

Burgess Hill & District Motorcycle Club Newsletter



Club members on the Germany Tour

July/August 2011

Web Site www.burgesshillmc.com

Email bhdmcc@talk21.com

Secretary Paul Stevens Tel. 01444233838 Email: paulrstevens@tiscali.co.uk

Chairman's Chat

Well here we are again – it doesn't seem that long ago that I was writing bits for the newsletter as chairman – this is the third time I have taken on this role over the 20 odd years that I have been a member of the club. I must be doing something very wrong!!

The AGM back in June was interesting - the committee was saying goodbye to Dave Dyke and Phil Lucas – both have been on the committee for many years – Dave as Treasurer and Chairman and Phil as committee member involved in events and Monday runs. I would like to thank them both for their service to the club. The other thing that made the AGM interesting was the fact that we had more nominations for committee membership than there were spaces on the committee – this has never happened before in my time in the club. The situation caused a lot of debate as we could have expanded the size of the committee but this was not really required so we had a ballot. The result was very close but the outcome was that Stuart, who had been on the committee for the last year was not elected – thanks to Stuart for all his efforts in his time on the committee – I am sure we will see you nominated again!

The new committee is as follows Paul and Andy continue as secretary and treasurer respectively with Steve, Alan and Peter looking after various aspects of events Phil will be in charge of the newsletter and Wendy will maintain the club calendar and make sure Monday night run venues are sorted. We also have Dave Pilbeam continuing to manage the website for us. We have so far had 2 meetings with the new committee - there is great enthusiasm amongst the team and I am sure the members will benefit from the efforts of the team.

Janet and I recently had a break in Guernsey – interesting to drive over there – maximum speed limit of 35 and 25 in built up areas – very few roundabouts but a lot of filter boxes at junctions – they work as people actually take it in turns. Bizarrely there were a lot of high powered cars and bikes on the island – Subaru imprezza's getting up to 25 mph in first gear along the harbour front just to get the turbo to kick in !! sad!!!

It is quite amazing what a unique interest bikes can be – crossing all barriers – we were looking around one of the museums in Guernsey and looking at an old army bike from the war – I got chatting to an old chap who had had a couple of bikes years ago – but then his wife appeared and started telling us about being taken to a party by her boyfriend on the back of a bike that had nothing more than a pad on the rear mudguard – she said it was really uncomfortable – we then had a chat about the comfort of (some) modern bikes. Her husband wasn't very happy as he wasn't the boyfriend in question!!!! We had a nice chat with a lovely old couple only instigated by bikes!!

Mick

Police bike theft squad axed

One of Britain's last police stolen vehicle squads is to be closed from next year, leaving organised bike theft uninvestigated. The Metropolitan Police's stolen vehicle squad will be disbanded from April 2012 due to budget cuts.



The unit has been a powerful deterrent to organised criminal gangs that move around the country stealing bikes to order and dismantling them to sell as parts or shipping them overseas.

The squad has just one more undercover operation to carry out before being wound up. A source said: "We have one motorbike job we are actively looking at. We can't reveal details as it's a covert operation. We are not looking at taking on any more motorbike jobs as the unit is closing in April 2012." A force spokesman said: "The Metropolitan Police Service is having to make substantial savings in line with reducing budgets.

"This requires difficult decisions to be made about what areas of activity should be reduced. Following wide consultation about priorities, the Specialist Crime Directorate is considering changes to the Stolen Vehicle Unit."

He said the proposal "involve disbanding the dedicated proactive investigation team - whose role is to investigate criminal groups involved in the theft of motor vehicles - and absorbing its responsibilities across the organisation".

300mph, jet-assisted Hayabusa: meet the Bullet 1236

So this is the theory: a bike could go a lot faster on the straights if it didn't have wheels dragging on the ground. The solution? A small jet engine and a few subtle wings contributing enough thrust and lift to hold the bike a metre off the ground at 300mph along long straights.



Manoeuvrability is promised 'excellent' in the air, but we get the impression you're supposed to throttle off, touch tarmac and use the tyres to do the braking and turning. The Bullet 1236 is the work of prolific British conceptualist Phil Pauley, who has produced eye-catching, untenable designs in numerous fields.

Says Pauley: "Fortune will favour the brave here - this isn't going to be everyone's cup of tea. No pilot licences required either - only balls of steel and a winners mentality!" Says Suzuki:

CRASH CARDS

You may well have seen these advertised in the press and at shows— they are a great idea—you put a sticker on the right side of your crash helmet and fill in the small card with details about you—in the event that you need help from a paramedic but are unable to communicate with them—they will know that inside your crash helmet they will find the card with useful information on. This may be particularly relevant if you have any allergies.

We have a plentiful supply of these cards so if you want one—or more—please ask any committee member

Crackdown on uninsured driving gets underway

New laws to tackle uninsured driving will be enforced from today.

