarily, of the 16 teams entered, 9 were in the Over 40 class. Where are the young people? Well done to everyone who took part and represented our Club.

The website continues to be a massive asset to the administration of the club and I'd like to thank Stevo for his hard work in this respect. 7314 visits to the site this past year compares remarkably with the 7026 of 2007.

In 2009 we plan to hold the New Year trial (held on 2/1/09), the Jimmy Adamson Memorial tuition trial, 7 Club trials, an Adult Championship Round, and a Support Championship Round. Once again, the Club seeks the assistance of all members in order that these events can be the success we expect.

### **Treasurer's report**

Ann read out the report and explained the figures. The club continues with a healthy balance. Willie noted that there was a much reduced postage cost due entirely to the reliance on the website for membership forms, entry forms and results. Acceptance of the balance sheet as presented was proposed by Willie Gillespie and seconded by Russell Whiteford. Ann stated that she had served as Treasurer for 10 years and wished now, to resign. Willie thanked Ann for the fine job she had done and this sentiment was echoed with a round of applause from the attendees.

### **Election of office bearers**

Chairman – Willie Gillespie

Proposed – Russell Whiteford 2nd – Stephen Baird

Treasurer – Colin McNiven

Proposed – Willie Gillespie 2nd – Russell Whiteford

Membership Secretary – Ann Whiteford

Proposed – Russell Whiteford 2nd – Willie Gillespie

Webmaster – Stephen Baird

Proposed – Willie Gillespie 2nd – Neil Dawson

Trials secretary – Linda Gillespie

Proposed – Ann Whiteford 2nd – Stephen Baird

T&MX reporter – Russell Whiteford

Committee – The above named plus William Gillespie Jnr., Bob Malloch, Peter Valente, Mike McNiven and Dave Smollett.

### **Club subscriptions 2009**

These have been retained at £10 for adults, £5 for schoolboys and free for non-competition licence holders. Club trial entries will remain at £8 and £5 and £2 for "minders".

The subject of payment to landowners was raised and it was agreed that the sum of money, per se, would not influence farmers who offered the use of ground. All attendees were in agreement that it was an interest in the sport or simple kindness which persuaded farmers to allow trials on their ground. It was agreed that landowners should be paid at the rate of £2.00/rider with a minimum amount paid where rider numbers were small.

### **2009 Trial dates**

Refer to final paragraph, Secretary's Report.

All dates can be found on our Trials Planner on the website. The permits for Club trial/dates will be sent to the SACU office by Ann. In the meantime it was noted that Lanarkshire MCC had been

asked, by the SACU, to move their first Club trial date one week forward in the calendar to allow the SACU AGM to secure the 22nd February. This clashed with our proposed date for the Jimmy Adamson Memorial tuition trial. It was agreed that we would move this event to Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February. Allan Adamson asked that the venue be moved from Crieff to Glenlomond. David Yeaman, Glenlomond said he was happy to offer his ground on that day although he may not be able to attend personally due to work commitments. Dates have been selected for our other Club trials and these are on the trials planner on the website. Venues for the trials will be discussed at the next committee meeting proposed for mid-February (date to be agreed). Paul Wibberley is to confirm with the landowner that Burntisland will be available for the weekend 19/20<sup>th</sup> September for a Club and, Support Championship event. Willie Gillespie is to check that Dunduff is available for the weekend 18/19<sup>th</sup> July for a Club and, Adult Championship round.

## **2009 Trials school**

The Jimmy Adamson Memorial Trial will be held on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February and is open to all schoolboys and clubmen who are members of Dunfermline Club and entry is free of charge. It is proposed to be held at Glenlomond Farm – please enter beforehand as we need to plan the allocation of pupils to teachers. Regs/Entry forms are on the website. All entries to Allan Adamson please. Ann to supply Peter Valente with a list of Members so that Peter can e mail prospective entrants to stimulate interest. Willie suggested that a nominal entry fee be levied which could be paid into a Charity of Allan's choosing. Allan thanked Willie for the suggestion but declined the offer saying that the entry should be entirely free to encourage all Youths/beginners.

## **Club Trial Management, organization and marking**

This topic was suggested in response to queries from members on the general running of our Club trials. The standard 4 laps of 10 section format with riders "travelling" in groups, and with no rider marking his/her own punchcard was accepted by all as the norm. Many ideas were put forward by attendees to legitimise riders' scores as it was felt that, in the absence of independent observers, scoring could be open to misinterpretation or incorrect recording. Due to small numbers of riders at events it was felt that observers could not be expected to be available. "Roving" observing undertaken by selected riders had been tried by Lanarkshire Club, with some success, but the system had not been continued. It is generally accepted that riders complete a trial at different speeds and over varied time periods. Some complete the entire course without stopping, others take a "lunch break". This tended to break the entry up into like-minded groups. Because of this, it was decided that the rider group system should be continued but with one important stipulation, suggested by Colin McNiven and accepted by many in the audience, that riders seeking Club Championship points must ride in groups and must not punch their own card. Any rider electing to ride alone or who punches his/her own card will not be eligible for Club Championship points at that event. The committee will pursue this subject at the next meeting to ratify this proposal and to introduce this ruling onto the Club Trial Entry Form.

## **Gifts for landowners**

Willie Gillespie: arrange/deliver gift to Knockhill, Dunduff and Drumfin.

Russell Whiteford: Crieff and Glenlomond (Flowers to Crieff, Whisky to Glenlomond deld 23/1/09)

Paul Wibberley: Burntisland

## **AOB**

Ann provided information on the forthcoming SACU AGM and read out nominations for election of the SACU Vice Chairmanship. Ann offered the remaining small quantity of John Davies Memorial Trial T shirts as secondary prizes for Award winners with any remaining to be sold

immediately. Club Membership forms were made available.

Availability of new trials ground was discussed in open forum with David Yeaman suggesting that by far the most likely way was by word of mouth rather than by making cold contact. David also explained the DEFRA Cross Compliance stipulations under which farmers are required to steward their land. Essentially, arable farmers are unlikely to be able to offer us suitable terrain but, more importantly, they would have difficulty with the "misuse" of arable ground regarding access, parking or bike tracking. Such issues are less of a concern on hill or rough ground. Duncan Wood has located a possible site near Elie and he will try to make contact with the owner. Willie Gillespie is to pursue the possibility of a site near Glendevon which was previously intimated to him by Bobby Lafferty.

Peter Valente queried the lack of ACU members' newsletters or documentation. We each receive an SACU newsletter but we never get any ACU versions. Those members attending the SACU Trials Seminar day on 31<sup>st</sup> January will seek clarification from Trials Chairman, John Moffat, and report back.

A buffet followed the meeting and then Ann Whiteford presented the trophies.

### **Club Champions 2008**

Expert	Willie Gillespie
Non-expert "A"	Mike McNiven
Non-expert "B"	James Foster
Novice	Grant Dempster
Over 40	Russell Whiteford
"A" Class	Not awarded
"B" Class	Euan Allan & Thomas Wibberley
"C" Class	Connor Smith
"D" Class	Joe Dawson

Recorded by Ann M Whiteford 21/1/08

Compiled by Russell Whiteford 24/1/08