

VMCC West Wilts Section – 10th August 2023 Meeting Newsletter

People

The club welcomed Owen, Elizabeth and Graham, attending as visitors.

Recent Events

The Memorial run on 3rd August to the White Hart at Cricklade, led by Tim James, had 19 bikes from pre-war to modern on a good loop from Silbury hill East and across the Lambourn Downs in decent weather, with more bikes joining at the pub. Tim has kindly agreed to repeat this run next year, with a different route and destination.

The Green Lane run on Thursday 10th August had been another long and very enjoyable ride in Devon.

Rob Jones thanked members who had turned out for the Bike Night at Castle Combe, well-attended despite the rain.

Forthcoming Events

A number of people noted the annual Sharpness vintage/classic vehicle show is coming up – Jim Gaisford has confirmed the date is Wednesday August 16th, starting at 3pm.

For the Wandering on 17th August, Colin has organized the Walnut Tree Inn at Mere (BA12 6BH) for 1pm. Colin will also lead a run to the venue, departing Morrisons Chippenham at 10am with café en route; plus a return route with a further stop. Food at the Walnut Tree will need to be pre-ordered by Monday 14th August; Colin has sent a menu out by email.

Brian Newbury is leading the Moonrakers Harvest Run on 20th August, departing 10am from Sainsbury's in Royal Wootton Bassett; all welcome. The run will end at the Volunteer Inn in Great Somerford.

The next Gentle Green Lane run is Thursday 24th August, please contact Keith directly on this.

The next coffee morning is on Tuesday 29th August at the Sleight Valley driving range near Devizes, from around 10am onwards as usual.

Among events at Castle Combe race circuit this month, on Friday 25th August there is a classic bike track day, with free spectator entry and opportunity to join the parade laps (see recent emails on this for parade cost and entry requirements). In addition, there's another bike night on Wednesday 30th August, 6pm - 8:30pm, free entry.

Looking into September, Martin has set an informal meeting with the Dorset section at their coffee morning on Saturday 16th September, at the Thorngrove Garden Centre in Gillingham. Later the same day (2 to 5pm) is the Yatton Keynell village fete and as noted at last meeting by Derek, the organisers are keen to feature a 'classic and interesting motorcycles' display, which we aim to support.

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

Speakers

As noted last time, four speakers have been booked already for club meetings during the darker months, others are wanted (some offers have been received) so we can have one or hopefully two per month. The suggestions made at the last and this meeting will be followed up, and further suggestions/contacts for speakers (and films) are very welcome.

These will be worked up into the updated section calendar which will be re-issued in August. For various scheduling reasons the AGM has been moved from November to 14th December. The previous date of 9th November will instead feature Brian Newbury's ever-popular Quiz of the Year.

AOB

Tim James gave an update on provisional plans for a 2024 JOG-LE run with some minor changes, now setting off from Wick on Saturday 7th Sept. 2024 (meaning transport will leave on Thursday 5th) and with the last day Friday 13th Sept.

based in Penzance. There were continued expressions of interest. The run will be publicized in the September VMCC Journal as an article, aiming to get a total of 30 to 40 riders with ideally 6-8 or more from the West Wilts section.

Keith Johnston is developing a proposal for a “pre-war and low power machines” event to be run by the Section in 2024 covering suitable minor roads very broadly centred around Malmesbury (ie North of the M4, reaching East into the Cotswold Water Park area and West of Castle Combe), open for entry by riders in and outside the West Wilts section. A draft of the proposal is attached with this newsletter, so that all might think about this and bring suggestions to the next meeting on 24th August where it will be discussed in more depth. Subject to that discussion, a dry (!) run would be planned for this Autumn restricted to West Wilts-related entrants only.

Forthcoming Events calendar for August and September

Date	Day	Time	Activity	Venue	Organiser/Contact
			AUGUST		
16-Aug	Weds	3pm	Sharpness Vintage Meet	Sharpness Docks	See web for info
17-Aug	Thurs	12 noon	Wandering*	Walnut Inn, Mere BA12 6BH with run from Morrisons Chippenham dep.10am	Colin Smith
20-Aug	Sunday	10.00 am	Harvest Run – Moonraker Section	Sainsbury’s Royal Wootton Bassett (run ends at Volunteer Inn, Great Somerford)	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	
25-Aug	Friday	All day	Classic bike track day	Castle Combe race circuit	Combe website
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
SEPTEMBER					
7-Sept	Thurs	10 am	September Midweek Run	Fox & Hounds, Acton Turville	Derek Daniels
14-Sept	Thurs	7.30 pm	Section Meeting	The Bell, Yatton Keynell, SN14 7BG	
16-Sept	Saturday	10am	Dorset section coffee meet	Thorngrove Garden Centre, Gillingham	Martin Hirst
16-Sept	Saturday	2 – 5pm	Yatton Keynell Village Fete Classic Bikes Display	Yatton Keynell	Derek Daniels
17-Sept	Sunday	10.00 am	Autumn Run – Moonraker Section	Sainsbury’s Royal Wootton Bassett	Brian Newbury
21-Sept	Thurs	12 noon	Wandering*	Thames Head at Coates GL7 6NZ	Colin Smith
26-Sept	Tuesday	10.30 am	Coffee morning	Compton Abbas Airfield Cafe, Compton Abbas, SP5 5AP	Kevin Phillips
28-Sept	Thurs	09.30	Gentle Green Lane Run	tba. please contact Keith	Keith Johnston
28-Sept	Thurs	7.30 pm	Section Meeting	The Bell, Yatton Keynell, SN14 7BG	