



Affiliated to the



www.yarmmotorcycleclub.co.uk

Tel: 07481 120673 (Secretary)

Club Meets: Second Wednesday of the Month at the Cleveland Bay, Eaglescliffe
Rideouts: April to October. Meet for 10am start at Yarm Town Hall every Sunday

CLUB NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2017

Secretary's Ramblings. October 14 was the Annual General Meeting of the BMF. This was held at Moffat, about 125 miles from home. I went on the Suzuki SV650 as it's a bit faster than the Kawasaki GPZ500S plus the brakes and suspension are a generation better too, although the seat is 'plank-like.' The visibility was dreadful at the top of the A66 crossing the Pennines. Nevertheless, I got there in good time and some 30 members attended the meeting (29 more than attended the Region 2 Annual Regional Meeting!). The run back, in the dark, was spoilt by 'Naughty Suzi' misfiring while crossing the A66. Anyway, I made it home ok but I haven't had the time to look at problem.

I went on the GPZ500S to The National Motorcycle Museum at Birmingham on Saturday, 28 October. I was fffff... cold (discovered that my heated jacket had a fault a few minutes before take-off!) but the little Kawasaki didn't miss a beat, cruising happily at 70mph all the way – where there were no 50 limits that is (and there were quite a few). More on the tour next month.

Forthcoming Events (latest additions in Bold).

Committee Mtg: Weds 1 November @8pm
Club Mtg: Weds 8 November @ 8pm

Meet every Sunday 10:00 at Costa in Yarm during non-Rideout period – October to March.
(wearing Ruffy-Tufty biking gear optional if you come by car, cycle or walk but want to look 'ard)

4 Nov Rufforth Autojumble
18-26 Nov NEC Motorcycle Live.
19 Nov Newark Autojumble
23 Nov Coach to NEC. Depart 06:00! Breakfast at Morrisons S'Mkt enroute.
2 Dec Rufforth Autojumble
10 Dec Newark Autojumble
16 Dec Christmas Party at the Eaglescliffe Golf Club. 1200 for 1230 start.

2018

28 Jan Newark Autojumble
25 Feb Newark Autojumble
24/25 Mar Manchester Bike Show
18-25 Jul Lincolnshire Bike Week

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, and 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 2017

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 £23, 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. 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.**

Club Badges. Allan Coverdale has Club Badges available at £8 each. These are quality items and will improve the appearance of your jacket/whatever!

NEC Coach Trip 23 November. Please pay Norman Simpson or Allan Coverdale for the coach trip to the NEC in November. Remember it is a 6am start from Yarm Town Hall.

Crofton Court Motorcycles Ltd

See Steve and crew.

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Used bikes often on sale.

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For Sale:

RENTEC SPORTS RACK. In good condition. Will suit VFR 1200 or VFR 800 (2014 onwards). £40 or near offer.

Contact Tony Simpson 07732231371

Bike Thefts. A recent study by Bennetts Insurance indicates that most bike thefts are from the home location (55%), although most people questioned felt that a bike was most vulnerable when away from home. Moral of this story is not to be complacent but to be vigilant when the bike is at the home base and take the necessary precautions to protect your asset(s). Apparently a baseball bat without a ball and catcher's glove is not an acceptable deterrent. A friend of mine in the USA has an AK47 Assault Rifle and a Magnum 44 in the bedroom as well as a bonkers dog, and the police are quite happy with that arrangement. I wonder how many bikes get stolen from places with that kind of 'insurance'?

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Cretins on Motorcycles. I enjoy reading the Legal Column in the Motorcycle Monthly paper although I often end up feeling incredulous at the idiots who submit details of some event/person/dealer that they have a grievance with. I'm sure MCM picks out the most stupid of submissions, and the November edition has not failed to disappoint. Check it out when you get your copy at the November meeting. By the way, many thanks to John and Dot Angus who go to the trouble of getting the club copies of MCM.

