

Rutland Chapter



NEWS

**HOG Chapter
No: 6730**

**Newsletter
November 2012**

SCRATCHY'S SCRIBBLINGS



Once again the summer has been and gone, or did it? I am actually questioning whether it actually arrived at all. I can't seem to remember having 2 days of consistent sunshine together let alone a week or two.

Back in July we held our Horseshoe Rally, at the Fox and Hounds in Exton, Rutland. Luckily we had restricted the numbers and had sold all Tickets prior to the event, because the Friday arrived and the weather was absolutely awful. I wouldn't have wanted to be relying on gate sales to balance the books.

With regards to the actual event, it was very difficult to pick fault with it, apart from the weather of course, which is outside of our control. Our hosts, Valter & Sandra and their staff, bent over backwards to make sure we all had a good time. The two bands and the disco all seemed to go down well and certainly got people up dancing and having fun, which is exactly what we were trying to achieve. Even the local residents that attended, which was great to see, commented on what a great time they'd had. Altogether there was a fantastic atmosphere throughout the weekend and I'm so pleased that Rutland Water cancelled on us. Very often it is hard to create such an atmosphere at larger events. Overall the weekend was a huge success and with big thanks going to Mick Robinson for his organisation of such a great event. Mick's hardest problem though is beating it next year!

Once again at the start of August, just under 50 of us attended the Sofer Rally, at Bisley. Numbers for the event had been reduced because of constraints caused by the weather, but it certainly didn't stop us enjoying ourselves. On Friday night, I know of two people that spent 3 hours walking round the Bisley camp, trying to find their tents. On the Saturday night, following our afternoon BBQ and drinks, I have never seen so many (40+) so called bikers dancing round a handbag and how ever many people were in that conga.

September, saw 35 members attend the Chapter weekend away in the Shanklin, on the Isle of Wight. Friday included a cracking night in a pub in old Shanklin, there was a live band on, and boy did they

know we were there. They said it was the best gig they had ever done and have even joined our face book page. Saturday saw us riding around the island calling in at various locations for refreshments, this included Val's sisters, who had laid on some lovely cakes, all very much appreciated and very few remained when we left. Saturday night was spent eating and drinking on the seafront. The weather up until this point had been really nice but how was it going to change. On Sunday we awoke to rain, nothing too severe but never the less rain. Watching the weather forecast on the TV, it warned of the approaching tail end of a Hurricane from the south, when you looked out to sea, you could see it coming! It arrived just as we left! At the Port, the ferry Captain saw us all waiting and made a point of coming up and asking that we all remain with the bikes for the crossing as it was going to be rough. The storm remained with us all the way home and is the worst constant weather I have ever ridden in. Even the weather failed to spoil what was another great weekend – well done Mike!

All ride outs have had very good turnouts during the summer, which makes it all the more worthwhile putting them on. There will limited ride outs from now on over the winter period, with most being laid on at short notice. Should you wish to *be kept* informed of any last minute rides/meets, get yourself included in the Chapter text messaging service (contact Pete Hewitt) and/or our join our Rutland Hoggies face book page (ask any member to invite you on). Most Sunday mornings when the weather is ok, Chapter members can often be found at the Diner in Market Deeping, either having breakfast or a milk shake or two!

On Friday 14th December, Sycamores have kindly laid on some free xmas drinks and nibbles for all Chapter members, this evening, as was last year, has been combined with our agm. I am being asked by the current Committee and Dealer Principle to continue as Director, however should any member disagree with this please contact Andrew Winham at Sycamores HD. In addition should anyone wish to join the committee please also contact Andrew at Sycamores.

Well winter is well on its way, but in all truth how much worse can it be than the Summer we've just had, in all honesty it will probably be drier. Riding wise, I'll still be out and about and I'm already looking at plans and rides for next year.

Ride safe and can I take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.

Scratchy



IN THIS EDITION

- Page 1 - Scratchy's Scribblings
- Page 2 - Committee Members
- Page 3 - Richard's Musings
- Page 4 - 2012 Rally
- Page 5 - Upcoming Events
- Page 6 - New Owners Rides
- Page 7 - Shop Torque

CUSTARD CLUB



Daz & Denise

Pete & Dee



COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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What's this all about ? Well next time you see them be sure and ask them !!

