

Editors Ramblings

You always know winter is here when you have been to the bike show at the NEC! Spending a day looking at bikes and more bikes just because you can. No reason to go there apart from its what you do every year. Never makes it any less interesting though. There is always something new to peak your interest. Anything you saw there that got your attention? Let us know, drop me a line or two with a picture with your thoughts? I was willing the Cardiac Kid to get a demo of his inflatable vest, but he was not up for it, spoilsport!

Remember we have our Facebook page – please join and contribute on it - Only for club members

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/362204533842150/>

Email me on biker5chef@yahoo.co.uk or 07590596380 for WhatsApp sending pictures or texts or phone!

The Highlander

South Cheshire Advanced Motorcyclists Newsletter December 2018

A Word from the Chair

Seems like it was just a few months since 2018 started but here we are again in the last thirty days of the year. Only the one trip on the bike this month for myself to keep the wheels turning, but I overdosed on bikes at the bike show to make up for it to give me a few ideas for test rides in the spring. Need to keep something to look forward to for these cold dark wet days we will no doubt get. We met up for a dinner with our biking friends on the Saturday night and remembered the great trips along with the perfect weather that accompanied them throughout this summer. Motorcyclists continue to be the friendliest of breeds and we will continue on our trips together next year. Please keep meeting up with fellow bikers throughout the year and keep this fellowship going. Remember our

Thursday evening at The Hawk last one in The month for a catch up. I hope to see some of you at our festive meal on the 14th – Spaces still available!! Well time to get that xmas list done now. If I don't see you have a great time over this festive period.

The IAM RoadSmart Stand at the NEC



Happy riding everybody, stay safe

Gordon



Presidents Page

I would like to wish you all a very merry
Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Hopefully some of you managed to get to the bike show and identified something nice to look forward to either on Christmas day or early in the New Year.

The Autumn training course has finished, to the Associates on the course I say well done, Observers are available for one to ones if you need extra coaching.

Next March sees the group reaching its 25th anniversary, we are hoping to mark the occasion in some way, all suggestions welcome, the committee have discussed having an anniversary T shirt printed, we will keep you updated as plans are formulated. I will recount some of the high points for me during those 25 years in next year's issues.

That concludes my comment for this year; I hope you all have a great Christmas. And I will see you in the New Year.

That is all from me for this month, so until next month, safe riding.

Chris Steel

President.

Northern Spain & the Pico's - continued

Wednesday 8th August 190 miles

All up and breakfasted up, not quite as nice as our last hotel though! we repacked and bikes loaded in the hotels underground garage we had a quick start along the A-6 then N-120 fast main roads with some overtaking lanes which took us near Portugal for thirty six miles before exiting at A Rua to A Gudina climbing through more mountain roads which were quite open and fast flowing bends sweeping from one to another. The temperature started at a cool 15 degrees and did not get much better in the mountains with us reaching some low cloud making it misty and cool till we started to head downwards still sweeping through the lovely constant radius bends that just kept on coming. Gudinia reached we stopped for fuel and a café stop where we sat outside in the now warming sun having a coffee (for the ones prepared to wait on the lone bar staff!) Still caffeined up I just found a sun trap and chilled/warmed. On the road again, we continued towards the border on the A-52 another open road through Fumaces, Guimarie and through to Xinzo de Limia. This is where it started to get a bit more technical narrower and tighter which suits me better so we lapped this up as the road rose and fell through Bande and Chaos, not much Chaos there but the road could create it in the wrong hands, mucho gear changing for the tight hairpin bends and constant radius bends, they know how to build a good road here! This was the best part of our day and we were now ready for a spot of lunch after a long morning, a difficult junction was negotiated going towards Lobios by all but the last turning to the town centre was missed by three bikes despite being marked by CK, now if you know CK he is six foot four and in light coloured kit and white helmet waving the direction to go in, a blind man couldn't miss him!



Town of Lobios

Northern Spain & the Pico's

Well as they had passed his stomach called and he left his post tut tut. The café although knowing we were going to arrive had just the one waiter, so choices were limited to chips, burgers or a pizza if you were lucky! Chips ordered first and arriving last, they did go down well as some sort of subsidence till we had dinner. Don't know how three of us had different amounts charged for the same food through?

