



Wirral 100 News



The Newsletter of the Wirral Hundred Motor Club.

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EVENTS CALENDAR 2011/12

SPORTING CALENDAR

Sun 5 Feb 2012 ___ New Competitor Training Course, Warrington
Our 2012 Anglesey & Oulton dates will be published as soon as they have been confirmed.

SOCIAL CALENDAR

Tue 15 Nov _____ A.G.M. Bridge Inn, Port Sunlight.
Sat 21 Jan _____ Dinner Dance, Holiday Inn, Ellesmere Port.

COMPETITOR TRAINING COURSE – Sunday 5 February 2012

Once again the Club is planning to run a CTC in advance of next season. These courses are compulsory for new riders entering the sport and for those rejoining after being absent for three years or more. The main alternative to this user-friendly weekend course in Warrington is to attend one of the weekday courses at the ACU's offices in Rugby. Please spread the word, especially to those who may not be club members yet, but who may be thinking of starting racing next year. Anyone interested in attending should contact Margaret Dewsnap on 01244 813127, who will be sending out Booking Forms in late December.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This years AGM will again be held at The Bridge Inn, Bolton Rd. Port Sunlight, CH62 4UQ on Tuesday 15 Nov. starting at 8.00 PM We have 3 vacancies on the committee, & if anyone wishes to nominate a club member to fill these vacancies, please contact Helen on 01745 816773 as soon as possible. Please try to attend the AGM, as this is your chance to say how the club is run. After the official business is over, (this usually takes about an hour), there will be an opportunity for a riders forum, to discuss the way forward for the 2012 season.

DINNER DANCE & AWARDS EVENING

The Club's Annual Dinner Dance will again be held at The Holiday Inn Ellesmere Port, on Saturday 21 January. Once again we will be offering our championship winners a free ticket, and they will be receiving their invitations in the next few weeks. Ticket Application forms will be enclosed with the December Newsletter for club members and friends to apply for their tickets.

THE ANGLESEY GRAND – 15/16 OCTOBER

The 'Grand' meeting, despite one or two challenges, was again a great season-ender with superb weather, a great turn-out of marshals (thanks, everyone), and loads of laps for the riders..

The first challenge was a phone call in the week prior to the event from the organisers of TTXGP, who were in Spain for their 2011 World Final. A 'misunderstanding' there had meant that the race had to be cancelled, hence the very late request to include them in our programme. They travelled across Europe, we tweaked our timetable, hence the appearance of the electric bikes, including teams from China and Germany. A disappointing entry but we made some friends and a bob or two from the exercise. For those with Sky, keep an eye on Motors TV in the coming weeks as both the TTXGP race and the Anglesey Grand were filmed.

The second main challenge was the effect of three red-flag incidents on the Saturday, which in total deprived us of 60 minutes' track-time – fortunately there were no serious injuries, Rob Owen's collar bone and ribs and Eric Bennett's arm being the worst – get well soon, boys. We managed to drag back the majority of the time lost, but not enough to save the Junior Open race, which was cancelled, but to compensate they got double the number of laps in their race on Sunday.

Entries-wise we still could have done with 20 or so more to balance the books, but it was the best entry we have had at Anglesey this year, some obviously attracted by competing in the Grand and some genuine newcomers. It was also good to see some Irish and Manx visitors again and we had easily the best entries of the year for both the Classics and the Sidecars. Let's hope they all come back for more throughout 2012.

Early Saturday evening saw a good turn-out for the Riders' Forum in the bar area (see separate report on our thoughts for 2012), and later on saw the annual Grand Karaoke – thanks again to Paula and Jimmy, Helen and Hef for organising this.

The racing highlights included Dave Holden & Heath Fairbrother at last returning to Anglesey and, admittedly with 400 extra cc's, pushing Craig Hauxwell & Dave Beattie from their customary top-spot – no doubt that the weekend's highlight for Craig was the tribute lap which the sidecar community initiated in memory of his dad, Dave, safely completed despite having Garry Gardiner in the chair!

The resurgent Classic races saw a new name at the front – the impressive Jason Markham with Neil Ogden keeping him honest, and 13 years-old Manxman Nathan Harrison once again the fastest of the Aprilia 125's.

