

VMCC Warwickshire Section Newsletter

news letter No. 64

July 2025

We will need entries for our revamped Coventry Parade to be in by the end of July so that we can get a programme printed with a list of the entrants and their bikes. A lot of time -and money- has been invested in this event so if you are undecided then please go for it. Let's make it a memorable event-for the right reasons. All entrants will receive an excellent pin badge designed by Malcolm.



Chairman's Chat Banbury or Bamburgh? That is the question...

I hope many of you attended this year's Banbury Run, either as a rider, marshal, or spectator. And I hope you will share your experiences in this or a future newsletter. This year was an unfortunate clash of dates (both on Sunday 8th June) so we decided to head north and take part in the Bamburgh run. Starting in the neat and pretty village of Etal, the Run passes through uncluttered country roads to our tea stop - 32 miles away at the Cheviot Centre in Wooler - with hot drinks, and light bites kindly supplied by the local WI. Our return journey of 36 miles, took us through more pretty villages such as Linton Burnfoot, Cornhill, and Morpeth...to name just a few, arriving back at Etal village hall for more Tea and Cake. All navigational duties being performed faultlessly by Simon aboard his wonderful Rudge.

But our visit to Northumberland was not just confined to old motorcycles. This adventure gave us a chance for a small family holiday, and to meet up with Grandson Frankie, pitched up next to us at the camp site. Places of interest to visit include Bamburgh, complete with very impressive castle and long sandy beach, Alnwick, a super town with the famous 'Barter Books' situated inside the Old Victorian train station...if you love books this is the place to go! And not forgetting Holy Island (Lindisfarne) a very special place indeed.. Just pay attention to the tide times.

David Kendall

Recommended...Ford Bridge Campsite 07825 001425



David on his 1930's Cotton



A great view of Lindisfarne

Skee Ball.....an update

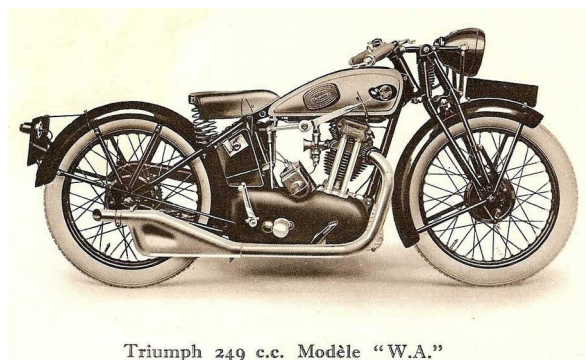
You may remember last month Peter Knight asked for assistance in identifying the bike that his grandfather won in a fairground Skee Ball game. A very swift reply came from Jenny Westwood:

“Regarding Peter Knight's enquiry about the motorcycle his Grandfather won in a 'Skee Ball' competition. I believe it is a Triumph 249cc Model WA. The silencer is very distinctive, and the larger Triumphs of the time had



a very obvious sidecar lug on the front frame down tube. It is likely to be a 1931 model as the 1932 one had a slightly more elaborate tank badge.

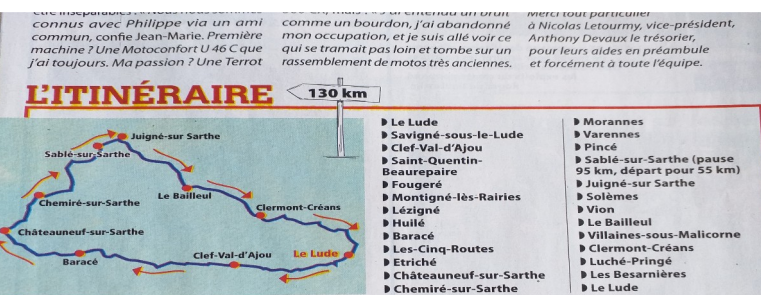
I had never heard of 'Skee Ball'. I lived in Ramsgate for a couple of years in the 1980's, but never ventured into the amusement arcades. The attached image is from a French Triumph catalogue. Of course, Ramsgate isn't far from France. Hope this solves the mystery”



Triumph 249 c.c. Modèle "W.A."

