



bmf

Cleveland Bay, Yarm
Every second Wednesday of the month
<http://www.freewebs.com/yarmmcc>
Tel: 07517 605614

CLUB NEWSLETTER – AUGUST 2010

I missed most of July with visiting our son and daughter-in-law in Canada, and since returning home my internet equipment and printer have not been working. Has there been a lightning strike I wonder? All the other stuff in the house seems ok. Must say that BT did a sterling good job of fixing the problem. I phoned in the fault on Wednesday afternoon; a fault was confirmed and I was told a new wireless router would be sent in the next 5 working days. Furthermore, an engineer would call in the morning to check out the line. Would you believe it, the new router arrived at 0750 the next day! The engineer arrived at 0900 and by 0930 on the Thursday everything was 'tickety boo'. You really can't fault the service. I have had no feedback yet as to how Ridewell went although the Chairman has filled me in on the main proceedings of the bmf Annual Region Meeting at the Flag Café.

Committee Meeting. Wednesday 1st September 2010 at 8.30pm

Club Meeting. Wednesday 11th August 2010 at 8.30pm.

Forthcoming Events in 2010 (latest additions in Bold). Let me know of any event you would like publicising.

Aug 12-15	Bulldog Bash
Aug 13-14	Yorkshire Rock and Bike Show, Squires Café Bar. Thirteen Live Bands! Free Camping
Aug 15	Trikes and Bikes Day at Shildon Museum. Details in April Newsletter
AUG 25	Chip Shop Run, Kirby Moorside
Aug 21 to Sep 3	Manx GP
Sep 3 to 5	Camping rally at Roxby, nr Whitby.
Sep 11/12	Bol D'Or
Sep 12	British Superbikes, Croft
Sep 18	Triumph 20 Years Celebrations at Mallory Park. See article below
Sep 17 to 19	Goodwood Revival
Sep 18/19	BMF ShowTail End at the Lincoln County Showground
Sep 26	British Superbikes, Silverstone
Oct 10	Rideout to Elvington Raceway
Oct 16/17	Carole Nash Classic Motorcycle Mechanics Show, Stafford Show Ground

Nov 26 to Dec 5
DEC 27

NEC International Motorcycle and Scooter Show
Christmas Party at The Cleveland Bay

The Club Website. Visit the Club Website at www.freewebs.com/yarmmcc/. If you have stuff for sale or an event to promote then this is the place to put it for wide coverage. Send your material to Steve Watts on swatts@ntlworld.com. Check out via the Guestbook when you have finished your comments.

The BMF. The Yarm Motorcycling Club is affiliated to the BMF. For details of the BMF go to www.bmf.co.uk

The BMF – Pleased at Forthcoming Motorcycle Test Review The bmf is delighted that the Department for Transport is to review the motorcycle 2-part test after much lobbying. Many action groups as well as the bmf have been critical of the new test and the Under Secretary for Transport has agreed the review after attending a test centre to see for himself where the problems lie. More information will be passed on as soon as any news comes in. If you want to submit a proposal email DoT on RUSD4consultation@dft.gsi.gov.uk

New Social Website for Bikers. A new website aimed at bikers has gone live. Visit www.fullchatter.com. The site permits blogging, networking and places to buy and sell etc, all for free.

Annual Regional Meeting at the Flag Café, 18 Jul 10

It was unfortunate that only 4 people turned up for the meeting! Two of those attending were the Chairman and her husband! Laurence had opened the café especially for the occasion – (it is closed at the weekends while the house next door is up for sale). I think he sold just 2 cups of tea! I was elected (volunteered) to continue as a Councillor. The other point of note is regarding insurance, which the Chairman will amplify at the club meeting. As yet I have no other information as to what was discussed or agreed (still waiting to hear from the Regional Chairman).

**FOR SALE Triumph Trophy 1200 – 93 L Reg. Metallic Red, 44,600 miles
T&T to May. Many touring accessories
Present owner for 11yrs, very well maintained, Excellent original condition**

£1800ono. Call Ian on 07713490317

Cycling in Canada ('Biking' refers to Pushbikes!) I didn't have the opportunity to ride a motorbike in Canada but I managed to talk to a few riders while out and about and also picked up a magazine on the Canadian 'scene'. The main thing that came across was how short the 'cycling' season is...maybe April to end of September if you're lucky! During the winter months it is too darn cold with plenty of ice and snow about. While Olwyn and I were there it was too darn hot, but there were plenty of motorcycles about at the weekends – mostly cruisers and trail machines. The sports bikes I saw were fairly exotic – top notch Ducatis and BMWs, including a S1000RR with well shredded tyres. Most riders wore lightweight cordura type jackets and denim jeans. One couple had air-jackets which they got from a UK equestrian supplier, and they were well pleased with them. (they're about £400 each!). They worked on the rip-cord principle and required at least a 35Kg pull to operate, so no chance of accidentally going off during normal dismounting. Diesel spills do not seem to be an issue in Canada; drivers are particularly aware of the problem and take care when refuelling. The roads are often littered with potholes as a result of the very harsh winters, although

