

# The Pathfinder

Issue : 403



John McGlone at Rayner's Farm

**CLUB NIGHT:** 1st Tuesday each month.  
7:30pm upstairs from Lounge, Pioneer Hotel  
cnr Albany & Sth West Hwy, Armadale

**Trials**   
**AUSTRALIA**  
<http://www.trials.com.au>



# The Pathfinder

Newsletter of the Pathfinders  
 MotoTrials Club  
 Perth Western Australia  
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*Members welcome to contribute, send any articles or interest snippets to the Editor by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month. Articles sizes - Page 650-700 words; Column 400-450 words.*

The opinions and viewpoints expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of the editor or of the club

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## EDITORIAL

Well I still haven't made it to a trial and the way it's going probably won't for another month or so at least, unfortunately. Our new house should be ready in August but I will still have some more things to sort which may affect my riding.

I hope everyone is enjoying the events, I understand there has been some good turnouts and some new riders have started to turn up. As usual the season seems to be flying by, at least we have finally had a decent amount of rain which should mean there is water running in the streams. It sounds as if the Blackwood was another success which is no surprise.

Things are looking promising for the Nationals to be in WA next year, providing we can find a suitable venue which will be a challenge. Even once that is sorted there will be

a lot of tasks to be completed so any help you can provide will be welcome.

Talking about help I'm still looking for articles for the magazine so please send me anything you think is worth sharing or write something if you're feeling creative.

Anyway that's enough from me, catch you at a trial.

**Tony "I do all my own stunts" Povey.**

### Coming Events Check changes in the Sunday Times ON2Wheels pages and in Sat. The West BGC Sporting Notices

- |                     |               |            |                         |
|---------------------|---------------|------------|-------------------------|
| • Prestige Series 3 | Rayner's Farm | Brookton   | 9:30am Sun 17th July    |
| • Prestige Series 4 | Hobb's Farm   | Beverley   | 9:30am, Sun 31st July   |
| • Prestige Series 5 | Taylor's Farm | Bullsbrook | 9:30am, Sun 14th August |
| • Prestige Series 6 | Hilltop Farm  | Toodyay    | 9:30am, Sun 28th August |