Malcolm and Judith.....their French connection

If you fancy adding a continental feel to your next Newsletter, a photo of Malcolm & me appeared in a French motorcycle magazine in Dec last year. Photos attached - including the route we did in Sept 2024.



Visit to Guernsey 80th Liberation celebrations

by Sarah Brooke-Taylor

Our hope to take both of my WW2 bikes to Guernsey for the 80th Liberation Tour failed to materialise. Three days before we set off the 1939 G3WO stripped it's oil pump gears. Parts are hard to come by and, combined with the time factor, we had no choice but to leave that one at home. So we headed off towing just the G3L behind the jeep. On the plus side this meant we had extra space on the trailer to add another kit bag! We arrived in Guernsey to a busy timetable. Various historic sites were visited on Wednesday, and school visits took place on Thursday. The locals were very forgiving but I'm sure a few must have regretted their decision to let a green vehicle ahead of them, only to realise that there was another 20 or so behind!

Then it was the big parade on Friday 9th May. Lining up nearly 300 WW2 military vehicles in the correctly numbered order took all morning and shortly after lunch we set off around the north of the island to St Peter Port. Classic cars and tractors joined us along the way (making 350 vehicles in total) and it felt that most of the islanders had turned out to cheer us on. The vehicles parked up for a few hours at St Albert Pier after the parade so we were then free to enjoy an ice cream and the various celebration activities. Saturday saw residential homes, pubs and hotels visited by military vehicles together with an opportunity to do your own thing. The forecast for Sunday was heavy rain so a talk and film showing were organised for those not heading home. We had to head home though (work beckoned). Packing up in the rain was no fun and we also caught a few showers on the mainland as we neared home.

This event only happens every five years (to give the Guernsey volunteers time to recover!) but it's well worth the effort and I would recommend it to anyone with a WW2 motorbike.



Images taken
from the
internet



What we have done in the past month

Club Night Wed June 11th Bike night + Fish and Chip Supper

Perfect weather helped to make this annual ritual a good one. Around 30 members, mostly arriving on bikes, enjoyed fish and chips 'al fresco'. Some nice bikes to talk about added to the occasion.



pop-up meet at The pavilion Cafe, Lighthorne.

These short notice informal events are so popular. We had around 2 dozen members and bikes on a lovely summers day at a great location. Here are a few piccies:



Cassington Bike Night

I, personally, have been attending this annual event for 12 years and it always special. Held in a village just north of Oxford on the last Monday of June every year. It attracts literally thousands of bikers from all over the country. There are no special events or prizes. Its primary purpose is to raise funds for the local school and community projects. It is always trouble free and gently marshalled by local volunteers.

Quite a few of our members meet up down there and partake of the hot drinks, bacon rolls and cakes served by local ladies from the village hall.

The 'night' reference is a bit misleading as when we arrive early/mid afternoon there are many bikes there already, classics on the village green, others in school grounds, farmyards, side roads and a huge sports field.

