



Newsletter

“AGM Special Edition”

October 2014

The Annual General Meeting of the GCMCC was held in the Oldmeldrum British Legion on the 7th October, minutes of the meeting plus Bob's financial statement will be forthcoming, for those who did not manage to attend the meeting my notes as Chairman are included in this newsletter.

There were a number of notable events:

Myself and Bob Prodger were re-elected to the committee for another year.

Jacqui stood down as secretary having served in the capacity for I think 8 years, I am sure we all agree that she has done an excellent job, however she will still be around as a unanimous decision was passed to elect Jacqui to the post of Deputy Chairperson.

Jacqui was replaced as secretary by Nick Wade, although Nick is new to our club he is a keen biker thus providing first class credentials to be an active member and secretary, I am sure we will all welcome Nick into our fold wishing him the very best in his new role.

Mick Elstone kindly volunteered to line up some speakers for the winter sessions, two have now been confirmed with the first one scheduled for the December meeting. Keep a keen look out for the November newsletter when more details will be announced, I can guarantee it will be standing room only!

Chairman's AGM Notes:

GCMCC AGM 7th October 2014

Verbal report on the events of the year:

I would like to mention Martin Isterling who does such a good job as Membership Secretary, his hard work and prompt attention when receiving entry forms is very much appreciated.

The Xmas lunch was held at the Tilley Lounge 14th December with the raffle held on the January club night.

With the acquisition of the projector and screen a number of video shows have been held throughout the winter.

Ian Matthew, a local artist attended a club night in February and showed a selection of some very impressive motorcycle artwork.

There was a most interesting talk in March provided by club member Crawford Logan regarding the investigation into the loss of the Hull trawler Gaul.

Jacqui arranged a very interesting visit to a local wind turbine.

Assembling at Craigstone Tyres for what we thought was to be a quick chat turned into a very informative evening discussing MoT's, tyres plus all manner of bike related information, the evening finished with a visit to the Red Garth.

NEXT MEETING:

4th November 7 for 7:30pm at the Oldmeldrum British Legion

The camping trip 30th May to 1st June was reported to be a success with a number of club members attending, from the reports and photos it seems that the weather was good and the run to Ullapool was very enjoyable as only the roads in that part of Scotland can be, some members on the way back home called in at the Fraserburgh Show.

The Shetland Classic Motor Show and Tours 6th to 8th June, was attended by a number of club members together with their bikes, a van was hired and 5 more bikes were transported to the show. Next to the club stand Jacqui and Tony provided a good selection of Tiger Cubs providing the general public with an insight into classic motorcycling and the lengths enthusiasts will go to show off their bikes.

Club BBQ, kindly hosted by Eileen with assistance from Martin was a success, Crawford Logan led the run on what was in general a dry and sunny day, thanks go to both Eileen and Martin for all their hard work.

Cairn O Mount:

The annual Cairn O Mount was held on Sunday the 18th May, we had an excellent turn out, the weather remained fine and the route was very well received. Scott Skinners did an excellent job with the bacon rolls and the Bervie Chipper offered not just fish suppers but a varied menu to suit all tastes.

Thanks go to Eileen Burton for receiving the entry forms and sending out instructions and wrist bands, thanks also to Martin Crosswell who gave up his leave to find an interesting yet challenging morning and afternoon route and organising Scott Skinners and the Bervie Chipper.

A special mention should go to Anne Robertson who took most of the photos; notably of excellent quality and in a very professional manner.

Judging was expertly performed by:

Bill Falconer, Alan Griggs, Donald Stephen (Shirlaws) Stuart Smith (Peterhead Club) and George Steven a friend of Stuart Smith.

This year's entries were up on last year with 67 entries, 3 pillion passengers and just 5 entries who did not register on the day.

Grampian Motorcycle Convention

The annual Grampian Motorcycle Convention was held on the 7th September at the Alford Transport Museum, entries for the classic bikes was good with 33 entered however owing to the wet weather just 18 of those who entered turned up but that said the bikes on show were all in excellent condition providing the members of the general public an opportunity to see some good examples of classic bikes.

Thanks go to Ian Read for all his hard work organising the entries, Judges Frank and Frances for once again providing their expert opinions and Bob Prodger for the use of his tent and setting up on Saturday.

Attached to this month's newsletter is Bob Prodger's holiday trip report, which makes some very interesting reading.

Remember that this newsletter is for you to tell all members about your bike (s) any and all trips and if you have photos please send them to me for inclusion in both the newsletters and on the club website.

One last thing; I hope to take my bike on a run to Comrie near Perth on Sunday 26th October I will leave Oldmeldrum around 09:30, anyone wishing to join me please let me know by calling or sending a text to 07900 278151

I look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting.

Safe Riding
Tony

NEXT MEETING:

4th November 7 for 7:30pm at the Oldmeldrum British Legion

Smokin in the Cotswolds

Took the RE Turbo Twin in the back of my car on my hols to the Cotswolds again this year, staying there for 3 weekends worth of VMCC events. The trip was built around the Cotswold section 'Diamond Jubilee Celebration' of the 12th & 13th July (2014).

