

- Introduction -

These webpages have been put together to allow others to look into the mysteries of Cossacks, Nevals, Urals and Dniepers, and the many other strange sounding names. To enable reasonably quick downloads the resolution is low, but viewing on the screen will be reasonable, however printing quality will be poor.

I bought my first Ural M63 in 1973, and have been riding and maintaining Soviet motorcycles in Great Britain ever since. I have ridden and worked on most of the Soviet motorcycle models manufactured during and since the 1970s, but have recently added a 1950's M72 to my collection. I even worked for the UK importers, SATRA, in 1977 as a temporary fitter & test rider on the Cossack motorcycle range. I have been involved with the UK based Cossack Owners Club since 1974, and am currently supporting their membership as Technical Adviser and President. Over the last decade or so, I have been gathering information relating to the origins and development of these fascinating motorcycles. This research is still ongoing, but these pages cover what we know so far and hints at what we are also looking for.

I am sure that owners of Soviet motorcycles and their derivatives, together with other motorcycle enthusiasts will find articles about and photographs of Soviet motorcycles on this website that will not only be fascinating, but will be completely new to them. Information has for instance been located and reproduced from many Soviet publications that describe their motorcycles and factories in their own eyes. These articles also give a great insight into the extent of the post WWII Soviet motorcycle industry.

This website contains a lot of additional information about the Soviet motorcycles developed from the pre WWII BMW and the DKW models. This includes the Soviet factories they were built in, the home produced publicity material for these motorcycles and some publicity material from the UK importers of these machines that they then re-exported to countries including USA and Australia.



Photo taken by Roger Youdan

Technical articles have been selected that will help to keep these machines on the road with increased reliability and safety but still in the spirit of the original machine and without obvious external appearance changes. I hope that this website will be updated over the years to bring these machines to the awareness of many. I for one will help that happen. Contributions from readers of this website are also welcomed, and those with possible input for future updates are invited to contact the author.

I will listen out for the “Well I never knew that”, “Wow they made one of those as well” and “I can't wait for the next update” reactions coming from Soviet motorcycle enthusiasts around the world - Happy reading!

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