**Pathfinders Trials MCC (Inc)****Results - Blackwood Two Day held at Kirup on 5th and 6th June, 2011**

Steward - Georgie Thomas

Clerk of Course - John McGlone

Scrutineer - Ric Fairey

Race Secretary - Dave Thomas

Organiser - Frank Patane

#	Grade	Competitor	Day 1 Laps				Day 1 Total	Day 2 Laps		Day 2 Total	Event Total
			1	2	3	4		1	2		
1	A	Lewis Nolan	24	16	21		61	16	17	33	94
	A	Neil Price	20	15	8		43				
1	B	Tristian Lowe	20	11	4	9	44	3	1	4	48
2	B	Dave Thomas	22	13	6	13	54	15	26	41	95
3	B	Sam Lloyd-Cox	36	26	21	13	96	22	18	40	136
4	B	Craig Austin	18	23	10	18	69	30	38	68	137
5	B	Steve Lloyd-Cox	28	23	25	20	96	28	23	51	147
1	C	Lee Street	3	6	0	2	11	8	1	9	20
2	C	Matt Leatherbarrow	9	4	2	5	20	7	10	17	37
3	C	Sean McGuckin	18	6	8	3	35	22	15	37	72
4	C	Kevin Reynolds	13	14	2	13	42	16	17	33	75
5	C	Mike Darnborough	8	19	8	12	47	24	12	36	83
6	C	Rob Bowlden	18	13	13	13	57	11	17	28	85
7	C	Simon Price	11	11	2	75	99	3	10	13	112
8	C	Andreas Meyer	25	27	26	13	91	25	11	36	127
9	C	Ben Dumitro	30	31	22	32	115	19	24	43	158
10	C	Paul Smith	28	28	27	26	109	29	25	54	163
11	C	Brad Morrissey	38	27	22	29	116	30	32	62	178
12	C	Peter Dumitro	39	33	34	27	133	34	36	70	203
	C	Ian Coates						42	33	75	
1	Vet	Frank Patane	2	7	0	1	10	3	9	12	22
2	Vet	Mark Austin	12	0	0	0	12	8	6	14	26
	Vet	Tony Griffiths	41	R	R	R	R				
1	CC	Richard Clarke	12	2	1	0	15	16	9	25	40
2	CC	Scott Chapman	10	10	2	3	25	11	7	18	43
3	CC	Andy Brown	11	8	8	9	36	8	10	18	54
4	CC	Robin Ferguson	8	5	12	8	33	8	16	24	57
5	CC	Andy Cruttwell	12	6	9	10	37	15	12	27	64
6	CC	Mathew Johnson	31	6	16	9	62	10	5	15	77
7	CC	Ian Moon	5	14	21	10	50	20	14	34	84
8	CC	Wayne Cattach	36	16	20	13	85	11	10	21	106
9	CC	Jamie Rewell	17	36	25	22	100	13	18	31	131
10	CC	Roland Ferguson	32	26	25	22	105	21	19	40	145
11	CC	Richard Baldwin	37	26	23	23	109	26	17	43	152
12	CC	Jeremy Letton	30	26	29	29	114	25	17	42	156
13	CC	Ric Fairey	35	20	26	24	105	36	23	59	164
14	CC	Martin Softly	29	35	28	24	116	33	27	60	176
15	CC	Susan Baldwin	33	26	28	31	118	34	47	81	199
16	CC	Lawerence Guala	48	37	43	43	171	40	32	72	243
	CC	Mike Thorpe	19	30	23	20	92				
	CC	Scott Leaman	44	28	R	R	R				
1	J	Luke Patane	6	3	9	0	18	13	3	16	34
2	J	Joel Patane	11	6	7	1	25	18	2	20	45
1	BP	Peter Emmerson	22	13	10	14	59	18	12	30	89
2	BP	Megan Clarke	27	18	10	13	68	13	17	30	98
3	BP	Lucy Clarke	26	18	18	24	86	26	19	45	131
	BP	Peter Leatherbarrow	64	37	R	R	R				
	BP	Ray Higgs	52	R	R	R	R				
	BP	Danny Lewis	49	R	R	R	R				
1	Intro	Tom Softley	3	11	3	6	23	6		6	29
2	Intro	Kelly Thomas	12	12	8	8	40	7		7	47
3	Intro	Corey Thomas	10	18	8	7	43	8		8	51
1	S/C	Jason & Aaron	26	34	16		76	28	18	46	122
2	S/C	Leo & Glenn	35	21	19		75	30	31	61	136

**Thanks to all the Land Owner, all the Officials and the Observers!**

# Where are they now?

## Previous Pathfinders member Stefan Haliczenko

(article from WA Business News)

# Velocious engineers lucrative market niche

Mark Pownall

THE common perception of the resources sector may be one of hum drum processes such as digging and drilling, but Belmont oil and gas services business Velocious proves that there are plenty of intellectual challenges in this sector for local players who put their minds to it.

Velocious specialises in under-sea equipment operated by remote control, manufacturing high-tech devices that would not look out of place in a science fiction setting.

In fact, the company uses a touch of the science fiction approach to explain its strategy in an animated website video.

In the animation, a sledgehammer-wielding crab fails to properly remove a walnut from its shell and is replaced by an octopus using high-tech equipment to solve the problem.

"Then nobody's nuts get cracked," the video states, showing that there is also a sense of humour in the leadership of this relatively young company.

Not only is the gear Velocious produces of a specialist nature, often made for rapid response in one-off emergency situations, but the young engineering team behind this business has also sought to make it look good, featuring striking industrial design complete with branding on products that it "mass produces" for the offshore oil and gas sector.

Velocious deliberately coloured its products pink, taking a contrary approach in the typically masculine world of offshore oil and gas – where the gear and the people have to be tough.

