

Shetland Classic Motorcycle Club Newsletter

March 2019



****Chairman's Chat****

Spring is here! Time to dust off your bike and prepare for another year of interesting runs. You will find all the details of where we are going in this newsletter and I do hope that you will be tempted to join us. We are venturing South for the first time in a while and if you want to join us on the visit to Orkney and its vehicle show please let Lewie or me know.

Our AGM was in December last year at the Stoney Hill Hall and, as usual, Annette and Ian did a splendid job of organising the hall and the refreshments. We had a good turnout and we have managed to incorporate your suggestions for some of the runs.

The winter programme is now complete. It has been a varied series of events taking us halfway round the world from Shetland Composites to the Himalayas. Thanks to Theo and Dean for organising these visits and talks. We have also enjoyed the warmth of Frank's workshop whilst munching mince pies and drinking mulled wine, what's not to like?

Sadly, we lost one of our long-time members, Mike Mills, a true enthusiast. You will find his obituary in the newsletter.

Looking forward to catch up with everyone's news when I see you on our club runs.

Gordon

****Summer Runs Trophy 2018****



Chairman Gordon presents the Trophy to Lewie at the AGM

Since the Summer Runs Trophy was introduced in 2013, Lewie's name has appeared on it no less than four times.

He was joint winner in 2014 and 2015, winner in 2016, and now, having never missed a run, a worthy winner yet again in 2018.

Congratulations are due to Lewie, from all concerned, for a great effort from one of the few, if not the only one of our members who "gets on his bike" virtually every day!

Joe

****Rare Bikes in Shetland No 32****



As will be obvious to many of you, it is a 596cc, Scott, Flying Squirrel Tourer of 1934 vintage, and was used regularly by the late Bobby Hall, of Voe, certainly into the 1970s. It is now owned by the family, and I am indebted to his son Carl for the use of this photo.

The Scott Company was founded by Alfred Scott in 1909, and the machines he made over the years were virtually all developments of his original, two stroke parallel twin, water-cooled model. The maker's transfer on the tank actually depicts a measuring gauge, alluding to accuracy used in manufacturing their products. In the 1920s the two speed, open framed Scott Squirrel was reckoned to be quick if a touch smoky and temperamental. The noise they produced was affectionately known as the Scott "Yowl", and announced their arrival from a piece away. The firm went into liquidation in the 1950s, was bought by Matt Holder and went on to produce Silk machines with the virtually the same engine design.

I'm not sure how original the bike is now, as I know that Bobby got another for spares in the early 1960s, and may have used bits of both as time went on. I can see the toolbox is not original and look like ones fitted by BSA in the 1930s. I hasten to add that not of this detracts from this interesting and desirable machine.

It would be great if some of the family would get it up and running again to be seen once more on the roads about Voe!

Joe

****Mike Mills****

In January this year the club lost one of its oldest members with the sudden passing of Mike Mills, at the respectable age of 82.

Mike joined the club in 2005 and, as most of you will remember, he joined us on many winter club nights and the occasional summer run. Over the years he built up quite a collection of classic bikes and on more than one occasion kindly invited us to visit his bike shed at Reawick. Here we were treated to a great viewing of, and discussion about, this interesting variety of bikes, including three pre-war Marston Sunbeams, a GTP Velocette, a rare 1957 Model 77 Norton and 1969 Triumph Bonneville to mention but a few. These certainly impressed the assembled mass of biking enthusiasts, but no more than all the home baked goodies which our generous host provided for afters!



Mike chatting to Dean in the bike shed, September 2015

Some 80 odd of his family and friends attended a lovely memorial service for Mike in the Skeld Hall on Saturday the 9th of February. It was a warm friendly affair, more like a Sunday tea, and I was pleased to see that the club was well represented on the day. It was very enlightening to hear what he had been involved in and achieved in his lifetime. A lifetime which began in London, where he suffered evacuation from his childhood home during the Blitz, and ended with many happy years spent in rural Shetland.

We learned of his great interest in gardening, and how he went on to gain an honours degree in horticulture. Several of his friends paid tribute to his many skills and interests, including fruit and vegetable growing, knitting, cooking, bee keeping and honey making, history, boats, his work with the Citizens Advice Bureau and of course his love of motor cycles.

After we enjoyed the tea and home bakes, the day tailed off with short film of Mike talking about his bikes to, and recorded by, his friend Dave Hammond. A fitting tribute to this strong, quiet and unassuming man of many talents, who will long be remembered by the members who were privileged to know him.

Joe

****Visit to Shetland Composites****

The final event in the 2018/19 SCMCC winter programme was a visit to Shetland Composites on Wednesday 6th March. 14 Club members convened at the premises in the Staney Hill and we were hosted by Ben Gibson, who is the energy behind the business.

The evening commenced with Ben running us through a presentation describing his vocational background and a history of the business and the wide variety of projects it has been involved in.

Ben commenced work building GRP boats in the south of England and returned to Shetland to set up his own GRP business in Lerwick. From small beginnings, working in a warehouse at the Greenhead, he has now constructed a bespoke facility in the Staney Hill and has even seen the need to extend this also.



*Mussel farm marker buoy with solar collector
(vertical to allow for low sun)*



Pelamis elements

Amongst the plethora of projects Ben showed us examples of were:-

- Wave test tank components for the US Navy – the largest in USA
- Wind tunnel components
- Pelamis Wave Power Generator – scaled down version for testing purposes
- Navigation buoys with solar lighting
- Wind farm blade repairs
- Tidal generator blade manufacture
- Various bins and tool lockers for Sullom Voe
- Hatchery tanks up to 10.5m dia x 3m deep and constructed in sections for transport



Lockers used at Sullom Voe



Tidal generator blades

Perhaps the more peculiar projects that they have been involved in included the creation of a full size GRP killer whale as a deterrent for seals for the aquaculture industry. Unfortunately this was unsuccessful and the only example constructed is now on display at the Sumburgh Head lighthouse.

