



Spotted at Kneel's Wheels



After World War II, Excelsior produced three models of its 'Autobyk' autocycle; the first—the Standard Autobyk—was a continuation of the pre-war model and was powered by a Villiers Junior de Luxe engine. In 1949, the Super Autobyk appeared; this was a two-speed model with Excelsior's own Goblin engine unit.

This machine, seen at Kneel's Wheels in November is the third model: the De-Luxe Autobyk; this has the single-speed version of Excelsior's engine: the Spryt.

While most makes of autocycle were pretty much alike, Excelsior went its own way by using its own engines and had the only range with a two-speed model. Another distinctive Excelsior feature is the spring fork, which uses rubber bands instead of a steel spring; the pivot of the parallelogram is in front of the fork legs so, like a bicycle fork, they curve forwards at the bottom to give the correct amount of trail.

The Standard model finished on 1949 after Villiers stopped making the engines but the Excelsior-powered models carried on until October 1956.

Also spotted at Kneel's Wheels

Only one motor cycle (the Honda Super Cub) has been made in greater numbers than the VéloSoleX, and this model of VéloSoleX—the S3800—was the most numerous of all.

The S3800 was introduced on 7 February 1966 at engine number 3,820,033. The engine number is significant for two reasons. Firstly because it's where the model number comes from: Solex model names approximate to how many thousand machines had been made before their introduction. Secondly: the engine number is more important than the frame number. In fact, with models 3300 & 3800, VéloSoleX didn't bother to put frame numbers on.

Production of the S3800 continued until 1974, when VéloSoleX was taken over by Motobécane ... but that wasn't the end. MBK carried on with the model to November 1987. Then, after a six-year gap, the S3800 came back, made by Cyklon-Berstal in Berettyóújfalu, Hungary ...



Club News

AGM

This was on Sunday 13th November 2016 at Coddenham village hall and, as we warned you in the last newsletter, there were changes made.

Firstly, this will be my last issue of The MAC; Martin Wikner takes over as editor with the next edition. Martin would like to expand the scope of The MAC and, to this end, would like your contributions. He's hoping there will be a regular 'letters' section and will be introducing a section for members' advertisements. If you have anything to go into the next issue of The MAC, please send it to Martin at 54 Dane Road, WARLINGHAM, Surrey, CR6 9NP; e-mail: mwikner61@gmail.com

Next: the subscriptions are going up. For UK members who get The MAC by post, the new annual rate is £6.00. If you pay by PayPal, it's £6.35 (the extra 35p helps compensate for PayPal's fees ... and is less than the cost of posting a cheque to us). This 50% increase may seem rather large ... but Martin will be producing six newsletters a year—so you'll be getting 50% more for your subscription. Our overseas postal members will have the biggest increase. We calculate these subscriptions by adding the extra postal costs to the UK rate and, when we did this, it became obvious that postage has gone up a lot since we last did the calculation. The new Europe rate is £12 and the rest of the world is £18. All this means that the having your newsletters by e-mail is a bigger saving than ever ... whether you're in the UK or anywhere else.

That's not all that changed. After moaning about it for years, Mark managed to shed the job of Treasurer when, in a surprise move (probably as much a surprise to herself as to everyone else), Sharon Wikner volunteered to take that job on. At the moment, we're calling Sharon 'Treasurer Elect' because it'll take a while to persuade the bank to make the change. After the take-over, Mark will remain as a committee member.

2017 sees the tenth anniversary of our 'declaration of independence' from the NACC and we hope to have some tenth anniversary events. Kneel's Wheels will be the nearest event to the actual anniversary and 'Kneel' will be revamping the ride with a new venue and new route. The members at the AGM were keen on the idea of a re-run of the traditional East Anglian Run format that finished at the Museum of East Anglian Life in Stowmarket. If the Museum is agreeable, this 'retro' East Anglian Run will be on the usual date in May.

West Anglian Group

The West Anglian Group needs help if the Duloe Daffodil Dash and other events are to continue—please see the 'Letters' section for more about this.