Look After Your Tyres. Stored in optimum conditions in a dark room at a constant 20 degs C most tyres will remain in good condition for more than 5 years. However, once fitted and inflated a tyre comes under stress from a variety of factors, including sunlight and extremes of temperature. A common sign of ageing is when hairline cracks appear in the tyre wall or at the base of the tread grooves. The cracking results from oils leaching out and is a tell-tale sign that the tyre is perishing. Check for this particularly when buying an old bike. Valves and valve caps are important too. Valves must be of the 'short' type (15mm) – cars are fitted with 'long' type valves (25mm). Valves can leak if they are of the wrong type, especially when the wheel is spinning at high speed and centrifugal force is trying to force the valve open. A good quality valve cap is important.

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.

The Biker Guide. Want to know more about biker-friendly accommodation, cafes, camping, events and squillions of other things related to biking? Check out www.thebikerguide.co.uk

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Local Bike Meets:

- Tuesday Route 59 Café at Hambleton, Bolton Abbey, BD23 6AF.
The Pit Stop, Stockton, 1825 Bowesfield Way.
- Wednesday: The Manor Café, Bellerby near Leyburn. DL8
Squire’s Café, near Sherburn in Elmet. LS25 3LX
- Thursday: Whistle Stop Café, Whitby.YO21 1YN
Stephen Billau & Sons Bike Night. Every Thursday 6pm to 9pm at the Destination Café in the Darlington Shop. Normal shopping facilities also open.
- Saturday: Squire’s Café, nr Sherburn in Elmet.
- Sunday: Hartside Cafe, Alston, Cumbria. CA9 3BW

Other places:

- Filling Station Café, 150 yards from A66 Roundabout at Keswick. CA12 5PR
- Hot Tram Roll, Keswick central, CA12 5DF
- Cocketts Hotel, Market Place, Hawes
- Seaways Café, Fridaythorpe. YO25 9RX
- The Rose and Crown Hotel, Bainbridge, Leyburn. DL8 3EE
- The Buck Inn, Chop Gate, Bilsdale. TS9 7JL
- The Penny Garth Café, Hawes. Open 7 days a week ‘til 4pm – ‘til 9pm weekends
- Tomlinsons Café and Bunkhouse, Bridge Street, Rothbury, NE65 7SF
- Wilf’s Café, Staveley, Kendal. LA5 9LR
- Orton Scar Café, Orton, Penrith. CA10 3RQ. 5 mins from J38 on Tebay–Appleby Rd
- Café 1618, Middleton in Teesdale, DL12 0QG
- Blenkinsop Castle on A69, Brampton, CA8 7JS
- Biker Café at GMEC Garage, Merry Lees Spital Road nr Staxton, YO12 4NN
- Elaine’s Tea Room, Austwick, nr Settle. LA2 8DF

The BMF AGM. The meeting lasted some 5 hours and was the opportunity for the Management Team to make their reports on the various disciplines that they are responsible for. The Chairman explained the structure and operation of the BMF before handing over to the officers to cover their specialist areas. The Political and Technical Officer (PTO), Anna Zee, happens to be the Chairman of FEMA (Federation of European Motorcyclists Associations) as well and so has a phenomenal insight into what is going on throughout the European theatre as well as in the UK. The PTO participates in meetings with a number of road safety and transport strategy groups. These include RoSPA, PACTS (Parliamentary Advisory Committee on Transport Safety), Highways England Motorcycle Working Group (HE MCWG), Transport for London (TfL), and various police sponsored safety groups, which also cover security issues. In fact the list goes on and on. Specific subjects include work on the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges with Highways England and training initiatives with TfL. Other work involves implementation of the Co-operative Intelligent Transport System (CITS) whereby vehicles are 'connected' so that users are aware of other vehicles, road conditions, work in progress, breakdowns etc – the road to autonomous vehicles. The aim is to ensure that the hardware and software used in the project meets compliance with approved standards and that full risk assessments are completed for a mix of fitted and non-fitted vehicles – which will be no easy task. There is lots more going on, but I'll save some details for next month.

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To Filter or Not to Filter – Submitted by Steve Derby of Ridewell Tees Valley.

Numerous accidents among the motorcycling fraternity occur when rider is 'filtering'. There are two main reasons why some riders come to grief whilst carrying out this manoeuvre. Firstly riders do not filter correctly, In doing so they leave themselves open to criticism and put themselves in danger. Secondly other road users do not see the motorcycle or in some cases they do see the motorcycle but choose to be obstructive in order to prevent the rider filtering. Happily these cases are in the minority and some of it (*but certainly not all*) can be down to a lack of understanding on the drivers part. For those not familiar with the term 'filtering' it is when a rider uses the benefits of a motorcycles size and agility to make **SAFE** progress past other traffic in queues of stationary or slow moving traffic. It is of course one of the benefits of riding a bike that allows us to make this progress.

