

Cycle Torque



NEWSLETTER OF THE IXION MOTORCYCLE CLUB INC.

Number 251 - August 2022

Here's your hit and run version, not a lot to report: August Ixion trial is in there; also, something about some guy who's the best trials rider ever in the entire history of the sport - can't remember his name; and a heads up on our N.I. Champs coming up in three weeks, Day 1 at the Maungies, Day 2 at Judds Farm, always terrific venues with limitless possibilities for great sections.

Let's rip into a report of the hinterland, the go-to place for some of the best riding, surely, in the country, certainly the most varied: the Maungakotukutuku Valley.

Ixion Mototrial - 7th August 2022

'The Maungies'

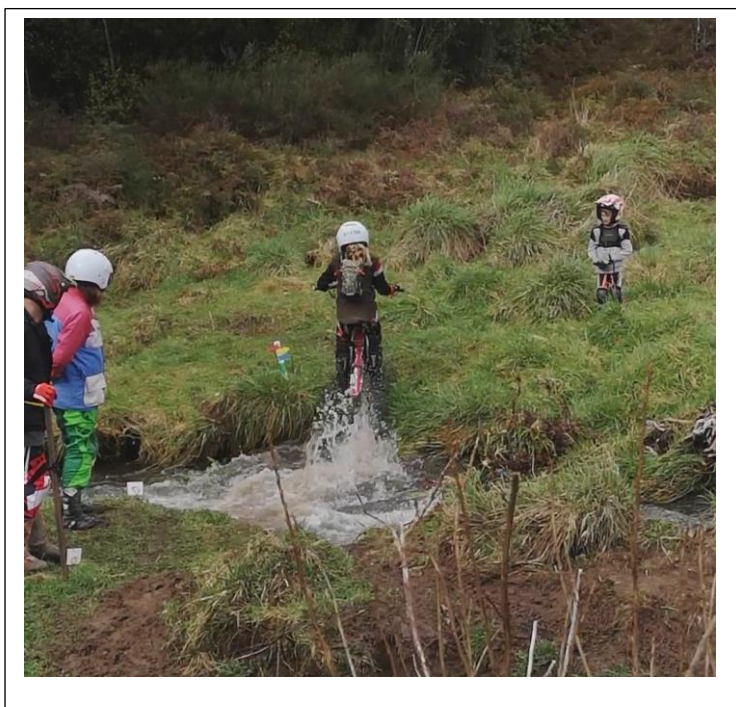
The thing about relying on sparrow bones and chicken entrails to predict the weather, as I have told the fellas up at Metservice time and again, is not just its complete lack of

reliability but also the fact that we need our feathered friends for nutrition and if they catch wind of us double-dipping, it could get ugly. *Cam showing how it's done....probably go 4-stroke with a name like that at some point, but the Gasser will clearly do for now.*



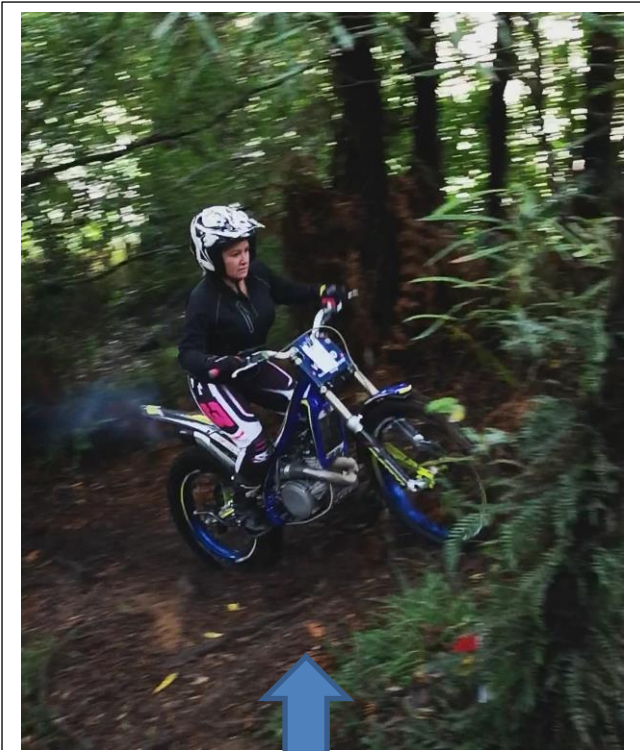
So, it was supposed to rain....and then it didn't, which suits me fine.

