

## Trying to explain the significance of 2 strokes can be a very difficult task, so here's a little story that might help

After a ride around Leicestershire and Northamptonshire I finally took a break at a smallish airport on the outskirts of Northampton call Sywell. This is mainly used for private light aircraft and training, but does have a terrific upper cafe with an outside viewing platform and is well worth a visit. After the usual bacon bap washed down with a mug of tea, whilst watching the various take-offs and landings; I strolled back to the Kettle. I was about 100 metres from the bike when I noticed 2 members of the constabulary giving my stead a good peering at. Naturally the brain went into panic mode, thinking something must be wrong. As I got closer they noticed my presence and the elder of the two enquired; "This your bike sir?" "Uh, yes...officer" I meekly replied. With a rather sheepish expression spreading across his face, he then asked, "Would sir mind starting it? I just love the smell!" I duly obliged and as she fired, a rapturous look came upon him as he ventured closer to the slightly smoking exhaust (no this is not a fairy story). The younger of the two appeared rather 'none plus', announcing that he didn't know what all the fuss was about. Indignant, his senior looked at him scornfully and directed a digit at the patrol car. After the unenlightened youth departed, the



older constable stated that the magnificent smell took him straight back to his pale youth, roaring round the lanes on his small 2-stroke. After fielding his questions for what felt like hours, he finally departed with these words; "That smell never leaves you, ever."

It just goes to show, that not only is the Kettle THE iconic 70's bike, but the smell is as popular today as it always was.

Scratch 'n' Sniff T-shirts Shane?.....They could be the next big seller!

**Chris Barsby**