Clearly the strategy behind Velocious is working. It has expanded to nearly 40 people since taking on its first outside employee in 2008, and is expecting to turn over more than \$11 million this financial year, double the sales of 2009-10.

It is forecast to nearly triple revenue in the coming financial year as it looks at strong organic growth and the possibility of some acquisitions in overseas markets – such as the US and Norway – where it already operates.

It is also expecting more work in relatively new fields such as renewable energy, where it has some experience

with wave and tidal power, including work for Perth-based Carnegie.

This buoyant outlook should not obscure the fact that Velocious faces real challenges as a new business, however. The high Australian dollar, for instance, is affecting the competitiveness of its manufacturing and forcing it to consider looking overseas.

The company has also had to look at replacing staff no longer suited to a bigger-company mentality.

Velocious was established in 2006 by its now 29-year-old managing director Brett Silich while he worked full-time for oil and gas subcontractor Subsea 7. The following year three partners joined him, all of whom held down other jobs while they built the business.

Mr Silich said he took his business plan to get into specialist equipment manufacturing for the subsea sector to his then employer but its management was focused elsewhere.

Instead, he established the business by working in his own time – both designing products and getting a skilled labour hire operation up and running. The latter division became a key provider of cash flow to the start-up Velocious and remains part of the group, though it has now become a stand-alone business unit.

Asked if he has always had an entrepreneurial bent, Mr Silich said the drive to create the business came from his interest in physically building things.

"I was always focused on being in engineering and particularly mechanical engineering from an early age," he said.

"Even though I didn't do so well at school I found a way in the back door."

Mr Silich said he did engineering at Tafe before attending Curtin University, where he founded a motor sport team.

"That was where I started getting a taste for building something and having people working around you, working towards a common goal," he said.

Mr Silich said during his studies he worked for a company that made tools for remote-operated vehicles, which are prevalent in the offshore oil and gas world as deepwater operations often preclude direct human intervention.

After that, his work in the ROV



**TIGHT TEAM:** Stefan Haliczenko (left), Nick McNaughton, Brett Silich and Tim Blacker are the driving force behind Velocious. Photo: Grant Currall

**2011 RISING STARS**  
**VELOCIOUS**

**KEY BUSINESS:** High-tech tools for subsea oil and gas industry, skilled labour hire.

**GROWTH STRATEGY:** Expanding into renewable energy sector, looking at growth via acquisition.

The team is relatively young but it has also drawn on experience to provide balance.

The key players in the management team are operations manager Stefan Haliczenko and engineers Tim Blacker and Nick McNaughton.

For those outside the deep sea oil and gas world it is hard to imagine the type of equipment that Velocious designs and builds, using its own resources, manufacturers in Perth and other global specialist equipment makers for inputs such as electronics.

The group does have a line of what it calls 'mass produced' products for subsea intervention.

These are specialist pieces of equipment that might be required on multiple occasions – for instance in a series of monitoring stations along a subsea pipeline.

In most cases, it might produce 100-200 units but has been known to manufacture thousands of a particular item.

A recent example of constructing multiple items is a large pipe-bending tool – bigger than a car – which will create deliberate buckles in a pipeline at periodic intervals to reduce issues resulting from the pipe's seabed expansion. Part of that tool will remain in place for decades.

But Mr Silich said Velocious was also known for developing bespoke tools required for rapid deployment because delays in the oil and gas business could cost millions of dollars per day.

This includes remotely operated machining tools that can cut off damaged parts, or re-bore a special piece of equipment thousands of metres below the surface where there are severe limitations due to pressure and visibility.

In addition, Mr Silich said the tools Velocious developed had to be simple and easy to use because workers using ROVs often lacked experience in this fast-growing field.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY for June

- Thomas Anticich
- Richard Baldwin
- Sean McGuckin
- Paul Price
- Evie Leatherbarrow
- Bryan Anderson
- Paul Church
- Cheryl Page
- Paul Smith
- David Simpson
- Barry Barton
- Jenny Cunningham
- Jill Griffiths
- John McGlone
- Matthew Page

**Pathfinders Trials MCC (Inc)****Results - Prestige 1 at Griffiths' Farm, Beverley on 19th June, 2011.**

Organiser - Jason, Jill and Tony Griffiths

Steward - Susan Baldwin

COC - Dianne Scragg

Scrutineer - Richard Baldwin

Race Secretary - Steve Scragg

All Grades 7 laps except A Grade, Sidecar and Intro 4 Laps.

