

The Cotswold Section



of the Vintage Motor Cycle Club



Newsletter

Issue 84 - July 2012



Your editor riding in the Banbury Run. It provides evidence that he can ride a 'Modern Motor Cycle' as stated in the 1928 advertisements and not just under-powered and over-aged machinery.

The views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the officers of the Cotswold Section or the Editor:

Reg Eyre KOB1, 01242-870375 (before 9.00 pm)

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Copies of the Newsletter can be obtained from our web-site, by letting the editor know that you want to receive it by email or by sending 6 stamped self addressed C5 envelopes to the editor.

September 2012 deadline is 20th August 2012

From the B190

I have reproduced a letter from Darol Baker KOBİ who insists that I should not edit his letter. More letters from readers of the Newsletter are welcomed.

Although the riding season has had plenty of rain so far, most of the Sunday events I have had taken part in have had threatening but sunny weather.

Reg Eyre KOBİ

Mid-Week Rally – 23rd May 2012 at the Daneway, Sapperton



This popular venue attracted riders from South Cotswold and Bristol Sections as well as some vintage machines from Cotswold riders. The trio of riders on T100C Triumphs surely have a tale to tell – (*Please contact – Ed*)

A Prickly Individual

Recent weather fluctuations decided that it might be sensible to wear a good waterproof coat for a 250 mile sortie which I was about to embark on. My faithful Rukka jacket was hanging on a hook in the garage where it had been undisturbed since last autumn. Lifting it off the hook, I noticed that it felt abnormally heavy and I assumed that I had left tools in the pockets. I checked the pockets but no tools were there. However, examining the sleeve, I found that the weight in the sleeve was a dormant hedgehog. I carefully put the jacket on the lawn assuming that the slumbering visitor could continue sleeping.

After selecting alternative rainwear, I left for my journey and upon my return, my wife said that the hedgehog made a speedy departure from the sleeve within ten minutes of my setting out.

Ian Young

Letters to the editor

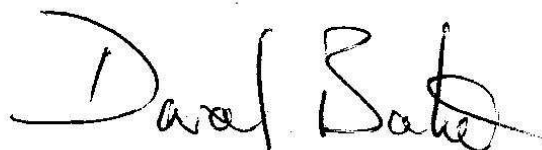
Dear Reg,

With reference to the May issue of the Newsletter.

I totally agree with the comments of "Kenilworth" about the Ariels of the vintage period and particularly the similarity of the 1926/7 and onwards Ariels to the H.R.D's of that period which used J.A.P engines. Who was it that designed those J.A.P. engines? None other than Valentine Page who bought that same design concept to Ariel. A true original designer not one to "look around the industry" and copy what others were doing.

I fully understand why you do not want to open a debate about machine age eligibility but the various cut off dates for the different categories of machines is more to do with style and development than actual age which may not be apparent to newer members. Before the world went mad and old motorcycle enthusiasts could get a reasonable machine for a month's wages, members would share or sell spares to likeminded members. Founders Day, for example, was basically to clean the machines in the museum and such as Phil Heath would sell a few bits from the back of his Morris Traveller. Now we have a totally commercial event. Similarly members who had an interest in photography would take photographs of friends, interesting bikes, club and section events for their own pleasure and the opportunity to give such photographs to the subjects as a memento of the occasion. I was fortunate enough to have film supplied and developing free of charge by our now editor David Davies so that he had a record of the people I met and some events outside his own Humberside locality. There was always numerous copies to be distribute which brought a great deal of pleasure to unsuspecting subjects. The cost of photography, with the introduction of a technology we could never have dreamed of, has reduced considerably. I was quite pleased to receive a slip of paper at the end of The Felix Burke Road Trial telling me of the opportunity to have pictures of the event and within a few days I dialled-up the site and requested several pictures. I expected a charge but not such an exorbitant one. So now we have two professional photographs using The Cotswold Section as a platform for their personal gain and using **OUR** Newsletter to advertise their services. I hope this is not a sign of things to come.

Darol Baker



Darol will be raising issues from his letter at the next Club night.

Congratulations to Dave and Christine Pritchard (1930 New Imperial model 7B 500 cc) on their successful ride in the Banbury Run where they won the Ken Cobbing Trophy for the best performance on a Late Vintage machine.