It is perfectly legal and when carried out correctly can be quite safe but as with all things, there are considerations before commencing a filtering manoeuvre.

REMEMBER FILTERING IS NOT ILLEGAL, IT IS HOW IT IS DONE WHICH CAN CREATE THE ILLEGALITY

This is purely a personal view and opinion of filtering and I do not put it forward as the be all and end all on the subject. Nothing is written in tablets of stone. If you choose to filter you may consider that some of these points are appropriate and worthy of consideration before commencing a filter manoeuvre. Filtering is of course, first and foremost, an overtake and if thought about in this way there are a lot of the principles of overtaking that are equally applicable to filtering. The main benefit is that you can make progress when others cannot and that is your first problem as some drivers can become irritated at the fact that you are making progress when they may be stuck in the 5 mile tailback of stationery traffic on a hot day with a car full of bored children and as a result can become obstructive and aggressive towards you.

Some hold the mistaken belief that to filter is illegal and therefore take on the role of a temporary Police Officer to impede your progress. At these times it is important to remember the principles of 'Bataris Box'

My Attitude affects My Behaviour which then affects Your Attitude which then affects Your Behaviour which then affects My Attitude and so on.....

The secret is to be completely safe, do not put yourself or anyone else at risk and be considerate and courteous. It is sometimes better to miss the chance to filter rather than put yourself in a confrontational situation. Having completed the filter be courteous and acknowledge other road users that you have passed. If you do it right, the next time the person you overtake is confronted with someone filtering he is much less likely to give them a hard time.

THE MAIN POINTS ARE AS FOLLOWS

Only filter past **STATIONARY** or **SLOW MOVING** vehicles. Some advanced trainers try to put a maximum speed on filtering, for example 30mph but you really have to use your own discretion and once traffic starts to move at a speed appropriate for the circumstances at that time then you would slot back into the line of traffic. Sometimes even 10 to 15 mph can be sufficient to regain a nearside position and join the flow.

Normally you should only filter to the offside of a line of vehicles, except where overtaking on the left is permitted by the Highway Code. This would mean to the offside only of a line of vehicles on a single carriageway, between lanes one and two and to the offside of lane two on a dual carriageway and between lanes one and two or two and three and to the offside of lane three on a three lane carriageway.

However there may be local traffic situations where filtering down the nearside is appropriate and safe. If you decide to filter in any situation you may have to justify your actions to the local Police in the case of an accident so be sure of your facts.

Do not filter where you would commit an offence, i.e. along the hard shoulder of a motorway which is contrary to the advice given above anyway, contrary to 'keep left' signs, contrary to 'No Overtaking' signs or crossing solid white lines in the centre of the road. You need to be aware of the rules regarding crossing solid white lines and hatched areas.

In the case of filtering past traffic on the approach to a roundabout, a junction where you have to give way or traffic lights do not go to the front of the queue. If you do you will put yourself in competition with the vehicle alongside you and most likely in the blind spot of the driver as he or she will almost certainly be looking to their right and not to where you may be. When you both move off you will both be competing for the same road space. Slot into or wait alongside the gap behind vehicle one or further back if appropriate.

If the traffic is stationery and no gaps are left you could consider stopping alongside the front offside of vehicle two or further back in the hope that the driver will allow you in - **DO NOT FORCE YOUR WAY INTO ANY GAP** . You may have to wait for someone to let you in but you don't want to be in this position if it means you are on the wrong side of the road in the face of oncoming traffic. By observing the type of vehicle and/or driver you could stop alongside a vehicle that will be slower to move off like a goods vehicle or bus. You may think that certain types of driver may give you precedence but try not to stereo type or pre judge what will happen. If in doubt stop further back or do not filter.

As with overtaking you should always have somewhere to go, try and identify that return point before you begin to filter. You may find that as you are filtering other gaps are appearing or your identified gap has disappeared. Be prepared to alter your riding plan accordingly.

