ScottishMotorcycleClub

BikeBytes

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July 2003

Volume 4 Issue 7

WELCOME

This month (on 13 July) sees our participation at the **BMF Kelso Bikefest**, the first-ever SMC exhibition Stand anywhere! There's more about this later on in this issue. We hope to attract quite a few new Members while we are there but we already have another new Member to welcome to the Scottish Motorcycle Club! He is **Steven Andreucetti** from **Penicuik** who rides a Honda CBR600 and who has already been on a couple of Runs with us.

Arthur Shepherd

NEXT MEETING

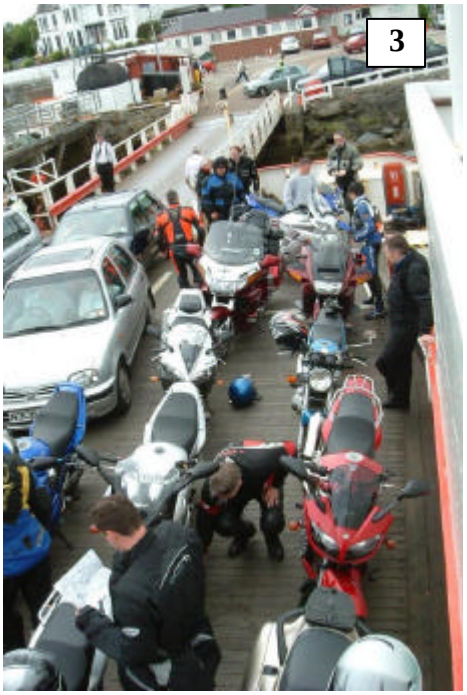
The next Club Night Meeting is on Wednesday 9 July 2003, upstairs in the Black Bitch Tavern, 14 West Port, Linlithgow, and will start at 8pm.

Arthur Shepherd

1, 2 – Bute novice ride
3 – Dunoon ferry on Hamish's run
4, 5 – Borders run by Arthur
6 – Colin's Chip Shop run @ St Andrews
7 - Saqib Chaudhry's naughty R1 plate















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BEST WISHES FROM AND TO JOHN MIDDLETON

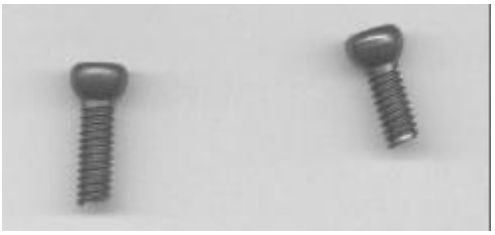
We received an e-mail from John Middleton on 2 July as follows:

Hi Art!

*John Middleton here. Just back out of hospital yesterday (01 07 03) and what a difference! These little b*****s were the cause of my left leg not working properly. Now that they are out, I can walk a lot better. They were broken and were rubbing on the two main tendons in my left leg. My left arm is still broken but I am having ultrasound treatment for that (the three screws at the bottom of the plate had stripped out of the bone).*

Anyway, enough about me. Hope the club does well at Kelso - just wish I was there. Give my best to the club and I hope to be riding as soon as this arm is better.
ride very safe.

Johnboy
johnnythegoose@aol.com
mymotorcycle
<http://hometown.aol.co.uk/JohnnyTheGoose/myhomepage/motorcycle.htm>



to which I replied as follows:

Johnny

A very big welcome home! That's a major step in your recovery and it must feel great! Now you can really make some progress. We all wish you a speedy and full recovery, and we are looking forward to seeing more of you again soon. Thanks for your good wishes for Kelso.

All the best. Arthur

Arthur Shepherd

BIKE PLEA

From the Edinburgh *Herald & Post* of 26 June 2003: Do you have an old motorbike you would like to donate to a worthy cause? RUTS volunteers group are working with vulnerable and disadvantaged young people building a custom bike to enter into the National Youthbike Competition in 2004. If you can help, please phone RUTS on 0131 663 5736.

