



Newsletter

August 2014

Last club night run "Tyres and MOT's"

The plan was to assemble at Craigston Tyres Oldmeldrum Colpy Road Industrial Estate for 7 to 7:30 PM where the owner was to informally talk about tyre specification and use and what to prepare for when taking a bike for it's MOT. The earlier than normal start was to allow the owner to get away at 8:00 PM however it quickly became obvious that there was a lot more to tyres and MOT's that could possibly be covered in just 30 minutes.

We eventually finished at 9:15 having had a really interesting and informative discussion, we very much appreciate the time given by the owner of Craigston Tyres for his interest in our club and our bikes and for wanting to pass on his knowledge regarding the selection of the correct tyre and for the invaluable tips on making sure that our bikes sail through the MOT.

We all agreed that there was no time for a run so we retired to the Red Garth in Oldmeldrum for some refreshments.

Next club night run.

Is being arranged by Alan Griggs, I will ask Alan to let me know what he has in mind and will send you details in a separate e-mail.

BROCH BIKE FEST 2014 REPORT BY Martin Crosswell

It was a little sad to see a very poor attendance from club members and their bikes, especially as the organisers came to one of the club meetings and went away with high hopes of good numbers from us.

Vic Greig was there with his 1959 Beneli 175-4T and his 1979 Moto Morini

Bob Prodder was also there with his road and trails Royal Enfields and I took along a 1979 Yamaha RD 250 and a 1977 Harley Davidson Café Racer.

There was a better turnout of bikes this year from last and some nice examples of all bikes.

When it came to judging my Yamaha RD won best in show with a unanimous decision which I was very pleased about.



NEXT MEETING:

2nd September 7 for 7:30pm at the Oldmeldrum British Legion

Annual BBQ 23rd August 2014

Eileen Burton has kindly offered to host this year's annual BBQ, so far we have 15 members who have advised that they will attend; Jacqui has kindly placed the event on the face book page so we may have some more arrive on the day.

If any members have yet to indicate if they can attend then please contact me so that I can send Eileen's address and directions.

Having never attended a club BBQ before I look forward to meeting you all and an enjoyable afternoon.

Please note that at the time of writing we have not finalised the run before the start of the BBQ, once all details are in place I will send a separate e-mail to those who have indicated that they will attend.

Norton Owners Club International Rally Bremen Germany

This month I was lucky enough to be able to attend the NOC Rally in Bremen, my wife Sandra and I departed Oldmeldrum on the 12th August having loaded my Commander Rotary with a tent and all the equipment needed for a week of camping; we had planned to stay the night in Cramlington before catching the Newcastle/Ijmuiden DFDS ferry next day, the run down to Cramlington was very wet and windy in particular the Forth Road Bridge and the City By-Pass once onto the A68 and A697 the weather improved but remained wet.

Once in Holland our route was to take us past Groningen and Oldenburg before reaching Bremen, we decided to go over what they call the dyke which in fact is a very long bridge, an impressive feat of engineering, crossing the Ijsselmeer Sea.

We arrived in Bremen on Thursday the 14th meeting up with two friends from Aberdeen and the ex Chairman of the Morpeth NOC who we met at the National Rally last year.

The Bremen branch of the NOC had done an excellent job in providing a number of runs to some fascinating places in particular the "Bunker

Valentine" a huge concrete structure built during the 2nd world war for the construction of a new type of submarine, fortunately the RAF managed to inflict sufficient damage so that the bunker never saw the completion of a submarine.

We also took part in a run to Bremerhaven on the way following the River Weser and passing through some very appealing and picturesque villages.

On Sunday the 17th all attendees assembled with their bikes in the Bremen town square, apparently the organisers of the rally had to convince the town council that we would not spoil the square and in particular we were not to ride our bikes across the centre of the square, although we could push them, I am not sure what the difference was between pushing and riding but in any case I suspect it took the local NOC branch considerable effort to persuade the council to let us use the square.

Once assembled our bikes drew large crowds to view what was some fine examples of the output of the Norton factory, by far the best bikes were those from Germany, perhaps because they had not had to travel large distances to get there, but in any case the finish and detail of the bikes was excellent.

My bike won best rotary and below are just a few of the many photos taken during the trip.

The NOC International Rally draws members from around Europe including Sweden, Denmark, Holland, Germany and the UK, it is very satisfying to see so many enthusiasts of British motorcycles from so many different nations

For those interested in numbers we travelled 1183 miles departing Bremen on Monday 18th arriving home PM Tuesday 19th

Safe Riding Tony

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