

ATMCC NEWS

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Chairman's Note:

The leaves are turning brown and the sky is looking grey...

Well maybe not quite yet but Autumn is definitely here and with it thoughts turn to motorcycle maintenance and all the little jobs we have been putting off throughout the summer because we have been too busy biking.

Last month was another busy one for ATMCC with a weekend in Lindisfarne, the BMF Rally at Pathhead and the Distinguished Gentleman's Ride in Glasgow. All events were well attended and it's great to see the profile of Ayrshire Touring being raised and supported at national events.

We took a trip around Stirlingshire and this month we have the very exciting European Trip Night, Member of the Year Voting and a very creepy Halloween Run up to the Drovers Inn, Loch Lomond - all to look forward to.

If you have not already signed up for the Biker Down course at Dreghorn Fire Station on Saturday 12 November then please do so. The course is well worth doing and is completely free.

Ride Safe,
Graeme



PYRO HOSPITALISED AFTER LATE NIGHT SLIDE ON CHARITY HOMEWARD RUN

Don't worry, he is OK.

Thankfully this 'off-road experience' Gerry and his 125 Leximoto went through, was on a quiet back road out with rush hour, just outside of Carlisle. There are no perfect conditions for any accident, although these were exceptional.

It was just past 8pm on a cold, dark, stormy, Sunday evening and Gerry with his brave heart and ball-deep will power continued to rev Milo almost the whole way home from a Bikers Against Bullies Support Meeting in South

NOMINATIONS HAVE NOW CLOSED FOR ATMCC MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD 2016.

And the nominees are: Gerry, Graeme, Kelly, Leo, Mo and Naomi. Congratulations to all! Voting will take place on European Trip Night 19th October, Dreghorn Community Centre, if you can't make it please email the club with your single vote before 18 October.

[CLICK HERE TO VOTE](#)



Cumbria. One hell of a trip for a 125 learner, **but not our Pyro.**

Yes, this slide may have written off his pride and joy, but he won't be beaten by a tickle from a little mud; Gerry is now investing in lessons to get rid of his (broken) L plates.

MUSTANG KELLY

Details for the Germany Tour in 2017 are now being investigated. Please make Graeme or Lindsay aware of your interest by emailing the club email on ayrshiretouringmcc@gmail.com

The same applies to Route 66 which will be happening in summer of 2020. At a recent club meeting Kelly made us aware she was once *The Worlds Best Ever Personal Travel Consultant*, and informed ATMCC that if you ride in the opposite direction of Route 66 (Santa Monica to Chicago) you are essentially riding the bikes back to the travel agency.

Guess what this means? Kelly is in fact the *The Worlds Best Ever Personal ATMCC Travel Consultant*, ensuring we get discounted rates and a range of motorcycles to choose from. Over the coming weeks we (Kelly; *The Worlds Best Ever Personal ATMCC Travel Consultant*) and Naomi will be looking at accommodation, flights, dates, finances, etc. therefore please make Kelly (*The Worlds Best Ever ATMCC Travel Consultant*) or Naomi aware of your interest in the party.



SHE MAY NOT BE A BIKER, SHE MIGHT NOT BE A TRAVEL AGENT ANYMORE, BUT KELLY SURE IS PRETTY BADASS.

THIS INCREDIBLE WOMAN IS OF COURSE COMING ON THE ROUTE 66 TRIP, BECAUSE WHERE WOULD WE (GERRY) BE WITHOUT OUR SUPPORT VEHICLE.

AND WHAT OTHER MUSCLE CAR TO DO IT IN, THAN A MUSTANG SHELBY GT500.

LOOKS LIKE THE THEME TUNE FOR THE TRIP HAS ALREADY BEEN CHOSEN.



Mo and Leo recently recommended this free course to ATMCC. The nearest date was Motherwell and some members signed up immediately. **Gerry being one of them.**

Because of the large scale of interest from Ayrshire riders, Biker Down have issued an extra date on **Saturday 12 November at Dreghorn Fire Station**. This course will feature learning skills from CPR and recovery to hints and tips on how to brake on gravel and riding on difficult roads. These are free places available on the First Aid and Crash Scene Management Courses provided by Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

You must email to book and it runs on a first come, first served basis. We would like to encourage as many members as possible to attend. To book this course please email Colin at roadsafety@north-ayrshire.gov.uk Courses are also held in Motherwell, Midlothian and Perth, please email w.bikerdownscotland@firescotland.gov.uk if you are interested in these.



