



Cleveland Bay, Yarm. Second Wednesday of the month

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

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### **CLUB NEWSLETTER JULY 2011**

Welcome to the July Newsletter. Apologies for the lateness but I have been busy keeping my 93-year old father entertained for the past 3 weeks. Don't get me wrong; he is fit and sprightly and is continually looking for 'things to do' so we have been out and about every spare minute. Dad has been writing his memoirs while staying with us, mostly covering his WWII experiences - Dunkirk, El Alemain, Sicily and as a POW. Before going to France in 1940 he was part of a new motorcycle section in Somerset. His bike was a Sunbeam 350 and one evening took part in a night exercise where he was Number 2 in a party of 6. In those days no headlights were permitted and the rear was extremely dim. In the black moonless night on the country roads near Wells he managed to lose the leader and led the 4 riders behind him into a ditch! No one was seriously hurt and the bikes were rideable once they had been dragged out of the mud! A couple of years later Dad was a dispatch rider on an Enfield 350, delivering urgent messages during the El Alemain campaign. One day he was in a real hurry and manhandling the old bike through the soft desert sand was a real challenge. He hit a large, concealed boulder and went over the handlebars and landed on the bike with his legs resting on the exhaust. He was wearing shorts and the smell of burning flesh soon got him moving again! The message he had was urgent – Herr Rommel was on his way with superior forces and a retreat was necessary. So, he picked up the bike and rode on, with the handlebars twisted round more than 60 degrees off true! He made it. It says a lot for the simplicity and ruggedness of the machines in those days – no fancy plastics or exotic metals to mess with – just good old fashioned iron. Also remember there was no safety clothing; just regular army wear!

**Don't forget Ridewell this next weekend.** If you can help put up the Club Stand on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> it would be really appreciated. The aim is to be there at 10am at Preston Park. I am working at Kelso BMF Bikefest as a Marshall for 2 days, so apologies for my absence.

**Committee Meeting**  
**Club Night**

Wednesday 7 September

Wednesday 10 August

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

Jul 8 to 10	VMCC Festival of 1000 bikes. Mallory Park. Meet Kenny Roberts and Agostini.
Jul 9/10	BMF KELSO Bikefest
Jul 10	Ridewell at Preston Park. Featuring the Swan Factory BSB team. 10am to 5pm.
Jul 20/21	Olivers Mount Hill Climb
Jul 23/24	Olivers Mount Races
Jul 24	Bikewise at Durham Police HQ.
Jul 29/30	Armoy Races, Ireland
Aug 5/6	Mid Antrim Road Race, Ireland
Aug 5 to 7	Yorkshire Pudding Rally
Aug 10 to 13	Ulster Grand Prix

Aug 11 to 14 Bulldog Bash, Shakespeare County Raceway, Long Marston Airfield  
 Sep 10/11 Tail End Rally, Newark Showground  
 Oct 7 to 9 Weston Beach Races, Weston-Super-Mare – well, near there!  
 Nov 19 to 27 Motorcycle Live, NEC Birmingham. The UKs premier two-wheel exhibition.  
**NB,NEC Coach: list open to non-members after July meeting**

**The Club Website.** Visit the Club Website at [www.freewebs.com/yarmmcc/](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.bmf.co.uk)

Table of Designated-Leader Rideouts. Just one slot left, so don't be shy. There may be some swapping of the order as various holidays etc are being planned.

DESIGNATED LEADER RIDEOUTS 2011		
DATE	LEADER	COMMENTS
July 17	N Simpson	
August 14	B Burke	Westerdale/ Dale Head Farm Café near Rosedale /Helmsley, Stokesley, Home
September 18	B Taylor	
October 16		

**Helmet Polish – A Warning.** Norman Simpson recently had a problem with a new helmet visor side-pod. The pod had become unusable as it had turned brittle through the use of a helmet cleaning and polishing merchandise that contained petroleum products. Be sure to check the label on cleaning products as your nice helmet may become shiny but it may shatter on impact!

**Chris Gets Lairy on Speedway Track – No Carnage Ensued!** Chris Robinson decided to have a go at Speedway a few weeks ago. I thought she would have used the experience to run-in her new cruiser, but no, she went for the real thing and seemingly had a good time. Where are all the others? Were they diving over the fences for cover? Well done Chris, another tick in the box of things to do before you're 30!



It's that 'Don't mess with me' look!



Chris is either in the lead or is way, way behind the pack!

