

# VMCC WEST WILTS SECTION

## NEWSLETTER from Section Meeting 26<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2024

1. People – Welcome to Luke Woods who came along to the coffee morning at Honeystreet and the section meeting.

2. Recent events

a. The JOGLE: Tim James gave a summary account of the end to end run, which saw good weather and great humour. All credit is due to Tim and Sandra for their excellent organisation and running the support van for the event. Everyone reflected that it had been a smooth and very enjoyable run. Tim noted the key point that all 30 returned home safely which was most important. He remarked on some particular riders, John Bowler and Bob Smith, both taking part at 83 years old; and Jim Gaisford, using the one rest day to drive home from Penrith to swap his BSA Y13 for his BSA Empire Star to complete the run. The chairman echoed the speech and vote of thanks given by Mike Williams at the Land's End closing dinner; and as a gesture of gratitude from the section, proposed that Tim & Sandra's costs at the section Christmas dinner will be paid from section funds, which was wholeheartedly agreed by those present.

b. The Wandering to The Antelope Inn at Upavon 19<sup>th</sup> September was well attended with 17 people in total and an interesting route for the group ride.

c. The West Wilts Scamper went ahead on 22<sup>nd</sup> September despite wet conditions and heavy rain forecasts. Unfortunately conditions were unsuitable for very early machines, but 11 bikes took part of widely varying type. The chairman presented awards for the event; the full list of awards is:

- First rider home: Peter Fielding, 1926 BSA Sloper
- Machine the judges would most like to take home: Steve Sumner's 1926 BSA
- Best lady rider: Cath Sumner, 1930 BSA Sloper
- Most original machine: Paul Woodcock's 1963 Raleigh Supermatic
- Riding an Italian machine in the rain: Jon Hall, 1960 Guzzi Lodola
- A hard luck award was due to Simon Hewitt and his New Hudson – with thanks and special mention for Ray Payne Recovery Services Inc.
- The prize draw for two Mitas tyres was won by Simon Hewitt.

Thanks to all who participated and to the prize sponsor Steve Smith of Mitas tyres. Martin Hirst reported that the event, with entry fee reduced to £5, had broken even. A short discussion took place and feedback is being sought regarding a repeat event in 2025.

- d. Coffee Morning at Honeystreet 24<sup>th</sup> Sept. was again well-attended with a large number riding in individually or in small groups, plus a further group arriving via a gentle green lane run. A great and popular venue as usual.

### 3. Forthcoming events

- a. Treasurer's run Thurs 3<sup>rd</sup> October led by Martin Hirst from Aust Services (9:30 for 10am depart), coffee stop at Old Station café Tintern, destination the Drum & Monkey at Upton-upon-Severn for lunch at 1:30pm. Food pre-orders essential.
- b. Motorcycle Autojumble on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October at Planks Farm, Lydeaway, Devizes SN10 3PU, 9am – 2pm. Entry £5 per vehicle cash on the gate.
- c. There is no Green lane run in October (next one is Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November).
- d. Section meeting 10<sup>th</sup> October. 7:30pm as usual. No speaker, agenda will incl. discussion of proposed Section holiday in Wales, May 2025.
- e. Wandering 17<sup>th</sup> October to Hunter's Hall Inn, Kingscote nr. Tetbury/Nailsworth GL8 8XZ – details to come by email from Colin Smith.
- f. Section meeting 24<sup>th</sup> October with presentation on unusual Triumphs by John Young, who will bring along his ex-Martin Russell special framed TT F1 racer. Martin Hirst noted that donations on the night will go to John's chosen charity which is a children's hospice.
- g. Forest of Dean run Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October led by Jim Gaisford (details to come).
- h. Coffee Morning Tues 29<sup>th</sup> October, Crown's Café, REME museum, Lyneham.

### 4. AOB:

- i. The chairman presented the White Horse Trial trophy for Best West Wilts Rider to Colin Smith.
- j. Christmas Lunch: was confirmed as Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> December – lunchtime at the Old Royal Ship, Luckington.
- k. VMCC Journal contents/focus - members' feedback had been requested: Peter Fielding as Area Rep. gathered feedback against a list of specific points, which he will pass to VMCC. It was noted that the Journal is received at different times by different people; but it is available on-line, on the VMCC website. [Note, to access the VMCC website as a member you simply need your surname and membership number. A computer or smartphone is also handy].
- l. Hi-viz vests: Martin has ordered a further batch.