

Cossack Owners Club AGM 2015 Wing Rutland 23rd August 11.00am

Secretary Tony Jones opened the meeting as chairman and Peter J Ballard agreed to take the minutes.

1. Apologies; Carl Booth, Dr Phil Whitney, Mike Stevens, Oz Richardson, Rev Al.
2. AGM 2014 minutes. Acceptance as a good record; proposed Tony Jones, seconded Paul Codling. Votes approved.
3. Reports for committee members:

3.1 Secretary. As last year I have been the main contact point for the Club. I receive emails/phone call directed to the Club and either answer them myself or forward them as appropriate. This system seems to be working well so far. I seem to have had more enquiries from members of the public than last year mostly relating to dating enquiries and parts wanted/for sale. I have to report that there is a problem with the venue for the Red Start Rally next year. They will not allow any fires on site at all. This includes barbeques and camping stoves

I only found this out earlier this week when I contacted the venue. In my opinion camping stoves are an important part of a camping weekend. I have to ask if these conditions are acceptable. If not we will have to search for a new venue. I will ask for a vote in any other business. I am prepared to stand again as Secretary. Tony Jones.

3.2 Show Organiser.

Wish I was there but life is busy presently, due to this I have only committed to three shows this year both Stafford and Donnington as these are very well publicised and give the club best publicity, The Stafford show last October was well attended and our line up for the first time was largely '2-Strokes', which was not even conceived when I started the stand so many moons ago. As this year's April show we had some exotic and rare bikes which is of great interest to people and new members showing their bikes for the first time and joining in the club activities.

The Donnington show is a mixture of race weekend and classic show but has a good following with a relaxed atmosphere and with a chance of riding your bike round the circuit it is a different perspective on other bike shows. This year we got another rosette for one of our bikes and I think we should support it, more bikes would fill the stand better as we get a large enough pitch for all sorts. With the last show being October I hope to do us proud with an interesting stand of all sorts and maybe a rare Chinese bike if it gets finished (we know where you are!) With a large membership I am always looking for bikes for display and it would be great if we got some more members involved as different bikes and faces promote our club to its extent if they only displayed at one show a year we would have a good selection of different bikes. The weird and unknown always cause a stir and grabs people's interest, some may join us in our weird obsession and buy one or rebuild the heap in the barn to a show stopping standard, we hope! To all who help and give their time and money to promoting the club at these events I thank you very much as without your support I could not do the stands to the standards we have achieved.

See you at Stafford – Comrade Carl

3.3 Membership Secretary

Membership Numbers:

Year 2013/14: 268 Paid Up Members
24 Honorary Members
292 Members in total.

Year 2014/15: 278 Paid Up Members
24 Honorary Members
302 Members in total

Below is a table showing the monthly breakdown of new and renewed membership.

MONTH	NEW MEMBERS	RENEWED MEMBERS	TOTAL
Sep-14	11	15	26
October	6	20	26
November	5	17	22
December	3	13	16
Jan-15	2	15	17
February	6	11	17
March	12	17	29
April	3	14	17
May	7	26	33
June	5	26	31`
July	14	18	32
August	4	8	12
TOTALS	78	200	278

During the course of last year 78 people have joined the club compared to only 42 in the year 2013/14. Unfortunately, once again, there are still a significant number of people failing to renew their membership. A total loss of 69 people. This is slightly up on the previous year. But overall we have an increase in membership of 10 from the previous year.

In my role as Membership Secretary I am also responsible for the distribution of Horizontal View.

There continues to be an increase in the numbers of members receiving their copies of Horizontal View by email. 88 people have now taken this option. Of these 16 are new members. Several people have reverted to the posted copy saying they have found they prefer to hold the copy and take it with them to read wherever they may be.

Should it be the will of the membership I am happy to continue in the role of Membership Secretary for a further year.

Gina Inman
Membership Secretary

PJB added that a loss of 69 in 278 is only 25% turnover. In the recent past this has been nearer 33%. So average a member stays for 4 years, but suspect that there are many that stay for many years and a few that join for only a year to give an average that actually is not typical.

3.4 TREASURER'S REPORT FOR YEAR-END 31 JULY 2015 (incorporating Regalia Secretary's Report)

Your attention is invited to the attached Year-End Report, which gives a detailed breakdown of Income and Expenditure, by category.

Our bank balance at Year End was £4463.51, compared with £3238.81 for Year End 2014.

Income amounted to £5041.69, coming almost exclusively from membership subscriptions and regalia sales. Income from member subscriptions shows an increase of £199.97 over last year.

Expenditure amounted to £3816.99, compared with £4667.48 for last year. Significantly, postage costs have fallen from £1314.80 last year, to £778.67 this year, attributed to lower postage rates from use of our franking machine, together with less frequent magazine mailings. The other major area of expenditure, printing of the Club magazine, rose from £1633.21 last year, to £1982.00 this year, an increase of £348.79. This was caused by the late submission, by our printer, of an invoice which should have fallen for inclusion in last year's figures. Having recently changed to a new magazine printer, the Club is now paying around £120 less, per issue, than previously, which amounts to an annual saving of over £700, with no reduction in printing quality.

The Club's income has exceeded expenditure by £1224.70, a highly satisfactory figure. Accordingly, I make no recommendation for an increase in membership subscriptions.

