



.....Issue 34 – April 2019.....

Editor Geoff McGladdery herefordvmcc@outlook.com

PAST EVENTS

Wednesday 27th Feb- the Conquest Theatre Bromyard Helen Lloyd and her African Adventures.

A diverse audience of more than 120 were enthralled by Helen Lloyd's stories of her travels in Africa, America and Siberia.



Helen recounted tales of wild animals prowling outside her tent, of deadly snakes and poisonous spiders as if she was reading a shopping list. My favourite amongst a lot of positive feedback came from Keith Lewis "What a brilliant talk, fantastic brave lady!"

Saturday March 2nd - H&H auction – National Motorcycle Museum

Not a great day for Ariel Square 4s. The lovely late model with the full period Craven kit featured in issue 32 made just £7,411 and a 1951 restoration project made £5,681. In contrast this correct looking '51 Ariel Red Hunter sold for an impressive £9,281.



The rare '32 **Matchless Model X**, fetched a slightly disappointing £19,406 and the 1991 1200cc Hinkley Triumph Trophy barely "run-in" with just 23,000 miles on the clock limped to £1,350. A lot of fun and metal for the money. The Airfix kit – sorry that should be "Almost complete, Rudge Whitworth project" we featured last month didn't find a brave buyer and remained unsold. Just when you thought the world made sense again, you need to absorb this. The 1929 Brough Superior SS1000 made a truly mind-numbing **£416,250!!!!** A world record for any Brough.



Once owned by George Brough himself and one of

the 3 team bikes participating in the 1929 ISDT in Switzerland this matching numbers collection of parts was declared "**complete and correct**" by Dave Clark, Technical Advisor to the Brough Club. Was it really worth as much as 23 new Transit vans or 73 Ariel Square 4s (above), or this "Grade II Listed property set in 4.4 acres of, mature landscaped gardens and grounds." Clearly yes!



You can find the full results on the H&H website.

Sunday March 3rd – VMCC AGM – Gaydon

Section Chairman, Geoff McGladdery was elected as a Board Director and then by his fellow directors as Chairman. Geoff was elected with the highest number of votes for and the lowest number of votes against. A full complement of 6 directors were appointed. They are (L-R) John Lay (vice chairman),



Brian Southam, Roy Moore, Geoff McGladdery, Bob Clark and Raymond Albeson

Wednesday March 6th Brightwells, auction Easter's Mart, Leominster,

At £3190, the 1978 TS250 Suzuki featured in last month's newsletter seemed about right, but the 1969 TRIBSA Café racer failed to meet its reserve. This lovely 1927 800cc H2 AJS outfit, which I suspect belonged to Robin James seemed cheap at £15,400.



This 1968 "Trials" Cub may well have been the ex Gordon Farley, ex-Jock Hitchcock factory bike, but both catalogue and the vendor had made it clear that such provenance could not be established beyond doubt.



It still made £4840, a strong price for one of these popular little bikes. Did someone gamble and get a piece of "Works" Triumph history for a bargain price? I do hope so and good luck to the new owner.

A very tidy, but used 1979 Yamaha DT175 with 15400 miles on the clock made a spectacular £3575 I love these little bikes and back in the 1980s, turned one into a useful Clubman's Enduro bike, But £3575.....Really? For the full results log onto Brightwells website.

Thursday 14th March - Tesco to the Moon

A miserable wet morning morphed into a splendid sunny Spring Day, whilst we were sitting in the cafe. The hardy souls who turned out, had a great ride through some excellent scenery. Thanks to Alan Reed who planned the ride and to Roger Bibbings for his artistic interpretation of the route map! If you want to know what "Hard" men drink, it definitely involves marshmallows!



Sunday 17th March - Breakfast ride starting & finishing at the Travellers Rest, Ross-on-Wye.

A bit chilly with strong winds, but the sun shone and the roads were (mostly) dry. We had bikes spanning 8 decades - from the '20s to the '90s following Mike Bertenshaw's excellent route. Unlike last year's foggy event, we enjoyed great views off Pan Tod

Beacon, followed by an enjoyable and sociable breakfast. Section supporter Cliff Osenton rode all the way from Banbury to join us for breakfast!



FUTURE EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY



This is an event not to miss!

The Section has its own space behind the Queen's Arms in the middle of Bromyard High Street. We aim to show off the VMCC in general and our Section in particular with an excellent display of interesting bikes. Please find time to visit our stand and bring your family and friends along too. Thanks to all our members who have generously offered to loan bikes for the day.

Please note - Spectator parking in Bromyard is strictly limited to those with an event pass. The organisers have arranged for 3,000 parking spaces in reserved

areas around and outside the town and these car parks will be connected to the town by free shuttle buses. **You are strongly advised to pre-book your parking (cost £8)** or you may pay on the day if space is available (£10). You can reserve your parking on the Speed Festival's excellent website. <https://bromyardspeedfestival.co.uk/spectator-parking-2019/parking-zones.html>

HELPERS NEEDED

Simon Durant, who is organising our stand is still looking for helpers to man the stand during the day. You will probably have to give up 30 minutes of your time. Please don't be shy – we really need your help. Contact Simon by email on 1198neo@gmail.com or phone - 07826 786059.

