



www.yarmmotorcycleclub.co.uk

Tel: 07517 605614 (Secretary)

CLUB NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2014

Secretary's Ramblings. First 'Thank You All' for the get-well card following my ear operation. Whoever chose the card did a brilliant job; it was very appropriate to the situation. Anyway, things are progressing fine although I am very deaf without some electronic assistance! You will just have to SPEAK VERY LOUDLY if you want my attention before I plug in my hearing aid(s)!

As I write this I see that the front garden is covered with a carpet of leaves; so autumn is really here then. I haven't ridden the bikes for a month and by the time I'm cleared by the doc' (end of October) the weather will no doubt be moving well into winter mode. Anyway, I started both bikes up today and it was pleasing to hear them go on the first stab of the starter. In the meantime I'm getting on with my other pastime – amateur radio – and spending far too much money on it! I guess it will be handy when I stop riding, which I hope will be a long time yet.

Seven of the club members went to Normandy in the Summer. Read all about it in this issue.

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

Club Meeting: Weds 8 October
Committee Meeting: Weds 5 November

2014

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|---------------------|---|
| 4-5 Oct | Hottrax Motorbike Race Meeting Croft Circuit |
| 11 Oct | BMF Annual General Meeting at Rugby, Warwickshire. |
| 18 Oct | Scott Trial, Marske |
| 18-19Oct | 21st Carole Nash Classic Motorcycle Mechanics Show at Staffordshire County Showground. |
| 26 Oct | Huddersfield Autojumble. Find at HD1 1RG. |
| 30 Oct-2 Nov | International Dirt Bike Show at Stoneleigh Park. Find at CV8 2LZ. |
| 31 Oct-1 Nov | National Motorcycle Museum 30th Anniversary Celebrations. Free Entry and lots of stuff going on – trade displays, autojumble, wheelie machine etc. Find at B92 0EJ. |
| 27 Nov | Coach Trip to NEC. See Norman Simpson or Allan Coverdale for booking/details |

The Club Website. www.yarmmotorcycleclub.co.uk. The Club's website has been created by Allan Wren. Yours inputs would be most welcome. Send in your pictures, articles of interest, forthcoming events,

items for sale and wanted. Allan is the site moderator; he has the final responsibility for what appears on the site.

BMF INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP DEAL CONTINUED FOR 2014

The BMF. Why not join the BMF as an individual member and save yourself and the Club money? Strengthen the membership base of the BMF and give it more clout in working for riders' rights. Convert to Full Membership at a £5 reduction in the normal fee AND make £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.

Club Logo Shirts. Shirts with the Club Logo are available from Elizabeth Embroidery, Stockton: Polo shirt: - £10.65 +VAT. Sweat Shirt:- £12.80 + VAT. Tee Shirt:- £9.10 + VAT. All shirts are of excellent quality and in a range of colours. The Tee Shirt is available in a micro-fibre type material. For further details and ordering see Allan Coverdale. **You can also take your own garments to have the club logo embroidered by Elizabeth's Embroidery, Stockton on Tees. Tel: 01642 674 973.**

Crofton Court Motorcycles Ltd

See Steve and crew.

Telephone: 01642 601795 / 07881276919

4 Crofton Court for Servicing, Repairs, MOT, Tyres and fitting
Portrack Lane

Stockton on Tees TS18 2QR www.croftoncourtmotorcyclesltd.co.uk

(Turn Right at the traffic lights at ARCO.

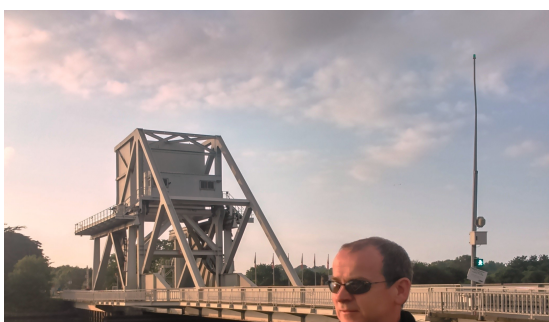
Now has executive rights on Maxxis Tyres in the area.

Zontes Motorcycles Dealer

Normandy Trip (by Bob Arnett). Coinciding with the 70 years commemoration of WW2, seven members of Yarm Motorcycle Club headed to Normandy in Northern France to spend a week visiting the theatre of the D-Day Landings. Members: Bob Arnett, Brian Brown, Alan Wren, Bill Robinson, Ken Vidgen, Nigel Smith and John Hutton.

Day 1 – Saturday 14th June 2014. PEGASUS BRIDGE. Brittany Ferries from Portsmouth to Ouistreham (Caen) – approximately 90 miles (6hrs). Had a few Guinness and a few hours kip. The ferry arrived in Ouistreham at 0630hrs local time. Alan, Bill and Ken were Satnav(ateers). The first destination was Pegasus Bridge which was about 5 miles from the ferry. All was quiet at this early time of morning. We had a look around the bridge and were the first visitors of the day to the local Café owned by Madame Ghondree, situated next to the bridge. A couple of coffee's and croissants perked us up after a long night.