Immortality

Hello Reg,

I am doing another book.....! It's called something like "The Social History of Motor Cycling". It will be similar to the Century of Motorcycling in Cornwall book I did before. I wondered if any readers have any photos I could use. They need to be quite domestic, e.g. Me on my first Bantam, Uncle George on his moped, the family sidecar outfit and so on. I don't really want to put in competition stuff, there is already too much of that. I am sorry I can't pay for any images but if there are stories that go with the pictures, I need about 130 words at most. Scans would be best, at 300 dpi, and they can be emailed. Prefer British bikes if possible. I have so far around 250 pictures, ideally I need another 50 or so, there are about 40,000 words most of which I have already done. I need your permission to use the picture as well. The chance of immortality!

Thanks in anticipation....

Roger Fogg – Cornwall Section – (I could forward any email images – Ed)

Real Relay Heroes

So how many checkpoints did you manage on this year's Relay Rally? Two or three maybe?

Dave and Gill Ayesthorpe managed fifteen checkpoints and over 500 miles, finishing up at the Cat & Fiddle in the Peak District.



Our two road warriors (seen here plotting their assault on last year's Signpost Rally - add your own caption!), used their Goldwing, but only because their usual CB175 was having a re-bore.
Robert Rendell

Picture Quiz

Readers have sent in the following for identification. **Can you help?**



Extreme right looks like a 1912 Motosacoche, similar to the Royal Enfield of the same date



Could this be a 1908ish Singer?

Advertisements

For Sale: Single bike trailer, well built and good condition. £225 ono.
Robert Rendell 01452-863470 or ear@globalnet.co.uk

For Sale: American grey import, 1966 Triumph Tiger 100C. 56 miles only since professional rebuild.



Finished in green/white with gold lines,
MoT, taxed, ready to ride

This model was built for 1 year only with
2,790 produced. It is in stunning condition!
This bike originates from New York State
and has the 'peanut' style fuel tank and
Siamese exhaust pipes.

£7,000 ono for what is basically a rare and
original bike in 'as new' condition.

Please phone Peter on 01285-659065 before
9.00 pm

From our South Sea Correspondent

I thought you might like to see the comparison between a used VMCC brake block and a new one with a startling amount of wear. This is off my Round Tank BSA which probably does not reach 500 miles a year. It would seem necessary to change these annually as the initial grip I got when it was first installed was long gone by the time I took the wheel out to get a closer look. I recall buying these some years back and getting a second, freebie with a note to the effect that there had been complaints about their short life. Any experiences anyone?



Paul Whitehead – Katikati, New Zealand

Official Programme Price 6d.
GLOUCESTER HOLIDAYS AT HOME

**Motor
Racing
Gloucester**



**Cycle
1944
Speedway**

SPA

SAT., AUGUST 12th, 2.30 p.m.

Under the patronage of His Worship the Mayor (Ald. H. G. Williams).

Hon. Organisers:

GINGER TAYLOR and ARTHUR E. SAYERS.

OFFICIALS—

Judge: MR. F. W. COTTON.

Starter: MR. F. G. MORGAN.

A.C.U. Permit No. Steward of the Hawks Club: MR L. BLISS.

Statistics: MR. E. HINE and MR. GLYN LANGFORD.

Public Marshal: MR. F. SMITH.

Timekeepers and Press Stewards: MESSRS. GRANGER, ANNETTE,
WRIGHT, CULLIS, JONES, CONNOLLY.

Chief Competitors' Marshal: MR. J. ASHMEAD.

Chief Pit Stewards: MR. D. WHITING, MR. S. WALLS.

Track Stewards: MESSRS. COCKLES, READ, CAKE, DAVIS, HATCH

Track Messenger: PETER SAYERS

Prize Steward: MR. M. TAYLOR

Public Announcement and Relay Equipment: MESSRS. FEAR

Field Telephone: MR. SYVERET

TRUMPETERS of the BRITISH LEGION

Medical and First Aid:

DR. ROBERT WILSON CAREY, M.D.
DIV. SUPT. CLUTTERBUCK, AMBULANCE OFFICER P. JONES,
AND MEMBERS OF THE S. JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE.

Holidays at Home Committee:

MR. A. T. VOYCE
(Chairman)

MR. T. B. PHILLIPS
(Programme Director)

MR. BEN PRICE
(Secretary)

PUBLIC NOTICE

This Track is well roped for your safety. Keep outside the rope. The Organisers or their Officials cannot accept liability for injury, loss or damage to person or property.

