

HEREFORDSHIRE SECTION NEWSLETTER



.....Issue 24 - June 2018.....

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Welcome to issue 24 – This will be distributed electronically to those who have an email address and will be available in printed form at Club events. **If you do not wish to be receive further copies of this newsletter , please let me know and I will remove you immediately.**

PAST EVENTS

Saturday 5th May Auction - HJ Pugh Ledbury

More than 60 2 and 3 wheeled vehicles crossed the block on one the best auctions at Pugh's in recent times. The 3 bikes featured in last month's newsletter, the Ariel square 4 outfit, the 1925 Scott Flying Squirrel and the 350 side-valve Enfield were hammered down at £11,000, £9,200 and £6,500 respectively. If Italian bikes are your thing, there were 2 entry level Ducatis. This UK registered 1982 500 Pantah, complete with MOT went for a reasonable £2,450,



whilst this rare and nicely presented 1997 400 SS Supersport (incorrectly catalogued as a 1977 model) went for £2,600 - or did it? Curiously, it doesn't appear in Pugh's results) Derided by the critics for a lack of power, these pretty bikes were aimed at the Japanese 400 cc market, but a few have found their way back into Europe.



As always at Pugh's there were bargains to be had, like this thoughtfully modified 1971 175 cc Bantam "Green Laner". It changed hands for a modest £1200, whilst an honest looking 1955 D1 made £1650.



If "quirky" is your thing, then you might have been attracted to this 1959 Bond 247cc Mark F tourer. Someone was attracted enough to part with £4400!



(Prices do not include a buyer's premium of 5%, which attracts VAT at 20%)

Sunday May 6th VMCC Founders Rally. The café Shobden Airfield

Our first attempt at running a checkpoint for this bi-annual event was a resounding success, with around 50 riders signing on at "checkpoint 30".



The venue was hugely popular and many visitors stayed on to watch the aircraft take off and land. Thanks to Roger Bibbings, Steve Sumner and Martin Lyall for manning the check. Particular thanks to Steve for playing Tommy Steele's "Singing the Blues" on his 78 rpm record player - I saved my pocket money and bought a copy way back in 1957 - Happy Days



Sunday May 13th - "In search of the Green Man."



Excellent weather and the promise of a free sticker,

encouraged a strong turnout for this “gentle pootle around the lanes of Herefordshire”. Pootle it may have been, but it was not without a bit of adventure too!



The wide range of bikes was a credit to section members. David Palmer's CX Honda café racer, whilst not everyone's cup of tea, brought some “retro” style to the day. Variety is the “spice” of life!



Mike Smith's 1200 Triumph Trophy has a strong Herefordshire connection. All the bodywork, for the

complete range of the first Hinkley Triumphs including the front mudguard was moulded and painted at Holden Hydroman (now Polytec Car Styling)



The decision to finish at the Broomy Hill model railway was a master stroke. What a lively and fascinating place it is. If you've never been, take a picnic and drag the family along. You won't be disappointed.



Thanks to Steve and Cath Sumner for organising this splendid day out.

Wednesday May 16th – Brightonwells – Leominster

The “matching numbers” ’71 Norton Commando, featured in last month's newsletter made £7,920 (inc commission), reflecting the strong prices these bikes command (no pun intended!!). Not to be outdone by Pugh's in the “quirkiness” stakes this well restored, Brighton built, Isetta 300 bubble car made £13,420. Surely the world has gone mad.



FUTURE EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday June 9th – The Bringsty Grand Prix Tiblands Farm, Linley Green Road, Bromyard WR6 5RE. from 10:30 a.m.

A classic Motocross event celebrating the first running in 1946. It was a big event and drew entries and spectators from across the Midlands region. It was successfully repeated in 1947 but that was the last time until now.

In 2017 it was decided to try to resurrect Bringsty Grand Prix and a closed door pilot event was run to test the feasibility of mounting a revival. The pilot went well – as Herefordshire on the Edge regular, Rod Baraona demonstrates.



The circuit will be substantially the same as the original and traditional methods have been used to create the track. This will be a faithful re-creation of the 1947 event. To find out more, visit their website <https://bromyardspeedfestival.co.uk/>

Thursday June 14th - Mid Wales, Eppynt and the Borders ride. Meet at the Texaco Petrol Station, Kington - HR5 3DZ 10:00 for a 10:30 start

A great ride from Kington to Knighton, including a splendid section over the Eppynt. Takes in some of Mid-Wales' finest scenery and best roads. Finishes at the uncomplicated JD's Cafe (10 Broad Street, Knighton, LD7 1DL) for a late lunch. Approximately 75 miles – this is one not to be missed. All bikes welcome. Contact Geoff McGladdery on 07588 559698 or herefordvmcc@outlook.com

Saturday & Sunday, June 16th & 17th – Prescott Bike Festival – has been re-arranged from April 14th & 15th. If you want to find out more about this excellent 2-day motor-cycle festival, visit their website <https://www.prescottbikefestival.co.uk/>

Sunday 17th June 2018 - The Banbury Run - British Motor Museum , Gaydon, Warks CV35 0BJ.