Another project that has had more success was the design and construction of water jet nozzles for Flowrider type onshore surfing rides. These nozzles continue to be fabricated and in order to fine tune their design Ben constructed a full size surf ride at his premises to test his results. These nozzles are shipped to customers across the globe.

Following Ben's presentation, we made our way to the workshops where we were shown Work in Progress and the variety of tools and techniques employed in their business. Ben explained that Shetland's cooler climate is actually beneficial in slowing the curing process of the resins.

Ben informed us that there are many more man hours that go into design and construction of the moulds, than go into the actual laying up of the fibreglass or Kevlar for the finished product. It is for this reason that Ben would prefer to get more production components to manufacture than the many bespoke components that he has produced to date. Indeed there have been many products that were just one-offs, but these still required the meticulous preparation of a mould. We viewed a sample of a lighting unit that had been commissioned for a £180M Superyacht under construction in the Netherlands, this was a pure work of art.

What was clear from the workshop visit, was the ingenuity that is employed to develop techniques to assist in the construction processes. One tool in particular was the modification of a concrete mixer into a large disc sander.

The workshop was fitted with a number of what look like drainage gulleys in the floor. These were in fact a ventilation extraction system for removing the heavier than air styrene fumes from the workplace. This was another example of designing in a tool to do a particular job.



Following on from the workshop visit, Ben took us through another presentation detailing a concept for a range of catamaran fishing vessels that would be fuel efficient and add value to their catch by completing processing stages onboard. These, he believed, could be constructed locally given the right financial and regulatory climate.

To sum up, it was a very interesting visit to a local company operating in a niche marketplace and who send their products worldwide. I will be keeping an eye out in future to see what other peculiar items emerge from their premises.

Theo

SHETLAND MOTORCYCLISTS *For Charity*



shetlandmotorcyclists@gmail.com

Motorcycle Parade - Sunday 11th August 2019

Shetland Motorcyclists For Charity are calling on anyone who will be in Shetland with a **motorcycle of any kind** to participate in a charity parade around Lerwick. This is to fundraise for a variety of local charities in need (TBC), while also promoting a positive image of the motorcycling community in Shetland.

In 2017 over 180 motorcyclists took part, raising just under £10,000 for Macmillan Nurses and Disability Shetland. We had newly-qualified motorcyclists on their first ever group run riding beside people who have had bikes for over 50 years. The oldest rider was in his 70s, and the youngest pillion rider had just started primary school. It was the largest parade of motorcycles Shetland has ever seen in one go.

This year, we want to do even better!



**ALL TYPES OF MOTORCYCLE AND ALL LEVELS OF EXPERIENCE
WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED!**

More info to follow. In the meantime if you have any questions, or if you can offer any support, please get in touch via email (shetlandmotorcyclists@gmail.com) or telephone:
Robert Tulloch – 07876 193244 | Lewie Tulloch – 07789 974659 | Ashlea Tulloch – 07799 281996

****Summer Runs 2019****

April:

Wed 3rd Evening run to Frankie's at Brae - note earlier start at 6.30 p.m.
Sun 28th Voar Redd-Up - run to arrive at Spiggie at 2.00 pm (or depart
Islesburgh at 1.30 pm)

May:

Wed 1st Evening run to South Whiteness, short walk to Harpa
Sat 11th West Side run, possible visit to Bertie Moar
Sun 26th Yell run including Whalefirth and visitation to Beatie and David.
11 a.m. start - details T.B.C.

June:

Wed 5th Evening run to Royal Observer Corps bunker - Dales Lees or Walls
Sun 16th Boat trip to Oxna with barbecue. 10 a.m. start, details T.B.C.
Sat. 22nd Afternoon run to Simmer Dim, Ollaberry

July:

Wed 3rd Evening run to Broonie's Taing, visit "Da Kirn o'Cumliewick" blowhole
Sun 14th Bressay
Sun 28th Virkie, walk to see the "Red Pool"
Wed 31st - Sun 4th Aug Trip to Orkney including Orkney Show
Contact Lewie on 01595 692326 for more information

August:

Wed 7th Evening Run to Hamnavoe, walk to Fugla Ness
Sun 11th Shetland Motorcycle Charity Run - details T.B.C.
Sun 18th Run to South Whiteness, boat trip across Stromness Voe to Binna Ness.
12 p.m. start, details T.B.C.
Sun 25th Yell, visit various alternative energy projects. 10 a.m. start, details T.B.C.

September:

Wed 4th Evening run - Joe's Magical Mystery Tour
Sun 15th Quinsetter and Houbansetter, Gonfirth
Sun 29th Run to Scatness, walk to Ness of Burgi

October

Sun 6th Sunday Teas, details T.B.C.

Please note:

We will send reminders and further details / changes for all runs by email and SMS a few days beforehand.

All Wednesday evening runs leave Islesburgh north car-park at 7.00 p.m.

All weekend runs leave at 2.00 p.m. unless otherwise stated.

*** SCMCC Regalia ***



Metal pin badge: £3.00



Sticker: £1.00



Toorie: £8.00



Fleece snood: £8.00



T-shirt, various sizes and colours:
£10.00



Hooded sweatshirt, various sizes
and colours: £18.00

Sweatshirts without hoods now also available in various colours.
For regalia please contact **Russell Black**: 01950 431495.

SCMCC Committee / Contacts 2019

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