

## September's Submission

(included in September's edition of Nacelle)

Sadly I must begin my report with bad news. Steve Bennett's exquisite Triton has been stolen along with his classic Vespa scooter. I spoke to Steve yesterday and the thieves had the nerve to phone him and offer him his bikes back for £12,000. He suggested they go away and think again.

Otherwise it has been a busy month, with Essex being blessed with long periods of good weather. We began the month with The Battlesbridge Bike show, which has been reduced in size by the landowner selling off half the land to a garden centre/nursery. Ironically, the club got a bigger pitch than usual, arguably the star of the show may have been Steve's afore mentioned Triton.

Our Lodge monthly meeting was well attended on a lovely night in the pub's beer garden. The main topic up for discussion was the best route to the chosen Belgium destination, much pouring over maps and sat nav print outs. The trip itself seems to have been a resounding success with a good hotel in a nice town as the base. Also good roads plenty to do from museums to an afternoon spent at a Classic motorcycle race meet. The intrepid party covered over 1000 miles. Thoughts now turn to plans for next year and it looks like Normandy will be blessed with the roar from the Essex's Triumphs.

The Wednesday evening ride out to The Compasses, Little Green as always ably led by John Stone through some of the most picturesque countryside the county has to offer.

The final meeting of the month which is held at our chosen HQ, The Shepherd & Dog was well attended with most attending on motorcycles with only a couple of members using 4 wheels (you know who you are). The main topics for discussion were the recent trip to Belgium and the proposed September Factory visit, which will be part of a longer trip to include some of the delights of the West Midlands.

I know you are all on the edge of your seats wondering what of Horrid Henry Honda. Unfortunately, Horrid Henry is no more. He succumbed to pressure to get rid of that ugly pile of scrap from Mrs O'May, before we move house hopefully in October. I made a small profit with what I got going into the new bike fund and it occurred to me that this was the only time in 50 years of motorcycling that I had made a profit from selling any bike. The guy who bought it seemed pleased with it and intends to return it to its original condition then ride it for a while before offering for sale.

**Chris O'**