Lunch done, and the three blind mice were gathered up we just had forty-eight miles to go and we headed for the Penda-Geres National Park where the border to Portugal was. A slow procession through here on the small rough tarmac road which was busy with holidaymakers and parked cars with some cobbled bends to contend with. Portugal border reached, and the two-euro fee tolls not open we headed on the last leg to the hotel on built up roads busy with traffic and with the temperature now in the high twenties we were baking on the bikes. Guimaraes reached we had a slow path to the hotel on the cobbled streets where we parked up to unload and get our room keys before getting led through the towns one-way streets to the hotels garage three streets away but seemingly ten streets by road. A lovely city with nearly every street cobbled and wonderful architecture, a great night out with good food and company finished off our day.



Guimaraes, Portugal – picturesque with lots of cobbled streets

Northern Spain & the Pico's

Thursday 9th August 189 miles

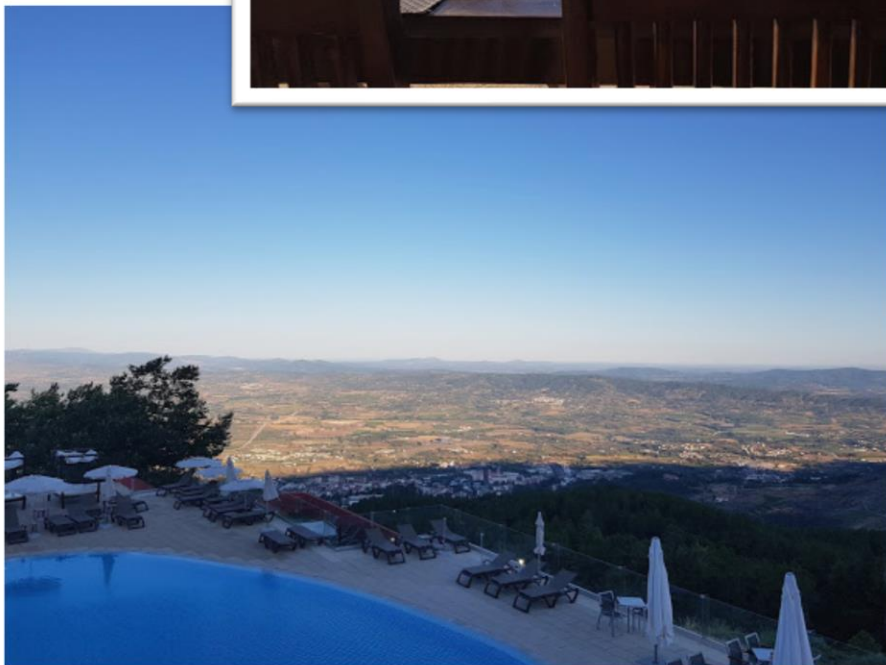
Another bright sunny day to greet us and breakfast served at our tables continental style and plenty of it offered and refusal was not taken easily! Another light lunch today then! A reverse procedure for getting the bikes from the garage and luggage attached the First few miles were on motorway to get us to the interesting roads. We paid our toll two euros and change, well most did while others managed to throw the change on the road, oohh tempted to chase after it! The day started now as we got onto the N-211 then the N-222 oh boy this was fantastic yet again rising up and down while giving us bend after bend of super road to test our bikes on. A bit of a challenge for the three of us riding in line for who would brake first? CK well he was buying the ice creams he he lots of low gear shenanigans to avoid braking even if it was just an ice cream!



Pinhao, Portugal

Northern Spain & the Pico's

A quick coffee break and it was off for more of Portugal's finest roads along the Duoro Valley and along a calm lake shimmering in the sun. Another cobbled village to negotiate to the lakeside for lunch, well an ice cream and water was all that was needed to cool down in the thirty-degree heat from the constant sun beating down. Now off to go through and up the Serra Da Estrela National Park and the highest point in Portugal, well you may be getting fed up with the greatest roads blab la but we hit another doozy with this one as it snaked up and up two thousand meters into a rocky moonscape and water pools captured in the rocks below over a vast area just jaw dropping and we had forty miles of this before dropping down the other side to our hotel still high in the Serra. It was cooler here, but this was welcome after the heat of the day and the drinks by the pool never had a better view, just don't go in the pool it was freezing!



