



**bmf**

Cleveland Bay, Eaglescliffe, Yarm. Second Wednesday of the month  
<http://www.freewebs.com/yarmmcc> Tel: 07517 605614 (Secretary)

### CLUB NEWSLETTER JULY 2012

At last some good news in these financially depressing times. Our Chairman, Brian, has had his surgery and is now at home recovering under the watchful eye of his wife, Margaret. We wish you a speedy and full recovery Brian.

Silly me! There was me thinking I could put my waterproofs away as there seemed to be a glimmer of summer at the very beginning of June. I've come to the decision that my kit is useless. I really must stop getting the 'fell off the back of a truck bargains.' I saw a nice Rukka gortex jacket at a local bike shop. It cost £1,000! I think I'll put up with a wet bum.

Don't forget to book your place for the NEC coach trip with Norman Simpson. A deposit of £5 is all that is required to secure your seat. After the July meeting places will be open to non-members as well as members.

**Committee Meeting:**

**4<sup>th</sup> July**

**Club Meetings:**

**11<sup>th</sup> July**

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

- JUNE 30** Crofton Court Motorcycles Open Day. Join Steve and celebrate the anniversary of the start of Blood Runners in the region. Food, Drink and ROSPA representatives.
- Jun 30 to Jul 1 National Road Rally
- JULY 1** **BIKEWISE, Durham Police HQ, Aykley Heads. Teasdale & M&S attending.**
- Jul 6-8 BMF Kelso Bikefest
- Jul 6-8 Festival of 1000 Bikes. Go to [www.vmcc.net/1000bikes](http://www.vmcc.net/1000bikes)
- JULY 7-8** **TTXGP at Snetterton. See the Electric Race bikes (you won't hear much!)**
- July 21** **BMF Council Meeting.**
- Jul 21/22 Cock O' the North Continental Road Races, Oliver's Mount
- Jul 21/22 Billing Bikefest. Aquadrome, Northampton. Details on [www.billingbikefest.com](http://www.billingbikefest.com)
- Jul 27/28 Armoey Road races, Northern Island. Meet Gut Martin, Michael Dunlop and others.
- Aug 18 – Sep 2 Manx Grand Prix Festival, IOM
- Aug 25 Speedway GP, Cardiff Millenium Dome. Visit [www.speedwaygp.com](http://www.speedwaygp.com)
- Aug 31 – Sep 2 Triumph Live Event, Mallory Park. Live bands, stunt shows, racing, demo rides etc
- Sep 8 Brighton Speed Trials and Burn Up. Mods and Rockers! See Ace Cafe diary.
- Sep 14-16 BMF Tailend Rally, Peterborough
- Sep 14-16 Goodwood Revival, West Susssex. Visit [www.goodwood.co.uk](http://www.goodwood.co.uk)
- Sep 15/16 Steve Henshaw International Gold Cup, Oliver's Mount
- NOV 29** **NEC Coach Trip. Book place with Norman Simpson and Alan Coverdale**
- Dec 1/2 The Scottish Dirt Bike Show, The Lanark Agricultural Centre
- Dec 8 Zoe's Place Santa Ride. Reserve day 15<sup>th</sup> Dec.

**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.** Why not join the BMF as an individual member and save yourself and the Club money? In order to strengthen the membership base of the BMF and thus give it more clout in working for riders' rights, the Club Member Conversion Scheme has been introduced. As an Affiliate Member of the BMF through the club, you can convert to Full Membership at a £5 reduction in the normal fee AND make a further £5 for the Club. The joining fee will be £21, reduced from £26, and the club will receive a payback of £5 for every member recruited. The payback to the club will be in the form of a credit note to be cashed in exchange for part of their affiliation fee for the forthcoming year. Speak to the Club Secretary for details and Application forms.

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)

**Rideouts.** After last years' successful rideout programme Allan Coverdale has come up with a list of dates for the next series this year. The format will be the same as before, where a member agrees to lead a ride on the Sunday following the Club meeting. The only exception will be in August when the run will be to Cadwell Park on the 27<sup>th</sup>.

