



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 (1)



CLUB NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2018

Secretary's Ramblings. Christmas Party. I have started putting this newsletter together while 'hiding' from the Strictly Come Dancing Final, although I feel a bit uncomfortable after over-indulging in the food at the party. I trust that all who went to the Christmas Party had a good time. Olwyn and I thoroughly enjoyed the good company, the food and the raffle. A letter of thanks has been sent to the Eaglescliffe Golf Club. Hopefully those of you who took pictures of the occasion will pass some on for publication in this Newsletter and for the Website.

The next major event will be the AGM on 10th January. I will be sending out copies of the minutes of the 2017 AGM and the Agenda by email. There will be a few hard copies available for the meeting. While on the subject of the AGM it is a good time to now to think about future events you would like the club to participate in, including venues for Sunday Ride Outs. Please let me know before the meeting starts if you have anything for 'Any Other Business'. Finally, please think about participating in the Committee – after all, it is your club and willing volunteers are always welcome.

Trip to Poland in June. 'Polish' Bob is hoping to get a group from the club to ride to Poland in the Summer. Bob, we know, will do a great job in ensuring that the trip will be entertaining, educational, eye-opening, relaxing, and possibly with a few 'vodka' hangovers.' It will be a great opportunity to visit

Poland and have someone on the trip to guide and inform us and who can pronounce words with no vowels in them! Hopefully we will be able to meet some of Bob's family and friends and get to know the real Poland. I for one have put my name down, and will get on with sorting the little Kawasaki out – new chain and sprocket set and fully overhaul the brakes. The little Kawasaki is comfortable over long distances and is fairly easy to fix – most things anyway.

Get your names to Bob asap. It will be a trip well worth being part of.

Forthcoming Events (latest additions in Bold).

Committee Mtg: Weds 3 January @ 8pm
AGM: Weds 10 January @ 8pm

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

2018

3 Jan Committee Meeting 8pm
10 Jan Annual General Meeting 8pm
28 Jan Newark Autojumble
3/4 Feb Carole Nash 38th Classic Motorcycle Show at Bath and West Showground
17/18 Feb The Classic Dirt Bike Show @ International Centre, Telford, Shropshire
25 Feb Newark Autojumble
4 Mar Penrith Autojumble at Skirsgill, Pentith, CA11 0DN. 9am to 1pm. Entry £3.50
17 Mar Celtic Rock and Reel at The Buck Inn, Chop Gate, Bilsdale.
01642 778334 for info.
18 Mar MOTO Gp Starts off the Racing Season at Qatar. Will Marquez make it No. 5?
24/25 Mar Manchester Bike Show
9 Apr Squires Cafe Bar Easter Egg Run
16 Apr Kilham Bikers Easter Egg Run from Bay Horse. Meet 0900 for 1100 depart.
22/23 Apr Carole Nash Classic Motorcycle Show, Staffordshire Showground, ST18 0BD
23 Apr Mods and Rockers Charity Ride. Donate £5 to Air Ambulance.
Dept Clifford Tower, York, YO1 9RY for Rose and Crown, Beadlam, YO62 7RD
28-30 Apr MAG Rally at Home Farm Barns, Sledmere, YO25 3XG.
29/30 Apr Olivers Mount Festival of Speed. Hill Climb
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 £25, 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!

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 have executive rights on Maxxis Motorcycle Tyres in the area.

Used bikes often on sale.

Zontes Motorcycles Dealer.

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

Saudi Arabia. Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman, the progressive leader, has vowed to bring his country into the 21st century. He recently announced the opening of cinemas in 2018 and allowing women to drive. He has now announced that women will be able to ride motorcycles as of the Summer. Did you know that 70% of the Saudi population is under 30 years of age? With high disposal incomes expect to see some amazing bikes on the roads there. (I hope they don't all end up buying Harleys!).

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Is It Me or Have My Tools Got a Mind of Their Own? The Air Compressor: It takes energy produced in a power-station 100 miles and converts into compressed air that travels by hose to a pneumatic impact wrench that grips rusty bolts last tightened 40 years ago by someone in Hokkaido Akkitomo and rounds them off

The Circular Wire Wheel: Cleans rust off old bolts and then flings them somewhere under the workbench at the speed of light. Also removes fingerprint whorls and hard-earned guitar calluses in about the time it takes to say, "Fff.....Ouch"!

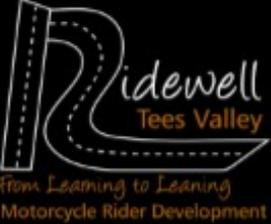
The Timing Light is really useful for illuminating grease build-up.

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.