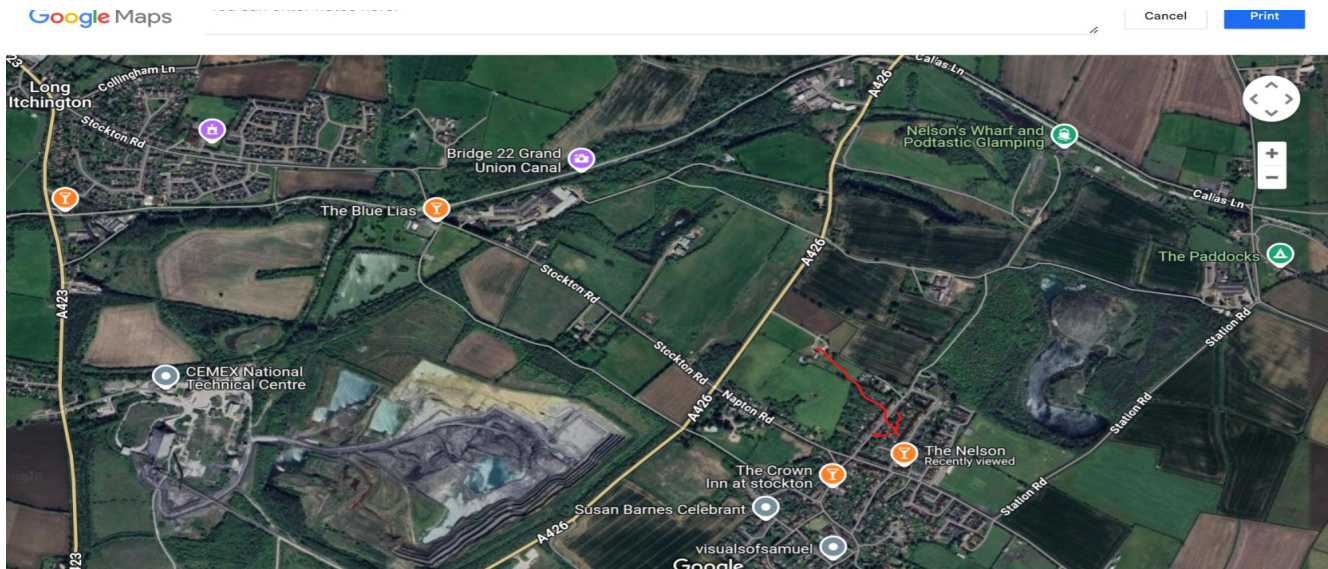
Too late for this year but add it to next years calendar.



Upcoming events

Wednesday, 2nd July. Chairman's Social. Nelson Club, Stockton

Please note the change of venue. This annual event has been held at the Blue Lias for a number of years but this year circumstances have resulted in a change to this location.



The Nelson will be laying on a buffet **still only £5** for us so we hope that lots of hungry members will support this event as they have done in past years. Lets give the locals a great show of bikes. From 7.00pm as usual.

Pailton Steam Event **a change to our previous arrangement**
The same venue and rides plus other attractions to entertain visitors.
The venue is Fairfield House, Coventry Rd, Nr. Pailton. Venue Well signed.

This year we are to become part of the Pailton Village Fete. To be held on July 6th From 12.00pm – 4.00pm. Same picturesque venue. The club have arranged for bikes to enter without charge to riders. We have our own pitch to show off our machines. The fete includes hot and cold food stalls, live music and a licenced bar. The usual boat and train rides will be running. Usually a small entry fee is required but we have promised a donation so riders can enter free. Just say you are with the VMCC. This event has attracted crowds of several hundred.! Promises to be a great event to show off our bikes.

Wednesday 9th July Club Night at K.R.C. 'Bring a bike night'

Come on your bike to the rear car park. The more, the merrier.

Forthcoming attraction!

The new look Coventry Parade. SUN. 10th AUGUST 2025

New venue, better facilities, buffet lunch, new routes. 70th year.

Napton Village Hall, Napton on the Hill, CV47 8LS

As the organising team for our previous several runs has now retired we have decided that we would have a change. As its a milestone event Malcolm has designed an enamel badge which every entrant will receive.

The venue is super. Very nice building with good facilities, surrounded by a large car park and grass. Very suitable for as many bikes as we can get!

We really need your support to make it a success.

Please submit an entry form, available from committee members or printable from our website: vmccwarwickshire.co.uk as soon as possible before the end of July so that your details are in the programme



Founders Day Stanford Hall

[Stanford Road, Lutterworth LE17 6DH](#)

A great day out in a spectacular location. Loads of club stands, a huge auto jumble, an events ring, and all the food vendors you could wish for.....and a licenced bar.

We will have an area to display our bikes so please bring yours.



Images from last years event

For sale or wanted

Givi E45 top box.

45lr, It'll take a full face helmet and more. It has two keys and the correct base plate to go with it. Just bolt it on your rack and lock your stuff up. Not new but all working well.

