



THE BUSH NEWS



LEOMINSTER CLASSIC MOTOR CYCLE CLUB NEWSLETTER

Website: www.lcmcc.uk Email: lcmcc@ymail.com

December 2016



FROM THE EASY CHAIR



Member Steve Johnson suggested we consider helping the Relay Riders raise money for Soldiers Off The Streets next year so we've contacted them to see what this might entail; more details to follow. December club night will see the proceeds of the raffle going to the small charity of the year (see article elsewhere). With free food helping to swell bellies and raffle takings let's hope for a bumper night.

Free food at our Christmas club night nearly didn't happen – yikes! The Bush had a long-term booking for the same date which originally meant that we would either have to change arrangements or have Christmas in March. Fortunately, Nick & Sarah have pulled out all the stops to provide something for us and everything is back on track. Awards will be presented at 8pm after which, stand well back! Don't forget club night is on Wed 14th December.

Skittles tickets will be on sale at club night; numbers are limited to 60 with proceeds going to Macmillan Cancer Support. It's on Sat 14 January, 7pm at the Welsh Club, Hereford - £6 to include light buffet. Thanks to John & Barbara Baber for sorting this.

We've put together a folder of *information for members* which will be on view each club night (near the raffle prizes); its purpose is to collect together all sorts of club info such as the constitution, minutes, membership forms, posters and other event info as a reference source.

The change in club officers has enabled us to streamline various housekeeping duties within the committee as some tasks had drifted over time. Hopefully now all money-related things rest with the treasurer and membership items with the mem sec etc. There are always opportunities to help run the club so anyone is most welcome to attend committee meetings as observers or helpers. Those of you on *Facebook* will have noticed Ken Griffiths has joined Terry as an administrator and should anyone feel they would like to help run (or to learn how to run) a website then please have a chat with me.

Handing over the cheque for £1000 to Mary Seldon, our November speaker from Midlands Air Ambulance Charity, means the current account has fallen to £1581 with the deposit account still at £2592. Thanks to those three members who have renewed their subs for next year; which serves to remind everyone that subs fall due on 1st Jan each year but can be paid anytime from Oct onwards either online through the website, by post using the form in this newsletter or in person at a club night. We hope you have enjoyed your year with the club and stay with us for another cracking year of events.

Steve Hackett

MOORE MUTTERINGS:



As the flood of offers to take over the News Letters was not exactly of Biblical proportions it looks like you're stuck with my mutterings for now, sorry about that.

I don't know about anyone else but it seems to me that the weather went straight from summer to winter almost overnight. One minute its summer gloves and dirty bike, next I'm having to clean the bike, properly for a change, before soaking it in ACF50 and charging the batteries in my gloves. Oh well, very seasonal I suppose

along with jacket inners and thermals!! Still, on the plus side it's nearly time for Christmas festivities.

Very best wishes to all.

Sue

(email: bobandsuiz@hotmail.co.uk).

BIGFOOTS MUSINGS ON ALL SORTS



I thought I would try and put together some of my musings each month, not just the Club events but some of the other things I do as well. Like trying to sort a walk out for the over 50's. I found the start and after a bit of trouble found the end but the bit in the middle (which I'm told is quite important) is missing. I bought a book from a local shop which told me that the loop is well marked, it may have been at one time but not now, still, it's all good fun!!

9th October saw me off to join the Worcester section of the VMCC on their autumn run. A lovely ride over to Lower Broadheath with just a hint of autumn in the air before setting off on a beautiful jaunt around Tenbury Wells and Clee Hill with very big views over Shropshire, Mid Wales and the Severn Valley. The run finished at Hampton Loads alongside the Severn Valley Railway followed by a gentle run home over some interesting roads. A good day.

Congrats to Club member Martin Evans for winning Best Bike at the Speech House Vintage Show with his Ariel and Steib Sidecar outfit. He even got his picture in the Cinderford Forester paper wearing a Club T-shirt. Well done Martin.