Under the new Continuous Insurance Enforcement law it's an offence to be the keeper of an uninsured vehicle, rather than just to drive when uninsured.

From today, registered keepers identified as having an uninsured vehicle will be sent a letter telling them that their vehicle appears to be uninsured, and warning them of the consequences if they fail to take action. Those who don't act on this warning - either by taking out insurance or declaring their vehicle off the road - will receive a £100 fine and could have their vehicle clamped, seized and destroyed. They may also face a court prosecution.

All drivers can check their vehicle is recorded correctly for free at askMID.com

Under the new system:

- DVLA will work in partnership with the Motor Insurers' Bureau to identify uninsured vehicles
- motorists will receive a letter telling them that their vehicle appears to be uninsured and warning them that they will be fined unless they take action
- if the keeper fails to insure the vehicle they will be given a £100 fine
- if the vehicle remains uninsured - regardless of whether the fine is paid – further action will be taken. If the vehicle is on public land it could then be clamped, seized and destroyed; alternatively court action could be taken, with the offender facing a fine of up to £1,000
- seized vehicles would only be released when the keeper provided evidence that the registered keeper is no longer committing the offence of having no insurance and the person proposing to drive the vehicle away is insured to do so

Vehicles with a valid Statutory Off Road Notice (SORN) won't be required to be insured.

For more details, visit direct.gov.uk/stayinsured

.Club Holiday to Lake Titisee, Black Forest, Germany

29.06.11 to 06.07.11

During a weak moment, I agreed to write what Paul called “a nice piece” about our club holiday to the Black Forest area of Germany. As you all know, I don’t ride a bike myself so I will leave any description of the wonderful roads and bends to my co-authors (although I did really enjoy them too).

Day 1 Wed

After a very early start for most of us, we met at the Channel Tunnel for breakfast. The crossing to France takes around half an hour so in a very short space of time we were finally on our way, the start of our holiday.

The ride through France to our first stop at Nancy was thankfully uneventful, using the motorway as our quickest route to cover the distance. Our hotel found and gear off the bikes, we headed out for something to eat and drink, followed by a well earned rest in readiness for the next day’s riding.

Day 2 Thurs

Our onward journey to Lake Titisee took a detour to visit the concentration camp at Natzweiler-Struthof. This was the only camp established by the Nazis on present-day French territory, operational between 1941 and 1944. Paul took us through some stunning scenery and pretty villages on the way (some by accident!) to visit the camp. Although perhaps not the most entertaining start to a holiday, it was nevertheless a very moving experience.

The Hotel Alemannenhoff was our destination and we arrived to find a lovely Swiss chalet style hotel situated directly on the shore of Lake Titisee. The rooms were very comfortable with lake views and balconies for some. The more modern rooms had particularly interesting shower cubicles, floor to ceiling glass situated in the bedroom itself with just a flimsy white modesty curtain to pull round. For the married couples this did not pose any problem but I think Andy and Geoff had to come to some special showering arrangement!

Once unpacked, it was time to regroup in the bar, meeting up with some other club members who had arrived via different routes and on different days, before heading down into the town of Titisee itself for an evening meal together.

Day 3 Fri

Following the most fabulous breakfast you could imagine (there was even chilled champagne, unfortunately not the ideal breakfast item before a bike ride), we experienced our first real taste of the B500 as we took a trip to the waterfalls at Triberg. We saw many other motorcycle groups as we went along and also a Porche group enjoying the road as much as we were. On arrival at the bottom of the waterfalls we stopped at a café for refreshments before embarking upon our ascent. The waterfalls at Triberg are Germany’s highest waterfalls with an overall drop of 163 metres over 7 cascades. Those who undertook this walk were treated to a spectacular sight of the waterfalls as we went on upwards and back down through the woods and into the town in a round trip.

Not all of the group were keen on a view of this spectacle and chose instead to ride on further to a crossing point at the Rhine and back to the hotel following a more roundabout route (according to Paul’s sat nav). The intrepid explorers returned to the hotel using a more direct route (according to Geoff’s map) and enjoyed a late afternoon boat trip on the lake. We regrouped in the bar before heading into town for the evening together, and this became the norm.

Day 4 Sat

Today saw the group going their separate ways. Some visited a Zeppelin museum and Lake Constance and Peter has kindly written about this.

Others wandered into Titisee and spent the day shopping, searching out huge portions of Black Forest ga-teau and generally messing about on the water and the lakeside.

Another group took advantage of a card we had been given from the hotel which entitled us to free travel by public transport. We caught a bus from outside the hotel and 20 minutes later were aboard a cable car, being taken to Feldberg, the highest mountain range in the Black Forest at 1448 m. The views were stunning as it was a clear day and we could see across to the mountains of Switzerland. Our evening was again spent in the usual manner!