Arthur Shepherd

OFF-ROAD TRIALS PARK

Also in the same issue of Edinburgh *Herald & Post* there was an advertisement from Xboost, "Scotland's Premier Trials Park". I have no personal knowledge of this place but perhaps you do or would like to find out for us. Here is an extract from what they say about themselves:

Situated 15 miles from Edinburgh and 19 miles from Glasgow. Instructed off-road trials park, motorcycles and all safety equipment supplied, corporate days, gift vouchers, evening courses. One-day off-road experience: we supply the bike/fuel, safety equipment, lunch. Dedicated training area. 140 acres of land to explore. 1000ft mountain. Expert instructors. +4.5 hours of actual ride time. Age 14 to 75 with or without bike experience. FWD vehicle on the hill with snacks and drink. Max 6 to a group and booking required. You can contact them on 07930 177 174, e-mail info@xboost.co.uk or visit their website www.xboost.co.uk.

If you check them out, could you let the rest of us know, please? Sounds like fun. Shall we go?

Arthur Shepherd

RESUSCITATION TRAINING – CPR

I have recently been on one of these short training courses – it only took about 40 minutes with lots of questions for three of us to go through the full process with a dummy and individual practice of mouth-to-mouth breathing and heart massage. More important I felt was the guidance on how to approach the incident as a whole and decide the actions necessary. The Nursing School at my work did the training, so they really know what they are doing, and they are prepared to offer the same training to members of the Club after I asked nicely.

The session has been arranged for **Tuesday 29 July** at the Canaan Lane part of Ashley Ainsley Hospital in Edinburgh, starting at 7 pm. I'll provide full directions and a map to everyone who wants to come – so get a useful skill for not much time.

Call 01506 842626 or email me at the address at the foot of the page – but please do it quickly so I can make the detailed arrangements.

Steve Middleton

MOBILE PHONES

On Lesley Riddoch's Radio Scotland programme last week, there was a discussion about the proposal to ban the use of handheld mobile phones while driving. A listener phoned in to protest against the proposal, claiming that he was a very busy person, has to drive and fly a lot often on the same day and, all the way driving home from the airport he chats to his wife on his handheld mobile ***in order to stay awake***. He argued (rather belligerently) that it was far better when he was very tired to be driving while holding a

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handheld mobile phone conversation than to fall asleep at the wheel!

I suppose the contributors in the studio were too taken aback by the aggressive bluster to respond properly but it wasn't too long before others phoned in to say "That man should not be driving if he is so tired that he thinks he needs a phone call to keep him awake. He is far ***less*** able to do both when he is tired."

Arthur Shepherd

RUNS AND EVENTS

Your Calendar of Events will have told you that we have three Runs (one evening and two Sunday) and one major Event this month. Below are new details for some Runs so please update your Calendar, diary, potting-shed notice board, etc or you may miss out! (The latest details are always available in the Members Area of our website and are frequently and promptly updated.)

Alex Clark's Friday evening **Borders Run** starts the month off nicely on 4 July.

Note that **Ursula Bowman's** Novice Run on 6 July is to **East Fife and Perthshire** and departs from **Kinross Services** at 10am. Remember that Novice Runs are open to all Members and they are just as much fun as any of the Runs - you'll have a good time!

Alex Rennie's Kirriemuir Wine Run on 20 July will have the added excitement of a competition with a star prize, open to all participants.

Alex writes: *"Hi All: Sunday 20 July will again be the "Bottle of Wine" run from Kinross to Kirriermuir and will be held over a different but similarly circuitous route to last year's. Guesstimations as to the actual mileage to be covered will be collected before departure and the winner will win the bottle. Come on, there is only a limited number of roads to choose from, so get these maps out before the day!"*

The **BMF Kelso Bikefest** takes place at Springwood Park, Kelso on Sunday 13 July and is open from 10am until 5pm. Admission is £5 (children under 15 accompanied by a paying adult get in free). Weekend Camping Tickets (camping Friday-Tuesday and including admission to the Bikefest on Sunday) for BMF Members (that includes all SMC Members - you ***must*** show your BMF Affiliated Membership Card) are £15 at the gate, or £13 pre-booked on 0116 254 0666 or at www.bmf.co.uk. Non-members pay £3 more (£18/£16). There will be live evening entertainment (ie loud bands - Yeah!) for campers on Friday and Saturday as well as a bar and restaurant. There will be arena displays (eg stunt riders, etc), helicopter rides, fun fair, trade stands, BMF Roadshow, MAC Rideouts on Saturday, etc.

