

February 2013

Well here we are All New Year resolutions being kept, all diets being lovingly followed, all promises being honoured, I'll start the decorating in January darling, YEH RIGHT! Let's start to see where WE CAN GET THE BIKE OUT! January as they say is a month of two halves.

9 January Coopers :

We started our official ride outs of 2013 on Wednesday 9th January from our local dealership Coopers BMW at Tunbridge Wells. A good turn out despite the damp and mucky roads, 11 bikes and two trusty pillions. Leaving slightly later than normal, the coffee machine came in for a bashing as folks were catching up with all the Christmas and New Year news. A fairly short ride of about 50 odd miles taking us along mainly back roads through some of Kent's prettiest little villages. As we rode you could see and smell this lovely time of the year giving us all the reasons we needed as to why we keep our bikes on winter standby for just this kind of day. Arriving at Lydd airport formerly known as Ferryfield which was built as a replacement for the old Ashford Airport at Lympne. Today it's mainly used for private Aviation and training, with scheduled flights to Le Touquet. After a warming lunch in their pleasant restaurant and with the sun getting lower in the winter sky our group decided it was time to head home. We split into a couple of smaller groups to make our journeys home. It was a great day to get the bike out.

Thanks to Ron (The Run Master) for the above report.

Before we move on to future Days Out, Weekends away etc, Friday Borders Meets. The idea of these was that as Kent is the most south-eastern county in England. It is bounded to the North by the River Thames and the North Sea and on the south by the Straits of Dover and the English Channel. Some Members might find that a bit of travelling is required to attend the South East Section 1st and 3rd Wednesdays evening meeting venue at The Bull East Farleigh ,Nr Maidstone . So the idea was to start arranging meetings on the last Friday of each Month at few different venues around Kent to enable those members living further afield somewhere to meet up. With the exception of The Roebuck Pub at Loughton on the B2124 , which has a small regular gathering the other meeting Pubs aren't really attracting much interest. If you do live a bit of a distance From the Bull please contact me by e-mail or better still phone to let us know how we can best attract your interest with the section .

The Weather for this time of year has been pretty kind to us so far which has given many of us the opportunity to do a few miles in half decent weather with the Sunday Lunch meetings and our monthly midweek runs from Coopers being very well supported. As the year starts to open out we will be spreading our travelling wings further afield. A couple of events to start us off in March Coopers BMW Open Day Saturday 9th we have been invited to support this event. Coopers will be laying on a small BBQ etc plus the opportunity to test ride a selection of the new BMW 2013 range. Geoff's Pioneer Run 17th March is an early start (8am) from the Oakdene café lay-by. A great day out with the chance to see, hear and even smell some of the great old classic bikes. Also many of our section will be off to the Oirschot Motoweekend in Holland 29th-1st for their Annual Rally an event which our section has supported since the early 90s. If you've never been and fancy trying something with a difference give your section secretary Shaun a call for more details. Also something to get the old grey cells working Sunday 31st March John (The Hawk) will be arranging his Treasure Hunt starting with coffee/breakfast at the Brewers Fayre Pub, Paddock Wood from 9am with us departing at 10.30.

26-28th April our weekend at the Lion Hotel, Belper Nr the Peak District National Park and Darby Dales being only a short ride away is going well. If you are wishing to come along please phone the hotel to reserve your room on 01773 824033 (Ref : BMW Club South East).

Also our French week at the end of May early June in the Dordogne region is coming together nicely. As is the Three National Parks weekend in July. Please see Diary of Events for contact details on all events mentioned above.

Kelvin.