We thank the City Treasurer and his staff, all helpers, the A.C.U., the Press and Mr. Graham Walker, Editor of "Motor Cycling" for the national prominence he gave our last meeting and his continual support of this national sport and industry

THE LARGEST SPEEDWAY MEETING EVER!

Albert E. Smith (Printers) Ltd., 87, Stroud Road, Gloucester.

'Holidays at Home'

The current TV advertising campaign extolling the virtues of holidaying in the UK in this Olympic / Diamond Jubilee year may ring a few bells with some of the more senior members of the Cotswold VMCC.

For slightly more pressing reasons 68 years ago, residents of Gloucester and the surrounding area were encouraged to 'Holiday at Home' and be entertained by a six week programme of activities organised in aid of Gloucester charities. Commencing in July 1944 events included horse trotting racing, boxing, athletics, fishing, a skittles tournament, displays by the National Fire service and an armed forces motor cycle team plus TWO speedway meetings!

Advertised as the largest speedway meeting ever, it was in fact grass track racing on a 400 yard track which attracted over 4,000 motor cycle enthusiasts to the Spa ground (the park area in the centre of Gloucester). Adult admission was 2 shillings (10p) children paid one shilling and a printed programme cost six old pence. The first meeting on Saturday July 8 started at 2.45 pm with a second event being staged on August 12.

Organisers of the meetings were Messrs 'Ginger' Taylor and Arthur Sayers. Some other familiar motorcycle names such as Mr F W Cotton, Mr L Bliss and Mr Davis (Les?) also played their part in ensuring a successful afternoon of racing.

The local Gloucester Citizen newspaper was concentrating on reporting the events in Europe as the impact of D-day was being felt, but it did find space to produce a match report. With the kind permission of the Citizen the article is reproduced.

Motorcycle racing on grass with its thrills and a few spills returned to Gloucester in a big way. It is quite a few years since Gloucester had the chance of seeing this noisy but exciting sport, and never before has it been staged on the scale of the Spa speedway in Gloucester, where well over 4,000 people saw some very fast and skilful riding. On an oval track of 400 yards to the lap, the races were mostly won at an average speed of just under 40 mph, which compares very favourably with the usual performances put up by professional riders on dirt tracks in pre-war years. The use of petrol was barred and all the machines ran on wood alcohol fuel. Entries came from most parts of the West Country and Wales and further afield.

A long programme was carried through smoothly and quickly without long waits, and there were very few spills. Four or five riders became unseated at different times when their skidding round the sharp bends got out of control, but the only injury during the whole meeting was a cut finger.

The outstanding performer of the meeting was Vic Warlock of Bristol on a 500 cc JAP, whom no one could catch. He put up the fastest time of the day, 1 min 29 secs for four laps, and had an easy win in the Gloucester Grand Prix for the six fastest riders. Next to him came P Lambourne of

Worcester who was two seconds behind, and third was D Houghton of Leicester on a Martin JAP 498 cc. If Lambourne had made as good a time in the England v Wales match race as he did in the Grand Prix he would have beaten Roy Zeal of Newport, the Welsh representative. As it was Zeal won the match for Wales in 1 min 31 secs.

W Sleightholme of Gloucester upheld local prestige on a 349 cc Rudge. He won the 350 cc event after an exciting duel with T L Wood of Southampton. The organisers Arthur E Sayer and 'Ginger' Taylor had certainly done a good job of work in putting on the sport in Gloucester, which is so popular in many other cities particularly in the north.

Results

250 cc: 1: Colin Mead, M Special 2: P Waterman, Rudge 3: L Wyer, Lew Special

350 cc: 1: W Sleightholme, Rudge 2: T L Wood, Velocette 3: R Lambourne, AJS

500 cc: 1: V Warlock, JAP 2: D Houghton, Martin JAP 3: Roy Zeal, JAP

England v Wales Match Race: 1: Roy Zeal (Wales) 2: Reg Lambourne (England)

Gloucester Grand Prix: 1: V Warlock, 1 min 29 secs 2: Reg Lambourne 3: D Houghton

Any reader who attended these meetings, has programmes or pictures, or can add any further details is requested to contact Trevor - 01452 619793 or 07975 971115.

