

# The 1950 SIMMONS CUP TRIAL

## Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March 1950

### 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 February, March and April issues of The Compass, the monthly magazine of the Sidcup Club. However, nothing about who won!

### February 1950

**Trialities**, by M. Pring, the Club's Trials Secretary.

Simmonds (sic) Trial. March 12<sup>th</sup> 1950

Arrangements are already well in hand for this event. I don't think you will have to go so far as Flimwell this time, which doubtless, will be a relief to grand sportsman Max Klein, who is again providing transport for Norman the Maestro, who has promised once more to sort out something good for us.

### March 1950

**Abbreviated Committee Notes** (Club Committee meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> February)

Trials Section Report: It was reported that the organisation of the Simmonds Trial was progressing, although it was thought that a little difficulty may be encountered with local inhabitants in the area selected.

Fixtures: Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March: Simmonds Trial, starting at 10:30am.

### April 1950

**Trialities**, by M. Pring, the Club's Trials Secretary.

**Sidcup Simmons Trial. N.K.T.C., March 12<sup>th</sup>**

A solid fortnight of drought in N.E. Kent means tape and nadgery. The Simmons was no exception, but it as good nadgery, and Harold Brown, with foreman N.C.S. [*Norman Smith*], are to be congratulated on producing a good course in spite of the non-co-operation of Jupiter Pluvius Esq.

One section was too bad for sidecars and it seems very harsh that Eldridge, playing "guinea pig", suffered retirement, not even getting a Goldney Mark for finishing, whilst the other chairs carried on, with the offending section cut out. Bill Peacock's passenger, Peter Brooks, did a very good job of patching up the leg of Eldridge's passenger.

Eddie Boan, Don Lord, Bob Clark and many others were to be seen working hard to make the trial a success. The music at the finish was a good idea. Catering at the Cock Inn between the two laps was excellent. So good, in fact, that our President [*Jock West*].did his second lap in between rounds!! Boys will be boys (even if they are getting a bit thin on top). Reg Reid claims the copyright of all photographs showing the record jump in Section 13.

Results proved once again that our John is king of the sidecar men. Walkey, Whitebread and I again got 2nds, and Len Millbank was the best non-combine award winner. The A.A. Smith memorial award for the best Sidcup novice was won by J.W. Edwards.

**Present Day explanatory notes:**

- The correct name of the Trial is the Simmons Cup Trial. Over the years it has often been misspelt the Simmonds Trial (with a 'd').
- The March Compass gave the date and start time, but no indication of the start venue, apart from a mention of local inhabitants in the area selected!
- In the March report, "Jupiter Pluvius Esq" is an old term for 'rain'. Jupiter was the God of the sky and Pluvius (no 'o' in it) means rain.
- The Goldney Cup Aggregate (named after Alan Goldney, the Club's President from 1928 until his death in 1946) was an annual aggregate for Sidcup members where points were awarded for finishing and winning awards in South Eastern Centre Trials.
- Was the Cock Inn, Lullingstone, the start and finish of the Trial? This pub is now the Headquarters of the Gravesend Club.