



VESPA CLUB OOSTENDE VZW

PRESS RELEASE

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COMMITTEE MEMBER IN TWO VESPA CLUBS... 2000 KM (1250 MILES) FROM EACH OTHER

A member of the committee of the Belgian Vespa Club Oostende (VCO) had been appointed as committee member of Vespa Clube Torres Vedras (VCTV) in Portugal. The distance between both clubs is some two thousand kilometres (twelve hundred and fifty miles). Johan Deprez, who has been performing his duties over the internet from his home in the Portuguese village of Nadrupe since last summer, has been a member of VCTV for over three years. The appointment of their communications person to the committee of an official Portuguese club is a plus for VCO, says president Manu Mommerency.

'With the European Vespa Days in Guimarães coming up next July, it is of course very convenient to have somebody in the country who already speaks some of the language. But this goes beyond that practicality. The Vespa scene is an international one. Vespa Club Oostende has members in nearly all the countries neighbouring Belgium and every year we participate in several events and meetings beyond our borders. Having somebody in your committee with contacts in countries a bit further away, that are popular holiday destinations and pride themselves in a flourishing scooter scene, this only has upsides for your club.' says Mommerency.

Within the committee of his new club, the exact tasks of Johan Deprez are not yet defined. He tells us, 'I only got appointed on Friday evening, on the recommendation of the previous committee after a short conversation. I think that for me, as well as my new colleagues, it will take some time adjusting. Speaking for myself, it will be a learning curve on the Portuguese approach as in Ostend, I was used to operating in a rather urban environment, within a densely populated country. Portugal is more rural and even though it has approximately the same number of inhabitants as Belgium, it is in fact a much more stretched out country, which requires a somewhat different approach in how clubs are run.' the new committee member explains.

Both clubs will soon have the opportunity to fraternise. After the European Vespa Days, which take place in northern Portugal and to which both clubs participate, a group of VCO members travel down to the Silver Coast where they set up camp in Santa Cruz to further discover the new home country of their "João".



More about Vespa Clube Torres Vedras on www.vctv.pt

Photo (a) left to right: Fernando Brás, Catarina Castro, Fábio Silva, Johan Deprez, Rui Crispim, Ruben Crispim, Fernando Pinho, Edgar Cândido, Carlos Carneiro, José Ferreira

Photo (b) left to right: Fernando Brás (voorzitter VCTV en bestuurslid Vespa Clube Portugal), Johan Deprez

Photo (b) © Fábio Silva / VCTV