



### OMMRA Information Bulletin January 2001

From Paolo Volpara on Monday, January 08, 2001

Comments, suggestions, ideas, question: [volpara@homemail.com](mailto:volpara@homemail.com)

To receive or to send to riders friends the Bulletin just drop an e-mail request.

Visit OMM site at: [www.ommriders.com](http://www.ommriders.com)

#### **Dear Friends and Riders,**

Where do we start on the New Year? From the resolutions? Very simple: less writing more riding. Easy to say but, despite my request in the December Issue I am still alone in doing all the work for OMM web site and OMM bulletin. No one of you riders has little time for working on the OMM objective of improving the biking in Turkey and promote this country as riding destination. It is O.K. with me but I will work on the first quarter to make the writing life easier: we will open an e-mail list for all of you to talk directly and we will simplify the content of the bulletin. Still these are plan ahead or, better, resolutions for the New Year.

**December** was an active month with a **Training Course for HOG** (Harley Davidson Owners Group at [www.hogtr.com](http://www.hogtr.com) ) on three days 2/3/10. A very good opportunity to meet 17 new riders (for the first time with two female riders) strongly committed to improve skills and safety. With the help of **Cemil Turker , Selim Karadag and other OMM Riders** we used the roads from Istanbul to Sile, Kandira and Izmit for two sets of observed rides. I was personally impressed by the quality of participants and by the enthusiasm of the Group. Definitely one of the most interesting Club if you want to combine good riding with active social life. **Yigit Ikiz** President of HOG was the promoter of this event and OMM thanks him for the dedication to training. HOG has now qualified more than 20 riders via the OMM training program.

During the month **Cemil Turker** managed to organize a ride for each Sunday and in the first two week of January we had one ride to **Kiyikoy** (solo under rain) and one to **Armutlu** (eleven riders under sun). In Kiyikoy the Rock Carved Monastery of the VI Century is a piece of Cappadocia art near Istanbul while the road from Armutlu to Gemlik on a sunny winter day is pure delight.

Here a suggested Log Book for a good day riding:

<b>Distance</b>	<b>Instruction</b>	<b>Road</b>	<b>For</b>
0	Depart Anadolu Oloyolu	O4 [E80]	36.4 km
45	At Eskihisar - take the Ferry	Eskihar-Topcular	

45	At Topcular - leave the Ferry		12.4 km
59.1	At Yalova, go onto	34-28	2.3 km
69.8	Go onto	16-03	25.1 km
94.8	At Arnavutköy stay on	16-03	9.0 km
103.8	At Armutlu stay on	16-03	33.3 km
137.2	At Gemlik stay on	16-03	0.8 km
138	Turn left onto	575	6.7 km
144.7	Bear right onto	16-09	10.6 km
155.3	At Gölyaka stay on	16-09	33.5 km
188.8	At Iznik bear left onto	150	17.6 km
206.4	At Boyalica turn right onto	595	27.0 km
233.3	Turn right onto	130	2.4 km
235.7	At Karamürsel stay on	130	16.6 km
252.3	At Topcular take the Ferry	Eskihar-Topcular	
252.3	At Eskihisar leave the Ferry	Local road(s)	3.8 km
260.9	At Gezbe 1, turn left onto	O4 [E80]	36.4 km
297.2	Arrive Anadolu Oloyolu		

### **Bikers with Brain**

When in 1998 we decided to start a new group of Riders we considered the idea of defining OMM as “Bikers with Brain”. We never used this line thinking that it was too presumptuous. Still more I ride around more I believe that Brain is the best Accessory you can put on your bike. And this not only for safe, responsible riding but also for applying intelligence to our role of Bikers. We are a strange breed: on one side we represent the extreme of individualism in a mass oriented society. We ride alone, we ride when other humans stay put at home, we travel isolated in our helmets. On the other hand we are a Community animal: although my father told me not to speak with people I have not been properly introduced to, I do not mind to start chatting with a perfectly unknown person if he/she is on a bike.

Brain plays a big role in our individual responsibility toward fellow riders belonging to the community. I believe we have an obligation to share our discoveries, to help the new comers into our sport, to support all riders in any possible form. For this reason I have been always active in clubs or associations... for this reason years ago we founded One More Mile Riders Istanbul. At the end, my dear friends, it is not enough to ride. We all should dedicate time, resources and efforts in sustaining the Biker Community, a group with no frontiers, no rules, no limits but with an active, creative and generous Brain.

