

Newsletter Contribution

Hopefully most of the GCMCC membership will now be aware that I have taken over from Bill Falconer as chairman, this a good opportunity to say thank you to Bill who has done an excellent job for over 13 years, I'm sure that we all wish Bill all the very best for the future and will look forward to his continued presence at the club meetings and getting back onto two wheels again.

Becoming chairman of the club is an honour and a position which I hope will be recorded as being effective, there will be no immediate changes to the way the club is run so no need to panic, it will be very much business as usual.

Having been a member of the club for just three years many of you may not know much about me, the following will hopefully help you understand more about where I come from:

I hail from GT Yarmouth in Norfolk, started training as a marine electrical engineer in 1970 and spent the next few years travelling the world and being immersed in all things marine, my employer was Cunard and took it upon themselves to provide training so that I would eventually become a Ships Superintendent, this I achieved in 1979. Cunard sold out to an American shipping company in 1980, I resigned in 1988 to gain more experience on larger and more modern vessels and went back to sea with a British shipping company called OIL Ltd. In 1991 OIL decided I would be better placed ashore and moved me and my family to Aberdeen, I have lived in Oldmeldrum for 23 years with my wife Sandra who some of you have met, my son James who together with my eldest daughter Becky helped out at this year's Cairn O Mount, my youngest daughter Emily was not so inclined to help but to be honest I did not twist her arm that much.

My work has taken me to many places around the world and provided many varied and interesting experiences , I have greatly enjoyed working with different nationalities and consider many of those who I worked with in Africa and India as friends.

My motorcycling history consists of my first bike being a 175 Honda, then a Norton 600 café racer which I rebuilt, sold, bought back and rebuilt a second time, a Honda fifty and a Norton Big 4. I now have a Norton 650SS which I have rebuilt and recently acquired a Norton Commander Rotary, which I am finding to be one of the most interesting machines I have ever encountered.

It would be a pleasure to meet all the members of the club and look forward to seeing as many as possible at the monthly meetings in Oldmeldrum. The Christmas lunch is being held on the 14th December and if it is anywhere as good as last year's promises to be a really good afternoon of good food and lots fun, please try to attend the dinner if at all possible.

And finally, if anyone wishes to contribute something to the monthly newsletter please send any offerings to myself for onward sending to the editor.

Tony Duffield (tony@osvs.co.uk)

5th November 2013