Scottish Motorcycle Club

# BikeBytes

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April 2005

Volume 6 Issue 4

## WELCOME

Another two discerning bikers have joined the Scottish Motorcycle Club since the last issue of *BikeBytes* and they are **George Stephenson** from **Glenfarg** who rides a Triumph Sprint ST and **Douglas Milligan** from **Methil** who rides a BMW K1200GT. Welcome to you both! We look forward to seeing you on all the Runs and other Events organised by other Members for you and the rest of us. So, when you feel like contributing ideas and suggestions, don't be shy about coming forward!

George and Douglas bring the current membership to 139.

We also welcome a new younger and more handsome **Committee**! These volunteers deserve our full support and I'm sure they can count on yours. Yes, I mean **you** reading this. The new Committee line-up, with their e-mail addresses, is as follows:

Outwith the Committee, there is also a BMF Representative (presently David Jerome) but David would like someone else who is probably a BMF member and interested in the work of the BMF to be our liaison person. Have a word with him if you would like to take over this very undemanding but interesting task.

**Arthur Shepherd**

## NEXT MEETING

The next **Club Night Meeting** is on Wednesday 13 March 2005 upstairs in the Black Bitch Tavern, 14 West Port, Linlithgow, and will start at 8pm. The Committee will put forward suggestions for some expenditure following the recent AGM discussion on using the Club's accumulated funds.

## RUNS AND EVENTS

The table on p5 gives event details to the end of May

New Committee

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **David** | **Jerome** | Chairperson | chair@scottishmotorcycleclub.org.uk |
| **Stephen** | **Middleton** | Editor | bikebytes@scottishmotorcycleclub.org.uk |
| **John** | **Moss** | Events Co-ordinator | events@scottishmotorcycleclub.org.uk |
| **Janet** | **Moss** | Events Co-ordinator | meetings@scottishmotorcycleclub.org.uk |
| **Janet** | **Moss** | Meetings Secretary | meetings@scottishmotorcycleclub.org.uk |
| **Jim** | **McKechnie** | Membership Secretary | secretary@scottishmotorcycleclub.org.uk |
| **Judy** | **Broad** | Treasurer | treasurer@scottishmotorcycleclub.org.uk |
| **Moira** | **Gordon** | Video Librarian | video@scottishmotorcycleclub.org.uk |
| **Brian** | **Cotter** | WebMaster | webmaster@scottishmotorcycleclub.org.uk |
| **Bob** | **Crawley** | Without Portfolio | committee1@scottishmotorcycleclub.org.uk |
| **Alan** | **Gordon** | Without Portfolio | committee2@scottishmotorcycleclub.org.uk |
| **Gordon** | **Graham** | Without Portfolio | committee3@scottishmotorcycleclub.org.uk |







Olivia Moss tries a Hornet at the Show; John & Steve try a Sprint ST; and Alan gets his GS with added bits.

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**RUNS AND EVENTS**

The very latest up-to-date version of the **Calendar of Events** is always available to you on our website at http://www.scottishmotorcycleclub.org.uk/rannoch/events2005.htm

Our events calendar is starting to look more healthy, so thanks to all those that have already offered to organise a rideout for this year. We've already had two excellent rideouts, thanks to Peter Cook and Jerry Dawe, and we have a few opportunities for people to organise a rideout in the near future as we have available slots on April 17th and all through May (except the 1st May as Judy has volunteered for this). If you have any ideas to replace the TBD entries in the table please let me know (events@scottishmotorcycleclub.org.uk) and I'll get it on the calendar.

Remember, the main purpose of our club is to organise activities around motorcycling and the rideouts are our main way of doing this. Also please don't feel confined to Sundays, last year we had several successful rideouts mid-week and on Saturdays, just organise something that fits in with your schedule and I'm sure you'll be well supported.