The first event was organised by the North Cotswold section, Sunday 6th July, entitled the 'Gamekeeper Run'. The run started from Chipping Campden shortly after 10am., a drop off (leap frog as they call it) system was used to take us through some varied roads, all scenic, into the Malvern area. Some 20 machines, arrived at the 'Gamekeepers' cottage some 3 miles NE of Hereford in good time for lunch. A very good buffet spread laid on for us, brilliantly sunny day, a huge shady tree with seating below, and plenty of good chat. No 'charge' for lunch, the helmet being passed around for donations to the local air ambulance. The return route included a stop for a welcome local ice cream and following on from here people leaving the line of machines to make their own way home.

Next event for me was a mid week run, again with the North Cotswold section. Meeting at a members house at Adlestrop for a late breakfast (sausage or bacon roll, coffee, tea etc), very civilised, we eventually set off on an interesting 40 mile route around the countryside for a pub lunch in Stanton Hardcourt just west of Oxford. Very hot and sunny, the return trip of 30 miles cooled me down! Unexpected was more refreshment on our return. Several interesting machines including a pair of Rover motorcycles and an early Ariel square four. Donations this time to the local village hall fund.

On to the main event, over the past 10 years I have taken part in quite a few Cotswold section events, the main attraction to me being they have a competitive element to them, both with route finding and 'knowledge of (vintage) motorcycling'. The Saturday event was more social, meeting at 10am. at Chedworth village hall, with a run to the steam railway at Toddington Station, (supposedly for tea but ice cream was more in order). Seems a popular venue as various other clubs were also visiting, both car and motorcycle (and cycle). Particularly of interest, a number of AJS! No not the motorcycles, cars, 8 of them! As some wag said, all of them! About 40 machines on this run, mainly vintage, mine being one of the younger. Returned to Chedworth for an excellent sit down meal, about 80 people including one of the original section members. Good display of the history of the section to be studied, and a nice souvenir booklet. Following lunch a few introductions and short speeches, then to my utter amazement the (only) award for 'the motorcycle I would most like to take home with me as voted for by those present' - my Turbo Twin! Given the line up outside, this has to be the best award I have ever won with the Turbo Twin by a long way.

Sunday's event was an early start to get to Miserden village hall, consisting of a 'Cloverleaf run'. Basically this comprises of three loops (which are bidirectional), every entrant will ride each loop once, collecting instructions for your next loop as you return to 'base'. On each loop are three 'self' check points and three questions at each, the first being something to identify you are at the correct point, (an anagram or calculation rather than straight forward observation) the other two being related to VMCC or vintage motorcycling. To add to the mix it is both an individual and a team event. Having had moderate results in previous events I had volunteered to make up the number (three) if anyone else wanted a team member, seems I was not the only one and Jenny the secretary had teamed up three of us with two strokes - 'Smoker's Corner'! Met up briefly with my team mates, Nigel and his wife on a 1960 Puch and Mike on a MZ. The weather was not so kind today, the only day I needed waterproofs, the roads are very minor and needed respect! Great fun though, people riding in all directions, always meeting up with someone else when stopping at question locations! Eventually finish for a late lunch, as you can imagine results are not

immediately available and will be posted on the section web site when available. The section is running a 'tour week' immediately following on, so not before the following weekend. Weather had improved greatly for the run home and I actually washed the RE, it needed it! Was home before I got to see the results, wow what a surprise, I had the top score of the day! Nigel came second to me in our class and Mike had won his class = 'Smoker's Corner' are the winners of the team award!

Monday was a short trip to Chipping Campden again, joining with the guys on the touring week to visit a well hidden private collection of three wheelers. Wasn't sure what to expect and pleasantly surprised to find a few real old and rare vehicles. A 1904 Rexette tri-car, presently being spruced up, a 1920 MV Bambina, now the only one in existence, a 1934 Sandford (French) and a genuine 1932/5 works Morgan, raced a few years ago by the owner, gave up racing it as he wanted to preserve its originality! Also a BSA three wheeler used quite regularly for touring, and his mate was along with a 1926 Austin 7 Sports 'Burghley', I think the first time I have seen this model, other than in pictures. Tucked away in the workshop is a Raleigh 'Safety' model undergoing refurbishment and a whole collection of interesting spare engines and memorabilia. Wednesday I went to the touring week base at Minchinhampton for a ride out to Slimbridge (Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust). Unfortunately there was a change in destination, they were going to Toddington Station! As I was looking forward to Slimbridge I went on my own and spent a lot longer there than I had anticipated, lots to see, a much larger 'public accessible' area than I expected. Surprised by how much time I spent in the hides overlooking the estuary, rewarded by seeing (2 small specks in my photo) the now wild cranes along with other wildlife and especially (as you would expect), birds!

Thursday I took a long run to Lower Broadheath to join up with the Worcestershire section on their Wrinkly run to the Cosford RAF air museum, adjacent to the working RAF base. 3 large hangers worth of aircraft and supporting vehicles etc., along with much memorabilia to be looked at. What made this a particularly interesting visit was being with mainly retired gents from the surrounding area, many of them had worked in the industries involved in the building of the aircraft subsequent to WW2.

That brought to an end my 'riding' holiday, just short of an additional 900 miles on the clock! To round off I also went to the Taverners section 'Founders Day' event at Stanford Hall (grounds). As this included a large motorcycle auto-jumble I opted for the car, and what an auto-jumble, nearly all devoted to proper old British stuff and keeping them on the road. Have not seen proper Vintage and Veteran complete? machines or large parts for, at an auto-jumble for years, prices seemed reasonable and all. The show (what I saw of it) was interesting, the theme as many this year was focused on military motorcycling.

Mistake taking the car though, returned with an empty wallet!