

# VMCC West Wilts Section – 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024 Meeting Newsletter

## Recent Events

The Wandering to the Lansdowne Arms at Derry Hill was well-attended with 23 people joining, 4 on bikes despite the freezing weather. Several of those at the Lansdowne had bravely battled all the way from coffee at The Pewsham.

## Forthcoming Events

**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January** – Coffee Morning at Crowns Café, REME Museum, Lyneham SN15 4PT, 10:30am. NB the B4069 up Lyneham bank remains closed - so approach from Calne or Royal Wootton Bassett, or dig out the OS map and come up the lanes. Note, it is possible to go down Lyneham bank via Bradenstoke and a one-way-only minor lane.

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February** – The Wandering is to The New Inn, Upper Seagry, SN15 5HA, from around midday as usual. Please reply to email from Colin Smith with menu choice by Monday 29<sup>th</sup>; there will be a group run to the venue departing 10am prompt from Morrisons carpark, Chippenham.

Further ahead: on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February, the South Cotswold section has a talk by Steve Allen on his late father Titch, at the Hunters Hall Inn, Kingscote. The next planned Green Lane Run is on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February.

## Future/Major Events

**JOGLE (September):** Tim James gave an update on plans, which are still in progress. Numbers are currently just below the target number of 24 but it looks promising and Tim is still hoping for nearer to the maximum of 30. Owing to unforeseen circumstances, there is now a need for volunteers to act as support van driver and passenger, although Tim has kindly offered that he and Sandra will cover if need be. Please contact Tim on 07517 660519 or email [Sandra.james@btinternet.com](mailto:Sandra.james@btinternet.com) if you are willing to run the support van.

**Bristol classic bike show (24/25<sup>th</sup> Feb.):** Kevin Phillips confirmed plans are now complete and organized for a Section stand with 8 bikes, to be set up on the Friday afternoon before the show.

**Prescott Bike Fest (Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June):** Jon Hall noted there is an opportunity for a West Wilts stand (free of charge, with free entry for a limited number of people) which would need to be set up on the Saturday or before 08:30am Sunday, and taken down /bikes removed on Sunday evening. It was left for people to think about and decide at next meeting.

**VMCC AGM (March):** Peter Fielding had given his apologies for the meeting but will be attending the AGM as VMCC South Midlands Area rep. and is happy to act as 'proxy' should any members in the West Wilts Section wish to cast a vote on any agenda item. All members are encouraged to vote. NB it will be necessary to complete a proxy voting form from the VMCC website, <https://vmcc.net/AGM>. Peter has also asked whether Section members wish to raise any issues relevant to the Area Rep's meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> February. Please let Peter or Jon Hall know on either count.

## Speaker

Geoff Stray brought along his elegant "Stray Panther" 1300cc V-twin and gave a great and excessively modest presentation with video clips about its design and development over several years. A well-attended presentation raising plenty of questions and observations on some of the development challenges.

## Section Calendar

The latest issue of the West Wilts section calendar for 2024 is distributed alongside this newsletter. Inevitably there will be detail changes from time to time, these will be notified in the fortnightly newsletters, along with other local trials or other relevant events of interest. A copy of the South Cotswold Section's 2024 diary is also attached.