



Wirral 100 News



The Newsletter of the Wirral Hundred Motor Club.

Volume 59, Issue 1, Feb. 2010

EVENTS CALENDAR 2010

SPORTING CALENDAR

Sat 20 March ___ Test Day, Anglesey.
Sat 20 March ___ Anglesey Jog; For SportRelief. See opposite.
Sun 21 March ___ Anglesey, Club Championship, Round 1
Sat 10 April ___ Oulton Park, Club Championship, Round 2
BH Mon 31 May ___ Anglesey, Club Championship, Round 3
Sat/Sun 24/25 July ___ Anglesey, Club Champ. Rd. 4 & ACU F2 S/C
Sat/Sun 2/3 Oct. ___ Anglesey Grand & Club Champ. Rds. 5 & 6
Sat 23 Oct. ___ Oulton Park, Club Championship, Round 7

ANNUAL DINNER DANCE & AWARDS EVENING

Once again we had a full house for the Dinner Dance, and once again Helen and Hefin and their team of helpers did a magnificent job of making the evening so successful.

We are sure everyone will agree that our two special guests, Jamie Whitham and Jenny Tinmouth, were absolutely brilliant, and it was great that so many people had the opportunity to chat and have their photos taken with them; thanks Jamie and Jenny.

With thirteen of our fourteen Championship Winners in attendance, and a glittering display of awards, the presentation of the awards by Jamie Whitham was expertly managed by Dave Francis.

Thanks to Dave Barnett, all the photographs of the award winners were available on the night, and will soon be available on our web site.

In view of so many positive comments, the Holiday Inn has again been booked for the same Saturday next year.

2010 REGULATIONS & ENTRY FORMS

All registered racing members should receive with this Newsletter our regs and entry forms for the entire season – Anglesey and Oulton Park. They will also be available very soon (if they are not already there) for downloading from our website.

We have this year been faced with a 10% increase in the circuit hire fee for the Anglesey Coastal circuit, as the owners not unreasonably narrow the cost differential between the two circuits, a 5% increase in the cost of insurance, and the effects of the VAT rate returning to 17.5% - and we have also decided to increase the daily travel / food allowance paid to our Anglesey marshals from £10 to £15 per day (still extremely good value for money!). As a result of these cost increases we have had to increase our basic entry fees by £10 - nevertheless we again expect that these will be lower than any of the other clubs using Anglesey and Oulton in 2010. So please continue to give us your support, and let others know.

Apart from the entry fees, our regulations and entry forms are almost identical to those for 2009, a reflection that the classes and format of the meetings are unchanged. One small improvement - we have created a box on the entry forms for riders to note any preferred riding numbers. Marg, as usual, will do her best but of course there is no guarantee that she will be able to accommodate everyone's preferred numbers – an impossible task. Talking of numbers, make sure they are clearly legible, matt on a matt background, and in accordance with the sizes and colours specified in the ACU Handbook. Be warned – the patience of the scrutineers is wearing thin!

ANGLESEY – SAT & SUN 20TH & 21ST MARCH

Saturday is our 2010 pre-season test day, open to all 2010 ACU licence-holders, regardless of whether they are competing or not the following day. Last year 142 riders took the opportunity to test with us; a good, safe time was had by all, and we are hoping for similar support this year.

We will be using the Coastal Circuit (same on Sunday) and the intention is that each class will have four 15-minute sessions. The first session will start at 11am, with signing-on from 9.30am.

Last year we separated the Formula 600's and Powerbikes into slower and faster groups – this was well received and we intend doing the same again.

One innovation this year is that to help speed the signing-on process, we will be sending out an entry form for the test day with the final instructions, passes, etc for the Sunday. If riders could complete these before arriving at the circuit on the Saturday, then hopefully the queuing time will decrease considerably. The entry fee, payable on the day, is £90 (sidecars £95) – spread the word because we believe this is a real bargain!

SportRelief – the Anglesey Jog. As this is the SportRelief weekend, we have decided to do our bit to aid this very worthwhile charity, and to help the paddock fraternity with its general fitness! Yes, we all will be jogging (or running or walking) around the circuit at Saturday team-time (5.30pm-ish) as soon as possible after the Test Day activities have finished. Riders and passengers, officials, marshals, wives, girlfriends, boyfriends, mechanics, mums and dads, boys and girls – be ready. Expect the suggested "entry fee" (ie minimum donation to SportRelief) to be very modest, the fresh air to be bracing, and the exercise rewarding.

Sunday then will be our first race meeting of the year and no doubt the first of the season for the majority of our riders. With it being the first it is particularly important that entries are received by the closing date, Saturday 6th March, so that we are able to take account of the mix of entries, plan the meeting properly and therefore maximize track time. Last year the qualifying races were over 6 laps and the championship / trophy races were over 8 laps, so if the size of entry and mix is similar, expect the same again. We have the same championship classes as last year with seven rounds – one at each event and a double-header at the Anglesey Grand.

Circuit-wise the only things to mention at this stage are that we expect the Armco barrier between Church and Rocket to be fully protected by a tyre-wall, and that the area we have used in the past for the Assembly Area is to become the Paddock Return Road / Parc Ferme and vice versa. No further news yet on the proposed new race control building.

