



bmf

Cleveland Bay, Yarm. Second Wednesday of the month

<http://www.freewebs.com/yarmmcc>

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CLUB NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2011

Thank you all again for your forbearance at the AGM. You should by now have had a chance to read the Minutes. I will have a printed copy at the next club meeting should anyone wish to query anything then, else please email me before.

We have (hopefully) got a couple of speakers lined up for the Spring. Details to follow. If anyone is interested I have produced a new presentation on Global Position Systems ... a sort of definitive dissertation on how it works. It only lasts 3 hours! One of the guys at work fell off his chair with dizzy spells after a couple of hours ... wimp!

There are a few 'new' things in the newsletter this time. Article on forthcoming licensing and news about speed cameras. There is also a table for the 'volunteer Rideouts' as we had last year. Don't be shy in coming forward! Even I might have a go if I can get a Sunday free!

As at the time of writing this I have not been on the bike for over 7 weeks, due mainly to the bad December weather and the icy mornings and salt-laden roads. Furthermore, I do not want to hit a pothole in the dark mornings and evenings. Such a long lay-off is unprecedented for me and withdrawal symptoms are coming on. Maybe it's a symptom of getting older. Roll on better weather.

Don't forget that March will be an Extraordinary General Meeting. The Committee will report on the discussion regarding Rule 17 to the Club Constitution as agreed at the January AGM.

Club Night

Wednesday 9 February

Committee Meeting.

Wednesday 2 March

Extraordinary General meeting

Wednesday 9 March

Forthcoming Events (latest additions in Bold). Let me know of any event you would like to be publicised.

Feb 3 to 6	Carole Nash MCN Motorcycle Show, Excel Centre, London. Featuring GP Legends Kevin Schwantz and Freddie Spencer plus top Stunt Riders
Feb 19/20	The 31st Carole Nash Classic Motorcycle Show, Bristol
Mar 12	Scottish Bike Show. Names to Norman Simpson/Allan Coverdale please.
Apr 3, 2011	Help for Heroes Rideout (part of a bmf promotion)
May 14/15	bmf East of England Show, Peterborough Showground
Jun 11/12	bmf GEMS CANCELLED
Jun 25/26	National Rally
Aug 11 to 14	Bulldog Bash, Shakespeare County Raceway, Long Marston Airfield
Jul 9/10	bmf KELSO Bikefest
Sep 10/11	Tail End Rally, Newark Showground

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



FOR SALE: Kawasaki VN 900 Classic. Bike is 8 months old with only 435 mileage. Fitted with sissy bar. Bike has been garaged since new.
Price £4500. Please Contact Sara at: sara_vodka@yahoo.com

The Lima to Tierra del Fuego Ride

Tuesday 5th October. Cusco to Puno: 238 miles 12,000 ft – Sh*t brick houses

A day of good roads, clear blue skies with most of the ride through a large agricultural plateau area. A noticeable feature was that the single story workers cabins which predominate in the north of Peru were now turning into 2-story constructions. They are built using a mud and animal dropping brick somewhere between the size of a conventional house- brick and breeze block. There must be some way of 'firing' them but they have a very limited life, they just up-sticks build a new cabin wherever takes their fancy! Another noteworthy fact is that the government mandates 9 months a year education for all children, in the agricultural regions most are lucky to receive 3 – 4 months. One thing for sure is that Peruvians have a strong work ethic that certainly shames most of the other central and South American countries. If any people deserve help or charity then it is the Peruvians. A truly impressive and special breed of hard working folk.

The good weather and roads saw us checking into our hotel shortly after mid-day. The afternoon was spent repairing the bikes and equipment. The bikes were all standing up to the hammering they were taking but mirrors, radios and the like needed attention. Andy took delight in fitting my new foot-pegs His surgeon like digits quickly had the task completed while was getting my back re-arranged by a 5 foot 2 inch physio called Vladimir who apparently didn't understand my 'Spanglish' cries of Ów! Bugger! That hurts! I would report that it had a positive effect but the best I can say was that he looked professional, it was relatively cheap and the wave of relief when he finished was like a lottery win.

Puno nestles alongside Lake Titicaca surrounded by mountains. At 11,000 feet, it is below headache height but I think we were now becoming more acclimatized, the breathless in Peru moments were now a lot fewer.

Wednesday 6th October - 0 road miles but 6 hours in a boat – The tit of Titicaca.

