

REIGATE & REDHILL NORTH DOWNS MOTOR CLUB REIGATE & REDHILL NORTH DOWNS MOTORCYCLE CLUB

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 12th FEBRUARY 2013 AT THE RED LION, OLD REIGATE ROAD, BETCHWORTH

Present

Paul Brightman, Dave Charman, Tom Charman, Eric Clarke, Richard Coles, Bob Collins, Carol Dark, Chris Dark, James Dark, Scott Dark, Colin Don, Debbie Don, Ben Edwards, Rob Edwards, Danny Haste, Jo Jenkins, Pete Jenkins, Neville Lewis, Pat Lloyd-Jacob, Rob McKenzie, Rick Parish, Antony Read, Nathan Richardson, Tony Richardson,

Chairman's Welcome

Richard welcomed everyone and explained that RRND comprised of two different Clubs, ACU and AMCA, and normally we would have two different agendas, but for ease we had decided to have one combined agenda.

Apologies for Absence

Stuart Read.

Minutes of AGM held on 15th February 2012

Posted on the website and approved. Proposed by Antony Read and seconded by Eric Clarke.

Matters Arising

- Limited company status – Richard and Rob attended a meeting regarding this and have decided that it would be best for the club to go for Incorporation by guarantee and this will be set up by a company who have been recommended at a cost of £180. The name will be RRND Motor Clubs Ltd.
- Membership- a reduced membership fee was offered until the end of January and guest riders are now paying £5 more than members at club trials.

Committee Reports:

Editor's Report

The E News system has continued to work successfully over the past year, with most members receiving it via e mail. Only six members required a hard copy posted to them due to having no computer access, so the cost savings on postage and printing continue to help with the Club's finances.

A core of people have contributed articles over the past year and I thank them for that, but it would be nice if other members could write the odd article letting us all know about their biking experiences.

I would again like to highlight our wonderful website run by Bruce Deacon. I'm sure you will agree that it's a great resource and join me in thanking Bruce for running this for us.

We also have a Facebook Group, and a Facebook page - these are really starting to take off with the assistance of Stuart Read, and are becoming vibrant online communities. If you have a Facebook account go and have a look at our pages and join in with the discussions.

I look forward to hearing all about your biking activities over the next year, so please submit any articles, photos etc - the more I receive from you all, the more interesting the E News will be.

A quick word on easyfundraising – with only 8 members signed up for this, we have so far earned £54.79 for the Club. It's easy to use and I would encourage all of you to consider joining up – it costs you nothing and you get some great discounts too. We even get money just for your internet searches, so please sign up and start raising funds for the Club.

Richard thanked Debbie for all her hard work including setting up the facebook page. He also took this opportunity to thank Bruce for his management of the website for which he receives complimentary tickets to the camping weekend as opposed to the honoraria originally agreed.

Treasurer's Report for year ending 30th September 2011

Jo began by proposing a vote of thanks to Rick for continuing to do the accounts for the club.

Copies of the amalgamated accounts were distributed showing income of £1,134 expenditure of £2,142 and net assets of £11,293.

The club is still losing money. Membership is down and although club trials are holding their own thanks to Colin and the team, equipment still has to be purchased and affiliation fees paid. The camping weekend made a loss in excess of £800 and in view of this we will need to review the ticket prices for this year. Of the bank charges that were paid, most were refunded and £1000 has been transferred back to the Tracker account although this was after the year end and does not show on the latest accounts.

Antony would like to see the profit made by the South Coast trial (approx £200) shown separately in the accounts rather than incorporated with the AMCA figures and Richard agreed this would be dealt with at the next committee meeting.

Richard added his thanks to Rick for preparing the accounts and also to Jo for her hard work as Treasurer for many years.

Membership Secretary's Report

- **2012**

By the end of 2012 the total number of members was 72, a reduction of 29 from the previous year.

This was made up of

- 50 Adults, down 19 from 2011
- 12 Juniors, down 10 from previous year
- 10 Honorary as per last year including 3 non riding members that have been honorary members whilst serving on the committee.
- Plus 0 Social members no change from last year.

- The total number of members at the end of 2012 was down by 52 over the last three years from the 124 at the end of 2009 and is the lowest number since before my records begin in 2001 when there were 133 members.

In 2012 there were 6 new members to the club, 4 adults and 2 juniors joining the club and 4 returning adult members who had previously been members but not during the previous year.

There were 39 members from 2011 who did not renew membership in 2012, 27 adults and 12 junior members. This compares with 28 members that did not renew membership in the previous year.

- **Raising the profile**

During the year the club participated in the Reigate Festival of Sport with a limited number of riders putting on a “mock” trial in the woods of Reigate Priory. Several members also manned an information point providing members of the public with information to raise the club’s profile in the hope of attracting new members.

A big thanks to Dave Charman for negotiating with the local authority to make it happen.

The club attracted several new members through training trials in 2011 but we suspended running training trials due to the low turnout making it uneconomical to continue running them.

- **Current Year**

As I am sure you are aware, the committee agreed to reduce the membership fees this year for the month of January, which has prompted a good response, so far this year we have 67 members compared to 59 club members by the AGM last year. This includes 8 new adult members and 10 returning members, 7 Adults & 3 Juniors who were not members in 2012.

