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### The Monthly Magazine Of The Scottish Motorcycle Club

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#### Welcome

At long last evidence of spring is all around: snowdrops, new tax discs, crocuses, MOT certificates.

Dormant motorcycles are being dusted off and rudely awoken from a winter's hibernation to the sounds of the first-ride chanted mantra, 'pleasestartpleasestartpleasestart'.

Leather boots which were abandoned, still damp, to a dark cupboard last autumn, will be scourged of the alien fungal life forms which have taken residence and a slathering of miracle restorative will be desperately applied.

Musty helmets will be donned and there will be a surprise reunion with that forgotten snack-time banana, thoughtfully secreted in a jacket pocket last October.

So, here we are at the beginning of a new season with, hopefully, many months of great motorcycling ahead of us. Enjoy.

Coming up in the next few weeks:

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> March** – Annual Awards Dinner at the Mercat Bar, 28 West Maitland St, Edinburgh EH12 5DX. Starts at 7.30pm. More details to follow.

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> March** – Ken Eddie's Crieff / Glenfarg / Kincardine Bridge half day run. Meet at Dobbies, Stirling at 12:45.

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March** 2011 SMC AGM. The meeting will start at 8pm in the Black Bitch Tavern, Westport, Linlithgow EH49 7AZ.

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> March** – Ken Eddie's run to the Scottish Motorcycle Show. Details TBA.

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March** – Ken Eddie's half day run. Meet at Broxden Services, Perth at 12:45.

Please keep up to date by checking out the website: [www.scottishmotorcycleclub.org.uk](http://www.scottishmotorcycleclub.org.uk)

**Steve MacKinnon**

[secretary@scottishmotorcycleclub.org.uk](mailto:secretary@scottishmotorcycleclub.org.uk)

#### Editorial

Right, that's it; I've stopped picking up Motorcycle News! I've been meaning to stop getting it for some time, but kept buying it for the racing news.

I'm fed up with the banging on and on about speed cameras and some of the letter writing is a bit ...well, 'bonkers'!

I used to get quite a few motorcycling magazines, probably hoping that I'd learn something special, though that's really only happened with experience or from fellow club members and other riders.

I've cut all of them out now and only if I spot something special while browsing in a rare visit to WHSmith, I might buy a single issue. They've even changed the one magazine that I really enjoyed, The Rider's Digest, and I'm not sure that I'll be renewing my subscription....maybe it will take a while to get used to it, but it just looks like a miniature version of many other magazines now.

It's questionable how much you can actually learn from any magazines or books and certainly the most important things about motorcycling that I've picked up has been from; my instructor when I did my Direct Access, he really went beyond what we needed to know to pass the test – my observer when I did my Advanced Motorcyclist Test and, of course, fellow bikers who have far more experience than I have.

That's not to say that I don't enjoy reading about other motorcyclists experiences. Most of you know that I'm an avid reader of motorcycling travel books. But that's the social and adventure side of our hobby and is far more interesting than the 'nuts and bolts' details.

Contact the Scottish Motorcycle Club via the Membership Secretary:

Steve MacKinnon

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One thing that I'd like to do is get an old bike and spend some time 'tinkering' to teach myself a little more about mechanics. I'm not all that mechanically competent and I'd like to change that. I'm pretty sure that you don't get that from reading books!

Anyway, most important, is I'd like to get out on my bike and get rid of those winter cobwebs. It looks like the weather is improving and the temperature is rising, so....let's get out there!

### Ken Glendinning

### Bikes in the cinema

The other day, someone on a Triumph web forum, posted a list of Triumph bikes that had been in major movies over the years and it made me think about the, relatively few, times that motorcycles feature in a movie.

Usually, the bikes are added to give the characters riding the bike, a 'tougher', 'edgier' characteristic. Do we still have that reputation?

Here's the Triumph list:

#### Hinckley Triumphs:

America's Sweethearts (Tiger - John Cusack)  
 Barb Wire (Thunderbird - Pamela Anderson)  
 Dare Devil (America - Colin Farrell)  
 The English Patient (Bonneville - Ralph Fiennes )  
 Femme Fatale (Bonneville - Antonio Banderas)  
 Harry Potter & the Sorcerer's Stone (Bonneville - Robbie Coltrane)  
 Heaven's Burning (America - Kenji Isomura)  
 How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days (Bonneville - Matthew McConaughey)

