



The Club

Membership of the Motor Cycle Industry's Executive Club is restricted to invited Senior Executives of the Motor Cycle Manufacturing and Importing Industry including components and accessories

Starley House, Eaton Road, Coventry, CV1 2FH
Telephone Number 0203 27427
Telex 31590

THE CLUB - AUTUMN NEWSLETTER, November 1983

1. THE RUN

History was made at 8.45 am, Saturday, 8th October - because at that untimely hour, the Club 'Cavalcade' pulled out of the car park of The George Hotel, Solihull upon the commencement of a very enjoyable Autumn Run, organised most ably by Tim Wassell.

Initially, his route zigzagged cross country atop the broad red (mud) swathe that will soon be the new M42 extension. Gradually, the going became slightly hillier and more rural. To my surprise, the woods and trees had not turned copper coloured, nor brown or even light gold and I learnt subsequently that (like this newsletter) autumn, this year, was running about three weeks late! We traversed the very straight Roman Road that runs from Alcester to Studley - Icknield Street - before homing in upon Mickleton for some olde worlde coffee.

Well fortified, we then meandered over to Broadway, pobbling along the High Street in sedate style prior to enjoying a brisk blast up Fish Hill; the scene, surely, of so many Colmore Cup Trials. (Didn't a certain P.H. Alves win that event in 1951 or thereabouts, on a Triumph Terrier, completely upsetting the form book? Ivor Davies and John Nelson would doubtlessly retain the background facts about this and, if pressed, I expect Bert Perrigo could also regale us with some tales of 'derring do' on BSAs - in those historic woods high above Broadway.)

I digress, but make no apology! Next, we came to Bourton-on-the-Water where Tim had arranged a visit to the Motor Museum, which had not previously been visited - it seemed - by anybody. The atmosphere inside this Museum was one of sheer motoring nostalgia and it was a bit of a wrench to have to return to our own modern transport devices. (This remark will likely make Jeff Glew smile.)

Traffic was particularly heavy pulling out of Bourton and thus the last six riders became separated from the front 15 riders - which was time consuming to say the least. (Henceforth it is my consuming ambition to have The Club adopt the G.R.C.R. System. That's the GOLDEN RULE for all CLUB RUNS. It's desperately simple and it works like this:

No rider should proceed in a forwardly direction until he can see the rider behind him.

This basic rule would actually avoid the necessity of a 'sweeper' type back marker, more of all this, anon.

contd.....2

We took a robust lunch in a splendid pub at Long Compton, the occasion enlivened by the arrival of Pat Myers (guest of Peter Sheen) upon one of the very exciting new 4-cylinder BMW K100's; still on the secret list at that time. I wonder how many of this model will grace our Spring Run! Bursting with ploughman's lunch we next set sail for Warwick Castle to which quite a few Midland residents had been once or twice previously. Nevertheless, the Castle was a delight and whether one was a virgin visitor or not there was general agreement that the helpful Car Park Attendant, who welcomed our helmets onto the floor of his stately hut, looked more like the 4th Earl..... than the 4th Earl!! Later, we took a scone tea close by a canal somewhere south of Henley. Finally, a canter back to Solihull - with the first few rain spots of the day falling, literally, in the final moments of the Run.

I wrote, earlier, how history had been made at the start of this Run. For the first time, in my experience, riding commenced before 9 o'clock - a full $\frac{3}{4}$ hour before our norm. This innovation was certainly not unpopular and as a pointer for future runs it allows the Organiser to arrange a more fulfilling morning, whether in terms of a visit or extra mileage. Nice one, Tim. All in all, then, an excellent day's sport with something for everyone.

2. ABSENT FRIENDS

In the days leading up to our Runs, our Secretary receives various notes/apologies/letters/messages, etc. from those members who are unable to be there. From the Solihull Run comes news of ever cheerful Frank Hall in Guernsey, boasting that he has now passed the grand age of 70 years and at the same time is requesting any surplus marine equipment (that members may have lurking in the garage) for use in his Sea Cadet Corps work.

