Scottish Motorcycle Club

BikeBytes

BBytes0502.doc / .pdf

February 2005

Volume 6 Issue 2

WELCOME

I saw snowdrops here in Colinton a few weeks ago, and now I see daffodils in flower and buds budding as well, all heralding better biking conditions. Lots to look forward to and not so long to wait for our first Runs (see below).

It is now five years since I started the Scottish Motorcycle Club! I did most of the planning and preparation in January 2000, became its first (and only) Member on 8 February and held the Inaugural Meeting on 9 February 2000 when others were invited to join. So, the Scottish Motorcycle Club will be five years old at the next Club Night Meeting on **9 February 2005** and we shall have a **Fifth Anniversary Cake**, tea and coffee with which to celebrate it!

A fitting time, then (many will say long overdue) for me to announce my intention of stepping down from the Committee at the AGM to leave the running of the SMC in the very capable hands of the rest of you. Fresh attitudes, new ideas and younger minds are what we need! I will, of course, continue supporting the SMC and joining in all the fun, and would be available to help if asked.

Subscriptions are due for renewal at the end of March and Renewal Forms will be sent out in March after the AGM. The current total membership remains at 137.

Arthur Shepherd



Another shiny big red bike – but what *is* that green stuff, eh David?

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

You should have received the formal Notice of the AGM to be held on Wednesday 9 March 2005. Suggestions for Agenda topics and Nominations for Committee Members need to be with me by the Club Night Meeting on 9 February. A simple Nomination Form is available from me but you can make up your own as long as it shows the *Post*, and the *names* and *signatures* of the *Nominee, Proposer* and *Seconder*. Obviously, all must be current Members. One or two folk have already asked about the Committee but Nominations for *all* posts are welcome and we particularly invite nominations for Membership Secretary, as I intend to hand over at the AGM, and for Meetings Secretary and WebMaster, as Katharine and Stewart respectively are not offering themselves for re-election this year due to work commitments.

The Committee Posts are: Chairperson, Editor, Events Co-ordinator, Meetings Secretary, Membership Secretary, Treasurer, and WebMaster. In addition, there are currently two Committee Members without Portfolio, at least one of whom is not offering himself for re-election. If you would like to discuss any of these posts, have any questions, or need more information, please contact me.

Outwith the Committee, there is also a BMF Representative (presently David Jerome).

If you can't attend the AGM but would like your vote to be counted, send in the Proxy Form which is attached to the AGM Notice. Thanks if you already have done.

Arthur Shepherd



John Mallet's new P&J See story inside

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NEWS OF MEMBERS

Fraser Simpson (HD Electra Glide) from Bo'ness is **not** in Bo'ness! Or at least he wasn't when he sent the following e-mail:

> *Arthur, I am reading this in Melbourne. The temp is 37 deg and I have just returned a Harley after doing the great ocean road trip, which was excellent. We also visited ARTHUR's Seat and have the photos to prove it. See you all too soon.*
> ***Fraser***

to which I replied:

> *Fraser*
> *Fantastic! Thanks for taking the trouble to e-mail me (show-off!). Fiona and I will be in Melbourne in one year from now! And I'll let her climb my Seat! Didn't they have a decent bike such as a Deauville for you to hire?*
> *Ride well, ride safely, have fun!*
> ***Arthur***

John Mallet has bought a Pan European and you can read John's story about his detailed research and experiences elsewhere in this issue.

You may remember reading last year about the French Holiday House that Eileen and Brian Wilson have available for rent. They've been doing a lot of work on it and it's looking really good. I have a poster with a photograph that I can show you but here are the essentials. It's a 500-year old Wine-Press House in Cabrières, Hérault in the South of France, 50 minutes from Montpellier Airport with cheap flights by Ryanair and EasyJet. It's 35 minutes from the Mediterranean and sleeps six. Prices from £375 per week with linen supplied. For details, contact Eileen or Brian on 0131 660 4072 or eileenshrp@aol.com or me. Maybe we should do an SMC holiday tour there. Any offers?

Arthur Shepherd

INSURANCE

As you may remember, Members receive a discount on insurance policies taken out through Carole Nash by phoning 0800 083 4422 and quoting our exclusive reference number 1882.

However, in the post today I received a letter from Kwik-Fit Insurance saying that they have started offering bike insurance, including free breakdown recovery, free legal expenses, free European cover for up to 30 days, as does Carole Nash. You could check their motorcycle insurance prices on 0870 055 7182. At least with Kwik-Fit you usually get to speak to someone you can understand and who understands you because they are Scots!

