

VMCC WEST WILTS SECTION

Newsletter from meeting 27th Nov. '25

1. Recent Events

The Wandering to Thames Head 20th Nov. had a good turnout including many riders on a very cold day, with some managing two coffee/tea stops as well. Similarly the Coffee morning at the Old Royal Ship 25th Nov had the usual good attendance, with a wide range of bikes from gleaming Scott to beautifully patinated Cossack.

2. Forthcoming events

- a. Thursday 4th December – there's no mid-week run in December, so Kevin Phillips has organised a Christmas breakfast meeting at the highly popular Flying Monk brewery café near Hullavington SN14 6EU, 10am to midday, all welcome. **Don't forget to wear your best (worst) Christmas jumper!**
- b. Saturday 6th December – Christmas lunch at the Old Royal Ship, Luckington SN14 6PA. Please arrive by around 1pm so that everyone can be watered and seated ready for food to be served by 1:30pm.
- c. Thursday 11th December, 7:30pm at The Bell – section meeting and AGM. Please come along and have your say on any matters regarding VMCC West Wilts for 2026. AGM agenda and papers will be issued by email in early December, so if you wish to add something to the agenda, please let Jon Hall know by the end of November.
- d. Tuesday 16th December, 10am to noon, café meeting at the AV8 café, Cotswold Airport, Kemble (access off the A433) GL7 6BA.
- e. Note: the above concludes planned Section events for 2025. The Section calendar for 2026 will be issued shortly by email along with the AGM papers. Martin Hirst noted that Jacqui Furneaux has confirmed she will give a talk at the first Section meeting of 2026 (8th January), and she will bring along copies of her latest, and previous, travel books for sale.

3. Section Holiday 10-17th May 2026

Tim James reported that 12 of the 15 rooms provisionally booked at the Castle Green hotel have now been taken, for a mix of 5 and 7 nights. Further expressions of interest are still invited and it should be possible to secure additional rooms if required, provided requests are received soon. It was agreed that deposits of £100 per room will be taken, as usual this will be done through the Section (details to follow). The balance of payments are to be made next April. Keith Johnston has offered to lead some long day runs to Kielder Forest and the Scottish Borders; and Tim will lead 2 or 3 shorter runs including Cockermouth and Tan Hill.

4. **Film Night:** Footage of *BSA Maudes Trophy* [1952] and *Continental Circus* [1972] (46 mins edit) documentary films was shown. The films were courtesy of Steve Smith - a collection for Steve's chosen charity, Downs Syndrome association was taken totalling £90. Thanks to Steve for providing the films and attendees for their donations.