**Steve** who is leading on the 10th says: *This is a variation on my **Crieff and Central Highlands** run that seems to have found favour in the last two years. It features coffee at Dunning again, and lunch at Crieff, and this year we will get into the café at Loch Katrine! Full route Details are posted on the website ready for you to check and print off. Please be prompt for briefing at 9:45 with "full tanks and empty bladders".*

A prospective weekend is proposed by **Alan Graham** as follows*: I know I am a bit on the late side but I have been pondering the idea of a **weekend break** for a club run away in highlands of Scotland. Only an idea at present. I want feedback from the members as to the best time would suit them to organize the run, June, July, August? etc. The format would be leaving from 2 or 3 venues to head up North on a Friday; stay 2 nights (dinner bed & breakfast) in an hotel and return on Sunday in time for Coronation Street (sad or what?). If anyone would like to go, phone me at the numbers below.*

*I require a partner to take on a little of the task and share ideas with me. Anyone even remotely interested phone me on 01592 780229 DAYTIME, 01592 861007 EVENING..*

**John Moss**

**SCOTTISH MOTORCYCLE SHOW**

Various members attended the show and bumped into one another either by arrangement or accident. John Moss sends this report.

Went along to the show last Sunday with daughter #2 (Olivia) as Janet and daughter #1 (Charlotte) were at a swimming gala (hopefully she's done all the competitive swimming she can now until Autumn, so we should have a few free weekends for the rides-out!). We went on the Pan as it gives the facility for storing a couple of helmets, pairs of gloves and other gear so we didn't have to carry anything around with us.

As we were walking towards the entrance a chap asked me if I wanted a half price ticket as his wife couldn't come along! I gave him a tenner so I saved a couple of quid and he only lost a couple. Olivia's only 14, so she got in gratis.

We went straight into the Highland Hall first and snaked our way up and down checking out the bikes and gear. After bumping into Ronnie and Raymond unsuccessfully trying to purchase tyres for their Goldwings, I stopped at the Triumph stand and had a chat with Neil from Two Wheels. I tried to get close to the new ST, but it was mobbed, so I had a sit on the tiny Speed Triple. I'll be test riding both these next week (19/3) so I'll let you know more after that. The BMW stand wasn't too busy so I had the chance to see their latest offerings, along with Charlie Boorman signing books/DVDs. The K1200S looks a beast, and I'm looking forward to having a go on one later this year. The K1200R is even stranger in the flesh, and should be a hoot to ride. I also bumped into George and Lyn Warnock, George was looking for a new helmet but was only in the early stages of his quest.

Moving on to the Lowland Hall, we had a good look at the Honda stand, Olivia tried out the new Hornet 600 (see picture) and I had a sit on the Fireblade (didn't feel too different to the SP-1), we then met up with Dave Jerome, his nephew and Jerry Dawe, we went for a cuppa at one of the retailers in the Carole Nash arena. It was good to take the weight of my feet for a bit. I think we'd been round all the stands and once round the funfair in about three and a half hours, as I wasn't looking for anything in particular, we didn't dawdle anywhere (unlike JerryD who spent 8 hours at the show on Saturday and came back for seconds on the Sunday!).(*it's the brolly dollies – Ed*)

Anyhow, we'd seen all we wanted and made our way home (keen to get back for the Scotland Wales game), as I joined the M9 at Newbridge I had the highlight of the day.....I overtook a very wobbly Ducati 999 (with pillion) crawling along at 60 in the gusty weather! A 300Kg Pan with two up doesn't seem to be too bothered by a bit of wind. I must have damaged his pride as he sped up and kept up with me for a couple of miles and then overtook me just as I was getting off the motorway at Linlithgow.

**John Moss**

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**BIKE TEST RUNS**

**Speed Triple:**

I saw the Speed Triple at the bike show and was amazed at how small it appeared. It looks like they got fed up working backwards from the riders seat and just curtailed the sub-frame and pillion 'seat'. This was the first of the two I took for a spin from Two Wheels a week ago. It does have a unique appearance and I guess you'll love it or hate it. I quite like the look myself. Sitting on the Speed Triple you get a very comfortable riding position and the wide bars do make you feel well in control. I only took it out for 45 minutes, but this was 45 minutes of great fun! It's so easy to ride, and turns so quickly and easily. Travelling along the bypass at 70 mph does show a limitation.....you need the Governor of California's arms and neck muscles to make significant progress. This is probably a good thing these days. Neil did say that a fly screen would be available, but I'm not sure it would make that much difference.