Another day of touring spent mainly afloat on Lake Titicaca on a small boat listening to the second most boring man in Peru compete for our attention with a whining Australian Sheila. Five minutes after casting off the guide picked up a microphone and started talking, shortly after this, Andy closely followed by Max and myself were outside the cabin watching the boat pick its way through the reed beds and out into open water. Fortunately the drone of the engine was louder than the drone of the guide and whine of the Sheila. We felt like interlopers at an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting when she announced that she had started her round the world travel with her boyfriend but was ditched after 17 days. The boyfriend had our full sympathy, 17 minutes into our trip and we all felt like abandoning ship.



We soon landed at a small floating reed island, were given one of the more novel tourist spiels on how the locals had adapted to living on the reed beds and also had a go in a Kon-Tiki style reed boat. The reed people are short even by Peruvian standards and all are bow-legged. Apparently there is a community of about 3 to 4,000 people all living on reed islands but they shun tourists and prefer to live as they have done for generations.

We were soon on our way to an island three hours away. Fortunately Sheila had found a young German girl on which she could offload her life story and opinions on any and every topic imaginable. Between Sheila's pauses for breath, our guide managed to give us the tourist factoids on the island: his girlfriend came from the island, the men knit shawls for the women and the women make bags for the men. There are over 500 steps to the highest point of the island which meant Jacqui with her ankle and Andy with his knee would remain on the boat. The climb up to the main town left us all gasping for breath, even Sheila struggled to find the breath for words. The views of the lake and mountains were superb and the plaice like fish we had for lunch very tasty.

The return journey was a little more pleasant, Sheila had found a detachable foam seat and was laid out on the roof of the boat sun bathing and our guide connected with a south American lady and was deep in conversation. We enjoyed the peace. Woke from a cat-nap to find that our skipper had fallen asleep at the controls, the click of my camera roused him from his slumber. The peace was soon broken as we managed to pick up radio commentary on a football match in which both the skipper and first mate took an avid interest. Eventually we reached Puno, moored up and were soon crammed into our minibus whizzing our way back to the hotel.

Next month: **Puno to La Paz: 269 miles - Bolivian Bank Robbers.** Regards, Geoff Sadler

**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**

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

Driving Licences Change - 2013. Did you know that the 3rd Directive on Driving Licences will come into effect in January 2013? This Directive ensures that the UK meets new European requirements on driver testing, training, examination and licensing. The main changes for us as bikers are: 1. The current two categories of motorbike will be replaced with three – A1 (up to 125cc); A2 (up to 35Kw) and A (above 35Kw). Riders wishing to ride larger categories of motorbikes will have to take a further test, and for those wishing to start riding larger bikes without previous experience must be aged 24 or over (increased from 21). You can get more information at www.direct.gov.uk/motoring



A Harley Soft tail style bike. It cost a about £17K to build but would accept £10K. It's done less than 400 miles in 3 years which is the main reason I am selling it.

Some Specs:

21" X 90 spoked front wheel and 18" X 200 spoked rear wheel

110" chromed Revtech engine. This means approx 115 BHP and 120 ft/lbs of torque!!!

6 speed chromed Revtech gearbox

3" BDL open primary with outboard bearing support kit. GMA polished aluminium front brake and clutch assemblies and micro switchgear.

Polished aluminium forward controls. Dakota digital speedometer. Supertrapp tuneable exhausts. Custom paintwork..... The list goes on.

Contact, mark.colley22@ntlworld.com

Speed Cameras – Accountability. It was reported in MCN (12 Jan 11) that Speed Camera organisations will, from April this year, have to publish data including casualty rates, vehicle speeds and the number of prosecutions at each site. There could be some very embarrassed officials once the data is published. For example, the average-speed cameras on the ‘Cat and Fiddle Run’ are bound to come under close scrutiny. They have cost the taxpayer £800,000 and there has not been a single prosecution since they were declared ‘operational’ nearly a year ago! Some cameras are in the wrong place and cannot calculate average speed as there is a shortcut between them! Cheshire council has hailed the cameras a success in press releases.

Speed Cameras – Working or Not? It was reported in the Daily Mail (27 Jan 11) that up to 50% of the cameras in the country are not working. Sussex, Cumbria and Mercia have theirs working 100%, but around the rest of the country the figure can vary from 10% to 70%. Of course, you don’t know which ones are working, so don’t go “whoopie” and get yourself in trouble!