Date	Leader	Comment
17 June	Alan Coverdale	
15 July	Brian Taylor	
27 August		Run to Cadwell Park. Depart 0600!
16 September	Brian Burke	I'm thinking of somewhere different!
14 October		

**Yarm Members especially Welcome** **Join the team on 30 June.**

See Steve and crew at:

**Crofton Court Motorcycles Ltd**  
**4 Crofton Court**  
**Portrack Lane**

**Telephone Steve on: 01642 601795 / 07435967735 / 07435967736**  
**for Servicing, Repairs, MOT, Tyres and fitting**

**Stockton on Tees TS18 2QR**

[www.croftoncourtmotorcyclesltd.co.uk](http://www.croftoncourtmotorcyclesltd.co.uk)

(Turn Right at the traffic lights at ARCO. Immediate Left after Burden's)

**Riding In France.** There has been a lot of confusing information published regarding French regulations for motorcyclists. I have trawled through many websites, mags and papers and have summarised what I believe to be the the regs as they affect us. Here goes: [Motorcycling in France](#). Many journalists have managed to muddy the waters by spouting a lot of 'untruths' and reacting hysterically to French motoring law changes. In summary:

Radar Speed Camera detectors are illegal (including SatNavs which provide camera positions).

Dipped Headlights On – compulsory for machines > 125cc.

Breathalyser Kits – 1 serviceable ALWAYS required; so carry at least 2.

Reflective Clothing. Effective from 1 January 2013 under Article R431-1-2 of the Code de la Route. Riders AND Passengers of bikes over 125cc. are required to wear clothing that carries an area of reflective material of at least 150cm<sup>2</sup> between the waistband and the line of the shoulders and be visible to other road users (i.e. front, back and sides).

HI-VIS FLUOURESCENT CLOTHING IS NOT COMPULSORY – AND IT IS NOT REFLECTIVE! The law is for night-time use, and fluourescent clothing without 'reflectivity' is useless in the dark. Don't waste money unnecessarily!

The front-face of a Compact Disc case is about 170cm<sup>2</sup>, so that gives you an idea of the minimum size of reflective material required.

The reflective material can be arranged in any pattern e.g. several thin strips.

It is not required to have reflective material on the helmet. In many cases, putting 'sticky tape' on the helmet may well compromise the shell as regards structural integrity and will invalidate the manufacturers' warranty.

**EU Legislation.** This is another area that has been hyped-up through ignorance and hysteria. It is very difficult to clarify exactly what the situation is, particularly as much of the detail will not be decided UNTIL the basic proposal is agreed. No wonder the EU is in such a mess when delegates are expected to vote on stuff when there is basically just a bald framework!

As far as I can deduce from reading the letters I have received from the MEPs representing the north-east, the following is what is being proposed:

**Anti-Tampering.** The measure has 2 purposes; to minimise damage to the environment and to ensure that safety is not compromised. The aim of the proposals is mainly to consolidate and update a number of older reports and affect only vehicles already limited in power or speed, such as mopeds and scooters, which are already covered by current rules. The majority of the European Commission, the member states and UK MEPs do not support proposals that prevent responsible modifications.

**Transmission Train.** Bans on modifications to improve fuel economy, fuel efficiency, comfort and adaption for disabled persons are not supported by the majority of MEPs and member states delegates.

**ABS.** Proposals to introduce ABS on machines of 125cc and smaller are not supported by the majority of delegates. Consideration is being given to CBS as cheaper alternative.

**Racing Parts.** The initial draft on this was regarded as too restrictive and has now reverted to the original text of the Framework Directive for Motor Vehicles (Article 13(3) of Directive 2007/46), which Council, Commission and most UK MEPs agree with.

**Delegated Acts.** This is where the detailed legal framework will be. Draft proposals are subject to review and many have been deleted or modified. A lot will not make it through the Council's working party. The final proposals will, in any case be subject to European Parliament scrutiny.

In summary, most delegates want to ensure that the right balance is found between new safety and emissions measures on the one hand, and burdens on motorcycle manufacturers and riders on the other. It is interesting to note that the MEP responsible for the legislation, as well as the MEP negotiating on behalf of the Liberal Democrats, are both motorcyclists. Furthermore, FEMA, BMF and MAG are closely involved. Personally, I believe that there is nothing to fear.

