

# Trials Tales

## The Seven Deadly Sins of Trials

In our dear sport of trials there's more than a little sinning going on and I have decided to root it out. Restraint and control is required.

For a start, as written in the Ten Commandments handed down by God to Moses on Mount Sinai: *Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.* Trials are nearly always run on the Sabbath; this has to end.

Further, I will address each of the Seven Deadly Sins, which are frequently broken by trials enthusiasts.

- **Lust**

There is much lust in the trials community, not all of it latent. Many a trials person can be seen drooling over the latest model. No, not the DJ's lingerie models, I mean the latest slim-waisted, sleek and shiny, anodized-rimmed beauty strutting around the showroom. That lithe and lacquered beauty is taunting us, nay, tempting us to do things that our wives/significant others may be very unhappy about. Namely, parting with ready cash (>See Greed) on one of these fleeting loves, which normally last only one year when another even more stunning beauty will catch our wandering, lustful eyes. *I'd better have a cold shower.*

- **Gluttony**

Gluttony is most often found in middle-aged trials riders who upon arriving at the trials (*on a Sunday, darn it*) will make a great show (>See Pride) of eating nothing but healthy light lunches of salad sandwiches and mineral water. Whilst this impresses fellow riders (>See Envy), little do they know that greasy burgers are consumed with gusto on the way home from the meet. After the light and healthy lunch the trials rider now needs to assuage his or her gluttonous habits with copious amounts of French fries and cola. *Disgusting, eh?*

- **Greed/Avarice**

Is ever one bike enough for the trials enthusiast? Never is there a more blatant show of greed and conspicuous consumption than a shed full of bikes and gear. The twin shock brigade is one of the worst (>See Anger). Half a dozen bikes in various stages of re-construction, never ridden year after year, but greed keeps those firmly in the twin-shockers' shed (>See Pride). *One well-maintained bike is enough, right?*

- **Sloth**

I will mow the lawn, but there's a trial on today. After this last beer I will clean my bike. I will change that 4-year-old rear tyre after I get one more trial out of it. I will wire those old grips to stop them spinning like an electric fan on every bump. I will practice my balancing. I will go on that high performance diet (> See Gluttony). I will sell that excess twin-shock after I sell that old BSA Bantam I have quietly moldering away. *WHEN I GET AROUND TO IT!*

- **Wrath/Anger**

It seems the poor old observers cop most of the anger that explodes from the normally passive trials rider (>See Sloth). FOOT, I didn't foot, ARE YOU BLIND! What %#@\*^ marker! That wasn't there last lap. ARE YOU BLIND or are you just against me! Just because I was riding the blue line last lap doesn't mean I ride the blue every lap. ARE YOU BLIND! Surprisingly, trials have very few instances of riders coming to blows amongst themselves, which is a pity as it may save a few observers.

- **Envy**

Thou shall not covert thy neighbor's house; nor thou shall not covert thy neighbor's wife. But there's a lot of coverting going on with thy neighbor's bike.

- **Pride**

In the big tally up at the end of the trial, who cannot say they have not slipped into the realm of sinning when they find out that in section 2, they were the only one to get through with less than a three. The secret Pride and smugness you allowed yourself to feel, *the Section 2 King*, even when you were soundly trounced by all and sundry including the Junior B's on the day. What about the bloke who turns up at very meet with an immaculately clean and shiny bike; whilst he can't be accused of Sloth, he most certainly feels Pride and leaves the rest of us in Lust after his bike. This in turn causes us towards Wrath because our Sloth has brought out our Envy or is it our Avarice?

*Whatever, trials sins are all around us and it needs to end right now. Trials riders confess and repent your ways!*