The Springwood Park venue is the agricultural show ground down by the River Tweed between where the River Teviot joins it (a world-famous and expensive stretch of fishing) and John Rennie's famous old Kelso Bridge. (I took you past it coming back from *Old Art's KOSB Run to Berwick-upon-Tweed & Northumberland*!)

Our BMF Representative **David Jerome** has the organising of our Club Stand for the **Bikefest** under control. This will be our first SMC Stand (it is a small marquee with table and chairs) and we want to make a good impression to attract new members. Several Members are already helping but David is looking for more volunteers. We'll have flags, photographs, a couple of interesting and immaculate bikes on show, leaflets, flyers and an SMC banner (both organised by Alan Graham), etc and, of course, plenty of Membership Application Forms. Offers of help to staff the Stand on a rota basis to ensure there is always someone available to talk to interested enquirers, set up and clear up, would be very much appreciated. Don't worry, you won't be stuck on the Stand all day and you will get to see the Show. So please contact David (see the Contact List) or through me and I'll pass on your message. I and some other Members will be camping again this year from Friday.

Kelso has a website at http://www.kelso-online.co.ukhttp://www.kelso-online.co.uk.



It's not too early to remind you about **Stewart Bowman's North Perthshire Run** on Sunday 3 August which departs from **Kinross Services at 10am**.

From Friday to Sunday 8-10 August is the Guildtown Bluegrass Weekend.

Alex Rennie writes: *"The Bluegrass weekend on 8-10 August consists of numerous sessions in the Pub and on Camp Site, plus a concert on the Friday night [four bands] and a concert on the Saturday night [four bands]. An open mic session and*

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workshop is usually held on the Saturday and a gospel session on the Sunday [it's not Church, honest]. The weekend ticket covers Friday and Saturday concerts and Camp Site, if required. Tickets at £25 can be pre-booked from John or Jackie Sheldon (tel 01313355009 or e-mail john.sheldon@scottishbluegrass.com) and will sell out quickly so get your skates on. Concerts are held in Guildtown village hall where toilets etc are available or do "wot I have did" on occasions and gone into Perth for a swim and breakfast at the Pool - it's only 5-6 miles south on the A93. The danger is that shops are on tap for spouses, if you get my drift.

If any one wishes to take a run on Saturday or Sunday, I would be happy to make out a route to follow. Me? I just 'hang loose', as they say, round the camp site or pub and soak up the genre. Require more info? My telephone number is in the Club Contact List. Meals are available all day in the pub. Oh, by the way, if you decide to camp and it rains, you get wet and it has nothing to do with me! Be there or be square!"

More information is available at www.scottishbluegrass.com and I have a few leaflets which I will bring to the next Club Night Meeting.

If you would like to help on one of the runs, or if you can take an additional run, get in touch with **Jim Simpson** or **Alex Rennie** (or through me and I'll pass you on). Updates will appear throughout the year as usual, with details in **BikeBytes**

Arthur Shepherd

ALEX'S BORDERS RUN – SUNDAY 18 MAY

(with apologies to Alex Rennie for being so slow getting this done and missing the last BikeBytes)

The night before, trying to work out what time to get up on the Sunday morning – Dreghorn? Where on earth's that? Look it up and find a Dreghorn just outside Irvine, that can't be it. Have to resort to phoning Alex. Phew, only 60 miles away, not too bad.

On arrival we're handed the route for the day which gives us a smile as we're promised all sorts of goodies, you know the sort, potholes (don't have to go far to find those these days), sheep, gravel and ditches (to avoid landing in, not to jump over). Good, my favourite sort of run, no more boring M9.

So ten bikes and a pillion set off under threatening looking clouds down the A703 to Peebles, onto the B roads past Traquair, to the coffee stop at Tibbie Shiels on St Mary's Loch – good coffee, good cakes! As we're settling in and getting comfortable, the heavens open, making the thought of setting off again not quite so inviting.

But we do and it's not so bad and soon stops. Back onto the B709, that super road through Ettrick and Eskdalemuir and on to Langholm for a good pub lunch.

