

## HEREFORDSHIRE SECTION NEWSLETTER



.....Issue 3 June 2016.....

Editor Roger Bibbings [rogerbibbings@btinternet.com](mailto:rogerbibbings@btinternet.com)

Welcome to the third edition of your section newsletter. This will be distributed electronically to those who have an email address, copied to our Facebook page and also available in printed form at Club events. We need **YOU** to contribute to future editions. So tell us about your bikes, your rides – anything that will be of interest to your fellow members. This is **YOUR** newsletter!

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Tonight 26<sup>th</sup> May – Club night -Bunch of Carrots, 7:00 p.m. to ride or later if you just want to chat.**

Bring yourself and your bike and meet other section members – there will be a short local ride returning to the pub for 8:00 p.m. The weather looks a lot better than last month's torrential downpour! If you've got anything you want to sell, bring it along.

**June 8<sup>th</sup> – Midweek Meander around Mid-Wales and the borders.**

Meet at the Texaco Station Kington - HR5 3DZ. **10:00 for 10:30 start.** The ride will go out to the Elan Valley and then return via the Wye Valley to the Granary café, Hay-on-Wye for late lunch, Coffee stop on the way, probably at the Elan Valley visitor's centre contact Geoff McGladdery Tel. 07588 559698 for more details or just turn up at Kington.

**15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> June - Trail riding in the Peak District**

**This event, has now been cancelled due to a lack of interest. We will try to organise a similar event in our 2017 calendar**

### 23<sup>RD</sup> JUNE BIKE SHOW – THE CARROTS

Club night in June will take the form of a bike show. Its dead simple - bring your bike (or bikes) between 7:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. and park them up. We hope to get strong local publicity for the event and to attract a lot of non-members, so It is our chance to show the people of Hereford the best of our hobby. Judging will be arbitrary and deeply dissatisfying for all – David Brand has agreed to organise the event on the night you can contact him on 07870 633064 [davebrand1@gmail.com](mailto:davebrand1@gmail.com)

### HEREFORDSHIRE ON THE EDGE – JUNE 26<sup>TH</sup>



Entries have already exceeded our "break-even" number. It is possible to enter up until 10:30 a.m. on the day, but don't forget that they will cost an additional five whole English pounds!!!

#### THE BIKES AND RIDERS

A fascinating range of entries so far. Riders from Derbyshire, Surrey Pembrokeshire, Lincolnshire and Sussex represent 13 different marques, the most popular being Moto Guzzi with 4. There are 11 Brits, 7 Japanese, 6 Italian and a handful of others. Only two 2-strokes to date and only one 3-wheeler. There are a surprising 8 pillions! Average age of machines is 44 and average capacity a massive 580 cc! Smallest bike is a 250 – It seems bigger is

better, but I'm not convinced. Where are all the tiddlers, surely we can find a Bantam, a James a Fanny "B" an MZ, or even a "step through" or an FS1E? Oldest bike is a 1934 Norton, but we hope to see Steve Sumner's 1928 New Imperial. The youngest bike is a 1989 Kawasaki.

#### THE ROUTE

The route follows as closely as possible the boundary of Herefordshire. You will find yourself constantly criss-crossing the borders with Powys, Gloucestershire, Shropshire and Worcestershire. There are sections of fast road but many of the roads are remote rural and narrow. This is one of the more remote codeboards up in the Black Mountains above Hay-on-Wye. Don't panic, the ford is an option – the road runs alongside it!



#### THE CARDINAL POINTS

No harm in confirming the four Cardinal points. They are all cafes or restaurants and you **must stop at one of these for a minimum of 30 minutes**

**North** – The Lion at Leintwardine - SY7 0JZ

**East** – The café – British Camp car park - WR13 6DW

**South** – Ross-on-Wye Cattle Market café (also the start/finish) - HR9 7QQ

**West** – The Granary, Hay on Wye HR3 5DB. The staff at these cafes have kindly agreed to punch the cards. It would certainly help our cause if you used these as your rest stop.