When filtering on a multi lane road there is nothing wrong with beginning your your filter or overtake in one lane and completing it in another adjacent lane. Be careful as you do so though to ensure you are still in the correct lane for your intended direction of travel.

When filtering consider the width of your bike relative to the available gap and give yourself a wider safety margin. If you have a pillion, let them know what you intend to do. If you can improve your conspicuity then do so by switching on your dipped lights. If you decide initially not to filter leave yourself sufficient gap behind the vehicle in front so you can filter if the situation changes.

YOU SHOULD ALWAYS BE ABLE TO STOP WITHIN THE DISTANCE YOU CAN BE SEE TO BE CLEAR

When you are filtering imagine that the furthest point you can see to be clear is the front of the vehicle that you are currently overtaking. Be prepared to stop at that point and check that it is safe to continue particularly if the vehicle you are overtaking has stopped in the proximity of a junction. As soon as the traffic begins to move freely again slot back into the line of traffic

WATCH OUT FOR

- Vehicles turning left or right at junctions or into parking spaces
- Vehicles changing lanes
- Vehicles doing U turns to avoid the traffic delay
- Other riders behind you who may also be filtering
- Doors opening as drivers or passengers alight
- Drivers deliberately impeding you by blocking your path
- Arms and heads emerging from windows, litter particularly cigarettes being thrown
- Vehicles emerging from junctions waiting in central reservations and try not to be alongside the vehicle you are overtaking when an oncoming vehicle passes you (the meat in the sandwich). You can relax this rule a little if the oncoming vehicle is aware of your presence and is also travelling at a low speed and there is sufficient room. You should not cause the oncoming car to alter speed or direction.

FINALLY

BE COURTEOUS AND ACKNOWLEDGE THE DRIVERS OF VEHICLES YOU ARE OVERTAKING, PARTICULARLY THOSE THAT GIVE YOU PRECEDENCE OR EASE YOUR PASSAGE

IF IN DOUBT DO NOT FILTER

THE END GAME. A purported exchange between a customer and the Irish Railway

Company: Gentlemen, I have been riding your trains daily for the last two years, and the service on your line seems to be getting worse every day. I am tired of standing in the aisle all the time on a 14-mile trip. I think the transportation system is worse than that enjoyed by people 2,000 years ago. Yours truly, **Patrick Finnegan.** Dear Mr. Finnegan, We received your letter with reference to the shortcomings of our service and believe you are somewhat confused in your history. The only mode of transportation 2,000 years ago was by foot. Sincerely, **Irish Railway Company.** Gentlemen, I am in receipt of your letter, and indeed I think you are the ones who are confused in your history. If you will refer to the Bible and the Book of David, 9th Chapter, you will find that Balaam rode to town on his ass. That Gentlemen, is something I have not been able to do on your train in the last two years. Yours feckin truly **Patrick Finnegan.**

Miss Beatrice, the church organist, was in her eighties and had never been married. She was admired for her sweetness and kindness to all. One afternoon the pastor came to call on her and she showed him into her quaint sitting room. She invited him to have a seat while she prepared tea. As he sat facing her old Hammond organ, the young minister noticed a cut glass bowl sitting on top of it. The bowl was filled with water, and in the water floated of all things, a condom! When she returned with tea and scones they began to chat. The pastor tried to stifle his curiosity about the bowl of water and its strange floater but soon it got the better of him and he could no longer resist. 'Miss Beatrice', he said, 'I wonder if you would tell me about this?' Pointing to the bowl. 'Oh, yes,' she replied, 'Isn't it wonderful? I was walking through the park a few months ago and I found this little package on the ground. The directions said to place it on the organ, keep it wet and that it would prevent the spread of disease. Do you know, I haven't had the flu all Winter.

The Pope is handing out miracles to kids in Liverpool. Billy walks on stage and asks him, "Can you help me wiv my hearing?" The Pope says "Yes," and puts his hands on Billy's ears and prays. He removes his hands and says, "How is your hearing now?" Billy says, "I don't know, it's not until next Wednesday."

Recent Weather Warning seen on website: Southerners are urged not to travel unless absolutely essential. Northerners will need a big coat.