Other News

Calendar

Every Tuesday **EACC and FMCC evening meeting** at the *Half Moon*, Walton, Felixstowe, from 9:30pm ... or even later!

Wednesday 14 December **Lancashire Slow Riders monthly meeting** at *The Farmers Arms*, Chorley Road, Bispham near Parbold, L40 3SL. Meet from 8:00pm. Everybody is welcome to come along. Contact Paul Morgan if you need to know more.

Wednesday 14 December **Norfolk Section monthly meeting.** Are you fed up with all those light evenings and balmy summer weather? Would you be glad of an evening away from your warm cosy shed and the latest project? Don't sit around reading back copies of *The MAC* or *Classic Bike*; get yourself over to Martham, sit in the *Kings Arms* with like-minded folk and enjoy, beer, food, & frivolity while chatting about road runs, summer shows, and mopeds. (Frivolity is not obligatory.) 19:30hrs (7.30pm) until ... you go home.

Wednesday 21 December **South East Moped Enthusiasts Christmas Dinner** at a venue yet to be decided. Full details in the November section newsletter. Register your interest for this festive occasion with Martin or Sharon on 01883 626853 or 07774 562085.

Monday 26 December **Lancashire Slow Riders Boxing Day ride out.** Contact Paul Morgan to find out more.

Sunday 8 January **The 34th Mince Pie Run** is our biggest event of the year. Meet at the Orwell Yacht Club, Wherstead Road, Ipswich, IP2 8LR for tea, coffee and mince pies. At 11:00 we will leave on a run to The Shipwreck Bar at Shotley. For details and directions contact David Evans on 01473 687820; please 'phone if you can, as this helps with planning the catering.

Sunday 15 January **Lancashire Slow Riders ride out.** Contact Paul Morgan to find out more.

Saturday 1 April **South East Moped Enthusiasts club stand** at The Heritage Transport Show at the Kent County Agricultural Society Showground, Detling, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 3JF; 10:00am–4:00pm. Let's make this our biggest show event of the year. Our allocated club area will be in the main hall and all owners of officially entered bikes receive two complimentary entrance tickets. So being indoors with excellent facilities it doesn't matter what the weather throws at us, this is the event not to be missed. For further details and entry forms contact Clive Fletcher on 01622 678011.

Sunday 9 April **South East Moped Enthusiasts North Downs Run.** Meet at the Edenbridge Leisure Centre car park, Wellingtonia Way, Edenbridge, TN8 5LU. Run starts at 11.00am. Enjoy 38 miles of the Kent and Surrey countryside and a pleasant lunch stop at the Star Inn at Lingfield. For more details call Martin or Sharon on 01883 626853 or 07774 562085.

Sunday 23 April—Drive It Day **The 13th Radar Run and Mopedjumble** starts at Bromeswell Village Hall. A superb circuit around Bawdsey peninsula with lots of historical interest details on the course notes. The usual free pitches for jumble stands - call Paul on 01394 671222 to allow him to set your spot in the hall. Jumble opens from 9:30am, run sets off at 11am. Everyone welcome. The Radar Run has an alternative, shorter route suitable for cyclemotors.

Sunday 7 May **South East Moped Enthusiasts South Downs Run.** Meet at the Civic Approach car park, High Street, Uckfield, TN22 1AR; starts at 11.00am. Enjoy

34 miles of Sussex countryside with a great lunch stop at Six Bells biker friendly pub. For more details call Martin or Sharon on 01883 626853 or 07774 562085

Sunday 21 May **35th East Anglian Run**, Museum of East Anglian Life, Stowmarket—to be confirmed.

Friday 30th June to Sunday 2nd July **The third EACC Camping Weekend** in the Broadland village of Martham, held in conjunction with Martham Fun Carnival. Basic camping facilities are provided in the pub grounds, electric hook up available. Road runs and meals out, taking in local attractions and the Broadland scenery. No need to book, turn up and stay for as long or short as you wish. Day visitors welcome. Friday 19:00hrs: Chip shop run through local villages and byways. Saturday 11:00hrs: A day out; road run for all machines to a local attraction. Saturday 18:00hrs: Short run out for meal, return for entertainment on the village green, a local band. Sunday 10:00hrs: Breakfast run for a Full English & a look around the local area. Returning to Martham for the afternoon carnival procession. Evening run out if sufficient interest. Contact: Dave Watson: david.watson9416@yahoo.co.uk or 07483 210625.