You can help to put our section on the National Map by entering, volunteering to help out in running the event and by telling all your friends to enter. Cost is £5 per machine. For full details and entry forms contact Geoff McGladdery by post, at 7, the Hopkilns, Bishops Frome WR6 5BP, by phone/text on 07588 559698 or email [geoffmac@globalnet.co.uk](mailto:geoffmac@globalnet.co.uk)

### July 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> - BROMYARD GALA RIDE

We are organising a short run for section members and exhibitors, meeting at the entrance to the Gala Field at 6:30 p.m. and finishing at The Green Dragon, Bishops Frome, around 7:30 p.m. The ride will be OK for older bikes, mopeds and auto cycles (although you might have to pedal occasionally!!). Last year's group included a couple of scooters a BSA flat-tanker, a rigid Triumph 500 and a Norton Commando!

Entry forms are available on the Bromyard Gala website <http://www.bromyardgala.org.uk/>

### July 13<sup>th</sup> – Bunch of carrots – Midweek ride

**We have no leader and no route for this ride at the moment.** Is there anyone out there who rides old motorcycles? Don't be shy, share with like-minded people some of the local roads that you know so well. If you would like to give it a go, contact me on 07588 559698

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**Founders Day rally – May 1<sup>st</sup>**

Many thanks to our friends from the Worcestershire section, and in particular Richard Bullock, who did all the hard work, manning the Bringsty Café checkpoint - which was officially a Worcestershire **and** Herefordshire section duty. More than 30 riders visited the checkpoint during a day which was not ideal for a fun day's ride on a motorbike. There were some great bikes on the road that day – my own favourite was a 1920s Indian - so red and

so beautiful. The event will be held again in 2018, so we will need to choose and man our own checkpoint by then.

### Midweek ride out May 13<sup>th</sup>

Starting from Brightwell's café in Leominster, a small group of us had a splendid day riding in brilliant sunshine – remember that? The Long Mynd was traffic free with great views on all sides. Lunch at the Ludlow Food Centre café on the A49 was a fine way to end a great day's riding

### Tenbury Wells ride May 22<sup>nd</sup>

Thanks to Pete Howells for the superb route. Chris Lawton-Smith rode his Sunbeam S7 De-luxe. What a splendid thing it is too. It effortlessly handled the wide range of roads including the steep climb and descent of the Long Mynd. Very disappointed there were no RAC patrolmen to salute us as we passed. Chris has entered - **Herefordshire on the Edge** - on the Sunbeam - definitely adding a bit of class to the field!



### Members' bikes

Steve Sumner has almost finished the re-commissioning of this splendid 1928 New Imperial model 7. If all goes to plan, he is planning to ride it in **Herefordshire on the Edge** –



Tenbury's Robin Parker has a bike that's not quite a bike yet He is looking to build an off-road themed bike similar to his 1955 James 1955 Colonel 225 road bike. Robin has the ex-works Greeves engine/gearbox which he had directly from the great man himself - Dave Bickers. He is looking for any parts than can move the project along a bare frame could be a starting point, or anything which would accept his engine unit, of course a rolling chassis would be lovely! You can contact him on 01584 319012 [thedogwheel@talktalk.net](mailto:thedogwheel@talktalk.net)

### Shobden Vintage fly in

You might like to pop over to Shobden at the weekend when they have a vintage fly-in for pre-1979 aircraft. Old bikes will be welcome

### New members

I'm sure all of us know old bike owners who are not VMCC members, but who would enjoy riding with our section and attending our meetings. Why not encourage them to join us? A strong VMCC and a strong Herefordshire section will benefit us all.

### Find us on

We now have a Facebook page – VMCC Herefordshire section. Thanks to those who are using it. We are still looking for someone who could start a Twitter account for the section.

