



The Friends of the TT Riders Association (IOM Charity 856)

53 Scarlett Road, Castletown, Isle of Man IM9 1NX

hellofottra@gmail.com. +447624243276.

Spring Newsletter

We are looking forward to seeing you in the 38th Milestone at TT 24 in a couple of months. Practice starts on Monday 27th May and the final race is on Saturday 8th June.

There have been a lot of changes in FoTTRA since last year. Frances retired at last years TT after many years service. We presented her with an engraved salver at the AGM in November, and hope we will see her in the 38th for a relaxed cup of tea on a regular basis. Everyone wishes her a long, happy and healthy retirement. I was asked to take over as secretary and I have to say Frances is a hard act to follow, but I will do my best.

At the AGM in November, the committee (which was the same as the TTRA) resigned and the new team were elected. This allows the TTRA to focus on the welfare of its members, while FoTTRA concentrates on raising the funds to support this.

Chair Paul Quayle has long been a major fundraiser for FoTTRA, with his Ebay sales, and running the table outside the 38th at TT and MGP, with his wife, Janet. As Judith had decided to concentrate on TTRA, Janet was nominated as FoTTRA treasurer, and completed our on-island team. We have all been enthusiastic helpers for a number of years, so we know what FoTTRA stands for and needs.

However, we now have a dedicated team in England too. Geoff Kelly has been a longtime trustee and fundraiser, and he is joined by Christine Arthur and Hailey Coxon. They have plans for events over there, and Hailey has already held one in a Ducati showroom, and Christine a talk show at Ty Croes race track. If you would like to hold one in your area, contact hellofottra@gmail.com, and I will put you in touch with one of our team. We can often suggest local TT riders , past and present, who might attend, giving your event a bit of stardust! Collection buckets and even a dedicated Sumup machine can usually be provided too.

FoTTRA has space for one more Trustee, and would also welcome informal volunteers, particularly in other parts of the UK, where we have members who would like to do fundraisers. We would also love to have offers to hold events to

raise money either here or in the UK.. or even further afield.. if you are having a reunion, or memorial event, or if you fancy doing a Quiz.. TT-related or otherwise... by making The Friends of the TT Riders Association your beneficiary, you will be helping your heroes.

We can give you Paypal or bank details, and, in some cases can lend you a Sumup machine so people can pay by card. Recently, a member raised over £1000 with an event in memory of his TT loving brother. In some circumstances, the TTRA may be able to find a willing TT star for your event.

As we are a Manx charity, with members all over the world, we will be holding our Annual General Meeting in Douglas at Manx Grand Prix time, so members who are here for the races can attend. The date is Wednesday 21st August, when we will also have our Annual lunch at the Talk of the Town, after the great event there last year. Formerly the AGM was held, along with the TTRA one, before the TTRA lunch, in Birmingham, but this is a very costly option for committee members and the charity.

Although the FoTTRA AGM and Lunch will be held in the Isle of Man, the TTRA will continue to hold their Annual Lunch in Birmingham, timed to coincide with the Motorcycle Show, and their event is on Friday 22nd November. Enquiries about tickets to Dave Moffitt (ttrasec24@gmail.com). It is always a lively event with many TT riders, past and present attending and happy to chat.

We will hold a general meeting for any members across for the TT on Friday 31st May, 18.00, in the 38th Milestone. If TT arrangements affect this, we will email any members who have said they will be there, so let me know if you are coming.

FoTTRA will also have a new range of merchandise, and will offer hoodies, T-shirts, mugs and other souvenir items. If you have an idea for something we should be selling, let me know.

We are always looking for off the wall ideas, and recently I had one that was literally that.. I acquired, from Haven Homes, part of a wall they had surrounding a new housing development. It was a 26 feet long, 8 feet high photograph of one of the Isle of Man's little trains. Thanks to Haven Homes for not only giving me it, but dismantling it carefully and delivering it to the 38th, where it was bought by Jackson Engineering Supplies for a very generous donation, to use as a dividing wall in their proposed museum. Win win all round! Got any mad ideas?

Chair: Paul Quayle. Secretary: Helen Gibson. Treasurer: Janet Quayle. Trustees:
Christine Arthur: Hailey Coxon: Geoff Kelly