

## July's Report (included in August edition of Nacelle)

June has been a quite busy sort of a month, but firstly, it is with great joy we welcome our illustrious Branch Secretary, Peter W back onto 2 wheels with the acquisition of a rather nice Bonneville Newchurch.

Many of our branch have spent part of June exploring parts of the European mainland, with Malcolm Tony and Heidi doing northern/central Spain and much of Portugal. They reported that it had been a wonderful adventure with breath taking views around each corner and with few tourists around they felt they got a real insight into the true nature of the place.

Besides this trip another 7 members went out to France for about a week, the picture is of them at the famous old Grand Prix circuit of Reims. (The infiltrating BMW was made an honorary Triumph for the trip)



All enjoyed the largely trouble free trip with only Martin K taking a little tumble off his bike which resulted in a little superficial bruising and some parts of his bike requiring the application of heat to make it rideable. This service was provided by a local Suzuki workshop, again, giving evidence of the common bond between all motorcyclists.

Meanwhile back in dear old blighty, we have enjoyed a couple of enjoyable ride outs through the rolling Essex countryside. The first being a trip taken by around 16 bikes to a fabulous old pub/brewery The Compasses in Littley Green, on the way there I was particularly struck by how old our county is and just how many of the fine old buildings remain for our enjoyment. The only slight problem we

encountered on this ride was the low sun that blinded the participants and meant we all put undue faith in the person leading the run and just had to follow the tail light of the motorcycle in front of us. This could have resulted in us all landing in a roadside ditch as we hurtled along the lanes like some demented suicidal Camel Train. On arrival we found the pub to be very busy as both The Essex Classic Bike Club and The Chelmsford Morris Dancers were in attendance. A few of us took the opportunity to watch The Morris display others remained aloof from English country dancing and concentrated on beer and conversation.

Later in the month we had a ride in beautiful weather to the now ubiquitous destination of Andrews Airfield. Sadly despite the glorious weather the run was rather sparsely attended with only 6 bikes and 7 people in attendance. This was explained by the run coinciding with England's tricky second round World Cup game. It was, though, proved by both Martin and myself that the ride and football were not mutually exclusive as we both made it to our respective television sets in time for the kick off.

The month ended with our meeting at the Shepherd and Dog. This meeting was very well attended with around 14 bikes in the car park 16 if you include the Harley and the Hoysung already in attendance.

July is already looking like a fun packed month, cant wait to get out there on 2 wheels as often as humanly possible.

Chris O'