Suitably refreshed we make our way along some more sheep-strewn etc B roads up to Hawick and then back to the starting point via Selkirk and Gala.

That was a lovely run, thanks Alex, the company was good as usual, and thanks for the tea Arthur!

Judy Broad

BUTE NOVICE RUN – 16 June

Steve, I was tasked with writing up a note on the novice runs a few weeks ago ..... but I have no sense of direction! Please can you include one of the following in the next bike bytes. Thank you, Pauline

*I just **had** to include No 1 – a great trailer for the full thing – Ed.*

Effort no 1

Went oot on ma bike last weekend. Met up wi a few pals. Went for a run in the country and across a wee river on a big boat, not sure where we went but the sun was shining in ma een aw day. Got hame aboot 8. Bloody Knackered! Braw!!! P

or alternatively having obtained the route from Raymond..

Effort no. 2

Having taken part in my first SMC run I thought I'd drop off a wee resume of the day's journey for inclusion in the next edition of BikeBytes. Janet took some photo's (*and they are on page 1 – Ed.*).

Last Saturday, 14.06.03 I got my T-Cat out the garage and blasted up to Stirling services to meet up with Raymie and Ronnie - the 'outriders' for the day aboard (can hardly just say astride, can I?) their respective Goldwings. They were joined by Janet, George and Gordon McCreadie with his pillion Rachael - she'd travelled all the way from Australia to go on one of the runs! We headed off into the glorious sunshine for the days run out to Rothsay - we couldn't have asked for better weather. But then they do say it follows the righteous!!!!

Route taken was via Fintry, Killearn, Gartocharn, Balloch, Luss, Tarbet, Arrochar, Ardgarten then ferry from Rhubodach over to Port Bannatyne, Rothsay. Lunch at the local pub was excellent - soup that you really could stand a spoon up in - and of course chips for Raymie! We then indulged in a short sunbathe/sweat (anyone know where I can get zips fitted to instantly convert my leathers to shorts?) near the harbour. Just time for Raymie to get the ice-cream and for Ronnie to dribble it down his chin! Then we were off again. Did a tour of the Island

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before heading for the ferry to Wemyss Bay. Raymie left us there to head home via Greenock - mentioned something about a promise! The rest of us headed home via Largs & Irvine along the West Coast, i.e. along all the roads that Ronnie obviously knows very well vroooooooom! before he made us a little light refreshment at 'Palace d'Howitt' and presented Gogs with a membership application form (nothing like a hint to gain a new member) - then we all headed to our respective baths for the well earned Radox soak.

All in we travelled about 150 miles on the round trip! I've already mentioned the excellent weather. The scenery was second to none which was soaked up as we travelled along, stopping off to watch the seals at play near the island. On Rothsay there was a bike run (of the pedal variety) in aid of a heart charity with many participants who were wishing they too had an engine attached to their chassis'. At one of our 'photo opportunities' Raymie brought smiles to their faces with the rendition of Auld Lang Syne he blasted from the 'Wing's state-of-the-art, surround sound system as we left them in our wake.

This being a novice run, I found it an excellent opportunity to learn from those with experience. Speed wasn't at the expected snail's pace but there was no pressure to have to push on (at the expense of safety) to keep up with the 'big boys' which I've experienced on other (non SMC) runs. Ronnie doesn't miss a trick when he's watching the rear(s)! - and there being only a few of us, advice on how to improve our riding 'skills' was duly handed out - which us virgins on our first runs, new licences still wet from the printers, were grateful for.

As for Rachael, I think Bondi beach has faded into the distance and she's fell in love with good old bonny Scotland!

Thank you to Raymie and Ronnie for the time and effort in pre-planning the route, and I look forward to the next run.

Pauline Newton

COLIN'S CHIP SHOP RUN – Fri 13 June

I was to excel myself and get to the start of Hamish's run early (yellow jacket duty needs to be taken seriously!) but I nearly didn't meet at Kinross for Colin Stewart's run to St Andrews for chips and more. Legal I wasn't up the M9, but he wasn't sharp leaving and we were off around a good mixture of roads from single track gravel-centred 1-in-7 with added horses via cobbles and up to A roads. Along the south side of the Tay we approached Prince William's 'varsity town and supplied the chippie with a roaring trade and the town with a set of full litter bins. I have to admit I was riding a bit brain-off and since the roads were familiar I cannot remember any notable highlights, except Trace MacMillan practising her recent MAC lessons and reminding me what Roadcraft looks like in action. Just a very pleasant evening with good friends and some new faces plus the enjoyment of using a 'bike. It was all topped off when David Jerome decided he was late and towed me home to Linlithgow at high speed.