**Hotel with views,
Yes please!**

The next couple of days next month folks – The Highlander

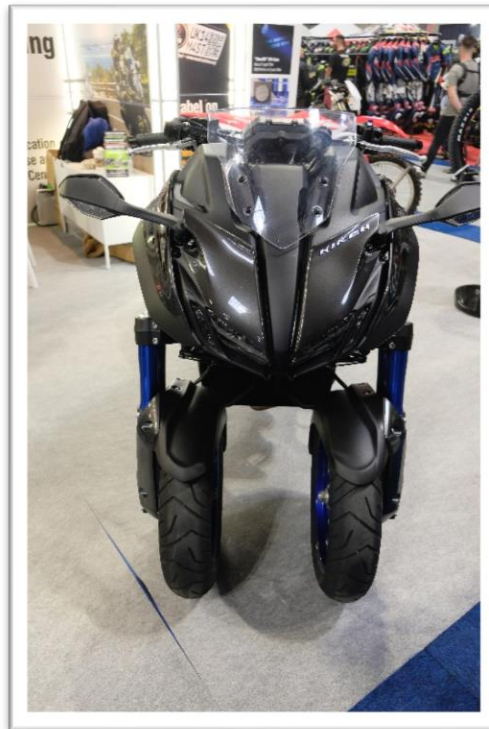
Motorcycle Live Pictures



For when we get older !!!! Sue & Jane



Three wheels were all the rage!

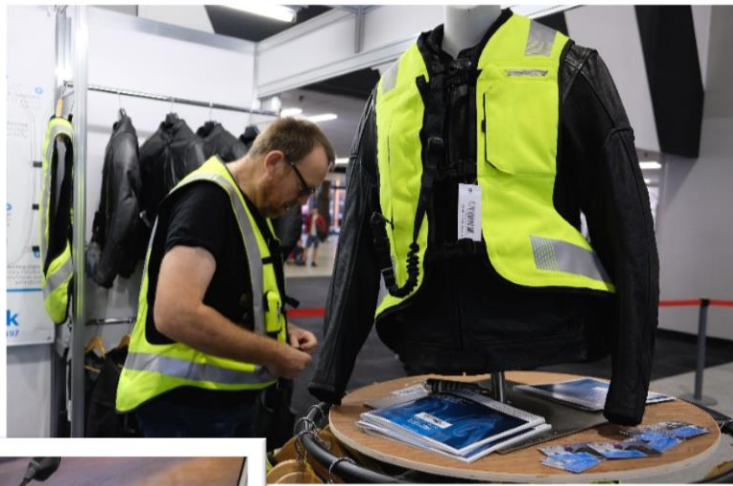


Motorcycle Live Pictures



Will this be a safe bike asks
The Cardiac Kid?

Better get an Inflatable Jacket!



Electric bikes were out in
force, start recoding your
favourite engine sound now!



Motorcycle Live Pictures



Guess you need to buy two suits to get a pair of boots!

Orange?
Sidecar?
Scooter?
Three into one does not go!



CCM British Bulldog spirit



New Members

A big welcome to this month's new members

A surprise Christmas present for one lucky lady?

Paul Curran

Rick Evans

Bruce Blackman

Andy Richards

Andrea Brassington

David Jackson

Anthony Beeston

Welcome

Test Pass's

Autumn Course just finished so names
Here for next month!



Club Events

MONTHLY CLUB NITE

Last Thursday of the month at the Hawk Inn in Haslington by Crewe – starting August– Our own version of Conversation Street, I'm sure there will be plenty of discussion and maybe some of it repeatable too! 8pm onwards all welcome.



CHRISTMAS SOCIAL EVENING

Our annual dinner this year will be held at the Bleeding Wolf, Scholar Green, Stoke on Trent on Friday the 14th of December.

If you, partner/spouse/friends would like to come along to what promises to be a very convivial and lively evening meeting new and catching up with old friends.

The group has agreed to pay the deposit which will be recovered from the full cost of the meal on the night. The cost of £22.95 pp shown on the menu excludes beverages other than stated and all wines, spirits, beers etc.