While you're at it (as they say), as a BMF Member you also qualify for exclusive discounts on insurance through Bennetts (you know, the firm with the very impressive Lucy Pinder ads!). You can phone them for a quotation on 0800 072 5943 but you are unlikely to be put through to Lucy.

Membership of the BMF (we are all Associate Members via the Scottish Motorcycle Club) brings extra discounts and benefits. Check out the latest in their Motorcycle Rider magazine, copies of which are on display at Club Night Meetings, or ask me or David Jerome for details, or visit www.bmf.co.uk. A recent addition is Superfast Ferries (see below).

Arthur Shepherd

SUPERFAST FERRIES

Superfast Ferries' 2005 preview brochure is just out and there is a special offer for early bookings for travel by 15 March between Rosyth and Zeebrugge. Book two passengers and a cabin by 28 February and your vehicle (the letter said 'car' but I phoned them and they confirmed that the offer applies to motorcycles too) goes half price. The Reservations Hotline is on 0870 234 0870.

Too soon? BMF Members get 15% off low-season fares or 10% off 17 May - 27 June and 8 September - 31 October by phoning 020 7431 4560, quoting BMF account number 45951 and your BMF membership number.

You can reach Superfast Ferries in Rosyth on 0870 234 2211, or e-mail info.scotland@superfast.com, or on their website at www.superfast.com.

Arthur Shepherd

RUNS AND EVENTS

The 2005 Calendar of Events is taking shape (see the Members Area of the SMC website at http://www.scottishmotorcycleclub.org.uk/rannoch/events2005.htm for the latest version) with several Members volunteering to organise visits, nights out, weekends away, exhibitions as well as runs. If you would like to organise a run or event, or at least to help doing so, please do contact **Janet and John Moss** (they are in the Contact List on 01506 671 396 or: john.moss@sun.com) or **Gordon Macmillan** (01506 495 256 or events@scottishmotorcycleclub.org.uk) or me and I'll pass you on. Don't wait to be asked - there are still lots of Sunday slots to fill! A listing of events arranged so far as at 4th Feb. is included with this BikeBytes.

If you are going to **David Jerome's** evening meal at **Maxies Bistro and Wine Bar**, 5b Johnstone Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2PW (Tel 0131 226 7770) on **Wednesday 16 February**, then you should already have booked! If you haven't booked but now find yourself able to go, ask David if there are any places left by contacting him at home on 01506 464 122 or e-mail chair@scottishmotorcycleclub.org.uk Further details, including menus, can be seen at http://www.maxies.co.uk

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Scottish Motorcycle Club Events Diary