Sunday 9 July **15th Peninsularis Run and Mopedjumble** from Bucklesham Village Hall. A busy and atmospheric day that is one of the major events on the cyclomotoring calendar; it features full reception facilities and free refreshments on arrival. The route is a superb and fully marked course through the quiet countryside of the Felixstowe peninsula, including a super riders' section between Nacton and Levington, a classic drag down a 'passing place' road to Trimley, lanes through to Falkenham, Kirton, the greenhouse village of Newbourne, then more lanes on to Waldringfield Maybush, an idyllic spot for lunch and ale in the sunshine. The jumble is supported by both the larger trade stands and the smaller pitches of club members. Please call us if you'd like to book a jumble spot in the hall or the car park (mark@mdhercules.fsnet.co.uk or tel: 01473-659607). The jumble opens 9:30am, the run sets off at 11:00am, the jumble re-opens at 2:00pm when the run returns.

Sunday 13 August **North Hertfordshire Section's Periwinkle Run**: the start will be from Cottered Village Hall as usual, the hall will be open from 9:30am and we anticipate an 11:00am start. The ride takes us through some of the prettiest villages, lanes and roads in Hertfordshire. We will be stopping at Three Tuns in Great Hornead for lunch and a chinwag. Danny will be there as usual with his spares & accessories. If you require any particular item can you let Danny know in advance of the day as his stock is too vast to bring it all along. There will be a raffle to help offset the cost of the hall; if any members want to donate a prize could they please bring it along on the day where it would be greatly appreciated? If you require any further information please contact Peter Smith on 07977 936 123.

Sunday 20 August **South East Moped Enthusiasts, The Bluebell Run**. Meet at Horsted Keynes station car park, Station Approach, Horsted Keynes, RH17 7BB; enjoy 38 miles of Sussex countryside skirting the South downs with a lunch stop at The Sportsman at Goddards Green. For more details contact Martin or Sharon on 01883 626853 or 07774 562085.

Sunday 10 September **Fourteenth Coprolite Run & Mopedjumble** from Bucklesham Village Hall to Felixstowe Ferry Boat Inn. E-mail danny@mopedland.ukfsn.org or telephone Mark Daniels on 01473 659607. Full reception facilities and free refreshments on arrival. A fully marked

and classic local course to Felixstowe Ferry, and twin to the Radar Run. Riders who completed the Bawdsey Point section of the Radar Run might be interested in the contrast of the opposite view back across the Deben estuary. A fabulous riders' course on both legs, especially as the route bursts out onto the Golf Links road for a traditional sprint to the Ferry Boat Inn lunch stop. Drink fine ales to the panorama of coastal boats on the estuary, stunning views, big skies, Martello towers, explore the Ferry boatyard... Why is it called the Coprolite Run? The explanation is in the course notes. The jumble opens 9:30am, the run sets off at 11:00am, the jumble re-opens at 2:00pm when the run returns.

Thursday 14 September **Steeple Morden Run**: basically the same format as the last two years, starting and finishing at The Chequers public house in Queen Street, Stotfold, Bedfordshire, SGT 4NX. The route runs through three counties and is around 33 miles. Mostly country lanes a bit of B-road and an unavoidable stretch of the A507. A bit hilly but rideable with LPA. A convenient stopping off point is at the 355th USAF Memorial at Steeple Morden, to adjust route sheets, plugs, etc. Departure at 11:00am, return around 1:30pm in time for lunch or whatever. Info from David Osborn.

Letters

Dear Andrew,

Sorry for the lack of activity in the West Anglian Group this year, this was due to family commitments on my part. Other members have not been forthcoming with organising events but if anyone is inclined to put themselves forward it would be most welcome. I fear I will not be able to do any runs in future due to continuing family demands.