The gearing was very low and because the bike only had 80 miles on the clock I couldn't take the revs above 4K, but that was fine as going quick on this bike isn't what it's all about. This bike has the new, fancy, radial brake calipers, but I was disappointed at their performance having to really haul on the levers to get the kind of stopping power I'm used to on the Pan. One outstanding feature of this bike is the noise it makes, especially on the overrun! Overall great fun and if you're not doing long motorway journeys this would be a fun bike to own.

**Sprint ST:**

This bike uses the same engine as the Speed Triple, but with a different state of tune and different gearing. Thankfully, in this guise, it retains the same satisfying burble as the Speed Triple. I had a hour on this one so took it down the A7 to Middleton. Not quite as nimble as the Speed Triple, but I would say it's easily on a par with the VFR800 as far as performance goes, if not on build quality. Riding position was half way between my SP-1 and Speed Triple, so not too bad on the wrists and back. The brakes were much more effective than the Speed Triple, and protection from the elements appeared to be quite satisfactory. The bike I tried had about 700 miles on the clock so I could rev up to 5K this time, and this was plenty to enable me to make good progress. Once the bike's loosened up and higher revs can be maintained, I think this will be a screamer.

The bike didn't have any luggage attached so I can't say how it will handle fully laden, but I'm sure it will still be a joy. It really looks good (in my humble opinion) from all angles, especially front and back, but I was discussing the bike with a couple of other riders outside Two Wheels and agreed with them that the finish was not great, with poorly machined fittings and too much plastic chrome on the bodywork.

I'm sure both these bike will be big sellers for Triumph and Two Wheels! Neil did mention that they were building a new showroom just for Triumphs, so maybe an evening visit by the club could be on the cards when they eventually open the doors?

**John Moss**

**Honda at the Show**

At the Scottish Motorcycle Show I got a go on two models. Bob Crawley had tipped us off at the preceding Club meeting that the Honda test ride arrangements had been made at the last minute and not publicised, so should be freely available. On arrival I knew what was on offer – I had waited over a half-hour to get in due to the pathetic money-taking arrangements at the door and the test bikes were on display out front. I signed the form (£1,000 insurance excess, gulp) and arranged for two goes; a Varadero followed by a Fireblade. Should provide a contrast, those two! The supervised route went to Maybury, over to Barnton, up the dual to S. Queensferry and left to Newton, and down the back road to Winchburgh and return via Kirkliston and the big bend back to the Newbridge roundabout and the showground. A good mix and just about a half-hour.

**Varradero**.

Good fit for 6' me, no reach problems for 33" legs or arms, noticeably but expectedly upright and wide bars. Light controls, easy balance, great view. Trickling out of the park was easy, and the slalom thru' the lane cones OK. Pulls great up the road, OK on the potholes, good joining the main road for balance and go. Steering response was noticeably slow but reliable and it went where told. Later full throttle action was good, but vibes appeared, more than just V-twin "character" and a turn-off for me if typical. I couldn't do with that much for a long day's ride at speed. Winding it on at the NSL sign it kept in touch with the CBR in front – that's about right, I thought, against a 600. Wind protection from the modest-sized screen was impressive given I was sitting high and proud. The ride was enjoyable, but bland. The bike's balance was impressive, and I managed a full-lock, 270° turn to park it on returning, feet not even twitching on the pedals. Swapping comments with the CBR rider I looked more closely – t'was a Fireblade, so Varaderos can move. SCORE: 3 / 5

**Fireblade**.

Oh oh oh – lift my face off the front wheel! Jeez, the 'bars are a long way down, particularly after the 'dero. The known potential of this bike should be intimidating, but it's a pussycat. If you ignored the upper half of the rev range it's You-meet-the-nicest-people-on-a-Honda easy. Steers by thought transference, brakes by pinkie, then stalls at the first

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junction pull-away to remind you it is a high-revvin' supersports engine. Oops. Under real road conditions and the control of the supervising accompanying riders it is wasted. I went from 40 to 70 in less time than it took you to read, and it was a non-event. Even in a low gear it barely got into its stride, and the exhaust needs to have decent revs before it makes a nice noise. So, amazing engineering and development but of no real use to me. I honestly can't see how it can be used to much more than 50% or so of its potential without breaking, nay, shattering laws, terrorising "normal" motorists, and compromising the safe riding rules I've learned to love over the years. Respect, yes; desire, no (seconded by my skinny-weak arms and aged back! – and thirded by my bank balance). SCORE: 3 / 5

Conclusion? My VFR does very well thank you, but a big traillie/tourer could be attractive, and the memory of the V-Strom test run last year still brings a smile, as did Big Lad David's Fazer thou'.

