



.....Issue 29 – Nov 2018.....

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

Welcome to issue 29 – 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 from our mailing list immediately.**

### PAST EVENTS

#### Sunday Sep 30<sup>th</sup> – The Levis Cup road trial, Lenchford Inn Shrawley.

This famous event, the oldest road trial in the vintage calendar is organised by the North Birmingham section of the VMCC. Whilst clearly targeted at older bikes, there are classes for machines up to 1965. Father and son team, Andrew and Steve Sumner took the line on their 1926 New Imperial model 7 (Chuffa) and their 1928 BSA S26 (Claude).



Steve was forced to retire Claude at the lunch halt with a fractured oil pipe, but Andrew made it to the finish on Chuffer. If you fancy a go at this famous old event, take a look at the North Birmingham section's website <http://www.vmcc-nbs.co.uk/index.htm>

#### Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October – The Black Mountain ride.

Moist, but never wet enough to don the waterproof suit – I'm saving it for best! David Jackson found an excellent route with a mix of lanes and fast open roads. The brisk descent down into Crickhowell was particularly pleasant. I was rather hoping this lovely old couple could mate and produce a 200lb V-twin trail bike. "Be careful what you wish for."



Sadly, Martin Lyall, our Dragon slayer from Issue 28, retired early with an electrical problem on his normally reliable 450 Honda. He had actually found and fixed it, but thought it best not to tempt fate further. Is it only me who feels a little smug when someone else's bike breaks down? These are unworthy thoughts and I wish I didn't harbour them.



#### Saturday October 13<sup>th</sup>. Forest Inn, Llanfihangel-nant-Melan, LD8 2TN - First meeting of Rob Woodford's Mid-Wales Bike Group. (MWBG)

Storm Callum tried it's best to put a downer on the day, but it failed. Ten people turned up, with 5 bikes. So a very successful start with all very keen and optimistic that the meet will be a success.

Unable to put us off earlier, Storm Callum, decided to put in another appearance about 14:45hrs and flood the pub forcing Nicky and Colin to shut early! Rob is looking forward to the next meeting on Saturday Nov 10<sup>th</sup>.



#### Sat & Sun Oct 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> Classic Motorcycle Mechanics show. Stafford.

The poor weather and the even gloomier forecast didn't seem to affect the crowds, who, as usual turned up in their thousands. Some of the traders in the outdoor section, either didn't turn up or pulled out during the day, due more to the high winds than the rain. Despite all that, the sun even made an appearance in the afternoon.



The autumn show usually showcases Japanese Machinery. This year, the "Concourse" section featured a simply dazzling display of Japan's finest.

Bonham's, as ever, offered the opportunity to buy some of the finest bikes in the world at its glamorous International Auction. If you looked beyond the high priced Broughs, Vincents and Hendersons, there were still great bikes to be had at realistic prices. This handsome 1928 Raleigh 495 cc Sports sold for £9,200 inc. commission. If you want to see the full results, take a look at their website.

<https://www.bonhams.com/auctions/24885/?category=results#>



**Sunday Oct 14<sup>th</sup> – A ride with Fred Spaven and the Charging Bullet.**

Fred, film maker Finn and of course, the Charging Bullet made a scheduled stop in Herefordshire at the weekend on the electric bike's maiden voyage from Lands' End to John o' Groats. Fred grabbed the opportunity to ride the local roads with section members.



Mike Bertenshaw – captured here in awe and admiration - brought along his 1959 350cc petrol model, which made for an interesting comparison.



Finn shot some excellent footage of Fred's bike in company and then did some drone shots alongside the Wye at Hole in the Wall. Everyone got a chance to ride it round the Moon car park when we returned there at the end of the ride. You can follow Fred's progress in detail on his [Facebook](#) page and on Twitter.



**Sunday Oct 21<sup>st</sup> - Section Ride - Breedon Hill and the Cotswolds.**

Run leader Roger Bibbings reports that it was "A great run out, with brilliant weather. We had about twelve in all: two from Worcestershire, on a Guzzi Ambassador and an early fifties Norton Dominator; Mick and Rose Smith rode the early Hinkley Trophy; Mike Bertenshaw on his 350 Enfield (still needs a push start), Richard and June Caddick in their Citroen 2CV Pendleton three wheeler; John Macklin on his

Honda and David Palmer on a cut down Honda CX 500. AOC members Geoff Brown and Sally dignified proceedings with their splendid Ariels - Geoff on a John Mitchell built swinging-arm Square Four and Sally on a 1932 Black Ariel.



The Ambassador suffered a broken clutch cable in Alderton, but a spare was being carried, so a repair was an easy job. All in all, a good ride and good company - even though things became a bit fragmented at the end."



**FUTURE EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY**

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov, 7:00 p.m. – "McGUINNESS & WHITHAM ON TOUR" at The Point Four, Venns Lane, Hereford HR1 1DT - £25 per head. Ticket hotline 07932 724462

A must for all TT fans - a chance to see and hear TT legend John McGuinness being interviewed by the knowledgeable and humorous Jamie Whitham, himself a TT winner and WSB competitor, now better known as a TV commentator and pundit. Not cheap, but I'm sure you won't be disappointed.



**SUNDAY Nov 4<sup>th</sup> – The London to Brighton run – starting from Hyde Park at 06:59 (sunrise!)**

Organisers of the World-famous London to Brighton Run, The Veteran Car Club, have issued an invitation to join the event to a select number of motorcycles made before 1905. This world-famous pageant is actually a celebratory re-enactment of the **1896 Emancipation Run**, which marked the passing of the law restricting motor vehicles to 4 mph and removed the necessity for a man with a red flag to walk in front of any vehicle.