SECTION MEMBERS RIDING IN THE EVENT

A number of section members have been accepted for the parades. Simon Durrant will be riding his **2010 Ducati 1198S**, which he bought new as a road bike. After a 3 day track session at the Portimao circuit in Portugal, Simon was hooked and set about turning his awesome road bike into a real fire breather.



The bike was transformed with bodywork painted in the race livery of Ducati World Superbike rider Noriuki Haga. A race Ecu and Termignoni exhaust system were fitted along with a "slipper" clutch. Weighing in at less than 165kgs and with a power to weight ratio of over 1000hp per tonne, 190 mph is now easily attained! On a track of course! I hope I'm

still around in 2035, when this handsome Ducati becomes eligible for club runs. Just the thing for narrow muddy lanes!

Geoff McGladdery hoped to be riding his late brother's 1984 TT bike – The 750cc "**Growler**" **Kawasaki**. This home-made special finished 4th in the 1984 F1 TT and 5th in the Ulster Grand Prix, going on to finish 5th in that year's TTF1 World Championship, but some last minute problems have made this impossible. Instead, Geoff will be riding his 1929 Ariel model "B" 600cc side valve.



John Macklin has entered his delightful **1951 Douglas 90 Plus**. It started life as a clubman racer, was then bought by a member of the Douglas owners club who stripped the bike but never got round to rebuilding it. Many years later in 2011 he sold it in boxes to a guy who rebuilt it and put it on the road as a fast road bike. It still retains some of the racing elements, specially converted crankcases to accept needle bearing, racing cams and racing alloy cylinder heads.



April 7th – Felix Burke Trial - Andoversford Village Hall, Crossfields, Andoversford, Cheltenham, GL54 4LQ.

It's a shame this excellent event clashes with the Bromyard Speed Festival.

Organised by the VMCC Cotswold section, the 64th running of this Road Trial, runs along similar lines to **Herefordshire on the Edge**. Starting from Andoversford Village Hall, competitors choose their own route to visit as many of the Check Points as possible. A qualifying round of the annual Western Region Trials Championship. For more details of the championship, contact Rob Rendell by email at ear@globalnet.co.uk

April 11th – Section ride, South Shropshire and the Long Mynd. Meet at Brightwells cafe, Easters Mart Leominster, HR6 ODE 10:00 for a 10:30 start.



Riding from Leominster, through Clun, stopping at the Castle Hotel in Bishops Castle (SY9 5BN) and then on to the west side of the Long Mynd. Turning South along the Mynd, the route finds its way to the cafe at Ludlow Food centre for a late lunch. Last year's event was dogged by rain and mist – let's hope for better things on this scenic ride.

April 18th - 7.00 pm at the Moon, Mordiford HR1 4LW – Club night plus the First evening ride of the year. An hour around the lanes to Hole in the Wall and then back alongside the river to the Moon. (same route as Boxing Day). Meet at 7:00 p.m. for the ride.

April 20th, (Easter Sat) Ross-on-Wye Livestock Centre HR9 7QQ. - Autojumble

The first of these popular and well-supported Autojumbles for 2019. Gates open to the public at 9:00 a.m. and entry is £4.00. If you want to take a stall, contact John Harding on 01989 750731 or 01989 769191

April 28th Mid Wales meander to the Rhayader Dams meet at Texcaco Petrol station at Kington - HR5 3DZ 10:00 for 10:30

A quick dash along the A44 followed by lanes to the Marteg valley and down to Rhayder. Up the Mountain road to the dams allowing us the full circuit. Stopping at the Elan Valley visitors centre for coffee and cake, then onwards through the lanes and over the Begwyns to the Granary at Hay-on-Wye for a late lunch. About 80 miles of Mid-Wales' finest!



April 27th & 28th Stafford County Showground, ST18 0BD - The 39th Classic Motorcycle show.

Not to be missed, the biggest and the best. Opening times Saturday 9am-6pm. Sunday 9am-5pm. Beautiful shiny bikes everywhere, Bonham's auction, trials demonstration and lots of second hand bikes for sale. Well supported by traders, and one-make clubs. Massive autojumble both indoors and outdoors. If you're looking for that hard to find part, this is your best chance. The show is so big, it's all you can do to get round in a day.

Sunday May 5th - Moonraker Scatter Navigational Road Trial based in the Swindon area. Another qualifying round of the annual Western Region Trials Championship. All VMCC members riding bikes more than 25 years old may enter. Entries close April 12th. For full details contact Jenny Bassett by email at fredandjen@hotmail.co.uk

Saturday July 13th & Sunday July 14th - THE FESTIVAL OF 1000 BIKES, Mallory Park,



Mallory Park Race Circuit
Saturday 13th, Sunday 14th July 2019

Entry forms are now available!



For more information contact The Vintage Motor Cycle Club using the details below:
Allen House, Wetmore Road, Burton on Trent, Staffordshire, DE14 1TR
Tel: 01283 540557 Fax: 01283 510547 www.vmcc.net
You can download a form by visiting <http://www.festivalof1000bikes.co.uk/The-Event>

Bonhams Vintage Motor Cycle Club (VMCC) @VMCCUK **Footman James**
Insurance specialists. At your service.

