

Event No.2 Barbican Forest.

Our greatest thanks go to John Heenan for providing the venue for the John Hagan Youth Academy's very successful 2nd event at the now newly named Barbican Forest. After much clearing and course building by Jonny and his chainsaw team, the event proved to be a great day of challenging entertainment for both the youth riders and coaches. (We wont mention Ragnar getting the Range Rover STUCK in the field)

The day started with the scrutineering and sign-on team of Debbie & Andy (now known as Tess & Brucie) kicking off their activities at 09.25, which was just as well as thirty-one riders youth A & B riders in total participated, which included our new members from the Southern Center. As the scrutineering and sign-on team were doing their thing the riders were treated to a designated practice area where they all could warm up prior to the training session.

Andy was very pleased to report that there had been a **dramatic decrease** in routine maintenance issues, also that both riders and parents had welcomed the advice given by the use of "Andy's Maintenance tip sheet" and many have now included it as part of their weekly maintenance routine.

The training kicked off on time and it was great to see all the riders organised & proceeding to the forest around the perimeter of the field in what was a very long chain of trials motorcycles. Our usual designated six areas were clearly defined and the B class riders made their way to areas 1-4 with the A class starting off at the more challenging areas 5 + 6. After gathering feedback from event No.1 it was decided by the JHYTA committee that the format would change slightly and the respective coach would stay with their group of riders throughout the whole coaching session, and together they would move every 45 minutes to the next training area. (Next time the coaches will be able to bring their bikes) This change to the format proved to be a success after discussions with both riders and coaches.

During lunch break and refuel stop Andy again gave a very successful maintenance presentation on the setting of chain tension and rear wheel removal, amazingly he captured the attention of his very enthusiastic audience for what proved to be the quietest part of the day.

Many thanks go to Stevie Johnston for providing the soup and Gordon Mackey of Mackey's Bakery lisburn for providing his very fresh rolls still warm from the oven. Tea, coffee, & biscuits were provided courtesy of JHYTA for all the adults. With a big thanks going to our Trolley Dolly's Fiona Lunney, Pamela Gardner & Debbie Dempster.

The riders and coaches returned to the course for the remainder of the session, only returning to base at the end of what was a very tiring training session at 3.30pm, just in good time too miss the heaviest downpour of 2008.

Listooder 20th December 2008 and we can do it all again.