



NEWSLETTER

Issue 1 January 12th 2019

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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.

HERE WE ARE AGAIN

Welcome to the 4th 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, then please email me at the address above.

WHAT'S NEW FOR 2019?

Not a lot you'll be relieved to hear! The two innovations from 2018, a second start/finish and **Herefordshire on the Ragged Edge** were very well received and we have continued them.

This year, there will be an additional 2 waypoints to choose from, taking the total to 33. The requirement for a gold medal is to visit 24 of these waypoints. We hope that these changes will make for a more interesting ride and will take the entrants to even more of the most beautiful parts of our county.

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 on the outskirts of Ross-on-Wye HR9 7QJ 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 2019.
- If you are resident 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. 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 renowned town of Ludlow. There are only a few rooms available, so please book early. Take a look at the Lion's website.

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

For one night stays at the Lion, the usual rates apply.



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.



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.

HEREFORDSHIRE ON THE “RAGGED EDGE”

For the ambitious, at least 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**” badge 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.

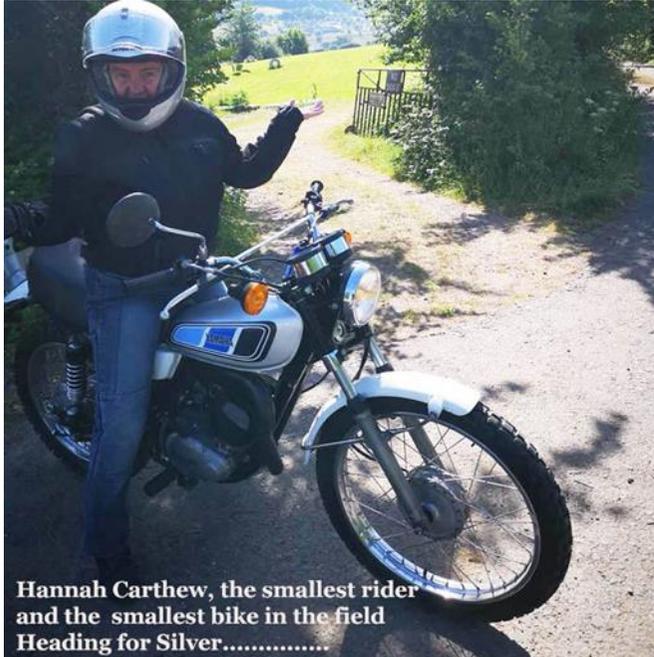
SOME NEW ROADS AND WAYPOINTS

To keep the event fresh, we will have some completely new places to visit for this year and in addition, we will change the location of a number

of the traditional waypoints to tempt you down some different roads. The Cardinal points will remain the same.

THE BIKES AND RIDERS

In 2018, 76 machines entered and 65 actually took the start line – a healthy increase of 15% on 2017. 54 machines finished." Almost half the starters made "Gold Medal" standard. A further 9 achieved silver medals and 7 qualified for bronze. A handful of entrants arrived after the checkpoint had officially closed, but we awarded them medals anyway. 21 different marques entered, the most popular being Honda with 9 and Norton with 8. There were 34 Brit bikes, 21 Japanese and an impressive 12 Italian machines. Four scooters and four 3-wheelers entered and a somewhat surprising 12 pillions/passengers started. Just two ladies entered.



Hannah Carthew, the smallest rider and the smallest bike in the field Heading for Silver.....

The effervescent Hannah Carthew, in her second attempt made silver medal standard on her DT175. 20 Ragged edge medal ribbons were awarded. Average age of machines was 50 and average capacity a portly 497 cc!

The big breakthrough in 2018 was made by Terry Pickering (1928 Humber 500 OHC) and William Galliers (1934 500 Norton Inter) who both won Gold medals, proving conclusively that this an event for older bikes.

ROUTE AND WAYPOINTS

An astonishing total of 1174 waypoint visits were recorded. The most visited waypoint was the historic Whitney Toll Bridge. The most efficient route to a gold was calculated to be around 165 miles.

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 platforms. 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.

ST MICHAEL'S HOSPICE

A number of 2018 entrants raised funds for our wonderful Herefordshire Charity – The **St Michael's Hospice**. In addition, we collected donations of £25 on the day. If you would like 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/>

WESTERN REGION ROAD TRIAL CHAMPIONSHIP

As per 2018, "**Herefordshire on the Edge**" is a qualifying event in the 13 round WRRTC. Each of the events has its own unique character and presents a great opportunity to ride your bike in some great parts of our country. We will publish a full list of events in the next newsletter. If you would like more information, you can contact Robert Rendell by email at ear@globalnet.co.uk

VMCC MEMBERSHIP

Herefordshire on the Edge 2019, 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

Thanks to our generous sponsors, without whom the event could not take place.

Holden Vintage & Classic

<http://www.holden.co.uk/>

Lee motor cycles of Ledbury

<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!