Updated 2 February 2005

Date: 2005	Destination / Meeting Point	Organiser
Wednesday 12 January	**Club Night** Black Bitch Tavern, Linlithgow 8pm	
Wednesday 9 February	**Club AGM** Black Bitch Tavern, Linlithgow 8pm	
Wednesday 16 February	**Evening Meal** **8pm** Maxies Bistro and Wine Bar, 5b Johnstone Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2PW Booking Essential	**David Jerome**
Wednesday 9 March	**Club Night** Black Bitch Tavern, Linlithgow 8pm	
Sat. 12 - Sunday 13 March	***Scottish Motorcycle Show*** Ingliston, Edinburgh 9am-5pm	***(Not an SMC Event)***
Sunday 13 March	**Scottish Motorcycle Show** Meet at the Honda stand 1pm for a chat	**David Jerome**
Sunday 27 March	**Easter Sunday**	**tba**
Wednesday 13 April	**Club Night** Black Bitch Tavern, Linlithgow 8pm	
Friday 15 - Sunday 17 April	**Yorkshire Dales and Lakeland Weekend Tour** Booking essential	**Bob Crawley**
Wednesday 11 May	**Club Night** Black Bitch Tavern, Linlithgow 8pm	
Sat. 21 - Sunday 22 May	***BMF Show*** Peterborough PE2 6XE, Englandshire	***(BMF Event)***
Sunday 29 May	**Campbeltown** **Livingston Services 10am** **Ducati, Great Western Road, Glasgow 10:45am**	**David Jerome**
Thursday 2 - Friday 3 June	***ACU/BMF National Rally***	***(BMF Event)***
Wednesday 8 June	**Club Night** Black Bitch Tavern, Linlithgow 8pm	
Sunday 19 June	**Fathers' Day run to Dumfries & Galloway**	**Janet & John Moss**
Friday 1 July	**East Lothian Evening Run** **Dreghorn Services, Edinburgh 7pm**	**David Jerome**
Wednesday 13 July	**Club Night** Black Bitch Tavern, Linlithgow 8pm	
Sunday 17 July	***BMF Bikefest*** Springwood Park, Kelso TD5 8LS Show open Sunday 10am-5pm. Camping from 2pm Friday to 5pm Tuesday.	***Arthur Shepherd (BMF Event)***
Wednesday 10 August	**Club Night** Black Bitch Tavern, Linlithgow 8pm	
Sunday 4 September	**Prestwick A70 Lunch Run** **Livingston Services 11am**	**David Jerome**
Wednesday 14 September	**Club Night** Black Bitch Tavern, Linlithgow 8pm	
Wednesday 12 October	**Club Night** Black Bitch Tavern, Linlithgow 8pm	
Wednesday 9 November	**Club Night** Black Bitch Tavern, Linlithgow 8pm	
Thurs 17 - Sunday 20 November	**Milan Bike Show**	**Alan Hopper**
Wednesday 14 December	**Club Night** Black Bitch Tavern, Linlithgow 8pm	
Sunday 4 September	**Prestwick A70 Lunch Run** **Livingston Services 11am**	**David Jerome**
Wednesday 14 September	**Club Night** Black Bitch Tavern, Linlithgow 8pm	
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The **Scottish Motorcycle Show** at Ingliston, Edinburgh is on **12 & 13 March** and **David Jerome** has organised a **Meet-up and Chat** on the Honda Stand at 1pm on the Sunday.

Bob Crawley's Yorkshire Dales and Lakeland Weekend Tour on **15-17 April** is fully-booked but you may be able to get a cancellation if you contact him.

After the **BMF Show** at Peterborough, **David Jerome** has organised a **Run to Campbeltown** on **Sunday 29 May**.

After the **ACU/BMF National Rally**, **Janet and John Moss** are going to lead us on a **Fathers Day Run to Dumfries and Galloway** on **Sunday 19 June**.

And that's probably enough for you to be going on with, although can I mention the **BMF Kelso Bikefest** in beautiful Kelso on **17 July**, with camping available on-site from Friday until Tuesday 15-19 July? Bring your tent and let's have a party - and get in free ***and*** earn a valuable discount for SMC by marshalling! If you would like to know more, please contact me.

But don't imagine that's all there already is in the Calendar of Events for 2005: East Lothian in July, Prestwick in September; Milan in November, ...

Arthur Shepherd

NEXT MEETING

The next **Club Night Meeting** is our **Fifth Anniversary Celebration** with a Birthday Cake, tea and coffee on Wednesday 9 February 2005 in the Black Bitch Tavern, 14 West Port, Linlithgow, and will start at 8pm. It is also the last meeting before the AGM, and therefore the day by which nominations and proposals have to be in.

Arthur Shepherd

FOR SALE – TWO BIKES ON FIVE WHEELS

1. TRIKE – 900 Diversion conversion

1999 T reg. Mitsubishi Blue
Bespoke subframe, Panda 4 x 4 rear axle, Mazda wheels, new Firestone Firehawk tyres.
The required SVA test has been passed. *(This trike looked well at the BMF Kelso bash – Ed steve)*

Sensible offers around £3,850

Also available: the complete rear end of the Divvi as removed for the conversion. £offers

2. KYMCO ZING 125 learner Burgundy red

New tyres and battery, nearly 100mpg, 12,000Km, T reg. £800 ono

Contact, Waterlea Cottage, Kilmacolm Road, Houston, PA6 7HJ

George Cruden

MILAN SHOW – NOW 15-20 NOVEMBER

I understand that the date of the Milan show has been moved from September to 15-20 November.

I would like to offer a club weekend around these dates subject to getting flights and accommodation sorted. The plan would probably be to go out from Prestwick to Bergamo on the Thursday, 17 November, do the show and/or look around Milan on the Friday, take a day around the lakes (probably Como) on the Saturday, returning home on the Sunday. Could I ask for provisional interest to be sent to me either by e mail, hopper@buzzoff.freeserve.co.uk, phone (07860 506188/0141 639 7900) or my home address (4 Mearnscroft Gardens, Newton Mearns, G77 5QG). Accommodation will be in a middle range hotel somewhere probably not in Milan itself but well served by train/bus connection for both Milan and the lakes. I will work on this when I am over there at the end of this month so more detail, prices etc for the following BikeBytes. I would like however to get a feel for numbers just as soon as possible. Thanks.