**Wheels 2 Work Scheme.** News that the motorcycle based ‘Wheels 2 Work’ scheme is to share in a £560m Government fund designed to boost sustainable transport projects is at last formal recognition of the role that motorcycles can play in the ‘Big Society’ in helping to create economic growth and reduce carbon emissions says the British Motorcyclists Federation. In the Government’s white paper ‘Creating Growth, Cutting Carbon’<sup>1</sup> published recently, the Wheels 2 Work scheme is included in a range of sustainable transport schemes primarily covering public transport, walking and cycling but all designed to encourage local initiatives, especially where they can help create jobs. Local Transport Minister Norman Baker said: "We are clear you can have your green cake and eat it. Money invested wisely in local transport initiatives can both help the economy and cut carbon. It’s a win-win for local people and for the country as a whole. This is a really important step for motorcycling as Wheels 2 Work is a low-cost initiative compared to the massive sums put into other transport schemes and shows the benefits of motorcycle use within the Big Society." With such schemes showing how the motorcycle community supports young people all over the country, the BMF intends to press that, with rising costs and less local government funding, Wheels 2 Work schemes continue to receive tangible support.

See Government White Paper: <http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/regional/sustainabletransport/pdf/whitepaper.pdf>

**Clutch Found - Happy Bunny Again!** While washing the bike for the second time in 15 months (I normally clean the bike with WD40 in the garage) I spent some time in good daylight looking for the slave cylinder and noticed an unusual thin pipe under the rear bodywork. Further investigation revealed that it was connected to the clutch slave cylinder! Apparently it is a ‘standard’ fit on this and similar models – it was unfortunate that the manual refers to R1100S models only. There is no bleed nipple in the end fitting, although there is provision for one. Of course, I didn’t have the right size bleed nipple to hand but, with the help of a friend to push in the spring-loaded ball-bearing, fresh fluid has now been put in the clutch system.

## **THE LIMA TO BUENOS AIRES RIDE**

### **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October – Buenos Aries – Don’t cry for me.**

The reason we had been ‘Garmined’ was that not all the required Buenos Aries maps had been successfully downloaded. Anyway, Andy and Max found the missing street maps and were able to upload them onto their respective Garmins in preparation for leaving the city. Of course there are no such problems with the paper versions! We pigged out on the Sheraton’s breakfast buffet which included bacon. Given the number of pigs we had seen and the Argentinean love of meat, the lack of bacon is surprising. However, with the rooms costing over 200 USD we made sure we ate as much as we could and cleared out the bathroom smellies for good measure.

We transferred over to the Dazzler Tower Hotel, more than acceptable accommodation for half the price with free internet access and bottled water. It’s located near the Obelisk bang in the centre of town. The afternoon was spent at the shipping company’s office sorting out the paperwork and included a trip to a notary to notarize our passports. The two ladies from the shipping company who were dealing with us both had a good senses of humour which were needed as I had deposited the early skirmishes of another bout with a South American stomach bug only to find the wall mounted toilet flush push-button was broken. The previous occupant was a fellow Scot who had been a little over-enthusiastic in operating the push-button which was now well and truly jammed in. From an early age Andy was taught to knit horse hair vests with spirtles, his manual dexterity is somewhat limited however his enthusiasm with an axe or hammer is beyond question. A gentleman colleague of the ladies managed to extract the said push-button with heavy-duty pliers.

After the paperwork and formalities were completed and toilet repaired, we went on a mini-shopping expedition for fridge magnets. We found a pedestrian only street with plenty of tourist shops so we ended up with magnets and one or two other mementos. By the time we had walked back to the hotel, my stomach cramps were kicking in so I called it a night in the hope that this wasn’t going to be a repeat of last year’s episode which resulted in me losing 7 kg in weight and having to take time off work. Before leaving on their

continuing quest for the perfect Argentinean steak, Andy cajoled me into drinking rice water boiled up on his Jetboil. It must have worked as my cramps gradually eased and the urge to visit the toilet became less pressing. I fell asleep watching Silence of the Lambs, woke up in the early hours to find it was still playing so fell asleep once more with good old Hannibal for company!

**Next month: Tangoed!**

Regards, Geoff Sadler



**FOR SALE**  
**TRIUMPH BONNEVILLE SE 2010,**  
**BLUE/WHITE £5,250 ONO**  
537 dry miles, fitted with  
alarm/immobiliser, longhaul screen,  
centre stand, rack, heated grips, (knee  
grips, fork gaitors & hand guards)  
added after photo taken.  
Garaged, balance of Triumph  
warranty. Tel: 07906479116

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**Claim for Kit and Bike as well as Injuries if You Crash on Diesel Spill.** Following a change to the rules motorcyclists can now claim for damage to their bikes and kit as well as injuries from the Motor Insurers Bureau (MIB). By 'kit' this could mean damaged luggage, including mobile phones and laptops. As reported in MCN, this change applies to spilled loads such as oil, sand, gravel etc. However, because such cases can be complex, it is recommended that legal advice is sought if proceeding with a claim.

