

VMCC WEST WILTS SECTION

Newsletter 29th June 2026

Recent events

- June's Wandering to the Who'd A Thought It in Lockeridge was attended by 20 bikes, with Colin and Linda leading a ride to the venue. Welcome back to Rodney Manners who joined the ride on his Velocette.
- The café meeting on 23rd June was at AV8 Café, Cotswold Airport – an indoor gathering in the very welcome air-conditioned café with outside temperatures climbing into the 30's.
- In connection with the White Horse Scatter, following requests from some entrants, there was a workshop session looking at route navigation and planning, organised by Richard and Alison Sansom.
- Martin Hirst kindly set up a section stand at the MPS Motorsports family day at Combe circuit on Saturday 27th and we had a tremendously varied display of 11 bikes including Martin's Dart-JAP, Brenda & Martin Foot's Douglas 90 Plus racer, Graham Waite's Ducati racer and Les Wrightons' Triumph police bike.
- Later a select group made up a motorcycle escort for the bride's car at Jeff Berning's son's wedding which was greatly appreciated: for more and better stuff on this see Facebook! Congratulations all round!!

Events coming up

- Thursday 2nd July – *change to calendar [swap of July's Mid-week run and Wandering]*: this will be the Wandering to The Old Mill at Withington (North-East of Cirencester) GL54 4BE. Colin Smith will lead a ride to the venue with coffee stop at the Classic Motor Hub, Ablington Old Walls. The ride will depart at 10am from Morrisons Chippenham car park. **Food pre-orders by Monday to Colin please.**
- The proposed club run to the Mallory Park 1,000 Bikes Revival will not go ahead owing to limited interest.
- Tuesday 7th July – Green Lane Run – full day run – info. to come from Keith Johnston on Green Lane WhatsApp group.
- Thursday 9th July – Section meeting, 7:30pm at the Bell as usual.
- Sunday 12th July – White Horse Scatter – entries are full but spectators are very welcome at the start/finish point: The Three Magpies, Sells Green near Melksham SN12 6RW, from around 8am to 4pm. **Note: there will be an evening pre-event social at the Three Magpies on the Saturday evening (11th July) with some of the entrants travelling and staying locally overnight, everyone is welcome.**
- Tuesday 14th July – gentle green lane ride will be the Two Combes Tootle, from The Bell past Castle Combe up to Battlescombe on a mix of little-used back roads and green lanes; with return along the Fosseyway. Details on green lane WhatsApp group nearer the date.
- Thursday 16th July – is now the Treasurer's run to Upton-upon-Severn; again details to follow nearer the date.
- Tuesday 21st July – Café meeting at Malmesbury Garden Centre (SN16 9JL) 10am to midday.
- There is a bike night at Castle Combe on Weds. 22nd July, 6-8pm. As ever, check social media on the day if weather is dodgy; and the magic words for free entry on the gate are "West Wilts VMCC". Many thanks to Rob Jones.

Other events in June and onwards

- 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 Llandrindod Wells. Things are firming up for mid-August, with people making their accommodation bookings now. **Note: alternative B&B accommodation is also available, see <https://www.riverbankbedandbreakfast.com/>.** Please contact Richard Sansom (email cressman@live.co.uk) for more information if you're interested in joining.
- The West Wilts Scamper – Sunday 23rd August - entries are currently fewer than 20, but noting that many section members from previous years are yet to re-enter. There is no entry deadline and entry on the day (£5) is always possible, but it helps the organisers to have entries early where possible please. The format is similar to previous years (a route-mapped run for girder fork or rigid frame machines or **any** bike under 250cc, starting from the Bell in Yatton Keynell) and there are modified routes this year plus options of gentle green lane sections. For more info. contact Jon Hall.
- Jon Wiggins is organising a Flat Tank and Low-Powered Run for Swindon Moonrakers on 9th August, starting in Royal Wootton Bassett. The spirit of the event is for machines as noted, but the run is open to VMCC-eligible machines up to 250cc.