



MOJACAR MOTORCYCLE TOURING CLUB

bulletin

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

March 2010
Issue 182

SECRETARIES BIT

Alan Simister has important information about the weekend at Kirkby Lonsdale; see details under Alan's event.

The club season 'kicks off' on the 19 March with our winter warmer to Abergavenny. The event is organized by Paul Weston with Dave Bexley putting together a ride out. Paul has about 27 members joining him for this one. I have printed a map at end of the bulletin showing directions to Mulberry House Hostel for anyone who has not been before. Let's hope that spring will have truly sprung in Wales by then; and - don't forget your towel.

We have a concept for a tour in our 2011 events box. This one is from Dave Gilligan. It involves using hostels in Europe. Read all the details under the "Provisional Offers 2011" heading. Dave requires members who have an interest in his idea to contact him; if enough members show interest he will investigate further.

At the May reunion we like to make a decision on next years' summer tour if possible so, if anyone else has the germ of an idea for a summer tour in 2011, or indeed for any other event, please let me know and I will place in "Provisional Offers" box opposite for consideration.

May is approaching and the first of the clubs two annual reunion gatherings will be upon us - the Reunion at Lyme Regis - the clubs spiritual home. The menu form with prices is attached. There is about 7 weeks to this event. So, I would appreciate a prompt reply with the form and payment if you are joining this happy gathering. I have to inform the caterers of your choice of food 2 weeks before the event, so I do not have a great deal of time. Detail of the weekend programme is given under the event heading elsewhere in the bulletin.

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

PROVISIONAL OFFERS FOR TOURS AND EVENTS IN 2011.

*Any ideas or offers you have will be inserted in this box.
Hon Sec*

Following the Secretary's request for ideas for events in 2011, I would be glad to hear from club members about a proposal of mine to tour through parts of Belgium, Switzerland and France using International Youth Hostels for accommodation. I have no experience of using hostels on the Continent; however images and details on the websites are encouraging. The average price per day for bed and breakfast in the nine hostels, based on a shared room basis is from 18 Euros. Evening meals are offered at all of hostels.

The hostels considered would be at Bouillon, Saverne, Belfort, Grindelwald, Clusaz, Guillestre, Tarascon, Le Puy en Velay and Vezelay.

If you go to: www.hihostels.com you can see slideshows for most of the hostels.

To make group bookings we would need a minimum of ten participants. If there is enough interest I will flesh out the above skeleton of a proposal.

Dave Gilligan

EVENTS FOR 2010 in Date order with details where available.

4 Peaks weekend based at Mulberry House Hostel (Ty'r Morwydd) Abergavenny. Date: 19th and 20th March. Organiser Paul Weston,

What Ho Clubmates!

We have 27 members booked in, 5 couples and 17 chaps. This includes the Essex contingent; well done Essex boys.

Dave Bexley has compiled a route for Saturdays ride out. **Please bear in mind that Mulberry House is closed from 10am to 4pm each day and, that you need to bring a towel(s). Dinner is served at 6pm; Breakfast promptly at 8am.** Bring your own booze if you like a

drink with dinner. Evening dress is not compulsory, it's up to you!! No slacking now chaps and chapes's.

Adios for now

Paul.

Kirkby Lonsdale – camping/B&B weekend. Date:

16th and 17th April. Organiser Alan Simister;

I will be out of action for 3 or 4 weeks. The route is done and very scenic it is - with wonderful views over the national park.

There is still time to join us at Kirkby. Phone the tourist information in Kirkby 015242 71437 for B&B accommodation or take a serious look at the Woodclose Caravan Park on the web.

Would campers please book their own pitch at Woodclose; phone number 015242 71597.

Looking forward to seeing you all in April.

May Re-union weekend Lyme Regis – B&B/camping weekend. Date: 1st to 3rd May.

Organiser Tony Maidens.

Many members turn this event into a long weekend with the majority booking B&B. If you require help in finding B&B either ring or email me, I have many contact telephone numbers. Please indicate on the form if you are one of the hardy souls camping. I inform Adrian at Hook Farm so that he can set a plot aside for you, this is a busy time for him and he needs to know his numbers as the site is usually full, especially if the weather is reasonable.

Programme: Some members will arrive Friday and probably meet other members wandering around Lyme looking for a suitable dinner venue - there are plenty. Saturday is a do as you please day – enjoy Lyme and surrounding area or take a ride out into the lovely Dorset countryside. Saturday evening we assemble at the Pilot Boat Inn for dinner at 7.30pm.

Sunday morning we assemble at the usual lay-by on the A3052. After much chat and bike viewing we depart at 10pm on a splendid ride organized by Dave Boon around parts of south west England. Sunday evening we again assemble at the Pilot Boat Inn for 7.30pm dinner.

Monday – the event finishes and people depart for home or maybe; stay on a little longer.

Note: There are 2 static 4 berth caravans available for hire at Hook Farm. They have all mod cons, i.e. shower, gas fire, cooking facilities, television, fridge, micro wave oven etc. Cost per caravan - 3 nights for 2 people £110. - 3 or 4 people; £135. If you are interested contact Adrian at Hook Farm on 01297 442801.

Tour to Italy. Dates 5th to 20th June. Organisers Tony & Christine Maidens. 01491 838489. See details in bulletin.

Bungay Suffolk – Camping/B&B weekend. Date: 9th and 10th July. Organisers Colin Purches. & Colin Pegram.

We will be using the Outney meadow Caravan Park which is a 5 minute walk from the centre of Bungay. There is ample accommodation in the town at varying prices, of which we will give details in a future issue.

The river Waveney runs through the campsite and, it is possible to hire Canadian Canoes by the day or half day.

