

VRA UK Southern Region Newsletter

June 2008 Issue 001

Welcome to the latest edition of the Southern Newsletter. Primarily, this is for those without internet access but it's a chance for you, Southern Members, to mention, report or advertise anything to all of the Southern Region. The more you offer the better this newsletter will be. Any offerings you care to make can be directed to the address at the bottom of the newsletter..... Enjoy!!



Want your bike to feature in this newsletter?? Send a pic and a write up to the address below

Member News

Current membership within the Southern VRA stands at 51, including family members. That's a lot of people that need to party. Look out for events and parties in the region that could do with your input. This is YOUR club and the more you support it the better it is for everyone.

New Members

Welcome to New Members Martin S, Mark and Lisa U. Martin rides out of Titchfield Common and Mark and Lisa from Hambrook, nr Southbourne. Lots of possibilities for ride outs and a few nice pubs over on the A259 for a Sunday pootle?? Nice to meet Martin S at the last meeting. Lovely 1600 classic.

Bikes and Bits

After nearly 2 years of waiting and fretting as to whether or not this bike would ever be ridden again, Big Al's 1500 classic FI is finally back on the road. It's journey back has included: Reground crank and new crankcase bearings made. The crank line-bored into the new bearings. Engine rebuild, (courtesy of Stix), Front end modification, using the front end from a 99 Nomad so that the classic now has twin front brakes (custom made discs) and alloy wheels, nuts and bolt strip down, polish and rebuild (with new paint) courtesy Hooey, New wiring loom, steel braided at front end, courtesy Maltloaf.



Third Time Lucky??

What's On **June 2008**

Midweek Loomis Café Runs

Loomis Café (Opposite the West Meon Hut) have started a Wednesday night Biker night and are now open until 9pm. A lot of Bikers from around the county and the southern region meet there for a Bacon sarnie, cup of tea and a chinwag.

Its easily located with good access and good riding roads from all directions. Located on the junction of the A32 and A272 its not far from the M3 (Junc 9 head for Alton A31 then Petersfield A272), the A3 (come off at Petersfield and follow A272 for Winchester) or Junction 10 M27 and take A32 for Alton. There is a garage open nextdoor for fuel and a pub across the road if anyone fancies a pint.

Good chance to have a midweek run and get the bike shining this summer.

A few of us will be there from 7.30pm onwards.

Hope we see you there too.

All too often new members are found at these type of meetings and news of events and rallies outside the VRA is always useful. (Big Al)

www.eastbournelions.net

8/Jun/08

Once again the Eastbourne Lions are running their Charity Motorcycle Run in aid of Kent & Sussex Air Ambulance, a worthwhile cause (apparently 60% of their call outs are to motorcyclists and Equestrians. (No comments about fools & horses please))

This is on Sunday 8th June 2008. It starts at Western Lawns Eastbourne Seafront at 11 with a ride out of 60 miles and prizes for different classes.

Entrance fees are £8 pre booked or £10 on the day.

This is a good day event in aid of a good cause and if any VRA members want to make a w/e of it I could find a campsite for Sat evening.

(Scribe SEVRA)

Major to Minor Father's Day special

14-08-08

North East Aircraft Museum, next door to the Nissan factory in Sunderland, have invited us to their Major to Minor special when they will be seeing how many Minis they can fit under a (real) Avro Vulcan bomber.

I was in there earlier today to pose my 800 in front of the Avro and they were really taken with the bike and the fact that there is a Vulcan Riders Club. We have a special invitation to see how many bikes we can get under it. The press and all sorts will be there to publicise the event. Sounds like a hoot and serious alternative way to spend Father's Day.

We will be able to camp at NEAM, I had a look around and there is plenty of grassy space.

We can arrive there from Friday June 13 pm and stay until Sunday June 15th pm.

There is a pub, the 3 Horseshoes, which does B+B, breakfast, lunch and evening meal about 100 yards from the Museum.

There will also be a mobile greasy spoon in attendance.

NEAM will organise Portaloos and keep them serviced over the weekend.

(Malteeza Northern)

3Bs Only Fools & Bikers

27/06/08

Excellent weekend rally, one you must do if you can.(on the same site as we had for our national rally 2005

3Bs Only Fools & Bikers Custom & Classic Bike Show at Headley Park Hotel (Lith Club), nr Bordon, Hants (off A325)

Prebook: £15, OTG £20

Cars - disabled badge holders free (need to prebook), otherwise, due to lack of space, £15 prebook only for a pass (for charity),

Cars with no pass will be turned away

Bike show & Fireworks Saturday, Trophies & Cash Prize, Bands, Disco, Stalls, Beer, Food, Bonfire, Camping etc.

Sorry, No Camper vans, Large party tents, Dogs or Fires

Cheques/POs payable to: 3B's Hampshire 14 Priory St, Farnborough, Hampshire, GU14 7HX
07979 837083 or 07792 605581

website <http://www.3bs.uk.com/>

(Druid Southern Regional Rep)

Solstice Fete 20 June 2008

Tickets are now available from Bloggs just send her £10 per members ticket or £15 per non member guest with your send cheque or postal order, remembering to include your name and address to get them...

