



**Southern Sporting
Motor Cycle Club**

CONTACT

MAY

2014

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Editor's piece

It's great to finally be able to publish a Club Run (thanks, Ian) and I'm looking forward to many more over the coming months. The leper/Ypres trip to Belgium but brilliant, but as we only returned two days ago, you'll be seeing the write-up and pics in next month's issue of Contact. However, I couldn't resist using the final picture I took for this month's caption competition (sorry, Graeme!). Asking for captions in the pub when people have had a few drinks certainly seems to get the creative juices flowing, as you'll see from the number of entries this month!

I did a quick internet search for "Motorcycle" and "Easter", to see if any news or stories had appeared over the long weekend, and came up with a news article which I've reproduced on page 7 – the statistics are a little depressing but good news for bikers in the long run that our safety is being taken seriously.

I look forward to seeing many of our members at the upcoming fixtures, and please keep sending in your articles, pictures and biking news!

Amoret Whitaker – Editor

President's piece

I hope you all had a wonderful Easter.

April had the first run of the year – a trip to Brighton for the bike Pioneer Run. I did not count the bikes myself but someone said: There were 16 bikes and 17 people that is certainly a good turnout. Well done, Spanner.

The next run is May 11th going to the Ship Inn on the edge of Hayling Island. Meeting at Fleet services so (sorry, learners) this is a big bike run due to motorway riding. But the 18th of May (weather-permitting) could be a small bike run. See Ian Slater for details.

Just want a word about an up and coming event on the 6th of JULY! This is now the annual trip to Sheila and Dave's for a BBQ at Seaford in Sussex. Over the last couple of years the amount of people going has gone up so it is very important to put your name forward if you wish to go so we have good idea of numbers! If you could let Ian Slater know as soon as possible after reading this – he can then arrange bike groups.

If the weather is not too good the event will still go ahead but some people may go by car!

John Mason – President.

Competitions

There will not be a trial run in September. The Star Group have been notified and although they thought it was sad there was not a lot they could do. The land has also been cancelled.

I do hope we, as a club, can run one in 2015. Remember that the new chairperson and committee will have to decide whether to run a trial. Please do remember that a trial brings the club revenue.

John Mason.

Brighton Pioneer Run



The sun was shining and the forecast was for a sunny, if chilly, day. This was how the day started for the first SSMCC run of 2014. By 10am most of the usual suspects had arrived at the Box Hill start point, along with a few new faces. El Presidente had arrived on his YBR125 to lead the “Small Bike” group, which included Lorna (Schemes CG125), Heather,

Dangerous Dave and Graeme. The “Bigger Bike” group being led by me. A total of 16 bikes and 17 people, divided between each group – a promising start to the Club Runs.

Both groups proceeded in a southerly direction at slightly differing paces!! We picked up the route of the Pioneer Run at Cowfold and from there on down to Devils Dyke, we mixed it with the pre-1915 machines, at times reaching speeds approaching 10mph!!



I always find it fascinating to see these museum machines running on the road, including a few characters wearing the full tweed and deer stalker combo! Brilliant!

The two groups met at the top of Devils Dyke and we found our way down to Brighton seafront. Once we had parked the bikes and started to walk towards the finish line on Madeira Drive, it seems that infirmity and financial crisis took over, as the group disappeared in a variety of directions. Some of us had lunch before looking at the old bikes, whilst others just sat in the sun eating ice cream.



Once re-grouped, we wandered back to where the bikes were parked, only to find El Presidente had “done a runner” and left the “Small Bike” group leaderless!! Thanks John!!! Anyway, with a bit of persuasion, the retired Club Captain Wallace took over the leadership of the “Big Bikes” group, while I headed off with the “Tiddlers”, back towards Box Hill.

We all arrived at Box Hill safely and from there headed home.



The next club run is to The Ship, Havant (Near Hayling Island) on the 11th May, meeting at Fleet Services, M3, Westbound, 9.30am for 10am start. Also, on the

18th May a NWT Run – This fixture is decided if the run is postponed from 11th, or a short run, Start Time and Start Point TBA.

See you then.

Spannerus Grossus (Club Captain) – Torque Wrench & Paint Brush!



Editor's Choice
purple motorcycle
with side car!

Dates for your diary

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 11th May | The Ship, Havant (Near Hayling Island) – Meet at Fleet Services, M3, 9.30am for 10am start |
| 18th May | NWT Run – Either run postponed from 11 th , or Start Time and Start Point TBA |
| 31st May | No Training Scheme |
| 8th June | The George, Bathampton – Meet at Reading Services, M4, 9.30am for 10am start |
| 22nd June | NWT Run – Either run postponed from 8 th , or Start Time and Start Point TBA |
| 6th July | Seaford BBQ |

Bits and bobs

This has surely got to be the World's Worst Scooter Rider!