The run will be a ride along the Suffolk Coast stopping at the sunken village of Dunwich for coffee. Lunch will be by the river Deben on the south of the county. The ride after lunch will be through the beautiful countryside of inland Suffolk. Distance, approx 130 miles. If you do require B&B contact Colin Purches or Colin Pegram for phone numbers of accommodation

Malvern Worcester – B&B/ camping weekend. Date: 13th to 15th August. Organiser Martin Heuter.

I can't give away the route - top secret,... (I haven't done it yet) but, I can say it's going to take in the Malvern Hills, the countryside between Malvern, Worcester and up the Severn Valley, stopping in Bewdley (famous motorcycle haunt by the river). Beautiful views, scenery and roads.

I have made a booking for the Morgan Car Factory visitor centre for those who feel like stepping back in time (or leaving their cash).. As the centre doesn't do anything after Friday 12 noon a visit is for those who want to arrive early (i.e. Friday morning). Price to be confirmed (I think its £5 pp). Now - accommodation. I've found a hotel in Bromyard, a small market town, 15 minutes away from Malvern which is going to do us a deal - £30.75 per person per night B&B sharing with secure parking, etc. etc. However, tough times for tourism, so they need to know whether or not we are coming and how many. I need to know by the end of January who wants to join us and the full amount (£61.50 per person) at the same time. I know this is an early commitment but it's a sign of the times. So please, send me a cheque and secure your place. Please ring (07884413318 or 01684 568577 if you need more info) or just send me your cheque to Martin Heuter, 19 Hampton Road, Malvern Worcestershire. WR14 1NB.

Early payments may become a feature for future events, especially during peak season. This event is "slap bang" in the middle of the school holidays.

Hon Sec

Tour of Britain – Using Hostels. Dates: 3rd to 11th September. Organiser David Gilligan. See details in bulletin.

Autumn re-union and AGM weekend – B&B/camping. Date: 2nd and 3rd October. Organiser Tony Maidens. Detail to follow.

Winter Closer weekend Coalport – Using Hostel. Date: 22nd and 23rd October. Organiser Alan Simister;

The hostel is booked, no need for money yet. Lots to do and see, good pubs within walking distance, make that staggering for Mr Weston and an excellent hostel. There are only 4 DOUBLES AVAILABLE for couples, so its first come first served. If you intend to join us, let me know in plenty of time, it also insures that you have a bed. A run will be organised but I will be putting that out to tender nor being a native of the area.

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SUMMER TOUR TO ITALY

The tour has 23 members and reservations are now closed.

The tour will take us through four countries to finish on the Mediterranean coast of Italy i.e. France, Germany, Austria and Italy. After crossing France and the Rhine our route takes us on a ride through rural southern Germany, we then continue our tour into Vorarlberg/Arlberg in Austria. After crossing the Finstermunzpass we enter Italy. Our route then continues over the Stelvio pass to eventually arrive at the lovely Lago D'Iseo for a 3 night 2 day stay. We then ride on to and finish near the Mediterranean at La Spezia in Liguria for a 2 night 1 day stay.

Our mileage from the first night in France to our final destination is approximately 970 miles.

Our planned itinerary is as follows:

Saturday 5 June; Group meets at a hotel in Beauvais Normandy France.

Sunday 6 June; Ride to the southern Ardenne to a hotel in Rethel.

Monday 7 June; Ride on for a one night stay to a hotel in the village of Urmatt in Alsace Loraine.

Tuesday 8 June; Crossing the Rhine we ride to Southern Germany for a one night stop at the village of Ostrach.

Wednesday 9 June; Ride into Austria to base the group in St Anton for one night.

Thursday 10 June; Ride into Italy to Lago d' Iseo for a three night stay. This lake is one of the smaller Italian lakes. It is surrounded by mountains and has a mini mountain of its own in the form of the island of Monte Isola, a boat sails regularly from a pier not far from our hotel. On the east bank of the lake a road leads to the village of Cislano, here an extraordinary spire-like rock formation rises from the ground, each spire is topped by a boulder, these are considered to be one of the most strangest wonders in Lombardy known as "Fairies of the Forest". Our hotel is situated adjacent to the lake and is

about a quarter of a mile from the nearest village centre. There is also a railway station about the same distance from the hotel.

Sunday 13. We leave Lago D'Iseo to ride to the old town of La Spezia on the Mediterranean coast for a 2 night stay.

La Spezia sits on the edge of the Mediterranean, it is an old port. The water front is surrounded by pastel coloured houses with many café's and restaurants. It is overlooked by a medieval castle.

Tuesday 15 June group breaks up and folk find their own way home.

Costs - difficult one this - prices have increased in euro land. Assume at the moment that 1£ = 1€ If the pound increases in value during the booking process then costs will be cheaper. Work on approx £53 per person per night Dinner bed & breakfast

Tony & Christine Maidens.

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AUTUMN TOUR 2010 September 3rd - 11th
(UPDATE)

Some fifteen Club members will be participating in this nine day tour of Britain. The accommodation in both the English and Scottish hostels has been booked.

The eight suggested daily routes which will pass through twelve of our National Parks and total nearly 2000 miles have been completed. A paper copy of these will be posted to riders towards the end of May together with hostel information and a request for the outstanding balance. I will be using my Garmin GPS routes, if anyone wants a copy of these please let me know.

Depending upon accommodation being available additional members to the group will be welcome.

Dave Gilligan



Dave Bexley riding the Suzuki SV1000 he used on the track day at Pembray. He was celebrating reaching 65 years of age. His story on this adventure was published in the January 2010 bulletin