The great thing about the Maungies, as has been pointed out more than once, is that you could import all that rain the Tasman has just enjoyed in the last couple of weeks, dump it overnight over our favourite sections, and you'd still be able to hold a mototrial there the next day - it's just that bulletproof. Talk about spoilt....



Twenty-odd riders showed up - 'odd' being the operative word - and set about coming to grips with three laps of ten sections.

The key question one needs to pose, of course, before setting out is: where's my brain at today? Because some days you could conquer the world and other days you're lucky just to get the jarmies off (unless you're one of 30% of the world who sleep in the raw, apparently, which means there's going to be a helluva lot of Wellington residents strutting round in their birthday suits when the Big One hits downtown at 2am....just saying).



Our Webmeister, Emily, virtually and actually a valued club member. Appreciate your online efforts, Ems, good on ya.



So, for me, the brain just didn't engage all day, even though the gears did - mostly 1st and 2nd - so it was back to that familiar old position of last place by the end of the day, so many fives it was like a times-table exercise.

Oddly, I didn't really care that much - did get a bit frustrating at the end where I was cleaning sections the previous lap and copping fives the next. But, waddya gonna do...

And you need to watch out for the odd rule - 'odd' once again being the operative word - that you've never heard of before catching you out....For me, it wasn't just taking my hand off the handlebar, which I looked up once in the rules and couldn't see any sign of.

Rather, it was taking a hand off the handlebar to remove a vine pulling the front brake lever in but doing so whilst a foot was on the ground. She's an instant five, it seems, and it even went to the committee stage for a final determination. Worst of it is, it rattles you, takes

your focus away for the next section(s), which I suppose is why, like all sports, it's a mental game as much as a physical one.



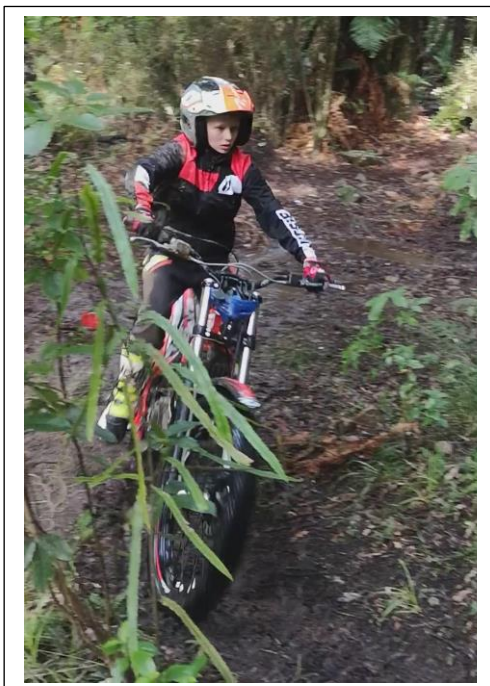
'Why, yes it does have an outlet for a toaster, although I'm currently using it for my Nespresso'....must get asked that all the time...patience of Job.



Smart move from eMotion kitting their machines with top suspension - if you're going to make a statement, make an excellent one. Declan loving it and why wouldn't he? It's a great ride.

Back to those sections, assuming we ever got there...

Familiar terrain stoked the fires of optimism early on but beware the changing nature of it, i.e. slippery conditions thanks to a few bucketsful of rain in preceding days.



Where it made the biggest difference was in Section 5, the first part going through some slop, although, surprisingly, I got through that twice without a dab. But once it got into the creek, it was game over trying to get out.

What it needed was a shitload of power to get up and over a lip that had cut away in the bank, plus getting the back wheel off the ground so it didn't smack into the bank and bring the bike to a dead halt. Anyway, I didn't manage it because I have never mastered - and probably never will - dropping the clutch with a lot of revs on. I think it's a tentative thing, some subconscious fear the bike will flip out and K.O. you, or something. Not having this technique down pretty much kept me in the water.



Neil is actually a very capable seaman in his spare time - probably - providing him with the skills needed here to navigate the high seas.....Yes, there was some water about.

Later sections - can't quite remember their numbers because the brain has confused all the sections with our June trial at the same venue....probably early Blenheimers.

