

VMCC WEST WILTS SECTION

Newsletter 15th March 2026

1. Forthcoming events

- a. Tues 17th March – full day green lane run re-scheduled from the 10th – well subscribed already but see Green Lane WhatsApp group for info.
- b. Thursday 19th March – Wandering to the Lamb at Urchfont SN10 4QU. Ride to the venue, via a coffee stop, will be led by Colin Smith, leaving Morrisons Chippenham at 10am sharp. If you would like to eat at the pub, please send Colin your menu choice by Monday morning 16th at the latest.
- c. Tuesday 24th March – café meeting at Honeystreet Mill Café, SN9 5PS, 10am to midday.
- d. Thursday 26th March – evening (7:30pm) Section meeting and DocBike presentation, kindly arranged by Keith Johnston. This relates to the requests in 2025 for a “Biker Down!” session on dealing with riding incidents; a number of “CrashCards” will be available on the night.
- e. Thursday April 2nd - mid-week run will be led by Simon Hewitt. Start at Morrisons carpark Chippenham; 9:30am for 10am departure; coffee at Choppers Café near Burbage, lunch stop at a farmshop café near Hungerford, with return route to Chippenham. Total c. 100 miles.

2. VMCC Baton Relay

As shown in the Section calendar, on Sunday 12th April, we will have the VMCC Relay Baton handover to the South Cotswolds section at the AV8 café (Cotswold airport, Kemble GL7 6BA – access off A433). Meet from 10am; handover will be at 11am. A chance for a weekend ride/meet and to meet up with the South Cotswold section. Note: from the beginning of April the AV8 is opening on Sundays and Mondays albeit with a limited menu.

3. AOB

- a. Martin Hirst noted the “Bike & Brew” passport – an informal competition to encourage riders to visit a range of cafes around the country over the April to September period, partly in aid of a mental health charity. Some of these cafes may be built into future rides but in any event, a prompt for informal rides.
- b. Peter Fielding proposed that his New Forest Run this Summer be a more direct route, going to the Sammy Miller Museum with time to visit the museum and/or the café there, rather than the longer ride and pub lunch of previous years. This was agreed by those present, more details to follow nearer the date.
- c. Simon Hewitt proposed to organise a run to the Festival of 1000 Bikes at Mallory Park in July. There was general interest in this, and the preferred date is the Sunday, 5th July (which will feature race bikes on track parades), albeit this coincides with Brooklands bike day. Again details will be finalised nearer the time, but the plan for the run is attached. Distance is approx. 100 miles each way.
- d. Jon Wiggins noted that there is a “Classic Bike Burn-Up” track day event at Combe on Friday 10th and Saturday 11th April. It’s anticipated that the Section will meet informally at the circuit, and as with previous years it’s free to spectate and there are classic parades at lunchtime [see Combe race circuit website for more info.]

4. Bring & Buy/Swap

We had a variety of parts, tools and clothing, some of which changed hands (some even for money!) Thanks to those taking part and for contributions received to Section funds. Later in the year we have an auction planned with proceeds going to Section funds and will be looking for donations of items – we’ll be aiming for an interesting/entertaining/useful mix of stuff and this time will look at producing a simple catalogue of items ahead of the event.