The “Defining” event of the VMCC will see up to 500 bikes from all corners of the globe enthusiastically ridden around the local lanes. Only machines manufactured before Jan 1st 1931 are eligible and they will tackle routes of 40 to 70 miles in length, dependent on their age. This is a “must do” event for anyone interested in motor cycles.

The “Banbury Run” starts and finishes at the British Motor Museum, located 12 miles north of Banbury on the B4100, just North of Gaydon village itself. Its just 2 minutes from J12 on the M40 and it is simplicity itself to get to.



If you want to be up close and personal to the bikes and their riders, then the museum site is the only place to be. Admission is £10 for the day - slightly reduced for children and for advanced booking. If you want to watch the bikes in action, just find an interesting place on the route – its free! First riders leave the start at 10:00 a.m. There is even an autojumble if you get bored!



Thursday June 21st - 7.00 pm - The Moon, Mordiford HR1 4LW – Club Night and Autojumble

Something a little bit different this time – a car boot autojumble and our first attempt at such a venture. You are invited to bring along anything from your garage, man-cave, or she-shed that is surplus to requirements and sell it from your car boot. No stalls,

marquees or Gazebos. Sellers should be VMCC members and professionals will not be welcome.

Saturday June 23rd – An evening of Grass Track Sparrington Farm, Pencombe HR7 4SL – first race 19:00

Ledbury Motor Cycle Club carries on its great tradition of Grass Track with this evening meeting.



Its changed a bit since 1945, when this meeting was held at Hereford racecourse. But the noise, the drama and the excitement remain the same.



Sunday June 24th - HEREFORDSHIRE ON THE EDGE



Entries for this third running of our section's “flagship”

event continue to flow in and we are well over half-way to our target of 100. Entries can be accepted on the day, but route information will be available on June 10th, so entering early makes sense.

The oldest bike is Steve Sumner's 1926 BSA, but the most exciting is this ultra-rare 1928 OHC Humber Sport – one of only 4 believed to be left in the UK and the only one actually running.



The overhead-camshaft engine was Humber's own make and design. It featured an adjustable oil feed directly to the cams via an oil pump on the cambox, although the main engine lubrication remains total-loss.



We have 27 different marques entered so far, with Honda (8) and BSA (7) being the most popular. The **mean** (alright, average – I was just showing off) age of machines is 50, but that of the riders is 61. There

are 7 pre-WWII bikes entered, which is a real tribute to their owners. These things with their ineffective brakes, their hand changes and in many cases their thumb throttles make them difficult to ride.

Just about half of the entry has opted to start from Leintwardine, with the other half opting for The Traveller's Rest at Ross-on-Wye.

The route is now finalised and it seems that it will take 175 miles of riding to achieve Gold medal standard. Bronze standard could be achieved with as little as 125 miles.

If you would like to enter, or you need Regs, an entry form or any further information, simply email a request to.....

herefordvmcc@outlook.com

LOVE PEACE AND ALL OUR FUTURE

With peace finally breaking out amongst the warring factions, our VMCC is (hopefully) entering a period of stability, but the vital issue of what members would like the club to look like in the future remains ill-defined and unresolved.

VMCC President, Alistair Alexander has developed a Consultation Paper, largely based on the results of the membership survey. His paper aims to define the type of club we will have in the future. A copy of the document was included in the June VMCC Journal and one is also attached to this newsletter. You now have the opportunity to express your opinions on the future shape of the club..... **DON'T MISS IT!**

If you have views and ideas now is the perfect time to put them forward. The President has asked that these be collected by section secretaries. They will then be discussed at the next management meeting at the end of June, so if you have anything to say, you need to contact Roger Bibbings in the next couple of weeks by phone on 01684 540249 or by email at

rogerbibbings@btinternet.com.

SECTION MEMBER'S BIKE FOR SALE - A BMW R1100GS 2004 with Just 54,000 miles on the clock. A


Brilliant mile muncher in excellent condition Ready for any trip and MoT'd until Sept 2018. Michelin Pilot 3 tyres fitted, Panniers, Ergo screen, Touratech adjustable footpegs, with Sport Touring engine bars. Front and rear mudguard extensions, hand guards + extensions. Non ABS conversion.



Lots of receipts and strong service history. For sale at £2,950 or swap/P/X for suitably light 500/350



The bike can be viewed from June 8th onwards. If you're interested call Roger Bibbings on 01684 540249 or Email rogerbibbings@btinternet.com.

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