Over the last issues of this Bulletin I asked several times for help from you all: I am sure that the lack of answers is not a sign of lack of Brain.

### **Coming soon on the Roads near You**

We have some exciting plans for the 2001 and we want to share with you some preview.

**Hans Heinz Dilthey** one of the most famous motorcycle Instructors and Director of the Nurburgring Riding Course we took last year, is planning to come to Istanbul on OMM invitation. In the third week of March we want to organize a conference/lesson followed by a Riding Training Session (possibly at the Izmit Korfez Circuit). Invitations to this

event will be limited to a max. of 50 riders. Send us an e-mail fast if you want to take part.

**Michael Kneebone** President of the Iron Butt Association (USA) and guru of Long Distance Riding ([www.ironbutt.com](http://www.ironbutt.com)) is also planning to come here to support OMM effort to expand LDR in Turkey. This is the right opportunity for all of us to meet a great Rider and we will definitely organize a LDR event during his visit in June. To become a member of IBA you have to complete one of the rides presented in our web site LDR section: one thousand miles in 24 hours or one thousand and five hundred miles in 36 hours. Contrary to the announcement on December Bulletin, this year we are not planning specific days for these rides: if you want to join in just schedule the ride at your convenience, send us an e-mail and we will provide all the information, material and assistance for certification. You can check on Iron Butt web-site the rules of the game and the list of finishers worldwide. For Turkey it reads:

**Saddlesore 1000 Finishers (1,000 miles in less than 24 Hours):**

Sinan Sezer Istanbul, Turkey 06/19/99 BMW R1100GS 1,097

Cemil Turker Istanbul, Turkey 06/19/99 BMW R1100ST 1,097

Ertugrul Bitlis Istanbul, Turkey 06/19/99 BMW R1100GS 1,097

**Bun Burner 1500 GOLD Finishers (1,500 miles in less than 24 hours):**

Paolo Volpara Istanbul, Turkey 06/19/99 BMW R1100GS 1,512

**Rides Reports.**

OMM web site will open soon a section dedicated to Rides Reports in Turkish. If you have a good story of a good trip mail it to us and it will go "on air". **Hakan Erman** will be the first to open this section with a report on Ride to Greece (still waiting for Selim and Murad Summer Story).

**Riders in Turkey**

**Nikki Gaudion and Luke Timmermans** *partners in crime for over two years, veterans of many an adventure in Asia and Africa, and self confessed motorcycle nuts, headed off to India on February 5, travelling with their trusty BMW Paris-Dakar bike.* The trip took them from their launch pad in Australia onward from India to Nepal, through Pakistan, Iran and Turkey. With Murad Acar we met them on December 30 in Istanbul.

Unfortunately, due to the New Year and Bayram holidays season, we were unable to offer them support or hospitality but we enjoyed the few hours spent with this extraordinary couple. Luke is a medical doctor with a master in Public Health and Tropical Medicine. He loves travel, bikes and playing with computers. Nikki studies Chinese Medicine and practices traditional massages and acupuncture.

You can read the first part of the trip (till Nepal) and get pictures with bikes specifications at [www.terrigal.net.au/~rancho/bigtrip.htm](http://www.terrigal.net.au/~rancho/bigtrip.htm). As soon as the two are back in Australia you will also read the final. Luke and Nikki left the Country on January 2000 and they shipped back the bike and flew home on January 2001. The bike used was Luke's BMW R100GS Paris-Dakar ( he also rides a Moto Guzzi California III 1993 model) and the bike performed faultlessly for 12 months until Gelibolu (full of history for Australian!). Here, on Sunday, 24 of December the alternator went down and Luke, after

recharging the battery, drove to Istanbul with no lights and little remaining power. Special mention in the equipment went to the Givi panniers and the Metzeler Tires.

**Gina Palmer** will begin in March a ride from Egypt to home UK. We offered some itineraries suggestions and we are looking forward for an OMM welcome in Istanbul.