The mid-week meet (Oct) at The Rising Sun was very enjoyable. Good food, good company and a lovely day for a ride on the Ariel. I've been asked by several members if we can use cafes for the mid-week meets. I will keep a couple of pubs but it will be mostly cafes next year so you can have nibbles or a meal or both if so desired. In January it will be at the Cob House, Wishenford. A chance to get out and blow the winter cobwebs off the bike.

On October 30th Steve "El Capitan" Hackett took 7 of us on a very enjoyable 45 mile run to the winter meet at the Kilpeck Inn. Lovely food and very clean good service, only problem was only 3 of us ate. A bit embarrassing for the Club as they were expecting 10+, where were you all?

Having now had time to muse on the AGM I must say how disappointed I am at the response to the request for people to help run the Club. Thank goodness Ken Griffiths volunteered to shadow/take over from Terry. It's not too late to step forward and join the committee and it only takes up about a couple of hours a month.

Having done 2000 miles this year William (the Ariel) has been washed, had a blow dry and is now relaxing by leaning on the garage wall under its winter cover. Until next spring solo riding will be on the Royal Enfield but the Suzuki is going to get most of the work. Having done 1500 miles on it I'm getting used to having a 3rd wheel. It's all very enjoyable.

Just to put your minds at rest, I have now found the middle of the walk. I think another walking group had borrowed it but on my next go at it they had put it back along with some of markers that were missing.

Well, that's it for now. Take care out there, tiz the season of slippy sliddy roads, mud leaves and salt, so easy with the right hand.

Bigfoot

Hereford MS Therapy Centre

Following my nomination, the MS Therapy Centre, was approved as the Club small charity for 2016 and will receive the proceeds of the December Club Night raffle.

The Centre uses a variety of treatments to alleviate a range of problems but their main tool is a hyperbaric oxygen chamber which enables patients to breathe oxygen at increased pressure for therapeutic purposes within the pressurised chamber. They deal with a range of health issues at the Centre, not just MS. Some cancers, fibromyalgia (a rheumatic condition), and have even had a good success rate with leg ulcers that other treatments have failed to help.



On the motorcycle front the hyperbaric oxygen treatment is used to assist in the repair of bone and tissue damage. Hyperbaric oxygen treatment has been used by the likes of Cal Crutchlow (Moto GP rider) and Connor Cummings after his horrific TT incident on the Mountain in 2010. The local chamber has been used by Luke Jones and little bro after he high sided at Rockingham and bashed his self-up.

The Centre is mainly run by volunteers, an extremely dedicated bunch of really good people. My particular problem is long-term radio therapy damage or osteo radio necrosis in medical speak. Radiation damage isn't like last week's curry, you can't wash it all out of the exhaust pipe in 4 or 5 days. All radiation is cumulative and that includes x rays and scans (CT and MRI). I go to the Centre most Tuesdays and the staff there, knowing that most men have weaknesses, always try and have bourbon creams in the biscuit barrel.

Some of you may have read the Hereford Times article, either in the paper or on the club Facebook page. The MS therapy is not a rich charity but they do a huge amount of good for people in Herefordshire and the surrounding counties.

I can't speak highly enough of the people there. They are a dedicated band of people, and they will always do their best to keep bourbon creams in stock for the similarly afflicted people as me.

Ken Griffiths



THE MEMORIAL RUN

Sunday October 2nd was a really lovely autumn day with almost unbroken sunshine for the dozen of us that set out from Queenswood on a run through West Herefordshire and the Black Mountains.

Our route took us over Ravens Causeway, Weobley, Tin Hill, past the great oaks at Moccus and down the Golden Valley to Longtown and the Crown Inn for lunch where we had a visit from Will on his way to his 3rd meeting of the day!!