CLIVE’S STORY– FROM DREAM TO NIGHTMARE **Part 7 – Love Actually**

Clive simply couldn’t concentrate at work that week as he thought about his encounter with Maria. Sunday seemed years away and he couldn’t wait to see her again. Not surprisingly Maria was also thinking about Clive as she did the housework at Banger’s house. The girls back at the village would never believe her when she told them a handsome Englishman had invited her out for a run on his motorbike.

Clive took the Arton round to Bill Robinson’s place for a check over the day before the run to Fox Hill. Now the Heath Robinson Classics partnership was over Bill was opening up a bit on one or two aspects

of the Arton's construction he was unhappy with. Together they checked the bike over and Bill fitted a new chain as he knew the one HRC had fitted was well past its snap-by date. In the following weeks Bill helped Clive make the Arton a much more reliable motorcycle although there was nothing he could do about the engine internals.

Finally, Sunday morning arrived and Clive wheeled the gleaming Arton from its Stove garage. It started fairly easily and he set off for West Bumpstead to pick up Maria. She was waiting excitedly outside Banger's house when Clive arrived, with Banger's girlfriend looking out of the window. Banger was in bed with a hangover from the 'overtime' he had put in the night before.

"Hi Maria" said Clive, trying to seem casual and cool. "Allo Meester Clive, I 'av been so excited to make dis ride wid you said Maria". Clive had to admit Maria looked stunning in her slightly too tight leathers and the cowboy boots lent to her by Banger's girlfriend. She gave them a cheery wave from the window as they set off.

The Arton purred away from Banger's place towards the rendezvous point for the club run. He fully expected some comments on the beautiful appearance of the Arton from club 'patina expert' Granville Lancaster. Granville had given talks at the club stating that any classic motorcycle that was not dirty and rusty was 'unnatural' and cast doubt on the integrity and sexual preferences of its owner. Fortunately, most of the club saw Granville as a harmless eccentric who couldn't be bothered to clean or fix his bikes. Clive pulled up alongside the other MBCMC members and Maria dismounted like an Olympic gymnast finishing a beam exercise. Those club members who witnessed this from the rear of Clive's bike had trouble speaking for the next few moments other than mumbling "king hell"!

Eventually, Granville sidled up and Clive braced himself for the usual tirade. "Who's the bird then" said Granville in a lowered voice, completely ignoring the Arton. "Oh" said Clive, surprised, "she works for Banger; I invited her to come on the run because she doesn't get out much, really likes motorbikes and she speaks really good English" volunteered Clive. "I wouldn't have thought that mattered much" said Granville with a lecherous smile on his face.

Maria had rapidly become the centre of attention for many of the club members. They asked her lots of questions about herself and she told them about her short time in England. Many of them thought they must have misunderstood the bit about Banger's bathroom and put it down to Maria's English. "After all" said Granville later after a pint, "she couldn't actually have been there when Banger was in the bath, but it makes a good story, rubber gloves and all".

The club set off on the run to Fox Hill and Clive took it steady in the pack. Maria was having a wonderful time and couldn't believe how friendly the club members were, especially the older ones who kept commenting what a good fit her leathers were. She was asked if she could ride a motorcycle and she said "Yes" but it was a shame that Philippino driving licences were not recognised in England, especially as her Father had paid the local Police quite a lot of money for hers. Everyone sympathised but suggested she was better off riding behind Clive as she had not actually had any lessons or taken a test and they ride on the right in the Philippines as well.

Fox Hill arrived without mishap and they mingled with the thousand or so other bikers who had made their way there on the fine Sunday morning. Maria had never seen so many bikes in one place. Back home 150cc was a 'big' bike and she could not believe anyone could control a 1200cc 'monster'. "Dey must be deefecoolt to ride on de beach" said Maria. "Sorry?" said Clive and Maria went on to explain that the hard sand just above the waves was the way most people got about on motorcycles in her village. The culture gap became even more obvious when Clive ordered a fish burger for Maria and she wanted Barracuda. He had to explain that they could not catch Barracuda in the Atlantic. Maria seemed disappointed and said that the fishermen in her village could show people in England how to do it.