**Joanne Pearson
6 Kirkstone Drive
Norton Tower
Halifax West Yorks HX2 0NS**

Venue.. Marlborough Football Club.

SHORT Ride out to Avebury 6 miles BUT will include one or 2 extra miles with diversions!! on Solstice day Saturday 21st, Long Ride out to the BMF show at Shepton Mallet (47 miles) for those that want to go shopping and a ride through the New Forest (see below).

Normal Disco on the Friday Evening and Band on Saturday plus silly games and friendly late bar...

Price... £10 for members £15 for guests Ticket limit is 230



Summer Solstice Ride Out to Barton on Sea (Biker Del)

The Southern Region will be hosting a rideout to Barton On Sea where from the Beachcomber Café you will have stunning views of the Solent and the Isle of Wight. We will be leaving Marlborough at 11.00 am for an hours ride on good biking roads to Ower where we will have a leg stretch and refreshments.

From here it is a 45 minute ride to Barton On Sea via The New Forest.

From Barton on Sea will ride across The New Forest in a different direction via the witching village of Burley. Then its back down to Ower for fuel and off to Marlborough, hopefully returning to camp around 4.00 pm.

If you decide to come on the ride please ensure that you have enough fuel for 85 miles before setting off from Marlborough.

If you wish to advertise or mention an event, service or something for sale please contact Big Al or Druid at the addresses or phone numbers below.

Run and Rally reports will be greatly appreciated and all support will be included in this newsletter.

Guidelines for VRA Group Rides

Primary Considerations

The primary consideration in conducting and participating in a VRA group ride is that of safety. That is your personal safety, the safety of the other riders, and the safety of other road users and 3rd parties.

The Road Traffic Law should be obeyed at all times. In doing this we can be real ambassadors to the VRA and to motorcycling in general.

It is important to remember that each rider participating in a group ride is responsible for their own actions and their consequences.

It is the individual's responsibility both to themselves, to the other group members, and to the law to ensure their motorcycle is in a safe, legal, and INSURED state before joining the ride.

Advantages of following these guidelines

By following these guidelines a standard approach to group riding can be achieved where every rider has an understanding of what to expect.

It has to be accepted that at times the group of riders will become separated, particularly in built up areas. By following these guidelines all participants of the ride should reach the destination and keeping all the riders together ceases to be a primary consideration.

Basic Principles

The basis of the system is that the Leader (usually the ride organiser) stays in front of the group and the Tail Rider at the rear.

Whenever there is a deviation from the obvious straight ahead route, the rider travelling behind the leader (2nd man) pulls over in a visible and safe position to point all the bikes in the correct direction. Then when the Tail Rider comes along the 2nd man rejoins the route in front of the Tail Rider. As the journey continues each rider will in turn become the 2nd man behind the Leader.

By following this basic system each rider can ride their own ride, without the risk of getting lost. There is no need to stay in convoy or to play 'catch up'.

Putting it into Practice

1. Make sure that everyone is familiar with the Lead and Tail system.
2. All riders should be made aware who the lead and tail riders are and how they can be identified.
3. Ensure that every rider is aware of the location of rest stops and the final destination.
4. Do not overtake others in the group
5. When overtaking a slower road user, particularly on a dual carriageway or motorway accelerate far enough ahead to allow the rest of the group enough room to follow and slot in behind you safely.
6. When on the open road, ride in staggered formation when in close proximity to other group riders.
7. Allow other road users to overtake the group if they wish. Make a space for them to do so if necessary and is safe to do so.

Leaders Role

1. Brief all riders before the off.
2. Ride smoothly and at a steady pace.
3. Do not make sudden lane changes or manoeuvres.
4. When overtaking a slower road user, particularly on a dual carriageway or motorway accelerate far enough ahead to allow the rest of the group enough room to follow and slot in behind you safely.
5. On leaving a dual carriageway or motorway ensure you are in Lane One at least a mile before the junction to allow the rest of the group to position themselves safely to follow you.
6. If it becomes apparent that the Group has come to a halt because a rider has had problems, retrace the route until you discover the cause of the hold-up and take appropriate action.

2nd Man's Role

Be prepared to stop and act as the marker. However if you are the second bike behind the leader (3rd Man) and you realise that the bike in front has not marked a change in direction then mark it yourself.

Never compromise your personal safety or the safety of others by stopping in a dangerous location. It is your decision where to stop, but remember to be an effective marker you need to be visible to the following bikes.

Do not block roads or junctions. Do not move until the Tail Rider appears.

Tail Riders Role

As you approach the marker bike slow down to enable the rider to pull out.

Watch out for any bikes that have pulled over for any reason and stop and find out what the problem is.

If you get lost

The most common cause of getting lost is failure to see the marker or someone leaving the group while on the road and the bike behind follows. Both causes are avoidable if everyone follows this guide. If you do get lost and after 10 minutes no one has found you, proceed to the destination point.

COMMON SENSE MUST ALWAYS PREVAIL, guidelines cannot possibly apply to every situation.

Courtesy of Glenn Lewis (Shaft)