Johnny English (Speed Triple - Natalie Imbruglia)  
 The Matrix (Speed Triple - Carrie Ann Moss)  
 Maybe Baby (Bonneville - Hugh Laurie)  
 Mission Impossible 2 (Daytona 955i & Speed Triple)  
 Pushing Tim (Thunderbird - Billy Bob Thornton)  
 Romeo Must Die (Tiger)  
 Torque (Daytona 955i - Ice Cube)  
 Tuck Everlasting (Bonneville)  
 Laurel Canyon (Anthony Nivola)  
 Terminator 3 (Bonneville - Nick Stahl)  
 MI:3 (Scrambler – Tom Cruise)

#### Meriden Triumphs:

The Mini Skirt Mob (Bonneville)  
 The Great Escape (Bonneville - Steve McQueen)  
 Bullitt Nowhere to Run (Bonneville - Jean Claude

Van Damme)  
 An Officer and a Gentleman (Bonneville - Richard Gere)  
 Rebel Without A Cause (Tiger T110 - James Dean)  
 Shampoo (Bonneville)  
 The Wild One (Tiger T110 - Marlon Brando)  
 Coogans Bluff (Clint Eastwood) RPM (Daytona - Anthony Quinn)  
 The Swinger (Ann Margret)  
 The Dammed (Tiger T110 & Bonneville)  
 The Leather Boys Stay Away Joe (Elvis Presley)  
 On Any Sunday (Steve McQueen)  
 Wallace & Grommit - A Close Shave (Tiger Cub)  
 The Blob (Steve McQueen)

I've not seen all the films, but some are familiar and it's obvious that Triumph have been reasonably successful in getting their bikes 'in screen'

A little Googling, reveals a few other, major Hollywood blockbusters who's main characters are captured riding bikes:

Top Gun (Tom Cruise on a Kawasaki GPZ750)  
 Terminator 1&2 (Arnie on a Honda 750 and HD Fatboy)  
 Mad Max (Mel Gibson on a Kawasaki K-1000)

There are a lot of very obscure movies that I've never heard of as well and would probably fit the classic American 'B-Movie' category....*Werewolves On Wheels...Hells Angels On Wheel...Chopper Chicks in Zombie Town!!* Sorry if these are some of your favourites!

There are very few films that have motorcycles at their core, but one of my favourites is The Worlds Fastest Indian. No doubt most of you have seen it...in case you haven't, it's the story of how New Zealander, Burt Munro, set an under 1000cc world record on a 47 year old streamlined Indian motorcycle at the age of 68!. Good, heart-warming stuff!

Can you think of any more....if you're like me, spotting a motorcycle in a movie tends to make me look that little bit closer to try and identify the type...and whether it really is the star that's riding!

We're a parochial bunch, aren't we?

### Ken Glendinning

### Run reports

Lot's of reports online and photos in the gallery!

<http://www.scottishmotorcycleclub.org.uk/>

### Articles for BikeBytes

**PLEASE!** Send any articles, pictures, funny stories or anything vaguely motorcycle related to:

[bikebytes@scottishmotorcycleclub.org.uk](mailto:bikebytes@scottishmotorcycleclub.org.uk)

### BikeBytes Crossword

Apologies to the club's younger members, but in addition to a few motorcycle related questions, this month's crossword quiz has questions on 60s and 70s TV shows.

Most will be quite simple, to us riders of a certain age, but one or two might need Google!

Answers next month!



Tailgating can be real pain in the A\*\*!

