

# VMCC WEST WILTS SECTION

## AGM 11<sup>th</sup> December 2025: Secretary's Report

The past 12 months saw a continuation of all the Section's regular activities, including Mid-week and weekend runs, Wanderings, Café meetings, Full-day and Gentle Green Lane Runs, Section meetings and Section Holidays, all of which were well-attended. The introduction of Breakfast meetings at The Flying Monk on the "5<sup>th</sup> Thursday" of 5-week months as a regular fixture proved very popular. All of these activities will continue through 2026. Particular thanks are due to Colin & Linda Smith, Kevin & Carole Phillips, Keith Johnston and Tim & Sandy James for continuing to organise and lead the core activities. Thanks are also due to all Run Leaders and Tail End Markers, and it has been good to see new volunteers leading both road and green lane runs.

Over 2025 we have seen increased attendance across the board and welcomed many new faces. The average turnout across all events was 25 [2024: 22] and the average number riding was 15 [2024: 12]. The largest turnout was 48 people for the Breakfast Meeting at The Flying Monk on 30<sup>th</sup> January, and the greatest number of riders was 43 for the "Mayday Mayhem" mid-week ride on 1<sup>st</sup> May (no mayhem actually ensued).

The West Wilts Rider of the Year 2025 was a tie between Colin Smith and Jeff Berning, many congratulations to both.

A Section holiday in Wales was organised by Keith Johnston, based at the Metropole in Llandrindod Wells which proved a great base for day rides out into North and West Wales, led by Keith and others including friends from the local VMCC Section.

Once again the Section's premier event was the White Horse Scatter Navigation Event, with a tremendous turnout of over 80 riders on the day. This year the event secretaries were Richard and Alison Sansom, supported by Peter Fielding who has handed over the baton after very many years of involvement in organising the event. Clerk of the Course was Keith Johnston; again after many years in this role, Keith is stepping into a supporting role for 2026 and we are delighted that Richard Bayliffe has agreed to take over as Clerk of the Course. The 2025 White Horse Scatter was a hugely successful event which in the process enabled donations of £245 in total to Wiltshire Air Ambulance and LARA, as well as contributing to Section funds. The West Wilts Scamper for girder/rigid and small capacity VMCC-eligible bikes had its second year, this time with 25 riders, an average machine age of 80, and remarkably over 20 different marques of bike entered; again enjoyed by entrants and contributing positively to Section funds.

The Section has contributed circa £500 overall to good causes in FY25, derived from event entry fees as noted above and collections from members & other attendees at charity speaker/film nights.

During the darker, colder months we have maintained a programme of talks and other events at Section meetings. This will continue into 2026, along with some daytime meetings. Thanks are due to all our speakers; our film provider; our Quizmaster; and the late Ritchie Gill, pioneer of Calor Gas heating in the UK.

The 2026 Section Calendar is attached.

Jon Hall

VMCC West Wilts Section Secretary