



THE BEEMER READER

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Newsletter of the BMW
Riders of Vancouver Island

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THE BEEMER READER is Back in Business !!

It has taken a little while, but the BMW RVI's BEEMER READER is back in business complete with yours truly as the new editor and a backlog of submitted articles to shoe-horn into this and the next edition. My first job as editor is to acknowledge Chris Jones' many years of devotion and enthusiasm to this newsletter - the shoes he leaves behind for his successors to fill are very large. Chris certainly deserves the break and I know that all the members of the BMW RVI join me in thanking Chris.

Next on the agenda is to thank Bill Wallace for organizing a representative of Smart Tire Systems Inc to speak to us at our last breakfast meeting. You can find their website at www.smarttire.com. The Chequered Flag is not the best of venues for guest speakers, and we will likely give this one some thought for future meetings/guest speakers.

I'm pleased to welcome the following new members to the club: Steve Honey (K1200LT), Peter Longcroft (R1200C), and Mike Sudul (R1200RT). I hope you will enjoy the club's atmosphere and camaraderie and look forward to seeing you at the meetings. Speaking of which, all club members are encouraged to introduce new members - makes my job easier.

Finally, but no less important, Barry Salter and Tom Baker (and others ? I'm not sure) have very graciously acted as the catalysts for our third Sunday of each month ride. You'll find some articles regarding this inside; and, of course, I encourage all to partake.

The Brigatine Pub Ride



Left to Right Dai Yates, Tom Baker, and Horst Unger enjoying some coffee before departure

...dateline April 17 Tim Horton's on Vernon

The day dawned a little cloudy and some light drizzle in a few places, as I headed to Tim's. At 9:20, Tom Baker sporting his latest ride--a lovely K100, was first to arrive so got a special picture . . .the rest arrived around the half hour and after quick coffees headed out to enjoy what looked to be improving weather. A small ride but never the less, the start of a tradition, hopefully...



The Port Renfrew Run

...dateline May 15 17 Tim Horton's in Colwood

A small but dedicated group met at Tim Horton's on Sunday May 15 . . .in the morning the ride was threatened by rain several times, but at least it was dry and even some sunny breaks up to Jordan River. Tom led from Colwood to Jordan River and Julie took over lead there and continued on. We had a good mix of bikes, 2 GS's, 1 "K" bike, and 3 RT's . . .the latter shortening the ride be-



cause of previous commitments and turning at Jordan River. Jack Sinclair has agreed to act as lead for the June "3rd Sunday ride," which will take place on June 19th. Please mark your calendars. There will be an e mail announcement of the details

ROADS RIDDEN - TRIPS TAKEN

Flat Head Lake & Thompson Pass

We left West Glacier on Hwy 2 going west early in the morning. We then turned south on Hwy 206 towards Flathead Lake, as it joins into Hwy 35. It's always nice to ride around a lake where there is little traffic. We followed this until it met with Hwy 28. This road looked like it was heading into the mountains but turned out to be quite flat with scattered ranches until it reached Hwy 200.

This Hwy followed another river to Thompson Falls beside the Clark Fork River. Here we camped for the night.

The next day, just as you leave Thompson Falls and cross a bridge, you see a road on the left #471 that is not shown on many maps. This is a wonderful road that leads up into the mountains and over a pass of

4860 feet. This is where you enter Idaho across the Bitterroot Range, further along you eventually meet up with the Coeur d'Alene River and follow this to the town of Kingston at interstate 90. On this day of travel, we passed 1 car and 6 bikes, so that gives you an idea of the beauty of this road.



SOME ADMIN STUFF

Thanks to those who have contributed articles. This newsletter, combining both April and May's editions, unfortunately doesn't have enough room to insert all the submitted articles; however I will ensure your articles make it to the next edition. For those with a bit of time on their hands, it would be nice to see articles discussing the pros and cons of various products would be a plus - for example the SmarTire tire monitoring system. Finally, the newsletter will change somewhat in future editions, notably with less editor stuff on the front page. Thanks to all for your patience. ~Ed

My First

This is an article that would be nice to see each month so, if you want to contribute please do.

Everyone that rides seems to have a story to tell on their first bike. This is mine.

When I was about fourteen' I can remember going by this house with a tarp over something. It wasn't till I was just over sixteen that I thought may be it's a bike under that tarp setting out in the weather year after year in Toronto. So one day with a friend we knocked on the door and asked if that was a bike and if he was interested in selling it? He thought for a minute than said "well I haven't used it for a few years, lets see if it will start." When the tarp came o., it revealed a 1942 Norton 500 single in army drab. Now believe it or not it started on the first kick. So for a \$100 bucks I drove it home. Next there came a blue can of paint and a brush. Like all bikes it had a few



quirks about it. Like; top speed was only 80 km/h but it had so much torque that once I had to replace all the bolts that held on the chain sprocket. An other was that on a hot day while you were bogging down the road the bike would stop taking gas you grab the clutch the motor would

stop because it was seized. So I would pull over park go get a coke have a leisurely break go back kick (no electric start) the bike once and be on my way again. This happened at least 6 times. It was a good bike that infected me with have to have a bike in my life disease.

Vince



The Norton 500 was featured in the movie "The Motorcycle Diaries". Note to snow riding and the loading

COOL WEBSITES

The Internet BMW Riders: <http://www.ibmwr.org/>
Siebenrock BMW parts:
<http://www.siebenrock.com/>

CLASSIFIEDS BUY SELL OR TRADE

Submit your ads to the editor for inclusion in the next issue. All ads will run for two issues unless specifically requested otherwise.