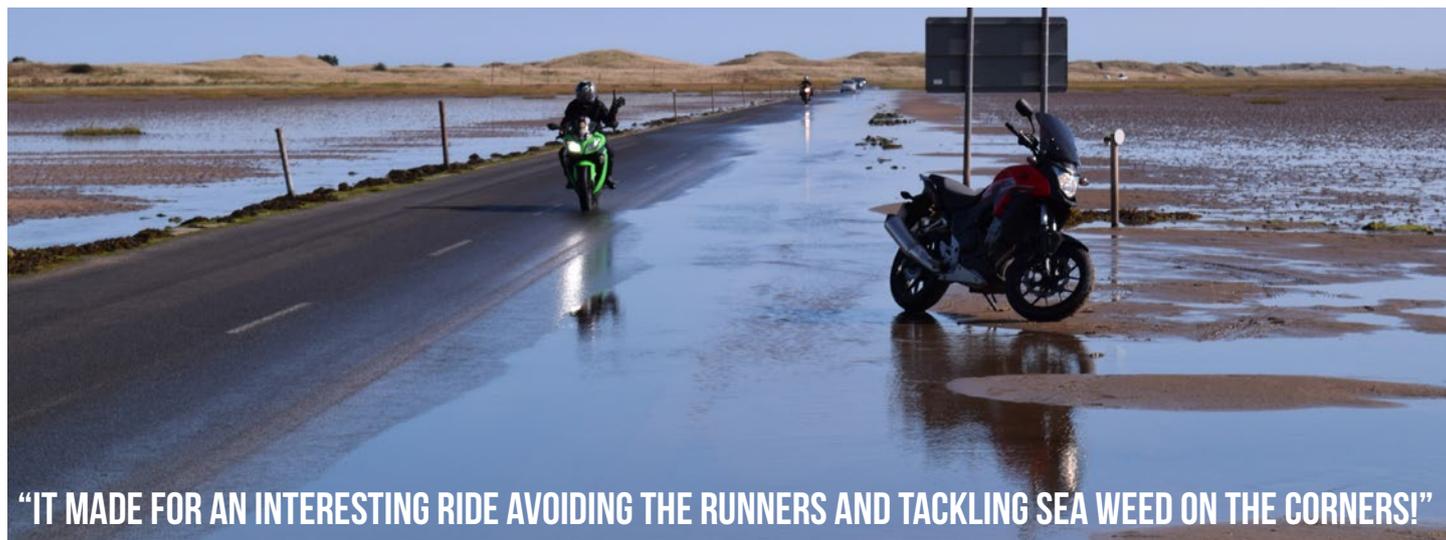
Mitch, Leo, Lindsay, Hugh and I (Tracy) set off from the Bellfield McDonalds at 09:30 on the Friday morning. We were chasing the rain and managed to have a dry run. The route went via the Dalveen Pass then down to Moffat and across to St Mary's Loch where we stopped at the cafe for lunch.

Next we proceeded to Selkirk where Lindsay, Mitch and myself stopped for petrol and Hugh and Leo carried on to Berwick-upon-tweed to pick up 'essentials.' Lindsay, Mitch and I carried on to the Pot-a-Doodle-Do campsite in

Scremerston where we were glamping for the weekend in a Yurt. The highlight of the trip was the fact that I managed not to get lost. One small U-turn in Coldstream really does not count!

The campsite was well organised and the Yurt was roomy and nice and warm with a wood burning stove. Graeme arrived early evening directly from work and we started on the BBQ preparations. We had booked a BBQ hut which was fab and a superb evening with BBQ ensued.

Saturday morning was an early rise as the crossing to Lindisfarne was only available between 07:45 and 13:00. We arrived at the crossing at 08:45 to be greeted by Race Marshals as there was a running event taking place. Even though we were an hour later than the tide table opening crossing time, the road was still very wet and complete covered by water at times.



"IT MADE FOR AN INTERESTING RIDE AVOIDING THE RUNNERS AND TACKLING SEA WEED ON THE CORNERS!"

Once we struggled across, the good news was that the motorcycle parking was free throughout the weekend. We walked up to Lindisfarne Castle and enjoyed exploring the surrounding area until the castle opened at 10:00am. It was very interesting and I would definitely recommend touring the castle. After that we headed for a nearby cafe for a late breakfast. I fully intend to go back next year and see the Lindisfarne Priory as we ran out of time to see that, perhaps a **2017 ATMCC run?**



Next on the agenda was Bamburgh which about 7 miles down the sunny coast. It was very busy so we decided to park on the pavement and I proceeded to drop my bike off the kerb and onto myself - at least I broke the fall for the bike!

