



# *The Silver Spoke*

The Newsletter of the Grampian Classic Motorcycle Club

**Oct/Nov 2017**

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Editorial

Hi Folks,

To those who attended the Distinguished Gentleman's Ride a big THANKS, the Grumpies Team raised £424 and the Aberdeen ride raised £7401. for men's health and the 72 or so bikes that charged up Union Street and out to Alford raised a lot of awareness too. I intend to go next year, not least for the great display of bikes of all shapes and sizes, modern and old, a few of which I attach below for your delectation.

Also in this issue Dan Peck has written an entertaining piece on his recent run to the Ayr Show with Mike and Barry, a taster of which was provided in the last issue. Thank you Dan.

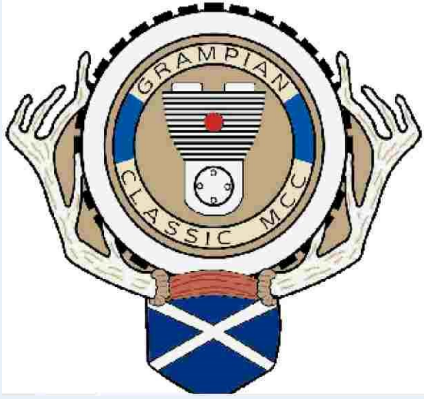
This is my final issue as Editor, I'm handing over to Club Secretary Nick Wade to keep tings ticking over until someone volunteers. Thanks to those that have contributed over the last couple of years and enjoy your motorcycling!

All the Best



Dave





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Martin, Barry and I met up at Oldmeldrum all prepared with waterproofs to hand raring to go and the three of us left on time at 11am. Unfortunately we only managed just less than an hour on the road when Barry's BMW decided to give up the ghost along the A93. After a wee look over the bike, it became clear that there was not much we could do and after making sure Barry had a good enough phone signal to call the AA we continued on our way. He was picked up eventually and got home at 5:15 that afternoon. It turned out that it was a fuel pump problem which cost Barry a few hundred quid from BMW!

After a short stop to top up fuel and slip into the waterproofs at Ballater we headed off over past Glenshee over to Pitlochry and then over through Aberfeldy and decided to have a stop for tea at Kenmore. As well as the on and off slight rain our interest was kept alive by passing and meeting a number of Rolls-Royces of all ages on the road. (There was an owners' club rally on.)

Although it was a bit misty and the roads were wet it was generally dry weather from there all the way to the hotel stop at Greenock. Once the bikes and luggage were all sorted we took a walk to find a pub, which we did, but it was pretty rubbish so we walked back to the hotel and had a beer there instead.

The run down the coast to Ayr on the Saturday morning was dry and meant we got to the bike show just after opening at 10am. There were over 150 bikes on display ranging from veterans to classics from the 1990s, including over 40 Triumph twins. There was a good few stalls and auto jumbles as well to keep us interested. Overall it was a very good show, loads of nice bikes, well organised and laid out. Martin even managed to get a replacement horn for his Yam RD250 for the mighty sum of £3, and yes it worked!

It was nice to meet familiar faces in the form of Jacqui and Tony who had been there for a day or so with The Bike Bus helping out getting bikes to the show and also had a few demonstrators from Thistle Bikes available for test rides.

After the show we jumped back on the bikes and had a nice run down the Ayrshire coast to Kirkoswald via Maidens and Trump Turnberry golf course. After a quick sandwich we took in the local sites with a run over the hills to Alloway and past Burns Cottage and Monument. A short stop in to see Colin at Ayr Motorcycle Centre gave Martin hope in getting a replacement key for his Yamaha TDR250 with the contact details from a lock and key company in Kent.

Saturday night was a rerun of Friday without going to the crap pub. We sat outside in the beer garden instead.

Sunday morning and the sun was shining, which led to a great run back all the way home via Loch Lomond, Crianlarich, Killin, Pitlochry and over the Spittal of Glenshee road. We were whizzing along at a brisk pace, taking advantage of the visibility and the lack of potholes. However I must confess that seeing a bike seriously mangled into the front of a car over the top of Glenshee slowed me down a wee bit. Don't know what had happened but the rider was standing so I guessed he was okay.

Last stop before home was a cuppa at the Hungry Highlander in Braemar, where there were plenty of bikes stopped. They were mainly all new, however there was a very nice Seeley Honda Britain from 1978 amongst the latest adventure and sports bikes.

Overall, it was a great weekend and we covered a total of 575 miles, it was just a pity that Barry never made it, but his BMW is on the mend and should be going again by the time you read this.

Dan Peck