#	Grade	Competitor	Sections								Total
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1	A	Neil Price	7	6	4	1	0	7	12	4	<b>41</b>
1	B	Tristian Lowe	11	5	12	15	0	2	7	6	<b>58</b>
2	B	Paul Price	19	18	10	29	2	12	19	24	<b>133</b>
3	B	Josh Austin	23	25	17	24	2	11	28	21	<b>151</b>
4	B	Sam Lloyd-Cox	23	23	22	31	7	21	27	21	<b>175</b>
1	C	Matt Leatherbarrow	0	4	9	6	0	3	5	4	<b>31</b>
2	C	Glenn Ursino	0	8	9	14	0	0	3	4	<b>38</b>
3	C	Ben Lenton	7	18	17	23	1	2	0	0	<b>68</b>
4	C	Rob Bowlden	0	13	16	18	0	1	17	18	<b>83</b>
5	C	Paul Smith	12	16	20	25	0	5	18	25	<b>121</b>
6	C	Ben Dumitro	17	18	25	23	5	2	26	16	<b>132</b>
	C	Peter Dumitro	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	<b>R</b>
1	Veteran	Steve Lloyd-Cox	0	3	4	8	0	0	10	0	<b>25</b>
2	Veteran	Frank Patane	5	4	6	13	0	9	10	13	<b>60</b>
3	Veteran	Mark Austin	0	12	3	19	0	6	11	17	<b>68</b>
4	Veteran	Sean McGuckin	1	14	13	20	0	2	14	13	<b>77</b>
	Veteran	Simon Price	DNS								<b>DNS</b>
1	CC	Andy Chalkley	1	3	0	10	0	0	0	3	<b>17</b>
2	CC	Richard Clarke	0	1	0	15	0	0	0	2	<b>18</b>
3	CC	Scott Chapman	0	3	0	15	1	0	0	5	<b>24</b>
4	CC	Mathew Johnson	1	2	3	17	2	0	0	2	<b>27</b>
5	CC	Andrew Brown	0	1	0	21	1	0	0	8	<b>31</b>
6	CC	Martin Softly	0	2	0	21	0	0	0	10	<b>33</b>
7	CC	Robin Ferguson	0	10	0	17	0	0	0	10	<b>37</b>
8	CC	Ian Moon	0	9	0	23	0	0	0	7	<b>39</b>
9	CC	Jeremy Letton	1	7	2	23	1	0	6	13	<b>53</b>
10	CC	Ric Fairey	5	9	1	23	1	0	4	15	<b>58</b>
11	CC	Jeremy Lowe	8	15	0	25	0	0	0	20	<b>68</b>
12	CC	John McGlone	9	16	0	35	0	1	8	11	<b>80</b>
13	CC	Richard Baldwin	8	20	0	27	0	11	0	27	<b>93</b>
14	CC	Cornell Scheibling	16	21	8	25	3	0	4	22	<b>99</b>
15	CC	Scott Leaman	27	23	8	27	4	0	12	23	<b>124</b>
	CC	Mike Thorpe	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	<b>R</b>
	CC	Frank Ginty	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	<b>R</b>
1	S/Car	Jason & Aaron	5	18	10	17	10	18	3	0	<b>81</b>
1	Junior	Luke Patane	0	2	0	23	0	0	0	5	<b>30</b>
2	Junior	Meg Clarke	5	14	6	29	4	0	0	22	<b>80</b>
3	Junior	Luci Clarke	13	21	5	31	2	0	1	20	<b>93</b>
1	Intro	Tom Softly	5	18	18					20	<b>61</b>

**Thank You to the Land Owners, Observers and the Officials.**

## WEB SITES

<http://www.facebook.com/pathfinderswamototrials>  
Pathfinders Facebook site

<http://www.trials.com.au>  
all the local trials news and views.