And at least it wasn't Gerry this time.

Not only did I drop my 650 Bandit in front of my club, my chairman, my friends, but in front of another 20 people from the Easyriders SMC. (At least when Gerry fell no-one saw him). Luckily my bike was fine with only cosmetic damage. (Unlike Gerry's possible write off). We had a lovely lunch at the Castle Inn then washed the bikes to get rid of the salt water from Lindisfarne, before heading back to the Yurt. Dinner was at the Salmon Inn, which everyone enjoyed and we would recommend if you are ever in the Berwick-upon-Tweed area.

On Sunday we had breakfast at the campsite restaurant and then started for home by following the A1 up the rugged coastline. Graeme lead the ride back - thank you. We stopped at the Leadburn Inn for lunch then proceeded to Douglas via the A72/A73. We had our final stop in Muirkirk where we said our farewells and then took our own routes home. **(No falls).**

It was a great weekend that enabled everyone to get to know each other better, see some interesting places, eat good food and enjoy our bike rides!



CHAIRMAN DUTIES, TAKE NOTE.



MO GOT A MAKE OVER. LEO LOVED IT.



ENFORCED NAVIGATION AROUND EUROPE

Tracy, Rachel and I (Lindsay) rode via the A76 to the A70 only turning off the A70 when we reached the junction for Symington. We then rode through Biggar before heading to the A701 via Skirling. We rode past the Leadburn Inn and on through Howgate and the bottom end of Bonnyrigg before taking the A7 to Newtongrange. At this point I decided to take a shortcut remembered from my youth, only someone had closed the road and built blooming houses! A couple of u-turns later (always good practise especially on a heavily laden bike) we turned onto the A68 and were soon at our destination, The Stair Arms Hotel in Midlothian.

We quickly got our tents pitched and registered for the event then enjoyed the freebie welcoming dram. Next we scouted out the food. Not a bad menu and reasonable prices. We didn't discover the special 'bikers' menu until the following evening!

Rumbly tums duly settled there was nothing left to do except get in the drinks, mingle and listen to the bands. It's a hard life. The female vocalist wasn't too shabby though she did murder one song. The male vocalist, on the other hand, murdered them all. After the band finished there was a disco until kicking out time, though I have to admit to being a lightweight and heading to bed at about 10pm leaving my two companions to party on. I apparently missed the one woman floor show!!!

We all had a fairly restless night due to the ferocity of the wind and wondering if our tents would be up to the challenge but we awoke the next morning to find our accommodation standing firm. We took full advantage of the free coffee then enjoyed breakfast rolls (which we did have to pay for). Rachel and Tracy had decided not to take part in the ride out but I was really looking forward to it.



UP-COMING EVENTS:

Wednesday 19 Oct

European Trip Night and Member of the Year Voting. If you are presenting on the night please ensure your presentation is no longer than 20 minutes.

Member of the Year voting will take place on the night, you can email your vote if you won't be there.



Saturday 29 Oct - Sunday 30 Oct

Ride up to the Drovers Inn, Loch Lomond on the Saturday (route tbc) dinner, drinks and a dance from 6pm onwards. Accommodation has been confirmed at Ardlui campsite.

Wednesday 2 Nov

Scott's Magic Show & Quiz Night to raise funds for Cancer Research. Please bring friends and family and donate any prizes before Monday 31 October.

Saturday 12 Nov

Biker Down Course, free of charge, 12pm-3pm, Dreghorn Fire Station. To book please contact Colin at roadsafety@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

Wednesday 30 Nov

5th Social Night organised by Peter. Evening at Lazer-Quest, Ayr with bowling and burgers for just £11. Please confirm attendance by Monday 28 Nov.

The ride out headed to East Fortune Aviation Museum via a series of back roads that consisted of every conceivable road surface, tractors, sharp bends, 90 degree corners and of course the ever present blustery wind. Nonetheless it was a very enjoyable journey. Once parked up we gained our reduced price entry then the next three hours were our own. I thought I would be bored but I was so wrong.

What a great place to visit, especially the interactive area. It's years since I've been to the museum so I couldn't remember much other than it having a Concorde and a Vulcan. Clearly things have been modernised since my last visit. The 'hands on' kids stuff was brilliant fun!!!