there is a constant maintenance programme ongoing to try and keep abreast of the problem. I didn't see too many really bad potholes but what surprised me was the amount of loose gravel on many of the side roads in the country, and one has to keep an eye out for moose (they look about the size of a small house!....ooer! Prices are higher for most things than the UK, although petrol was selling at around 80 pence per litre. A set of tyres would be around £250 to £300 (ouch). Maybe next visit I will get a chance to see some action.

Need Help with Your Computer. Quick, efficient service at very competitive prices assured. Contact Steve on 07765881062 or 01642 651086. Alternatively you can email Steve at swatts@ntlworld.com

Club Rideouts – Identified Club Member Leads – VOLUNTEER NOW!!

The table below sets out a date for each month when a club member can plan and lead a rideout. Don't be misled by the fact there are 2 dates shown for each month – this is to allow for the option of a Saturday or a Sunday run, as agreed at the AGM (preferably alternate w/end days will be chosen. The aim is for a member to volunteer to lead a run by at least the Wednesday club night meeting for the following weekend. Please don't be shy at coming forward!

Month	Sat	Sun	Leader	Destination
May	15	16		
June	12	13		
July	17	18		
August	14	15		
September		12	John Angus	tba
October	16	17		

FOR SALE : Kawasaki ZR-7 Rear Hugger £5. Ventura Tail Pack with Rack – just needs 'mating' rack for your own bike - £10. Magellan GPS for aviation use (Visual Flight Rules model) – about the size of a large paperback. Grey-scale display. Runs off 12v. works fine. Has most roads/ivers etc on it. £15. Contact Brian (Secretary) 07517 605614 or 01325 721669 **It's so cheap..just buy it anyway! This stuff will go to a charity shop/bin if no takers by end Sept.**

CLIVE'S STORY– FROM DREAM TO NIGHTMARE
Episode 1 – The search for an Arton

Clive is a good friend of mine and although he struggles with life sometimes he is an intelligent, decent, trusting guy who likes to think the best of people. Nothing wrong with any of this, you may think, until one day Clive had a 'dream'. His dream recalled a memory from the 1960s involving an Ariel Square 4 engine and a Norton Featherbed frame he never managed to own.

It all started with an advert in 'Classic Wreck' Magazine which advertised, yes you have guessed it, a Square 4 engine in a Featherbed frame 'in running order' but 'may need a little attention'. Despite the fact it was in Glasgow Clive dived onto the easyJet web site and 24 hours later was being shown the special. His initial impressions were not good.

To squeeze the engine into the frame it had been rotated about 10 degrees backwards. The engine was a 2-pipe from 1952 and the original Ariel grease filled gearbox had been retained. The wheels and exhausts were very rusty and the tyres, now looking semi-slick, clearly from the same year as the engine. The front brake lever curled forward like a python about to strike and the clutch lever felt as if nothing was attached to it.

The owner, Ernie, had a collection of classic bikes but there was no doubt in Clive's mind that the 'Arton' was the worst looking by far. Ernie explained that he had 'come off' at the weekend and his leg was not up to kicking over the engine. Clive had no problem with this as he knew Square 4s were not difficult to kick over. Twenty minutes later exhausted and with an aching leg, Clive suggested they check the battery and points. The battery was virtually flat and the points in permanent contact with each other.

Ernie explained brightly that it had 'not been run for a bit'. However, when Clive suggested they charge the battery and adjust the points Ernie's pleasant manner seemed to evaporate and he made one or two comments about Clive playing the technical boffin. The suggestion that some fresh petrol might help the rusty thimble full in the tank was greeted with a similar lack of enthusiasm and the comment "I want to sell it not tune it for racing" from Ernie.

In the end the Arton coughed into life and Clive gave the oil pressure gauge a quick check. The needle stuck resolutely at zero. This was information that Ernie did not really want to hear and he pointed out to Clive that as oil was returning to the oil tank there could not be much of a problem. Clive's good-natured comment about whether the oil was going anywhere near the big ends on its journey back to the oil tank fell on deaf ears.

"Do ya wanta ride then," said Ernie who clearly had not anticipated this level of hassle in selling the bike. "OK" thought Clive, "might as well" and set off into the Glasgow evening rush hour traffic noting as he did so that turning on the Arton's lights caused the engine to stop. Once it warmed up Clive felt it wasn't that bad. Clearly it could be better but it should not be difficult to get it to select 2nd and 3rd gear once he got it back to his workshop.