RICHARD'S MUSINGS



My brother in law has worked for the meteorological office for the last 40 years. He's been forecasting (or is that guessing?) the weather for a long time and recognises that you can only predict what it's going to do a few days ahead. He promises it will improve at the end of July. But no matter how grim it's been so far, we have been lucky??? and only once did we cancel a ride-out because of the rain / snow.

One of my first outings was the Round Rutland trip. In common with all our trips out this year, what's really pleased me, as a member with a number of years under my belt (stop it), has been the number of attendees. It was quite warm for the time of year and the ride was enjoyed by all even if it was my turn to buy the teas and bacon butties. No one even went off-roading this year!

We supported Harleys Diner and our troops at the beginning of April following the Easter egg run. Richard Swinscoe, the proprietor, had organised a bike show outdoor dining and even my wife came along. We sat and sunbathed whilst just chillin'. This is what it's all about, being a Rutland Chapter member. You must visit Harleys Diner if you have the chance, even the mayor of Market Deeping and the locals like to see us turn up. Roll on summer it's gonna get even better.

The weather didn't get better, as the days got longer, it got b****y colder and wetter.

In May we went to Cromer. "Bring your bucket and spade" said the brief. I set off from home to meet up at Eye services at 10:00 and was home again by 10:10 as I promptly went 360 degrees round the first roundabout. After putting on a full face helmet, two pairs of thermal leggings, another hoodie and a winter buff, I set off again. I hoped no one else was going to turn up. Arriving at the services, loads of riders had turned up. Why?? It was freezing and it meant I had to go. Mike Grant led the ride-out and we had all types of weather. Well, everything except for the sun and I hoped that Mike might decide to stop well before we got there. But the guys with screens are made of sterner stuff and we made it to the seaside car park. Despite the offer from a member to provide a 'service' to persuade the car park attendant to let us in for free, we paid up and headed to the first chippie with indoor dining. We did the usual tourist

thing, Scratchy tried to break one of the children's rides and I even had an ice cream that froze once they took it out the fridge.

We also went to Sunny Hunny (Hunstanton) and also Skeggy (Skegness) a few weeks later in June and it was better and drier just!! We even managed to sit and eat our chips outside, but kept our jackets on. It still wasn't summer, so let's hope the weather improves for August, September and October like it did in 2011. We wait and see. If it doesn't the Fatboy and Sportster will have to go for a Streetglide with a screen and heated grips.

Richard

(Not Michael Fish or Ulrika ka ka ka)

All Smiles Sailing Out



Not so happy sailing home !



THE 2012 RALLY

Finally the rally arrived. For me this was the 7th rally and the best so far. The original site we had booked disappointingly cancelled on us earlier in the year but turned out to be water logged in July and so they did us a good turn as The Fox & Hounds at Exton did everything brilliantly. Thanks to Valter and Sandra the proprietors. How lucky are we, to have chapter members with a traditional pub / restaurant, super food and ales, an outside space for a band, a grass dance floor, a well drained camping site and access to the village hall. We had to restrict the ticket numbers for this sell-out event.

Many attendees for the rally left their bikes at home as the weather was really awful on Friday. Even I had my stuff off the bike and in the car at one point during the day. I did finally ride over at 5:30 when it stopped p*****g down. Instead of camping I opted for the village hall which meant indoor toilets, facilities for making tea, getting dressed standing up and two snoring doggies. One Eyed Cats provided the entertainment on Friday night and were thoroughly worth the expense. Very professional, even they wouldn't or I suspect couldn't, play anything from Girls Aloud, Abba or T Rex.

Mick (aka the Dancing Constable) organised the ride-out Saturday morning. Some detours were made to the original route to avoid the flooded villages. This was all explained at the briefing that nearly took as long as the ride itself. Mick is thorough and he is genuinely concerned that everyone enjoys themselves safely (thought that was my job).

Saturday afternoon was games, games, games. Because of my age I slept through the lot as I do need my afternoon nap. By all accounts Barry, Sue and Cubby did a sterling job. The announcements in the evening included best in show which Barry won with his custom pan-head. He rode it in and rode it out to qualify. He also entertained us all on Sunday morning as we ran a sweep on how many kicks it would take to start it.