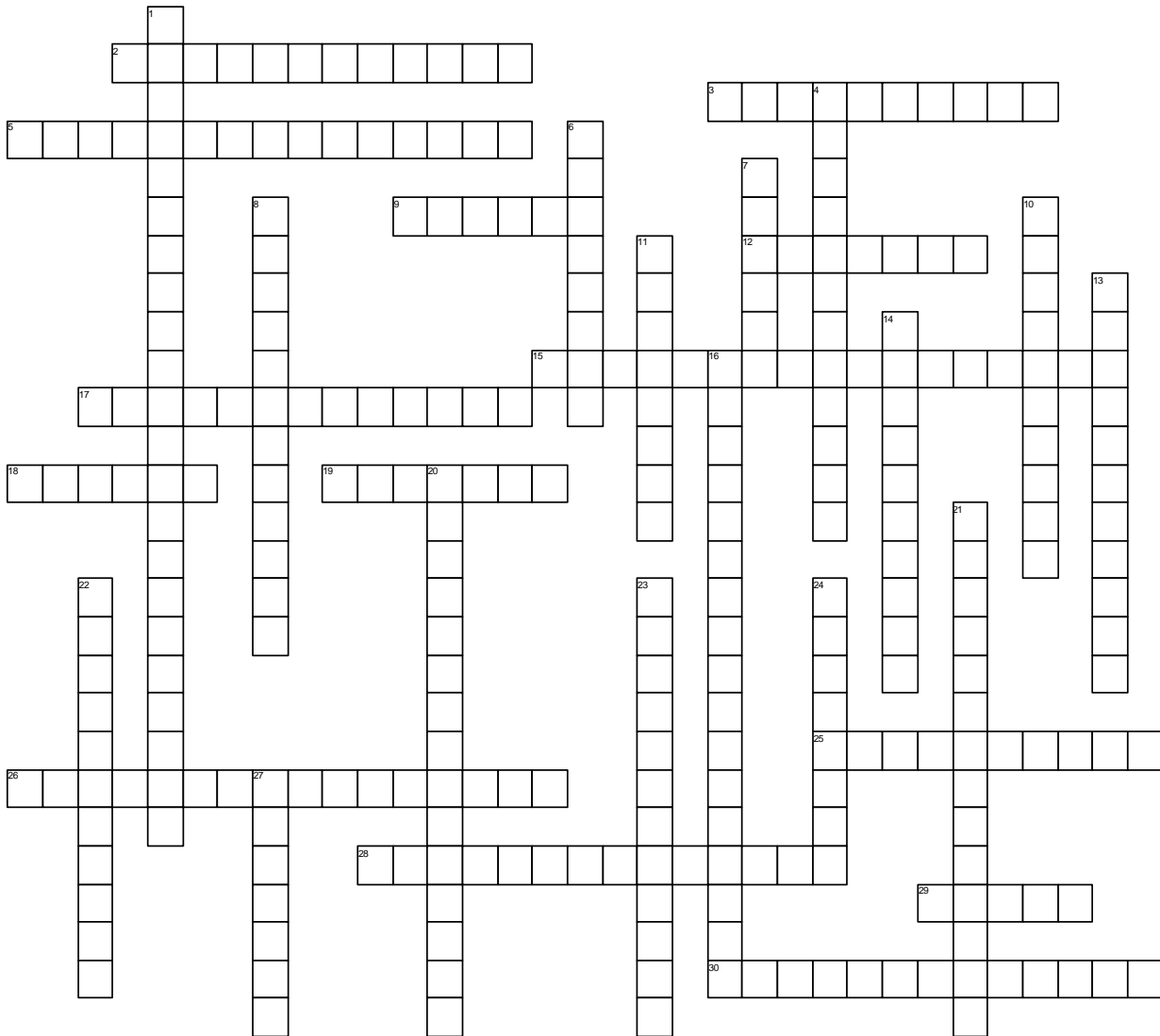


Could you rent this out for parties?



EverydayFunnyFunny.com

Interesting child safety devices!



www.CrosswordWeaver.com

**ACROSS**

- 2 Sitcom set in Stalag 13 (6,6)
- 3 What metal hazard is near the bungalow (not Edinburgh!) (4,6)
- 5 They made a bunch and so do many more (3,6,6)
- 9 Who produced the Royal Star Venture? (6)
- 12 The liberator was the spaceship in this cheap Sci-Fi series (6,1)
- 15 This tape will self-destruct in 5 seconds (7,10)
- 17 The Doctor's chief engineer (6,7)
- 18 Richie Cunningham's biker pal (6)
- 19 An old, saggy, cloth cat (7)
- 25 The logo that Barry Sheene had on the front of his helmet (6,4)
- 26 The Cannon family starred in this series (3,4,9)
- 28 Number 1 - super guy! (4,4,6)
- 29 What was the name of the dragon, hatched in the firebox in this series (5)
- 30 Ponch's unit ID in CHiPs (5,4,4)

**DOWN**

- 1 Very interesting, but so stupid! (5,3,7,5,2)
- 4 He came from Ork, she came from earth (4,3,5)
- 6 Horatio, Willy and Barnabas were on this ship (5,3)
- 7 His adventures always started in a fancy dress shop (2,4)
- 8 Que? (6,6)
- 10 Very wobbly walls in this detention centre (4,5,1)
- 11 Don't tell him Pike! (4,4)
- 13 The six million dollar man (5,6)
- 14 Who was shipwrecked before the TT? (4,6)
- 16 Predecessor of Britain's Got Talent (11,6)
- 20 The name of the ship in this 'cruising' series (7,8)
- 21 Narrated the story of the bear from Peru (7,7,0)
- 22 It's Friday, it's five to five, it's.. (11)
- 23 Alexandra Bastedo was the glamorous star in this series (3,9)
- 24 What type of racing bikes only have one gear? (8)
- 27 Peter Falk played this TV detective (7)