



Northumbria Branch Newsletter

August 2011

This is the most difficult newsletter your scribe has had to prepare, short though it be. At this time it seemed inappropriate to prepare a full report of all events so far in 2011. For there is one event that overwhelms all others, and that is the death of Clive, or “Clive Squared”, or “Doctor Clive”, or however we knew him.



It was a tragic accident; however we remember what a privilege it was to have known Clive and to have him in our Club. Clive had a huge range of interests and activities, which we also know well. As his Partner Frances, said, “He did not deserve this! There was not an unkind bone in his body!”

But, to advise those who did not get to the “Shoes” on Thursday 28th July, there will be no Wednesday 3rd August ride out. We now plan a **Clive Taylor memorial run**, on Sunday the 4th of September. We will meet at the “Shoes” at 9.30 a.m., and will take a rural ride, including a bar meal. The route will be announced at the “Shoes”. If you would like to come, please tell your scribe, Bob or Simon, (Contact details below), as pubs can get fully booked on Sundays: we will need to reserve. We intend to make this an annual event – the “Clive Taylor Memorial Run”

Bob has prepared an obituary for the main club, and it is now on their and the branch web sites, and should appear in Roadholder. We have already notified all members. The Branch will be sending a wreath to the funeral, to be held on 5.8.11 at 1215, Newcastle Crematorium, West Road, the East chapel. Individual donations to RSPB will be appreciated and can be brought to the funeral.

We will all have our memories of Clive. For myself, I am only now beginning to realise how much he has crept into my life over the last years, and the bright moments we shared: like the walks on a Scottish island or in the Picos de Europa, where your scribe’s eyes were fixed on the glory of mountains, sky and water, oblivious to what Clive then pointed out – the beauty of the myriad wild flowers at our feet. Or riding through Holland, Germany and Austria: scenery, food, wine and “ambience”, or just time passed in comradeship and banter. It is a truism that the stuff we are made of, is made of others. And when the “other”, who stands alongside us, is suddenly swatted away into oblivion, comes that empty feeling, “how is it that I am still here?”

Bob is very keen that we follow through with the plans and projects which Clive had in mind, which your scribe heartily endorses. That includes the National rally 2013, evening rides out, the idea of shared winter talks with the Amazingly Advanced Motorcyclists, a branch “T” shirt, and more. There are also the **planned events for the rest of the season. Which are :**

Isle of Man: Northumbria is to play host at Laxey. This was to be led by Clive: **can anyone help here?**
Camp, Ugthorpe Near Whitby, (site borrowed from Dave Wardle’s portfolio due to uncertainties about Middleton-in-Teesdale), 9-11 Sept. Could those who would like to come please contact your scribe?

Kamtrek treasure hunt, Sunday 2nd Oct: info will be sent later.

Racing at East Fortune, Sunday 8th Oct. Richard will be performing. This outing was to be led by your scribe and Clive. Those wishing to come, please contact your scribe towards the time. Thanks.

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