I am sorry to have to report that the Autumn Run coincided with Eric Brockway entering Frenchay Hospital for an op. Latest report is that Eric is O.K. but lying a bit low. I know I will echo everyone's thoughts by saying it would be wonderful to see Brock on his feet at Lake Vyrnwy in the Spring.

One of the less serious clangers I dropped at Solihull concerned the evergreen Nortons, Smr. and Jnr. I came in on the tailend of a conversation in the bar in which someone was saying "..... such a pity the Norton boys couldn't have been here this weekend". Your Chairman immediately piped up "Ah, but there are several folk here from Shenstone". In fact, the group soon clued me in on my clanger very graciously..... and we subsequently found out that the Norton Team (i.e. the Warwick Nortons) were working all weekend on a vital contract.

Back to Frank Hall. He says that he'd even be gratefully for some discarded lengths of rope or shackles or tackle, or a ship's bell, or maybe a load of bollards! Address details for Frank per the magnificent new Membership Card enclosed with this Newsletter.

There were other letters from the following, all wishing to have been at Solihull:- Gerald Davison (in Japan); Peter Goodman; Peter Fraser; Ken Craven; Edward Wilson and Doug Mitchenall.

3. 1983 GENERAL MEETING

Participating members on the Solihull Run duly duly convened on the Sunday morning in a private gantry for the General Meeting. A unanimous vote of thanks was extended to Tim Wassell for his superb effort - which everyone hoped would be the first of several such efforts. The Chairman also publically thank Treasurer Davies and Secretary Green for their ongoing efforts - mostly unheralded - behind the scenes all year long. The Chairman also reminded Members that Bob Trigg, an invaluable Committee Member, had been inadvertently omitted from the listings in the Late Summer Newsletter.

The following are now confirmed Members of the Club, having passed all the criteria with flying colours !

Tony Denniss	-	Norton Motors
Norman Hyde	-	Proprietor own business
Pat Myers	-	BMW
Frank Nursall	-	Honda

We welcome them all and their home address details will appear in the next Membership Card which it is hoped will be published in the Spring of 1984. Please let Fred know if you are misprinted in the latest card.

The Treasurer made his usual very satisfactory report coupled with a gentle admonishment to us all to "pay up more promptly in future, please and not to leave it to the Friday night of the Run weekend". It should be recorded at this stage that the Committee are indeed most grateful for the donations so often sent in by Members who cannot attend. (Of course, if everyone did that it would be a very quiet, very rich weekend !) Rereading my notes I see that Ivor actually implored us to send the money with the form !

The General Meeting closed at 11.30 a.m.

4. FUTURE RUNS

Autumn 1984 - North Dorset/Wilts area based in Blandford -
M. Jackson organiser.

Spring 1985 - Not 100 miles from the Bull Ring - venue to be
announced - Wilf Harrison organiser

5. THE ANNIVERSARY RUN - SPRING 1984

As I am sure you are aware this most exciting sounding (anniversary) Run is in the capable hands of arch organiser Peter Sheen ! It will be based on Lake Vyrnwy Friday/Saturday/Sunday - April 27th,28th,29th. Whilst this is already at quite an advanced stage of planning I must remind you of the following:

- i) PLEASE SEND YOUR INDICATION OF ATTENDANCE FORM TO PETER SHEEN BEFORE THE END OF THIS MONTH - DO IT NOW !
- ii) PLEASE DECLARE YOUR INTENTION OF WHETHER YOU WISH TO INVITE A GUEST.

Response so far suggests that we may not be able to accomodate the guest wishes of all members. Preference, naturally, will be given to Members. A prompt and accurate response will help Peter enormously at this stage.

Please state whether you will be riding or following round by motor car.

Peter will shortly be circulating an 'aide Memoire' concerning the Anniversary Run giving the pertinent details at this stage. You should receive this in late December after the next 'working meet' of your Committee at Starley House on the 13th December.

* * * * *

Penning these notes on the night of the Miss World Contest, as the rain swirls outside, I can only say that my Spring ride at Lake Vyrnwy is something I shall be cherishing most anxiously, through the inclement winter weeks that lie ahead. Time was when I could cherish Miss World as well !

The Chairman and Committee wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Signed

M. Jackson.

Chairman