I did manage to do something that other riders were finding challenging, though, and that was on the section furthest away - 9? - where, right at the end, you had to go between two trees with a diagonal and protruding root to contend with. For whatever reason, I managed to sneak through those trees at least twice without a point being lost, so who hell knows what that's about?! Does lift the morale, though, right up till the next five....:)

Some of those scores from particular riders warrant a mention, first being Cameron pipping Kevin Pinfold by....wait for it.....a single mark! It's an unambiguous commentary on just how much Cam has improved in the last year, 'meteoric' probably being the appropriate word. And KP's no slouch on two wheels so getting past him is no small accomplishment.

Next mention has to be Team Adlam sponsored by Citroen, although that Euro car manufacturer would probably demand the money back they haven't paid yet if they heard the volume of the piston slap on the Sherco the Adlams ride, a bike which continues to defy the laws of physics by starting up and running all day. A couple of physicists were looking at it and determined that it falls into the realm of Quantum Mechanics, particularly the Principle of Uncertainty (they seemed quite certain about this). Now they're working through a deal with Andrew to place the bike at the centre of their next Hadron Collider test. Andrew was philosophical about it....



Here's that bloody Section 5 with the mud and swollen creek. This little bank with KP heading down it proved surprisingly steep and sent you straight into the slop in the pic on the right there. It's almost like the section setters, for some unknown reason, were trying to make it hard...



'It's got a slap you could swing a cat through,' he said, 'and they won't find any subatomic particles in it - they're all back on Section 9 between those two trees', and he said it all in a French accent because a couple of his sponsors were hanging around, muttering, in a fairly excited fashion, 'Qui qui' but no one knew why....

Andrew's a dad, of course - well, he says he is but won't produce a paternity test - and brings the rest of the team out sporadically - Byron and Caleb - who jump on his best two bikes and then proceed to destroy the terrain, Caleb ending the day on 18! The average score in A Grade was 45, by the bye...just mental how good those two boys are without even trying.

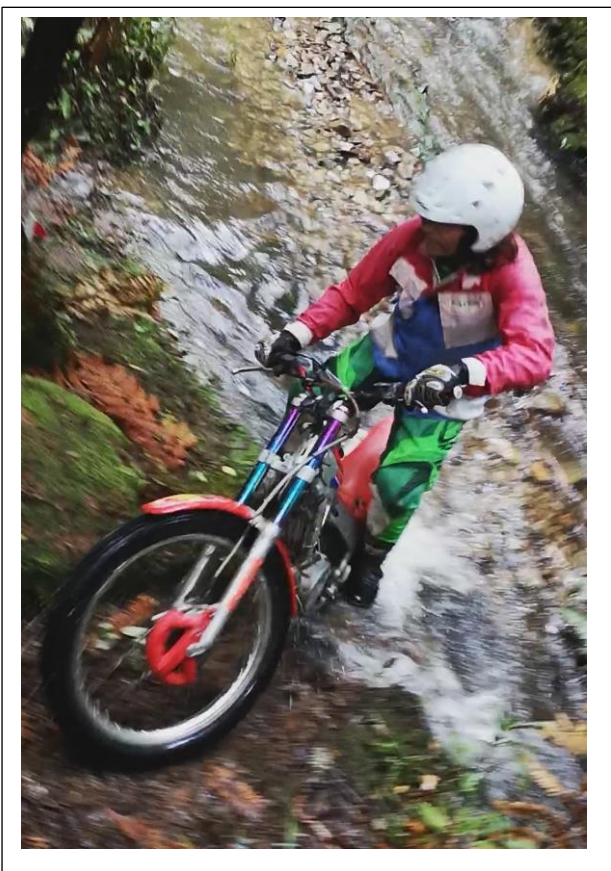
Wayne picked up second spot In A Grade and Ash Lucas, who tells me he's put together a hybrid of some sort - can't remember the details, something about an engine and a frame

but he promised some pics at some point - nailed 1st in Yellow with nearly half the points of the second position.

Oh, that's right - and every fibre in my being doesn't want to report this part - Finn Pearce had his first outing in A Grade - the dude's incredibly young - 4? 19? who knows - finishing mid-pack miles in front of me....I really must get around to doing something I'm even vaguely good at.