After making a couple of purchases in the shop it was back on to the bikes to face the crosswinds once more.

A good run with all of us returning safely. (Take note, Gerry.)

We enjoyed dinner from the 'bikers' menu' then settled in for the evening's entertainment with a few liquid refreshments. None of us were successful in the raffle but Tracy came very close to winning the furthest travelled female rider trophy. Next time we will travel via Cornwall just to make sure! Thankfully the second band was way better than the first and another enjoyable night was spent amongst friendly company. It was Tracy's turn to retire early leaving Rachel and I to burn the midnight oil.



Sunday morning saw us up bright and early (well for me at least) once more. We quickly disassembled our tents and got the bikes packed before heading for breakfast and more of that free coffee. I got called upon to deal with a first aid situation which turned out to be a wasp sting to the head. The poor guy was in a huge amount of pain but painkillers and antihistamine sourced from various bikers did the trick after a while. The next piece of first aid was to Harrie whose chain was dangling once more. Surprising how bikers can improvise using logs as stands. My former garage neighbour from Ayr, Scott Clark, very quickly had things sorted and Harrie was ready to hit the road once more.

The journey home took us via the Edinburgh bypass to the A71; not the most inspiring of roads but quick and straightforward plus the wind had dropped a good bit though it did still manage to catch us a few times.

We all agreed that it was a great weekend. The rally was a very relaxed and extremely friendly affair. It was also very well planned and run. I, for one, am looking forward to going back again next year. Lindsay.

MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

Could I please remind you all that club merchandise is still for sale and stock is limited, so get your orders into Lindsay now. Club logo's are available for a fee of £5, mugs are £6, mouse mats £5, pens £2.50, keyrings just £3 and stickers are a steal at just £1. There is a discounted full set which includes all of the above for £15 for a limited time only. Club patches are £10 and are sew on, high quality embroidered material. Neck tubes are just £11 and have limited availability.

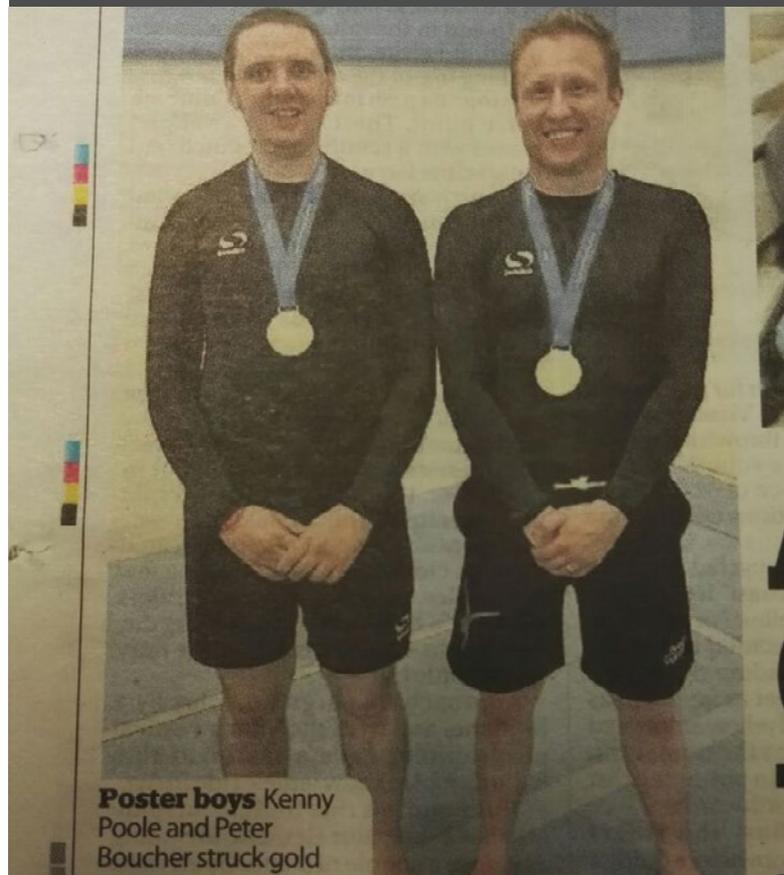
MO MODELS A WINNER

Our Navigator and his stunning Triumph Thruxton won **Best Bike in Show** at *Trifest* in Ullapool in September. I am sure you will all join me in congratulating Mo with his fantastic win and modelling skills below.



