

NEWS LOCAL

Drivers and riders fight vehicle ban on green lanes

Trail riders campaign at Castleton Fun Day

By ADVERTISER REPORTER

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More than 100 trail riders attended a Peak family event to show their dissatisfaction at being banned from a Derbyshire green lane.

Motorcyclists and 4x4 drivers descended on the fun day at Castleton Visitor Centre on Sunday, to make their feelings known about access rights in the Peak District, despite being urged by the park authority to stay away.

It follows a number of slow rides and protests by the Trail Riders Fellowship over plans to ban vehicles from some unsurfaced roads.

Mike Irving, director of the fellowship, said: "This was a very worthwhile day and we established once and



Trail riders highlighting their campaign at the Castleton Fun Day.

for all that the public, visitors and locals alike, have no problem with responsible motoring and motorcycling

on the unsurfaced roads of the national park."

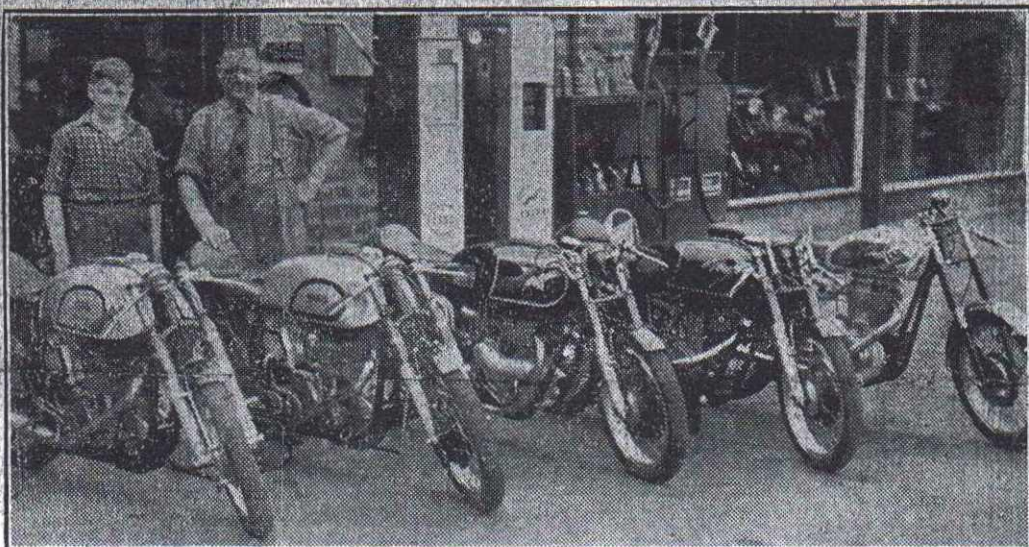
He added that the group's "warm welcome" at Castle-

ton had encouraged them to plan a National Festival of Trail Riding in the national park.

WON TWO CUPS. — Riding an Ariel, E. W. Bowers, of Town End, Chapel, won two cups in a recent reliability trial organised by the Belper and District Motor Club. One cup was for the best performance of the day, and the other for the best performance with a 500 c.c. machine. In a reliability trial held in Chapel and district by the Manchester 17 Motor Cycle Club, on Boxing Day, Mr. Bowers obtained a first class award, being seventh with the loss of 26 points. The winner was Tommy Leach, with a loss of 17 points. Winner in the sidecar class was Bill Smith. There were 98 entries for the event, which was made possible through the generosity of farmers and landowners in the district, to whom the Manchester 17 Club are indebted, as well as to Mr. Hill, of Hayfield-road, Chapel, from whose garage the trial started. The course, covering a distance of about 40 miles, included Bridgeholme Green, Eccles P.ike (through Mr. J. Lomas's farm), Buxworth, Dolly-lane, and across Hayfield Moor to Peep o' Day (through Mr. Bert Spratt's farm), Malcalf (through Mr. Morten's farm), Snireoaks (through Mr. Beswick's farm), Roych Clough and Betfield (through Mr. Harding's farm). At the conclusion of the trial the competitors sat down to a welcome dinner at the Town Hall, where awards won during the past season were presented.

YOUTH CLUB PARTY. — The Youth Club connected with Bethel Methodist Church held a party on New Year's Day in the school. Tea was served and a happy time was passed in games and dancing.

FIVE MACHINES FOR THE MANX GRAND PRIX



1955

Taking part in this year's Manx Grand Prix on September 6 and 8 will be five machines owned by Mr. Eric Bowers, of Hayfield Road, Chapel-en-le-Frith. Mr. Bowers sent his machines (seen above) on Saturday, and he, Mrs. Bowers and their 12-year-old son Michael went to the Isle of Man on Monday, when practice runs started officially.

Top rider for Mr. Bowers is well-known Alastair King,

of Glasgow, who has been riding for him all season. He will ride the A.J.S. in the junior event and a Norton in the senior. Last year in the same event, Mr. Bowers had the misfortune to see his rider, John Hartle, now with the Norton team, run out of petrol when he was well in the lead in the senior race.