Day 5 Sun

Today we went out as a group once more to ride back into France for a visit to Chateau Haut-Koenigsbourg in the Alsace region. This is a castle that has been restored to the grandeur of a 15th century mountain fortress, affording views as far as the Black Forest and the Swiss Alps on a clear day. The restoration work was finally finished in 1908. It was a very enjoyable visit, marred only by conditions on the road up to the castle which had recently been repaired in sections and covered in gravel. We did witness the aftermath of a motorcyclist who had unfortunately come to grief on his way up the road but thankfully things didn't look too bad for him. Coming down was also naturally very slow going but everyone managed it safely.

We then took a short ferry crossing back across the Rhine for some refreshments and the ride back home to the hotel, convening again in the evening to try out yet another restaurant.

Day 6 Mon

As this was our last day in Germany, with a long ride to look forward to the next day, all except Geoff opted for a day off the bikes. Geoff went to Baden Baden and has kindly written a piece about his trip.

Everyone else headed to Titisee for last minute shopping and yet more refreshments and to prepare for a mass jump into the lake which had been threatening to take place all week! The weather was absolutely glorious for our last day and sunbathing by the lake was the perfect way to end a fabulous holiday.

For our last evening we decided to have a meal in our hotel. The staff had looked after us so well all week and this meal was no exception. Local dishes were tasted, with apfelstrudel to finish together with a final taste of German beer and the few flavours of schnapps which hadn't already been tried!

Day 7 Tues

This was a very sad day as we loaded up the bikes in preparation for our return journey back into France for one more overnight stop. We had decided to split into a couple of groups for this ride, as keeping together 11 bikes would prove a bit difficult. This turned out to be our hottest day by far and with an average of six hours' riding, we were melting by the time we made each of our stops. The guys soon had their jackets and tops off to cool down, not so easy for us girls!!

With everyone arriving safely at our final hotel, plans were made for our last meal together and we found a Buffalo Grill close by. A final gathering took place in the hotel garden for drinks and reflection on what a good time we had all had, and then off to bed before the last leg of the journey home.

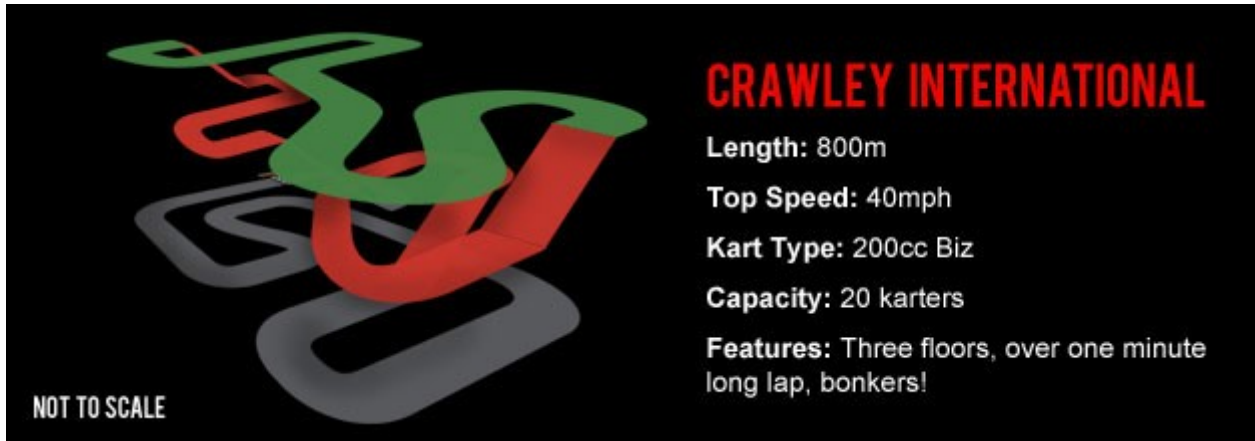
Day 8 Wed

Rain greeted us in the morning and as we left the hotel after breakfast, we ran into showers intermittently along the way. Wets on, wets off – we didn't know what to do for the best. In the end, we pushed on for the Channel Tunnel and hoped we would be able to board an earlier train as by now everyone just wanted to get home, feeling deflated after such a great time. It was very sad saying our goodbyes on the train, but of course there's always next year to look forward to.....

Sue Johnson
(pillion on a Honda CBF 1000 GT)

For everyone who likes a little bit of racing!

Crawley International Karting Track



Weekends all day – Minimum of 16 Drivers

Race through a series of qualifying heats, with points awarded for the top placed drivers in each heat. Those with the most points at the end of the heats race for glory in the grand final. A trophy podium presentation at the end finishes the event in true F1 style!

