

## SOUTH EAST SECTION NEWS

Season's Greetings - here we are December the season to be jolly. By the time you read this hopefully the Diary of Events for next year will be at the printers and with you early 2015. We start this month with our penultimate Club Night on the 3<sup>rd</sup> swiftly followed by our Christmas Lunch on the 7<sup>th</sup>. The Midweek Run from Coopers is on the 10<sup>th</sup> and the 12<sup>th</sup> is the Friday evening gathering at The White Hart. John Lippiett will be taking us on a pre-Christmas jaunt leaving the lay-by opposite The Oakdene Cafe, Wrotham (A20/M26) at 10.30am. It's our festive Club Night on the 17<sup>th</sup>. For those of you who need to blow away a few cobwebs the Lunch meet is on the 28<sup>th</sup> at Brookside Garden Centre, East Peckham and the run is due to start at 1pm. The New Year Party on the 10<sup>th</sup> January has been **cancelled**. This has been replaced with a Pre-Spring Buffet (same venue – Poult Wood) to be held on the 28<sup>th</sup> February.

The AGM was held on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October and was supported by 23 members. Needless, to say the committee has remained the same for the forthcoming year.

We had a shock to the system on the 5<sup>th</sup> as the beginning of Phil Jones' run to the Copdock Vintage Motorcycle Show was extremely chilly. Phil led nine bikes and fortunately as we got nearer it got warmer and by the time we arrived it was quite hot. This show was huge plenty to see and well worth a visit by enthusiasts of all ages. We headed home at 4pm stopping at Kelvedon for a coffee on the way.

Only 7 bikes arrived at Coopers on the 8<sup>th</sup>. What a day it was extremely wet! Eventually, it was decided to have a relatively short run as the weather was so bad. Alan and Linda Thomas took us to Tenterden where we had lunch at the Indulgence Cafe. Linda nipped in first to see if they would mind if we came in, we were so wet! The ladies were very welcoming and by the time we left there was a huge puddle where we had been sitting.

The Bovington & Weymouth weekend was enjoyed by 23 members. Nine bikes left The Orchard Cafe, West Grinstead (in the rain) on the Saturday five of which stopped at the Tank museum before heading to the Premier Inn at Weymouth. We were joined there by six members who had travelled down in their cars (sensible!). Sunday morning we all took a stroll along the seafront to watch the Beach Races. We met up briefly with the boys who travelled down on the Sunday before they left. The weather forecast stated the rain would arrive about 3.30pm and it certainly did! We made our way back to the hotel and got absolutely soaked and a mobile phone was rendered useless! Luckily, the hotel had a tumble dryer! The ride home on the Monday was wet but we remained undaunted. All in all a very good weekend.

Club Night on the 15<sup>th</sup> was very quiet (14 members) so "How's Your Memory" with Brian Shears was postponed until a later date.

Kevin Goldfinch started his "Autumn Leaves" run from the Maidstone Services on the 19<sup>th</sup>, a bright sunny and *dry* day. Ten bikes followed him down towards the Kentish coast to our destination The Ocean Inn at Dymchurch for lunch. After our meal we set off for Chilham where we had tea in the garden of the quaint Badgers Hill Farm & Cidery. Various animals ranging from Llamas to Chickens roamed together in the field at the back. A tranquil spot for all the family.

After lunch eleven bikes left a very busy Polhill Garden Centre on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Keith Morris took us on a not too complicated run down to the 1066 cafe/diner nr Robertsbridge. Once again we were lucky – no rain!

**On behalf of the South East Section Committee I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.**

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