**Triumph Sprint ST test ride**

I coveted the previous ST and the new one comes even better designed and spec'ed, so news of test rides from Two Wheels got me on the phone to Neil and a 2pm slot booked on Sunday. I didn't spend time looking at it or even taking photos, but managed to waste precious minutes in road works and traffic so limiting the distance I covered. The allowed 45 minutes stretched to 59, and I thoroughly enjoyed it. Great position, good comfort, nice controls, hefty shunt from the triple and superb stoppers. Light balance, good cornering feel and handling, effective fairing and screen. Downsides were poor mirrors; a somewhat cluttered digital readout (but the clock did a great job with me trying to get back in time!), and my right inner thigh starting to notice the engine/exhaust heat despite a cool March day. The seat is warm from the underseat pipework, and that was nice, but high summer touring may feel different; I'd definitely check this out before splashing the cash. The really memorable bit is the exhaust popping/growling on the over-run. This normally happens coming down from high revs, but the ST does it at 2,500 rpm. It could become a bit tedious, but my earplugs let me hear it without getting annoyed. It seems to have been done deliberately for "character", but if so it smacks of patronising the punter since with fuel injection I'm sure it could be dialled out. I can report it easily breaks the national speed limit without trying at all while also respecting the 7,000rpm running-in limit, and it responds most satisfyingly to the right wrist, almost regardless of where the left foot has left the gear lever. Conclusion? Yes, pleeeeeease. There's no doubt it's the best bike I've ridden (for me anyway), so I'll just have to keep trying others to see if it really is that good, won't I? SCORE: 4½ / 5

**Steve Middleton**

**ALAN GORDON GETS HIS NEW ONE**

I thought you might be interested in the new family member (a BMW 1200GS with all the bits on). As yet I haven't put a great many miles on her however the results so far have been very encouraging. The handling is superb, however I am still getting used to the "Linked Braking" which although excellent can catch you out at low speed.

If anyone in the club is considering an intercom system, we have had the "Tecstar" unit for quite some time; I have to say that we are most impressed with the versatility of the unit along with the ease of installation. Despite lower cost it is on a par with the Autocom with after sales service, help and advice excellent.To give you an example last year in September we under took a journey up North and although the weather was good the heavens opened up on the trip home (the day of our spill)! The rain was so heavy, water was coming inside the helmet, which in turn saturated the microphone which in turn stopped working. Due to our "little mishap" the intercom headsets sustained further slight damage. After getting over the "excitement" of this trip I contacted "Tecstar" who asked for the complete system to be returned to them for repair. Although they could have replaced the mic. unit they instead replaced two full headsets at cost to me of only £25.00.

As I mentioned if anyone would like further info. before buying an intercom I will be happy to share our own experience.

**Alan Gordon**

**PETER'S WORDS OF WISDOM**

1/ Shift-It anti fog spray. This stuff works really well if your visor is bad for misting. My HJC is pretty bad for it but just couple of squirts and rub in with a paper tissue and let it dry. It lasts for a couple of days and all you do is reapply when it wears off. Costs about £3, cheaper than a Fog City but this stuff goes with you and not the visor.