Next we called into the Pegasus Bridge museum on the East side of the Caen canal. The original bridge is in the grounds of the museum and still bears the scars of battle. The bridge was replaced with a near



duplicate in the early 1990's. There were various military vehicles and a complete Horsa glider as exhibits. After this we visited the Ranville War Cemetery where British, Commonwealth, German soldiers and one war dog with his

Pegasus Bridge with Bob looking 'hard'

Day 2 – Sunday 15th June. ARROMANCHE – GOLD BEACH. We explored our host town then headed to the beach and had a look at the remnants of the Caissons (concrete breakwater sections) and Mulberry harbour. These have been left on the beach and in the sea as a reminder of the events following D-Day. From here we walked up the hill to the 360° CinemaCirculaire. The top of the hill offers panoramic views of Arromanche and Gold Beach. You can also see very clearly the 8km stretch of coast which the Mulberry Harbour was built in.



Chilling Out at the Campsite

The Cinema was showing a new film entitled Normandy's 100 Days. The 20 minute showing gave a very good insight into the events before, during and after the D-Day landings in 360° surround sound and picture.

After the Cinema we made our way back down the hill to the MuseeDebarquement which was situated in the town square, next to the beach. This museum opened in 1954 and was the first museum to be built in commemoration of 06 June 1944 and the Normandy campaign. Inside there was a scale model of the Mulberry Harbour which, only seeing with your own eyes, gives an appreciation of the scale involved of this feat of engineering and the logistical scale involved. The Mulberry Harbours of which there were two (one at Omaha and the other at Gold Beach) were assembled in two weeks immediately following D-Day. A storm severely damaged the harbour at Omaha, so the remnants of this were used to repair and enhance the harbour at Gold – Arromanche.

Day 3 – Monday 16th June. PONT DU HOC & OMAHA BEACH. We headed west along the coast to Pont du Hoc. This was a gun battery on the top of a cliff that the Americans were tasked to take. The area had been heavily bombed by air over the week prior to 06 June. The Americans approached from the sea and had to scale the cliffs whilst under heavy fire from above. They launched rocket propelled graplins, with ladders attached, from boats to allow them to scale the cliffs. Amid heavy losses the Americans made the ascent only to find the guns had been removed from the concrete shelters. The Germans eventually surrendered to the Americans and the Yanks slowly made ground in

from the coast over the next few days. Approximately 2 km in from the coast some rangers found the guns from Pont Du Hoc hidden in bushes, but set up ready to fire out to sea, with a pile of ammunition, ready to use. The rangers made the guns inoperable and continued their advance inland. After Pont Du Hoc we headed back east along the coast to Omaha Beach. This seemed a desolate area and there wasn't much to see, although this area suffered the heaviest losses of the D-Day landings. From here we headed back towards Arromanche and stopped at the American War Cemetery, which was at Collevill-sur-Mer, on a cliff overlooking Omaha Beach and is the resting place for 9,000 Americans.



The American Cemetery

The theme among the various cemeteries is how well kept they are – in fact immaculate. A lot of effort and care is obviously taken to look after these areas and they are maintained by the War Graves Commission.

The American cemetery has a visitors centre with documentaries to watch on screen and an abundance of information on walls and in showcases. There's also a statue called "The Spirit of American Youth Rising from the Waves" which is located in a colonnade looking out towards an ornamental lake.

Day 4 – Tuesday 17th June. OMAHA, GOLD BEACHES & BAYEAUX. Je voudrais une baguette et trois croissants s'il vous plait. Breakfast freshly baked from the boulangerie, a short walk into town. This set us up for the day ahead very nicely. It was just a short ride on the bikes to Battery de LonguessurMer heading west along the coast. This is situated between Omaha and Gold Beaches and consists of four 152 mm Navy guns with a range of 20km, each protected by a large concrete casement, a command post, shelters for personnel and ammunition and several machine gun emplacements. The crew of this gun battery consisted of 184 men (over half of them were over 40 years old). The gun batteries were positioned approximately 200 m inland from the cliffs, however, the command post was situated directly on top of the cliff to attain a better field of view. This command post was used in the film "The Longest Day". From here we headed to Bayeaux War Cemetery. This is the largest Second World War cemetery of Commonwealth soldiers in France containing 41,648 burials. This cemetery has the "Cross of Sacrifice" which is found in commonwealth cemeteries containing more than 40 graves. Underneath this cross there were numerous wreaths which were still fresh from the previous week's commemorations. Of these, one wreath was the Prince of Wales feathers signed by "Harry" and another was signed by President Putin.