Trevor Davies

HOLIDAYS-AT-HOME

THE PARK

ADDITIONAL ATTRACTION

TO-MORROW (SATURDAY), JULY 29th
at 4 and 8 p.m.

**MOTOR CYCLE
TRAINING DISPLAY**

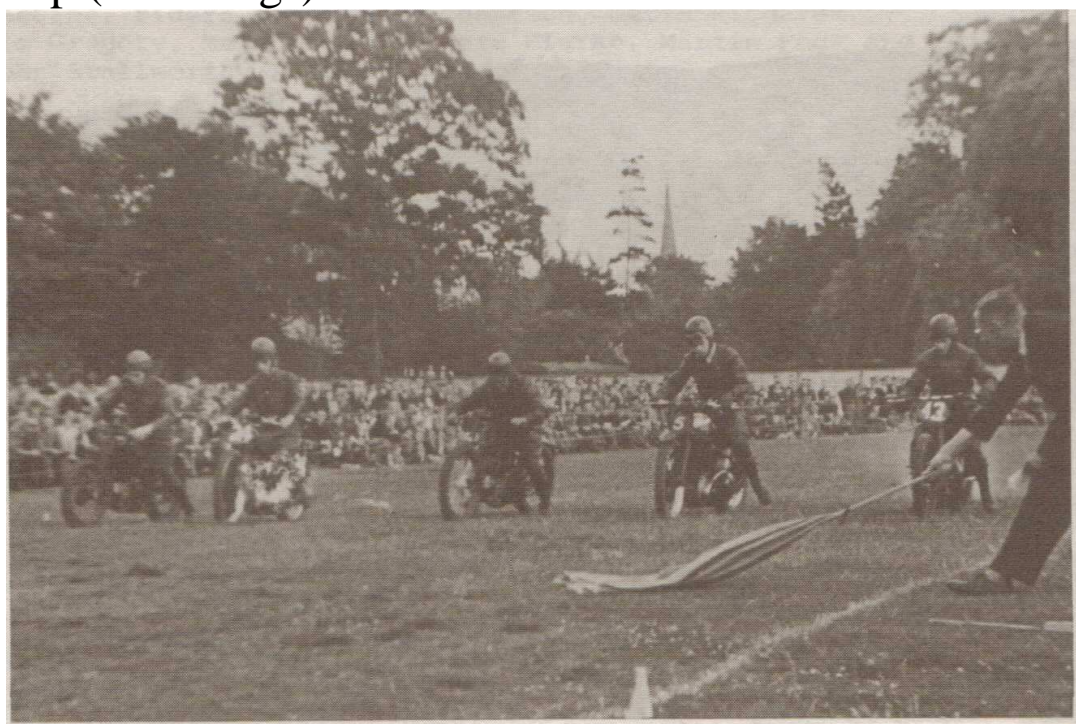
By 2143 M.T. Coy., S.M., H.G.
By kind permission of B. P. Flight-Major, Officer Commanding

Programme will include:—Stake Riding, Ring Riding, Side Saddle, Figure Eight Riding, Riding the See Saw, Plank Jumping Three Motor Cycles, Jockey Riding, Formation Riding, Fire Hoop, Musical Chairs, Loading the Motor Cycle, Riding with 1 to 6 Riders.

**ALL THE OTHER PARK ATTRACTIONS AS
ADVERTISED WILL BE CARRIED THROUGH.**

Later, on August 26 some 2,000 Cheltenham motor cycle fans attended a Hawks Motor Club event held in a field opposite the Cheltenham racecourse on Evesham road. Competitors included Bob Foster winner of the 1939 Lightweight TT, Colin Mead of Mead and Tomkins, Rees Lewis who went on to be a leading light in the Gloster Aircraft Company Motor Cycle Club and Reg Lambourne who became a professional speedway rider. Funds raised were donated to the Cheltenham Children's Hospital fund.

On September 2 it was the Dursley MCC and LCC turn to stage their grass track meeting off Box road, Cam in aid of the Red Cross Prisoners of War Fund. Thirty seven competitors raced on a 550 yard kidney shaped track with Roger Wise and Louis Lawson both destined for speedway careers with Bristol and Belle Vue Manchester respectively, thrilling the 1,000 spectators. Local riders Colin Mead (Bristol), L Wyer (Whitminster), G Hussey (Gloucester) and H Franks (Cheltenham) kept the local interest alive. This meeting took £100 at the gate indicating an entrance charge of 10p (2 shillings).