2/ If you have rain that comes in from the top of the visor, a strip of foam draft excluder from B&Q. Just trim the thickness so that it snugly fills the gap between helmet and visor. *(I think he nicked this one from me! I've got the same helmet, same problem and same fix – Ed Steve)*

3/ Shaky mirror problem. Some plastic gap filler in the hole that the mirror stem screws into;
fasten mirror back to right position let it set. Stops the vibes by 50%. At least you can see behind you when doing 60mph

As you could probably guess I have been bored over the winter months. Promise to get out more

**Peter Cook**

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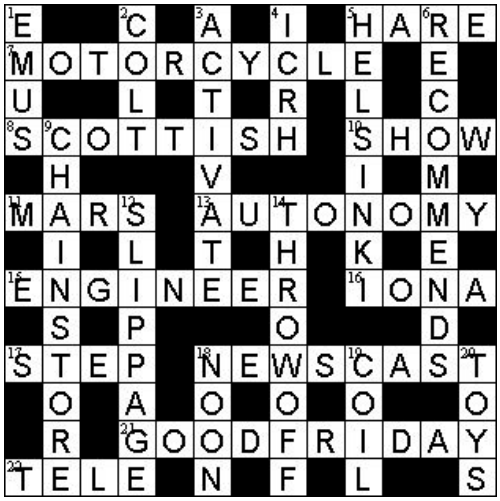
## HERE IS THE SOLUTION TO MARCH'S PRIZE CROSSWORD PUZZLE



The February 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 March) was **Sandra McKechnie**. Sandra asked that her £10 prize should be donated to the charity supported by Simon Milward, former General Secretary of FEMA, who was killed on 4 March while riding round the world to raise money for *Riders for Health* and Medicins sans Frontieres. On behalf of Sandra, I have sent the £10 to the Simon Milward Memorial Fund. Simon's family has asked that all donations go to the Flores Project run by Health for All for Flores, Indonesia.

**Arthur Shepherd**

## WEBMASTER'S BOOKMARK/FAVORITE

Found a useful site you may wish to add:
http://www.motordefenceteam.co.uk/cameras

**Brian Cotter**

## CUT-OUT-AND-KEEP EVENTS LIST

- see below – up to the end of May.
- Go on, fill a gap, run a run, contact John to get rid of TBDs

## ANDY MASON RESURFACES

Hi all

Yes I'm back..... well what can I say but I've had some problems and now I'm living in Livingston so I should without fail see you all very soon. My other email address is still up and running if any one wants to drop me a line. It's heavenlyharleys@hotmail.com

Well, I hope to be about on more of the runs and I would like to do the national rally like last year so if any one wants to join me YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE

We'll talk soon; ride safe

**Andy Mason**

## CLOTHING & KIT FOR SALE BY NORRIE MILLAR

Hein Gericke Highlander leather jacket Medium/38" Black, DuPlex armour £60

X8 Systems leather trousers 32/34 Black CE armour £45

Richa jacket 38" Yellow/Black CE armour £60

Hein Gericke Maxwell2 nubuck/fabric trousers 32" +Sheltex with removable winter lining £60

Caberg Justissimo helmet Xsmall black flip-front £50

Bagster tank bag Blue expanding+w'proof cover £40

Oxford throw-over panniers Black w/p covers £20

Belstaff rucsac Red/Black, reflectives, pockets £20

Oxford handlebar muffs Black as new £20

Bike cover, large Blue suit Hornet, Bandit etc £15

Most of the items include the original product documentation, and are in very good condition.

Contact Norrie to visit and view/try on 01506 493783, he lives in East Calder and is also prepared to meet at a convenient venue.

*(Those who know Norrie will also know his gear is in good condition and well looked after. I've seen it, it is, and I beat you all to the paddock stand! Ed. Steve)*

## April & May Events

| Date | Destination / Meeting point | Organiser |
|---|---|---|
| Sunday 10 April | **Crieff and Central Highlands** Meet at Stirling Services 9:45am depart 10am | Steve Middleton |
| Wednesday 13 April | **Club Night –**Black Bitch Tavern | |
| Thursday 14 April | **Moffat and St Mary's Loch** Meet at Dreghorn Services 10am | Jim Simpson |
| Friday 15 -Sunday 17 April | **Yorkshire Dales and Lakeland Weekend** Booking essential | Bob Crawley |
| Sunday 17 April | TBD | TBD |
| Sunday 24 April | **Inveraray** – Meet Stirling Services 9::45am | Jim Simpson |
| Sunday 1 May | **North West**-ish | Judy Broad |
| Sunday 8 May | TBD | TBD |
| Wednesday 11 May | **Club Night –**Black Bitch Tavern | |
| Sunday 15 May | TBD | TBD |
| Sat 21 -Sunday 22 May | **BMF Show Peterborough** | (BMF Event) |
| Sunday 22 May | TBD | TBD |
| Sunday 29 May | **Campbelltown** –Depart Livingston Services M8 Jn 3 @ 10am, secondary pick up at Ducati Glasgow @ 10:45am | David Jerome |