<http://www.beta.id.au>  
Simon Price is the state Beta dealer for new and used bikes. See Simon or his boys for common parts, tyres and Belray oils from his van

<http://motorcyclingwa.org.au>  
MWQ website, keep informed and up to date with our state body for motorcycling for news, licensing, rulings and official courses

<http://www.trails.com.au/calndrs/directions.shtml>  
New members will find these maps helpful for finding our events around the countryside.

<http://www.trialscentral.com>  
Regular updates and pictures of World and Euro trials. Helpful forum too.

<http://www.trialonline.org>  
Current and historical data on World and Euro championships, good photos

[http://http://www.trialstrainingcenter.com/html/how\\_to\\_ride.html](http://http://www.trialstrainingcenter.com/html/how_to_ride.html)  
It shows you the tricks of how to ride trials with photo's and video's.

<http://www.ajsmototrials.com/>  
This is the website of the trials division of the AJS motorcycle club of WA. It contains information on club activities, news, events and classifieds.

*Send me your interesting or favourite bike site.*

## TRIALS NEWS IN SHORT

### Organizers and Officials on Calendar

Please check the Calendar for duties you have been assigned and notify the committee if you are unable to carry them out as soon as possible.

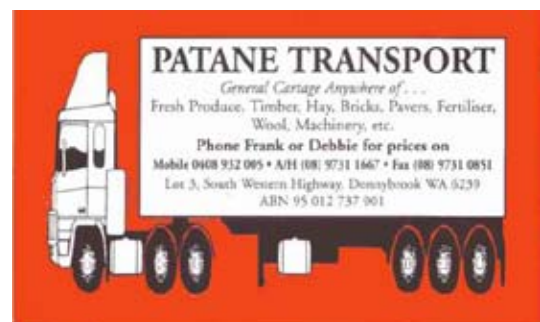
### Officials

We are still seeking more officials to share the load at events. The courses are run at the MWA offices and are free to attend, lunch is also included. Show your support and book into one now at [http://www.motorcycling.org.au/coming\\_officials.php](http://www.motorcycling.org.au/coming_officials.php).

### Practising in Sections

Officials at recent events have noticed that some riders are practising in sections once they have completed their event, and before all riders have finished the trial. This is not fair for the riders who have not completed the trial as the sections may be materially altered by the practicing rider and machine, and is therefore not permitted.

**Club Person of  
the Year  
2010  
Steve Scragg**



## Sue's Scribbles

The Blackwood 2 day was held over the long weekend in June. We trundled down Sat morning & set up camp, a few others had ventured down on the Fri. As the afternoon socialising started & campers kept arriving Wendy & Helen kept asking Sue who is this lot as we have many new faces these days. I was doing well until a 4wheeler towing a trailer with a Sherco in it arrived, I had no idea, it turned out to be new member Mat Johnson (who did very well on his 1st ride). The chill set in as night fell & we awoke next morning to ice covering every thing after scraping off the windscreen we ventured to the trial site where Frank & his helpers had set 15 very challenging sections. Mark Austin took Richard & me under his wing for the 1st lap pointing out some lines etc. S1 & S2 had more logs than a timber mill & the 1st lap was very slippery. S3 to S11 were in the creek area S12 was a hill climb S13 up & down banks S14 was mud then S15 was another hill one. Young Tom Softly had taken a tumble at Helens Section (7) & Joel came & got us to come & look at him but by the time we arrived Martin said I think he is fine he has gone up the hill in the 4wd & enjoying the attention of the ladies & one of them mentioned the magic Pepsi word. We only managed one lap before lunch, Tom was by now tucking into a sausage that Debbie & Sabrina had cooked & enjoying a Pepsi! & had recovered. Later in the day I slipped on a log & twisted my knee & it was a bit sore overnight. Mon was another fine day, no ice this time but the logs became even more slippery as the mud section had been made harder & I think the mud was being transferred to the logs. 2 of the better club class riders in Robin & Ritch both ended up over the bars in S2, I'm not sure if others came to grief as well. On the last lap I clipped a rock at the top of section 9 which sent me flying into a pile of other rocks & my knee immediately blew up to 3 times the size (The Kirup curse had hit us again). I found out later that a lot of the top clubbies had used the C grade exit line here once it had cleared up a bit as they reckoned it was easier & safer der!. I went to the Drs on the Wed but was told there was too much swelling & bruising to do much of an assessment, easy to see I am not an elite footballer who would've had scans within a few hours!!!