**Thomas Goltz Ride: They say it can't be built. But They rode it anyway!**

*“On September 2, 2000, a dream team of intrepid bikers road into Ceyhan, Turkey, and successfully delivered the first barrel of oil along the proposed route of the Baku-Ceyhan pipeline. Their 10-day trip tracked a 1,500-mile course that turned out to be as tumultuous as the \$2.5 billion, politically charged project.”* The reports and pictures on this ride are fantastic. Go to [www.baku-ceyhan.com](http://www.baku-ceyhan.com) and enjoy the ride.

**Not even Flying is better.** According to an old BMW advertising “Only Flying Is Better” than riding one of their machines. On Motor Cyclist Issue of December, Marc Cook, airplane pilot, rider and senior editor of the magazine disagrees:

*“In the end, I find riding more gratifying than flying. Done right, a flight in a light airplane is boring. You plan and train to stay out of bad weather, to avoid turbulence, and to have enough fuel to make it home. Most of the time you're sitting there, with the auto-pilot doing the actual flying, keeping an eye on the big picture and looking well ahead for something to avoid. The "thrill" is in the survival.*

*Motorcycling is far more immediate, in the moment, and, as a result, vastly more engaging. So if you think that all flying is like Top Gun (it isn't) or that pilots lead a more glamorous life (they don't), take a moment to appreciate that you, as a rider, get 90 percent of the visceral thrills and take-control biofeedback at a fraction of the cost or heartburn. You've got it good.”*

Turkish Bike scene has a new voice thanks to a new Riders Club: already mentioned in the Bulletin, the **Enduro Club** at <http://www.enduroclub.8m.com/> is a virtual community of big and small trail bike. A visit to the web-site is highly recommended and, even better, if you live in the Country and have an “Enduro type” bike you should fill up the membership form and subscribe the lively e-mail group. **Gündüz Hakan Savaser** ([gunduzhakan@turk.net](mailto:gunduzhakan@turk.net)) is the rider responsible of educational division of this club and in December we had a brief meeting to discuss joint training plans.

**Lotus Tours**, one of the major Bike Tour Operators of USA introduced Turkey in the 2001 Catalogue. The Company will bring riders from United State to discover Istanbul, Cappadocia and the south coast in May and September. **Kazim Uzunoglu** ([kuzun99@yahoo.com](mailto:kuzun99@yahoo.com)), an old friend of OMM, is organizing the tours and you can see the itinerary at <http://www.lotustours.com/ourtours/turkey.html>.

**Aerostich**, the suppliers of quality riding gear for all of us, as an interesting page titled: “Do More Riding” and offering 10 golden rules (all good rules come on ten) for finding more occasions to refine riding skills. In my opinion is one of the best lists of practical suggestions for bikers of all ages and levels.

1. *Commute. Keep a weather radio in your bathroom. Install an indoor/outdoor thermometer in the bedroom. Leave a cover or lock at your job's parking place. Carry a garage door opener or parking ramp card that's usable without dismounting. Arrange security in advance and be willing to pay for it. Once a week take a longer than necessary route to work.*
2. *Arrange your gear by the door or garage. Separate out your trip and camping stuff. Have your gloves and boots setup for selecting, depending on the days destination and weather conditions.*
3. *Get a smaller size motorcycle. Modern small bikes can do what old big ones did, easier cheaper and more fun to ride. Just like cars.*
4. *Ride in the rain. Go on purpose when nobody else is outdoors. Ride around for a look. If you get wet you won't drown.*
5. *Ride at night. If you don't have to get up for work the next morning there is nothing like enjoying a two am stop at a lonely all-night coffee shop, after a hundred miles of scary back roads. Full moons are best. Watch for deer and small animals.*
6. *Always have a way to haul stuff. Wear a Courier bag or backpack. Carry a bungee net, bungee buddy, an empty tank bag or some bungee cords. As a last resort, leave saddlebags on all the time.*
7. *Get a 'beater' motorcycle. Or make your bike into one. True beaters can be interesting and fun to ride and don't attract vandals or thieves. TT500's, Ascot's, Sabres, Interceptors, Titans, GS's, /5's, etc... Like blue jeans, most cycles are better when they show some wear. (Too much bike polishing leads to idolatry. Moses shatters the original 10 commandments...)*
8. *Have two or three different helmets at the ready. An expensive full coverage one for serious rides and an easy to use open or hinged chinbar type for everyday urban riding or use on super-hot days. Having several types of gloves, boots, jackets, etc...for different situations is also good.*
9. *Plan rides. One Sunday a month do an all-day local ride or an overnight. Invent some game of it. In cities, try riding only alleys or only to overlooks or only across all the bridges. What is the longest continuous street in your city? Have you ever ridden it end to end? Put a marked map or list on the tank bag or in your pocket, and carry a compass. Out on the road, go to the smallest roads, to the small places.*
10. *Ride very early in the morning. Dawn rides can be the best hour of your day. No traffic, clean air, good sights and sensations. A shower and breakfast after a sunrise ride are wonderful. This is best done when the days are the longest in June and July. It does not apply if your bike has open pipes, especially if you ride an H2 with chambers. Then, stay in bed.*
10. *Philosophy bonus A: Ignore what everyone else thinks. Riding is a better way to get around. Ride paranoid and keep your skills sharp*
10. *Philosophy bonus B: Ride with somebody who's better than you. You will pick up a handy trick or new skill just about every time you are out.*