Autonomous Vehicles – Racing Car Crashes Out of Formula E. The Roborace series using electric powered driverless cars is still in development. The first 'race' took place earlier this year, driving two [DevBots](#) on the same street circuit at the Formula E Buenos Aires ePrix. The two cars made their way around the track at a cautious yet respectable pace, with the "winner" reaching a top speed of 115 mph. Unfortunately, the losing car didn't fare so well, getting itself into an accident and taking itself out of the race. The championship presented the event as the first "race between driverless cars", but the event was still very much a test exercise and the DevBot development cars don't represent the final form these driverless racecars. They still have a cabin for a driver but neither car's cabin was occupied during the event, and while the cars have been tested on street circuits before, this was the first time two cars

were on track at the same time. So it looks like this was indeed the first "race" on an actual racing circuit. I hope they keep all autonomous vehicles on closed circuits – period! It is going to take years of further development before autonomous vehicles have an peerless safety record on public roads. Technology is full of promise but is tough to deliver. After many years the UK is still farting about trying to get everyone on digital radio so that the old FM radio spectrum can be sold off. I've got a digital radio in my car and half the time the signal is missing, so I go back to good old, reliable FM. When that is sorted, **and** when the whole of the UK has solid coverage with 4G mobile phone coverage, then the prospect of autonomous vehicles on public roads could become a possibility. Until then, don't hold your breath.



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So You Still Want to Ride on Nights with a Full Moon? While browsing through the November issue of the British Medical Journal, as one does when desperate to get to sleep, I came across a study concerning the number of motorcycle fatalities being higher during periods of Full Moons. Sounds a bit crazy, but facts do bear this statement to be true. To test whether a full moon contributes to increased motorcycle related deaths, data collated over 40 years was analysed in the USA. Additionally, data from the UK, Canada and Australia was compared and this agreed with the findings made in the USA.

Over the 40-year period in the USA - 1975 to 2014 - there were 13,029 motorcycle fatalities (night time only)... as we say over here...that's a shit-load of bikers down the pan! The typical motorcyclist in the USA was a middle aged man (mean age 32 years) riding a street motorcycle with a large capacity engine in a rural location, who experienced a head-on frontal impact and was not wearing a helmet. (Not your average UK driver?)

The fatal crashes occurred during 1,482 relevant nights in the study. Relevant nights were:- night of the full moon with controls defined as the exact night one week before and one week after the full moon; for example, the full moon on Sunday 31 January 1999 was matched to control dates of Sunday 24 January 1999 and Sunday 7 February 1999. This matching ensured identical time intervals for all comparisons and directly controlled for weekday, seasonal, and yearly trends. In all 4494 fatal crashes

occurred on the 494 nights with a full moon (9.10/night) and 8535 on the 988 control nights without a full moon (8.64/night). It was hypothesized that, because people's attention is naturally drawn to a full moon, it might contribute to fatal motorcycle crashes. In particular, glancing at a full moon takes the motorcyclist's gaze off the road, which could result in a loss of control. A full moon might also lead to changes in surrounding traffic behaviours, such as distracting other motorists or pedestrians from noticing an oncoming motorcycle. For safe motorcycling, riders need to orient their attention, ignore distractions, and continuously monitor the dynamic surroundings. Research on perception distinguishes between goal directed attention and stimulus driven attention, the latter denoting moments where attention is temporarily diverted by an extraneous object. The three features most likely to attract stimulus driven attention are large size, bright luminance, and abrupt onset, all of which the full moon possesses (including occasional abrupt onset when the full moon suddenly appears after being occluded).

The term supermoon was coined only recently, yet astronomical calculators at dateandtime.com were used to determine such occurrences retrospectively with no missing data. The distance between Earth and Moon is about 50,000 km closer at perigee than apogee, equal to about a 13% shorter distance and 30% increased brightness during a supermoon. The databases contained no information on local weather or cloud cover (thereby potentially biasing estimates to the null).

Secondary analyses evaluated crash risks during daytime hours on the same dates (to check for a lack of an association where no association was anticipated). The daytime hours on the 494 full moon dates accounted for 1509 fatal crashes, equal to 3.05 per day. The daytime hours on the 988 control dates accounted for 3178 fatal crashes, equal to 3.22 per day. The absolute difference between daytime hours on full moon dates compared with control dates totalled 80 fewer people in fatal motorcycle crashes over the study interval.

A further analysis classified the 494 full moon nights as either a supermoon night or a full moon night, depending on whether alignment coincided with the time of closest orbital approach. Overall, 703 fatal crashes occurred on the 65 supermoon nights (with increased brightness and larger apparent size), equal to 10.82 per night, and 3791 on the 429 regular full moon nights, equal to 8.84 per night. Analyses yielded a relative risk during a supermoon compared with regular full moon of 1.22. Restricting analyses to the 65 supermoon nights and 130 corresponding control nights yielded a relative risk of 1.32. A further finding in our study was that the increased relative risk of a fatal motorcycle crash was accentuated under a supermoon. The absolute increased risk was substantial and amounted to about two additional deaths on a night with a supermoon. To the best of our knowledge, this increased risk has not been previously mentioned, even in myths around the supermoon. The observed correlation between a purely visual event and an increase in fatalities supports the theory that momentary distraction is a contributing mechanism. An alternative explanation is that a supermoon enhances the lighting of surrounding landscapes that may lead motorcyclists to misjudge distance and speed (analogous to the aerial perspective optical illusion experienced by aviators and mountaineers in sunlight).

