

## **SOUTH EAST SECTION NEWS**

Happy New Year to one and all. Hope you all enjoyed the festivities and are now looking forward to the year ahead. As you will have seen in the December Journal the New Year Party has been replaced by the Pre-Spring Buffet to be held this year on the 28<sup>th</sup> February at Poulton Wood. The reasoning behind this is to spread our social events out a little over the year. Please book with me by the 18<sup>th</sup> February. The first run for 2015 is the Midweek Run from Coopers on the 14<sup>th</sup> followed by Shaun Mulligan's New Year Run on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Our lunch meet on the 25<sup>th</sup> is at the White Horse, Chilham and there are, of course, the usual Wednesday club nights and Friday evening gatherings.

We have a few events this year and I would like to take this opportunity to bring them to your attention. This year sees the Section's 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday in August and we will be having a party to celebrate. In April we have Andrew's weekend in his home county of Leicestershire. Our second weekend is "Chalky Dorset" with Phil and Sue in May. Daryl and Elaine have organised a one week break in the Black Forest (Germany) in September, which I am pleased to report is attracting a great deal of interest. The Weymouth Beach Races was a popular weekend last year and will be repeated again in October.

At the end of October and beginning of November several of our "hardy" section members took themselves off to the Hippo Rally, Bodmin Moor which included possibly one of our oldest and one of our youngest active members - George and his grandson Matthew. A few actually camped and others (sensible ones) stayed in a B&B. A great time had by all I believe.

Ron Rugman led 14 bikes from Coopers on the 12<sup>th</sup> November. He weaved his way through Kent and Surrey towards Rykers Cafe at Mickleham (Box Hill) - a well known Surrey beauty spot and popular for walkers and bikers.

Unfortunately, Ian Campbell was incapacitated and unable to take his run on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Keith stood in for him and led 13 bikes from the Oakdene Cafe lay-by and meandered down towards the Kent coast stopping for lunch at The Airport Cafe near Ashford. The sky was looking extremely grim and it was decided to cut the day short and attempt to get home before the rain. Ian you were sorely missed and we all wish you a speedy recovery.

Rose Warner held her "Beetle Drive" at Club Night on the 19<sup>th</sup> and I would like to thank all of you who took part for your enthusiasm and eagerness to win the prize!! This being a homemade fruit cake baked by Rose herself. Bill Haller was the overall winner and proudly took his 'trophy' home to Maureen. Thank you Rose for a fun evening.

On the 30<sup>th</sup> eleven members turned out on a chilly morning to meet for lunch at Highgrove Garden Centre, Staplehurst. At 1pm Alan and Linda Thomas led six bikes for an afternoon jolly through the lanes and highways of Kent to Tenterden where they indulged in tea and cakes at the Indulgence cafe.

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