Regalia sales continue at a relative trickle. Regalia items have been taken to the two Stafford Classic Shows during the year, but sales there have been fairly disappointing. Regalia sales for the year (£392.35) exceeded costs (£383.76) by £8.59. Since the provision of regalia items is a service for club members and not a profit-raising activity, this can be seen as a satisfactory outcome. However, care will need to be exercised to ensure Regalia remains in the 'black', financially-speaking.

I am willing to continue as COC Treasurer next year, should that be the membership's wish.

Cossack Owners Club – Year-End, 31 July 2015

Ledger	Account	Amount £
Income	Advertising	14.63
	Donations to COC	32.00
	Membership Subscriptions	4582.71
	Rallies	20.00
	Regalia Sales	392.35
	Total Income	5041.69
Expenses	Advertising	45.60
	Equipment	301.26
	Postage	778.67
	Printing	1982.00
	Rallies	29.00
	Regalia	383.76
	Stationery	217.70
	Sundry Expenses	10.00
	Website	69.00
	Total Expenses	3816.99
Total excess of income over expenditure for the year		1224.70

Bank Balance as at Year-End = **£4463.51**

Phil Inman COC Treasurer 19th August 2105

3.5 President. Peter has not done much presiding as such since last year. Is pleased that the club seems pretty stable and is able to find good people to run the committee positions well. He can see no great threats to the club in the coming years. Peter J Ballard.

3.6 Technical Adviser. Peter has two main roles; technical advice and Date Certificates.

Requests for technical advise have reduced over the years, probably due to there being more information on the web and better access to manuals. May only get one request for help each month. Acknowledged that David Angel at 'F2 Motorcycles' is still giving advice to owners of the 750cc OHV bikes and providing COC application forms to non-members.

Requests for Date Certificates are increasing as more bikes are being brought in from EU and such as Ukraine. Date Certificates are required by owners to obtain an age related UK registration number from DVLA. Average is two Date Certs per month, still 100% success rate.

Willing to stay on. Peter J Ballard.

3.6 Webmaster. (No written submission, notes taken in meeting). David reminded the meeting that the supply of technical manuals for our bikes is his own business, but does include membership form with orders processed by non-members.

Website now has more protection from hacking. The 'members only' section is now better with all Newsletters available. Still need more input for the 'members only' section. The library has been set up on 'flicker'. The Facebook page is working very well with 200 'friends' worldwide including Russia and Poland. It also does include some videos. So far 6 have been banned for political postings. Generally users appreciate the good information and photos. Willing to stay on. David Cox.

3.7 Horizontal View Editor. (No written submission, notes taken in meeting)

Paul admitted that he did not have a clue about editing/creating a magazine 6 months ago. The Horizontal View magazine is now up to 24 pages in 6 issues a year. All submissions to HV go in. Paul feels that some of his input is a little 'self indulgent', but the attendees dismissed this fear. There had been some concern about the smallness of the font, but the size enables good flow of text around the photos. General agreement to leave as it is. Paul is continuing with the vibrant cover colours to make it a bit different. The next Nov/Dec issue will be a bit thicker.

It was agreed that the COC should trade the magazines with RMOA (Russian Motorcycle Owners of Australia).

Unanimous agreement from attendees that the current HV is excellent.

Willing to stay on. Paul Codling.

4. Election of committee en bloc. Proposed John Denny. Seconded Dave Greenwood. Unanimous vote.

5. Proposals.

5.1 Jim Turner proposed that videos of club events should be made and made available, particularly of the AGM 'Ride Out'. All agreed good idea and good publicity. Dave Cox has video editing software and would help as required. Tony Jones make it known that he has a YouTube channel that would be a good way of getting the videos out there.

5.2 John Denny identified that the 'Ace Café' is a good meeting place for bikes like ours, they have an 'October Revolution' meet with bikes but also Trabants, Tattras etc.

6. 2016 AGM Venue. It was suggested that it should again be on this site. Date around the same weekend. Maybe at the RedStar rally depending on date. Committee to decide. Phil Inman reminded the meeting that the accounts are made up to end July each year.

7. AOB.

7.1 Identified that <http://b-cozz.com> is back on line with much interesting and new content.

7.2 RedStar Rally 2016. Tony reported that the site proposed at Salmesbury near Preston has been dropped, as the site organisers revealed that their "No BBQ" also meant no stoves or other naked lights. Need a venue for 250 to 300 attendees. Rutland Showground at £3800 too costly. Newark at £2,000, Lichfield unknown, Market Harborough as last year was a possibility.

Other costs include:

Badges at £500. Prizes at £100. Trophies £250. Signs. Insurance on MZRiders policy.

All covered by entry fee of £10 to £12, nonUK attendees free.

Consider entertainment in the evening; John Denny and his accordion was proposed. What budget, still needs investigating. Phil&Gina looking into a presentation by Austin Vince and his round the world on a Ural.

Proposed some competition/games, with due consideration for safety, eg: bottle pickup, slow riding. Risk assessment needed.

7.3 Paul Codling also gets technical enquiries which he answers or passes on.

7.4 Continuing uncertainty by members ref sidecar law and registrations. PJB actioned write blurb for website.

Committee and members thanked for attending

..~ AGM closed ~