



NEWSLETTER

Issue 1 January 6th 2020

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Welcome to issue 1 of the event newsletter. It is sent only to those who have previously 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.**

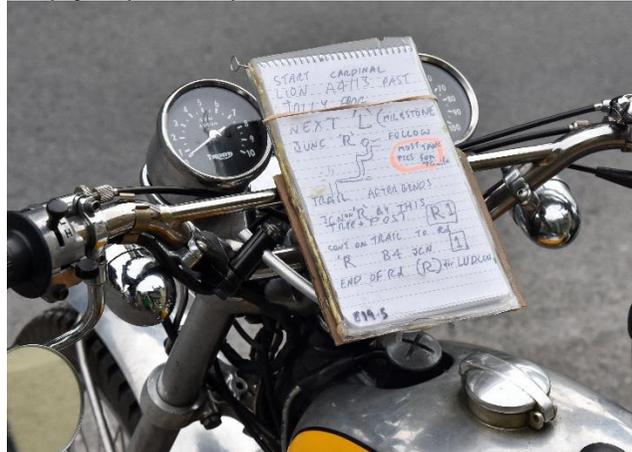
5th EDITION

Welcome to the 5th running of **"Herefordshire on the Edge"**. In addition to this newsletter, you should have received a set of regulations and an entry form. If you haven't received all 3, then please email me at the address above. We will be delighted to see all of you who have entered before and hope that those of you who haven't yet entered will do so in 2020.

WHAT IS IT ALL ABOUT?

"Herefordshire on the Edge" – is an enjoyable, full day event for 2 or 3 wheelers. It will challenge entrants' riding and navigation skills and test their machines over a wide range of surfaced roads. The 5th running of this unique event will provide entrants with the opportunity to explore some remote and beautiful corners of one of Britain's most scenic, historic but least visited counties. The locations of 24 waypoints, spaced at roughly 5 mile intervals around the borders of Herefordshire will be published two weeks before the event, in the form of post codes, 6 figure grid references

and DMM map co-ordinates. Entrants simply plan and follow a route to visit as many of these waypoints as they choose. They are welcome to use maps, satnavs or any other system they feel comfortable with. There is no right way or wrong way, just your way!



WHAT'S NEW FOR 2020?

The basic structure of the event remains the same, with all changes being minor and based on entrants experiences and feedback. We will of course have some new and interesting roads to ride and places to visit whilst retaining the old favourites.

TWO START/FINISH POINTS.

Once again, you may choose either, but you must start and finish at the same point to qualify for an award.

- The original Start/Finish at the Travellers Rest HR9 7QJ, on the outskirts of the beautiful market town of Ross-on-Wye is retained, and will again be known as the Southern Start/Finish.
- The Northern Start/Finish at The Lion Hotel, Leintwardine SY7 0JZ proved very popular and will be used again for 2020.
- If you are staying at either of these hotels then you are eligible for free parking all day.

ACCOMODATION

For those travelling from afar to the event, we would strongly recommend staying at the Lion at Leintwardine. Set in beautiful surroundings on the banks of the river Teme, in the picturesque village of Leintwardine, this quiet country Inn is the perfect place to unwind, enjoy a drink or dinner, as well as being in an excellent position for exploring the delights of North Herefordshire, South Shropshire and the wonderful historic town of Ludlow.



We have negotiated a special deal with the hotel for double rooms only

- 2 night stay Bed & Breakfast - £100 per room per night.
- 2 night stay Dinner, bed & breakfast £150 per room per night.
- 3 night stay Bed & Breakfast - £90 per room per night.
- 3 night stay Dinner, bed & breakfast £140 per room per night.

There are only a few rooms available, so please book early and use the code **20HOTE20**.

For a single night stay the normal rates apply. Take a look at the Lion's website.

<http://www.thelionleintwardine.co.uk/home>

Accommodation is available at the Southern start at the Premier Inn, which is on the same site as the Travellers Rest - Ledbury Road, Ross-On-Wye, Herefordshire HR9 7QJ. To make a booking, use their website. Their normal rates

apply. Whilst they have a lot of rooms, early booking is recommended. They sold out last year!

There are of course other hotels and guest houses in the area, just use the usual websites to search. Unfortunately, we are not able to act as a booking agent. Ross-on-Wye is a beautiful historic market town and a popular tourist destination. It is ideally placed to explore Symonds Yat and the Forest of Dean.