Our afternoon run took us to Craswell with superb views of the Cat's Back the over the Mountain Road to Cusop with very impressive views over Herefordshire and Mid Wales. Later, we followed some old Drovers Roads around Paincastle and Brilly finishing our day on a biblical note by riding along Apostles Lane to tea and very scrummy cake at The New Strand, Eardisley.

My thanks to you all for keeping myself and William (who bumbled, burbled and growled its way up the hills as any good British bike should) company. I trust you enjoyed the day as much as we did.

Ride safe
Bigfoot

Charity of 2016 – Midlands Air Ambulance Charity (MAAC)

Mary Seldon, who has been with MAAC for about a year, covers the Herefordshire area and was on hand to give members an insight into the working of the charity at the November Club Night. Amazingly, the charity receives no government funding but relies on public and corporate donations to operate. Needing £2,500 just to get airborne and requiring some £7 million a year to run the three sites at Strensham (M5), Cosford (Shropshire) and Tatenhill (Staffs).

The aircraft are surprisingly small with just three crew (pilot, and two paramedics or doctor) so there is space for only one casualty which means they have the benefit of being able to land just about anywhere but need multiple aircraft to deal with large incidents. Much of the work occurs in remote areas where

transit times for a land ambulance would jeopardise recovery. The air ambulance can reach 90% of the region within 8 minutes giving a greatly improved likelihood that anyone in a critical condition can be airlifted to the most appropriate specialist hospital within the 'golden hour', so called because their chance of recovery is greatly improved.



Members found the examples Mary gave of real cases attended over the years absolutely fascinating and gained a real insight into the value provided by the service. It was heart-warming to be able to present a cheque for £1000 raised for the charity by members over the year; primarily from the two events, Withington and the Open Night.

Steve Hackett

A Question of Balance (From the Gold Star Owners Club)

Many of us will be aware that the Goldie balance factor is 58%, but how many of us understand what this actually means? A chance remark by our esteemed Machine Registrar got me thinking that an explanation might be of interest. What follows is the story of balancing, starting simply and getting progressively more complex so that the reader can exit when brain fade sets in. First a few baselines to be borne in mind as we go.

1. The following applies to a single cylinder engine. A vertical twin such as the RGS can be considered in the same way and can be considered as one reciprocating mass.
2. Balancing a reciprocating mass with a rotating mass is impossible. This means we are not balancing at all but instead spreading the vibrations out to minimise their effect. This means that the balance factors are witchcraft and not science, but this does not mean that it doesn't work.
3. The out of balance force goes in all directions as the engine rotates. At any instant, this force has magnitude and direction and so can be represented as a vector. For calculation purposes this vector is broken down into its vertical and horizontal elements.
4. There is no magic number for balance factor, it is a compromise between horizontal and vertical elements of the vibration. The factor is derived by trial and error to find a compromise which doesn't upset the cycle parts by exciting resonant frequencies that destroy extremities (usually) such as handlebars, lightbulbs etc. The factor might need to be changed if cycle parts are radically altered e.g. using a Norton frame which has a different resonant frequency to the BSA frame.

The quoted 58% balance factor means that 58% of the reciprocating mass is balanced by a counter weight in the flywheels opposite the big end, this is in addition to the whole of the bigend and crankpin weight being counterweighted. So why not counterweight all of the reciprocating mass, you might ask. This would be 100% factor and would indeed produce zero vertical vibration at top and bottom dead centres. The

problem would be at mid stroke where the excessive counter weights would produce a big horizontal vibration. The Japanese solution here is to use balance shafts to counter it, but although scientific this would add complexity, weight, bulk and cost, so we prefer to stick to witchcraft. Should you build a special or radically alter the cycle parts, you might need to alter the balance factor. First question is - do I go higher or lower? Lower factors usually smooth out low RPM while higher factors work better as RPM increases. This should give you a clue which way you need to go. If clueless 66% is a good place to start according to Phil Irving in his book "Tuning for Speed".



