



MOJACAR MOTORCYCLE TOURING CLUB

bulletin

A Club for Touring Motorcyclists founded by the late Ken Craven.
www.mojacarmtc.org.uk

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SECRETARIES BIT

Enclosed this month is the membership list for 2009 - also a copy of the email address list but, only to members on the list, so that they can communicate with each other by email if they wish. Your affiliation membership card to the BMF is also enclosed.

Kim & John Vane have given me the final details of their Okehampton Winter Warmer weekend in March; details of payment of balance are given with other important information about the weekend - please see their article below.

Brian & Jackie Caswell ask members who have not paid the £10 deposit for the Abergavenny weekend to please forward it as soon as possible. They also remind folk to pay the remaining balance by 15th February.

Information on the Forest of Dean weekend organised by Martin Heuter is now available. Martin is running this at the same time as the club goes on tour to Portugal, it is available to members who are not on the tour and who would like a weekend motorcycle event in a lovely part of Britain. It is based at the excellent Miners arms near Coleford. For details read Martins article in the events column.

Approximately 23 members braved the weather and turned up at the White Hart pub in Stockbridge for Sunday lunch on February 8th. As usual the decibel level from the various conversations was high with everyone having a great time. We thank Arthur & Lyn Spain for finding an excellent venue and the organization.

By the time you receive the next bulletin the Winter Warmer at Okehampton will have taken place, lets hope all the snow and heavy rain will have abated and, as we are in deepest Devon spring will be in the air!!

All correspondence on subjects other than events to:
A.W. Maidens Hon Secretary,
8 The Cedars, Benson, Wallingford, Oxford. OX10 6LL
Tel No: 01491 838489
E mail ac_maidens68@hotmail.com

CLUB MEMBERSHIP

As I write this our membership is a healthy 125 for the start of 2009. Although we attract members by “word of mouth”, our club website continues to be a good advertisement for our many activities and we must thank Colin for all his efforts in keeping it varied and interesting. The majority of our new members this year have applied for membership using the website facility. It would seem that our club is still an attraction to adventure seeking motorcyclists who also like friendly social gatherings, with this in mind, I hope we see some if not all of our new members on club events this year. Many of our long standing members some who we rarely see now (possibly due to *ano domini!!!*) do enjoy reading about club motorcycle weekends, the tours, and old friends. So, I ask our members who can put pen to paper - or to keyboard, to keep the reports on events or other motorcycling activities coming in to me, I will publish them.

Hon sec

BMF

The club has renewed its liability insurance including affiliation to the BMF for 2009. As part of the “deal” we are given a club discount code for members to quote for discounts to all BMF shows and other discount offers. Our club number is- MTC09W548, please write this in the box on your affiliation card. Listed below are some useful contacts offering discounts.

NCI Insurance Services – for all your motorcycling insurances, home and European. 0800 0217824.

Perkins-Slade – Travel Insurance. 0121 6988050.

Motorsport Travel – discount channel crossing including Eurotunnel, Sea France, Condor Lines, Stena (Ireland) & Irish Ferries. 01759 301010.

RAC Motoring Services – 25% off breakdown cover at acquisition and renewal. 0800 581077 use code DT1010 to obtain discount

Hon Sec

EVENTS FOR 2009

Western Winter Warmer: Okehampton Devon,

Date 13th to 15th March.

Organisers: John & Kim Vane.

Firstly, can I say how thrilled we are that there has been such a positive response to our offer to stage this year's Winter Warmer at Betty Cottles Inn, Okehampton. We look forward to welcoming 25 members, namely:-

Bill Fishwick, Mike Walker, Paul & Lydia Gretton, Andy Bishop, Colin Purches Roy Simpson, Tony & Christine Maidens, Geoff & Pat Barfoot, Chris & Claude Stevens, Mike Lacey, Derek Roberts, Maurice & Pat Jones, Mark White, Brian Beeson, Martin Heuter & Jane Berry, Dave & Barbara Bexley, John & Kim Vane.

This makes almost a full house, but if you are interested in joining us, please give us a ring so that we can put you on the reserve list. **For those who have not confirmed their booking with £10 deposit, please do so straight away. The total cost per person per night is £38.50. Therefore there will be a balance of £67.00 per person due by 28th February 09.** Please make cheques payable to John Vane and also say if you have any dietary requirements. Now a bit about the weekend. Betty Cottles Inn has a mix of rooms, family rooms en suite, double en suite, standard doubles and singles. For ease of payment, we have added the total costs together and divided by the number of guests. Friday's dinner will be a servery meal with two choices and a selection of desserts, Saturday's dinner will be a carvery. There is a very cosy, almost self-contained bar with a log fire. Saturday's ride-out will take us west towards Bodmin Moor with a lunch stop for everyone at Jamaica Inn, the return journey will be a circuitous route through moorland villages and the Tamer Valley to the west of Dartmoor which we will cross to bring us back to Okehampton.

A newsletter will be sent out to all participants around 1st March giving instructions on how to find Betty Cottles Inn and, the route for Saturday so that "Satnavers" can set things in advance.

4 Peaks: Abergavenny: Date 10th to 13th April.

Organiser: Brian Caswell.

As before the accommodation is at Mulberry House (Ty'r Morwydd). The cost per night for B&B is £22.50 + Dinner at £11.50, therefore 3 nights Dinner B&B is £102.00.

If you would like to join please phone or send a note with a deposit of £10.00. The balance will be required by 15 February 2009.

The Saturday run will be sorted out nearer the date.

May Reunion: Lyme Regis: Date 1st to 4th May.

Organiser Tony Maidens.

Tour to Portugal: 30th May to 14th June.

Organisers: Tony & Christine Maidens.

