

## HEREFORDSHIRE SECTION NEWSLETTER



.....Issue 23 May 2018.....

Editor Geoff McGladdery [herefordmcc@outlook.com](mailto:herefordmcc@outlook.com)

Welcome to issue 23 – This will be distributed electronically to those who have an email address and in printed form at Club events. **If you do not wish to receive further copies of the newsletter, please email me and I will remove you from the list.**

### PAST EVENTS

#### Sunday April 8th – Traveller's Rest - Breakfast ride.

A great ride - organised by local man Mike Bertenshaw - wandered through the fascinating back lanes between Ross and Cinderford. Great bikes, well ridden made this short run a real treat.



#### Thursday April 12th - Shropshire and the Long Mynd



When will we see Spring? Or will we just miss it out and go straight to summer? Temperatures soared to 9 degrees C and the rain held off for most of the ride and it didn't snow. Apart from that.....oh and the closure of the A4113 between Leintwardine and Bromfield, just before the lovely bendy bit.....it was an excellent day out. A special "Well done" to those who wrestled their heavy old bikes through the muddy lanes on road tyres without falling off. Thanks to the Lion at Leintwardine for warmly welcoming our soggy band of heroes and for a great lunch.



**Thursday April 19th – Club night at the Moon.** A handful of bikes enjoyed the first evening ride of the year in glorious sunshine. Geoff McGladdery brought his 1929 Ariel "Model B", but wasn't brave enough to actually ride it!



**Sunday 22nd April - Mid-Wales Meander to the Dams at Rhayader.** - Cakes were eaten, bikes and bodies were given some much needed exercise and lanes

were travelled which probably hadn't seen a vehicle for 20 years or more!



Two newcomers to section rides Rob and Bob joined the regulars along with a couple of guests from Builth. John Munday set an excellent pace on his deeply unfashionable and wonderfully capable little Kawasaki Z200, reassuringly confirming the mantra "smaller is better". Even the weather was good (well ..... by recent standards anyway)

### FUTURE EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY

**Saturday 5th May HJ Pugh Ledbury Salerooms, Market street Ledbury HR8 2AQ.** Auction of Motorcycles, old bikes parts and Automobilia. Viewing on Friday afternoon and the morning of the sale (Try to get there on the Friday, it is impossibly crowded on the Saturday morning). You never know what will turn up at a Pugh's sale and its always worth a visit even if it's only to marvel at the largest gathering of badly dressed men you will ever see.



Star of the show will once again be this handsome Ariel square 4 outfit. Previously sold in their February auction it's back again! The winning internet bidder didn't pay and can't be traced!! If 3 wheels are your

thing, there is a very exotic DKW outfit and a Bond Minicar. (Did you really have to lift the bonnet to kick-start them?)

No less than 6 pre WWII machines are on offer, including this handsome 1925 Scott Flying Squirrel.



If you find Scotts far too quirky, you might like to offer a home to this nicely patinated Royal Enfield model 510. It's 350 side-valve motor should chug along all day, although it might be a bit faster downhill than uphill!



You can view and print their catalogue on-line at <http://www.hjpugh.com/cyclesales/050518catalogue.pdf>. If you go to the "on-line" bidding link on Pugh's website, you can get pictures of all the autojumble lots too.

### **Sunday May 6<sup>th</sup> VMCC Founders Rally. The café Shobden Airfield - HR6 9NR – 10:00 – 18:00**

If you want to ride, you should have received all the details of how to participate in the latest issue of the "**Vintage & Classic**". I would urge you to make the effort – it's great to get around the region and talk to others at the checkpoints. If you're looking for riding partners, then post something on our

Facebook page. For the first time, we will be running a checkpoint - #30 - at Shobden Airfield Café. We need help to man this checkpoint, so if you can give an hour or two of your time to stamp the cards of rally participants contact Roger Bibbings on 07791 391128 or [herefordvmcc@outlook.com](mailto:herefordvmcc@outlook.com)

**Sunday May 6<sup>th</sup> Withington Village Hall Withington Hereford HR1 3PP** – Leominster Classic Motor-cycle club host their excellent "Ancient to modern" bike show. 10:00 a.m. till 4:00 p.m. Entry is free. Well worth a visit.

**Section ride - Sunday May 13<sup>th</sup> - B+Q, Holmer Rd Hereford HR4 9SH. 10.00 for 10.30 start – "In search of the Green Man."** A gentle pootle around the lanes of Herefordshire, suitable for all VMCC eligible motorcycles and aimed particularly at the older, smaller and slower machines. After visiting the famous Green Man, the ride finishes at Hereford's wonderful Broomy Hill Waterworks museum and the Broomy Hill Miniature Railway. Trains will be running that day and the Museum and the railway both offer refreshments. Why not arrange to meet the rest of the family there after the ride.