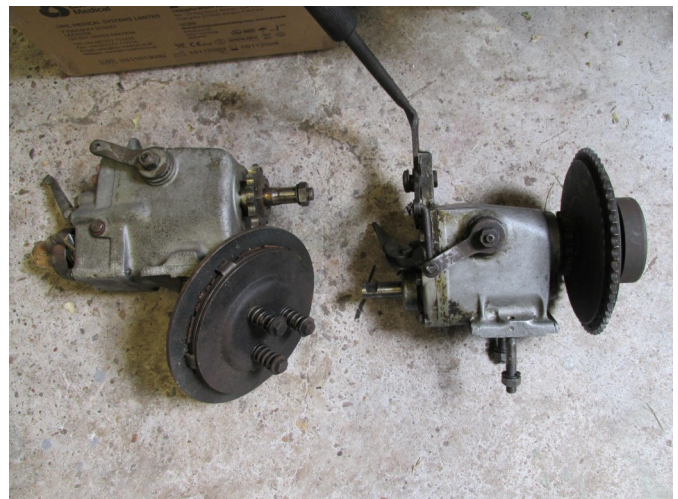
£50

Tony 07504 901 937
or nortones41000@gmail.com



2 vintage 3 speed Albion gearboxes, with some clutch parts; both bottom fixing, original fitment not known, one might be from some form of agricultural vehicle (see pic) **£45 each**. *Norton original front & rear mudguards incl detachable tailpiece; from 1949 Big4 side valve, repairable but significant welding skill needed. **Free** on collection.*

Contact Brian Smith 07756474863
L/Spa



Wanted by Barry!!!

As a result of my recent collision I could really do with a good, straight left hand Bikini panel. Perhaps even a pair.

Paintwork not important but the panel(s) must be straight and unmolested. If you know of where I could get them then please contact me 07786 718867



Royal Enfield 350cc Hunter. Being sold on behalf of a friend

2023

This is a one owner
UNDER 500 MILES
FROM NEW!!!
always kept in a dry
garage.
The owner is unable to
ride it so it must be sold.
Eastern Green area of
Coventry.

Contact Ron Thorley
07516511432
£3000 o.n.o.

An image from the internet of a
similar 350cc Hunter.



I'M afraid you are too late for this bike as Barry has just
bought it!

Harley Davidson Street Bob FXDB

2010. 1585cc.

Mileage 4200. Excellent condition
never been out in the rain.
£8000.

Phone Peter 07773771660



For Sale Laverda Jota.



1977 Series 1, 180* Jota for sale, matching numbers, 25,000 miles showing, new cam and primary chains, battery, side stand, Avon rear tyre, Hagon stainless rear shocks and recent service. £10,950 ono. Tel Dave 07966 563673.



VMCC Warwickshire Section Events Diary 2025

* see notes at the bottom of the listings

July	02	Wed.	Chairman's Social Meet. Nelson Club, Stockton.
	06	Sun.	Pailton Village fete. We are having a dedicated area to display our bikes
	09	Wed.	Club night at K.R.C. (Bring yer Bike night)
	20	Sun.	Founders Day, Stanford Hall
Aug.	03	Sun.	Bill Lacey Run.
	10	Sun.	70 th Coventry Parade, Napton Village Hall. Should be a good day so please support this long running event.
	13	Wed.	Club night at K.R.C. Bike Night Ride your bike In.
	17	Sun.	Afternoon Tea & Cake run
Sept.	07	Sun.	Genteel Run
	10	Wed.	Club night at K.R.C. Interesting Film Night
	21	Sun.	Gasoline Juice Cafe Run, Weedon Bec.
Oct.	05	Sun.	Girder Fork Run
	08	Wed.	Club night at K.R.C. Bring & Buy evening.
	26	Sun.	Antelope Inn meeting, Lighthorne
Nov.	12	Wed.	Club night at K.R.C. Guest speaker Patrick Fitzgerald presenting Lockheed.
	26	Wed.	Warwickshire Section Xmas Lunch
Dec.	10	Wed.	Club night at K.R.C. Xmas Quiz

* More details of the events will be sent out when available.

* All events and dates are subject to change. Please check before travelling.

* *events in italics are NOT our events but may be of interest to members.*

* *Events will be added (or deleted) as we go through the year.*