

Editors Ramblings

Well into the nice! Motorcycle season now where at least the snow and ice are gone for a good few months. I have been out a fair bit and a great few days in Wales to give a report about and a just bought in time puncture repair kit too! Please let us know of any of Dave's Sunday rides you have been on so we can let other members know what they are missing along with a couple of photos you may have taken along the way.

Remember we have our Facebook page – please join and contribute on it - Only for club members – any weird names or business names let us know so we can allow you to join the page.

<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 June 2019



1994 to 2019



A Word from the Chair

A busy time now on the bike getting in the miles, I know I will get out and spend a day or just a half either finding new roads or enjoying some well-travelled ones for some big smiles. I was out on a ride to meet some like minded motorcycle enthusiasts for a bit of a ride and one had their son with them, he was about ten I think? Getting harder to tell their ages as I get older and older! But I was intrigued how would you ride with a loved one on the back of your motorcycle? This pilot was obviously a very good rider and could handle the bike very well but, in my mind, not in a manner while a passenger was on board. Should we ride differently when an others life is in our hands? or do we think that it is normally safe to ride like that on my own so there should be no difference when I have another person that may be affected if I do something that may affect their life as well as my own. Let me know what you think members?

Have a great year everyone, and please contact me with any queries throughout the year.

Happy riding everybody, stay safe

Gordon



Presidents Page

First of all, I would like to apologise to you all for there being no page from me last month, I was going on holiday, and missed the deadline.

I would like to thank Don Wood for taking sessions three and four of the Spring course in my absence, thank you Don, appreciate it.

We don't appreciate some things in life until something happens, while I was visiting my sister in Vancouver recently, we went for a walk to Lighthouse Point, while there I felt unwell, I remember sitting down, the next thing I remember I was in the back of an ambulance, I had apparently fainted and fell six feet down some rocks, knocking myself out in the process, two fire engines turned out and the ambulance, six firemen extricated me from the rocks and bush, I had various tests and checks in West Vancouver Hospital and apart from cuts no major damage, a cat scan of head and neck were carried out to make sure I was ok, as I was declared fit to be released I was presented with a bill for \$1040.00 Canadian dollars, once paid I was released from Hospital, and I had a fabulous holiday in Canada. When I arrived home, there was a letter from West Vancouver Hospital, I opened it and it was the bill for my visit, the grand total was \$4784.10 Canadian Dollars. I had taken out holiday insurance so we will have to see how good it is, the point I am making is that we take the National Health Service for granted, always moan about it, it is only when I had this experience I realise how fortunate we are in this country, and I will always appreciate the NHS and the service they provide.

If you are going abroad this year, don't wing it, take out insurance, I thought I was fit and well, but you never know what may happen, I have had a road to Damascus moment this holiday.

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

Chris Steel.

President.



Spring Course 4th Session



Can't start the day without a coffee and chat



A Prayer?

Spring Course



Dons pre ride talk going down well



And they are off!



Wales Long Weekend

Ah it's that time of the year where we get to stretch the legs and meet up with our regular crew on our May motorcycle "Smuttery Bikers" tour. After last year's great Scottish trip, it was going to be hard to better it or even equal it but we will try!

The same group were going with some old friends from across the water and some with local knowledge of some Welsh roads. Terry and Andy from Hull came across the night before to stay to shorten the journey for them. Andy is just back on the bike after the end of the Scottish trip last year when he needed time in hospital for a while very ill so he is desperate to get out again but still not fully bike fit and we have the Balkans Tour in two weeks and he needs to be fit for that one!

Bikes packed in the morning we headed to the Departure Lounge in Winsford to meet the Caretaker, CK and Ash for our next rendezvous at the McDonalds near Whitchurch on the A49 (Any excuse for CK to get more vouchers for free coffee!)

Roger and Dee joined us there and it was on to Bala now but we needed some fun so we took the A495 to Ellesmere, always a smile maker then on to St Martins on the B5068 till we hit the A5, fast in places and fun in others, Llangollen – just a pain! Even on the bikes it took a long time to get through the bank holiday traffic there.



Getting ready for the off



Wales Long Weekend – Day Two

Now it was the turn of Diddy Dave to lead the group as he has the local knowledge of this area. A bit of confusion where we were meeting led to a bit of waiting about after getting to Builth Wells from Abergavenny, but we were soon all together and ready although it was a damp start to the day, we were all looking forward to some classic roads. Out of Builth Wells on the A470 to Rhyder and on to Devils Bridge it was into the Elan Valley and a gentle ride through partly with the wet roads and mist, but it was busy as well. We rode it both ways just to get the most of it, well why not? It was still a fantastic bit of road with views limited at times still worth the effort. At the top we stopped for a hot drink at the Two Hoots Café by the railway listening under the rustic outdoor area for the rain to stop. Indeed, it did stop to make the return in the Valley a bit nicer. We now headed to the dams to see the wonderful construction of these structures which were used for the Dam buster bombing practice. Back through Rhyder to Newbridge on Wye and trickier single lane road on the B4358 to Beulah not before a bit of extra tricky road now and the Devils staircase was next and not for the faint hearted in the wet as well. Time for lunch now and one of Diddy Dave's favourite in Llandoverly the Owls Nest Café popular with bikers and a light snack turns into a full meal! The size of that burger stack I saw going to the Irish Lads was a belly buster! A good bit of road now with Top Gear loving this road up Black Mountain and a great bit of tarmac is was to the car park near the top where it was best again to return to enjoy it in the opposite direction as continuing meant a resurfacing of chippings to contend with, not good on two wheels! That was most of the good roads for the day before we got onto the A40 to continue south to Tenby for our next night's stay.



Light snack CK said!

Continued next month – The Highlander

Roadsmart Magazine

Yes, you have it, have you read it?

A686 Between Melmerby and Alston – love this road!

Ace Café founder Mark Wilsmore

Off Road Riding with Triumph

A question of priorities – should pedestrians, cyclists and other non-prioritised road uses be given equal priority?

Roadsmart Inform News

Choose how to stay in touch – log in and update your preferences

Surety Insurance – Do you use this? Had a quote? Got Insurance with them?

25% of some merchandise at the IAM Store

IAM RoadSmart logo gets prime position on Queen of Bikers Maria Costello's mean machine!



New Members – Welcome



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.



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 SUMER TIME its 9am 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 – The first and third Wednesdays start from Starbucks, Holmes Chapel Road, Middlewich - next to the Shell garage. The second and fourth start from The Little Chef, Radway Green Road at junction 16, M6. All rides start at 7pm. Try to arrive about 15 minutes beforehand with a full tank of fuel. There are fuel stations close to both start points.

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

19th May Congleton Bike Group Slow Riding & Social Ride Event from 09:45-16:00

Other Events of a two-wheeled nature

2nd July – MotoGP Italy

14-16th June BSB Brands Hatch

16th June MotoGP Catalunya

21-23rd June WSB Rimini

23rd June Cheshire Cats Rise in and Gathering

Stretton Watermill SY14 7JA from 12:30pm

5-7th July World Superbikes Donnington



That's all this month

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

The Highlander