He has no fewer than FOUR accidents, before riding straight into a giant hole, and all in the space of one minute!

Watch the video clip at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5nC1f72B0m0>



Karen Sands-Pearce new bike!

Suzuki VStrom DL1000,
bought on eBay.

And yes, for those of you who think you've seen one of these before, it is exactly the same as hubby Steve's bike!



Biker Thought for the Month ... *Catching a wasp in your shirt at 70mph can double your vocabulary*

Operation Darwen

Bikers enjoying the Easter weekend in north Wales are being targeted by a campaign aiming to cut the number that are killed or seriously injured.

Operation Darwen was launched at a popular bikers' cafe on Denbighshire's Horseshoe Pass.



Operation Darwen will focus on popular biker spots - like this Horseshoe Pass cafe

Bikers only account for 1% of traffic – but they represent 18% of road deaths. Two bikers have died in separate crashes on Welsh roads over the bank holiday weekend, in Neath Port Talbot and Ceredigion.

Last week, a multi-agency campaign was launched to highlight the risks for bikers on a nine-mile stretch of the A494 trunk road between Corwen in Denbighshire and Bala, Gwynedd. Five motorcyclists have died on that section of road since January 2004.

Operation Darwen began with police officers meeting the scores of bikers using the Ponderosa Cafe on the spectacular Horseshoe Pass road, the A525 between Llangollen and Ruthin in Denbighshire. North Wales Police Supt Rob Kirman said the event aimed to inform them of the potential risks they face when travelling the route. He said hundreds of bikers were attracted to the roads across north Wales, many of them from over the border.



North Wales' roads are a honey pot for bikers who want scenic and challenging roads

Kirman said: "Unfortunately in a small minority of those we are seeing an increase in poor riding, law breaking and generally not riding within their own capabilities and that is causing accidents. The roads are lovely for riding motorbikes, with nice bends and straights. It makes for a wonderful experience but people need to ride within their own skills and within the law."

He said the campaign would promote the "three Es" of road safety: ENGINEERING, with improved signage and road marking to highlight dangers; EDUCATION, to encourage better riding skills; and ENFORCEMENT of the law for those that break it.

Operation Darwen runs until the autumn.

Story sourced from: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-north-east-wales-27102433>

6th July barbeque

On Sunday 6th July we will be hosting the Bikers BBQ for SSMCC and my own club the BSA Owners Club East Sussex.

Blast off at 12.30 here in Sunny Seaford, suggested price £6 a head but please give generously as we need to beat last year's total of £338.

I have the proper 'bucket' this year from the Air Ambulance to collect the pennies, so I hope you are all impressed!

BBQ, drinks and squirts as usual, plus music to dance to, so all required from you guys and gals are the 3 S's

SHORTS



SUNTAN LOTION

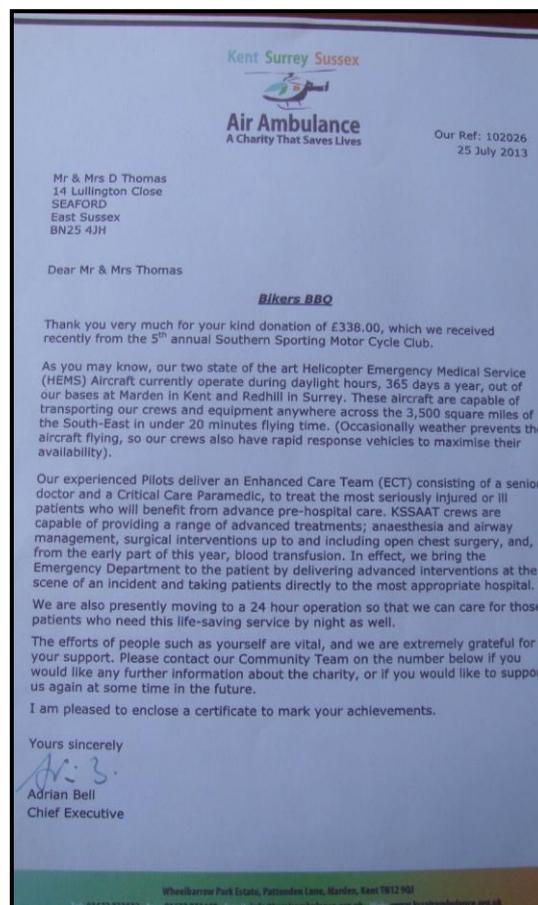


SMILES



Safe Riding!

