

Section News – Irish Section – for September Journal

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AGM - I hereby give notice that the Annual General Meeting of the BMW Club – Irish Section – will be held in “The Auld Sheebeen”, Moate, Co. Westmeath, on **Sunday 18th October, 2009 at 12:00 noon**. (Registration from: 11:30am).

Nominations are invited for the posts of: Secretary, Treasurer, Social Secretary, Membership Secretary, and other Committee Members.

All nominations and agenda items must be in my possession by noon on September 30th 2009. (Please note if sending a nomination or agenda item by email it will not be considered to be in my possession until you receive an acknowledgment, the time and date of that acknowledgment will be considered to be the time and date of receipt. If sending a nomination or agenda item by post, it will be acknowledged by telephone call from me, **please include your Telephone number and Membership number with your post/email**).

Only current Members/Associate Members are allowed to attend the AGM, please bring your Membership card with you on the day.

T.J. McHale, Secretary, BMW Club – Irish Section, Email: mctjrt11@hotmail.com

NEWS – We are just back from the *Irish Boreen* weekend and a great time was had by all. I would like to thank everyone who participated this year for making the weekend such a great success and particularly thank Pat Bradley & Jack Hunter for all the help they have given me not only this weekend, but in the months leading up to the Boreen. Despite terrible forecast, we only had a few showers on Saturday afternoon and the rest of the time the sun shone for us. I will be sending a full report later on to the journal with photos, as we need to get the NEWS in now before the deadline tomorrow for the September edition. On behalf of the Club I would like to express our condolences to Daithi on the sudden passing of his wife Mairead’s Dad on Saturday RIP, we were all glad to hear that he made it back to Cork safely late on Saturday night. Our thoughts are with Daithi and Mairead at this sad time for their family.

The Sunday runs in the Leinster area have certainly been busy in July – August (I will be reporting on the August runs in the Oct. edition of the journal). Unfortunately, due to myself and Mary being away on holidays we were unable to attend the Belgian weekend organised by Steve Somers and the Poster Run organised by Don & Susie Hall, which I understand went really well (see Don’s report below).

A large group of 20 bikes and 25 riders (including 2 young pillion riders Martha Mount and Odhrán Lang) turned out to take part in Don and Susie Hall’s poster run to Scenic South Armagh held on 12th July last.

Billed as ‘*a journey into bandit country*’ the route began with a visit to the shrine of St. Brigid at Faughert, just off the motorway at Dundalk North. Surprisingly, none of the riders had been there before - not even Terry Carolan, Percy Gilchrist or Oliver O’Reilly, all of whom come from that area.

Bathed in the peace and tranquillity of this pilgrimage site, riders whispered a silent prayer seeing protection from what was to come as they posed for a poster picture taken by ace photographer Brendan Lang.

From there, the action moved to picturesque Slieve Gullion Forest Park where riders took on the challenging Forest Drive with its spectacular views which, many argue, are amongst the finest in Ireland.

Travelling onwards via the village of Camlough, through the charming Quaker village of Bessbrook, they stopped in Newry for a customary ice cream treat before continuing on to lunch in Carlingford. Along the way, a quick stop was made at the Albert Lock where Jim and Katie Corbett described its significance as part of the Newry Canal and Carlingford Lough navigation system.

Over lunch, a raffle was held in which Alan Rice, on his very first run with the Club, won a return ticket to Britain kindly donated by Irish Ferries. There to congratulate him was Susie Hall, who took part on her new F650GS.

Other participants included Martin Ward, John Curtin, Graham Daniels and his partner Kate, Aidan Monaghan, Simon Bland and his partner Helen, John Mount, Andrew Kennedy and his pal Jim Twomey, James Clarke, Eamonn Behan and Maurice McNiff. Adding a touch of Gallic flare was Frenchman Thomas Pedoussaut on his 1970s vintage BMW...end of Don's report.

I am sure those who participated are really looking forward to receiving their "posters" to add to their collection and those who went for the first time, have something to look forward to and to have as a keep sake, I understand that the artwork is well under way at the moment. Don is so generous to Club members when it comes to his "Poster Runs" and also his customary treats of ice-cream for everyone in Newry.

Terry Carolan's run to the Marble Arch Caves, on Sunday 26th July went well, with 6 bikes and 2 pillions taking part. We went to the Shannon Pot which is the source of the Shannon and then on to Ballyconnell for lunch. We were lucky with the weather as we only got caught in a few small showers. After lunch we went to the Marble Arch Caves and then on to Belturbet to have a look at the rebuilt railway station. Thanks again to Terry and Percy for all the effort they put in to make a great day. An old proverb says "*REAL BIKERS DONT MIND GETTING WET*"

We still have some places left for the main Thatch later on this month, so if you are thinking of going, please get in touch with me and if you have booked in already and haven't sent off your payment yet, please send your cheque/draft made payable to: **BMW Club Irish Section**, to Mrs Mary Connolly, as soon as possible. Also Mary is taking bookings for the October weekend.

James Connolly - Social Secretary – Irish Section
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