

May Meanderings 2019

If February were a delight then March has been a betrayal for motorcyclists. We though in Essex have just donned warmer clothing and got out there. Sadly due to various domestic pressures and pre-arranged jaunts I have missed all meeting including the ESSEXTREFFEN one (I note our esteemed Chairman, Peter has decided to capitalise ESSEXTREFFEN so who am I to reject the party line). I have though managed 2 out of the 3 ride outs.

The ride that I did not get to was a ride up to Crazy Horse Motorcycles in Bury St Edmunds. Where all in attendance greatly admired the ever-improving Nortons.

I did also get to a RoFs ride to Fobbing (a suburb of Basildon) with 10 of us in all. It was a little colder than had been anticipated but we as we wove our way round the circuitous route devised by John S we forgot the cold and just enjoyed the curviness of the countryside.

The second was what is often our first ride of the season, The Tilbury Classic Bike show, and was enlivened by the appearance of Vince, who had decided this was the appropriate occasion to channel his inner Valentino Rossi by wearing his new one-piece leather suit. Vince maintains he was trying it out for fit prior to a track day being held by the Trident and Rocket 3 Owners Club, we felt he might be using it to show off his manly form, the jury remains undecided on which of these was the reason. The trip there was short but was again enlivened by Vince, who came from the back to the front on the aforementioned Trident making the most lovely noise. One of the great pleasures of ride outs is when his Trident is present and it surges past you, the auditory pleasure this gives is worth any inclemency in the weather for. On arrival we found we were, save for a couple of BSA's and a GS Beemer the only bikes there. The show had been colonised by our 4 wheeled friends and not even cars that were particularly easy on the eye. We were assured by the organiser that next year would be all bikes so maybe will give the event the benefit of the doubt.

Lastly a warm welcome to new member Mika who attended the show on his T120 and with his partner Anne. Also Charly, on her lovely Speed Triple later joined by partner Chris hope you will find the club to your liking and be regular attendees.

This next bit will unfortunately only appear in the club website as there is not room for it in the Nacelle version. Anyway I have suggestion for a trip out later in the year. The event is to watch one of the continental Moto GP's later in the year at Bike Shed where they show the races on a big screen and there is a good atmosphere of light hearted banter and committed support for favourite riders or bikes. They also do good food and an extensive drinks menu so maybe a trip by train rather than bike (and it is a boring ride up). Anyone interested come and speak to me at a future meeting and if there is enough interest I will book us a table.

So on to the Horrid Henry Honda saga. Well I am hoping to soon be able to stop denuding it of parts and instead start to turn it into Handsome Henry Honda. One thing I can report is that though it maybe stretching a point I will be able to call it a Trionda as I have taken off my Bonneville a rubber strap holding on a bit of electronics that sat under the seat but helpfully it has the Triumph badge stamped on it and I will find a place for it on the Honda. In all truth I have done nothing to the bike but maybe as the weather improves I will be able to make some progress.

Till next time, to paraphrase Neil Young, Keep on riding in the free world.

Chris O'