The Fergusons had vehicle trouble on the way home in Donnybrook fortunately it had broken down right outside the RAC & they were able to hire a car to get home. As we were travelling home & being passed by others Richard said "You know with our vehicle, caravan & 2 bikes in the back, this whole outfit costs less than that new Beta!")

Thanks to the Patanes for sponsoring the event also the, landowners, observers & officials

Prestige 1 was held at Jake & Jill's in Beverly we went up Sat as Simon was holding a school for up to C grade & Neil did some schooling with the B grade.

**Pathfinders Trials Motorcycle Club Est. 1975 - 2010, 35 years and still growing strong.**

Sun was nice & fine & not the cold wind & rain showers of the previous day. Tony & Jake had set out 8 sections. We had a full compliment of observers how good was that? I as Steward had to keep an eye on them though, as Jason had organised "thank you love packs" for them all in a shoulder bag & amongst the goodies of pencils, whistles, mints, lollies, soap etc was a small bottle of champagne for the ladies & a beer for the men.

S1 (Elsie) up through some rocks then over logs, one of the logs moved & it made it trickier I saw Ric & Richard fall off here (the latter copping the handlebars in the leg going out in sympathy) S2 (Diane then Pauline) twists & turns thru' rocks & logs with a very tight turn onto a log to exit, the bottom clubbies had a few problems with this. S3 (Rod) was a hill climb S4 (Helen) up thru' rocks on the side of the hill this became very soft & slippery & quite a few riders struggled, Luke had a nasty high side off here. S5(Lesley) up thru' rocks & back out S6 (Janette) was basically down hill thru' rocks with a few detours for the upper grades S7 (Tony) some off camber turns & rock climbs S8 (Steve) in turn to the right over some rocks then up the hill turn around the rocks back down over rocks for the upper grades the clubbies had a very narrow exit (I think the fly weights managed ok) between a tree & a rock, a log in the way made it even more difficult until it moved During the day Sam managed to impale himself with large splinters in his legs there was some fun at lunch time trying to get them out.

Thanks again to the Griffith's for the land & the trial & all the officials & observers

Best wishes to Meg & Luci Clarke for their trip to Sydney for the Laia Sanz School I am absolutely green with envy wish I could go with them what an opportunity.

I am chasing a pair of trials boots to buy if any of you younger guys have grown out of yours mine died at Kirup. I am looking for about an 8 to 8-1/2 I think

**Cheers Sue**



See Simon for the latest 2011 Beta Trials Bikes,  
2011 GasGas Trials Bikes,  
secondhand range, parts and accessories.  
Ph. 9390 9436; Mobile 0429 001 030  
<http://www.beta.id.au>

See the "Beta" van at most Trials events for stock  
of your trials needs accessories and products.

## Pricele\$\$ Comment\$

Blackwood Two Day.

Brilliant Blackwood to say the least. As always the Blackwood Two Day Trial lived up to its reputation as the best trial of the season and that's why riders keep coming back year after year. Many of the first timers I spoke to said they had a great time and didn't want to go home. The weather was fantastic as always, you can almost bet on it raining at least one of the days, if not all of them at a Blackwood, although this year it was raining inside the tents due to the freezing temperature.

