



Welcome to the September edition of the Notts & Derby Section's Newsletter.

In this issue we have news of the **forthcoming AGM**, a run report, another report on Andrew Cooke's trialing adventures and amazing memories of George Brough.

### Roaches Run, 18<sup>th</sup> September.

The run to the Roaches starts this coming Sunday from the Whatstandwell lay-by on the A6. Tables are reserved for us but you don't need to book. The day involves 90 miles of riding so arrive with a full tank!

### Queen Elizabeth II

We have all been affected by the recent news of our Queen's passing. Here are a couple of pictures to show her involvement with motorcycles.



Princess Elizabeth was just 19 years old when she joined the Auxiliary Territorial Service (ATS) in February 1945. She trained as a driver and mechanic. Although she slept at home and not in barracks with her fellow recruits, she shared the camaraderie the ATS created with the women who

attended. Princess Elizabeth reached the rank of Junior Commander.



HRH Queen Elizabeth II passing Bracebridge Street in 1955.

### AGM 6<sup>th</sup> October 2022.

This year's AGM will be held on Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> October. It's an important one as we have had a few changes and this is the chance for members to voice their thoughts.

We have written a new constitution and have also replaced our Treasurer so we need to know that the members are happy with these changes.

A copy of the agenda will be emailed to you before the meeting. Please have a good look at it and think of any comments you would like to make. If you have anything you would like me to add to the agenda, please let me know beforehand if you can.

The agenda is quite a long one this year so please be at the Royal Oak in good time.

### Section Officer Continuity.

This will be discussed at the AGM.

Allen House suggest that we should have a "Deputy" for each member of the committee. The idea behind this is that if an officer should suddenly be unable to perform their role, there would be someone who already "knows the ropes" and could take over straight away. We have had issues ourselves with this same problem in the past. The deputies would also help relieve the workload of each officer and learn as they went along.

If you feel that you would like to be more involved with the day-to-day running of the club but you don't know what would be required of you, this would be the perfect opportunity to ease in gently. There will be "role descriptions" circulated nearer to the AGM so that you can see which job attracts you most.

**What's on in October.**

- 2<sup>nd</sup>     **DUKERIES RUN.** 10.30am. Horse & Groom Linby. Bruce 07442168932
- 5<sup>th</sup>     **Duke William Lunchtime meet.** Matlock
- 6<sup>th</sup>     **AGM**
- 8<sup>th</sup>     **Sat Morning Coffee Run.** 10am Griffins Head, Papplewick Crossroads. G Bower 07745888938
- 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> **Stafford Classic Show**
- 20<sup>th</sup>    Natter Night
- 23<sup>rd</sup>    Normous Newark.
- 30<sup>th</sup>    **AUTUMN ROAD RUN.** 10.30am.Lay-by A6 South of Whatstandwell. G Bower 0774588893

Wednesday 'Lunchtime' Classic Bike Meet  
Starts 12 noon Wednesday 5th October 2022



**The Duke William pub, Church Street, Matlock DE4 3BZ**

Please note that the event takes place on the first Wednesday of the month

**My Memories of George Brough.**



Last month's photo of two "famous faces" prompted Mike Hornsby to write in:

Seeing the picture of GB and Lawrence of Arabia in the August edition of the N&D news letter from Bruce (he does a good job), it got me thinking out my personal memories of seeing GB in his Garage in Bulwell, Nottingham back in the late 40's early 50's.

The story is that My Father was a Motor Mechanic in the North East in Borrowbridge. In 1934/5 GB persuaded my father to come down to Nottingham to work for him in his new Garage in Bulwell. The added attraction was that the Job came with an attached three story stone house. In fact there were three houses adjoined to the garage. 319, 321 and 323 Main Street. The proviso was that GB would use the three front rooms as office and storage spaces. These were all passaged through internally to the garage. The picture shows the three houses but when this picture was taken in 1910, the Garage was not yet built. It came in the late 20's early 30's. For security reasons the houses had lockable internal doors. It did mean however we could get in to the garage when it was closed for business.



Our house at 319 Main Street (left) demolished in 1957 pictured in 1910. GB's garage was built 25 years later, in the space on the left.

I was born in 1945 and grew up with this arrangement. When I was old enough, I was allowed to go into the garage to "tinker about" on the work benches and in the pits! I suppose that's where my interest in Motors came about. GB kept 5 or 6 of his bikes in the corner and I do recall playing on these; I would only be 6 or 7 and my problem was that I could reach the handle bars when sitting on the seat so the tank became the seat for me, sorry to any current owner if I scratched any! I often wonder today where they are now. I do recall a twin rear wheel M/C, certainly not a production M/C and I think it had a shaft drive (!) in between

the wheels. (This would be the Austin 7- engined limited production model – ed.)

GB often visited the Bulwell garage to review his business and he would always speak to me, ruffle my hair and say “hello son”

Very sadly, in the late 50’s, the law changed whereby cars could not be filled up while on the Street and so the three houses had to be demolished to create an off road Forecourt to ensure compliance. My family was rehoused just 50 yards away on Minerva Street. While the old garage still used as a Van Sales business and the Forecourt is an external Sales area.

Of course GB started BSM on Haydn Road Sherwood. I am not sure when his works were transferred to a bigger property on Vernon Road, Basford. This was essentially a Precision Engineering Works but did have a garage to conduct servicing and repairs. Ironically GB was a close acquaintance of Vaughn Radford. VR started his Furniture business on Haydn Road too but people will remember his Company better as Stag Furniture.