**Electric Bike Catches Fire at Silverstone – Sixteen Fire Extinguishers Don't Hack It!** A recent fire at Silverstone is cause for concern. The Lithium-Ion powered bike burst into flames through an as yet unknown fault. Pit and fire crews used 16 fire extinguishers but were unable to put the fire out! Lithium-Ion batteries (as used in mobile phones/laptops etc) generate an incredible amount of heat and toxic fumes when burning. I am reminded of a Jumbo Jet cargo plane carrying an undisclosed quantity of Lithium-Ion batteries in September 2010. The batteries caught fire when the aircraft was over 100 miles from base, but the crew were unable to handle the situation, both due to the intensity of the fire and the noxious fumes, despite having oxygen. (Just in case you wondered, the oxygen you get from the overhead system in an airliner may last for only about 10 minutes – enough to get you down to a safe altitude to depressurise the aircraft if necessary. The pilots oxygen lasts much longer). The aircraft crashed near Dubai airport, killing the crew. It's important to use the correct charger if you have a device with lithium-ion batteries; it's not worth the risk.

**We Could Love the French (but don't day it too loud).** A study by a top French university reveals huge economic and social benefits resulting from using powered two-wheelers in the country's capital city. As reported in MCN, the findings overturn years of assumptions and official under-estimates of the role of motorcycles, scooters and mopeds. The report shows that riding a bicycle is 45 times more dangerous than riding a motorbike; that powered two-wheeler uptake has produced a £256million economic benefit; riders'

journey times were on average 60% shorter than by other means, saving some 36 minutes a day. Overall, motorcycling social benefits is incomparably higher than cycling. Tell that to your lycra-wearing friends. What we need now is to see the final, published report and then stick it under the noses of our parliamentarians and local councillors and see what they have to say about it. Hopefully it will not be too long in coming out. You can be sure that MAG and the BMF will be ready to pounce as soon as the report is on general release. More news to follow if/when I get it.

**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](mailto:sara_vodka@yahoo.com)

**FOR SALE**



**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](mailto:mark.colley22@ntlworld.com)

**THE END GAME.** One day, in line at the works cafeteria, Jack says to Mike, 'My elbow hurts like hell. I suppose I'd better see a doctor!' 'Listen mate; don't waste your time down at the surgery' Mike replies. 'There's a diagnostic computer at Tesco. Just give it a urine sample and the computer will tell you what's wrong, and what to do about it. It takes ten seconds and only costs five quid....a lot quicker and better than a doctor and you get Clubcard points.' So Jack collects a urine sample in a small jar and takes it to Tesco. He deposits five pounds and the computer lights up and asks for the urine sample. He pours the sample into the slot and waits. Ten seconds later, the computer ejects a printout: 'You have tennis elbow. Soak your arm in warm water and avoid heavy activity. It will improve in two weeks'.

That evening while thinking how amazing this new technology was, Jack began wondering if the computer could be fooled. He mixed some tap water, a stool sample from his dog, urine samples from his wife and daughter, and 'pleasured himself' into the mixture for good measure. Jack hurried back to Tesco, eager to check what would happen. He deposits five pounds, pours in his concoction, and awaits the results with a grin. The computer prints the following:

- 1) Your tap water is too hard. Get a water softener.
- 2) Your dog has ringworm. Bathe him with anti-fungal shampoo.
- 3) Your daughter has a cocaine habit. Get her into rehab.
- 4) Your wife is pregnant with twins. They aren't yours. Get a lawyer.
- 5) And if you don't stop wanking, your elbow will never get better....

Thank you for shopping at Tesco

A famous Hollywood star was standing naked at the bedroom window doing his exercises. Suddenly his wife came into the room, rushed over to the window and pulled the curtains. "You idiot," she hissed, "if people see you they'll think I only married you for your money."

Harry, the old skinflint, was sitting by his wife's bed. She was desperately ill and had very little time to live. "Martha," he whispered, "I've got to get down to the post office to collect my pension. If you feel yourself going before I get back will you turn the light off?"

What do you call a woman who knows where her husband is all the time? A widow.

While his wife was still alive, the husband bought her a headstone engraved with the words "Here lies Doris, cold as usual." The wife was so angry she immediately went out and got a headstone for him, with the words "In memory of Fred, stiff at last."

No woman has ever shot her husband while he's been hoovering.

Adam said to Eve, "Do you love me?" She replied, "Who else?"

Why does it take millions of sperm to fertilise one egg? Because not one of them will stop and ask for directions.

Walking down the street a man saw a beautiful girl coming towards him, wearing the tightest pair of jeans he had ever seen on anyone. "Excuse me, Miss," he enquired, "I hope you don't mind me asking, but how could anyone get into such a tight pair of jeans?" She replied, "Well, you could start by buying me a glass of wine."

**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 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.