I talked to a homeless man this morning and asked him how he ended up this way. He said, "Up until last week, I still had it all. I had plenty to eat, my clothes were washed and pressed, I had a roof over my head, I had TV and Internet, and I went to the gym, the pool, and the library. I was working on my MBA on-line. I had no bills and no debt. I even had full medical coverage." I felt sorry for him, so I asked, "What happened? Drugs? Alcohol? Divorce?" "Oh no, nothing like that," he said. "No, no.... I was paroled."

A chap goes to Thailand and picks up a lovely new wife. A year later his mate at the bowling club asks "How's that lovely wife you picked up in Thailand?" "She died – rather suddenly" "Oh I am sorry – what happened?" "Prostate cancer"

A lone sniper was just about to assassinate Donald Trump. Just at the last moment, one of the President's bodyguards spotted him. He immediately shouted "Mickey Mouse! Mickey Mouse!" A shot rang out and Trump fell dead. As his aides gathered round the body, one of them asked the bodyguard why he had shouted, "Mickey Mouse" 'I'm sorry" he said, "I meant to shout "Donald, duck!"

An atheist was walking through the woods. 'What majestic trees! What powerful rivers! What beautiful animals' he said to himself. Suddenly, he heard a rustling in the bushes behind him. He turned to look and saw a 7-foot grizzly bear charging towards him. He ran as fast as he could along the path. He looked over his shoulder and saw that the bear was closing on him. He looked over his shoulder again, and the bear was even closer. And then he tripped and fell. Rolling over to pick himself up, he found the bear was right on top of him, reaching towards him with its left paw and raising the right paw to strike. At that instant the Atheist cried out, 'Oh my God!' Time stopped; the bear froze; the forest was silent; a bright light shone upon the man and a voice came out of the sky, "You deny my existence for all these years. You teach others I don't exist and even credit creation to cosmic accident. Do you expect me to help you out of this predicament? "Am I to count you as a believer?" The atheist looked directly into the light and said, "It would be hypocritical of me to suddenly ask you to treat me as a Christian now but perhaps you could make the BEAR a Christian?" *A pause ...*"Very well," said the voice The light went out. The sounds of the forest resumed. The bear dropped his right arm, brought both paws together, bowed his head and spoke... "Lord, bless this food, which I am about to receive. Amen."

More words for the 21st Century Office: Cube Farm - An office filled with cubicles. Crop Dusting – surreptitiously farting while passing through a Cube Farm. Salmon Day – Spending an entire day swimming upstream only to get screwed and die. Mouse potato – the online wired generations answer to the couch potato. WOOFies – well off older folk.

Womens' Dictionary: Argument – a discussion that occurs when you're right but he just hasn't realised it yet'; Barbeque – you bought the groceries, washed the lettuce, chopped the tomatoes, diced

the onions, marinated the meat, cleaned everything up but he still 'did the dinner.' Waterproof Mascara – comes off if you cry, shower or swim, but not if you try to remove it. Hairdresser – someone who is able to create a style you will never be able to duplicate again.

Writings on the Toilet Wall: Why are you staring at the wall? The joke is in your hand. The toilet paper here is like Clint Eastwood – rough, tough and takes no shit. "I shagged your mother!" and written underneath - "Go home Dad, you're pissed again!" If you took a shit please put it back.

You know you have a mid-life crisis when you are looking at a porno' movie and think, 'That bed looks really comfortable.'

A priest is taking confessions and opens the little window. A voice says, "I'm a 72-year old man and have been married to the same woman for over 50 years and never once cheated on her. However, last night I made love to 18-year old twins." The priest says, "My son, that is very serious. When was your last confession?" Man replies, "Never Father. I'm not a Catholic." Priest says, "So what are you telling me for?" Man replies, "I'm telling everybody!"

Chav-Tastic Quiz: Q - Two chavs jump off a cliff. Who wins? A – Society. Q – What does a chav girl use for protection during sex? A – A bus shelter. Q – What do you call a 22 year old chav girl? A – Granny. Q – What do you say to a chav with a job? A – Big Mac please. Q – What do you call a chav girl in a white tracksuit? A – The bride. Q – What do you call a chav in a suit? A- The defendent.

Q – What's the first question during a chav quiz night? A – What you looking at?

Signs that you have finally grown up: Your house plants are alive and you can't smoke any of them. You hear your favourite song in a lift. Having sex in a twin bed is out of the question. There is more food than beer in the fridge. A £4.00 bottle of wine is no longer pretty good stuff.