Saturday night we finally got to see Hooker, an excellent local band who we have been trying to book for ages. 15 minutes into the set, a local complained that they were drowning out his telly. Funny how giving him 6 bottles of cider improved the TV reception. Next year after 10 minutes of the first band session we are all going round his, saying that the telly is drowning out the band and asking if we can have our cider back. We all partied late into the night /early morning before retiring.

Overall the rally was a brilliant success, bands superb (thanks Tall Dave) the beer spot on and the

food arrangements better than I have ever experienced at any rally. Thank you Valter, Sandra, your staff and the good folk of the village of Exton. Can we come back again next year please? Thanks to the shop and Andrew for sponsoring a band and finally a big well done to Scratchy. He has been the driving force behind our Chapter for a number of years in his role as Director and without him our Chapter and specifically this rally would not be the success they have proved to be.

Richard

(Not Lord of the Village Hall or Where's Wally)

PS One of our chapter members reached 60 whilst we were rallying. We all sang happy birthday on Saturday evening and had a piece of cake covered with some of the best icing I've ever tasted.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Annual Toy Run – Children's Ward at the New Peterborough Hospital

Sunday 9th December

Annual Toy Run to the Children's Ward at the New Peterborough Hospital. This Event is open to all bikers so please invite your friends along. All we ask is that you purchase a gift label it Boy or Girl; include an age group where applicable.

Ride Departs Sycamores @ 11am

Organiser – Pete Ward (Police Escorted)

AGM & Sycamores Xmas Drinks

Friday 16th December

Chapter Annual Meeting including free drinks and nibbles kindly supplied by Sycamores as thanks for the Chapter's support throughout the year.

Sycamores from 7pm for 7.30pm

Chapter Meeting & Social Evening

Wednesday 16th January

Monthly Meeting and Social Event held at the White Horse Public House at Morcott. This is situated on the A47 about 3 miles east of Uppingham. Find out all the latest information on upcoming events and the gossip from previous ones

All Members – White Horse, Morcott (A47) from 8pm

Chapter Winter Party

Saturday 9th February

The Chapter's Annual Winter Party held at Cummins Sports & Social Club in Wharf Road, Stamford. Music courtesy of the "Nightrain" Disco, Buffet and cheap drinks. As per usual free to members, so no excuses get yourself along there for great night out.

Free to All Members – Cummins Sports & Social Club, Wharf road, Stamford, PE9 2BW from 8pm

Sycamore's Annual Custom Show

Saturday 9th & Sunday 10th March

Sycamore's Annual Custom Show held at their Dealership in Uppingham. Plans are a foot to make this years Event much bigger than previous years. The Chapter will have a BBQ and Stall at the Event and there is an open invite to a Saturday Night Party in the Town Hall in Uppingham


All Members – Sycamore Harley Davidson, Uppingham

Chapter Meeting & Social Evening

Wednesday 20th March

Monthly Meeting and Social Event held at the White Horse Public House at Morcott. This is situated on the A47 about 3 miles east of Uppingham. Find out all the latest information on upcoming events and the gossip from previous ones

All Members – White Horse, Morcott (A47) from 8pm



2012 Christmas TOY RUN

Annual Christmas Toy Run to the Children's Ward at the New Peterborough Hospital. All Gifts should be labelled "Boy" or "Girl" with an age group where applicable. These Gifts can be dropped off prior to the Event at Sycamores Uppingham, who are providing a van to take the gifts to the Hospital. As usual all Bikes welcome - so be sure to bring a friend

Sunday 9th December

Arrive Sycamore's 10.30am for 11am Ride Departure
Passing through Oundle Town Centre at 11.30am (no stop)
Ride stops for 10mins at Notcutts Layby, Orton at 12 noon - last pick up.



Tickets on sale from 1st November 2012
www.nenevalleyhog.co.uk

OLD SCHOOL RALLY 2013

BACK TO OUR ROOTS

16th 17th 18th AUGUST 2013

TICKETS AT WWW.NENEVALLEY.CO.UK

TOWCESTRANS RFC
GREENS NORTON ROAD
TOWCESTER
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
NN12 8AW

Theme St Trinian's

Bike Show

NEW OWNERS RIDES

Saturday 15 September saw 22 bikes out on the first of the six weekly 'New Owners Rides' that are being organised in conjunction with the shop. During the riding season Andrew will now write to everyone that has purchased a bike in the preceding six weeks and invite them to attend the rides. Current chapter members are more than welcome as it is an opportunity to meet and greet new or potential new members to the chapter and introduce them to group riding. It is also an opportunity/excuse to get out on your bike! The weather for this first ride was ideal and we took a scenic route from the shop to Rockingham, under the Harringworth Viaduct four times!, Morcott, round Rutland Water and onto see chapter members Valter and Sandra at their pub, the Fox and Hounds at Exton. After a coffee or two and a chat it was back to the shop and the end of the ride. Whilst the majority who attended were Chapter members it was nice to be able to meet new owner Andy and his son from Wisbech and have Roz with us on her first group ride. The next ride will be on Saturday 27 October leaving the shop at 11.00 am.