The Festival of 1000 bikes has now become the largest Classic Track Weekend in Europe and its eclectic mix of older "road" bikes and classic race

bikes is almost unique. Don't miss your chance to ride your own bikes in the wheel tracks of Cooper, Agostini and Hailwood. Yes you really can ride your old road bike around Mallory, without leathers!!



Our section is taking a stand in "The Avenue of Clubs" for the whole weekend. We have no details at present but we definitely need a volunteer to organise our involvement. There is definitely a **FREE TICKET for the organiser!**



To find out how you can participate in this great event, take a look at the Festival website. <http://www.festivalof1000bikes.co.uk/The-Event>

VMCC TRAINING DAYS

There are no places left for the May event, but there are still plenty left for September. These events offer a fantastic opportunity to try out some vintage machines and have a ride round Curborough Sprint Course at the same time.



For more information or to book a place please call VMCC HQ on 01283 540557, but don't hang around these events sell out very quickly.

If you would like to bring your bike along to a training day and teach people how to ride it, call the same number.

HEREFORDSHIRE ON THE EDGE 2019

This is our Sections 'Flagship' event as well as a major contributor to section funds. Please do what you can to promote the event and to encourage people to enter. You have already received a set of Regulations and an entry form, so feel free to pass them on to anyone who you think would like to ride in the event. Entries continue to roll in, but we are some way from achieving our target of 100.



BREXIT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Will we? Won't we? How? When? What will be the impact on taking your bike abroad? We have this advice from the Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs (FBHVC)

You might be concerned about what will be different if the UK should leave the EU in 2019 without any deal having been achieved. In the first instance, you should consult Government websites. As departments develop their plans, information is posted online on a regular basis.

The following are areas which the Federation considers you should think about if you are intending to travel, either as a driver or passenger.

You should consider your insurance, both vehicle and personal.

The Insurance Directive will cease to be effective and there could be changes to how claims would be dealt with. Ask your motor insurer.

You may require a Green Card to visit EU countries, and not all EU countries accept the same Green Card. Your motor insurer should know the various rules.

Your European Health Insurance Card will no longer be of any effect. Thus you should consider establishing that your insurance cover includes full health insurance, including, if required, cover against the occurrence of existing medical conditions.

You may need any driver to acquire an International Driving Permit.

You will require to show a separate GB plate even if your vehicle is identified as being registered in the UK by the EU 'GB' number plate.

The Roadworthiness Testing Directive will no longer apply. You may wish to submit your vehicle to an MOT test, even if it is exempt, so that you will be in possession of evidence that the vehicle has passed a roadworthiness test if local law enforcement requests.

Not all local Low Emission Zones currently exempt historic vehicles. There may be some which exempt only historic vehicles from the EU. You will need to check locally.

This advice must not be regarded as complete or accurate; it is offered only as a useful checklist. If you have specific questions, we will try to help, but in the current uncertainty, we will not necessarily know the answer.

GRASS TRACKING

Our intrepid reporter Paul Farley (you may recall his excellent report on the Talmag trial in issue 33) has found another interesting way to damage himself and his equipment. He has bought an ANTIG Grass Tracker and entered his first event. We are pleased to tell you that he survived this experience and will be writing about it in a future issue. The VMCC does have a section dedicated to Grass Track and Speedway and arranges fixtures throughout the

summer. You are entitled to participate in or attend any of their events. If you would like more details, contact Neil Waddoups, Tel 07949 231009 or by email neil.waddoups@ntlworld.com



CATCHING THEM YOUNG

Roger Bibbings writes of his early experience of motorcycling and sent this wonderful picture of his Father's LE Velo....."Our early inoculation with the motor cycling virus was guaranteed by the fact that our father, a local GP, did his rounds on small motorcycles. Here I am in 1952 with my sister Alison, seated on the pillion of his LE Velocette. (She too passed her motor cycle test in due course.) Father had one of the very first LEs, and then, after owning many other bikes and scooters, he ordered one of the very last models produced at Hall Green. Later the flat twin bug bit me too in the form of several BMWs owned over the years. Ten years ago Alison and I rode down to Italy on an R80RT (which I still own) while researching material in connection with her translation of Max Reisch's 'Indien, Lockende Ferne'. Once the idea of an engine and two wheels is implanted in the infant brain it's usually there for good. "



CAFÉ RACER RIDE

You may recall from the riding calendar that we are planning a Café Racer ride on Sunday Sep 22nd. The idea was inspired from seeing Rob Woodford's Triton and then realising just how many of these bikes are still in sheds and garages all over the UK. Café racers were hugely popular from the late '50s through to the mid '60s and there is a massive resurgence of interest in the era that these bikes epitomised.

We hope to attract bikes from all over Wales and the Midlands and to make this a Regional or National event for the future. We are still working on a route

and have decided to find a new start/finish venue, preferably at a café and preferably one which was used back in the day!



One thing we do have sorted is a brilliant event sticker! Thanks to Maggie Smith for her hard work.



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