So how do you actually alter the factor? You start by weighing the small end eye by placing it horizontally on the weighing device and reading, say x grams. Next weigh the piston assembly which will be say, y grams. The crank assembly should be in balance when the small end weight is $(x + y)x\%$ factor which we will call z grams. Since the small end already has a weight of x grams, you MUST subtract x from z and then add this difference to the small end eye in the form of a bag of nuts and bolts or whatever comes to hand. Best practice is to set the crank and rod up on the knife edges (with a sleeve on the smaller mainshaft to make it the same diameter as the other shaft) before adding any calculated weight and to check that the big end comes to rest at top dead centre and to correct by removing metal from the flywheel ribs if necessary. Then add the calculated weight to the small end and remove metal from the heavy side evenly from both flywheels and evenly spaced about the big end centre line until the balance is achieved.

If you understand all of the above but consider it too much trouble, then give the job to a competent engine builder secure in the knowledge that you now know why he's charging you an arm and a leg!

Reproduced by Ken Griffiths with the kind permission of The Gold Star Owners Club

It's a club's life aka the year in numbers –
all this for thirteen quid? You're havin' a laugh!

Reviewing the year got me to looking into what we had given members for their money; only the harshest critic would find fault, I'm sure. The statistics show us to be a vibrant and interesting club so why did so many people (almost 15%) not renew their membership? Clearly we didn't satisfy them sufficiently – an area to work on this time.

Members:	170	main members 99	family 71
(this year)	joined online 48	new 15	non-renewals 28
Facebook:	59 members	(including 5 guests)	a plethora of posts and pics
Addresses:	Herefordshire 70%	Worcestershire 17%	Shropshire 6%
(136 homes)	Powys 5%	Gloucestershire 1%	Somerset 1% Dyfed 1%
Newsletters:	email 98	post 39	both 24
content	member profiles 12	articles 23	postage £415.80 per year
	plus officers' notes, adverts, members' services & monthly calendar		
Events:	runs 20	meets 16	shows etc 11
	club nights 12	speakers 3	skittles 2
		quiz 1	free food 3
		AGM 1	
Plus all the other stuff we got up to that didn't make the official lists.			

Looking at the newsletter over the year to gauge its impact I was so impressed with the job Sue had done so rather than just say 'newsletters 12' thought I would review the content. It's encouraging that folk come forward with articles, run reports and so on (thank you so much to those who did) but it's never enough! Counting up the items within the newsletter revealed a steadily declining number of items submitted as the year progressed. Sue recently alerted the membership of the need for additional material otherwise you get an increasingly restricted view of club activity which will ultimately result in a few bits from the club officers, an event calendar and a couple of ads being the sum total. So, to those who sent stuff in, thank you and please keep it up. To those who have thought of sending in something but were, perhaps, uncertain about how to go about it, didn't feel it would be sufficiently interesting or just thought their writing skills weren't up to it, please just send it to Sue or chat to her about your ideas and see what comes of it. Variety is the spice of life.

Thank you everyone for helping to make this club such a friendly and enjoyable group. I'm already looking forward to next year and helping to make it even better. Have a super Christmas.

Steve Hackett

NEWS BITS

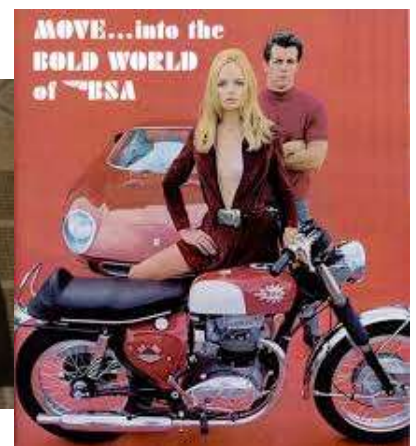
November Club Night raffle prizes donated by: Colin Lancaster, John Peters, Derek Cotterill, Steve Keith, Brian Johnson, John & Lynda Wilshaw. Raffle seller Bob Dean. £50.00 Raised for Club funds with a further £22 from the sale of Herb's nuts!