Steve Middleton

LOCH ECK & DUNOON FERRY – Sun 15 June

Hamish Davidson led a great run from Stirling eastwards via the bottom half of Loch Lomond and across to the first stop at Arrochar for coffee. While I revised the hotel's procedures and collected the coffee money for them, he phoned ahead the lunch order from the menu that had been circulated. We were 24 bodies on 22 bikes if I remember correctly.

The weather was fine but nothing to write home about, so I won't. Onwards and upwards over the Rest and Be Thankful (this name always brings flashbacks of my youth in London reading about the motor racing hillclimb event and being bemused by the name and mystified by the otherwise unknown location). We turned off left immediately before the speed trap on the A83 and headed down progressively narrower roads to the rural fisherman's hotel at Glendaruel They had not expected so many to arrive and our entry into the dining room , but not the bar or toilets, was delayed while extra places were laid.

The food was good and wholesome, company great and the service cheerful, including a barmaid from Oz – they get everywhere!. The hotel has seen a reduction in its trade recently due to reduced fish in the river, so perhaps we helped its prospects. I reckon we doubled the population of the village.

I had found out about cheap tickets for the ferry and set abut collecting the dues (I've got a single passenger ticket left over somewhere – any takers?) John Mallet volunteered to lead me to the precise shop to make the purchase, or perhaps to stop me making off with nearly £80 in my pocket!

The ferry bit went well with a flat calm and no dramas with the bikes or riders, but unloading broke us up a bit until some lane splitting and persuasive riding got us more or less reunited by the exit of the access road. A fuel stop gave the opportunity for local residents to start peeling off, and as Tail End Charlie I was grateful they made a point of warning me they would be leaving the group. Hamish led us East to the Erskine bridge and then towards Strathblane and

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on to the Fintry hills. Peter, Laurence and I got split and missed a turning (who didn't keep he bike behind in sight, then?) and spent the rest of the run playing catch-up without success. Luckily we knew most of the rest of the route to and along the Carron reservoir and continued straight home to the Linlithgow area.

So, that was my first experience of "Doon the watter" and a good one it was too. Many thanks Hamish (and pillion Barbara)

Steve Middleton

TROSSACHS EVENING RUN – Fri 20 June

Stirling saw us meet Jim Simpson for a cross-country meander to Carron Bridge and thence along my favourite road beside the Carron reservoir to Fintry. Onwards to Thornhill, Menteith and then Aberfoyle for a fish supper at the Blue Haddock – but it's closed and was later confirmed as shut permanently. The midges had been practicing and were out in full force and at top efficiency in the car park. I kept my helmet on until I got to the shops! No food was readily available, so we settled for teas and coffees at a bar.

Part two was accompanied by light drizzle so no heroics over the Queen Elizabeth park twisties and on to Kilmahog. Car drivers seemed to be very co-operative with providing room and consideration so there were plenty of "thank you" waves. The night finished up with a planning session for the Kelso show in the Stirling café after we had said our thank you's to Alex – well done.

Steve Middleton

BERWICK & NORTHUMBERLAND

After a week of great weather Sunday arrives, weather not so good. Twenty five bikes set of from Dreghorn for Duns with a slight mist in the air, by the time we got to Lammermuir hills we couldn't see much more than tail lights. Arthur says he took this route for the scenery, we will have to take his word for that. We arrived at Duns for a welcome tea or coffee. Next stop was Berwick where Arthur gave us a quick tour of KOSB Barracks/Ramparts (happy memories for Arthur) and then on to Etal for lunch. Over the next 30 miles or so to Kelso, taken at a good pace, was some great roads and scenery. After a quick stop for fuel at the one pump, one toilet garage (Alison panicking about the door not closing) we headed to Innerleithen, again great roads. Ice-cream break over we headed back to Dreghorn where Ronnie treated us to coffee (thank you). As this is only my second run with S.M.C. and I thoroughly enjoyed myself I would like to gave a big thanks to everyone, especially Arthur, who work hard to make these days possible.

