

Section News – Irish Section – for December Journal

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We had a very well attended AGM in Moate on 18th October, and probably one of the shortest we ever had, shows how well the Irish Section is doing. We have a few new faces on the committee. T.J. McHale remains as Club Secretary, Brendan Lang is Club Treasurer and Bookings Secretary, Steve Somers is our new Membership Secretary, and Dave Browne is our new Social Secretary. I stood down for personal reasons and wish Dave all the best on his new position. Since then, Mary has also resigned as Bookings Secretary and this role has been taken on by Brendan Lang, for the moment. Full details will be published in the journal of the contact details for the new committee. Congrats to Jim Sweeney for getting the “Member of the year award” well deserved, as he put a lot of effort into organising the Sunday runs throughout the past couple of years.

We had twenty eight people attend the October weekend and thanks to all our friends from the UK who made the effort to come over, it was good to see Ross Cameron and Tom Birthwhistle again. The weather was good except for Saturday when it poured rain for most of the afternoon.

You will all have received your Membership renewal forms with the November issue of the journal and if you have not already renewed your membership, please note that Irish Section members should renew with the Irish Section Membership Secretary and not through the UK if possible. Renewing through the UK can cause a lot of confusion and sometimes it takes months before the Irish Section Membership Secretary is advised that you have renewed. If you have changed your home address/email address in the recent past, please highlight this on your form when returning your payment to the Membership Secretary, as it is important that these details will be changed on the Club data base. Members who renew early will retain their previous membership number, however, we were advised at the recent AGM by the outgoing Membership Secretary that members who do not renew on time and/or early, do not keep their previous membership number and for some reason are deemed to be “new members” by the UK.

We also have the Christmas dinner on the 6th December for Leinster members (but members from all areas are welcome) so let Anne McDonald know if you would like to attend.

Looking forward into 2010, we have booked Killala for the Mini-Thatch in February and the main Thatch Rally to be held in September, is in progress by Dave Browne. Brendan Lang will be dealing with all the bookings and his details will be published in the journal with the various events when they are sent in for the 2010 Diary of Events.

This will be my last Section news and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and safe biking in 2010 and always.

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