

VMCC West Wilts Section – 27th July 2023 Meeting Newsletter

People

There was a vote of thanks to Peter Fielding and Keith Johnston for organization of the White Horse navigation event as covered in the last newsletter and below. The club welcomed new VMCC member Colin Dennis.

Recent Events

White Horse Trial: Final results have been issued and distributed by email for the White Horse Scatter Navigation Event which took place on Sunday 9th July. A report will appear in a future VMCC Journal. Congratulations again to winners and all entrants.

On Thursday 20th the Wandering to The Grill on the Hill at Swanborough was well attended with over 20 present. Colin Smith led a group of 14 bikes there with coffee/tea stops at Poulton and the Dragonfly Café near Oaksey.

Tuesday 25th July's coffee morning at Honeystreet Mill Café was also well attended with 13 bikes joining.

Weds 26th was a damp bike night at Castle Combe race circuit but with a decent turnout in general and from the club. Following that, a further bike night at Combe is planned on 30th August. Rob Jones kindly arranged a dedicated area for club members and Martin thankfully brought the gazebo!

The Gentle Green Lane run on Thursday 27th July was a long run on minor roads and gravel tracks. Two groups led by Keith and Don had another enjoyable day around Salisbury Plain

Forthcoming Events

Martin has organised a stand at the Calne bike meet on Saturday 29th July and has offers of bikes for display, with space for more. Assistance in setting up stand/gazebo early on Saturday morning would be welcome (around 7:30 - 8am).

Also on Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th July is the Motorcycle Grand National race weekend at Castle Combe, with extra parade laps for classic race bikes this year.

The Bill Little memorial run on 3rd August is to the White Hart at Cricklade, led by Tim James. Start will be at Silbury Hill car park, 10am prompt departure. Menu has been circulated already by email and **as previously noted, food must be ordered in advance please**. Tim kindly agreed to repeat this run next year, with a different route and destination.

For the Wandering on 17th August, as the Mill at Withington has closed, Colin has found a suitable pub near Mere plus café en route; arrangements to be confirmed. Food will need to be pre-ordered, Colin will send a menu out next week. Based on a show of hands, there is interest in a run from Chippenham to the venue; Colin will advise.

All forthcoming events for July/August are listed in the calendar extract below.

Looking further ahead, Derek noted that the annual Yatton Keynell village fete is on Saturday 16th September and we have been invited again to display and possibly parade bikes. There was a general show of support for this.

Speakers

Four speakers have been booked already for club meetings during the darker months, others are wanted so we can have one or hopefully two per month. Several suggestions were made in the meeting, including motorcycling-related film nights, a display of other hobbies in the section, and fewer Archers questions in Brian's annual quiz. Further suggestions and contacts for speakers (and films) are welcome.

These will be worked up into the updated section calendar which will be re-issued in August. Post-meeting note: for various scheduling reasons the AGM may be moved from November to 14th December.

AOB

It was agreed to purchase a club laptop to be used for maintaining and distributing club records and for the use of speakers giving Powerpoint/video presentations.

Tim James gave an update on provisional plans for a 2024 JOG-LE run, setting off from Wick on Sunday 8th Sept. 2024. There were continued expressions of interest. Tim is developing more details in August, when it would be publicized in the Journal and elsewhere, aiming to get a total of 30+ riders with ideally 6-8 or more from the West Wilts section.

Forthcoming Events calendar for July and August

Date	Day	Time	Activity	Venue	Organiser/Contact
JULY 2023					
29-July	Sat		Calne Bike Meet	Calne: VMCC Section stand nr. Sainsbury's	Martin Hirst
29 and 30 July	Sat & Sun	See Combe website	Castle Combe Motorcycle Grand National Race Weekend	Castle Combe race circuit	Rob Jones
AUGUST					
3-Aug	Thurs	10 am	President's Run [Bill Little Memorial Run]	Finish: White Hart Cricklade. Start Silbury Hill car park, depart 10am prompt	Tim James 07517 660519
9-Aug	Wed	Tba	Green lane run	tba; please contact Keith	Keith Johnston
10-Aug	Thurs	7.30 pm	Section Meeting	The Bell, Yatton Keynell, SN14 7BG	
17-Aug	Thurs	12 noon	Wandering*	Pub near Mere (details tbc) with run from Morrisons Chippenham dep.10am	Colin Smith
20-Aug	Sunday	10.00 am	Harvest Run – Moonraker Section	Sainsbury's Royal Wootton Bassett	Brian Newbury 01249 464319
24-Aug	Thurs	09:30 am	Gentle Green Lane run	tba; please contact Keith	Keith Johnston
24-Aug	Thurs	7.30 pm	Section Meeting	The Bell, Yatton Keynell, SN14 7BG	
29-Aug	Tue	10.30 am	Coffee morning	Sleight Valley Golf Cafe, Sleight Lane, Devizes, SN10 3HW	Kevin Phillips
30 Aug	Weds	6pm	Bike night at Combe	Castle Combe race circuit	Rob Jones