Sheila and Dave



SSMCC Committee minutes

Meeting held on 14th April 2014

In Attendance:

John Mason	Chairman
Heather Wallace	Training Scheme Organiser
Chris Booker	Treasurer
Ian Slater	Club Captain
Amoret Whitaker	Contact Editor

Apologies from: Richard Barnett, Doug Chaney, Russell Sommer

Meeting came to order at: 8:00pm

Action List

- Doug still make contact with cone providers and get pricing
- Doug/Russell to continue with the club website. New website has log in/editing function. A password is required to enter info. Decision to be made as to who is going to have access. One or more persons.
- Russell - Membership cards to be sent.
- Russell - BMF membership number to be found and sent to Contact Editor for publishing

Minutes from the Last Meeting

Minute taker gave Apologies. The month was incorrectly published in the March minutes. It should have been March not February.

The minutes of the last meeting were proposed by Heather Wallace, seconded by Amoret Whitaker adopted without dissent.

Matters Arising

Chairman advised that Russell had given him a Website update. See above. Russell is aware he still needs to do membership cards for members who have paid. He also needs to find the BMF membership number and send to Editor.

Correspondence

None

New Members

None

Treasurer's Report

Chris has taken on the membership list from Russell, so that he could chase membership fees.

Chris is to send emails to chase those members who have not paid to date. There are 43 paid/honorary members of 62.

Training Scheme

School has asked for the use of the playground for Rugby parking on 19th Apr (Easter – Training Scheme Closed) 3 May, 10 May and 31 May (Whitsun Holiday – Training Scheme - Closed). Further dates requested are 6th September, all of November. Organiser will have

to decide whether to allow the company to take all the November dates. It will be dependent on pupils.

Have 2 new CBT pupils to start on 24th May.

26th April – St Georges Day – Richard Barnett will be outside Gear4Gears in Whitton High Street, to promote the scheme, so is unavailable for training.

Garage update. Still to see the inside of Andy (School Caretaker) and Ken Stone's garages. Trying to pin down Andy for viewing.

Richard Davidson is close to being signed off as CBT instructor. The next available CBT pupil will be used for completing his training.

Heather had made contact with the site manager of Costains at the Walton Bridge development to see if she could procure some cones.

Competitions

John Mason wrote to Mr Chandler, thanking him for the offer of the land, but that it would not be required.

Social Secretary's Report

John Mason has asked that at pool/bowling nights, a record is kept for competition award at the AGM.

Doug had also emailed to the Committee and Facebooked that it was the 75th anniversary of the 1st Social event of the club. Doug wants to hold an event to celebrate this anniversary. Committee agreed that any event needed to be published well in advance and is there enough time to do so.

Editors Report

Amoret has requested an up to date membership list following chasing unpaid members subs. Nothing else to report

Captain's Report

Pioneer Run – 13th April, was well attended. 16 bikes, 17 people, weather was very good. Two groups again. Next run is to Ypres Belgium, but old Club Captain is going to lead that. Next run is 11th May to Hayling Island – meet at Fleet Services at 9:30am to leave at 10:00am. No 'L' bikes as motorway being used. Possible run to Newlands Corner or Hayling Island if rained off on 18th May. Further Club Run dates have be published in Contact.

Public Relations Officer's Report

Only 26th April as previously reported in Training Scheme section.

Any Other Business

None

Fixtures

27th – 29th April – Club Run to Ypres
11th May – The Ship, Hayling Island, Havant
18th May – Nice Weather Today Run

The next committee meeting will be on the 19 May at 8PM

Thanks to Amoret & Ian for their hospitality. The meeting closed at 9:12 pm

Caption competition

Winning caption:

Ian's computer simulation for his proposed plastic surgery left him wondering how he was going to fit a crash hat over those ears.

Best of the rest:

Spanner! Robin Williams! Spanner! You decide.

Ian's internet dating profile wasn't getting him much success ...

Spanner morphs into Dennis the Menace on steroids.

They are definitely not his ears!

"I just can't sort out my hair today."

"Do my ears look big in this?"

Don't make Slater angry ... you wouldn't like him when he's angry ...

"Damn, I look good, but should have worn the hoops as well."

"I'M GETTING MARRIED TO THE GORGON" cue....tune/lyric laala....lalala lala laalaa....Music by Alan J Lerner...Lyric Chris (DT) Stock.

Ian was loving his Viagra, but it was having some strange side effects on his extremities.

Mr Slater tries on some larger ears. Not sure they suit him though, or maybe it's the hair!!

The new physique, the hair extensions and the wardrobe were doing wonders for his self-esteem, but Ian wondered if the cheap Botox injection he'd bought may have been out of date.

Ian had really believed the old wife's tale about the size of a man's ears.



May's picture

Send your suggested captions to me at:

a.whitaker@nhm.ac.uk