Alan Hopper

FOR SALE –TWO ITEMS OF SOFT LUGGAGE

1. throw over Oxford lifetime panniers only used twice and an

2. Oxford 3 in 1 magnetic tank bag, converts to rucksack.

New bike forces sale (see below)

contact 0777 617 8761 or at the Club meeting.

John Mallet

A PAN ON A BIG BEAR'S BUDGET

Well this has been a real eye opener. The amount of good used Honda Pan Europeans in the market place at this time. I started my search in early December from as far South as Penrith to as far north as Dundee. I checked every Pan for service history, exhausts & collector box (a known weak point on the Pan and expensive to replace). Do I want ABS+TCP (traction control)? I decided not as in the main I'm a fair weather biker and more importantly it's only something else to go wrong.

So the criteria reached and after offering my 51-plate bandit with 17,000 miles (oh, that's high according to dealers; does nobody ride bikes now??) I was offered anywhere from £1900 to £2500 against a variety of Pans.

I was almost tempted at Dundee BMW - a trade sale £2500 to change to W reg 28,000 miles 3 owners from new ABS/TCP - but no warranty, a dodgy collector box (£350) to replace before next MOT.

Down to Perth & Sandy Bloy: not one but three: M reg 35,000miles £4300, W reg 64,000miles £5300, Y

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reg 10,000 miles £6300, the last being a beaut. but outside my price range.

Edinburgh 2 Wheels had a couple of nice ones, in particular a T reg 23,000miles 2 owners £5450 but by the time I messed about looking around and went back it was sold.

Glasgow Victor Devine – I won't bore you

Glasgow Motorad BINGO: Burgundy T reg 14,000 miles, 1 owner, FSH, 3 months warranty and a good price to trade in. Job done: as of Feb 1st it's on the road.

YEAR	MILES	COLOUR	FSH?	PRICE	WHERE	£ toCHANGE
93J	30000	GREEN	YES	4200	RIDE ON	
94L	43000	RED	NO	4300	FALKIRK	
95N	23000	BLUE	YES	4300	TOM CONWAY	2000
96N	12000	BLACK	YES	4200	MOTO UNIVERSE	2000
97P	22000	RED	YES	5500	RIDE ON	3300
98T	28000	RED	YES	5495	RENFREW	3200
98T	26000	GREEN	YES	4999	CHORLEY	2800
98T	23000	GREEN	YES	4995	2WHEELS	2800
99V	39000	BLUE	YES	5295	CUSWORTH DON	3000
99V	62000	B/WHITE	YES	4795	HIGHMAN	2500
00W	52000	BLACK	X POLICE	5899	DUFFUS	3300
00W	27000	GREEN	YES	5700	MOTORAD	3500
00W	26000	BLUE	YES	5000	DUNDEE	2500
00X	24000	RED	YES	5899	2 WHEELS	3300
01Y	10000	BLUE	YES	6300	BLOY PERTH	3800
51reg	15000	RED	YES	7999	DK	5300
51reg	13000	RED	YES	6595	PENRITH	4000

Well I've got the bike, the gods were smiling on me: a dry day, sun shining so we went off for a run back home, couldn't resist a blast down the motorway to Stirling though. WOOW you could lose your licence easy on this thing just accelerated up the slip road. Got it on the straight and narrow, checked the Speedo: 110mph yeeeeees this will do me nicely.

Hope to see you all on the first run and I can do a bit of showing off.

John Mallet

So, that's two John M's on Burgundy Pans. Just make sure you get on the back of the right one, Janet! (Moss)



NEWS OF FORMER MEMBERS – APRILIA FALCO

From: Neil and Jo *(in Australia, Ed)*
To: Scottish Motorcycle Club
Sent: Monday, January 17, 2005 11:30 AM
Subject: from down under

Hello to everyone. Hope you all had a great xmas and a very happy new year. We had lovely weather here it was 27 degrees and sunny. Not like the lovely snow and stuff you guys get though.
We have been very busy with my business. Will email all of you individually real soon.
Ta Ta for now
Thinking of you all.