HEREFORDSHIRE ON THE "RAGGED EDGE"

For the ambitious, 4 of the waypoints will have **alternative** locations, sited on non-damaging unsurfaced roads and possibly involving a water splash. In normal summer conditions they will be passable on road tyres with care (and some skill). You may choose to visit any or all of these alternative waypoints as you wish. Entrants visiting all 4 qualify for a "**Herefordshire on the Ragged Edge**" ribbon in addition to any other award they may earn. NB these waypoints are alternatives and not additional. It will be quite clear when the route instructions are issued, where these alternative waypoints are. There is absolutely no penalty for not visiting these alternative waypoints.



THE BIKES AND RIDERS

In 2019, 97 machines entered, including five 3-wheelers and 90 actually took the start line, a healthy increase of 20% on 2018. We would love to exceed 100 starters this year.

28 different marques entered, the most popular being Honda with 12 and Triumph with 11. There were 50 Brit bikes. Average machine size was a lardy 507cc and the average age of machines was 51. The oldest machine entered was Steve Sumner's 1926 BSA, one of 5 pre-1930 machines.



Statistics show that this event seems to suit machines of all ages and capacities. The same rules apply to riders. Youngest was just 21 and the oldest was 84 – so no excuses!

PHOTOS AND HISTORY OF YOUR BIKE

When you enter, please don't be shy in sending me pictures of your machine. Send me old pictures if you have them – Box Brownie specials would be great. Let's see some flares, some leather jackets, some teddy boys, silk scarves and

submariner's socks. Let's see some flying helmets, some army greatcoats and flat caps. Let's see some kipper ties and platform shoes, Parkas and Hush Puppies. Don't forget the nice shiny pictures of your meticulously restored money pit. If all else fails drag your pride and joy out into the sunshine and point your mobile phone at it!



If you know anything of the history, please let me have it. Is it the only one of its kind in the world? Is it the only one of its kind in Ledbury? Is it the first one made or indeed the last one made? Have you owned it since new, did you pay 2/- for it, or swap it for a bloater paste sandwich?



What may be dull and familiar to you is often captivating to others. We need this for our

newsletters and press releases. I can't promise to publish everything, but I will do my best.



If you're wondering if your bike is suitable, then whatever it is, the answer is definitely yes!



WESTERN REGION ROAD TRIAL CHAMPIONSHIP

"Herefordshire on the Edge" is once again a qualifying event in the popular 15 round Western Region Road Trial Championship (WRRTC). Each of the events has its own unique character and presents a great opportunity to ride your bike in some wonderful parts of our country in a variety of conditions.

March 28 & 29
 April 4 & 5
 May 3rd
 May 17
 May 25 (Monday)
 May 31st
 June 14
 June 15 – 19
 June 20 & 21
 June 28

Felix Burke Weekend
 Cheddar Weekend
 Founders Relay Rally
 Cotswold Signpost Rally
 Spring Bank Holiday
 Banbury Run
 Black Mountain Trail
 Cotswolds Touring Week
 Flat-Tank & Cotswolds W/E
Herefordshire on the Edge

July 12
 August 2
 September 13
 September 18 -20

West Wilts White Horse Trial
 Somerset Signpost Rally
 Vale of Glamorgan
 Saundersfoot Weekend

September 27

Levis Trial

If you would like more information on any events in this excellent championship, you can contact Robert Rendell by email at ear@globalnet.co.uk

ST MICHAEL'S HOSPICE

Since the first event in 2016, entrants have raised funds for our wonderful Herefordshire Charity – The St Michael's Hospice.



We would be delighted if you chose to support the charity, 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/>

VMCC MEMBERSHIP

Herefordshire on the Edge 2020, is organised by the Herefordshire section of the VMCC and would normally be limited to VMCC members only. Non-members are invited to take part in order to see at first-hand what the VMCC is all about. If you are not a member, we hope that our event will give good reason to join us. Anyone joining the VMCC on the day will have their non-member's entry premium of £6 refunded.

SPONSORS

We are grateful to **Lee motor cycles of Ledbury** for providing us with prizes.
<http://www.leemotorcycles.co.uk/>

Find us on  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!