

The 1965 SIMMONS CUP TRIAL

Sunday 12th September 1965

Start and finish at the Bull, Birchwood, Swanley

Present Day Note:

There is no programme or Results in the Sidcup Club archives. Has anyone out there either? The Trial did run, and references to it appeared in the September and October issues of The Compass, the monthly magazine of the Sidcup Club.

The September 1965 Compass

Fixtures

Sun 12th Simmons Trial. Observers at Bull, Birchwood by 10 a.m. sharp

The October 1965 Compass

(part of) **Trials Talk** by the Trials Secretary, Brian Goldsmith

The first half-page of Trials Talk was Brian having a 'go' about Club members who turned up at scrambles working party at Canada Heights, but just sat around.

He continued.....

It was a pity that this 'can't be bothered' attitude by Club members prevailed for the Simmons Cup Trial two weeks later. Most of the work for the trials is carried out by the trials riders a week or so before the event. All we ask is for 24 or more observers on the day. Yet to get a couple of dozen members to the Bull on Sunday is as difficult as trying to make Ted Winn go without his porridge in the morning.

A typical example was Bill Webb and Co., who three weeks before the Simmons agreed to come, and yet when asked on the Wednesday before, replied that they were going to the Double Five Club's scramble at Jewels Hill.

At 11 o'clock, when the trial should have started, we were still short of 8 observers. I shall be putting forward a motion to the Committee shortly a way of counteracting this general apathetic attitude towards Club Trials by a certain number of trials riders.

The Trial, when it eventually did start at 11:20 turned out to be a success. Gordon Farley was the winner, losing no marks; Ernie Small was best Sidecar driver and Grove Park the best Team. A very enjoyable day, the weather keeping fine, but a pity more Club Members did not turn up, but thanks to those who did.

Present Day explanatory notes:

Bill Webb was a good mate of this writer (Peter Burrell) and I am one his 'and Co.' who went to the Scramble instead of the Simmons Cup Trial. Our excuse was that just before the Simmons, we received acceptance of entry to a Scramble at Jewels Hill in November which would be our first ever scramble as riders!

So we went to Jewels Hill to see what the track was like from a riders' point of view – and came away worried about the steep hills, the bomb holes, the mud and the one hundred or so mad scramblers who we would be joining a few weeks later!