Jo and Neil

POT HOLES - DON'T IGNORE THEM, REPORT THEM SAY BMF

'Report-A-Road' is the name of a new web-based facility set up by the British Motorcyclists Federation to address the problem of badly maintained road surfaces.

Although motorcycles and scooters cause less damage to roads than any other motorised vehicle, they are more susceptible to defective road surfaces but, until now, say the 120,000 strong BMF, it has not always been easy to find the right people to report a road defect to.

Now, using data based on county, local, and unitary authorities responsible for road repairs and street lighting, the BMF's new **Report-A-Road** facility brings all these authorities together in an alphabetically indexed list of counties for the whole of the UK. By clicking on the appropriate link and sending an email, the fault details are now automatically sent to the right person.

Badly maintained roads resulting in worn out surfaces, potholes, sunken drains, manhole covers and the use of overbanding etc. are often seen to be a contributory factor in motorcycle and scooter accidents say the BMF, but with properly maintained roads, the rider spends less time checking the road surface for hazards and more time anticipating potential dangers from other road users.

Commenting on the launch of Report-A-Road, BMF Chairman Leon Mannings said:

"We all moan about the state of the roads but not many of us bother to report defects because it's seen as too much hassle. Now there's no excuse, note it, log on and report it, it's as easy as that!"

The Report-A-Road facility is easy to use by sending either a simple email or using one of the downloadable forms used by some authorities. Both methods are accessible via Report-A-Road which can be found at http://www.bmf.co.uk/report-a-road/index.html

This issue
Te

Stop press – these prices go with the regalia information on the next page – I couldn't squeeze it in anywhere else! - *Steve*

SCOTTISH MOTORCYCLE SHOW,

Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 March, Royal Highland Showground, Edinburgh, 9 am - 5 pm.

More than 20,000 motor bike fans, the thrill-seeking and the merely curious are expected to attend the annual highlight of the country's motorcycle industry.

A great day out for all the family with a host of attractions including stunt displays, bike demos, minimotos, junior quads, Xtreme trials, rider training for adults and children, funfair, helicopter flights, photo competition, simulator, 'try and ride', supermotos, and go-karting.

For the first time in the event's 28 year history there will be a third exhibition hall, with dealers from throughout the UK showing off the latest machines and equipment.

Entry £13 at the gate, £12 in advance (£20 for the weekend), children under 15 free with a paying adult.

You can also find information (a bit sparse at present but far better than this time last year when they were still showing the previous year's!) on their website at http://www.motorcyclenews.com/nav?page=motorcyclenews.articles.articleCategory.article&resourceId=1281259&articleCategory=MCN-EXTRA_MCN-SCOTTISH-MOTORCYCLE-SHOW -
but watch you don't click on the MCN Girls from FHM by mistake!

Arthur Shepherd

WINTER UPDATE – DAVID J. HAS BEEN BUSY

Some of you are maybe aware that I sold my trusty Yamaha GTS last September, only to immediately regret the sale and travel down to Oxford the following week to buy a tatty French import to do up. Progress has been slow in the Jerome garage, but the new bike is nearly ready with a new set of red panels replacing the dull Yamaha green.

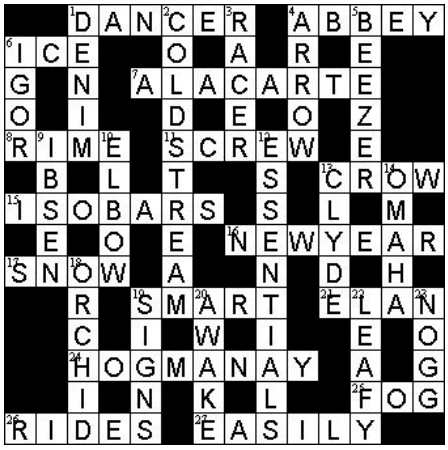
I have fitted a new screen, new rear shock and greased the swing arm linkages, sourced a set of original panniers and put on a Givi Monorack and a set of heated grips (thanks to Steve M about the tip of much cheapness from Halfords) for the winter. A Baglux tank cover is on its way from eBay.

Santa was good to me and a 50-litre air compressor arrived. It's great to wash the bike and then use the compressed air to drive off the water. For anyone working on a cold garage floor I can recommend comfort matting called "Anti-fatigue" flooring from Costco at about £8 for 6 large tiles that interlock.

The new season is nearly with us, and I'm really looking forward to some great runs this year. Maybe I will even get time to complete my IAM training.