Apologies for poor quality of image but The Citizen newspaper pictures gradually fade over sixty years. If you have better images, please let Trevor know.

Stop Press!

A report on the recent breakfast run has arrived too late on the Editor's desk and is too long for this current edition. It will appear in full in the next edition. Please could I encourage members who have ridden in Cotswold Section events to submit reports to me, preferably with images?

Many thanks

Reg

Cotswold Section Calendar for July to September 2012

July

1st	24th Cotswold Weekend - Social Run	The Lower Lode Inn, Forthampton, Tewkesbury
2nd - 6th	Cotswold Touring Holiday	
4th	Mid-Week Rally and Barbecue	Natton Garage, Ashchurch, Tewkesbury
11th	Mid-Week Rally	The Colesbourne Inn, Colesbourne, Cheltenham
15th	Summer Meeting	The Snowhill Arms Inn, Snowhill, Broadway
18th	Mid-Week Rally	The Butchers Arms Inn, Lime Street, Eldersfield, Gloucester
22nd	Breakfast Run to Dean Heritage Centre	Dowty Sports and Social Club, Staverton
24th	Committee Meeting	Churchdown Club, Church Rd., Churchdown
25th	Club Night	Dowty Sports and Social Club, Staverton
28th	Social Run to Calne Bike Fest	Dowty Sports and Social Club, Staverton

August

1st	Mid-Week Social Run	The Farmers Arms Inn, Guiting Power, Cheltenham
1st	Mid-Week Rally	The Farmers Arms Inn, Guiting Power, Cheltenham
5th	Sidecar and Three-Wheeler Run	The Haw Bridge Inn, Haw Bridge, Tirley, Gloucester
8th	Mid-Week Rally	The White Hart Inn, Broadoak, Newnham
12th	Breakfast Run to Haynes Motor Museum	Dowty Sports and Social Club, Staverton
15th	Mid-Week Rally	The Carpenters Arms, Miserden, Stroud
20th	Deadline for September 2012 Newsletter copy	
22nd	Mid-Week Rally	The Highwayman Inn, Winstone, Cheltenham
28th	Committee Meeting	Churchdown Club, Church Rd., Churchdown
29th	Club Night	Dowty Sports and Social Club, Staverton

September

5th	Mid-Week Social Run	The Beacon Hotel, Haresfield, Gloucester
5th	Mid-Week Rally	The Beacon Hotel, Haresfield, Gloucester
9th	Summer Meeting	The Walwyn Arms Inn, Much Marcle, Ledbury
12th	Mid-Week Rally	The Red Hart Inn, Blaisdon, Gloucester
19th	Mid-Week Rally	The Bell Inn, Shurdington, Cheltenham
25th	Committee Meeting	Churchdown Club, Church Rd., Churchdown
26th	Mid-Week Rally and Barbecue	Dowty Sports and Social Club, Staverton

Chairman's Troubles

Scenes from the recent Cotswold Section Signpost Rally



“Still having troubles with the Francis-Barnett ignition system, Brian?

Try not to get despondent”



Too late!

Alcoholics Anonymous have sent their van to rescue our hero.

Better captions required - *Ed*

Tony Page's Travels



Firstly, a Kentish Tearoom to set up a period pose, then somewhere in Europe to fill the Ariel with 120 octane petrol!



15th Anglo-Dutch Reliability Trial for pre-1915 Machines 22nd to 27th July 2013, South Cerney, Cirencester, Gloucestershire

Monday 22nd July – Arrival of Participants, Dinner and Official Event Opening

Tuesday 23rd July – Social Run in Wiltshire

Wednesday 24th July – Social Run in Gloucestershire / Oxfordshire

Thursday 25th July – International Reliability Time Trial mainly in Gloucestershire

Friday 26th July – Social Run in Wiltshire

Friday evening 26th July – Event Dinner and Prize Presentation

Inaugural Committee Meeting – Monday 13th August at 8:00 p.m. Dave Pritchard
Churchdown Club, Church Road, Churchdown, Gloucester, GL3 2ER 01452 618248

(I have asked Dave to keep us informed of progress in each issue of the Newsletter – Ed)