- **Honorary Members 2012**

Bruce Deacon
Ron Dumbrell
Dave Figg
Ken Sherlock
Pat Lloyd-Jacob
Bruce Clarke
Antony Read
Jo Jenkins
Debbie Don
Carol Dark

- **Questions**

- Antony commented that it was noticeable that no new members were coming through and added that the South Coast has also dropped back. Several members contributed reasons/ideas for this:-
- Richard said that some riders were riding in independently run events where they were not required to join or have loyalty to a club.
- The motorcycle industry in general has found that the current generation are not introducing their children to the sport as before and the 'Get On' scheme has been launched, targeting a new generation.
- Paul Brightman commented that Surrey School Boys have bikes to try and Colin said we will look again at getting a bike to lend, although it is maintenance, storage and liability that could present problems.
- Pat LJ suggested trying to promote trials to road bikers through bike shops and Richard thought of asking Fin if we could put up our posters to promote the club in his shop.

Richard thanked Rob for his efforts.

Competition Secretary's Report

I'd like to start by thanking all those people who have contributed to another successful year, be it by laying out, taking down, signing on or observing at our two Group trials.

Without your help it would make my job next to impossible.

We have had a full calendar of events with monthly Club trials, a PR event in Priory Park and two Group trials.

Most have been well supported and some even made a small profit, enabling entry costs for members to remain the same as last year, although we have raised the guest riders fee.

Club members have competed at Group, Centre and National level with varying degrees of success. It's been nice to see that the members have made a big effort at the Star Group trials, good luck for this year.

The laying out teams, which were started last year, have worked well, and my thanks again to team captains Rob Edwards and Pete Jenkins and their and my teams. Thanks also to Eric Clarke for the South Coast Group trial. A special thanks to Chris Dark and family for their continued support throughout the last year.

If anyone is interested in joining one of the teams or perhaps organising their own please contact me.

The events run by our Club can put a burden on the membership, but to be successful we need your support, especially at the Group trials.

It's always difficult for the clerk of the course to be able to plan the number of sections if they are not sure of the number of persons willing to observe until the day of the event. That early call saying you are available would make things a lot easier.

In April next year (2014), the Club is planning to organise a long distance trial, with Dick and Pete taking the lead. It will require support to be successful and hopefully become an annual event.

A bit nearer is the SE Centre Team Trial in June, anyone who wants to enter let me know so that I can work out the teams, each team needs a novice, an inter and an expert. You will also require an ACU trials registration.

Finally I would like to thank all the land owners for their continuing support, as without them there would be no trials.

Richard thanked Colin for his hard work and great enthusiasm.

Social Secretary's Report

The club had no official social secretary in 2012 but Richard was pleased to announce that Neville was now stepping into this role as organiser of the camping weekend and thanked him for doing so.

Chairman's Report

Another successful year for RRND as outlined in the reports that you have heard, and one that is finishing on a note of enthusiasm and optimism. I would like to thank my fellow committee members for their hard work this year.

On and off I have been involved with RRND since the early 80's. I have always been impressed by the quality of those people who have been prepared to take roles on the committee and lead the club.

The greatest risk to the club is that individuals will become reluctant to take their place on the committee. Perhaps the protection of company status will encourage some people to step forward.

The club needs new ideas and new enthusiasm to keep it alive in a changing world- although it is always great when someone chooses to return to the committee with their hard earned experience. Please consider joining the committee, if not now, then at some time in the future.

But I would also like to thank those members who have regularly assisted in the organisation of our trials and reduced the burden on committee members. If you feel unable to join the committee in any capacity, offers of help for some of the regular organisational tasks make a huge difference.

President

Richard told the members that the committee had taken the time to look at the role of President and that everyone had agreed that Antony Read was the best person for this position and he had accepted the role.

Election to Committee

Richard explained that every year it is standard practice that the whole Committee stands down and is re-elected by the members. This year all Committee members are up for re-

election, with the exception of Jo Jenkins who will be standing down as Treasurer and Danny Haste who is also standing down. However, all positions are offered to the Club. Following this, Neville was elected to the committee as Social Secretary and the remaining existing Committee members were unanimously voted in en-bloc, proposed by Antony Read and seconded by Eric Clarke. The position of Treasurer remains vacant.

The 2013 Committee are:-

Chairman	Richard Coles
Secretary	Carol Dark
Treasurer	vacant
Club Publications Editor	Debbie Don
Competition Secretary	Colin Don
Membership Secretary	Rob Edwards
Assistant Competition Secretary	Stuart Read
Social Secretary	Neville Lewis
Committee Members	Pete Jenkins, Dave Charman.

Any Other Business

- Long distance trial- last year there were four. Two run by Sidcup, one by Eastbourne and one by Witley. This year there will only be three but it is too late for us to run one so our first will be in April 2014.
- Club clothing will soon be available bearing the new logo.
- Stuart Hescott suggested car and bike stickers and this will be investigated.
- Neville would like the club to take part in a sponsored 30 mile cycle ride in aid of the British Heart Foundation on 9th June. Debbie will advertise on the facebook page.
- Tony Richardson asked about the possibility of re-introducing the training trials and Richard said we would discuss this again. He then reminded everyone that the ground was open to members for training at £5 per bike.
- Trial observers pay- South Coast pay some non-members who travel in order to cover their fuel costs and this was agreed but not as previously decided, for members who observe.
- Keith felt that we lose out on riders at our Star Group trial as it is the last of the year and everyone agreed. However, on our request to change to another month, April was the only other possibility and this would now clash with the proposed long distance trial. Neville wondered if the venue was to blame as those on MOD land get good turnouts but with fees of some £550 for land and licence this was thought too expensive.

Presentation of Awards

Richard presented the individual awards.

The Committee Cup was awarded to Neville Lewis for organising the camping weekend this year.

The Clubman's Cup was awarded to Colin Don.

Debbie proposed a vote of thanks to Antony for working out the championship winners and to Brian for continuing to do the club trial results and the meeting closed.