

VMCC WEST WILTS SECTION

NEWSLETTER 10th June '25

1. Recent events:

- a. The Treasurer's Run was attended by 20 bikes. Starting from Chippenham the group collected more riders en route, stopping at the Old Station, Tintern for coffee; a favoured stop for the club. Refreshed, the group headed for Monmouth along the beautiful Wye Valley, turning at Ross-on-Wye to enjoy the twisty A449 to Ledbury. Lunch was at the fabulous Rose & Crown at Redmarley d'Abitot where Ros and team served up a great lunch which was most welcome. The return route via Gloucester took in another stop at the Silver Fox Café before the final leg home. Thanks to Martin for organising and John & Sue Wiltshire for riding back marker. Martin will be leading a similar run in the Autumn.
- b. The green lane run on 8th July was a 50 mile gentle run over mainly gravel tracks and minor roads, passing the Westbury White Horse, over the Plain and East to the Ridgeway, with a leisurely coffee stop at the popular Honeystreet Café and a complementary flypast for the Ariel club at Sleight. Thanks again to Keith Johnston for arranging the run.

2. Forthcoming events

- a. The White Horse Scatter is on Sunday 13th July. Entries are now closed (at 101 entrants) and it will not be possible to enter on the day. **If anyone is able to donate a cake for the complimentary refreshments, please contact Richard and Alison; email: whitehorsescatter@gmail.com. Also please could people bring along spare copies of recent VMCC journals (the monthly VMCC magazine) which will be used to welcome prospective new VMCC members on the day.**
- b. There is a second BSB-supported motorcycle track day at Combe on 16th July, potentially with a number of top BSB riders using the track. This is a privately-run event but all are welcome to spectate, the circuit café is open and entry is free. This will be an informal extra coffee morning for the section, for those interested; 10am to midday.
- c. The July Wandering is on Thursday 17th July. The **NEW VENUE** is the Crown & Trumpet at Broadway, 12:30. Pre-orders are needed for lunch, so please look for Colin's recent email and let him have your food choices by Sunday 13th at the latest. Colin will lead a group ride via a coffee stop at the Old Prison near Northleach; departing Morrisons Chippenham at 10am prompt.
- d. On the 20th July the Wells Classic club has its Tortoise & Hare run (3 routes are available). Entry forms are on the Wells Classic website, or entry on the day is possible. See previous email on this for more info.
- e. Also on 20th July it's the Kingswood bike show (modern and classics), at the Rugby club ground on Grimsby Rd. (just off the A420 entering Kingswood), 10am – 2pm.
- f. Last but certainly not least, Jim Gaisford noted it's The VMCC Founder's Day Rally also on 20th July, a major and excellent event at Stamford Hall, Lutterworth.
- g. The next café meeting is **Wednesday 23rd July**, at Combe circuit, coinciding with a track day. Circuit entry is free; meeting 10am to noon as usual.
- h. On Thursday 24th we have a gentle green lane run to be led by Rich Kinsey, 45 miles looping around Devizes, details on Green Lane WhatsApp group.
- a. Next Section meeting is also Thursday 24th – 7:30pm at the Bell, Yatton Keynell.
- b. On Saturday 26th July it's the Calne bike day - Martin Hirst has confirmed that the Section has a stand at the Calne Bike Day on Saturday 26th July – all are welcome to ride in but please contact Martin if you would like to exhibit a bike for the day.
- c. Rounding off a busy month, there is a Breakfast meeting at The Flying Monk near Hullavington on Thursday 31st July, 10am to noon.

- d. Looking into August, Tim James is planning the memorial run for Thursday 7th August, details tbc but starting from Lacock (car park behind the Red Lion) at 10am prompt.

3. AOB

- a. As noted in the last newsletter, Peter Fielding and Keith Johnston have agreed to act as clerk of the course and event secretary for a 100th anniversary commemoration of the 1925 ISDT – the Commemorative run, on Sunday 10th August, will follow a route from Barford St. Martin nr. Salisbury to Cheddar, with many sections as used in 1925 (set up as a 75 mile tarmac route with 14 miles of optional off-road sections) and will be open to VMCC-eligible girder-fork or rigid rear end machines. The aim is pre-war machines, or machines in the spirit of the event. Navigation will be by route book. A recovery van has been arranged to support the event, recovering breakdowns to Cheddar. Keith noted there has been a good response with a total of 29 entrants so far, 18 on pre-war machines.
There's space for 21 more. Please contact Keith directly at keith.johnston55@hotmail.co.uk if you are interested or wish to check eligibility of a machine.
- b. Martin Hirst noted that the SumUp cashless payment unit is now ready for use to take contributions at events, talks etc.
- c. Royal Signals Festival at Kemble, 8-10th August – it was noted that owing to prior commitments that weekend it was not possible for West Wilts to organise a VMCC stand (not known whether Cotswolds will have a stand). It is understood that paying entry is open to past and present members of the Royal Signals only.