Bloody grouse day all up, good on yiz, Johnny and, um, Kev was it?...and whoever else spent their precious time piecing it all together for us - much appreciated.

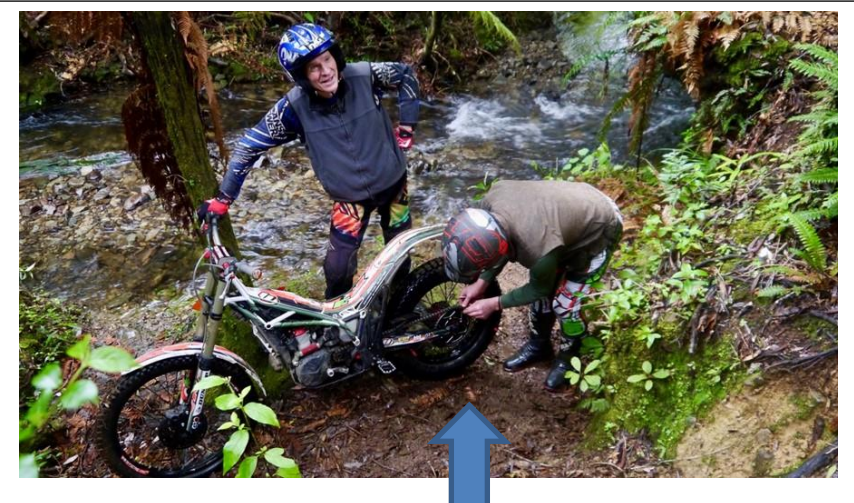
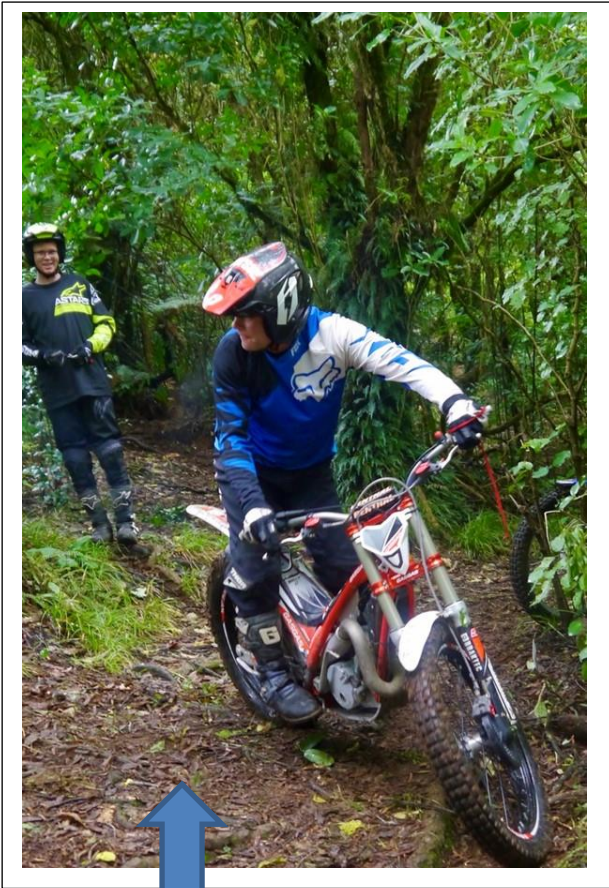
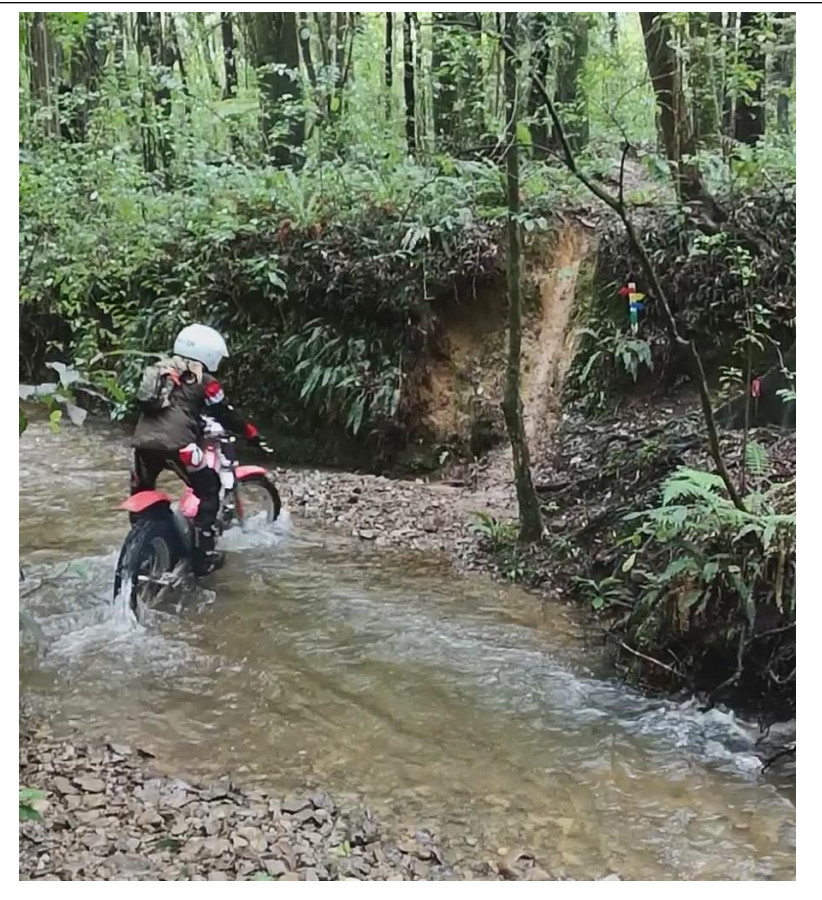
And...over.