Please let Geoff Highfield know as soon as possible with your meal choices from the menu.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Festive Menu
10% discount for children 12 years and under

FULL MENU £22.95
MON-FRI LUNCH SPECIAL
TWO COURSES
coffee and mince pies £16.95

Starters

- Sweet Potato & Carrot Soup, baked bread (GFA)
- Crispy Breaded Brie, with cranberry jam & salad (V)
- Chicken Liver Pâté, mini baked onion loaf, red onion marmalade, watercress salad (GFA)
- Walnut & Mushroom Pâté, mini baked onion loaf, red onion marmalade, watercress salad (V) (GFA)
- Salmon, Cream Cheese & Dill Tart, rocket and sweet cherry tomato salad

Mains

- Festive Roast Turkey, with sage & thyme stuffing, pigs in blankets, roast potatoes, seasonal vegetables & a red wine jus (GFA)
- Roast Pork Belly, herb mash, cider sauce & seasonal vegetables (GF)
- Wild Field Mushrooms & Nut Yorkshire Pudding Burrito, sweet onion gravy, boulangere potatoes & seasonal vegetables (V)
- Herb Infused Chicken Wrapped in Bacon, served with roasted garlic new potatoes, tomato & olive sauce & seasonal vegetables (GF)
- Rolled Plaice, Stuffed with Spinach & Prawns, herb mash, lemon butter parsley sauce, ribbon vegetables (GF)

Desserts

- Christmas Pudding with brandy sauce (V)
- Profiteroles, with Baileys & chocolate sauce, winter berries
- Raspberry Sparkle Mess Cheesecake, with pouring cream
- Lemon Meringue Roulade, strawberry ice cream (V) (GF)

To Finish
Freshly brewed coffee & mince pies

Other Events of a two-wheeled nature

Land Rover Experience Liverpool - maximum 12 people to one instructor

Our Manufacturing Tours are £49.00 per person we can off a 5% discount for groups.

Morning Tours begin at 9:00am and finish at 12:00pm or at 13:00pm and finish at 4:00pm

A welcome drink and introduction before visiting the huge industrial presses stamping out rolls of steel into perfect 3D panels.

View our family of robots welding, riveting, bonding and measuring these panels with incredible accuracy time after time to create the finished body.

Then on to the mind-blowing logistics of Trim and Final, where everything comes together.

And the final stage - our dedicated quality team scrutinising each vehicle to ensure it meets our standards.

Please let us know if you would like us to arrange a group visit for this

2-17th of December – get involved in a local Toy Run www.thebikerguide.co.uk

5-6th January 2019! Carol Nash Classic Bike Guide Winter Classic – Newark Showground

6-19th of January – Dakar Rally – Peru

27-28th January – Springfields Motorcycle Show - Lincs

Caption Competition – NEW = well after I lost it last month!

Let's give this one a try! It's Sue Rogers fault honest!

Answers as usual to biker5chef@yahoo.co.uk

Fire Away!



Club Website Information

We have fresh hands going over our website

<http://www.southcheshiream.org.uk/> reorganising it and updating the diary and Gallery to start off with.

We are now hosting the photographs through our Flickr account to make it easier to upload these and manage them. Link here: -

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/155059034@N08/albums>

So please any pictures taken on any club or interesting bike ride out send them over to Geoff Highfield at gh@highfieldassociates.co.uk or directly to Richard Kinsey at: richard.kinsey@tiscali.co.uk with a brief description and they will arrange for these to be put on to it. A Long or Short story will get a selection in the newsletter for an article too!

If you hold them in a Microsoft programme/file such as "Pictures" you can select the ones you want to send, right click on the mouse on one of them and select "send to", left click on "send to" and left click on "mail recipient". You will be asked what size pictures you want to send. Click on "large". An email will be formed in Microsoft Outlook. Complete it in the usual way and send to me. Use of this method significantly reduces the size of the picture so that several can be sent together.

If you hold them on a smart phone you can mail them directly but in small groups. Some smart phones such as the iPhone will ask if you want to reduce the size of the bundle if it is too big.

If you want a note of recognition/ownership for the photos, please tell us.

Holiday pictures, Presentation Evening, Anniversary Ride Out, Christmas Meal, A date with "Just Jane"? (Interesting) and more are there already.



Group Events

Sunday Ride Outs – NEW WINTER TIME its 10am from Costa Coffee at the Grand Junction Retail Park - CREWE - arrive early with a full tank of fuel. Usually 150-200 miles but if you want to do a shorter one we will not take offence at you turning back early.

Wednesday Evening Ride Outs – In hibernation till Spring/Summer time

Xmas Meal – Friday 14th of December – The Bleeding Wolf – Scholar Green

Last Thursday of the month – Club Night – The Hawk Haslington - 8pm onwards

FOR SALE – New lower Price!

Oxford Paddock Stand

Never Used £30

Can Deliver

Phone Gordon 07590596380

Any other items you have for sale just get in touch with an email to the Ed



That's all this month

Hope you all get out on your bikes to give us some more stories

The Highlander