MARSHALS TRAINING DAY SAT. 27 FEBRUARY

This years training day will take place at Anglesey on Saturday 27 February, with signing on from 9.00 AM and starting at 10.00AM.; refreshments will be provided.

To all those marshals who haven't returned their availability forms will you please do so as soon as possible; in order that catering arrangements can be made for the day. If you have lost you form, or if anyone else wants to attend, the marshals availability form can be downloaded from our website.

If there is anyone out there who would like to get involved with marshalling, then give Dave Edwards a ring on 0151 327 4399. Remember we can never have too many marshals,

OULTON PARK – SATURDAY 10TH APRIL

This meeting follows just three weeks after Anglesey, and as it is the first bike meeting of the year at Oulton we are hopeful that it will be a big one. This will mean, as last year, some of the classes will be over-subscribed, and as we do not want to disappoint any of our regulars, we urge you to get your entries in on time. One suggestion is that you leave your entry forms and SAE's with Marg at Anglesey – at least then you and we can relax.

The circuit as usual is organising a Test Day on Friday 9th April – if you are interested, you can book via the Oulton Park website or ring them on 01829 760301. Cost is £149.

We will be making the usual garage-hire arrangements for the Saturday (cost unchanged at £30), so if you want one, let Marg know – it is first come, first served.

And don't forget that all bikes are required to be noise-tested before being allowed out on to the circuit – the arrangements for this will be set out in the Final Instructions; they worked pretty well last October, let's have a repeat this time round, please. And if anyone has any concerns that their noise might be border-line, get them tested by our scrutineers and corrected at Anglesey.

An unusual feature of this meeting is that we have agreed to a request by 42 Commando Association - Royal Marines to incorporate a memorial lap for Marine Michael Laski from Liverpool who was killed in action last year in Afghanistan. Michael was a keen biker, and it is likely that this tribute to him will be widely supported by his friends and colleagues, and will receive a significant degree of media coverage. The plan is to incorporate the memorial lap, just before we start racing again after lunch.

CTC'S AND NEW MEMBERS

43 potential new competitors attended our course at the Lord Daresbury Hotel on 31st January, and the majority has joined the Club. We firstly welcome the really new ones and welcome to your first W100 News. Riders who have been out of the sport for three years or more are also required to attend these courses and every year, we see guys returning to the fold – this year was no exception with Chay Budden, 'our' Craig Jones, David Atkinson, Jim Carden, Mark and John Bain, and others, all creeping out of the woodwork again – welcome back, boys.

Thank you as well to Hefin Smith, Martin Crook, Jim Aspinall, Mark Berry, Margaret Dewsnap and Lyn Francis for assisting Dave Francis in running the course. It's a pity but we have had to cancel our second CTC of the winter, scheduled for 7th March, because of a date clash with a Clerk of the Courses' Seminar – apologies to anyone who was intending to attend.

INDIAN CONQUEST

Congratulations to Colwyn Bay's David Jones, so impressive towards the end of last year on his 675 Triumph. His recent racing trip to India resulted in four straight wins and a lap record. Now back to the real world – racing at Anglesey in March!!

ACU LICENCE UPGRADES – UPDATE

In the December 2009 newsletter we explained the recent changes to the ACU's procedures for upgrading road race licences. The article was correct at the time of writing, but the ACU has changed its mind in one particular area (don't ask why!). We believed we had obtained approval that where there are heats and finals and the top 50% are seeded into an 'A' Final or Championship Race (as usually occurs with our Formula 600 class), then all of the finishers in the 'A' Final (being 50% of the entry) would be eligible for an 'Upgrade' signature.

Not now - it is only the top 50% of finishers in the 'A' Final who will be eligible. Illogical for clubs who get more than 40 entries in a class? - Yes!

If this becomes an issue we may have to re-visit our allocation procedures and allow more riders to ride in 'A' Finals, but safety as always will be our prime concern. We would stress that this anomaly only currently applies to our Formula 600 class, but would apply to the Powerbikes or any other class if we had to run heats and finals.

In the meantime we would recommend any Clubman licence-holders wishing to discard their orange vests (broadly via 'Satisfactory' signatures) or wishing to upgrade to a National licence (via Upgrade signatures and copies of the race results in respect of 'Championship' races) should read the new procedures as set out in the 2010 ACU Handbook, which all licence-holders should receive soon.

Marg and Lyn, who are authorised to sign ACU licences on behalf of the club, understand the new rules, but it will obviously help things a lot if the riders concerned also understand them..

2010 MEMBERSHIP

With Membership Renewals arriving thick and fast, this is a timely reminder to those who haven't renewed their membership.

PLEASE return your renewal to Margy Dewsnap, together with the sum of £10 and a STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVELOPE.

If you want your licence countersigning and sending on to Rugby, then please enclose a stamped addressed envelope to the ACU at Rugby.

With over 600 riders and licence applications to process, the sooner we receive your paperwork, the quicker they can be processed.

If you have lost your membership form, a copy can be downloaded from our web site at www.wirral100.co.uk

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