Ride safe!

Mike



StLeger Chapter Doncaster

IRON HORSE RALLY 2013

10th - 13th May 2013

Bainland Country Park, Woodhall Spa, Lincolnshire.

On site chalets On site static caravans

High quality pitches for caravans and motor homes

Plenty of camping space with superior quality heated shower and toilet facilities

Lots of local B & B and hotel accommodation

1940s theme to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Dambusters in their own town

OnLine Booking available from mid October 2012

www.ironhorserally.co.uk

SHOP TORQUE

Well here we are again, the riding season is nearly over for another year. For those of you who would still like to ride through the cold days we have an extensive range of new riding jackets, water proofs and heated grips available in store and also the latest range of fashion clothing is on display too, so if you haven't already why not pop over for a look.

Here at Sycamore we have decided to give notice on the Ducati franchise and this will phase out over the next three months and after this period we will be concentrating solely on Harley-Davidson which will give us the opportunity to expand our used bike stock considerably and to give more space to new bikes, P&A and customisation. We are currently clearing out all Ducati bikes, parts, clothing and accessories at cost price so if you have any Ducati friends please spread the word as they will be sure to bag a bargain!

On December 8th & 9th we will be holding a combined secret sale weekend and 10th birthday celebration. YES ten years since we opened doesn't time fly! During this weekend we will have some amazing offers on parts, clothing and of course bikes, so please show your support, come along, do some Christmas shopping and grab a slice of birthday cake! LADIES – don't forget we sell gift vouchers which make the ideal Christmas gift for that hard to please man in your life!!!

The Harley dealer show this year was in Milwaukee, THE home of Harley-Davidson! While I was there I was fortunate enough to get tickets for the Harley museum, now I am no museum person but opted to visit while I had the chance. The museum is a huge stand alone attraction and once inside I was amongst every Harley-Davidson ever produced in the last 110 years. I would strongly recommend a visit if you are ever in the area as I was highly impressed. Also on the site is a Harley-Davidson restaurant and gift shop and on a Thursday night they hold bike night so we turned up at 6ish to be met by rows and rows of bikes and bikers and I had never seen anything quite like it before, again it really was an amazing experience I would highly recommend.

The purpose of the Dealer show was to showcase the new 2013 models and of course the 110th Anniversary bikes. The 110th bikes look stunning and will be built in limited numbers to make them that little bit more special. We currently have an Anniversary Fatboy on display so if you still haven't seen it – what are you waiting for? The big talking point was the new CVO Breakout which looks stunning but unfortunately due to the small amount coming into the UK we will not be getting one to display as they are all already sold, but we do have a good selection of MY13 bikes currently on display in our showroom for you to play with.

Our next big dealer event is our custom show in March 2013 which we are already busy organising. We will be following the same format as last year with the bike show being held over two days in the dealership, trade stands and Saturday evening party at the town hall. Those of you looking at entering your bike please speak to Matt – let's make this the best show yet, so any ideas etc are very welcome, let us know what you would like to see over the weekend.

Sycamore currently have two fantastic promotions running at the moment, we are offering a £1000 extra trade in allowance on any new MY12 Harley and free stage 1 on any MY13 bikes purchased before December 31st 2012. Matthew currently has some great deals on engine upgrades and customisation projects so please feel free to contact him for a chat regarding your bike.

All that leaves me to do now is to wish a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to each and every one of you and thank you for your continued support and business in the last year and we all look forward to looking after you in 2013!

Andy



Kerry fulfilling a dream by having a ride on back of a Harley Davidson, pictured here with Chloe & Charlotte of Sycamores

H.O.G. 30th Anniversary Celebrations, Port Grimaud, Golfe de Saint-Tropez, 2nd-5th May 2013