KENNY WINS BRITISH GOLD

Big congratulations are in order for ATMCC member Kenny Poole as he triumphantly won the British Championship for Acrobatic Gymnastics. Apparently our Daelim 125 rider "*stole the show*" with two acrobatic routines which earned him the British Champion title. **And some of us struggle to get our leg over.**



Poster boys Kenny Poole and Peter Boucher struck gold



After a number of weeks of planning & organising, the Bikes Against Bullies inaugural run successfully took place on Sunday 11th September. Across Scotland a total of 5 individual runs took place, all heading to a combined meet up at the Glen Café, St Mary's Loch. Runs were from Edinburgh, Barrow, Morecambe & Penrith. I (Gerry) took on the task of organising an additional from Prestwick, and yes, there were moments when I doubted it would all come together. My nerves were the jangling at thought of doing a live radio interview on Irvine Beat FM (definitely a squeaky bum moment!!). **In the end, it was all worth it.**

So, the big day arrived with so much stress, as there were so many people interested in and attending the run that it needed to go well. First things first – getting everyone together. Safely.

We arranged a mini-ride together to Prestwick with a few people – myself, Chris & Kenny on our bikes. Kelly was in the support vehicle with Kenny's better half, Louise, and their adorable son, Logan. Tagging along with us were a couple of our friends on their quad.

Set off time wasn't until 12 noon, but getting there early was a priority in order to make sure I could welcome everyone as they arrived. We arrived at Monkton Lodge shortly after 10:30, fuelled up, parked up and we grabbed a coffee while we waited. Very soon, the car park started to fill up, as bike after bike arrived. My worry of it not coming together was by now replaced with a huge grin.



The Ayrshire Post even attended to take some group pictures and write a press release. (Grinning again!!)

12 noon and we set off. 36 bikes, 1 quad and 3 cars. These were made up of members of various clubs, friends of ours, total strangers and even a professional photographer. My sincere thanks go to Mo for kindly agreeing to take up the position of lead bike for the part of the run from Monkton Lodge to Moffat. ATMCC had a very strong presence from members – Mo, Leo, Kenny (along with Louise & Logan), Chris, Bruce, Kelly and myself. Thankyou to all and to those who sponsored us.

Our route saw us travel along the B743 through Mossblown and Mauchline until we joined the A70 at Muirkirk. We decided to stop here to make sure we had no stragglers and that the group was staying together. Unfortunately, it was also here that we were notified that one member of a different club had decided to make his own route from Monkton Lodge, managed to get lost and was now on his way to Largs!! This was why I supplied a route map online prior to the event.

He was safe though (he stayed on his bike) and his colleagues knew where he was. Onwards we went. Next pit stop, Abington.

Thankfully the weather was kind to us, and the scenery was popping out from the regular lovely sunshine. Amazing views and great roads. I thought to myself *'This is great - I couldn't have asked for a better day'*. (Little did Gerry know he would be dramatically sliding off within a few short weeks). Famous last words, though.

We passed through Douglas, turned onto the B7078 and then it happened. (No, not a fall.) The rain. It started and it got just a tad cold. But it wasn't stopping us. In my mirrors I could see nothing but a stream of headlights following me. That one view will stay with me as one of the most awesome sights I have ever seen – the southern Scottish hills, with an almost mile-long convoy of bikes. It's a shame it can't be put on a picture and framed.

Abington. Pit stop for refreshments and the use of the facilities at the Abington Hotel. Some of the attendees had family and friends in the village and had let them know we were coming through. This brought the good people of Abington out onto the street to support us and witness their main road being turned into an impromptu bike park. We stayed here for around 20-30 minutes to give everyone time to refresh themselves, and give Kelly time to catch up after she had earlier gone to try tracking down the guy who went to Largs. Thankfully she didn't go too far off route, and rejoined us relatively quickly.

Lots of pictures were taken here by the locals, and we even had a couple of riders having a little dance off to themselves. Nobody won – they were both as bad as each other.

Time to go, next stop Moffat to let those with fuel guzzlers get a top up. Yes, this means you Chris. I checked everyone was ready to go, and nobody was missing. Got the thumbs up all around, and gave Mo the nod to take us away again. On this leg of the run there were a couple off issues – happily none caused by any of our members. **Or me falling off.**

The quad with us broke down, 2 learners decided they wanted to sample riding on the M74 at Beattock and a patch club from Glasgow will probably have a number of members in a little bit of trouble after none of them realised their VP was in the toilet when we were getting ready to leave Abington. He was left behind. To say he was a little upset with them is probably the understatement of the year. Oops.