Forest of Dean Weekend:

Date 29th to 31st May.

Organiser: Martin Heuter:

I have made provisional reservations in two local places. The Miners Arms which some of you may remember. Price for a double or twin room £50 B&B. The second

option about 10 minutes walk from the Miners is the Lamsquay hotel, price for a double or twin room £74 B&B, there is also an option for camping nearby at about £13 per night (I need to confirm this). My plan is that we have dinner on both Friday and Saturday night at the jolly Miners Arms. For participants who are interested and can arrive Friday, I will try to organise a visit to the Morgan factory in Malvern. The ride out on Saturday will not be quite a repeat of the previous weekend I organised but, is still based in the beautiful Forest of Dean. The route I have in mind will take us from the Forest to the Malvern Hills, on towards Leominster via Hay and back through the Golden Valley and Wye Valley to Colford. For those who may not want to come on the ride out on Saturday there is plenty to do and see in and around the Forest – The Wye Valley, Symmonds Yat, Tintern Abbey, or do as you please.

If you are interested in joining me I do need confirmation with a deposit of £10 per person made payable to Martin Heuter by 14th March at the latest.

North Wootton Somerset: Date 10th to 12th July.

Organisers: Arthur & Lyn Spain. Camping/B&B weekend – As usual we are in the campsite at North Wootton, the cost per pitch is £7. I may require a deposit at a later date. For those requiring B&B the Crossways hotel in the village has double rooms at £70 per night B&B or single rooms at £50 per night B&B. Nearer the date we will get information on alternative accommodation and menus for our dinners at the crossways.

Llanwrtyd Wells: Date 14th to 16th August:

Organisers: Brian & Jackie Caswell. Details to follow

Autumn tour to Central/Eastern Scotland:

Dates 5th to 14th /15th September. Organisers: Ian & Morag Fitzsimons. Our itinerary: Group meet Saturday 5 October at Moffat for a one night stop, from Moffat we travel to the Crianlarich area for a two night stop (Sunday & Monday). Leaving Crianlarich we ride to Tain in Ross-shire for a four night stop (Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday/Friday). We then travel to South Queensferry for a two night stop (Saturday & Sunday). Monday 14th depart for home.

Moffat is just off the M74 some 40 miles north of Carlisle. It is possible to come off the motorway once across the border and travel up via the old A74 for a more relaxed ride. Heading north we take in a mix of country and small town roads, the final part of the journey taking us through the famous Trossachs. There is a great choice of places to visit on the free day at Crianlarich. Distance approx 140 miles.

From Crianlarich we travel north over Glencoe through Fort William along Loch Ness to Drumnadrochit, then Beauly, Moy Bridge, Dingwall and on to Tain. The famous Glen of Tranquillity lies just outside the town where guided tours are possible. Another attraction is Harrods at the Falls of Shin at the famous salmon leaps. Yes it's owned by the man himself. There are many places to choose to ride to, John o Groats and along the

top edge of the UK to Cape Wrath being but one – participants will be given a wider choice nearer the time.

From Tain we head south to South Queensferry for a two night stop; Edinburgh is close by, alternatively a trip across the Forth on the ferry to the Under Sea World or just do as you please. South Queensferry is close to the main route around Edinburgh where you have a choice heading south either on the A7 for Carlisle or A68 over Carter Bar and south to A1/M1.

Ian & Morag Fitzsimons.

AGM reunion weekend: Date 9th and 10th October.

Organiser: Tony Maidens.

Hon Secretary.

TOUR TO PORTUGAL 2009

Date of tour: Saturday 30th May – Sunday 14th June.

Number on tour: 36 members. Their names are:

*Frank & Lynda Chapman, Bill & Kate Fishwick,
Maurice & Pat Jones, Ian & Morag Fitzsimons,
Dave & Sue Boon, Mike & Sheila Smith, Phil Noad,
Tony & Maureen Street, Keith & Brenda Parfoot,
Alan & Brenda Glover, Nigel Lacey & Edina Champion,
Colin Pegram, Paul Weston, Colin Purches,
Alan Simister, Laurie Shephard, Peter Reynolds,
John Sellwood, Vince Noad, Andy Bishop, David Goose,
Mike Lacey, Mike Thompson, John Swainston,
Tony & Christine Maidens.*

Our itinerary is: - Saturday 30th May 2009 the group will meet at Beaumont north of Le Mans. Sunday we ride to Mansle near Angouleme about 190 miles. Monday - ride to Navararrenx west of Pau in the foothills of the

Pyrenees 190 miles. Tuesday onto Agreda in northern Spain 165 miles (the club visited the Hostelry here in 2003). Wednesday to Piedralaves 240 miles for a two night break in the Sierra Gredos. Friday ride into Portugal via Caceres for a two night stop in the old town of Castelo de Vide 240 miles. Sunday - south west to Santiago do Cacem 150 miles some 83 miles south of Lisbon near the Atlantic coast for a three night break. Wednesday 10th June ride back into Spain to Merida around 190 miles for our final night. This will position folk near main routes to find there own way back home starting on Thursday morning. The distance from Dieppe (our ferry port) to Merida is approximately 1500 miles; you need to add another 800+ miles to home.

Costs – with the increasing value of the euro we think half board will be somewhere in the region of £42 a night. Petrol is any-ones guess but, it is usually cheaper in Spain and Portugal!!

Tony & Christine Maidens.

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MERIDA TO MOJACAR?

Ian and Morag Fitzsimons have decided to ride from Merida – (our last nights stop in Spain on our return out of Portugal) - across Spain to Mojacar. They ask if any one is interested in joining them for a short stay at the clubs spiritual home on the Mediterranean coast of Spain. If you are interested then drop them a note or, ring them on:- but, after March 1st.

Hon Sec