I bought a road bike recently - I've never really owned one before - why the hell would you? - a Suzuki GN125. A woman I know who rides a bike looked at it and said, 'What's the GN for? Good for Nothing?' and laughed scornfully, my masculinity vacating my body, heading off in search of a more worthy host.

Anyway, I've taken to practising Trials skills while riding it, including looking ahead like these two characters above, keeping the inside arm straight when cornering, and trying to balance at the lights but while still sitting down. I would stand up but I'd look like an egg and when you're already attracting the derision of your average female, it's a brave man who stands erect at the lights on his Good for Nothing.....just saying.

Sidey recently won the International Most Relaxed Human Being Ever Award, even beating the Dalai Lama who, in the spirit of compassion for all, came up to him after the Awards and said, 'F#@k you!' but in Tibetan which still carried the gist of the message....ouch!



Team Adlam, the master and the student, except the other way round...lol. Byron's found something funny and I really can't stress enough that it's NOT because he beat his old man....it's just not, he's not that kid.

Sidevalve doing some minor repairs, i.e., putting the chain back on. I said, 'You don't need that, just levitate home like the Dalai showed you'. But Sidey said that's not what the Dalai meant when he motioned upwards with his middle finger....So, I did the heavy lifting during the operation (supervision, counter-weight, moral support) and Sidey, in his relaxed manner, ripped the head off, trimmed a cuppla thou' off it, ported the jet things and away we went. And something about a chain - frankly, he lost me, way too high tech.

And this guy....He came out of nowhere on his big-arse enduro machine, like Clint in 'A Fistful of Bitcoin' and said, in an accent that was definitely foreign, 'I'm going in' and, then, he did.

We felt oddly guilty about abandoning him to his fate but he hadn't asked why, how or, importantly, even 'May I' so - perhaps because he reminded of us a fellow called Vlad who heads up a country in eastern Europe - we just thought, f@#k it, the Ukrainians will sort him out and - you know what? - they did.



(Big Ups to our photographers for snapping this month's evidence of just how fab we all look on two wheels. Wayne did the legwork of ripping most of these pics out of videos - don't know how he does it because they must move so damn fast - so, thanks Wayne, and sorry there's not one of you, I couldn't find one with (if you'll excuse the term) a full frontal, just your, err, other side. Blake Searle contributed some, too, and has subsequently gone on to a profitable career in photography...or hopes to...or doesn't want to, dunno, I was pretty busy copping fives at the time. Big thanks to all concerned - Ed)

At the other end of our sport - a level that's mostly the same but a bit different when it comes to skill - is the World Champs and I thought it fitting to include this outstanding feat, one you have to admire, irrespective of whether you're a 2Ter or 4Ter...

