

## VMCC West Wilts Section – 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023 Meeting Newsletter – with REVISED diary to end of 2023

### Recent Events

Keith Johnson led another section Gentle Green lane runs on the 13<sup>th</sup> Sept meeting at Sleight Farm Café and with the usual mixture of Serows and Honda CRF's machines were used. 6 members attended and this was the last opportunity to ride the Ridgeway before its Winter closure on the 30<sup>th</sup> September. The planed Green Lane run for 28<sup>th</sup> September was cancelled as being too close to those members getting ready for the Colombres Rally in Spain.

Kevin Phillips arranged a coffee morning for the section at Compton Abbas Field on the 26<sup>th</sup> September which was supported by 6 riders. Reports back suggest that the venue was a bit disappointing with the recommendation from Kev that we perhaps should think twice before considering this venue again.

The Wandering on Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> October was led by Colin Smith and 11 bikes assembled at Morrisons at 10:00AM ready for departure. Coffee stop was at the Whitehall Garden centre Woodbrough and then on to the Waggon and Horses at Beckhampton where 16 sat down for lunch. Excellent food and even the addition of a few more than planned eating didn't seem to trouble the pub staff.

At our club night meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> October the club was very pleased to welcome our first speaker of the year, and Bristol Author, Adventurer and Royal Enfield rider Jacqui Ferneau gave an entertaining account of her 7 year travels and adventures to a captivated audience of 30 section members.

NOTE: I have had a message back from Jacqui to let all members know how much she enjoyed the eventing and is looking forward to joining us again in the future.

### Forthcoming Events

The low-powered machines 'try-out' run on **Sunday 15th October** is open to all section members on any machine, and will be led by Tony Barnett, starting (10am departure) with a coffee stop en route and ending at the Bell Inn, Yatton Keynell estimated around 1pm - please pre-book with the Bell if you plan to stay for lunch. Martin Hirst will open up for signing on at the Bell from 09:30.

The Wandering lead by Colin Smith on **Thursday 19th October** will now be to The Pheasant on Bath Road in Chippenham. Assembling at Morrisons car park for a move off time of 10:00AM. Please note Colin has also now moved the lunch booking at the Pheasant to 1:00PM from the originally planned 12:30.

Despite originally not planning to hold a Gentle Green Lane run for October due to the close proximity (and possible Injury!) to the Colombres Rally Keith Johnson has proposed a Gentle Green lane ride for **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October**. Those wishing to attend should contact Keith through the WhatsApp group as normal.

Jim Gaisford is to lead the Forest of Dean run **Sunday 22nd October** full details are to be confirmed but Jim has promised a route avoiding the Severn Bridge (M48) weekend closures. The Silver Fox café at Newnham has been proposed as a possible coffee stop and Jim is investigating. Start point is the Fox and Hounds at Acton Turville with a 10:00 start time. Jim stated that the lunch stop was limited to 2 choices for lunch and will get a menu so interested section members can choose and lunches booked.

**31<sup>st</sup> October** Coffee Morning Orchid Café Holt Road Bradford On Avon. -Kevin Phillips

**26<sup>th</sup> October** Section Meeting at the Bell with talk by John Young.

NOTE: meetings through the Winter season where we have speakers will start at 7:30.

**2<sup>nd</sup> November** New Forest Run – Meeting at the former Chocolate Poodle - Peter Fielding.

Peter requested a show of hands from those in the room proposing to attend and interest was good.

### **AOB**

John O'Groats to Land's End Run Interest is very good in the event; now sufficient above the 30 needed to make it viable and Tim James and others continue to work on plans and support for club members. Dates are 5th to 14th September 2024 (5th depart by coach to Scotland, 14th depart independently from Land's End). All route, accommodation and transport arrangements have now been provisionally made and are available from Tim. As before, if you are interested and have not yet signed up, please contact Tim now.

Bristol classic bike show: Following Kevin Phillips' suggestion that the section organize a stand at the Bristol classic bike show (24/25 Feb. 2024), and the good level of interest in this, we have been in touch with the organisers who advised that entries for stand bookings will open soon.

Derek Daniels has been in touch with the Ship at Lucking regarding the section Christmas Lunch and after a short discussion the date of **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December** was agreed for the event.

Prices are as follows:-

2 courses £25.95

3 courses £30.95

We are informed that the pub is fairly flexible on accommodating Section members but expressions of interest for attending would be appreciated and a further discussion at the next section meeting is planned.

Peter Fielding spoke about and displayed the new White Horse Trial award which is to be presented in memory of former section Bill Little for the best 2 stroke, informing members that he had been approached by Bills Widow who had generously funded the award for the section.

The meeting was made aware of 2 section members who were in hospital and details were being gathered for anyone who wished to visit.

M Hirst (Treasurer) temp Secretary