

LETTERS

NO LONGER TOLERATE THE ITALIAN BIKE JOKES

Having recently become the proud owner of a '75 Ducati 860 GT I naturally am interested in joining your club. Specifically I would like to know if you have a line on any T-shirts, wings, or stickers so everybody knows where I'm coming from.

The previous owners of my Duck hot-rodged the motor to the max, and I enjoy the sin out of eating up the Honda's and other generics. I no longer have to tolerate the Italian bike jokes I so frequently encountered during years of Moto Guzzi ownership. I still love my Guzzi, but it's no fire breather like the Duck.

By the way, do you know of anyone in the Detroit, Michigan area who deals parts? We used to have someone but his business folded last year. Any such information would be appreciated since I need a new dashboard and odds and ends.

John T. Streck, 9379 Melbourne, Allen Park, MI 48101

NO DUCATIS EXCEPT AT A DEALER IN FAIRBANKS

Dear D.I.O.C., Enclosed is a check for \$4.00 to cover the cost of the 27th and 28th issues. I was away for seven months and the postal service sent some of my mail back.

I rode my 860GT from here to Florida for the Daytona races. Then, West to Texas, and down to Magatlan, Mexico. From there I went North to California and followed the coast highway up to Oregon. Later in the summer, I went up to Canada. I went as far North as Inurik Northwest Territories, and then over to Alaska. I traveled to Fairbanks, Circle, Anchorage, Seward, Homer, back to Anchorage and then to Haines, Alaska where I got on the ferry which I took all the way to Seattle.

I saw quite a few motorcycles up North but no Ducatis except at a dealer in Fairbanks; the only one in Alaska.

R. M. Holt, 1502 N. Craven Street, New Bern, NC 28560

...THE ATROCIOUS SWING ARM PIVOT DESIGN

Although we have had some successes with our superbike we blew up the motor at the last meeting and are now setting up a late model (Darmahstyle) motor instead of using the old GT/Sport crankcases. This features, among other things, Krober ignition, highly modified main bearings - 2 each side, straight cut cam drive gears, straight cut primary drive gears, with different drive ratios, hydraulic clutch close ratio gearbox (500rpm dropper change) and other goodies. I will try to submit a full article when time permits. We also race a 750 production bike but they are getting a bit long in the tooth for the opposition.

500 and 600 Pantahs are available here - a good model apart from the atrocious swing arm pivot design - plain bushes in the crankcase! Excessive wear has been noted in models with as little as 800kms on the clock.

Well, this turned into a bit of a rave from what started out as a simple order and fee-paying letter. I'll write again in 2-3 months with photos which you may live to print.

A. J. Rhodes, Bob Brown Motorcycles, 243 Sydney Road, Coburg 3058 Australia

PEOPLE THOUGHT I WAS DRIVING A YAMAHAAAAHA 350

Just wanted to drop you a note and say thanks for all you're doing for the club and order some stuff. It's pretty bad around here as far as Ducating riding goes.

It's been snowing for 3 days and I haven't seen a human being since it started cause I can't get out my doors and Jeez, it's driving me straight up a wall. So, I thought I'd write you.

I tore into my 750 GT for the first time. The thing only has about 2500 miles on it but this summer it started using oil so bad people thought I was driving a Yamahahaha 350, the way

it smoked and all. Sure enough, the valve guides are shaped like this . No wonder it was puffing. Dr. T. must have been out to lunch or something the day those things were designed. Oh well, I'm going to implement a lot of the good ideas I've seen in the Newsletter and I'll let you know how they turn out. No shit, really, I'll write you a little story. Promise.

I lost some of my back issues. I can't imagine how they got lost, this place is so clean. Anyway, I would like to get issue #14 and issue #24. Also, I think my membership must be about expired so here's some cash for that also. Thanks much. Oh yea, note my new address. Sorry to keep moving around so much but it's the only way I can avoid all those paternity suits. Bye.

Eugene Wellenstein - 1401 First Street, Kewaunee WI 54216

DUC'S ROLLING IN ALL NIGHT

Included is a cheque for my membership for 1982. I really enjoyed reading your previous Newsletters and look forward to reading the ones to come.

I'm sorry this letter is so late but I was very busy just before Christmas, plus there was a postal strike (want more money, they should be happy with what they've got) so I thought I'd wait until the new year, hope it wasn't too inconvenient.

In September there was a European Motorcycle rally put on by the Duc Owner Club of Victoria at a small town called "Pyramid Hill," anyway, I went to it and thought it was fantastic. Duc's rolling in all night...almost. But, however, Jap bikes weren't allowed in to the main arena and now there has been a lot of controversy about the word Enthusiast (it was titled an "Enthusiast Rally") and all the jap freaks reckon their bike should be allowed in. Really give ya a pain in the arse.

Gavin Johnston - Box 83, Minyip, Victoria, Australia 3392



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