Thanks

Regards
Ralph.

Dear Andrew,

I understand from Chris Saunders that the family matters of Ralph Richardson have now brought things to a head and he will be informing the AGM that he will no longer be able to organise Duloe or other events which is, of course, a great shame but fully understandable. THANKS should of course clearly be recorded for his magnificent efforts in this regard ... and too for his bacon and egg butties!

It would be a great loss to the EACC if the Duloe and other rides simply disappear as a result of Ralph's decision and, as I already organise another Classic Motor Cycle club, I fully understand the amount of effort that goes into running such events. I feel confident that all that have ever taken part in the Duloe will want it to continue but there will be great reluctance to step forward. Can I therefore suggest that a request be made for a small group of volunteers (maximum of four) to consider jointly taking on the organisation of Duloe and other events in the area—in fact maybe several small geographical groups would encourage more participation in events and attendance at shows—what do members think?

Museum to Museum—9/11/2016

Paul Morgan

What a lovely sunny day the North-West Section had for our ride out: eight riders and a back-up car turned up at the starting Museum at the gates of Astley Green Colliery Museum. We found that the car park was now houses ... parking was a little tight! Everybody was ready to go just after half past ten.

A steady pace was kept for all the different bikes, with Peter pedalling a lot of the time across the East Lancs Road and away we all went ... a few re-grouping stops as the roundabouts split the group up. The roads were not that busy for a Sunday, but all arrived at the Imperial War Museum North (free parking for bikes, but not for the back-up car). We loaded the car full of helmets, coats, etc ... and into the Museum.

After a good look round we found the café! Wow, they know how to charge for food! Some had a sandwich and others a drink. After a relaxed sit down we made our way out back to our bikes via the car to pick-up helmets, etc. A quick photo shoot at the side of a tank parked in the car park and away we went on the return ride, getting a lot of looks and finger pointing from the public as we rode past pubs, cafés, etc, back across the East Lancs and arriving back at the Astley Green Museum all safe and sound.

Not one problem with any of the bikes which does make a change for our rides!

'Classic Live'

Matt Embleton

Thought you might be interested in the fact that I have just returned from a weekend at the new 'Classic Live' show at Peterborough Showground having had my 1948 Aberdale Autocycle accepted as a concours entry.

After setting up on Saturday morning (30th October) and returning to my bike I was pleasantly surprised to find I recognised the two bikes that were now next to mine: Ralph Richardson's two Rudge racers—so two EACC members with three bikes on the concours stand. I was also very pleased to have a chat with Sam Lovegrove (the mechanical brains) of TV show *Shed and Buried* fame and to discover that he is really keen on everything autocycle and was really impressed with the Aberdale.

The show itself was all undercover, situated inside three major halls with around 20 different club stands as well as a large number of trade stands and a hundred or so auto trade stalls (also situated under cover in the cattle sheds)—so plenty of things to look at and do plus exhibitors' car parking with direct access to the exhibition halls and free movement in and out of the parking area throughout the day but total lock down from 5pm with full security, so ideal for just displaying bike without the necessity to remain on site for both days.

Previous suggestions regarding show attendance made on the EACC forum resulted in a reply stating that we like to ride not show ... well I fully agree with that as all 11 of my bikes are 'on the road and in regular use' but attendance at the odd show brings a great deal of interest in our buzzing style machines (as shown by my Aberdale at Peterborough at end of October) and get others, especially youngsters and their parents interested in rebuilding and riding some of our 'big hearted' machines. Can I therefore recommend that everyone takes a positive interest in attending the odd show throughout the year and ensure that they circulate early information to us all via the forum and magazine so attempts can be made to get a like-minded group together and arrange EACC stand whenever possible during 2017? I will be arranging attendance at the Rushden Cavalcade, Rushden, Northants over the early May Bank holiday for my other club and our stand of 20+ machines always includes between four and six EACC eligible bikes ... so why not an EACC stand? There are no costs apart from an SAE.

All the very best and I trust the ride and AGM goes well.