Day 5 – Wednesday 18th June. SAINTE MERE EGLISE & UTAH BEACH. This ride out took us approximately 45 miles to our destination on the Cherbourg peninsula. Saint Mary's church in the centre of Sainte-Mere-Eglise became famous for the parachute drop of the American 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment where trooper John Steele's parachute became caught on the church steeple where he hung for 2 hours pretending to be dead (he was shot in the foot), before the Germans, realising he was still alive, took him prisoner and took care of his injury. He later escaped and re-joined the troops



of the 3rd Battalion. We had a nice lunch in a café overlooking the square before visiting the Musée Airborne which is dedicated to the American 82nd and 101st Airborne Division during Operation Overlord in June 1944. The exhibits in this museum included a WACO glider, a Douglas C-47, a Bangalore Torpedo

Day 6 – Thursday 19th June. Spent the day in the sun in Arromanche and this was followed by a swim in the English Channel. Cooked up Bolognaise and Pasta with French baguette and a few more beers...

Day 7 – Friday 20th June JUNO BEACH. Headed East along the coast towards Ouistreham, Caen.Courselles-sur-Mer (Juno Beach) was our first destination. Juno beach was the Canadian's theatre for landing on D-Day. We parked the bikes next to the marina and headed seawards. There was a lovely fisherman's market selling fresh fish alongside the harbour mouth. Here we stopped to look at a Canadian duplex drive Sherman tank. These were converted to float using flotation bags and a collapsible canvas screen, which was attached all around the edge of the tank body above the tracks. There were also 2 propellers exiting the rear of the tank. Most of the tanks sank! The tank we were observing was raised from the sea bed 27 years after D-Day. Those that made land proved a valuable asset for the land army. Next along the coast was Ouistreham where the ferry port is situated. A wander around the canal lock, watching the boats followed by MoulesMarinier with mushrooms sorted the hunger pangs.

Day 8 – Saturday 21stJune. The grand depart at 0700hrs was a fresh brisk ride under a blue sky to catch the Brittany Ferry at Ouistreham.



Conclusion

Over 350,000 people took part in the D Day Invasion. More than 133,000 landed on the beaches. These comprised of; Utah – 23,250, Omaha – 34,250, Gold – 24,970, Juno – 21,400, Sword – 28,845. Also 25,000 either parachuted or landed by glider. Many, many died or were badly injured. Thank you. We salute you.

Illegal Immigrants claiming to be Club Members

Bob Arnett. Sept 01 2014

Full article on the Normandy trip is on the club website.

Road Racing for the UK. News picked up by Bob Arnett on **TT Isle of Man Tourist Trophy** Facebook page states that the BBC news for Norfolk announced that Great Yarmouth has approved plans for a road race in 2015 in late summer. Article by reporter James Arnold, BBC Look East. So, good news then for such as the Saltburn Hillclimb event next year.

Bike for Sale. Nigel Sigsworth is advertising his 'as new BMW F800ST for sale. Telephone numbers for Nigel are: Mobile 07771 558239. Home 01642 789984. It's on eBay and the link is shown below: Ebay item number 291249644950.

<http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/BMW-F800ST-3000-Miles-FBMWSH-Paniers-Autocomm-Phone-Sat-Nav-Connection-/291249644950?>

Display VED No More! It is no longer a requirement to display a Vehicle Excise Duty disc from 1st October. There will be a greater reliance by the authorities on the use of Automatic Number Plate Recognition systems throughout the country. The new regulations also mean that you can no longer sell a vehicle with the Road Tax; you must cancel it and the new owner must register with DVLA to obtain the appropriate licence before driving the vehicle away. You will be refunded by DVLA for the unused month(s).

Find Out More! You can learn more about the changes happening to VED and Driving Licences at the DVLA website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/driver-and-vehicle-licensing-agency

Go Naked. Naked bikes are becoming ever more popular. Lots of new models will be on display at the NEC in November.

For Sale: BMW R850R 2003 (6-speed). Tax end May 2015. MOT: March 2015. 50,000 miles. PSH though mostly serviced by myself and Crofton Court Motorcycles, Stockton, for the past 4 years. Fitted with Maxxis tyres. Accessories include: Engine Bars, Hand-guards, Accessory socket, 45Litre Givi top box and BMW panniers. Baglux tank cover and tankbag. Factory-fitted heated grips.



£2,000 or will exchange for a lightweight motorcycle e.g. CBR600 / 650cc twin/ even 250cc or similar considered.

Contact Brian (Secretary) on 07517 605614 / 01325 721669.

Car Care UK in Stockton, opposite QuickFit Tel: 01642 927 696

Call Adam at Car Care if you are after parts for your vehicle. A discount will be offered to club members equivalent to 'Cost Price plus 10%'. You must show a valid (current) club membership card to get the discount.