David Jerome

HERE IS THE SOLUTION TO JANUARY'S PRIZE CROSSWORD PUZZLE



The December Prize Crossword Puzzle attracted seven entries, all of which were complete and correct.
The lucky prize-winner (drawn at random at the Club Night Meeting in January) was **John Branney**.

Arthur Shepherd

CLUB REGALIA WITH EMBROIDERED LOGO

Here is a selection from the items available with the very attractive Club logo. They are all quality products with a logo about 8cm x 6cm. Contact Steve Middleton (details at bottom of page) for orders and availability, or at a Club night where the full catalogue can be seen.



Clothing logo



Hat & basic logo

I plan to put the full catalogue and prices on the website. *Steve*





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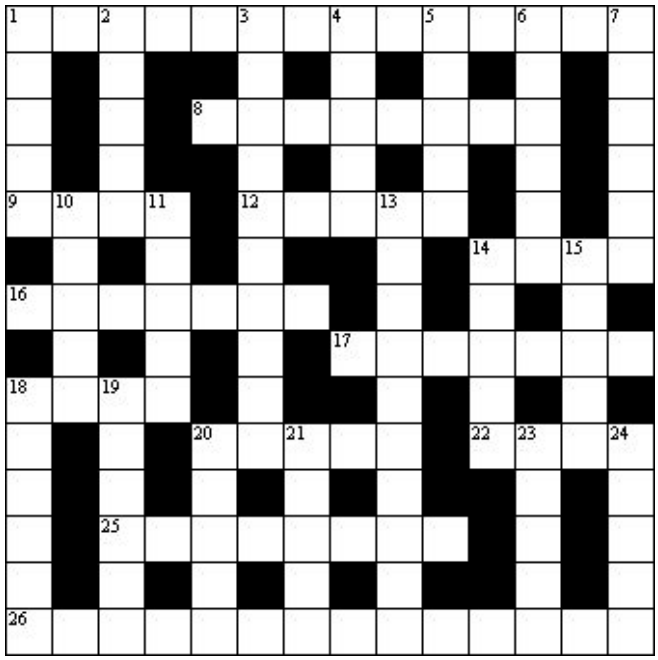
February prize crossword



Crossword and Clues compiled by Arthur Shepherd.
Love is in the air in this month's Crossword - in fact it's all about love, sex and bikes! Is there anything else? Happy St Valentine's Day and good luck (with the Crossword, I mean)! Old Fine Art

Across

1 The Doctor, born close to 14 Feb 79 in Urbino, World Champion 97, 99, 01, 02, 03, 04 (9, 5)
8 Strokes or touches lightly and lovingly (8)
9 Keen enjoyment, spice; or just a bit of orange peel (4)
12 Stale, mouldy, out-of-date (5)
14 Greek god of passionate sexual love; wee boy wi' nae claes an' a bow'n'arra (4)
16 Literature or art arousing sexual desire (7)
17 She's a dramatic performer; said the Bishop! (7)
18 Second letter of the Greek alphabet; pre-release version for testing (4)
20 Urge forward, impart motion (5)
22 Squeezed by pistons and pads (4)
25 Induct into membership; set going (8)
26 County of NE England (14)

Write your name here:

……

Down

1 Capital of Liechtenstein (5)
2 Largest Hebridean island in Western Isles - but it isn't itself an island! (5)
3 Preserve of congestion; blockage where bikers often have an advantage (7, 3)
4 Tractor-loads were consumed on 25 Jan (5)
5 You don't want your bike getting this after winter and salt (5)
6 Female sibling (6)
7 Fireplaces or corners, good for nooky? (6)
10 Eagle's home (5)
11 Mountain range between Poland and Slovakia, highest of the Carpathians; famous Czech motor manufacturer (5)
13 French-style silk or rayon knitted fabric often used for women's underwear (10)
14 Made a mistake, did wrong, sinned (5)
15 Fertile area providing relaxation or relief; Manchester rocks! (5)
18 Jane, je t'aime! (6)
19 Neater or more orderly (6)
20 Celtic cousins across the water (5)
21 Triangular block of glass or plastic used to bend or split light (5)
23 Balearic tourist island popular for the five Ss (5)
24 Roman god of passionate sexual love; anither wee boy wi' nae claes an' a bow'n'arra (5)

Send the completed puzzle (or your best attempt if you can't quite finish it) before the end of the month for entry into the £10 prize draw to:

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