Stevie Andreucetti

BERWICK-UPON-TWEED & NORTHUMBERLAND – SUNDAY 29TH JUNE 2003

It was with one hand twisted up my back and an ice-cream down my throat that Steve Middleton gently persuaded me to write a short composition of my experience on the run to Berwick-upon-Tweed.

This was my third run since joining the club earlier in the year, the others being the 'Discovery Dundee' and 'Dunoon Ferry' runs, which I thoroughly enjoyed. Work commitments and a young family have limited the number of runs available to me this year but with all the necessary arrangements in place, I was really looking forward to this one.

After topping up on fuel, collecting our maps and listening to some useful advice from Arthur on the possible perils ahead (sheep, bumps and gravel), we set off in earnest from Dreghorn services. I counted twenty-four bikes in total and with the colourful array of machinery on display looking resplendent we made our way out of Edinburgh, passing through Dalkeith, Pencaitland and Gifford before heading for the Lammermuir Hills.

According to Arthur, this part of the journey is very pleasant with magnificent scenery. Unfortunately, the mist had descended on us making visibility poor and was punctuated only by the odd sheep at the side of the road (I am positive I saw one sniggering at me). This stage of the run was particularly harrowing for me as I was having problems clearing my visor. No amount of glove wiping was working so I decided to open my visor. This made vision slightly better but before I could congratulate myself too much, a fly or other similar cretinous beastie decided to use my eye for target practice. With a few choice words the visor was snapped shut again only to find that things were now twice as bad because there was now water on the inside! To say I was glad to get to the White Swan in Duns for tea/coffee was an understatement.

Suitably refreshed and with the weather much improved, we headed for Berwick-upon-Tweed, where it was time for a short break and a chance to look around the KOSB (King's Own Scottish Borderers) barracks and ramparts. This was also an ideal time for some group photos. Just then an anonymous informer whispered in my ear that Arthur had actually served in the KOSB……during the 1st World War!!

Upon leaving Berwick things went a bit "Pete Tong" and the group was split up for a while. Luckily it was

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not far to the next stop and everyone made it safely to the Black Bull in Etal for lunch.

At 14:00 hours, with bellies full it was off again towards Kelso. This particular section was twisty, the road surface slippery with gravel and very bumpy in parts. The fact that I had not gone to the toilet during lunch was being highlighted with every bump in the road. There were several occasions when I thought I would have to pull over and find a bush. It was only the greater fear of getting completely lost that kept me going to the next scheduled stop. This very welcome interlude was a petrol station in St. Bothwells and judging by the frenzied dumping of bikes and sprinting to the toilet, it seemed I was not the only one with a full bladder.

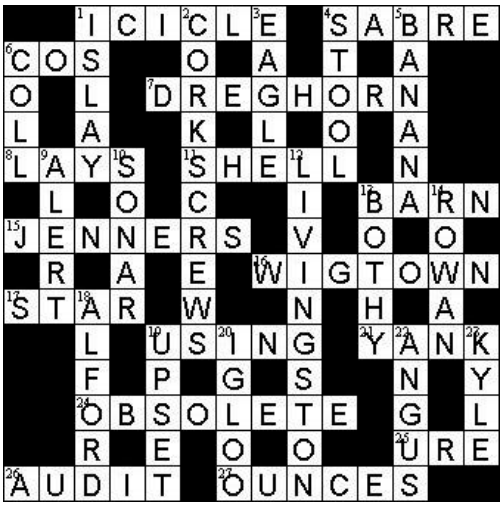
Feeling relieved (in every sense) and raring to go we headed off again this time on a twisty section that was fast with good roads. Forty one fun miles later we arrived in Innerleithen for an ice-cream and I was captured to write this article.

An excellent final blast took us through some wonderful scenery on the B709/B7007 finally arriving back at Dreghorn at 1710 hours exactly……How's that for timing!!(That's the military precision coming out in Arthur)

Thanks to Ronnie Howat for treating the remaining stragglers to coffee before going our separate ways home and an extra big shout to Arthur for a organising a fine run.