Bou's on Pont in Belgium!

Sublime Spaniard Toni Bou (Montesa) tightened his grip on the Hertz FIM Trial World Championship with victory at today's TrialGP of Belgium – round four of the 2022 series – at Comblain au Pont.

The 35-year-old is aiming to claim an astonishing 16th consecutive TrialGP title this year and, after trailing his compatriot Jaime Busto (Vertigo) at the halfway point, he upped his game on lap two to run out a comfortable winner and in the process extend his series lead to 26 points with just three scoring days remaining.

In a super-close Trial2 category, Italy's Gianluca Tournour (GASGAS) came from behind to secure a dramatic victory while in Trial3 brothers and Beta team-mates Harry and George Hemingway went 1-2 as the British ruled the roost in the class for up-and-coming talent.



The sections were plotted in a quarry and on a severe wooded hillside overlooking the medieval town with the lay-out very spectator-friendly for a big turn-out of trial fans who flocked to the venue after a pandemic-enforced absence of two years.

Conditions were dry but humid in the east of Belgium which meant that fitness played a big part in the results – and there's no-one better prepared than Bou who has dominated the sport since 2007.

The toughest hazard was section nine that was perilously steep and super-technical with a series of huge rock steps with little in the way of run-up and only Bou and Adam Raga (TRRS) made it to the ends cards on the opening lap.

Busto, who took just his second career-victory on the first day of the series in Spain back in June, led Bou by three after the opening lap but – as we've seen on countless occasions – the reigning champ has the ability to soak up pressure like a sponge.

After parting with 15 on his opening lap plus one on time, Bou raised his game and recorded the lowest score of the event second time around to pick up an additional 11 marks which gave him an eventual winning margin of eight ahead of Busto who incurred two time penalties.

*"It's a big pleasure to be here again after the Covid pandemic," said **Bou**, "and to win again is super-important for the championship. I'm super-happy."*

After narrowly missing out on a podium finish on both days at the previous round in Germany, Jeroni Fajardo (Sherco) was back on the box in third just two marks adrift of Busto as Gabriel Marcelli (Montesa) and Raga completed the all-Spanish top five.



Down in Trial2 where there was a huge entry of 38 riders, joint series leader Sondre Haga (Beta) from Norway showed his class with an opening lap total of just 11 giving him a clear lead as his title rival Pablo Suarez (Montesa) from Spain faltered on 16.

Haga's still looking for his first win this year and victory was denied him by Tournour who rode out of his skin to record a second-lap total of just five which brought him home two clear of Britain's Billy Green (Scorpa) who snatched second on a tie-break from Haga.

However, with Suarez slumping to seventh Haga now leads the class by six points as Green consolidated his third place in the championship.

*"I'm really happy to finally win," said **Tournour**. "I've managed to make it happen and I'd like to thank my team and all my family and friends. I'm looking forward to the next round which will be more of an indoor style which suits me perfectly."*



Harry Hemingway has bossed the Trial3 division from the first round in Spain and the 16-year-old took a giant step towards the title today.

His lap totals of five and seven saw him run out a clear winner by 18 marks ahead of his younger brother and, with rising Czech star David Fabian (Beta) ending the day in third after losing out on a tie-break, with just one round to go he has a virtually unassailable 18-point lead.

*"It's been perfect for me to be honest," said **Hemingway**. "My first lap was ideal – I was riding well all day – but after a stupid five on the second lap I thought it was going to be closer. This result is perfect for the championship."*

Fans now have less than a week to wait before round five of the 2022 Hertz FIM Trial World Championship – the TrialGP of France – is staged at Cahors over the weekend of August 27-28.

For regular updates check out our social media platforms on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram – just search for TrialGP.



Rounds 5 + 6 North Island Champs

17th-18th September

Wellington

It's on, work is well underway and, characteristically of our esteemed club, it will be a blinder, with twenty entries in already, a record, surely, for your average trials rider.

Here's the abbreviated version of your need-to-knows:

- Online Entry Form link here with all your deets, including some Ts & Cs straight out of a lawyers convention - she is comprehensive, to say the least. Hats off to Emily for her deft online hand: [Entry Form](#)
- If you or a family member or friend can help with observing, contact Chris now: chrispresto60@gmail.com
- Entries close Sept 8th so get amongst it!

