

South East Section Nov news for Jan.2012 Journal.

Our Guest Speaker for our November meeting was a surprise, it was Shaun Mulligan.(Filling in while the real speakers got set up) It was a relaxed meeting with Shaun chatting and everyone joining in. Then Dave Deacon and Ron Rugman entertained us with tales of their recent trip to Spain which has now wetted our appetites so a few of us are now planning our trips to Spain, thank you lads.

While a few hardy members braved the Rhino Rally, (it actually turned out quite mild and mostly dry) the rest of us enjoyed a bonfire party at Matty's. The weather forecast for the evening was dreadful, but it turned out to be a perfect evening mild and dry so after eating our banger in a bun and a few cakes, we watched a dazzling firework display then turned around and watched firework extravaganza from the Hop Farm just across the road. Once again many thanks to Matty and his family for the use of their field. Thanks also to his granddaughter for her guitar playing and her singing it was a lovely ending to the evening.

Just a reminder, the New Year's Party at Poulwood Golf Centre is on 7 January so please let me have names as soon as possible. We will discuss this at the Xmas Lunch, there will be a small charge as we are having a disco after the buffet, we will have the disco at the end of the room, so those members who like to chat will have a quiet area to talk. Hope this is OK with everyone. Thanks to Rosemary for the above.

The Autumn Leaves run with Kevin had 7 bikes go via "The Ocean" Dymchurch ending at Beech Court Garden Café (open for us!), poor weather but an enjoyable day out.

The Wednesday run from Coopers got away to a very unsure start as our section secretary decided to take the majority of the run home with him, good one Sec. (Apologies for that and just as well I realised, stopped and redirected them.)

Fortunately someone realised the mistake and we reassembled behind the leader for a second attempt. The run towards Dungeness went smoothly but upon approaching Tenterden our lady navigator decided to keep things interesting by diverting to Faversham without letting on! During lunch Mr Barlow expressed his displeasure at not frequenting his usual haunt so the party then retired to Headcorn for coffee and dessert.

A small group met at Polhill on the 27th and after lunch rode off to Rye Harbour for a cup of tea.

(Its getting late in the year and its good to note where places will be open. What would we do without Rye Harbour and Headcorn airfield. Just drop in there and you meet all and sundry.)

Thanks Paula for reports.

The Hippo, as noted above was quite mild, we had a pleasant ride down, Ian C, John Stewart, Clive and myself (Shaun) although tested by the occasional heavy shower. We had good fortune and put the tents up before it rained again. Us, The South East Section were the sole customers in the Colliford Tavern on the Thursday, had a lovely meal and a few drinks, getting back to the tents and into sleeping bags before it tipped it down again. Breakfasted we had a lovely run following Clive with his Satnav to Tavistock with its interesting shops and "Pannier Market". On Saturday we walked to the local Stone Age village where we saw a pile of old rocks.

The entertainment as usual was fun, Friday night there is Karaoke Night and one of our number (Brian V??! prefers to be nameless or blameless) actually sang Old Shep with not a dry ear in the place.

Thanks go to Sally Robinson and Les Madge (for the pasties) and The South West team for putting on another enjoyable Hippo.

Phil's run turned into mine (Shaun`s) run as we swapped dates. We went to Tangmere Air Museum. Lovely scenery, sweeping bends and dry roads, earlier in the week.! On our day it was slightly damp and very misty, I swear with the 80GS small screen the mist sticks to the visor.(taller screen anybody). They coped well with us, the "Damp Dozen" considering they forgot to note we were coming.

The Diary of Events is, as I write this, at Swanley Printers, sent to The Journal and on our "southeastbmw.com" Website. The Borders and Sunday Lunchtime meets included in the 2012 Diary

are those with favourable feedback with good support. The 7 Diner/Hotel, suggested by a local member has been added as a Borders meeting.

The "Theme Nights" are aiming to provoke some interest in what we can offer to all BMW riders. Rother Valley Camping at Northiam is not far but has some beautiful scenery and interesting roads, a newly open pub/Indian Restaurant at its gates and an exceptionally nice pub and food a few minutes walk away. This has been set up by John Burton and we hope to entice some other sections to join us. (Also there with the CSMA on 5-9th July)

"Red Kite" Camping and B&B weekend is a joint "do" with the Western Section and Kelvin and Paula have worked overtime to get this set up.

Phil's British Superbike weekend run may provoke some interest for some and is a new idea.

We hope you all got your just rewards for Christmas, indigestion, a little hangover and all the gifts you hoped for , cleaning kits, comfy seats, "do it all spanners" and blenders ? (which can be used for mixing that paint with some thinners to touch up the old frame)

Good Luck, Good Health and Keep it between the Green Bits.