BikeBytes

Scottish Motorcycle Club

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CLUB QUIZ NIGHT – DECEMBER

There will be a return of Dave'n'Steve's successful quiz night at the December Club meeting on Wednesday 12th. Last year members enjoyed this as a lot of fun. General knowledge, bikes, roads, pictures, brain teasers, puzzles and more will form the basis of the questions, with the regular tea, coffee and sandwiches making a chance to catch up with others and get in the holiday mood. Come and pit your wits with and against your friends.

Steve Middleton

SUMMARY OF WHAT'S COMING UP:

Wednesday 12th December: December's Club Night will be a fun night along the same lines as last year with quizes, puzzles etc.

Sunday 16th December: The annual toy run to Yorkhill Hospital in Glasgow takes place. Gathering on Kelvin Way from 11am, departure at 12 noon. This is NOT and SMC event, but you might like to go anyway.

Friday 18th January: We'll have an informal social gathering at 8pm at the Hawes Inn, South Queensferry. Come along earlier if you want to feed.

John.Moss

BMF NEWS

The following is extracted from the latest BMF bulletin. The only really relevant bit is the changes to the pricing structure for the Kelso show.

Events You will know by now that the big news is that we have a new BMF event in the South West, BMF South West Bike Show 21st & 22nd June. It's at the Bath and West Showground, Somerset. Tony Young reports. Live Promotions, managers of our other shows, acquired the rights to the South-West Motorcycle Show. It will be re-vamped by Live Promotions with input from the BMF. We will be assisting with the advertising and promoting of the event. Discounts will be given to BMF members similar to those available at current BMF events and BMF marshals will be invited to

assist Live Promotions in the running of this exciting new show. We have a new on-line and telephone booking facility for all of our events run by See Ticket, an agency specialising in ticket sales. There have been a few initial bugs with the set up but I can report that there have already been ticket sales for both BMF Show and

Tail End. I reported at AGM that there would be NO Memba Rally at the BMF Show but there was to be increased camping on site with access to the new Hall and a "big" name band or two. I offered a new venue at another of our events for the Memba Rally but was amazed that it was as good as turned down at the AGM. It has been agreed to go ahead with the new pricing structure as recommended by Live Promotions at the last MT meeting. We also agreed at MT that we must include a system on the website for selling to members. I am still waiting for this error to be corrected on the See Ticket web pages. Ticketing Structure: We are moving to a new structure with several changes: Senior Citizens: There will be no 'concession' tickets. Camping: Prices have been increased to reflect the actual costs of the venues and entertainment, etc. The new South West Show and Kelso are the same price. GEMS advanced prices have been reduced. The BMF Show, GEMS and Tail End are more expensive to reflect more entertainment and better facilities, the BMF Show being the highest price to reflect costs and size of show. Member's discounts: These have increased in value for those booking in advance. PLEASE NOTE, member discounts on the day (camping and on the gate day admission) are no longer available. Day Tickets: Prices have been increased at all shows except GEMS. Although these have only been altered slightly in some cases, i.e. BMF Show, the Tail End prices were much too cheap on the gate so these have been increased. GEMS has stayed same price, £13 for adults but the discount for advance has been increased. I have negotiated free space for BMF stands at all Live Promotions shows in 2008. This information will be sent to our Regional Chairman and reps. It is hoped that BMF can have a presence at them all, promoting the BMF and advertising our own events. We have in the past had success at signing up members at shows other than motorcycling and this is a fantastic opportunity for BMF at little cost.

John Quirk

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KILLIN WINTER RUN – 25 NOVEMBER

David Jerome put on this clockwise tour around some of the favourite roads, fortunately on a rain-free day with not-too-cold weather. 10:30 saw David (on his venerable Yamaha GTS) met by Judy Broad (TDM900) and Steve Middleton (VFR750) at Stirling M9 services, and off to pick up Alan Hopper (K1200S) and Jim McKechnie ((Pan1100) at Balloch. We all had on the thermals and winter gloves, and where fitted the heated grips set to Low, with neck warmers keeping out the chilly air, but no real problems. The roads were a bit damp to start but no rain and little leaves to worry about, and the traffic was light with co-operative drivers pulling across to let us past, except for one bit up Glen Aray where a set of four cars including a trailer insisted on doing it all nose-to-tail for the last half.

Up Loch Lomond-side to Tarbet, left to the Rest-and-be-Thankful and down to the Oyster Bar for coffee and shortbread. Right at Inveraray to Dalmally, right again to Tyndrum and on to Crianlarich and thus Killin. A glorious sight was Ben Lawers appearing around the end of a ridge, coated in snow and bathed in sunlight – magic.

Lunch at the Coach House was the usual good fare, and we set off again to make our own routes home, all via Glen Ogle and Callendar before spreading out.

For me a quick blat down the M9 from its end at Doune to Lathallan got me home with about 200 miles for the day. Thanks to Dave for putting this one on – we were fortunate with the weather, and the company was excellent.

Steve Middleton

WATER- AND WIND-PROOF SOCKS – USER REPORT

On the Killin run I used a pair of “Motorbike socks” from Lidl (or Aldi?). These are claimed to be good for waterproof boots, have a breathable windproof water-repellent “Ultra III TEC” membrane, CoolMax fabric and a fine fleece internal finish. They are non-stretchy and thus do not mould to the foot like normal socks, so I had not used them before just in case they might be lumpy. The chance to try their warmth over a full day seemed a good idea, so I put them on over a mid-weight normal pair (I always wear two socks on each foot, for warmth and to bulk out my skinny feet!) and took spare normal socks in case they proved troublesome. I can report there were no problems, and my feet were both warm and comfortable all day. Recommended.

Steve Middleton

BRAEMAR AND BRECHIN – 21 OCTOBER

I set this one up following a public request for a run around the Deeside area at the October Club meeting. Thanks for the ideas of places and roads to use, but why did the suggesters who seemed so keen not turn up? In lieu of anyone else reporting, here is a brief summary.

Judy Broad did an excellent job as Tail End Charlie and between us we had a varying number of bikes and people since some either left at lunch or joined. A total of 13 people on 11 bikes were involved according to my Run Register. We lost no-one so Drop-Off worked!

The route was Stirling M9 services, Braco, Crieff, Gilmerton, Buchanty, Luncarty, Caputh, Meikleour, Blairgowrie and Spittal of Glenshee for an early lunch followed by fuel just up the road.

Over the top at Cairnwell and thru’ the cloud to Braemar, Ballater and Banchory showed us the beauty of Deeside (maybe do the South road next time?) then Strachan, Fettercairn and Brechin for fuel, and tea at the Northern Hotel.

Down to Friockheim then right onto the A961 to Newbigging, on to Monifieth and over the Tay road bridge. Right off the main road down to the coast road and over to Newburgh, round to and thru’ Glen Farg and out onto the M9 and off at the Kinross services.

That was 230 miles or so. Add on getting from and back to home and it added up to 300 miles for me and most others. A good full day. It was a pleasure to see Tommy Taylor waiting to meet us at Spittal. Several returned South at this point after lunch

We had great weather and good road conditions and little traffic to interfere with us, particularly after lunch when I took full advantage to “make progress” at the front. It appears others did likewise since there were no giant gaps when I paused to gather the troops, and my GPS thingie reported a max. speed of naughty mph. I quickly erased the evidence!

Steve Middleton

ELECTRIC BIKE SPOTTED AT THE NEC



Spotted at the NEC was this electric bike, put plug into the mains, charge and go

They even had a police version!!!

Picture - Ken Russell

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