**Norman Gets One Back for the Bikers!** Some of you will be aware of the drama at a cafe in Stanhope regarding a certain Mrs Atkinson who insists on playing the National Anthem at 3pm everyday and demands that everyone stands. When 3 ladies refused to stand there was an uproar when they were asked to leave. In reporting the incident to the Northern Echo, Mrs Atkinson stated, among other things something that would upset most bikers. Norman wrote a riposte to the Northern Echo. His letter is repeated verbatim below: BIKER BITES BACK. Regarding the tea shop ban on three ladies who refused to stand for the National Anthem (Echo, May 22), I am incensed at Anita Atkinson's slur on bikers. She said: "If the women had been leather-clad bikers or youths, you would expect to call the police." Bikers rarely give any trouble, leather clad or otherwise. There is never any trouble at bike races or any other gatherings. Is she ignorant of the that almost £400,000 has been collected for the North-East Air Ambulance and Zoe's Place by the motorcyclists' Boundary Group?

**e-Petition.** A petition to urge the Government to increase awareness of two-wheeled users by ensuring that bike-related questions are made compulsory in the driving test is now available on-line. Look for Motorcycle Matters on the gov.uk website at: <http://epetitions.direct.gov.uk/petitions/26272>.

If you do a trawl of the motorcycle-related petitions you will find some interesting propositions. There are still plenty of nutters out there – thank goodness. It's what makes Britain great!

**Bridge Tolls Cancelled for Bikes.** Tolls for motorcycles have been removed from the Tyne Tunnel (was 20p) and recently the Humber Bridge (was £1.20). At last no more fumbling with gloves and pockets! No doubt some pressure was applied by pissed off motorists waiting for bikers to sort themselves out, as well as various protests by biker groups. Hurrah! Good result.

**Time Please!** The other day I was wandering around town and stopped to admire a display of expensive watches in a jeweller's window. Having always been a stickler for the correct time I paid particular attention

to a set of 'radio controlled' watches, believing these could be the business. What struck me however was the fact that the four watches each displayed different times! How does that work! Obviously it doesn't! I'll stick to my mechanical self-winder which loses about 2 seconds every 3 months.

**Items for Sale.** I still have some items for sale as I am trying to make some space in my garage. Several items have already gone.

Tree saw. 4 foot with handle at each end. £10

Small electric drill (like a Dremel) with attachments. Woolworths model. Mains powered. £5

Sony Cassette Recorder with power supply. Like new. £5

Tape Measure. Leather covered (antique) 66ft. £2

Circular Saw blades. 14 assorted grades. Some new. £5

Air Horns (twin). Just needs tubing £5 (wake up those dozy sods on their mobile phones!)

Steering Lock for car. Halfords model with 2 keys. £2

Warning Triangle. Folds up. £1

Long cramp (2 ft). £5

Electric Planer with spare blades. £10

Vibrating Saw (small) £10

Gas Heater portable with large Calor Gas bottle £10

Call 01325 721669 or 07517605614

**THE END GAME.** Theme for this month: Offending Even More People than before!

Harry heard that most accidents happen within two miles of home, so he moved house.

Have you noticed that not one man in a beer commercial has a beer belly?

What's the difference between a clown and a man having a mid-life crisis? The clown knows he is wearing ludicrous clothes.

Be nice to your kids. They'll be choosing your nursing home.

What's pink, wrinkly and hangs out your trousers? Your mother.

What's pink, wrinkly, smells of wee and goes in and out? Your Granny doing the hokey-cokey.

What goes 'clip-clop-clip-clop-Bang! – clip-clop-clip-clop?' An Amish drive-by shooting.

A woman has the last word in any argument. Anything a man says after that is the beginning of a new argument.

Why was the archaeologist upset? His job was in ruins.

What is forty feet long, has eight teeth and smells of wee? The front row at a Cliff Richard concert.

Husband to wife, "Why can't I tell when you are having an orgasm?" "Because you're never at home when I have one!"

Why do women close their eyes while having sex? Because they don't like to see men enjoying themselves.

What do bleached blondes and modern airlines have in common? Black boxes.

What do electric trainsets and women's breasts have in common? They are both intended for children but it's fathers who play with them.

A butcher backed into a bacon slicer and got a little behind in his orders.

Two cannibals are eating a clown. One says to the other, "Does this taste funny to you?"

Four out of five people say that they suffer from diarrhoea. Does that mean that one of the five actually enjoys it?

Constipation is the thief of time but diarrhoea waits for no man.

What has four legs and says 'Boo!' A cow with a bad cold.

What do you call a dog with no legs? It doesn't matter because it still won't come.

OK ...that's enough. I've wet myself laughing!

**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 may be on).

Mobile 07517 605614.