Big Ups to our tireless volunteer workforce and committee members - many of them both - without whom we would have no event.

Oh, I found a shot of Wayne at our Maungies club trial....quite a big shot, actually, for his quite big...er....achievement.



Calendar

September

4th - Ixion Club Trial - Judds

11th – Working Bee for NI Champs - Maungies + Judds

17th/18th - Rds 5 +6 NI Champs - Maungies + Judds respectively

October

2nd - Ixion Club Trial - Alexander's - Gated Trial

22nd-24th - National Champs - Alexandra (South Island)

November

6th - Have A Go - Maungies - TBA

13th - Club Champs / BSA - Top Pub, - TBA

Head to our 'Where We Ride' page at <https://ixionmototrials.com/where-we-ride> for location info.

CLUB CONTACTS

Website: <https://ixionmototrials.com/>

Snail mail:	Mike Dench	021 1233211	22 Fendalton Cres Pinehaven
President:	Richard Latimer	027 272 2219	president.ixionmcc@outlook.com
Club Captain:	Wayne Furniss		waynes.pmworld@gmail.com
Secretary:	Gerry Foon	388 8263	gerryfoon@gmail.com
Treasurer:	Mike Dench	021 123 3211	denchmtha@gmail.com
Convenor:	Chris Presto	04 904 8691	chrispresto60@gmail.com
Juniors Convenor	Gavin Pearce		moonshineplumbing@xtra.co.nz
Committee:	Kevin Tither	04 904 1760	bernietither@gmail.com
	Mark Sidebotham	021 2200289	tangomark@protonmail.com
Results:	Richard Latimer	565 0086	richard.latimer@xtra.co.nz
Website:	Emily Willard		willard.emily@gmail.com
Newsletter:	Phil Costello		philcostello@outlook.com

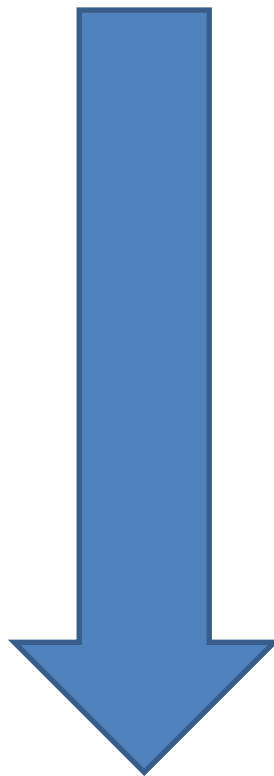
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Torque is generally published the week before the club's regular event, the wonderful **Ixion Club Trial**; which is generally held on the first Sunday of the month, rain hail or shine. Sections are set to cater from everyone from raw beginner to NZ championship "A" grade; something for everyone. Be there at 9am for a 10:00 start at the latest. Finish time is 3pm or when everyone is finished, whichever is sooner. There's time for quick lunch after the first round if you don't mess about too much. Cost: \$15 per rider, \$5 for students. Please bring \$5 notes and be aware due to insurance requirements that there is **NO RIDING AT ALL BEFORE YOU SIGN UP.**

DOGS are strictly forbidden at Trials because we ride due to the kindness of the farmers who own the land. Dogs make farmers unkind. The last 10 riders to sign in each get to bring in the pegs for one section. So turn up early if you want to leave early! See the President about this, the rules are not applied strictly. Brand new people can ride without an **MNZ license** for two trials; after that it is necessary to join MNZ (Motorcycling NZ), our national body. It's a cool hundred bucks a year, or \$130 for a champs licence, which is only necessary for Junior, President and Expert classes at Island or National level. In addition to the Club Trial, Ixion generally holds a two-day **North Island Championship Trial** each year, which is considered (by **all** Ixion members) to be the premier event in the World Trials Calendar. There are sometimes **Twilight Trials** during the summer starting at 3pm, often followed by a BBQ. The friendly **Committee Meeting** is held on the Tuesday after the Club Trial at the Lighthouse in Pauahatanui at 7:30 pm. Ring Kevin to make sure, before turning up. Club **fees** are \$40 per year and \$20 for fulltime students or social members, \$60 for families. These very reasonable fees are unchanged since the AGM, so pay up and as always ...

Keep calm and keep your feet up!