The VMCC has been invited to enter 3 machines in what is hoped will become a permanent class in the future. There was no hesitation in selecting the club's most famous bike, "Dreadnought" to represent us. VMCC President, Alastair Alexander, seen here riding this iconic machine says "Dreadnought was built by Harold "Oily" Karlake to compete in the early long distance trials like Edinburgh to London. It is powered by a 402cc De Dion engine and there is no clutch and by modern standards, only rudimentary brakes. Harold Karlake gifted the Dreadnought into the VMCC's care with the proviso that it should be used and not become a museum piece. There is no more iconic a machine for the dawn of motorcycling and how fitting that the bike should be used in this year's Emancipation Run."

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November - H&H Classic Motorcycle auction – National Motorcycle Museum Coventry Road, Bickenhill, Solihull B92 0EJ.**

Viewing from 9:00 a.m. Auction starts at 1:00 p.m. The usual wide range of bikes with a lot more '20s and '30s bikes than usual. We like this sweet little 1965 150cc James Cadet – ideal for Herefordshire labyrinth of lanes.



If you're looking for a Banbury bike – you'd surely cut a dash on this 1929 500cc Sunbeam 9/90 – This one is from the estate of a deceased vicar – is that better than "one careful lady owner"?



You can find the full catalogue on the H&H website <https://online.handh.co.uk/m/view-auctions/catalog>

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November, Forest Inn, Llanfihangel-nant-Melan, LD8 2TN 12:30.**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting for old bike fans in the Mid-Wales area. The plan is to meet every second Saturday of the month from 12:30. A great chance to meet new friends and find out what is happening. All are welcome, so please give it your support. You'll all have ridden past this pub at some time. It is on the A44 a couple miles west of New Radnor.

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> November – CLUB AGM 7.00 pm at the Moon, Mordiford, HR1 4LW – Your chance to make the Herefordshire Classic motorcycling scene even better in 2019!**

Make sure you've put the date in your diary. Chairman Geoff McGladdery will do a quick overview of the last twelve months. We've had some really cracking events, including: Geoff's talk on his Trans America Trail Trip with John Roach; the June 'Bike Show' organised by Dave Brand; and of course, the third running of '**Herefordshire on the Edge**'. And we've had some really great runs, particularly into Wales and Shropshire. Come and hear how the Club is moving forward at National level and be prepared to put forward your suggestions about what we could be organising in the coming year.

Runs, weekends away, speakers, visits to VMCC events - even a Section trial maybe - there's lots we could do. Why not come with an idea and see if there are other members who'd help you to make it happen? Together we can have so much more motorcycling fun. It's your Club. Getting the best out of it here in Herefordshire is up to you.

There are vacancies for committee members and with both Roger and Geoff becoming more involved in National issues, the Section needs new people to carry it forward. If you would like to serve on the committee, or become Chair or Secretary, why not call Roger Bibbings on 01684 540249 to find out how you can help.

**AS A SPECIAL TREAT, WE HAVE ORGANISED FISH & CHIPS FOR ALL MEMBERS (CARDS NEEDED) FOR JUST £2.50!!! DON'T MISS IT. BE THERE AT 7:00 P.M PROMPT TO ORDER**

**DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!!**

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> November - Section ride - Ludlow and the Teme Valley - for Heroes only! Meet at Palmer's Meadow car park (swimming pool), Tenbury Wells WR15 8SF 10:00 for 10:30 start.**

Out to Brampton Bryan and then returning through the lanes to Ludlow and finishing for lunch at the Bell at Pensax, Worcester WR6 6AE. About 55 miles. Hopefully, the sun will shine on our endeavours and heroes won't be required! (.....dream on farm boy)

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November 10:00 a.m. - HJ Pugh Ledbury Salerooms HR8 2AQ - Auction of Motorcycles, old bikes parts and Automobilia.** Now's the time to enter your surplus bits and pieces or finally part with that restoration project you never got round to starting! Call Pugh's on 01531 631122. Commission rates for vendors are 10%, plus VAT with a minimum Commission of £3.00 per lot entered and an overall minimum charge of £5.00 per Vendor. Catalogue not available yet.

**Wed December 26<sup>th</sup> – Boxing Day. 11:00 a.m. The 3<sup>rd</sup> running of our popular *Brass Monkey* ride. Starts and finishes at The Moon at Mordiford, HR1 4LW.**

Make a date in your diary – a chance to blow away the cobwebs on this short 1 hour ride – more details in next month's newsletter. All shapes and sizes of rider and machine welcome. Drag your mates out!

### **THE CHARGING BULLET – THE LATEST NEWS**

Despite a puncture, and some freezing weather, Fred Spaven and the Charging Bullet continue on their journey to John o' Groats. They were at Ballater Hostel leaving them with about 220 miles to go. .



**FOR SALE**

### **PARTS**

A very rusty rear wheel with belt /brake rim, plus the hub – From the 1920S - free for collection only. Call Derek Foxton on 01432 357315 or email him at [df777@uwclub.net](mailto:df777@uwclub.net)

### **BIKES**

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 swop/P/X for suitably light 500/350. Contact Roger Bibbings on 01684 540249



### **TOOLS & EQUIPMENT**

Heavy duty bench vice – 120mm jaws, large capacity, rotates. £30. Also a parts washer - no room for a picture – could be cheap to a good home. contact Geoff McGladdery on 07588 559698.



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