Membership is now at 170 as we welcome **new members** Stephen Mollard from Kingstone and Ian Hince from Hampton Bishop.

REMEMBER: Club night December 14th

Membership fees due 1st January

FOR SALE



Harley Davidson flag (as shown above) 35" x 59" No fixed price but a donation to Longtown Mountain Rescue Team. Contact Mary Baker email marybaker1947@gmail.com or on 01432 270827

Quick Release Screen for a Harley Davidson £75 Steve Powell 07777607379

2 x **Spark Plugs** Repl NGK BM6A Champion CJ8 Mini Moto £3.99 Terry Bass 01432 355683

Brand new battery, purchased 8th Oct in error ... turns out it is Larger than my existing bike battery. Electrolyte has been installed, "seller" won't have it returned for refund.

Measures: 150 (l) x 87 (w) x 146 (h) ... price £38** Dave Walsh 079 677 20245

Bespoke Vehicle Illustration offered by Gary Nightingale 10% discount when mentioning the club at time of ordering. Please go to the artist's website for details and to order:

<http://garynightingale.wixsite.com/gpnightingale-vi> further details available on <http://lcmcc.uk/lcmcc-members-ads/>

MEMBERS SERVICES

Eric Rees Motorcycles: (Run by club member Ray Griffiths) Discount MOTs for club members: General repairs & servicing on all bikes. Agent for Helite AirBag jackets. Phone 01432 266164.

John Baber: Car components, service equipment, motorcycle batteries and car number plates discounted to club members. 07798 573337 or 01981 250004

Richard Logan: welding services 01886 888419.

Terry Bass: Chainsaw chain, ultrasonic cleaning for motorcycle carburettors, stockist of Peek Metal Polish, genuine parts available to order for Hinckley Triumph & Honda (1990 to date, including bikes, mowers, generators etc). Up to 10% discount on genuine parts and massive savings on pattern parts (normally in stock for lawnmowers generators etc.). Phone: 07968 648237 or see www.terrybass.co.uk

Bill Wilson: operates his own transport business.07791 751954 (anytime).

Lynda Wilshaw Classic Cakes. Homemade cakes baked for any occasion. Phone 01432 760540

Dave Robinson (Kington Farm Supplies): 10% discount to club members for Morris Oils including Classic single grade SAEs or Classic Film multi-grades, semi & full synthetic oils and good quality tools including AF & some Whitworth. 01544 230661 and ask for Dave.

RECOMMENDED BY MEMBERS:

Clothing alterations, repairs & tailoring (including) leather: Sew Bright 01432 352622 (Highly recommended by many members)

Seat repairs: Buck Hardman 07788633722 (repaired Bigfoots seat on the Ariel)

Drive chain oiler. Tutoro, Lydney 01594 841097 (recommended by Bigfoot)

Sheepskin seat covers, canvas bags, sheepskin slippers and boots (Local supplier) web site: <http://www.yurtmatters.co.uk> Email: yurtmatters@yahoo.co.uk Tel 07952 99832 or 01981 510271 (made comfy sheepskin seat cover for Bigfoots Ariel)

Not strictly a recommendation but **LCMCC club members are eligible for 10% discount** on items purchased online at the **Green Spark Plug Company**. Enter the discount code CLUBMEM10 in the coupon code area of the checkout. website: <http://www.gsparkplug.com/> more detail here: <http://lcmcc.uk/blog/2016/02/12/members-discount-at-green-spark-plug-company/>

www.aidansweeney.co.uk/ . AidanSweeney, Traditional Gents Outfitters, 7-8 The Market Arcade Brecon Powys LD3 9DA - For anyone like me whose waistline has disappeared and finds it necessary to wear braces: It can be difficult finding a pair with decent clips that don't let go with a twang at critical moments, without resorting to the industrial type with crocodile clips. I can recommend these, not cheap but I have wasted (waisted) loads on supposed quality braces with inferior clips and Aidan is a smashing bloke to deal with.
– Brian Johnson