Shaun Williams, who has supported the club, on-and-off depending on finances, for many years, announced that this was to be his final meeting, and fittingly bowed out in the 250ccGP class with a fall, two firsts and a second. Darren Johnson, after a season of down and ups, returned to form with wins in the pre-Injection and S/F races. Two riders who didn't quite make the Grand put on a great show in the Powerbikes / F600 trophy race – with leading Irish rider Michael Sweeney, not taking up his invitation to ride in the Grand, pushed all the way by orange-jacketed Steve Jones, with just six-hundredths separating the two at the end. But it was mainly a day for Anglesey debutants – John Ingram in the Powerbikes, Sam Hornsey in the 600's and Ben Rea in the steel-framers – all gaining hugely impressive wins, with John and Sam starring in the two legs of the Grand.

Rain overnight meant that there was a damp track for timed practice for the Grand with tyre choice at a premium, nevertheless it was a bit of a surprise to see the 600's of Johnny Blackshaw, Jamie Harris and Sean Neary fill the first three places ahead of John Ingram, with the pre-race favourite Ian Mackman back in 16th place. However both of the 10-lap legs were run in perfect conditions that saw the superior power of the big bikes come to the fore, with John Ingram taking a half-second advantage over the fast-finishing Ian Mackman going in to the second leg. Ian's charge through the field was impressive, but equally so were those of 17 years-old Sam Hornsey and Christain Peck, both on 600's, who had rear-of-grid starts and came through to 5th and 10th respectively. The grid positions for the second leg were based on the fastest laps achieved in the first leg (as in BSB), so Ian was on pole, and he charged into the lead and was never headed – John had a toe-slider issue and went onto the grass early in the race, and had his work cut out to move up from 6th place to 2nd, but 10 seconds behind Ian. whilst Sam just got the better of David Jones in third place. Sadly the 1st Leg's third Russ Mountford had a fall in the 2nd Leg. Overall then Ian took the win from John, and a 4th and a 5th saw John Robb take 3rd place on aggregate.. Sam was the best of the 600's. That said, all of the riders who were invited to take part in the Grand can be congratulated for their efforts – fast and safe, the races were a pleasure to watch. Well done, everyone.

Dave Francis.

WIRRAL 100 ROAD RACE CHAMPIONSHIP 2011

The provisional final positions in the 2011 Road Race Championship, are as follows:-

<u>125cc GP</u>		<u>250cc GP</u>	
Darren Jones	138	Alec Cottam	115
Martin Jones	62	Adrian Morris	85
Dylan Davies	60	Keith Jackson	52
Rhodri Owen	54	Jim Carden	42
Martin Darren	53	Shaun Williams	42
Bryn Owen	28	Steve Green	39
<u>FORMULA 400</u>		<u>POWERBIKES</u>	
Tim Bradley	143	John Robb	193
Connor Behan	111	Neil Watson	172
Chay Budden	62	Adrian Williams	125
Steve Jones	52	Chris Lacy	112
Lee Sanders	25	Matthew Cox	87
Gary Ellis	25	Philip Worthington	79
<u>FORMULA 600</u>		<u>FORMULA 600-Steel Frame</u>	
Jamie Harris	204	Sam Cross	91
Johnny Blackshaw	117	Richard Sampson	88
Sean Neary	113	Alan Dodd	85
Christian Peck	112	Frank Baines	79
Chris Mort	95	Martyn Bloomfield	77
David Atkinson	73	Darren Johnson	57
<u>FORGOTTEN ERA</u>		<u>PRE-INJECTION</u>	
Tim Bradley	120	Paul Brandon	106
Connor Behan	115	Darren Johnson	87
Chay Budden	81	Frank Baines	86
Adrian Morris	66	Sam Cross	65
Steve Jones	56	Steve Ormrod	32
David Edwards	45	Martin Williams	31
<u>SIDECARS</u>		<u>MINITWINS & CB500's</u>	
C.Hauxwell/D.Beattie	151	Gary Gittins	127
A.Molyneux/A.Hailwood	88	Alan Ball	65
T.Cunliffe/M.Cunliffe	75	Jake Povah	51
J.Shipley/J.Shipley	71	John Byatt	49
K.Thornton/D.Dean	32	Ian Mclver	44
D.Holden/H.Fairbrother	30	Kevin Stitt	42
<u>JUNIOR OPEN</u>		<u>SENIOR OPEN</u>	
Connor Behan	150	John Robb	140
Gary Gittins	133	Jamie Harris	132
Alec Cottam	82	Johnny Blackshaw	110
Adrian Morris	52	Chris Mort	70
Jake Povah	46	Simon Napier	69
Keith Jackson	40	Adrian Williams	64

2011 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS - SOME OBSERVATIONS

Congratulations to all of our 2012 Champions

Powerbikes – Pity that Neil Watson's army posting to Afghanistan made him miss the Grand meeting and a good old confrontation with John! Adrian Williams, back to form, finished in all 11 races, as did Chris Lacy, the newcomer of the year.