Most of the Pom's thought it was summer and were out sunbaking in the warmth. The Clarke family obviously got too much sun and decided to move their tent inside the shearing shed. We had a huge turnout of campers as we quickly filled up the shearing shed camp area and had just as many again in the second paddock. I tell you what, we are getting soft in our old age, once upon a time tough trials riders would just chuck a swag on the ground next to the fire, now we turn up in all sorts of rigs. Mike Darnsbrough and Ian Coates rocked up in a rig that would put the Great White Shark to shame.

One of the notable turnouts was Pete Emmo. It could well be Pete's last Blackwood as he is setting sail around Australia to adventures unknown and knowing Pete I can imagine it will be an interesting adventure, I can't help thinking, god help any pirates who contemplate attacking Pete. John McGlone sponsored Pete for his last ride at hopefully not his last Blackwood on the little Beta and I believe it was still going at the end of the event. Good luck and good fun Pete, don't forget to keep in touch.

Frank Patane, Andy Cruttwell, Andy Hall and Frank's other merry band of helpers put on a great event, much to the delight of the 57 riders that turned out for the event. Everyone had a great time, Robin Ferguson had a grin from ear to ear as he played in the mud section at the end of the event. He and many others just couldn't get enough of it. The mud section was near the bomb hole and Lewis was doing back flips there and Scott Chapman was running a muck up the steepest part of the bomb hole, where only Neil and Lewis dare ride. Scott wasn't phased at all by the fact that it was a very long and quick way back down the way he had come. So there was heaps of fun going on and that was at the end of the event. Naturally with two days of trials there was heaps of other fun but the mud section and the bomb hole at the end of the event was the highlight. Frank and helpers set 15 sections for both days with X number of laps each day, I can't remember how many now, but there was no rest for the wicked. Scott Leaman took out the prize for the best get off, he had a huge sideways slide which was very impressive, someone thought he was an A grader coming down until the tyres bit and he was high sided off the bike and into a very unpleasant landing on mother earth. We have another new rider from Donnybrook, young Matt Johnson who had his first ride and a very good ride at that. Young Matt is clearly going to be a good rider and

will surely progress fairly quickly up the grades. He is only just 17 and at the time of the Blackwood still hadn't got his car licence. He rocked up on a 4 wheeler with a trailer in tow with his bike on it. I thought it must have been a licensed 4 wheeler but no it wasn't, he just came via all the tracks. Now he is a tough trials rider as he just slept under a tarp but then again he does come from Donnybrook, so it probably was a bit hot for him that weekend. I can't remember the podium places except that Tom the Shark took out Intro and that Kelly and Corey had a very tight fight. I had some fudge for the first time, Meg and Luci made some for fund raising for their NSW trip to the Laia Sanz women's camp, I hope they keep making them because they are great. I believe Mark Austin wants to go to the women's training camp to, I believe he still has Laia's photo on his bed side cabinet. Lunch on Sunday was great to have, thanks Debbie and the Cruttwell Clan. I had a great weekend as I'm sure everyone else did, thanks Frank, I only made a few mistakes that weekend. The first was stopping at Frank's place on the way to the trial and the second was stopping at Frank's place on the way home. Any way on the first stop, not only did Joel kick my arse in the Go Kart race around the block but while Joel was distracting me in the Go Kart race, Frank and Davey Thomas were jacking up one of the wheels on my little Hyundai which I meticulously look after. Anyway for some reason, everyone including Debbie and Georgie seemed very keen to see me go, can't understand that. After much revving and ensuring I had selected reverse, released the hand brake etc the bloody car wouldn't move. I received much heckling and advice from Frank, Dave, Debbie, Georgie, Luke, Joel and even the chooks got in the act of humiliating me. I couldn't believe they would pick on me when I never say a bad word about anyone. Anyway I can't believe I was as stupid enough to stop at Frank's on the way home but fortunately Davey Thomas's bad influence wasn't there this time and I only ended up in a short chat with Frank for about 3 hours. After being held up by Frank, I ended up travelling home in the dark, I got pulled over by the cops because one of my tail lights were out, then I had to convince them that all the bikes in the van were mine and that I hadn't stolen them, lucky they could tell I was an honest up standing citizen and let me go on my way, lucky Leo didn't get pulled up, they would have chucked him in jail.

