



BikeBytes

Scottish Motorcycle Club

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MOTOR CYCLE AIR PRESSURES

I recently left my Honda Blackbird motor cycle in the garage for a week whilst I attended an Outdoor Education centre with 33 kids from my school. Riding to school the following Monday I felt the bike lacked a bit of precision .I pulled into three garages that evening to inflate the tyres to 42 psi. Unfortunately, the digital air compressors I came across had a rigid end which, because of the brake disks, I could not fit on to either of the wheels. What to do? I popped in to a motorcycle shop in Birmingham and explained my predicament .The owner recommended nicely engineered steel fitting which screws in to the valve and then extends outwards at a 90°angle for an inch. Problem solved. What a difference! My new fitting will now be stored with the tool kit under the seat. Have a good 2008 everyone.

£5 £5
WINNER
£5 £5

Hamish Davidson

BMF EVENTS GEAR-UP FOR 2008!

Following a successful first year working with professional event organisers and partners Live Promotions, the BMF is gearing up for an exciting year of revised, renamed and updated events with a big name sponsor, big name bands, an additional event, a slicker advanced ticketing service and improved camping facilities at every event! BMF Event Dates 2008: · BMF MOTORCYCLE SHOW – 17th & 18th May, East of England Showground, Peterborough · BMF GARDEN OF ENGLAND MOTORCYCLE SHOW (GEMS) –7th & 8th June, Kent (provisional only- dates to be confirmed). · BMF SOUTH WEST BIKE SHOW – 21st & 22nd June, Bath & West Showground Shepton Mallet, Somerset · BMF KELSO BIKEFEST – 12th & 13th July, Border Union Showground, Springwood Park, Kelso,Scotland · BMF TAIL END MOTORCYCLE SHOW – 20th & 21st September, East of England Showground, Peterborough THE BMF MOTORCYCLE SHOW 17th and 18th May. The BMF's programme of events starts off with a bang with the largest outdoor motorcycle event of its type in Europe - but this time with a new name! Add in arena events and stunt action of course, plus top bands and for the first time - camping for all - brings a

new dimension to this season opener! A newly built exhibition hall will host the 'Bike Animal Stage' courtesy of new sponsors Bike Animal. Headlining on the Saturday evening will be top band 'The Damned' with lead singer and bike fan Dave Vanian. But that's not all; top cover bands 'Limehouse Lizzy' and 'Sisters of Murphy' will be there too! Organisers are also planning on having a new manufacturer's area featuring more manufacturers and even used bikes for sale at the show! Bringing the whole event to a new audience, camping will no longer be restricted to BMF members, but will be open to all! Advance day tickets start from £11.00 to £25 for a camping weekend. BMF GARDEN OF ENGLAND MOTORCYCLE SHOW (GEMS) 7th & 8th June (provisional dates only – to be confirmed). A well-established and popular two days of action packed entertainment, arena stunt acts, a custom show, hundreds of exhibitors and fair rides. There is live entertainment provided on both Friday and Saturday evening with camping open to all. Advance day tickets from £10 to £18 for a camping weekend.

John Quirk

GLASGOW TOY RUN



Sunday the 16th December, was the glasgow toy run to York Hill Hospital for the sick kids,It was a dry day for the run which must have included around 200 - 300 bikes of shape and forms. It started from Kelvin

Contact the Scottish Motorcycle Club via the Membership Secretary:

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Way along Great Western rd back along the express way and up into the hospital.

Peter Cook

CHRISTMAS QUIZ NIGHT

The December Club night on 12th saw the members involved in a series of quizzes set by David “Big Lad” Jerome and Steve “Skinny Sassenach” Middleton. We had a total of seven rounds, some done solo and others in pairs.

The first solo round on Locations was won by Steve McKinnon, getting 28 of the 30 correct, followed by Judy Broad with 26. Next was another solo round on General Knowledge and a tie between Janet Moss and Bruce Thomson on 11 out of 15.

Two rounds in pairs followed on the subjects of Name the Show and Motorcycle Models saw Steve McKinnon and Neil Johnston win the first with a full score of 20 out of 20, and John and Janet Moss get 15 marks out of 19 in the second.

Steve McKinnon and Neil Johnston teamed up to get 17 out of 20 in the Number and Initials round (e.g. “1FITG” = One Foot In The Grave) and then John Moss did a good solo to get 14 / 20 in another General Knowledge round.

We rounded off (pun intended!) with a selection of Theory Test questions from the current motorcycle test regime, just to wake up members as to what new licence-seekers need to know these days. A resounding Pass was scored by both Judy Broad and John Moss with a very creditable 24/25. Lower marks were left for their owners to contemplate in private!

A final Invitation Event was then staged for the most successful four members (Steve McKinnon - 4, John Moss - 3, Neil Johnston - 2, and Judy Broad - 2). They were each invited to select an assistant to build a simple kit model of an MGA sports car. To make certain that it was constructed carefully the winner had to be released down a ramp, travel the length of the bar and hit an ashtray. Several failed runs launching off the side of the bar required repairs but Judy, assisted by Les Mackie, triumphed with a methodical precise build.

Steve Middleton

GOVERNMENT WEBSITES OF INTEREST

If you want to check your own ability to pass a Theory Test, go to <http://www.theory-tests.co.uk/memberws/tests/free/12/> - you may need to go to a home page to register, I've forgotten exactly how I got into it. There are two of each of the motorcycle and car theory tests (50 Qs in a test), plus PSV and maybe truck ones too. These are free, but more are available for a fee, suitable for real learners to practise with.

Another way in is via the DVLA website at <http://www.dvla.gov.uk/> where you can tax or SORN your vehicle, check its MOT status and history, and apply for a new driving licence.

If DVLA can access a valid photo from a passport application they can issue a new driving licence without you having to submit a picture. I tried it but decided at the end that my passport photo was just a bit too out of date for me to be saddled with it for the rest of my driving career!

Steve Middleton

CASTLES CHALLENGE 2008

After the 2007 Challenge and its 50 locations, I am thinking of setting up a more modest one involving visiting a dozen castles whose pictures I have on an old calendar. They are scattered around Scotland and make fine pictures in their own right, so I hope they would be worthwhile visiting. A couple are shown in the pix, and the full set could be posted on the Club website, with location and historical details. What do you think? Anyone else got any ideas for events for the coming season?



CAERLAVEROCK CASTLE, DUMFRIESSHIRE



CORGARF CASTLE, ABERDEENSHIRE

Steve Middleton