Stag Apprentice Centre 1970s. BSM project with ROF.

Sadly Stag ceased trading in 2000 after a difficult time for many Furniture Companies. Stag transferred to a much larger site at the other end of Haydn about the same time GB moved to Vernon Road. What is ironical is that I worked for Stag Furniture on Haydn Road from 1960, for over 40 years until its closure.



The Main Street, Bulwell, site today.

What is more ironical is that in my role of Training Manager at Stag in the early 70’s I agreed to a combined project with the Royal Ordnance Factory in Nottingham to restore a 1937 Brough Superior Coupe, this was a car at the Nottingham Industrial Museum at Wollaton. The ROF Apprentices would undertake the engineering aspects and Stag Apprentices would be supervised to undertake the Coach Built Body Section, or what was left of it, most where totally rotten. The assumption was that if a pattern could be made from a good one on one side or the other then we could make a mirror image for the other side!! After many years we managed to build the whole Coachwork structure ready for the aluminium shell to be fastened to it, ready to be returned to the Museum for show. Sadly I never got to ride in it!

### **Mike Hornsby**

As an aside, my grandmother used to tell me that she went out with George Brough for a while but she finished with him because she thought he was “boring.” What could have been.... Bruce.

### **MINIATURE RAILWAY RUN.**

I'm in Scotland at the moment, so thanks to Kate for sending in this report of the very popular run which Derek Crookes organises each year:

Sixteen bikes set off from the lay-by near Whatstandwell in the lovely sunshine. The route took us to Ambergate then through Oakerthorpe,



Higham, Morton and on towards Hardwick Hall then onto the outskirts of Chesterfield towards Calow passing the Chesterfield Royal Hospital and then arriving at The Chesterfield and District Model Engineering Society where we enjoyed a pleasant couple of hours having a light lunch in the cafe run by Volunteers and taking a trip round on the great little train. A very enjoyable run led by Derek.



The club members proving that they will never grow up. Should they be called the Railway Children?



Lovely setting in the woods.

**Kate Sherras.**

### **POACHERS Pre 65 trial**

This event took place at Ledgerwood Park, Walcot Nth Lincs on Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> August.

I had not ridden here since I started riding again in about 2005 but always remembered the views looking out over the Trent where it runs into the Humber.

Dave P and I set off early doors but it was a straight run up the motorways. The sections were bone dry and set fairly easy. I could have done the hard route but stuck to the 50/50, dropping my one customary dab when the motor fluffed as I failed to clear the carb for a turn after a steep decline.

We had started at section 7 with two or three other guys who spotted a sheep stuck up to its neck in a mud swamp right next to the section. Planks of wood and some heaving and shoving retrieved the poor creature and ten minutes later the beastly was up and running! – well done lads, and hope you managed to lose the aroma of wet sheep soon after!



Is it called a confluence where one river joins another? Not a word I have used since school geography lessons!

Section one was manned by Brenda Mc G.. and posed the main threat of taking marks with a long, very steep climb from a tight turn followed by an equally steep drop to the finish where you were going to land whether on two wheels or not. The DOT flew up in 1st on the revs but I would have loved to try it in second to be a bit kinder to the motor.

**Andrew Cooke.**

### **Local Dealer.**



Some of you locals might recognize this popular shop as it was in the 1960s. Relocated but still in business. It was owned by the chap wearing the cap. What's his name?

### **Keeping it in the Family.**

A Sunbeam Model 9 ridden throughout the Second World War by its RAF owner will be offered at the Bonhams Autumn Stafford Sale on the weekend of 15/16 October at the Classic Motorcycle Mechanics Show.



Walter Stoney with his 1928 Sunbeam 493cc Model 9 in later years.

Sunbeam's high-quality motorcycles were known as the 'gentleman's machine', and the Model 9 was one of the last golden era designs that could be raced on the track and then ridden home as everyday transport.

The two-owner from new 1928 example offered is one of the rarest of its type, as one of the last 'flat tankers' before Sunbeam adopted the saddle tank, offering a unique lubrication system. Just 19 Model 9 Sunbeams of this type are recorded with the VMCC register.

Purchased new by Walter Stoney, a Sergeant flight mechanic with 101 Squadron, this Sunbeam supported its owner's war service in the RAF, carrying him from the RAF base in Norfolk to his home in Hetton, North Yorkshire, with a regular pit stop at Leeds Railway Station for a 'pot of tea' in the winter months. He rode the motorcycle for more than 60 years until his death.

Its subsequent keeper was friend and fellow Yorkshireman Ken Ellwood, an RAF pilot who purchased it in 1987 when Walter died and restored it to its former glory some 13 years later, even though he did not have a motorcycle licence and preferred to fly his Tiger Moth aeroplane. It is now

offered by the Ellwood family after 35 years, with an estimate of £10,000 – 12,000.

### **Free Advertisements.**

### **FOR SALE:**



One Pair Altberg size 10 Skywalker motorcycle boots (as new). £155 plus £25 post and packing.

Aerostich xxl motorcycle jacket and fleece lining only worn 4 or 5 times

£160 plus post and packing. £25  
Collect from Ollerton. Tel 07989 313311

### **CONTACT US:**

**Please** let me have any stories from the past, amusing or otherwise, concerning motorcycles, or any technical information, rebuild stories, photos or news of events by replying to this email. Let us know what you've been up to by emailing me at: [nottsandderbyvintageclub@outlook.com](mailto:nottsandderbyvintageclub@outlook.com)

Use the same address and format if you have any items or motorcycles for sale. Don't forget to include a phone number and a price.