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# Scottish Motorcycle Club

## Meeting 9/2/05 – Black Bitch Tavern. Linlithgow

1. **Apologies**
   John and Roseanne Branney, Stewart and Ursula Bowman, Bob Crawley

2. **Minutes of Last Meeting**
   These were circulated at the meeting for review.
   Proposed by: Steve Middleton, Seconded by: Charlie Guthrie

3. **Secretary's Report (Arthur Shepherd)**
   Membership currently stands at 137.

4. **Finance (Judy Broad)**
   The balance currently stands at just over £1000.00.

5. **Events (Gordon MacMillan)**
   Gordon apologised that due to work commitments he was not able to do as much organisation as he would have liked, and thanked those who had helped out in his absence. He announced that he would not be standing as organiser this year. John Moss has produced a list of planned events for this year which as been published in BikeBytes.
   Bob Crawley supplied details of the R1200RT BMW launch at John Clarks, Dundee on 12/2 and Mill BMW, Tyneside on 13/2.
   Dave Jerome's night out to Maxies in Edinburgh has been planned for 16/2/04 at 8pm.
   The person in charge at City Motorcycle Training has offered to provide the club with a presentation on advanced training.
   Tom Brown is to follow up his contact at Central Traffic Police to try and arrange a suitable time for a club night visit.
   12th and 13th March – Scottish Motorcycle Show. If anyone wants to meet up they should arrange to be at the Honda Stand for 1pm.
   Visit to the Lakes in April is now fully booked, however if anyone wants to join in for a days run then Bob Crawley will be happy to see you.

6. **Website (Arthur Shepherd on behalf of Stewart Bowman)**
   More photographs are required for the website.
   There have been 536 visits to the website during the month of January, these include 353 to the public area and 183 to the members area.

7. **Club merchandise / BikeBytes (Steve Middleton)**
   Merchandise on offer will soon be available to view on the website.
   As usual any articles will be gratefully received and should be forwarded to Steve.

8. **BMF ( David Jerome)**
   16/4 - club forum being held at the Royal Dunkeld Hotel
   17/4 – Annual General Meeting, also being held at the Royal Dunkeld Hotel.
   Please contact David Jerome for further information.

9. **Video Club (Katharine Jackson)**
   The booking folder is now available. Magazines are also available for people to take away.

10. **Crossword**
    12 correct entries. This month's winner is George Cruden.

11. **AOB**
    Tonight SMC celebrates its 5th Anniversary. Arthur very kindly supplied a shield that will be presented to the organiser of the best run of the year, and a cake.
    A reminder that there are still some committee posts available and nominations are required.

12. **Next Meeting**
    The next meeting will be the AGM on 9/3/05, 8pm, Black Bitch Tavern, Linlithgow.

# Scottish Motorcycle Club

Meeting 9th March 2005; Black Bitch Tavern, Linlithgow

**Apologies**
Judy Broad, Stewart & Ursula Bowman, Eileen & Brian Wilson, Fiona Montgomerie, Matthew Scott, Charles Guthrie.

**Minutes** for the last Meeting were not supplied so no **Matters Arising**.

**Finance** Balance stands at £1146.61.

**Membership** Membership now stands at 141.

**Events**
**Past Events**
Maxies Bistro – 8 people attended.
Peter Cook's Leven Run – 9 bikes, very good roads but unfortunately the Crusoe Hotel food was not recommended.
**Future Events**
Scottish Bike Show 12/13 March. Meet up at the Honda Stand at 1.00pm for a chat. Bob Crawley stated that Honda were also doing demo rides but a full driving licence must be shown.
20th March – Jerry Dawes Run to Moffat and beyond.
27th March – MAG Easter Egg Run.
19th/20th March – Two Wheels Open Day. 2005 Sprint and Speed Triple would be available for testing but booking necessary.
10th April – Steve Middleton's Crief Run.
Arthur has booked for the Shetland Simmer Dim which is in mid-June. Leave Wednesday 15th June and arrive back Monday 20th June.
18th July – BMF Kelso Bike Fest. Arthur will be camping Friday to Monday. Bob Crawley will be doing a rideout.
Copies of the up to date Calendar of Events were distributed by John Moss and are available on the website. He asked that people filled in the vacant dates.