Prestige One Griffiths Farm Westdale.

A great start to the Prestige Series at one of the best trials venues. We are very lucky to have one the best trials venues now owned by one of our members. We have been very lucky to have excellent access to Hobbs Farm over the years with Grant Hobbs more than happy to have us on his property. Grant has been very supportive of trials and even allowed the 2006 Nationals to be run on his property. As part of his retirement plan Grant has broken up his property for sale. Much to our pleasure the Jake and Jill Griffiths have purchased a very good section of the property that we use, so for the first time and I'm sure many more Prestige 1 was run on Griffiths Farm. The weekend kicked off with a Trials School on Sat at 12:00

noon. I was running the school and was expecting it to be a fairly casual event. Due to the amount of hard work I do at work my preparation for the weekend was a bit behind schedule and I didn't get to the venue until after 12:00 noon. I was greeted at the gate by Tony Griffo who very kindly said you're late you idiot everyone is waiting for you. Bloody hell, here's me thinking there will only be a few for the trials school and I will be able to sit around drinking red wine. When I got to the camp site it was like Woodstock all over again, there were millions of people everywhere, well not quite millions but a good turn out. We had a good group for the trials school and everyone seemed to enjoy it. I found some good stuff quite close to test everyone on, we spent some time on logs, cambered turns, rock steps, drop offs, reading sections and minimising loss of points. I was impressed with Jamie Newell, he had the body positioning down pat and is riding well. I think a lot of the riders were surprised in what they could ride up as we had them riding up a big C Grade step, all in all a good trials school.

We ended up with a lot of people camping and had a great camp fire. Mike Kitney turned up with his swag to camp the night and unfortunately parked near us. I did my best to abuse him etc but he seemed intent on staying. Later on I turned around and Mike was gone, I thought gee my abuse must have worked, then I find out that the big sidecar softie spent the night at Jake's place and here's me thinking he was a tough trials rider turning up with his swag. Frank and Luke turned up late in the arvo to camp. A new rider from Donnbrook, Matt Johnson, got a lift up with Frank as he still had a few days to go before he gets his car licence. I did advise Matt but he forgot to pack his ear plugs so the poor bloke copped an ear bashing from Frank all the way up, I don't how he survived the trip home.

Tony and Jake laid the sections and put together a great trial, on top of that they organised observers for all the sections, trials riders heaven. The trial had a great variety of sections and were well laid out. It was fantastic having observers for all sections, its just not a trial without observers. Helen Griffiths said she thoroughly enjoyed observing, thanks Helen and thanks to all the other observers, Steve Scragg, Elsie Bryant, Dianne Scragg, Pauline Clarke, Rod Bryant, Leslie Ferguson, Jeanette Lowe and Tony Griffo. We had a few past riders turn

up for a ride, Paul Price and his mate Ben who rides Enduro with him turned out for a ride, their state round was cancelled so they figured it was a good opportunity to give Ben a go at trials and he thoroughly enjoyed it. Also another blast from the past was Andy Chalkley, we haven't seen Andy for about 2 year or so and he clearly hasn't lost his touch and won Club Class.

We have had a significant interest from observers so we will be putting together an observers school shortly, anyone interested in this can contact Mark & Wendy Austin or myself, will keep you posted on this.

See yuh all at the next trial, rock on trials, cheers Pricey.

**Keep on trialing, Pricey**

**Moto Dynamics** is proud to announce it has increased its range of Trials accessories. Now in stock in the **Beta Van** is XC-ting Trials clothing, Jerseys, Pants and Dougie Replica Gloves, Shiro Matrix helmets, Raga Replica helmets, Boots - Novogar, Hebo and Gaerne. Plus the van carries your Belray Total Performance products, tyres, handle bars, grips, plug ends, spark plugs etc. See **Simon** at the **Beta Van**.



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