

VMCC WEST WILTS SECTION







Newsletter 28th May 2026

Recent events:

- First Combe Bike night of 2026 went ahead with about 60 bikes turning up in mixed weather. Rob Jones will advise when next date is set.
- The May gentle green lane run had to be cancelled owing to poor weather but it is hoped the route (in North Somerset) can be used at a future date; many thanks to Jerry Hole for the effort of preparing and checking out the route.
- The May Wandering to Swanborough was enjoyed by all, with a good turnout of over twenty people in total.
- The coffee morning at Slight Valley saw 13 riders enjoying a chat and drinks in the very welcome shade.
- Peter Fielding noted that he and several others from local sections had met up with Jeanette and Ross Bradley on their E2E charity ride this week.

Coming up

- The June **mid-week run on Thursday 4th June will be to the Sammy Miller motorcycle museum**. The run will start at Starbucks near Melksham (SN12 6AD) and go directly to Shaftesbury then cut across to Cranborne (coffee stop) before running down through the New Forest and its scenic drives to the museum. Return route via Wilton (tea stop) back to Melksham. About 150 miles in total with about 3 hours lunch/museum stop. To fit in the New Forest scenic drives and the museum **we will leave Melksham at 9:30am**, and use the A350 for the first/last 25 to 30 miles. Given the overall distance and mix of roads, bikes capable of running with 'A' road traffic are suggested, to avoid the group becoming too stretched out or holding up traffic. We will take a weather check during the week but barring a very bad forecast the run will go ahead.
- Simon Hewitt has kindly offered to lead a ride to see the VMCC Banbury run on Sunday 7th June; this will be an 8am gathering at Morrisons Chippenham for an 8:30am departure – details attached.
- Other **June** events below (see extract from current Section Calendar). Details of the Green Lane Run on 9th June will be published on the Green Lane WhatsApp group next week; Keith Johnston is leading as usual and is planning a route into the Cotswolds, starting outside The Bell at Yatton Keynell. Note the Gentle GLR on 16th June will not take place owing to clash with other Summer events. It may be re-arranged (again, see Green Lane WhatsApp group for any updates) but otherwise the next Gentle GLR will be in July (Tuesday 14th July).

07 June 2025	Sunday	8am		The Banbury Run Run	to Gaydon + viewing point for the VMCC Banbury Run	Simon Hewitt
09 June 2026	Tuesday	tba		Green Lane Run	tba via WW Green Lane WhatsApp group	Keith Johnston
11 June 2026	Thurs	7:30pm		Section Meeting	The Bell, Yatton Keynell SN14 7BG	Jon Hall
18 June 2026	Thurs	10am		Wandering	The Who'd A Thought It, Lockeridge SN8 4EL	Colin Smith
23 June 2026	Tuesday	10am		Café Meeting	AV8 Café, Cotswold Airport GL7 6BA (access off A433)	Kevin Phillips
25 June 2026	Thurs	7:30pm		Section Meeting	The Bell, Yatton Keynell SN14 7BG	Jon Hall

AOB

- On Saturday 27th June, we are planning to have a motorcycle escort for Jeff Berning's son's wedding; riding from Lucknam Park to Biddestone. All very welcome to join. Meet outside the Bell Inn at 2:30 – 2.45pm to ride as a group over to Lucknam Park; then the escort ride departing Lucknam at 3:30pm.

- Earlier on Saturday 27th it's the Motorsports Summer bash at Combe race circuit. There is likely to be a VMCC West Wilts stand, and general entry is free to the event. Rob Jones noted that top riders including James Toseland will be doing demonstration laps, and it is hoped there will be parade laps for classic bikes open to VMCC members for a small fee/contribution.
- Ray Payne proposed an informal run to Poole Bike Night – given the weather forecast and other events this won't be the upcoming Poole bike night on 2/6/26 but probably the next one, again subject to weather; Ray will arrange via the WhatsApp group near to the date.
- Further ahead: Volunteers are wanted to help with marshalling - just a 2 hour stint - of the Calne bike day on Saturday July 25th. Please contact Martin Hirst if you can help.
- Section informal 2026 holiday #2: as previously noted, Richard and Alison Sansom are planning to repeat the successful Spring trip to mid-Wales, based at the Metropole hotel in Llandindrod Wells. Things are firming up for mid-August, with people making their bookings with the hotel now. Please contact Richard (email cressman@live.co.uk) for more information if you're interested in joining.