**Editor/BikeBytes**
Steve Middleton requested contributions e.g. Run reports, photos, any items of interest.

**Merchandise**
There are a couple of stock items and stickers. Orders are being taken.

**Video Library**
Moira Gordon is now looking after the library. There is 1 DVD.

**WebMaster**
Stewart Bowman issued a report

**BMF**
Renewal has been paid. Because of Marshalls at Kelso Bike Fest, the Club has paid a discounted fee of £117.20.
A space and marquee has been booked for this year's Fest at £159.

**Crossword**
There were 7 correct entries. Winner – Sandra McKechnie who was present at the Meeting and requested that the £10 be given to a charity.

**AOCB**
Arthur read out an e-mail from Andy Mason saying he was back in the country.
Bob Crawley asked how Arthur's award for the Best Run was going to be judged. Arthur stated that it was up to the committee to decide how or what to present it for.

**Date of next Meeting.**
13th April in the Black Bitch, Linlithgow at 8.00pm.

(Minutes taken by Jerry Dawe and typed up by Janet Moss).

# Scottish Motorcycle Club

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
**9TH MARCH 2005**

**Apologies**
Judy Broad, Stewart & Ursula Bowman, Eileen & Brian Wilson , Fiona Montgomerie, Matthew Scott, Charles Guthrie.

**Minutes of last AGM held on 11 February 2004**
The Minutes were available for review.
There were no matters arising.
Proposed by Jerry Dawe
Seconded by John Branney.

**REPORTS**

**Finance** (Arthur Shepherd for Judy Broad)
Accounts were presented. Balance as at 31st January 2005 - £1146.61
Main expenditure was for the Secretary.

**Membership**
Membership is now 141. 230 members have joined since 2000. 134 members at last AGM. 114 copies of BikeBytes are issued each month, 36 by post. Each member receives a membership card and BMF card. Enquiries about the Club are mainly via website or recommendation. Renewal notices for membership will go out this month.

**Events**
Gordon Macmillan not present so no report.

**Editor/BikeBytes**
Steve Middleton reported that Arthur's contributions were most valued as well as his crosswords. E-mail version is running very well. There are occasional costs for inkjet cartridges. David Jerome thanked Steve for his production of BikeBytes.

**Merchandise**
One item in stock. There is an amount of approximately £40 to be given to the Treasurer. New order list is now open.

**Video Library**
Katherine Jackson not present so no report.

**WebMaster** (Arthur Shepherd for Stewart Bowman)
This year the website has migrated to a professional site and is now tidier. Stewart Bowman has a new job so has been forced to resign from the job of WebMaster. More photos were requested for the website.

**Subscriptions for 2005/06**
It was proposed to retain the subscriptions as they are (£12 for single, £6 for additional, £6 for membership after 30 September), but there would be a £1 discount for all existing members and the 4 BMF Marshals would pay half price. Proposed by Arthur Shepherd, Seconded by Alec Rennie. There were no objections.

There was a suggestion to have Assistants for all major committee posts.
A copy of the membership details to be passed to the Chairperson.

