

VMCC WEST WILTS SECTION

NEWSLETTER 8th Oct. 2026

Recent events

- October's mid-week run was the Memorial Run, led by Tim James. Around 20 riders headed down towards Somerset with coffee stop at the Pickleberry Café near Bratton and looping back for lunch at The Fox & Hounds, Devizes. A nice gentle run especially back around the edge of the plain, with only a lost footrest and a very localised petrol shortage (soon rescued thanks to Steve and Jayne Iles) interrupting the flow. Thanks again to Tim and Sandy for a smooth run and perfectly organised lunch.

Coming up

- Thurs October 15th – Wandering is now to The Thames Head Inn (on the A433 near Kemble/Tarlton) as the planned venue the Daneway Inn sadly remains temporarily closed. Pre-orders are required for lunch, see email from Colin Smith with menu. Weather permitting there will be a ride out to the venue with coffee stop en route, departing Morrisons Chippenham at 10am.
- Sunday October 18th – The always-popular Forest of Dean run led by Jim Gaisford and one of our rare weekend runs. Will depart Fox & Hounds car park, Acton Turville, at 10am.
- Tues. 20th October – Café Meeting at Crown's Café, REME Museum, Lyneham SN15 4PT, 10am to noon.
- Thurs 22nd October – Section meeting with the first of our Autumn/Winter events: a talk by John Young - not on Tridents or even Elephants this time, but on Quasars, the feet-first Reliant-engined semi-enclosed motorcycle conceived by the late Malcolm Newell, creator of many and varied feet-first machines from his home workshop near Heddington. Only around 20 Quasars were manufactured, in Bristol and then Calne. John recently acquired one and plans to bring it along. Promises to be an entertaining and fascinating evening. Please note that as usual John gives his time and travelling costs free for his talks, taking a charity collection in aid of a children's hospice. Please bring cash donations along to make things easy on the night.
- Thurs 29th October – yes it's a 5-week month so a Breakfast meet at the Flying Monk café near Hullavington SN14 6EU; 10am to midday.

AOB – Dave Waldron kindly offered to lead a 'St. George's Day' run in 2027 on the nearest weekend – Sunday 27th April 2027. It's in the section calendar Dave - many thanks!

Presentation of White Horse Scatter awards – Richard and Alison Sansom, joint secretaries of the 2026 White Horse Scatter, introduced the White Horse Scatter Awards.

Ben Preston gave a short presentation on the Docbike charity and its activities. DocBike were present at the WHS event field and are scheduled to give the West Wilts Section a full evening talk and demonstrations in Spring 2027. Dana Jacomb of DocBike kindly presented the winners with their awards.

Immense thanks are due to Richard and Alison for their hard work and achievement in running the White Horse Scatter for the last two years, both of which events were fully subscribed and highly enjoyable. Thanks equally to Richard Bayliffe, Clerk of the Course.

Thanks to all entrants and especially to those travelling from far away to attend the awards evening. [Hope you got the memo about wrapping up warm for the barn 😊]

A few images from the Scatter awards are below, congratulations again to the winners.



Ben Preston giving his
“DocBike” overview.



Jon Wiggins receiving the
award for best performance on
a veteran machine.



Chris Brown receiving the
award for best performance on
a late vintage solo machine.



Chris Wastell receiving the
award for best performance on
a post vintage solo machine.



Nicholas Kotarski receiving the award for best performance on a late classic solo machine.



Di Walker receiving the award for best performance by a lady rider.



Ben's DocBike.