For more info, on the museum, take a look at their website.

<http://www.waterworksmuseum.org.uk/about/gallery/>

**We have even printed a special event sticker for all those who start the ride.**



### **Wednesday May 16<sup>th</sup> – Brightwells Easters Court Leominster HR6 0DE**

Not too many bikes at this mixed auction, but you might find yourself drawn to this 1971 Commando Roadster. Two-owners, "matching numbers" and what is believed to be a genuine 29,324 miles on the clock.



For more details and a full catalogue, click here. <https://www.brightwells.com/classic-motoring>

**Thursday May 17<sup>th</sup> - 7.00 pm - The Moon, Mordiford HR1 4LW – Club night** plus the usual summer evening ride. An hour around the lanes to Hole in the Wall and then back along the river to the Moon. (same ride as Boxing Day). Meet at 7:00 for the ride.

**Saturday June 9<sup>th</sup> – The Bringsty Grand Prix** (re-arranged from Saturday April 7<sup>th</sup>)

<https://bromyardspeedfestival.co.uk/>

**Section ride - Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> June - Mid-Wales and the borders - meet at the Texaco Petrol Station, Kington HR5 3DZA at 10:00 for a 10:30 start** - An excellent flowing ride from Kington to Knighton, including a superb section over the Eppynt. Some of Mid-Wales' finest scenery and best roads. Finishing at the rider friendly JD's cafe Broad Street, Knighton, LD7 1DL for a late lunch. Approximately 75 miles.

**June 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> – Prescott bike festival** – has been re-arranged from April 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>

<https://www.prescottbikefestival.co.uk/>

Sunday June 24<sup>th</sup> - HEREFORDSHIRE ON THE EDGE



Entries for this third running of our "flagship" event continue to flow in and we are half-way to our target of 100 entries. After 3 years of trying we have finally got some scooter entries – 4 of them!



Featuring one more wheel than is strictly necessary, David Malcolmson has entered this 1955 Norton 19S outfit along with his 1952 Norton model 7, which will be ridden by his son.



Simon McCarthy's handsome 1970 500 cc Moto Guzzi Nuovo Falcone is guaranteed to brighten up the scenery. These bikes are usually to be found in police blue or military drab and don't catch the eye, but a dab of red paint here and there seems to have done the trick.



**"Eclectic"** - is the best way to sum up the entries received to date! We have 25 different marques with less than half being British. Average engine capacity is 480 cc and average age of the bikes is 51. We are delighted to have 6 pre WWII bikes and would welcome more. All we are missing are some step-thrus and some mopeds.

We would love to see 100 bikes this year, so get your entries in and drag your mates along. Its open to non-VMCC members too and bikes only have to be 25 years old to qualify for an award.

If you would like a copy of the Regulations or an entry form, you can copy and print them from our Facebook page or you can, email a request to.....[herefordvmcc@outlook.com](mailto:herefordvmcc@outlook.com)

### HELP WITH YOUR CLASSIC

Fred Spaven of "Electric Bullet" and "Bantam Italia" fame now has more capacity to take on motor cycle work. Fred, a graduate Engineer, has excellent workshop facilities and considerable knowledge and experience of classic bikes. He can tackle anything from a full restoration to simple repair and service work. Examples of Fred's work,

like this BM Bonvicini moped can be found on his website [www.spaven-engineering.co.uk](http://www.spaven-engineering.co.uk)).



You can contact Fred on 01885 482218 or by email at [fred@spaven-engineering.co.uk](mailto:fred@spaven-engineering.co.uk)

### SECTION RIDES

Rides will always be the beating heart of any motor cycle club. I know that not everyone is able to ride their bikes. There are others for whom the joy of ownership is enough and there will be many who own bikes which are not (yet) rideable, but in the recent membership survey, 90% of respondents claimed to be active riders and 63% cited club rides as the main reason for joining the VMCC.

Rides are the public face of our movement. A group of old bikes parked up anywhere always attracts interest and enthusiasm. **"I used to have one of them"** and **"My mam and dad rode all round Scotland....."** are comments I overheard at our last section run. People love to ask about the bikes and we all love to talk about them.

This year, your section will run 20 daytime rides and 5 short evening rides and **you are invited to take part in any or all of them**. We have seen a healthy increase in the support for rides, this year, but we are nowhere near the 63% figure. So it seemed like a good idea to answer some of the questions that section members might have. These rides are organised for your enjoyment.

### Where are these rides?

We try to rotate the starting points around the county so that at least some of them will be convenient for you. Rides range in length from less than 30 miles for the evening rides to around 75 miles for the day rides.

### Where can I find out about them?

Details are always previewed in this newsletter. Dates and details of all the rides are listed on the VMCC website and in the VMCC journal, now called "Vintage and Classic Motorcycle" Information is posted on our Facebook page and an email is sent to all those on the mailing list a few days before the ride.