Back at Ernie's place the negotiations began. Clive struggled with the owner's vision of the bike as "a lovely little classic special just needing some TLC". Somehow the gap between this and the reality (a complete wreck that would need a total rebuild) would have to be bridged in the negotiations.

"You've come a long way Cliff," said Ernie, sensing a sale, "never mind the advert lets call it 3,500 pounds". "The advert said 2,500 pounds" replied a rather non-plussed Clive. "Alright then" said Ernie "let's call it 3,200". Eventually Ernie recalled it was one of his other bikes he had advertised at the higher price and Clive felt they were getting somewhere.

The negotiations ebbed and flowed with Ernie using phrases like "a lick of paint", "when it's had a good polish" and "the patina of use" and Clive pointing out that most of the Arton's running gear would have to be binned as filthy, badly rusted and completely worn out.

Ernie finally agreed a rather bad tempered 1,800 pounds with the words "I'm allowing for your 300 quid airfare in this Cliff". Since Clive had paid 15 pounds each way on easyJet he felt the Gods were with him for once.

Just as Clive stood up to leave Ernie suddenly remembered "a pile of 'virtually new' spares" for the Arton he had in a corner of the garage. A quick look made Clive realise he would have to buy a bigger waste bin for his workshop.

Back home Clive contacted a firm called 'Bikesnatchers' to pick up the Arton from Glasgow. They quoted 350 (used) pounds for the round trip and seemed disappointed when Clive told them he actually owned the bike and they would not have to perform a snatch and go on the street. It all went smoothly until Randy the driver, as he helped Clive unload the Arton at his workshop, made the rather indiscrete comment that it must have doubled the price of the bike shipping it this way.

Next month I will tell you about how Clive started the rebuild using a local firm who warmly embraced his dream or anyway their proposed price for achieving it.

Chris Hamlin 28-03-03

ACERO ARTE. Rock Café, Custom Airbrush Art, Reiki Therapy, Body piercing studio and Alternative Art and Gifts. All available at Acero Arte at 72b Skinnergate, Darlington (Opposite the Oxfam shop). Telephone 01325 464 534.

THE END GAME. The other night my bird accused of only wanting sex when I was drunk! “Not true” I said. “Sometimes I want a kebab!”

Yesterday the Irish authorities uncovered a mass grave of dead snowmen. Further investigations revealed that it was actually a field of carrots.

Two guys were roaring down the road at top speed on a motorcycle when the driver pulled over. His leather jacket had a broken zipper and he told his friend, “I can’t ride any more with the air hitting me n the chest like that.” “Just put the jacket on back to front” his friend advised. They continued down the road but around the next bend they lost control and were wiped out. A nearby farmer came across the scene and called the police. They asked him “Are they showing any signs of life?” “Well” the farmer explained, “the driver was until I turned his head around the right way!”

The arrogant young man was setting up a computer for one of the pretty secretaries. “Now you’re going to need a password,” he said, and hoping to embarrass her, he typed in the word PENIS. However, she had the last laugh when the screen flashed back the message, “Password rejected, not long enough.”

HOW TO CALL THE POLICE WHEN YOU'RE OLD AND DON'T MOVE FAST ANYMORE.

George Phillips , an elderly man, from Meridian, Mississippi, was going up to bed, when his wife told him that he'd left the light on in the garden shed, which she could see from the bedroom window. George opened the back door to go turn off the light, but saw that there were people in the shed stealing things.

He phoned the police, who asked "Is someone in your house?" He said "No," but some people are breaking into my garden shed and stealing from me. Then the police dispatcher said "All patrols are busy. You should lock your doors and an officer will be along when one is available.."

George said, "Okay." He hung up the phone and counted to 30. Then he phoned the police again..

"Hello,I just called you a few seconds ago because there were people stealing things from my shed. Well, you don't have to worry about them now because I just shot and killed them both, the dogs are eating them right now." and he hung up.

Within five minutes, six Police Cars, a SWAT Team, a Helicopter, two Fire Trucks, a Paramedic, and an Ambulance showed up at the Phillips' residence, and caught the burglars red-handed.

One of the Policemen said to George , "I thought you said that you'd shot them!"

George said, "I thought you said there was nobody available!"

Don't mess with old people.

Wot! Not Got a Computer? This newsletter contains quite a few references to web sites and email addresses. Where there are alternatives such as phone numbers or mailing addresses I will publish them. Get advice from Committee member Steve Watts if you are planning to go ‘digital’.

And it's ‘Goodnight’ from him. Please call me if you would like something putting in the newsletter. There is no deadline...you either make the next issue or you don't! My email address: **brian.burke2@btopenworld.com** or phone me – 01325 721669 (Answerphone on). Mobile 07517 605614.