Fraser Simpson

Here is the solution to June's Prize Crossword Puzzle.



The May Prize Crossword Puzzle attracted twelve entries, all of which were correct. The lucky prize-winner (drawn at random from the correct entries at the Club Night Meeting in June) was **Jim McKechnie**.

Arthur Shepherd

600 TROUBLES

600 cc 'bikes seem to have been having their problems in the Club this season.

First casualty was **Saqib Chaudhry's** pristine and nicely up-spec'-ed Yamaha R6 that fell victim to some low-life who bundled it into the back of a van and severly damaged the bodywork. It was found by the police but so damaged that it was a write-off. Club members found out the story at the Fort William weekend when he turned up on a loan Fazer 600 from Carrick's, paid for by the insurance. His replacement leaves a big grin whenever you ask him about it - the R1 pictured on page 1 – and that plate number only cost him the basic personalised registration mark fee!

Second is **Peter Cook** who got taken out by a U-turner in Edinburgh and had his Kawasaki ZX6R comprehensively ground across the road wrecking the front wheel and possibly a crankcase too. Detailed results are awaited, but Peter has taken the hack Suzuki GS500 twin out of storage and has kept up with us in fine style on several runs so far.



He seems to have recovered from the bang to his leg and ankle from contact with the car's right front wing. The driver was seriously traumatised by the experience, and Peter has the support of a biker witness who was (car-)driving in the opposite direction. Apparently he was the only person to stop and help – cars were picking their way around the fallen bike, no-one stopping to help – what a society we are becoming!

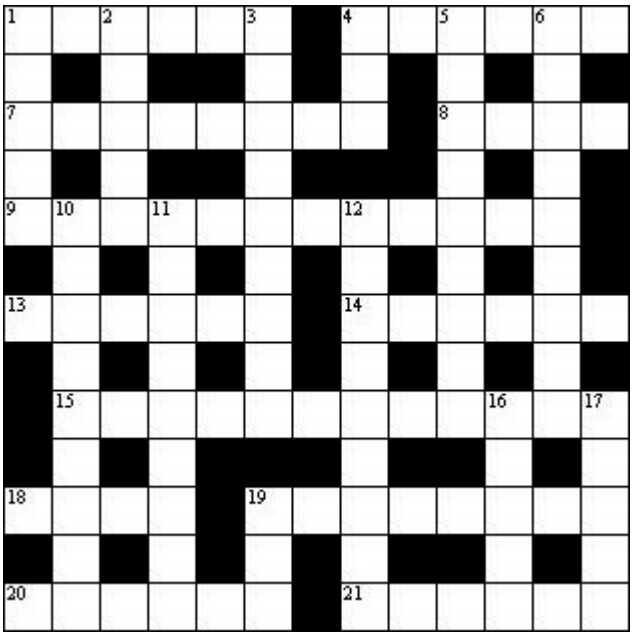
Ed: - Steve

THANKS from Ed Steve

- to the many correspondents for this issue, and to Janet Moss who provided three of the page 1 pix. I am being successful in getting new members to report on runs – how about the rest of you?

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July prize crossword puzzle



You will find references to several favourite places in Scotland in the answers to this month's clues, along with quite a few other bits and bobs! Sue

Across

1. John o' the NE probably had plenty of these old coins (6)
4. Deep waters (6)
7. Outer protective cover for footwear (8)
8. International Motorcycle Riders Federation (4)
9. Area of Scotland centred around Loch Katrine (3,9)
13. A sea loch, an arm of the Sound of Arisaig. A village of the same name stands at the head of the loch, and on the A830 between Genfinnan and Mallaig (6)
14. Unsettled, as in bills (6)
15. The Dandy's cow-pie loving he-man (9,3)
18. Beautiful Scottish glen to the north of Loch Tay, entered via Aberfeldy (4)
19. The practice of operating aircraft (8)
20. Aberdeenshire castle, just a few miles SSW of Inverurie (6)
21. A minor setback (6)

