

HEREFORDSHIRE SECTION NEWSLETTER



.....Issue 5 Sep 2016.....

Editor Roger Bibbings rogerbibbings@btinternet.com

Welcome to the fifth edition of your section newsletter. This will be distributed electronically to those who have an email address and 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!

CLUB NIGHT AND BIKE SHOW – June 23rd

Despite a very late change of venue from the Bunch of Carrots to the Moon at Mordiford, we enjoyed a fantastic sunny mid-summer evening, with well over 50 bikes on show. And what a great range of bikes we had too, a beautiful Lambretta, an immaculate TRIBSA Indians, and Harleys, mopeds, MZs, Nortons et al. Chris Lawton Smith's Vincent Comet took the prize for best bike, but it was a close run thing.

Thanks to David Brand and his family and friends for doing such a great job of organising the event. Thanks are also due to all those who brought their bikes and to Landlord and Landlady Allan and Karen who made us feel very welcome as well as providing a bottle of spirits to the winner. Sadly we have no pictures of the event. If you have any, please email them to me at the above address

FUTURE CLUB NIGHTS

UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, **THE MOON AT MORDIFORD - HEREFORD HR1 4LW** WILL BE THE VENUE FOR OUR CLUB NIGHTS AND THE MEETING PLACE FOR RUNS STARTING IN THE HEREFORD AREA.

HEREFORDSHIRE ON THE EDGE – JUNE 26TH



Our Flagship event for 2016 went better than anyone might have hoped when it was first proposed, attracting riders from as far afield as Avon, Cambridgeshire, Devon, Pembrokeshire, Derbyshire, Kent and Surrey as well as a strong contingent from Herefordshire and the surrounding counties. 22 different marques were on show, the most popular being BSA and Norton with 5 each.

RESULTS

52 paid to enter and 43 actually took the start line. Despite the rain, an intrepid 30 finished – official definition of finish is *“having your card punched at the start and at the finish”*. Five of the fab 30 didn't qualify for an award, two qualified for Bronze medals, 7 took away Silver medals and a splendid 16 left with Gold medals.

Amazingly, six of the Gold medallists visited all 30 waypoints – a magnificent achievement.

GOLDEN OLDIES

Section member Steve Sumner and his very recently restored 1928 New Imperial - seen here at the start with Clerk of the Course Roger Bibbings, who's idea this all was - performed impressively to win a Bronze and comfortably walked off with the “Oldest Bike and Rider” prize, kindly donated by Lee motorcycles of Ross-on-Wye Andrew Shortridge and Fred Spaven deserve a special mention for achieving Gold on the 1948 Nimbus and a “well-used” 1960 Bantam respectively



Thirteen riders didn't finish. The rain encouraged a few to take “an early bath”, but several others succumbed to mechanical failure, amongst them, section members Chris Lawton-Smith and Oliver Tomlinson. Chris collected 19 waypoints, but couldn't get the badly starting Sunbeam to the finish (see below) and Oliver eventually discovered the ignition wires had frayed from rubbing against the tank of his Can-Am. He was given great assistance and the use of a garage from a friendly local. Love to know who you were.



Worcestershire stalwart and firm supporter of the Herefordshire section Pete Howells and co-driver Jan flew the flag for the three wheelers with a well deserved Gold



We have had a fantastic response from those who took part and since the last VMCC newsletter we have received more than 10 requests for entry forms for 2017!

July 2nd - BROMYARD GALA RIDE

A busy couple of weeks for the section ended with the bike show at Bromyard Gala. More than 50 motorcycles were on display each day and the short ride out on the Saturday evening to the Green Dragon at Bishops Frome was again popular. **The Bolddog Lings Freestyle Team** amazed the crowds with their gravity defying Freestyle Motocross show.

Next year is the 50th Bromyard Gala and the organisers are hoping for a bumper entry. You can help celebrate the event by showing your own machines. Make a date in your diary for July 1st and 2nd 2017.

APOLOGIES

Section Chairman Geoff McGladdery offers his apologies for deserting his post over the summer! A planned trip to the French Alps and the Pyrenees to take part in the excellent **Twinshock**

Trailfinder event was extended by a couple of weeks due to an unexpected, unwanted and eye-wateringly expensive gearbox failure. If you ever consider getting one of the otherwise excellent Renault Traffic vans – avoid the *autochange* gearboxes!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Geoff reports that the Twinshock trailfinder was its usual wonderful self. He would recommend it to anyone who likes to ride mile after mile of wonderful mountainous trails in warm sunshine. To find out more take a look at their website

<http://www.austinvince.com/twinshock-trailfinder>



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Club night - Thursday 24th August – The Moon

7:00 p.m for those who want to ride and 8:00 p.m for a pint and a chat. Hope you can make it

Mid-week ride out Wednesday Sep 14th

Meet at Bringsty Common Café WR6 5UJ 10:00 a.m. for 10:30 start. A couple of hours around the lanes of NE Herefordshire, finishing at The Den café Stanford Bridge WR6 6SP for a late lunch.

Club night - Thursday 22nd September – The Moon

7:00 p.m for those who want to ride and 8:00 p.m for a pint and a chat. Hope you can make it This will be the last evening ride of the year and you will probably need your lights'

OTHER EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY

British Moto GP – Silverstone Sep 2nd – 4th.

Cal Crutchlow won the last Moto GP – the first time a Brit has won the big class since Barry Sheene 35 years ago. There should be a great atmosphere

Classic bike auction – HJ Pugh Ledbury Sep 24th

If you've never been to one of these then you really ought to go. All manner of bikes parts and people. A great place to find those elusive parts or that winter project at budget prices! A good place to sell your unwanted parts and bikes too. Bidding starts at 10:00 with viewing on the Friday afternoon and the morning of the sale.

Stafford Classic bike show October 15th & 16th

The "Daddy" of them all. Mecca for anyone interested in any aspect of classic motorcycling. A great day out. The Bonham's auction is a show within the show with bikes changing hands for £100,000+ If you want to see how the other half live, or what your dusty old Brough Superior is worth, live the dream and invest £25 in their glossy catalogue (admits 2)

New members

We all know old bike owners who are not currently 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 

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

