

# The Coaster



The official newsletter of the Pacific Coast Owners Club U.K. December 2002.

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## A Welcome from your new Editor

May I start by saying it is with great trepidation that I have taken on the role of Editor, for 'The Coaster'.

I would like to take the opportunity of saying a big thank you to both Brian and Gary for all the hard work they have put in over the last few years to get the club to where we are today. I only hope that we, new Committee members, can continue their good work and keep the club going, if not growing.

A little about myself first, I am 48 years of age and married to Debbie. I live in a small village called Stramshall, near Uttoxeter in Staffordshire. I am a serving Police Officer with Staffordshire Police and have owned my silver/grey PC800 since April 2000, those of you with Internet access may have seen my bike on the Internet PC800 web site or on our own UK Owners club site. I joined the UK owners Club in March 1999. I have been using my bike as a daily mode of transport. This has resulted in me having to do some major repairs to my bike in recent times, the details of which I may bore you with later, if I start to struggle for interesting items.

Anyway on with The Coaster.....

Chris Tallent.

### e-mail address for The Coaster

If anyone out there has any article or information they feel may be of interest to other club members, they can forward the details to me at [the.coaster@supanet.com](mailto:the.coaster@supanet.com).

### The Coaster over the Net.

I am curious to find out how many of the group would be interested in receiving The Coaster by e-mail. If you are, please send me an e-mail to [the.coaster@supanet.com](mailto:the.coaster@supanet.com).

# The road to 'The Rock'.

D. Hopton from Exeter has supplied me with a fascinating story of his recent trip to Gibraltar. His story follows:

‘Rock on’ PC!



Date, Time .... 09/06/2002.. (about tea time!).... All onboard, P and O Ferries, Portsmouth,. Having lashed the P.C. to the side gantry, it was time to find the bar!

So here we go, having driven trucks on the continent for a number of years, I have always wanted to taste the open roads on two wheels. We had the next two weeks to ourselves (the wife and I) our kids placed into care!

Cherbourg, down to ‘Omaha’ a quiet prayer for the boys, then over to Bayeux, to see the tapestry. After that down to some serious miles, sorry kilometres!

We stop at a bed and breakfast south of Toulouse and awoke the next morning to the most glorious blue skies.

Andorra, 80 kilometres, up and up we went, snow on the peaks, bendy roads as we traversed our way to the border, the scenery was stunning. Into the feudal state, the roads meander around lakes and ski lifts. We pulled up at the Spanish border within 90 minutes, and then into Spain 5 minutes later.

Time to ventilate! It's now getting rather warm, the PC's temperature gauge actually begins moving for the first time in the four years I've owned the bike!

I decided to detour Barcelona, as it's a pain to drive through, so we followed the 1313 across country, over to Tarragona, then the coast road (Auto-Via) to Valencia.

We stop overnight at a B and B with secure parking, time for a good deush (shower).

Day three ... our goal was Gibraltar, and Gibraltar was only 8 inches on my map, so it was on with the shades, top up with fuel and we hit the road.

Seventeen hours later, (and 2 numb buttocks), I started to get some earache (from she who must be obeyed) we were at the border. Having passed the leaning towers of Benidorm, the bright lights of Malaga and paddling in the Med. (with my boots still on...!), time was 0330.

The Spanish border guards inspected our passports, (even though we kept our helmets on)?

'Welcome to Gibraltar' read the sign, we were back on English territory!

1500 odd miles in three days, no hassle, no rain and no Gatso's.

The PC behaved impeccably, we averaged 56 mpg, cruised at a steady 70-75 mostly.

My only complaint would be the headlight, not the best, but overall brilliant for long distance touring.

Do it again next year?

You bet!

San Marino, Italy next year.

## Bikers Bashes....

- January 12: Classic car and British bike restoration show, Donington Park, more info on 01484 452002.
- January 26: Aintree car and bike autojumble, Aintree Racecourse, Liverpool. More info on 01484 452002.
- February 2: Potteries Autojumble, Trentham Gardens, Stoke on Trent. More info on 01484 452002.
- February 8/9 Bristol Classic MC Show, Royal Bath and West Showground, Shepton Mallet. More info on 01507 529430.
- February 23: Classic Japanese bike show, Donington Park. More info on 01484 452002.
- April 26/27: International Classic Motorcycle Show, Stafford County Showground. Stafford. More info 01507 529430.

May 20: Classic MC and sidecar club rally, Greenacres Touring Park, Tuxford. More info on 01777 818284.

June 6: Post 11 Classic Races, Mallory Park, More info on 01507 529430.

October 18/19: Classic and Motorcycle Mechanics Show, Stafford County Showground, Stafford. More info on 01507 529430.

## Contact points.

### Membership Secretary

Alan Robertson 01323 846365, St Wilfreds Cottage, 2 Battle Road, Hailsham, East Sussex BN27 1DS.

### The Coaster Editor.

Chris Tallent - 01889 564892 - 33 Vicarage Drive, Stramshall, Uttoxeter Staffordshire, ST145DL  
- 07973 149955

### Midlands Group Organiser

Ian McNaughton - 0115 9325537 - 25 Sunningdale Drive, Kirk Hallam, Derbyshire, DE74JQ.

## Websites

### PC800 Owners Club U.K.

[www.pc800club.co.uk](http://www.pc800club.co.uk)

### PC800 Owners Club N.I.

[www.pc800club.freeserve.co.uk](http://www.pc800club.freeserve.co.uk)

### PC800 Owners Intranet site

[www.pc800.net](http://www.pc800.net) and <http://go.to/pc800>.

## A new screen by Rifle...

Roland, from Bridgewater informs me of a new screen being manufactured for the P.C. by a company called Rifle. They are an American company and produce screens for a variety of different models and makes of bikes. Their web site [www.Rifle.com](http://www.Rifle.com) states that after many requests from riders they have now produced the screen using their patented lower screen 'Air Balance' system. They have also altered the angle of attack of the screen which they claim should reduce wind noise. By all accounts it looks very good. The bottom section remains on the bike if a replacement screen is required. The initial costs of the screen £142.00 (\$219.00) plus postage, appears expensive at first but if you intend staying with Rifle for any further screens it may pay in the end.



Club stands...

I have been making enquiries about having a stand at a number of the bike shows that occur around the country. It would appear to be possible but it will require the purchase of some sort of equipment to put on as a display. Anyone interested in assisting in putting on a stand at a show, let me know and I will check with the Club Secretary as to what funds if any are available.

## Irish PC800OC 2003 Rally, County Wicklow...

I have been asked to bring to the attention of all club members the fact that the Irish PC800 Owners Club are holding a rally at County Wicklow over the weekend of 09/05/2003 - 12/05/2003. Any members interested in attending should contact Ian, via their website. Any members without Internet access contact me for further details.

## Midlands group back on track...

Members of the Midlands group got together on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2002 at The Devonshire Arms, near Ripley. A result of which a decision was made to have regular

meetings on the first Sunday of every month at a pre-decided location.

The first meeting of the New Year will be at midday on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2003, at the Bassetts Pole Public House, Bassetts Pole, Near Lichfield, Staffs. On the junction of the A38 and A446.

Then 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2003, at The Poachers Cottage on the A34 next door to Trentham Gardens, in Trentham, Stoke on Trent.

Then 6<sup>th</sup> April 2003, back at The Devonshire Arms, near Ripley.

### **And finally ....**

It is subscription time again. Could all members please send their subscriptions to Alan Robertson at his home address, details contained in Contact Point..

May I wish all club members a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.  
Safe Biking.

Chris Tallent.