Date	Lead Rider	Notes
Oct 12	Someone!	7 th Leader-nominated Rideout
Oct 26		BST Ends

Camping Gear for You. Allan Wren (Biker of the Year 2011) is a well-travelled biker and uses The Tent Guys for top quality gear. You too can take of a great offer extended to club members. Go to website: <http://www.thetentguys.eu/> and get some great bargains.

Quote discount code **YMC-10-7S367** after making your selection. Club members get a 10% discount.



Cottage in Wales For Rent: Cottage in Wales. Go to: <http://www.snowdropselfcateringcottage.co.uk/> Bikers are most welcome to stay!

Local Bike Meets:

- Sunday: Hartside Cafe, Alston, Cumbria.
- Tuesday: Route 59 Café at Hambleton, Bolton Abbey, BD23 6AF. 5 to 8pm 'til 26 Oct.
Stephen Billau & Sons Bike Night. Every Thursday 6pm to 9pm at the Destination Café in the Darlington Shop. Normal shopping facilities also open.
- Tuesday: The Pit Stop, Stockton, 1825 Bowesfield Way.
- Wednesday: The Manor Café, Bellerby near Leyburn.
- Wednesday: Squire's Café, near Sherburn in Elmet.
- Thursday: Whistle Stop Café, Whitby.
- Saturday: Squire's Café, nr Sherburn in Elmet.
- 7 Days a week: Filling Station Café, 150 yards from A66 Roundabout at Keswick.

Computers. Want a computer with 3 GHz processor and 4 GBytes of RAM with Windows 7 Professional for around £90. The guy has other computers of similar spec' for similar prices and can also do repairs and up-grades. Contact Paul Lowther on 07595-346286.

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THE END GAME. I saw an article in the Independent today (1st Oct) regarding a national survey of Britain's comedic tastes. Would you believe that Yorkshire folk find jokes about sex leaves them stoney faced! Being a Yorkshireman I can genuinely sympathize with the survey results; I don't enjoy sexist jokes. In fact, I don't enjoy jokes at all. The following are included in the newsletter under great suffering by myself (for arts sake)!

An Australian Poetry Competition held in the Sydney Opera House had come down to two finalists; a university graduate and an old aboriginal. They were given a word, and then allowed two minutes to study the word and come up with a short four line poem that contained the word. The word they were given was 'TIMBUKTU'. First to recite his poem was the university graduate. He stepped to the microphone and said: Slowly across the desert sand, Trekked a lonely caravan, Men on camels, two by two, Destination – Timbuktu. The crowd went crazy !. No way could the old aboriginal top that they thought. The old aboriginal calmly made his way to the microphone and recited; Me and Tim a huntin' went, Met three whores in a pop up tent, They were three, and we were two, So I bucked one, and Timbuktu The aboriginal won.

Two men go into a bakery; one is a bit of a lowlife, the other was a biker. The lowlife steals three pastries and puts them in his pocket. He says to the biker, "See how good I am? The owner didn't see anything. The biker says to the lowlife, "That's typically dishonest of you. I am going to show you an honest way to get the same result." The biker goes to the owner of the bakery and says, "Give me a pastry and I will show you a magic trick." Intrigued, the owner accepts and gives him a pastry. The biker swallows it and asks for another one. The owner gives him another one. Then the biker asks for a third pastry and eats that, too. The owner is starting to wonder where the magic trick is going and asks, "What did you do with the pastries?" The biker replies, "Look in that lowlife's pocket....."

A bloke from Yorkshire comes out of a Las Vegas casino flat broke, but with his air ticket to get him home (not Tees Valley Airport then!). He needs a cab ride to the airport. He gets in a cab and explains to the driver that he doesn't have the \$15 fare but will send him the money as soon as he gets home. He gives the cabbie his phone number, home address, driving licence number and passport number, but the cabbie tells him to get out and walk. The Yorkshireman walks to the airport and only just catches his flight home. The following year he has saved enough money to go to Vegas again. This time he wins big time and on the way out spots the taxi driver from last year; the driver is at the back of a long queue of taxis. The Yorkshireman plans his revenge and gets into the front taxi. 'How much to the airport?' he says. '\$15' replies the driver. 'OK' says the Yorkshireman,. 'and how much for you to give me a blow job?' 'Get out of my cab!' screams the cabbie. The Yorkshireman gets into the back of every taxi in the line and asks the same question, getting exactly the same reply from every cabbie. But when he gets into the cab of his old enemy he just asks 'How much to the airport?' Then, when the cabbie replies 'Fifteen dollars,' he just says 'OK.' As they drive past the long line of cabs the Yorkshireman looks at the drivers in turn, giving them a big smile and a thumbs up!

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 01325 721669 (Answerphone may be on). Mobile 07517 605614.