

## **SOUTH EAST SECTION NEWS**

As you know the AGM was held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> October and a couple of changes have taken place. Shaun Mulligan has stepped down as Section Secretary and Kelvin Duff has also stepped down as Section Social Secretary. Jackie Lippiett stood up for the Secretary post and I volunteered for the Social Secretary role. I have to say nobody can be more surprised than us to find ourselves in this position. However, I am very pleased and grateful to report that Elaine Bronger has remained in her role as Section Treasurer and John Hawker as Membership Secretary. We held our first committee meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> October. Our fellow committee members being Ian Campbell, Dave Deacon, Keith Morris, Ron Rugman and Lou & Rose Warner.

Jackie, Elaine, John, myself and the committee would like to take this opportunity to thank Shaun for his endeavours over the past three years and Kelvin and Paula for their time and hard work during the last twelve months.

I know Christmas is nearly upon us and it's a hectic time for most but may I remind you all of the **NEW YEAR PARTY** to be held on the 11<sup>th</sup> January at Poult Wood Golf Centre. I do need to know who will be attending as soon as possible. **PLEASE** contact me on 0208 301 1600.

October has been a very busy month for the section. Our first run being Kevin Goldfinch's Autumn Leaves on the 6<sup>th</sup>. Always a popular run and this year matched previous ones. 17 bikes met at Maidstone Services and Kevin took us through the roads and lanes of Kent (negotiated the odd road diversion which confused the sat nav's but local knowledge won the day). We stopped at Dymchurch for a pub lunch and as it was such a lovely day several ate "al fresco". We left Dymchurch and our ride continued to Beech Court Tea Room & Gardens for a refreshing cuppa.

Our second outing was the Midweek Run from Coopers Tunbridge Wells on the 9<sup>th</sup> with Ron Rugman at the helm. Once again we were blessed with good weather and a good turn out 11 bikes. Trying to avoid the A21 initially we took "B" roads around some lovely Kentish villages. After a short hop on the A21 we turned off at Robertsbridge and rode through sun dappled lanes to Herstmonceux, Sussex. Finally, arriving in Bexhill and stopping for lunch at the Sovereign Light Café on the seafront. We then took the A22, A272 and on to the A275 to The Stable Café at Heaven Farm just south of Danehill, a final chat and of course a cup to tea and slice of cake.

George Barlow took us to Weymouth Beach Races on the 20<sup>th</sup>. 10 bikes turned up at "The Orchard Café" at West Grinstead at 8am for breakfast before leaving for Weymouth at 9am. The weather predicted for the day was not good but on the whole it was not too bad until we actually arrived. Where we were met with high winds and torrential rain. We had a Fish & Chip lunch and then made our way to the beach, by now the rain had stopped and we watched 3 races in bright sunshine and only a slight breeze. I can honestly say (from a woman's point of view) that I had absolutely no idea who was first or last it was so chaotic! Nevertheless a good day.

Last but not least was our lunchtime meet at Hawkhurst Fish Farm on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Considering the weather predictions it was quite well attended 9 bikes and Brian and Margaret Shears came by car. Luckily, the heavy rain fell whilst we had lunch. Under the circumstances it was decided to only have a short run, so for the second time this month we made our way to Heaven Farm.

Looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the New Year Party. It only remains for me to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

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