Event Types:

Super 4GP – 4 Heats of 4 Laps, 5 Lap Semi Final, 6 Lap Grand Final

From £39.95 per driver

Super 6GP – 4 Heats of 6 Laps, 7 Lap Semi Final, 8 Lap Grand Final

From £47.95 per driver

Super 8GP – 4 Heats of 8 Laps, 9 Lap Semi Final, 10 Lap Grand Final

From £54.95 per driver

These prices are as guidance only and will be negotiated when we know how many people are interested to attend the event.

There are also shorter track options available of 375m and 400m over two floors and this can be negotiated when we know member's preferences.

If you are interested in this event please email the club at bhdmcc@talk21.com and in the subject box put karting event.

Carpe Diem Competition 2011 List of Locations

Place to Visit	Location	Mileage points
Lobster Pot Cafe	Felpham Bognor	3
Ace Cafe	A406 London	5
Newlands Corner Cafe	A25 near Guildford	3
Bury Hill Cafe	A29	3
Rykas Cafe	Box Hill	4
Wessons Cafe	Horam	2
The Strand Cafe	Rye Harbour	5
Oakdean Cafe	Wrotham Kent A227	5
Roedean Cafe	A259 Nr Brighton	1
Carot's Cafe	Shoreham Harbour	1
Shoreham Airport cafe	Shoreham by sea	1
The Chalet Cafe	Cowfold	1
Sea Lane Cafe	Going by Sea	2
Southwater Country Park cafe	Southwater	2
Wadhurst Station Cafe	Wadhurst	3
Areoclub café Douglas Bader Statue	Goodwood	3
Sammy Millers Museum	New Milton	9
Duxford Air Museum	A505/M11 Jct	10
HMS Alliance Submarine Museum	Gosport	6
National Maritime Museum	Greenwich	5
Brooklands Museum	Brooklands Surrey	5
Chain Bridge Sandbanks	Nr Poole	10
Chain Bridge Cowes	IOW	6
Osborne House	IOW	10
Wareham Quay	Dorset	11
Swanage Pier	Dorset	11
Mid Hants Railway/watercress line	New Alresford Hants	6
Bluebell Railway	Sheffield Park	2
Swanage Railway	Swanage Dorset	11
Romney Hythe Dymchurch Rly.	Any station	6
Kent/ Sussex Railway	Tenterden	4
Vines BMW Dealers	Guildford	3
Doble MC	Coulsdon	2
Windsor Castle	Windsor	5
Shepherd & Dog	Fulking	1
Sompting Church	Sompting	1
The Moorings Pub	Pevensey	3
Batemans		3
Sheffield Park		3
The Vyne	Basingstoke	8
Dover castle		8
Thames Barrier		8
Frensham Ponds		5
Spinnaker Tower	Portsmouth	7
Blackboys Inn		4
Half Moon	Midhurst	7
Monkey World	Dorset	10
Tower of London		8
Ightam Moat	Kent	8
Chatham Dockyard		8

Carpe Diem Competition 2011 List of Locations Contd

Hampton Court Palace		7
P&H MC	Crawley	2
Corfe castle		8
Destination Triumph	Washington	2
Bodiam castle		6
Herstmonceux observatory		5
Arundel castle		4
Cowdray Ruins	Midhurst	4
Pevensy castle		6
Rye Harbour		7
Poole harbour		11
Chichester		6
Westerham		6
Hastings pier		4
Worthing Pier		3
Dover fort		5
Dungerness power station		7
Rochester castle		6

Send your photos to bhdmcc@talk21.com

Don't forget that you can also gain additional points by providing a receipt from the location!

NOTICE BOARD

Please let me know what you want to put on the Notice board or an article for the newsletter by the last Monday of the month. If you can email the club at bhdmcc@talk21.com and in the subject box put either notice board or newsletter (use Word if you can) so it can go in the next newsletter. On a similar theme, when the club programme announces a run to somewhere like the BMF shows, members make ad hoc arrangements to go together. If anybody plans to go to these types of events, let me know where and when you plan to meet and I can then act as a central point to let others know what's happening.

Summer Programme see web site for full calendar

July

Monday 4	The Plough, Dormansland
Monday 11	BBQ The Woolpack, Burgess Hill
Monday 18	Eastbourne Pier
Monday 25	Donjon Rouge, Wadhurst

August

Monday 1	Blacksmiths Arms, Adversane
Monday 8	Wheatsheaf, Bough Beech
Monday 15	Blackboys Inn, Blackboys
Monday 22	Ship & Anchor, Ford
Monday 29	Dyke Hotel, Devils Dyke

September

Monday 5	TBA
Monday 12	Shepard & Dog, Poynings

NB—the details of events are as at time of printing and are subject to change without notice—please watch for emails for latest updates



british motorcyclists federation

www.bmf.co.uk

BMF Discount code to go on your BMF affiliation cards (BHD10A375)