You know you drink too much when: - you spend all night holding up the wall to stop it toppling over; you first wake up and you're afraid that you're going to die and half an hour later you're afraid that you won't; you can focus better with one eye shut; you fall asleep while taking a dump.

One Liners: I almost had a psychic girlfriend but she left me before we met. Did you know that corduroy pillows are making headlines? Women like silent men – they think they are listening. Do illiterate people get inspiration from alphabet soup? Why do they sterilise needles for lethal injections? Why to light aircraft weight 2 tons?

A young, blonde lady in Florida desperately wanted a pair of beautiful alligator shoes. After becoming very frustrated with the attitude of one of the shopkeepers, the young blonde declared, 'Well, then, maybe I'll just go out and catch my own alligator and get a pair of alligator shoes for free!' The shopkeeper replied with a sly smile, 'Well, little lady, why don't you go give it a try?' The blonde headed off to the swamp, determined to catch an alligator. Later in the day, the shopkeeper was driving home, and spotted the young woman standing waist deep in the murky water, shotgun in hand. He saw a huge 9-foot gator swimming rapidly toward her. With lightning reflexes, the blonde took aim, shot the creature and hauled it up onto the slippery bank. Nearby were 7 more dead gators, all lying belly up. The shopkeeper watched in amazement as the blond struggled with the gator. Then, rolling her eyes, she screamed in frustrationSon-of-a-bitch!! THIS ONE'S BAREFOOT TOO !

A doctor that had been seeing an 80-year-old woman for most of her life finally retired. At her next check-up, the new doctor told her to bring a list of all the medicines that had been prescribed for her. As the doctor was looking through these his eyes grew wide as he realized Grandma had a prescription for birth control pills. "Mrs. Smith, do you realize these are birth control pills?" "Yes, they help me sleep at night." "Mrs. Smith, I assure you there is absolutely nothing in these that could possibly help you sleep!" She reached out and patted the young doctor's knee and said, "Yes, dear, I know that. But every morning, I grind one up and mix it in the glass of orange juice that my 16-year-old Granddaughter drinks. And believe me it definitely helps me sleep at night." You gotta love Grandmas!

A man was riding on a full bus minding his own business when the gorgeous woman next to him started to breast-feed her baby. The baby wouldn't take it so she said, "Come on sweetie, eat it all up or I'll have to give it to this nice man next to us." Five minutes later the baby was still not feeding, so she said, "Come on, honey. Take it or I'll give it to this nice man here." A few minutes later the anxious man blurted out, "Come on kid. Make up your mind! I was supposed to get off four stops ago!

Students in an advanced Biology class were taking their mid-term exam. The last question was, 'Name seven advantages of Mother's Milk.' The question was worth 70 points or none at all. One student was hard put to think of seven advantages. He wrote,

- 1) It is perfect formula for the child.
- 2) It provides immunity against several diseases.
- 3) It is always the right temperature.
- 4) It is inexpensive.
- 5) It bonds the child to mother and vice versa.
- 6) It is always available as needed.

And then the student was stuck. Finally, in desperation, just before the bell rang indicating the end of the test he wrote:

- 7) It comes in two attractive containers and it's high enough off the ground where the cat can't get it. He got an A.

A woman and her 12-year-old son were riding in a taxi in Detroit. It was raining and all the prostitutes were standing under awnings. "Mom," said the boy, "what are all those women doing?" "They're waiting for their husbands to get off work," she replied. The taxi driver turns around and says, "Geez lady, why don't you tell him the truth? They're hookers, boy! They have sex with men for money." The little boy's eyes get wide and he says, "Is that true Mom?" His mother, glaring hard at the driver, answers "Yes." After a few minutes the kid asks, "Mom, if those women have babies, what happens to them?" She said, "Most of them become taxi drivers."

An elderly, but hardy cattleman from Texas once told a young female neighbor that if she wanted to live a long life, the secret was to sprinkle a pinch of gunpowder on her oatmeal each morning. She did this religiously and lived to the age of 103. She left behind 14 children, 30 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren, five great-great-grandchildren and a 40 foot hole where the crematorium used to be.

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 contact details: brian.burke2@btopenworld.com /01325 722660 (Answer phone may be on). Mobile 07481 120673.