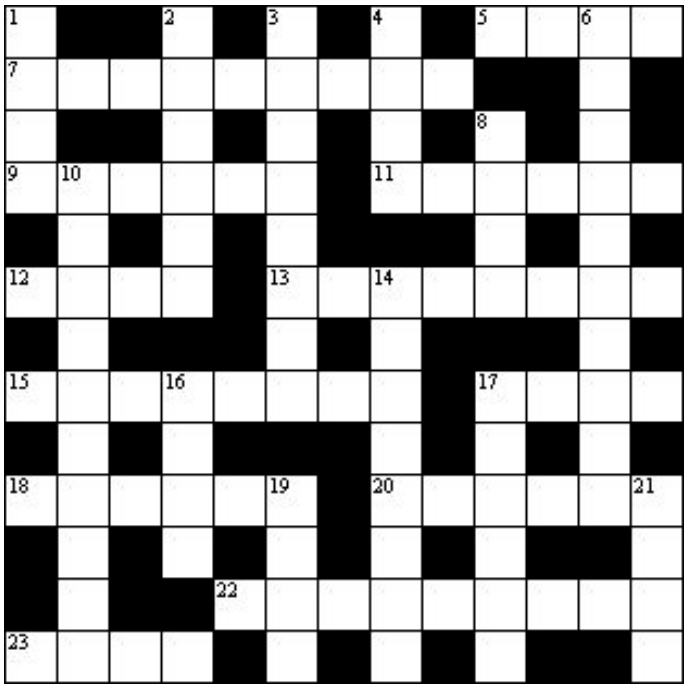
**ELECTIONS**
Chairperson: David Jerome (continuation)
Editor: Steve Middleton (continuation)
Events Co-ordinator: John and Janet Moss (already elected into position)
Meetings Secretary: Janet Moss
Membership Secretary: Jim McKechnie(proposed by Sandra McKechnie seconded by Bob Crawley).
Treasurer: Judy Broad (continuation)
WebMaster: Brian Cotter
Video Librarian: Moira Gordon (already elected into position).
Members without portfolio:
Bob Crawley
Gordon Graham
Alan Gordon

**Any Other Competent Business**
There was a vote of thanks to Arthur for all his efforts to the Club. The Committee is to organise a “thank you” event.
There was a lot of discussion about reducing the amount of money held in the Bank. It was decided the Committee would look into schemes to reduce balance held (e.g. Small payment to ride-out organiser, more shields to be presented for various successes). Proposed by John Branney, Seconded by Tom Barker.

Minutes taken by Jerry Dawe and typed up by Janet Moss.

**---ooo---**

# April prize crossword puzzle



*Crossword and Clues compiled by Arthur Shepherd.*

*Fiona and I nipped across to one of the Inner Hebrides this month, about 145 miles from the Capital to its Capital excluding ferry. You have to find out which one by answering the clues in April's Prize Crossword Puzzle. Old Fine Art*

### *Across*

5 Famous West Highland cathedral city with a Folly, gateway to the Hebrides (4)
7 The capital of *12 Across* (9)
9 Young unmarried woman, possibly of noble birth but hopefully not distressed (6)
11 Why do bike brakes become this in winter but cars' rarely do? (6)
12 Second largest of Inner Hebrides with 120 miles of amazing roads (4)
13 Ferry port linking *12 Across* with Morven by short crossing, sounds a bit like a supper without the f 'n' chips! (8)
15 Filled with sudden fear, anxiety or discouragement (8)
17 Famous *17 Down* off *12 Across*! (4)
18 Supposed creator of a famous cave on Staffa (6)
20 Ride through water, puddle, ford or river (6)
22 Principal port on *12 Across* with connecting ferry to *5 Across*! (9)
23 Best not ride too close to this (4)

### *Down*

1 Headless bolt used to hold parts like cylinder head and block together (4)
2 Boat; hollow container; tube in body or plant (6)
3 Young or insignificant people or things; tiny fish (5, 3)
4 Honda NT400 or NT650 V-twin grey-import, long-lost, maybe? (4)
6 Signs meaning 'and' (10)
8 Oven used to smoke or fire (4)
10 Treated or coated with a certain metal for appearance or protection (10)
14 Lateral skid to left or right to be avoided (8)
16 Ugly faces; decent sized cups (4)
17 Area surrounded by water or traffic (6)
19 Firth between *5 Across* and *12 Across* at the mouth of Loch Linnhe; the magnificent area behind *5 Across* (sometimes with a final 'e') (4)
21 Boot part that engages with peg (4)

*Write your name here: .....*

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:

Jim McKechnie, 15 Stewart St., Burnbank, Hamilton, ML3 0RH