The European Parliament is taking into consideration **“Diesel Fuel Spills on the Road”**. This problem is frequent in Turkey but unfortunately no action is taken by the Traffic Police even when, as seen, the truck pours diesel in front of their car.

*“4 June 1998. Action against diesel spills. FEMA has persuaded a Brussels-based committee to propose inspections of fuel tank caps in a new Directive on roadside inspections of trucks. The Economic & Social Committee (ESC) will include the recommendation in its opinion of the European Commission's Directive on Roadside Inspection of the Roadworthiness Condition of Commercial Vehicles COM(98)117. Assistant General Secretary Bob Tomlins pointed out to the Committee that diesel spills were extremely dangerous for two wheelers but are common in many countries. Diesel fuel tanks are often overfilled or the filling system or cap are faulty or of poor design. Bob said, "Precisely how the requirement would fit into the Directive is still to be seen. But this is step one. The Commission seems positive to the idea and we're approaching Parliament which is about to consider the Directive." Governments from southern EU States are opposed to exhaustive roadside inspections for trucks whilst more northern countries are in favor”*

How to **re-key your BMW** side bags, fast and cheap? Simply follow this advice coming from LDR chat room:

*“Open both locking handle, and closing handle, with existing key in lock. You will find a hole under both handles on the lock side. Use small screwdriver to press tumbler in on locking cylinder. This allows you to pull complete locking cylinder out, with existing key. Make sure you keep existing key installed in locking cylinder (otherwise you will have keying tumblers all over the place). Very gently/slowly pull existing key out of locking cylinder. Then insert your own key (key you want to use for all cases, bike), into locking cylinder slowly/gently. If you are worried about losing tumblers, do this in a zip lock bag. Once your own key is fully inserted, make sure you keep it that way, rubber band, tape whatever. Then just file all the tumblers that stick out above the circumference of the locking cylinder. I use Dremel with emery/coarse filing/sanding disk. Once any and all tumblers are flush (or below) locking cylinder circumference, keeping key fully in, insert back into the case, same way, and tumbler will lock it back into place. Shut handles and turn key to lock. Should be able to open and lock now. Pull key out, test again.”*

#### **Web discoveries and suggestions:**

An interesting and well-organized site for world travelers and for long distances riding equipment at <http://www.redrival.com/cmulcahy/source/mywebpage.html>. **On Africa Twin around the World** gives good travel reports on Sections One of the trip: Cape Town to London. Specifically for South Africa, Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Malawi, Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, Sudan, Egypt you can find useful and brief references and good pictures with a concise diary.

Section two, London (England) to Singapore (Malaysia) via North Cape (Norway), was announced for May 2000 but no report yet on the web like (obviously) no report on stage three LA (USA) to Rio (Brazil) via Anchorage (Alaska). There are also good pictures and short stories on 4W rides, Push Biking, Canoeing and Hiking in Africa.

Visit the **Worldwide Biker Web** at <http://welcome.to/worldwide-biker-web> and mark it among your favorites: you will have a very handy directory of bike related sites with a good Engine Search.