Down

1. An apparition or spectre (5)
2. Overweight (5)
3. Academic neckwear (6,3)
4. Major Scottish river flowing passed Balmoral (3)
5. A fundamental truth or law (9)
6. Japanese city devastated by the A bomb (9)
10. A hairdresser's tool (9)
11. Tens of hundreds (9)
12. Making a noise like a door which needs oiling, or a frightened mouse (9)
16. Allow the current to take a vessel without steering (5)
17. Following the eighth (5)
19. Scottish west coast town near to Prestwick Airport (3)

Write your name here: ……

Send the completed puzzle before the end of the month for entry into the £10 prize draw to:

Arthur Shepherd, 41 The Gallolee, Colinton, Edinburgh EH13 9QL

Scottish Motorcycle Club
Minutes of Meeting held 14 May 2003, Black Bitch Tavern, Linlithgow

In the Chair: Arthur Shepherd

1. Apologies: Ronnie and Mari Howat, Alan Hopper ,Stewart and Ursula Bowman, Tom Barker, John Mallet , Pauline Newton,Ray Sinclair, Bob Crawley, ,Hamish Davidson, Barbara Reid, Jim Semple, Margaret Bennie, Danny Creasey,

2. Minutes of previous meeting circulated with May's BikeBytes were approved. Matters arising: None.

3. Finance (Alan Graham) Current balance is £1300.00.

4. Membership (Arthur Shepherd) Currently 103 members.
A new Contact List and Calendar of Events have been issued with the last BikeBytes.
Arthur was pleased to announce that Ursula Rouse and Stewart Bowman were married on 12 April (the first wedding between Members who met through the Scottish Motorcycle Club), and that Eileen Sharp and Brian Wilson wed on 3 May. Everyone gave their congratulations and best wishes to all four Members. 'On-Honeymoon' postcards had been received from both happy couples, which were circulated and had been put in the Members Area of the SMC website.

5. Events (Jim Simpson with Alex Rennie)
Past: Trips to Dundee, Holland, and Crieff and the Trossachs have taken place, as well as the first Novice Run. Ronnie passed on his thanks to Bob Crawley for organising the Carvery run.
Ride-outs/events taking place before the next meeting: St Mary's Loch (first Thursday Run), Borders, Novice Run, free dyno test and barbeque at Autotrans in Linlithgow Bridge (entry form issued with last edition of BikeBytes), Glen Lyon.
Future: August's Ardnamurchan Weekend, Stewart Bowman requires booking forms by the end of June. Scottish Classic Motorcycle Club's Strathmore Stroll on 22 June. Arthur has details and entry form.

6. BikeBytes Editor (Steve Middleton)
Any pictures or articles should be forwarded to Steve Middleton.

7. Merchandise (Steve Middleton)
Steve Middleton has the catalogue if anyone would like to order club merchandise.

8. Website (Arthur Shepherd)
Last month there have been 186 hits to public area and 283 to the members. Newflashes and further pictures have been added.

9. BMF (David Jerome) Forthcoming events:
- M6 tollroad protest about the intended £2 charge for motorcycles.
- 13/7 - Kelso. A 6 metre space has now been booked. It was agreed by the members present that £75 would be paid for the hiring of a marquee and furniture. Ideas for the stand include a banner (D Jerome to speak to R Howat), photographs of Runs etc, merchandise, previous editions of BikeBytes, bikes for display (Jerry Dawe offered his Ducati Multistrada), flyers. Assistance for running the stand would also be required. Camping is available from Friday, the rally includes live bands and a MAC ride-out on the Saturday.

10. MAG Nothing to report

11. Raffle
Arthur thanked Neil Stewart who had kindly donated a one-day MAC course to the club which is being raffled to all Members at £1 per ticket. Depending upon the number of tickets sold, it may be possible for the SMC to extend the prize to a two-day course. The winner will be drawn at the next meeting.

12. Crossword
Arthur reported that 12 entries (all correct) had been received for the April Prize Crossword Puzzle and the winning entry was selected at random as usual - Alan Hopper is this month's winner.

13. Hi-Viz vests
Arthur reported that the latest news regarding these is that they should arrive in the next few days.

14. Next Meeting Wednesday 11/6/2003 at 8pm, Black Bitch Tavern, Linlithgow.

Katharine Jackson 9 June 2003