

What is Brimbo?

WITH no competition news to report this week, I felt that it was the ideal opportunity to explain a few facts to those thousands of bemused *Express* readers who read club reports weekly thinking "Brimbo" must be some form of south Norfolk martial art.

Brimbo, or British Motorbike Owners Club, was founded in 1976 by a small band of British bikers. News of the early runs and events quickly spread and membership soon rose to around 100 and has maintained this level ever since, with the majority of original members still current.

The club caters for enthusiasts with an interest in British motorcycles. The summer months are

spent riding the regular runs such as the Bressingham run, Round Norfolk run, and Leiston Ski-Jumping run, together with various treasure hunts and mystery runs. The club also visits other club rallies, the BMF Rally at Peterborough and the annual pilgrimage to the Isle of Man under the direction of club secretary Kenny Mendham.

During the winter months, the club holds film shows, auto jumbles, slide shows, discussion nights and off road series, which comprises a series of six events — grass track racing, green lane time trial, observed trial, enduro, down hill event and scrambling. Originally, the idea was to participate in all these events on the same bike which was to be

built entirely from spare parts.

In 1983, with the introduction of the "R5" law, the price of second-hand foreign bikes above 125cc fell and formed the basis for a cheap foreign class of the off-road series. All sorts of machinery appeared, most costing as little as £25, which must be the cheapest form of motorcycle sport available today.

The main club meeting is on the first Wednesday of each month, at Scole Inn, although a spattering of Brimbologists can be found at the Inn on most Wednesday evenings.

The club produces an excellent monthly magazine, full of articles, mirth, argument, adverts and puzzles, under the

direction of hard-working editor, Chip Chilvers. Subscription is at present a nominal £5 and the club's annual meeting will take place at Pulham Market village hall on February 16 at 8pm.

Any enquiries regarding the club can be made of the chairman, Pat Rawlence, on Pulham Market 285; Ray Peacock, Tivetshall 640; or myself on Pulham Market 255.

You do not have to own a British motorbike to join the club, and we are always pleased to meet new members.

I hope to report details on the club's forthcoming (February 5), downhill event in next week's *Express* and with only one event remaining after this, tension will be mounting.
Martin Smith.