Planning to follow **Feza Haznedar** on his week-end ride to **Gokceada**? The Turkish Island has a web-site with all the information you need at [www.gokceada.com](http://www.gokceada.com) (in Turkish only)

A quick (although limited) **road distance calculator for Turkey** (and in Turkish) can be found at <http://www.leylek.com/Arac/ajanda/KMCetveli/KMHesabi.ASP>

For Riders of BMW GS a page suggested by **Kemal Berker** and **Selim Ak**: <http://home-1.worldonline.nl/~hkuijer/>. **Henry** is an airplane mechanic with a strong passion for Beemer. Read the list and description of the modifications (for expert DIY only) and do not miss the report with pictures of his 2000 ride to Iceland.

From the never ending **Horizons Unlimited** pages read this month the rides of **Dave Barr** (<http://www.horizonsunlimited.com/davebarr/>) *“This Rider holds the distinction of being: An individual who has served in active duty in the U.S. Marine Corps in Vietnam and also served in the armed forces of three other nations. The first double amputee skydiver in the world. The only disabled person to have ridden around the world on a motorcycle. The only person to have ridden a Harley-Davidson Motorcycle around the world. The first person to establish a Guinness Book World Record for traveling by motorcycle across Europe, Russia, and Siberia in the dead of winter”*.

**Harley Owners Group** of Turkey should invite to Turkey Dave to present his adventures to all of us. While waiting you can order the books: “Riding the Ice” and “Riding the Edge”.

For the ones following **Jupiter Travels** in the new adventure of **Ted Simon** the pages at <http://www.mcn.org/b/jupitalia/> are piling up with news about the impending departure. Do not forget to support Ted: he needs any help you can give.

**Long Distance Pieces and Parts** at <http://home.earthlink.net/~webmaster10/ld/#se> is one of the best site for finding clothes and accessories. Managed by the LDR Community is a site to mark it among your favorites. You have here a complete directory of easy consultation.

During the last Training course we gave demonstration on how to pick up a **fallen bike**. This is a useful technique to be learned if you ride a heavy machine or if you do not have strong muscle to help you with straight pull.

Go to <http://www.ibmwr.org/otech/pickup.html> and you will see **Carol** giving a clear example of how to do it right. Remember: the important is the form!

**Feza Haznedar** found a new Gold Wing e-shop at [www.goldwingpoint.com](http://www.goldwingpoint.com) The site is an Italian one, only in this language, but the shops is one of the nearest one to offer full spare parts and accessories for Wings.

While waiting for the new FJ1300 to arrive here go and visit the **Yamaha café** <http://ymedc.introweb.nl/street/street.html>: good pictures and good news.

**Poor Turkish Rider.** After 10 years of daily riding in Turkey I decided that is time to open a corners of complains. I call it Poor Turkish Rider (including myself in the category) and, as usual it is open to your contributions.

**Poor Turkish Rider...** it has everybody on the road against him, including the Army.

For the ones of you leaving, as I do, near an Army Camp this is a real bad season. Ex legibus solutus my local Battalion, in full exercise mood, invades everyday the public roads with armored tanks and they lovable tracks. Not satisfied of crashing the road surface creating cavernous holes (that will never be repaired) the tank drivers make sure to leave a large deposit of carefully packed mud all



with the latest state-of-the art "soft switch" switching technology. I have seen this device installed in Europe and it is really impressive (the price is impressive as well!).

**Fog City**, the best solution for foggy visors, is surprising available in Istanbul. Murad Acar, while ordering it via web got from the producer the address in town:

**Tayfun Emanet Aydin Motorlu**

**Eski Duyunu Umumiye Sok. Sirkeci - Istanbul, Turkey**

**Fax: [90] 2125222176 Phone: [90] 2125111321**

Our best wishes to **Mick Wheeler's wife**: we are near her for a quick recovery.

Friends of Nick (our International Instructor) can write a note to him at

[mickwheeler@freenetname.co.uk](mailto:mickwheeler@freenetname.co.uk)

And, as usual, get my final quote for the incoming month: from Gabriel Garcia Marquez

<p><b>To a child I shall give wings, but I shall let him learn to fly on his own. I would teach the old that death does not come with old age, but with forgetting. So much have I learned from you, oh men ... I have learned that everyone wants to live at the top of the mountain, without knowing that real happiness is in how it is scaled. I have learned that when a newborn child first squeezes his father's finger in his tiny fist, he has him trapped forever. I have learned that a man has the right to look down on another only when he has to help the other get to his feet.</b></p>
--