



Honda VFR 750

In this piece, Neil Warden, a key player in our Group, having been Chairman on at least 3 occasions, is currently our Group Secretary as well as one of our Local Observer Assessors and Bike Observer Liaison. Here Neil tells us about his machines and experiences.

When did you pass your bike test and what was your first machine?

I passed my bike test back in the 90'. I had a Honda 125cc, a great little bike.

What particular things do you remember about your early biking years?

2 stroke engines, noisy, smells and not much power, but good fun

Can you tell us all the different bikes that you've ridden / owned?

- *Honda's ER50 Honda 90 (super cub), no clutch, had a step through gear system, took a bit of getting used to.*
- *Honda 250 Super dream*
- *Yamaha 125 DT MX*
- *Kawasaki chopper*
- *Kawasaki 400*
- *Kymco 125*



Honda ST 1300

Current bikes in the fleet?

- *Honda ST 1300 Pan European, recently purchased*
- *Honda ST1100 Pan European (Currently being rebuild/restored)*
- *Honda VFR 750, owned for over 15 years*
- *BMW K100 LT, I used this as my training bike when I taught learners and still have it. Ex police bike.*



Honda ST 1100



BMW K100LT

What is or has been the best bike that you've owned and why?

Honda VFR, very agile and great all-round bike. You can go touring with it one day then do a track day the next.

Do you regret selling any particular bike?

No

What has been your most exhilarating moment on a bike?

Doing the NC 500 around Scotland with my son and his friend.

What has been the scariest moment on a bike?

I came off my BMW bike years ago due to a diesel spill. The bike went one way and I the other, heading towards an oncoming truck. Luckily, I'm still here to tell the story, you could have 'smelled the fear that day'!

Which are your favourite biking roads in Scotland?



It's difficult to pick one. We have a lot of fantastic roads locally and throughout Scotland, each offering some terrific views, excitement and challenges.

I think for me it's more about the quality of the road surface.

What is your worst road in Scotland?

Any with a poor-quality road surface with excessive pot holes.

Thank you very much Neil. No wonder you like taking Associates out with all these lovely machines to play with.