Moffat. The plan from here was for me to take over as lead rider or the final leg to St Mary's Loch. At this point it did get more than a little windy. But for the width of my skinny 125 tyres, I'd have been off the road on one of the corners as the wind was buffering us. Thankfully the worst was avoided (**for now**), and nobody ended up on their side in a muddy field. **Hindsight is a wonderful thing.** As everyone knows, this part of the road is great for bikes – the twists, the humped bridges, the view. It has it all, and we took as much advantage of it as the conditions would allow us within the limits of our bikes.

We arrived at the Glen Café and the group from Edinburgh had already arrived, so we were just waiting for the guys and girls from the English runs to arrive. 10 minutes or so later they were with us, and the meet took shape. Almost 100 bikes from all over central Scotland and North West England. Outstanding effort.



The café was mobbed. The staff were run off their feet and doing an amazing job of feeding and watering everyone. The previously mentioned patch club were soon summoned and ordered to ride home. It's highly possible they're still locked in their clubhouse.

The rest of us?? We met up with old friends, made new friends and enjoyed the company of everyone there. A few of us also attended a short loch-side ceremony where the children of 2 of the organisers floated flowers into the loch for those who sadly took their own lives as a consequence of bullying, and a few meaningful words were said by a member of the Christian Motorcycle Association.



"The most moving part of the whole day"



4:30, the good weather really starting to blow away, everyone decided that it was now a good time to head home. Chris had already left for home, but the rest of us from ATMCC decided we would come home via the 3 lochs. With Mo leading us, we made our way east on the A708, before heading up into the hills at Cappercleuch. All I can say here is wow. The scenery, the peace, the calm. And, of course, the wind!!! Nature at its best, and virtually on our doorstep. This is a road I will definitely ride again. But not in winter.

Mo guided us to a garage where the now thirsty 125's were given a much needed drink and we decided to head to Cairn Lodge services for coffee and cake. This is where Logan, Kenny and Louise's adorable little boy, got kick started.



It's also where we found out Mo's true mental level. All I'll say is I reckon Logan won the 'stick the sticker on the face' competition – he suited it much better.

Time was now getting away from us so from here, I took the final lead in front of Kenny and Kelly. We made our way back as darkness began to descend. First drop off was Mo and Leo, then Bruce, then Louise and Logan home with Kenny.

All in all, a very good run from our point of view. No negative reports from anyone about any of us, and a fun-filled day of raising awareness of an extremely important issue.

May I take this opportunity to say a massive thank you to everyone who attended. I may have been the one to arrange the event, but you guys were the ones who made it the success it became by taking part. Bikes Against Bullies is now most certainly on the map, and will now only grow in size, strength and influence.

Just a couple of final things: I'm delighted to report then none of the roads had any topcoatings of gravel on them. Take note Naomi. And lastly, I've been invited to join the committee of Bikes Against Bullies as the West of Scotland Rep. I have accepted the invite.

WATCH BIKERS AGAINST BULLIES RIDE OUT HERE



Distinguished Gentlemen

On Sunday September 25th 2016, tens of thousands of distinguished gentlemen in hundreds of cities worldwide donned their cravats, tweaked their moustaches, pressed their tweed and sat astride their classic and vintage styled motorcycles to raise funds and awareness for men's health, specifically prostate cancer research and suicide prevention.

Mo, Leo, Graeme and Kevin (almost) attended the event and embraced the spirit of the event by donning their tweed and pinstripes. You can still show your support by sponsoring here: <https://www.gentlemansride.com/rider/mauricesmith>

Also a huge thanks to everyone who has taken part, supported us and shared online. Doctors coming at you with a probing finger is not that much fun, but this stylish event was fantastic and a very worthwhile cause. Stay healthy and happy. Mo.



MO TAKES UP MODEL CAREER FULL TIME

PASSERS BY SAW A VERY WET AND LOST KEVIN ALMOST ON HIS WAY TO THE DISTINGUISHED GENTLEMANS RIDE, IN A PINSTRIPE SUIT AND SALMON PINK TIE ON HIS DUCATI DIAVEL. THEY THOUGHT HE WAS A HITMAN.



INTRODUCING HITMAN