As they got ready for the ride back Clive backed the Arton, with its engine running, onto the grass to turn it round, as someone had parked right in front of him. His foot slipped on a wet patch and the Arton slowly toppled over tipping Clive onto the grass with Maria on top of him. "Can't you two wait until you get home" said Granville sarcastically, secretly jealous of Clive's new pillion. Fortunately there was no damage and Maria leaped to her feet and helped Clive up.

Suddenly it seemed they were back outside Banger's garage and it was time to say goodbye. Clive was lost for words. "Weel I hope I see you ageen Meester Clive" said Maria with an innocent expression on her face. The thought of waiting until next Sunday to see Maria again was intolerable to Clive. "Err, well, how about a meal in the week sometime" said Clive. "I don't know eef Meester Banger let me cook you a meal" said Maria. "No, no", said Clive "I'll take you out for a meal maybe at the West Bumpstead Bistro". This was new territory for Maria, she had never 'been out for a meal' in her life. "OK Meester Clive I geev eet a try maybe Wednesday 'cos I feeneesh early" said Maria with a dazzling smile. "I'll pick you up at seven thirty" said Clive waving goodbye. He didn't remember most of the ride back to Stove as his mind was already at next Wednesday.

Next month Clive makes the French trip and the Arton gives up the ghost.

THE END GAME. A friend of mine has just told me he is having it away with twins. I asked "How can you tell them apart?" He replied "Her brother has a moustache."

In a pub quiz the other day I lost by one point. The question was "Where do women mostly have curly hair?" Apparently it is Africa!

I've just finished my soup ...now I'm on a roll!

I'm in trouble with my wife. We were in bed naked together and she asked "What would you like most to do with my body?." "Identify it" seemed to be the wrong answer!

A real woman is a man's best friend. She will never stand him up and never let him down. She will reassure him when he feels insecure and comfort him after a bad day. She will inspire him to do things he never thought possible. She will enable him to express deepest emotions and give in to his most intimate desires. She will make him confident, sexy, seductive and invincible No, hang on a minute ... I'm thinking of beer. It's beer that does all that. Sorry!

Roy takes his driving test in Cardiff. "Can you make a U-turn" asks the examiner. "Too right I can" says Roy. "I can even make its eyes water!"

Due to the water shortage in Northern Ireland, Belfast swimming baths have announced that they are to close lanes 7 and 8 for the duration of the crisis.

The Lone Ranger got captured by Indians. The Chief says "I will kill you in 3 days, but I will allow you 3 last wishes. What is your first wish?" "I'd like to speak to my horse" says the Lone Ranger. The Chief agrees and the Lone Ranger whispers into Silver's ear. Silver gallops off and comes back with a beautiful brunette, who spends the night with the Lone Ranger. The next day the Chief says to the Lone Ranger "I am most impressed. What is your second wish?" The Lone Ranger asks to speak to his horse again, to which the Chief agrees. Silver gallops off and soon returns with a beautiful blonde, who spends the night with the Lone Ranger. The next morning the Chief says "You sure got style, but you still die tomorrow. What is your last wish?" Again the Lone Ranger asks to speak to his horse. This time the Lone Ranger looks Silver straight in the eyes and says "Get it right this time, you cloth-eared twat. I said BRING POSSE!"

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.

RACING CALENDAR 2011

Date	MOTOGP	WSB	BSB
Feb 27		Phillip Island	
Mar 20	Losail (evening)		
Mar 27		Donington	
Apr 3	Jerez		
Apr 17		Assen	
Apr 24	Motegi		
Apr 25			Brands Hatch
May 1	Estoril		
May 2			Oulton Park
May 8		Monza	
May 15	Le Mans		Croft
May 30		Miller, USA	Thruxton
Jun 5	Catalunya		
Jun 12	Silverstone	Misano	
Jun 19		Aragon	Knockhill
Jun 25	Assen		
Jul 3	Mugello		Snetterton
Jul 10		Brno	
Jul 17	Sachsenring		Oulton
Jul 24	Laguna Seca		
Jul 31		Silverstone	
Aug 7			Brands Hatch
Aug 14	Brno		
Aug 28	Indianapolis		
Aug 29			Cadwell Park
Sep 4	Misano	Nurburgring	
Sep 11			Donington
Sep 18	Aragon		
Sep 25		Imola	Silverstone
Oct 2		Magny Cours	
Oct 9			Brands Hatch
Oct 16	Phillip Island	Portimao	
Oct 23	Sepang		
Nov 6	Valencia		