### Who organises them?

All the rides are designed and led by section members. They all do it for free and will inevitably choose the roads that they love to ride. If you think a particular area is neglected or you have a better idea for a ride, please get in touch, you will be welcomed with open arms!

### What do I need to do to take part?

Just turn up at the right place at the right time. Bring your membership card with you, although guests are always welcomed, so they can find out what the VMCC is all about.



### What are the expectations of me and my bike?

It is your responsibility to ensure that the bike (or 3-wheeler) is road legal, insured and more than 25 years old on Jan 1<sup>st</sup> 2018. You should be able to start it on your own (or with help by prior arrangement)

and you must hold the correct licence. A few tools and some odd spares might be useful. You can be a TT racer or a mere mortal like the rest of us. Your bike can be scruffy and dirty, or immaculate and period correct. You can be 17 or 97 it really doesn't matter. A sense of humour is useful too.

### Is my bike suitable?

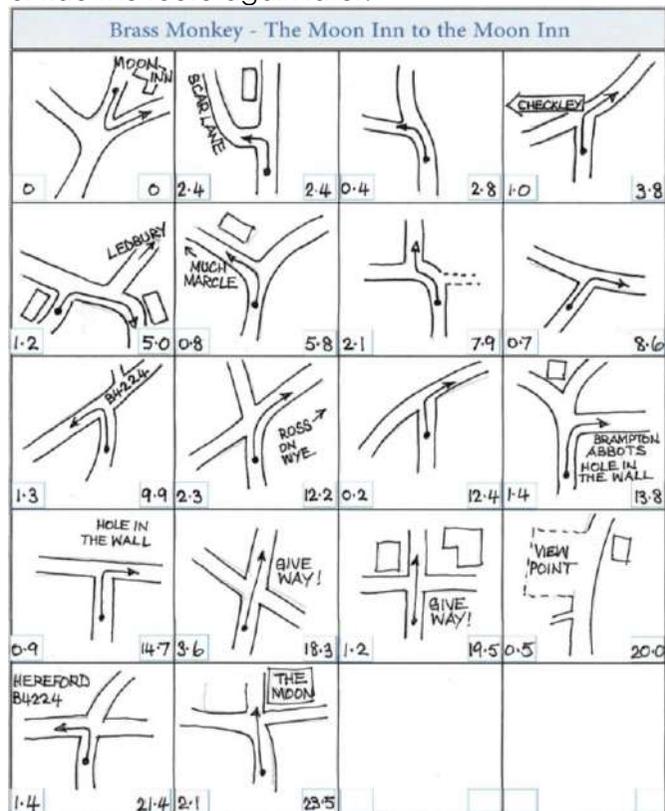
**YES!!!**

### Will I be made welcome?

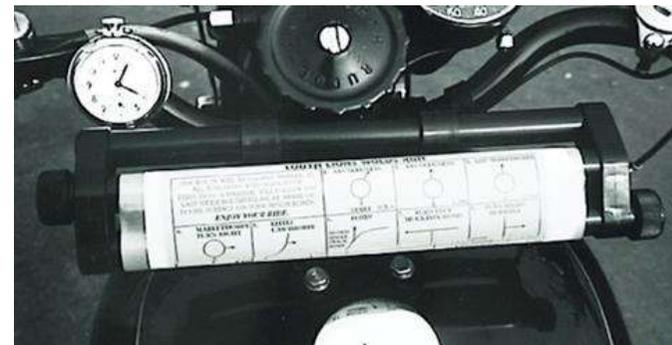
We will be delighted to see you and your machine. New faces are always welcome.

### How do I find my way round?

The organisers will usually produce a route card which you can use if you wish, or you can simply follow the leader. The route cards are great if you want to ride at a different pace to the main group, or ride the route again later.



The VMCC shop sells these excellent clip-on route card holders (route rollers) for £25. Not essential, but quite handy.



Routes will often include a stop for coffee and usually end up at a pub or café. You are welcome to join the runs (or leave them) at these points.

### FOR SALE

**1992 Honda CD250 U** with 12 months MOT - VMCC eligible. It is a bit scruffy, but a good runner, having just completed a round trip to Nottingham - motorways and all! Owner Fred Spaven will take something less than £1000. You can contact him on 01885 482218



**BMW R80 mono bits:** RT fairing kit complete; stalk type leg shields; under cylinder mudflaps; king and queen comfort seat; standard seat; rear hump and carrier; L/hand pannier; other bits and bobs. Make me an offer. Roger Bibbings 01684 540249 [rogerbibbings@btinternet.com](mailto:rogerbibbings@btinternet.com). Nr. Malvern, Worcs.

Find us on  Updates and other stuff can be found on our Facebook page – VMCC Herefordshire section. Feel free to post to it.