The picture shows Eric Bowers with his son, and the machines that will be used in the races. [A/H]

MOTOR-CYCLE TRIAL

Belper Club Winners

E. W. Bowers, of Chapel-en-le-Frith, making his debut in trials with Belper and District Motor Club, put up the best performance of the day to win the premier award, the John Henry Greaves Cup and replica in a sporting trial of the club on Sunday. Other winners were: 1st class award, S. Storer, Ambergate (New Imperial); 2nd class award, G. A. B. Thompson, Bonsall (B.S.A.); 3rd class award, E. Short, Belper (B.S.A.).

The start and finish of the trial was at Farnah Green, and the greater part of the course was on private property, thanks to the co-operation of Lord Scarsdale and Mrs. Greaves. Firestone and Lapidosa were included. E. Green, who lost his saddle, was the only competitor to retire. Bowers, who was on ground he had never seen before, handled his machine in masterly style through the many pitfalls, and both he and G. A. B. Thompson piloted their mounts through the four difficult "brook" sections without loss of marks.

Mrs. Greaves, a Vice-President of the club, who presented the cup, provided competitors, marshals and officials with "stirrup cup" and other seasonable fare.

MOTOR CYCLING . . . By Jim Corfield

Eric Is The Star-maker

NEXT week, attention focuses once again on the Isle of Man, where the Grand Prix races will be fought out on Tuesday and Thursday.

Hot favourite at the moment is Scotsman Alastair King, who will be on Nortons.

Alastair is one of the many stars who was first spotted by shrewd agent Eric Bowers, of Chapel-en-le-Frith.

Eric sponsored him and helped him climb the ladder. In fact, Eric has never been known to ignore any urgent appeal for help from anyone.

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But keep your eyes also on up-and-coming Bernard McGulness, who comes from down Cheshire way. He will be going very fast if all goes well between now and the race.

Incidentally, Britain did it again in the Moto Cross Grand Prix in Belgium. Slippery tracks sult Jeff Smith, and he pulled off a brilliant win.

Club chairman Tom Barcroft won the Bury and District M.C.'s trial, and at Llangollen, Denis Butterworth of the Bury Club registered a win, two seconds and two thirds in a scramble.

DIARY DATES

Tomorrow: N. Lanes, rally—vintage and veteran—from Morcoram promenade; Leeds Club scramble at Seacroft; Saop Motor Club scramble, Hawkstone Park (open to Midlands Centre). Reliability trial, organised by Manchester Ace and open to South Lanes. Trials Group, Cheshire Centre Grass Tracks championship, organised by Winsford and District Club at Sutton Hall Farm, Middlewich, Cheshire.

Tuesday and Thursday: Manx Grand Prix. Also two-day trial in the Isle of Man (many North-West and Cheshire Centre entries).

September 9: James Commando cross-country (expert, semi-noVICES, novices), start at home of Fred Baker, 6, Alexander Drive, Unsworth, Bury; from whom all details are available. Restricted to James riders—no entry fee.

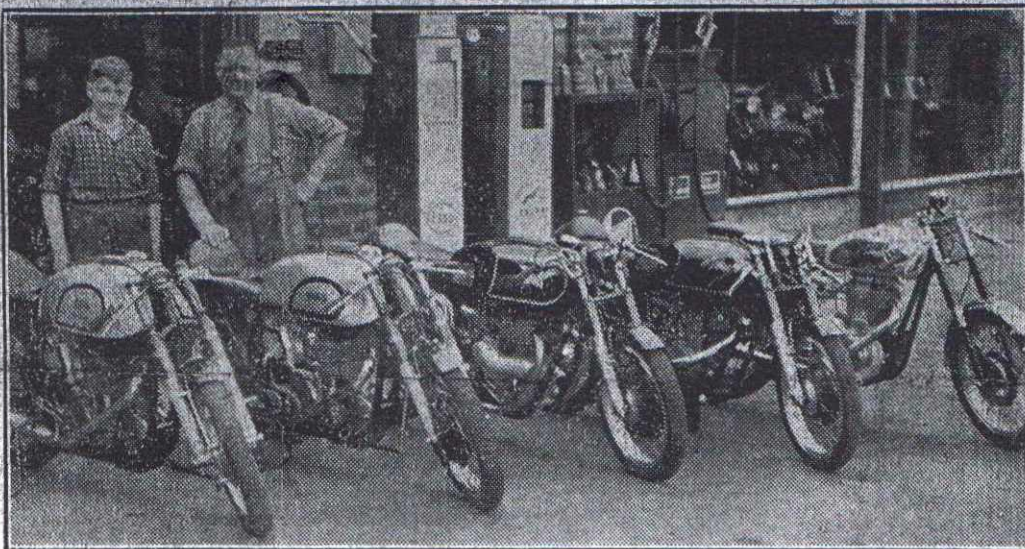
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BOXING DAY TRIAL
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