In conclusion, the study suggests that extra care is needed when riding a motorcycle during a full moon. More broadly, the findings highlight the importance of constant attention when riding and could serve as a conversation starter for clinicians who care for patients who ride motorcycles (currently 8 million in America, including survivors of cancer). Standard safety recommendations to avoid a crash might include maximizing visibility, wearing protective clothing, and maintaining the vehicle in excellent condition. Additional strategies while riding might include wearing a helmet, activating headlights, scanning the road surface for defects, respecting the weather, being wary of left turning vehicles (right turning in the UK), obeying traffic laws, and forgoing stunts. Although a momentary distraction might be difficult to avoid, attention can be immediately redirected by a cognizant motorcyclist.

(Phew! Glad I don't have to deal with statistics for a living – so I left out a load of numbers!)

For Sale: Yamaha Zinger 60cc Quad Bike

**£300. Contact Arthur on
01642 897474**

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

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THE END GAME. Two women visiting an art exhibition in the USA were staring intently at a painting entitled "Home for Lunch." The painting was of three naked black men sitting on a park bench. What puzzled the women was that the men on either end of the bench had black penises, the man in the middle had a pink penis. Just then, the artist happened to walk by, so the women asked him for an explanation. "We don't understand the painting of the black men on the bench," they said. "Why does the man in the middle have a pink penis?" "Oh dear!" laughed the artist. "I'm afraid you have misinterpreted the picture. You see, the three men are not African Americans, they're coal miners, and the man in the middle went 'Home for Lunch.'"

An artist asked the gallery owner if there had been any interest in his paintings that were currently on display. "I've got good news and bad news," replied the gallery owner. "The good news is that a gentleman inquired about your work and wondered whether it would appreciate in value after your death. When I told him it would, he bought all fifteen of your paintings." "That's great!" exclaimed the artist. "So what's the bad news?" "The man was your doctor."

A new law has been passed in Alabama. When a couple divorce they are still brother and sister. A motorist was furious at getting a ticket for speeding. "What am I supposed to do with this?" he said to the policeman. "Keep it," said the officer. "When you collect four of them, you get a bicycle."

A single guy was getting irritated because his friends preferred to hang out with their new kids rather than with him. "Where's the loyalty?" he protested. "I've known you for twenty-five years. How long have you known your baby? A month."

A girl gave birth and told one of her ex-boyfriends that he was the father. He was not convinced. "You were seeing plenty of men behind my back. How do I know this baby is mine?" "He's got your characteristics," she said. Huh!" he scoffed. "Like what?" "He was premature."

There is worrying news from the Japanese financial markets. Following last week's disclosure that Origami Bank had folded, we hear that Sumo Bank has gone belly up and Bonsai Bank plans to cut back some of its branches. Meanwhile, shares in Kamikaze Bank were suspended after they nose-dived, 500 staff at Karate Bank got the chop and Karaoke Bank is up for sale and going for a song. Analysts also report there is something fishy going on at Sushi Bank, where it is feared that staff may get a raw deal. But Samurai Bank is soldiering on after sharp cutbacks.

Two ducks were on honeymoon in a posh hotel. Just as they were about to make love, the male duck said: "Damn, we haven't got any condoms! I'll ring down to room service." So he phoned room service and the woman there said: "Certainly, sir. Would you like them put on your bill?" "No," said the duck. "I'd suffocate."

A man and a woman were discussing the worst pain that anyone could possibly experience. The woman said, "Without doubt, there is nothing more painful in life than childbirth." "Nonsense," said the man, "a kick in the bollocks is much more painful. Ask any guy." "You're so wrong," maintained the woman. "Childbirth is far more painful." The man was not about to yield to her argument and announced, "I have proof that I am right." "What proof?" she asked scornfully. "Because," he continued, "a few years after giving birth a woman will say to her partner, 'Do you want to try for another baby?' But I have never, ever, ever heard a man say – even years later – 'You know what I'd really like?' "Another kick in the bollocks!"

I'll never forget the moment I saw my first grey pubic hair. It was on a kebab. And a quote from Joan Rivers: "It's not just breasts that drop as you get older. Vaginas drop too. I woke up eight years ago and asked myself why I was wearing a bunny slipper – and why it was grey."

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.