Formula 600 – Jamie's run-away success was based on 11 finishes and 5 wins. Only 5 points separated the next three. 53 riders scored championship points this year!

F600 – S/F – The closest championship of the year with just 6 points separating the first three. Martyn Bloomfield was the only rider to score in every race.

Senior Open – Jamie went into the last race with a 1-point lead, but the extraumph of John's GSXR 1000 got him to the front in the end. Great season too for Johnny Blackshaw with a 3rd in this class, to go with his 2nd in Formula 600.

Formula 400 – Tim too had 11 finishes and 5 wins and was grateful no doubt that Connor missed the May meeting. It was good to see Chay back and competitive again.

Minitwins – Gary, again with 11 finishes out of 11, was the strongest of our regular riders, and it was good to see Alan Ball rewarded with his consistency. There were six different race winners this year.

125ccGP – Darren's walkaway victory was based on 6 race wins and 4 seconds. Martin missed two meetings. Dylan won all 4 of the races he entered. Kyle Ryde won the race at Oulton.

250ccGP – Alec was another one with 11 points-scoring races, winning the two in May and being slightly more consistent than Adrian. Amazingly there were 7 different races winners in the 11 races.

Forgotten Era – As with the F400, Tim had 100% consistency and Connor missed the May meeting. The most consistent points-scorer was the Welsh Dave Edwards who just had the one DNF.

Pre-Injection – Paul had secured the title by July, helped by Darren hitting the deck a couple of times. Frank with 10 finishes was Mr Consistency, whilst Sam came to the fore in the last two meetings.

Junior Open – Connor unbeaten in 6 races and Gary won the race that Connor missed. Alec again had a 100% consistency rate. Class not as well supported as we had hoped.

Sidecars – 11 out of 11 race finishes for both Craig & Dave and Alan & Andy – who said sidecars break down? Craig & Dave only beaten by a couple of quick Formula 1's – Craig Chaplow and Dave Holden.

Dave Francis

THOUGHTS FOR 2012

Dates – The plan is that 2012 will broadly follow the pattern of 2011. Our provisional dates at Anglesey are Sunday 25 March (with a test day on the Saturday), BH Monday 4 June, Sat/Sun 28/29 July and Sat/Sun 13/14 October. At Oulton Park we have provisionally secured the date of Sat 28 April. We have taken on board requests to start our season a little later, and both the first Anglesey and the Oulton date are later than they were this year.

Other matters - At the Riders' Forum at the Anglesey Grand, Dave Francis gave those present a brief summary of the Club's financial situation, stressed our need to retain / increase our rider numbers, and asked for suggestions for 2012. There was a consensus that our meeting and class structure should remain broadly the same, with the exception that the March weekend should revert to a test day on the Saturday with a one-day racing meeting on the Sunday.

After the meeting the following matters were raised, which we will be considering over the next few weeks:

- To target an increase in Classic Bikes, particularly when the dates do not clash with Classic club events, and to build on the Classic Parade held last July.
- To target an increase in Sidecars after a much more encouraging entry in October.
- To include GP3 (250cc four strokes) in our 125ccGP class
- To consider adopting the Supertwins rules soon to be published by the ACU
- To consider means of reducing the waiting time in the Assembly Area, caused by accidents and / or breakdowns in the previous race
- To consider timed practice for the solo classes (previously rejected on safety and logistical grounds)
- To consider running events at other circuits (previously rejected on cost and marshalling grounds)
- To expand the use of our website and to eliminate (most of) the mailing of regulations & entry forms, and newsletters.

We anticipate that we will be going 'firm' with any changes soon after the forthcoming AGM, so if anyone has any views or additional comments to the above, please drop Dave Francis a line, or better still, attend the AGM.