

## VMCC West Wilts Section – 8<sup>th</sup> February 2024 Meeting Newsletter

### People

Welcome to Berni Cashin and introductory prizes of surplus plastic petrol cans to him and Tim Niblett, hope to see the BMW and the CRF out and about in due course. Our planned speaker Norman White was unfortunately unable to come owing to illness, we wish him well and look forward to seeing him later in the year.

### Recent Events

The Wandering to the New Inn at Upper Seagry attracted 26 people with 10 riding in, either via the Best Ever Brownie Café or direct to Seagry. The coffee morning at the Crowns Café was equally well-attended with 13 on bikes; a popular repeat venue. Five members had attended and enjoyed the talk by Steve Allen organized by the South Cotswold section.

### Forthcoming Section Events

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February** – Green Lane Run organized by Keith Johnston, see dedicated WhatsApp group chat for details; please contact Keith (or Jon Hall) if you would like to be added to the Green Lane WhatsApp group.

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February** – Wandering to the White Horse at Biddestone, SN14 7DG. Colin Smith is organizing a group ride to the pub, meet at Morrisons Chippenham in time for 10am departure. Pre-orders will be required for those wishing to have lunch at the pub, please look out for email from Colin with menu.

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February** – Next section meeting at The Bell, Yatton Keynell, 7:30pm. There will be a short meeting followed by a talk on motorcycle design evolution from Dr. Reg Eyre. (related Motorcycle Sport article is attached).

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February** – Coffee Morning at the Old Royal Ship, Luckington SN14 6PA from about 10:30am.

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March** – ADDITION TO THE SECTION CALENDAR – There will be an additional Wandering, to the Thames Head Inn off the A433 near Kemble. Again look out for email from Colin Smith in due course regarding pre-orders and information on any run to the venue. Thanks again to Colin and to Kevin Phillips for prompting another excuse to get out – it'll be Spring !!

### Major Events

**Bristol Classic Bike Show 24 & 25<sup>th</sup> February** – Kevin confirmed all is set for the Section stand – hope to see you there.

**Founders Relay Rally 28<sup>th</sup> April** – Volunteers are needed to man/woman the West Wilts checkpoint at The Bell for periods during the day – please contact Jon Hall. Refreshments will be available in the barn, by popular demand.

**Prescott Bike Festival** – it was decided not to arrange a stand given the need for multiple trips to set up in advance. Nevertheless a good event in a good cause - and do go early to see Martin Hirst open the hill on his Dart-JAP.

**JOGLE Run** - Martin has now received 28 deposits for the John O'Groats to Lands End run being organised by Tim James, so this is moving forward. Final payments will be required before 1<sup>st</sup> June. There is space for two more and beyond that a reserve list may be generated.

### AOB

**VMCC AGM and LARA:** Peter Fielding encouraged all members to vote on matters of interest to them at the AGM in March. In particular, resolution no.11 asks the VMCC Board to duly consider the views of members regarding VMCC membership of LARA (Land Access & Recreation Assoc'n). There was general agreement at the meeting that LARA is a valuable voluntary body working to protect motorcycle access to green lanes and other minor roads. In order to vote, members must either attend in person or nominate a proxy well in advance. Peter explained that voting by proxy can be set up either online via the VMCC website, or following the link <https://vmcc.net/AGM> or by completing and posting off the form included in the last VMCC journal. Peter will attend the AGM and is happy to act as proxy. You will need Peter's membership number, which is 969.

In addition it was unanimously agreed that a £50 donation would be made from Section funds to the LARA fighting fund.