Results below



Ixion August (Maungies)

7th of August, 2022 (Sunday)

Name	Bike	Club	1			2			3			4			5			6			7			8			9			10			Per Round			Count					
			1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	C	1	2	3	5	
A+																																									
Cameron JUDD		Ixion	0	1	0	5	5	5	0	0	0	3	3	2	3	5	3	3	3	2	2	3	0	1	0	2	3	1	1	3	1	3	23	22	18	63	7	5	4	10	4
Kevin PINFOLD		MOMCC	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	3	3	3	5	5	3	3	2	1	2	3	5	1	3	1	1	5	3	3	27	19	18	64	8	4	2	12	4
A Grade																																									
Caleb ADLAM		Ixion	1	1	0	3	1	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	7	5	6	18	18	8	2	2	0	
Wayne FURNISS		Ixion	1	0	3	5	3	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	5	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	15	6	7	28	15	10	1	2	2	
John LAWTON		Ixion	3	3	0	3	5	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	5	1	0	0	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	10	15	11	36	17	4	1	5	3	
Kevin TITHER		Ixion	3	1	3	3	5	5	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	3	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	5	1	1	2	15	9	16	40	13	7	3	4	3
Byron ADLAM		Ixion	1	3	1	5	5	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	5	3	0	0	0	5	0	0	5	0	1	1	13	13	15	41	14	8	1	2	5
Finn PEARCE		Ixion	2	1	0	5	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	1	5	1	3	1	0	0	2	5	0	2	1	0	22	13	9	44	15	5	3	1	6	
Mark SIDEBOTHAM		Ixion	3	1	3	3	2	5	0	1	0	5	3	0	1	5	0	3	1	5	2	3	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	5	1	2	23	17	19	59	8	7	3	7	5
Andrew ADLAM		Ixion	3	3	3	3	5	3	1	0	2	5	3	3	0	3	1	0	1	1	3	3	2	2	0	0	5	3	2	3	0	1	25	21	18	64	6	5	4	12	3
Phil COSTELLO		Ixion	3	2	3	5	5	5	1	0	0	3	1	0	5	5	5	2	2	5	3	0	1	0	5	0	5	0	5	3	3	1	30	23	25	78	7	4	3	6	10
B Intermediate																																									
Ashley LUCAS		MOMCC	0	0	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	3	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	8	4	4	16	18	10	0	2	0	
Neil STURMFELS		Ixion	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	2	3	0	0	2	1	0	5	0	0	18	6	5	29	14	8	5	2	1	
Jack ARNOPP			3	0	1	5	5	3	0	0	0	2	0	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	5	1	0	0	3	0	3	3	2	0	0	1	19	13	9	41	14	5	3	5	3
Declan INGRAM		Ixion	3	3	2	5	5	5	3	3	0	2	2	1	3	2	2	3	1	0	3	2	3	2	0	0	3	1	0	1	1	0	28	20	13	61	6	5	7	9	3
C Clubman																																									
Donald TRELOAR		Ixion	2	1	1	5	0	3	3	5	0	3	5	2	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	1	0	0	0	19	15	7	41	15	5	2	4	4
Baxter TRELOAR		Ixion	3	1	5	1	3	3	2	5	2	0	3	3	1	3	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	3	1	2	1	0	1	0	13	18	18	49	9	7	4	8	2
Emily WILLARD		Ixion	3	1	3	3	3	3	2	1	3	3	3	5	3	5	5	2	5	1	0	1	0	2	2	5	3	3	1	3	0	2	24	24	28	76	3	5	5	12	5
John LAMBERT		Ixion	3	3	3	3	3	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	2	3	3	2	5	3	2	5	2	1	2	0	1	0	0	29	36	29	94	3	2	5	9	11
P Presidents																																									
Chris PRESTO		Ixion	1	0	0	1	1	3	0	1	1	3	3	2	0	2	1	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	9	7	8	24	16	8	2	4	0
Mike DENCH		Ixion	2	0	0	5	1	1	0	0	0	3	2	0	5	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	22	4	2	28	16	8	2	2	2
Richard LATIMER		Ixion	2	1	0	3	3	0	3	1	0	5	3	3	3	3	1	2	3	1	0	0	0	2	0	1	2	2	1	0	0	1	22	16	8	46	9	7	5	8	1