Matt Embleton

Hi fellow moped owners,

Rotherham Roamers

We in the northern section of the EACC are planning a weekend event for some time in July next year. This will not coincide with the Norfolk EACC weekend. I have got a camp-site venue in mind but have got to sort out the dates when it will be available. The site will have toilets, showers, and café amenities, and is set in a wonderful setting. I will keep members informed of the developments as and when they occur.

We'll have a run out on Friday, Saturday ride to visit a Norman castle, Sunday ride to a local heritage museum.

Should anyone wish to contact me, my email address is mobymagic@gmail.com or you can contact me through the UK Mobylette Forum.

Best regards

John Barn

Rotherham Roamers section of the EACC

Dear Andrew,

Just a waffle! I've been out today on my 1999 home-built roller-drive to a cyclists' café in Rosliston, South Derbyshire—a 46-mile round trip. I do this run one or two times weekly. The machine has now completed 19,400 miles.

Much interest (and extraction of urine) is received at cafés and pubs for dinner stops. Two weeks ago at Edingale, the driver of a green Jaguar flagged me down just for a look at the bike!

I love riding a cyclemotor; it's made me many friends. 56 miles today—brill day out.

Stan Watters



Matt's Aberdale at 'Classic Live'

I mention this point as, when I asked if anyone was going to attend, the only replies I received were that members of EACC really don't want to stay for the two days. I understand from the organisers that they are highly likely to make 'Classic Live' a regular event so maybe next year it might be able to arrange an EACC stand and encourage others to take an interest in rebuilding and riding some of our 'big hearted' machines and even get a few younger people to start buzzing.

Great show and well worth attending.

Steeple Morden Run 2016

David Osborn

'What a difference a day makes!' Indeed!

The apparent last of the Spanish weather contributed a fine turnout of thirteen riders for the mid-week run of some thirty-six miles. Had the run been scheduled for a day later, I guess that the line-up would have been zero. Riders homed in on Stotfold from various parts of the region. A call the night before from a rider, to confirm that the run was still on and saying he would bring a C90. Nothing unusual? No, but when it was realized that the C90 had come under its own power for 67 miles that makes some 170 miles in the saddle for the day!

No breakdowns or hiccups from a variety of machinery. Of note was a rider, best to remain nameless,

General view of 'Classic Live'



who went ride about in the urban sprawl of Baldock, but nevertheless, later claimed he enjoyed his day out.

Perhaps he can give me the route—may be some potential there.

The route included an unavoidable section of the A507. Over lunch, someone surmised he would like to have been privy to the utterances of the other road users temporarily inconvenienced by the Dayglo convoy heading east, and the steam powered convoy heading west.

Thanks to all the riders for their participation and appreciation of a good outing. Thanks also to the management of *The Chequers* who opened their facilities early for our benefit.

Perhaps there is potential for the mid-week event.

Riders set off on the Steeple Morden Run



Copdock Show

2 October 2017

We had our usual club stand at the Copdock Show in October ... here are some pictures. (All photographs by Neil Morley)



The EACC

is the club for all cylemotor, autocycle and moped enthusiasts, everywhere.

Membership is just £6.00 a year for UK residents (and it's £12.00 for the rest of Europe, & £18.00 for the rest of the world). The membership form is available from our website... or just ask and we'll send you one.

Secretary

Andrew Pattle, 7 Unity Road, STOWMARKET, IP14 1AS. Phone: 01449 673943

E-mail: eacc@autocycle.freereserve.co.uk

Website

<http://www.autocycle.org.uk/>

Forum

<http://eacc.freeforums.net/>

Standing information

Contact details for all club officers are on the club information sheet that you get when you join or renew your membership. Spare copies are available from the website or from the Secretary.

Information Sheet Changes:

New Membership rates:

Membership is just £6.00 a year for UK residents (and it's £12.00 for the rest of Europe, & £18.00 for the rest of the world).

New details for The MAC:

The club's newsletter is called *The MAC* and it is issued six times a year: in February, April, June, August, October and December. The Editor is Martin Wikner.

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Committee:

Add Sharon Wikner (treasurer elect) to list of committee members.

