



NEWSLETTER

.....Issue 4 August 8th 2017.....

Editor Geoff McGladdery – geoffmac@globalnet.co.uk

Welcome to issue 4 of the event newsletter. It is sent only to those who have already entered, those who have expressed an interest in entering and event supporters. If you wish to be removed from the mailing list, please let me know.



RESULTS AND AWARDS

The complete results sheet has been emailed, but here is a summary. 66 entered and 55 actually took the start line – an increase of 28% on 2016. 43 finished – official definition of finish is “having your card punched at the start and at the finish”. Four of the finishers didn’t qualify for an award, as their

bikes were less than 25 years old. A handful of entrants arrived after the checkpoint had officially closed, but we awarded them medals anyway! No bronze medals were awarded, 10 silvers and an impressive 29 Golds. Thirteen of the Gold medal winners visited all 32 of the waypoints – more than double last year’s total. Take a good look at the results to see the capacity of those machines – five of them were 250cc or less! The oldest bike to visit all the checkpoints was William Galliers’ 1934 (yes 1934!) Norton Inter. Sue Beasley on her 1977 Honda 400/4 made it to all 32 waypoints too.



ROUTE AND WAYPOINTS

We calculate that the shortest route to visit all 30 points was 193 miles and the shortest route for a gold medal was around 150 miles. A good day’s ride on older bikes on a mixture of roads – most of them slow! An astonishing total of 995 waypoint visits were recorded. The most visited points were 4 – Church of St Mary, Kentchurch, 18 – The

Junction of the A44 And the B4594, 27 – Tregate Bridge on the Monnow and 32 – Whitney Tollbridge. The least visited were 6 - Clencher’s Mill Ford, 13 - St Edwards Church Kempley and 28 – the 4-way junction south of Clifton.

The most remote waypoint, 19 - the watersplash at Olchon Brook high up on the Black Mountains was visited by an impressive 34 of you. Well done. I hope the ride and the views were worth the effort. No incidents were reported and we have received no negative feedback from the local population, so thanks to all of you for riding safely and sensibly.

THE BIKES AND RIDERS

We had 21 different marques entered in this year’s event, the most popular being BSA with 10, followed by Honda and Royal Enfield with 7 and Triumph with 6. There were 39 Brits (excluding the 3 Indian Enfields), 18 Japanese and only 4 Italian machines. Two 3-wheelers entered alongside with 64 solos. There were a surprising 12 pillion/passengers. Just two ladies entered. I guess the rest were at home knitting and baking.

Average age of machines was 47 and average capacity a portly 499 cc! Smallest bike was Simon Taylor’s 49cc Honda Camino. Not a single scooter in sight. Furthest travelled competitors were Russ McDermid and “Ninja” Sirimoon who really did travel from Thailand to do the event. We are impressed!



THE OLDIES

We were delighted to welcome 6 pre WW2 bikes, sadly only William Galliers finished (see Results and Awards). Steve Sumner's epic attempt to build a BSA special for the event, was still a few parts and a few weeks from completion and his New Imperial "Chuffa" which took a bronze last year, was withdrawn by son Andrew to save it further punishment. West Wales's finest - Dai Garland and Alan Booth, who did the famous Banbury run the previous weekend also elected to retire. As we go to press, we have no idea what happened to David Jackson and his wonderful Brough – perhaps their ghostly presence is still stalking the lonely lanes of Herefordshire.



PUTTING RIGHT THE WRONGS

Local VMCC section members Chris Lawton-Smith and Oliver Tomlinson both collected Golds, which perhaps made up for their frustrating breakdowns in 2016. Both Chris – on his Sunbeam S7 De Luxe and Oliver – on his Can-Am Bombardier managed to visit all 32 points. Well done guys



THE CARDINAL POINTS

All 4 of the cardinal points were pleased to have our business and provided their usual good service. The Lion at Leintwardine was once again very popular for lunch.



ST MICHAEL'S HOSPICE

Thanks to all those who have already raised funds for our wonderful Herefordshire Charity – The **St Michael's Hospice**. We also collected donations of £70 on the day! If you would like to support the charity, it is not too late. You can find all the information you need on their website. Please tell

us if you have collected for the Hospice - <http://www.st-michaels-hospice.org.uk/>

SPONSORS

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PHOTOS AND VIDEO CLIPS

Thanks to all those who kindly sent pictures and clips We would love to have more – so don't be shy send them to me as soon as you can on geoffmac@globalnet.co.uk If you wish to have accreditation please advise us when you send them. Take a look at Ian and Lesley Goodhall's excellent video of the event, which you can find on you tube <https://youtu.be/xEh2mk0cknE>



Updates and other stuff can be found on our **Facebook** page – VMCC Herefordshire section. Feel free to post to it. If you post stuff on your own Facebook page, please remember to link it to ours. If you're not sure how to do it - ask your grandkids!