Traditional Boot & Shoe repairs (including replacement zips) C Westbury, 5 The Homend, Ledbury - Opposite Ledbury Clock Tower) 01531 632001 – Sue Moore

CLUB SHOP

Club shirts & other clothes etc.: Clubsport have set up an online shopping facility for us:

www.clubsport.co.uk/index.php/clubshops/category/85-leominster-classic-motorcycle-club

Or you can order at any of their shops: Leominster (South Street), Hereford (All Saints Court), Ledbury (Bye Street), Ludlow (Old Street), Newtown (Broad Street), Ross on Wye (High Street) and Kington (Church Street). Please note: The design for the club logo is held at the Clubsport base in Kington but any branch's staff can find it amongst the local sports clubs listed on their in-house computer system.

Badges, Stickers etc: Enamel lapel badges £1.00

Club stickers (small £1 large £1.50) all available from Bob Dean & Lynda Wilshaw at club nights

Disclaimer: The Leominster Classic Motorcycle Club and committee cannot accept liability or be held responsible for any loss, accident, injury, death or loss of claims due to tips or suggestions given in this newsletter. The articles in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor or club committee.

Note: Any information that Leominster Classic Motorcycle Club holds remains confidential. Your personal data is stored on digital media in accordance with the provisions and requirements of the Data Protection Act of 1988 and will only be used to contact you on club matters.

MID-WEEK MEET

Date: Wednesday 21st December

Venue: Rita's Tea Rooms, Adlenhouse, Eardisland, HR6 9BD

Meet from 12.00 noon for lunch or just a drink and a natter

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2016/7

(Events in italics are non-club events and advisory only, details should be checked)

DECEMBER			
Wed 7 th	Committee Meeting		
Wed 14 th	Club night- Christmas Meet		
Wed 21 st	Mid-Week Rita's Tea Rooms, Adlenhouse Eardisland, HR6 9BD		
JANUARY		FEBRUARY	
Sun 1 st	Top end run	Wed 1 st	Club night
Wed 4 th	Club night	Wed 8 th	Committee Meeting
Wed 11 th	Committee Meeting	Wed 15 th	Mid-Week meet, New Strand Eardisley HR3 6PW
Sat 14 th	Skittles Match	Sun 26 th	Winter Meet (provisional) The Royal Oak, Bromyard Downs HR7 4QP

Wed 18th	Mid-Week Meet Cobb House, Wichenford WR6 6YE		
Sun 29th	Winter Meet, The Castlefields, Clifford, Nr Hay-on-Wye HR3 5HB		
	MARCH		APRIL
Wed 1st	Club Night	<i>Sun 2nd</i>	<i>Bromyard speed festival</i>
<i>Sat 4th</i>	<i>H J Pugh, Ledbury Classic M/C, parts and collectables auction</i>	Sun 2nd	The Classic Run
Wed 8th	Committee Meeting	Wed 5th	Club night
Wed 15th	Mid-Week Meet, Honey Café, Bronylls LD3 0LH	Sun 9th	Prescott Bikefest
Sun 26th	Winter Meet (provisional) The Three Horseshoes, Felindre, LD3 7SN	Wed 12th	Committee meeting
		<i>Sat 15th</i>	<i>Ross on Wye Autojumble. Good mixture of Car, Motorcycle and Automobillia</i>
		<i>16th & 17th</i>	<i>Red Marley Trial & Hill Climb</i>
		Wed 19th	Mid-Week Meet Tally-Ho Inn, Bouldon SY7 9DP
		Sun 23rd	Carreg Cennen Castle Run
		<i>Sun 30th</i>	<i>Bike4life fest</i>
		Sun 30th	Ancient to Modern Show

(Longer term outlook can be found on the club website)