

VMCC Notts and Derby Section April Newsletter.



Cover photo: Some of the Tiddlers at Tissington.

Contents (just click on any heading.)

| | |
|---|-----------|
| What's on in May | 2 |
| ROBIN HOOD RUN. | 2 |
| Tiddlers Meet, 22nd March. | 3 |
| Sunday Lunch Meet, Monyash, 23rd March. | 5 |
| WhatsApp Ride Out, 19th March. | 6 |
| Saturday Morning Coffee (& Eclipse) Run, 29th March. | 6 |
| Meet for a Ride, 9th April. | 8 |
| Sammy's Gems. | 9 |
| Unusual Motorcycle. | 10 |

Welcome to this month's newsletter. A slightly different look to make it more attractive. Let me know if you disagree.

What's on in May.

- 1st Natter Night
- 2nd Wales Run
- 7th Duke William Lunch Meet, Matlock.
- 8th (Thursday.) Meet for a Ride. 1pm. A6 Lay-By south of Whatstandwell.
- 10th Sat pm Run. 2pm A52 ½ Mile south of Brailsford. Clive 01335 390369
- 15th BARRIE'S CHIP SHOP RUN Ripley Market Place. G Bower
- 18th ROBIN HOOD RUN. Route Sheet. 10.30am Griffins Head. Papplewick.
Bruce 07442168932
- 20th John Thompson Inn Inter-section gathering. 7pm. Burton Section
- 22nd Evening Run. 7.30pm A6 Lay-By South of Whatstandwell Worthy
07979 642680
- 24th Meet the Neighbours. With Burton Section. 2pm Motus, A52, Mackworth.
- 29th Evening Run. 7pm Lay-By South of Whatstandwell. Kate & Pete
07961754780

ROBIN HOOD RUN.

We have a new venue for the RH. Please use the larger of the two car parks at the start and the smaller on your return, when we should have access to the field. This is a **route card** run, so please bring a route roller (or a friend who has one.) Also, please note that the lunch venue is **cash only** due to there being no signal for card readers.

John Thompson Inter-Section Gathering.

John Thompson Pub, Ingleby, nr Swarkestone Derbyshire.
Card payment only.

Drive it Day classic and vintage vehicle drop in at Klondyke Mill

Although we have a run on the 27th April, Paul Beard, from the Burton Section, asked me to inform you that there is a vintage vehicle day, which includes motorcycles, at

Draycott in the Clay, in aid of the NSPCC childline children's charity. More information at: <https://www.driveitday.co.uk/events/klondyke-mill-coffee-and-cars>

It is a national event and Paul was told about it by a Burton section member so asked the committee last month to add it to the Burton calendar.

He has contacted the Klondyke contact, Paul Massey who confirmed bikes are welcome and although their interpretation of vintage is 30yrs they would allow our 25yr rule, but no younger.

If anyone from N&D would like to attend with Burton section then Paul is thinking of going and leading a short ride to there from Tutbury car park, at 10am.

All most welcome to join either at Klondyke or at Tutbury. Make your own way home.

Klondyke Mill coffee and cars

An informal coffee and cars event for drive it day. Cars can come and go as they please. Tea and coffee will be available to buy throughout the day. The gates will be open from 10.00 and closed at 13.00. All are welcome.

Contact Details - Paul Massey:
paulmassey98@googlemail.com

Website -

Starts -
27/04/2025

Ends -
27/04/2025

Time - 10.00

Location -
Klondyke Mill
Preservation
Centre,
Draycott in the
Clay,
Ashbourne DE6
5GZ

Banbury Run. Recovery drivers needed.

The Banbury Run is on 8th June. Allen House have asked our Area Representative, Dana to find 3 vans with drivers and helper for recovery duties on the Banbury Run. He was going to use his own van and plant trailer, but it now appears that he may be required to discharge some other task at Banbury.

Can any section members if help out?

In return for your services, you would get **free entry for driver and helper** into the event and museum, plus expenses. Any offers would be much appreciated.

Dana Neal.

Tiddlers Meet, 22nd March.

Chris Robinson organises the "Tiddlers Meet" in Tissington, which is open to all bikes which produce 15hp or below. This was the second one and very well attended with a huge variety of machines.

Chris's words are in the descriptions of the photos.



What a great turn out in Tissington. I counted 18 bikes. Many thanks to everyone who turned up. There were some very special bikes there.

Paul's Moto Morini was one of the prettiest bikes around.



This pre-war Francis Barnett 250cc Cruiser called "Cynthia" drew a lot of attention because of its tank-like design. See catalogue photo later.

Even a dog showed up with its own chauffeur.



My brother's Moto Guzzi Airone all the way from Oxford via Castleton needed a little light fettling.

And a big thanks to fellow members of the MZ club for their support.



Sunday Lunch Meet, Monyash, 23rd March.



This was the last Lunch Meet of the winter. Fourteen members turned up today despite it being a cold and gloomy day and two even made it on bikes! A warm welcome and good food was enjoyed by all.

Sue Mahl.

WhatsApp Ride Out, 19th March.

Glen Dickens put a quick message on the WhatsApp group on a lovely sunny day:

“It's far too nice to leave the bikes in the garage today. I'm going for a ride this afternoon if anyone wants to join me. Obviously this isn't a VMCC group ride so they'll be no drop-off system involved, just a steady ride around the peaks.”

I was unable to go but I saw that Graham Franks had replied, so I asked later how it went. His reply was:

“Hi Bruce, Yeah we had an enjoyable ride. I haven't got a clue what route we took. We were just enjoying a nice ride on quiet country roads. All I can tell you really is, at the start we went through Wirksworth, stopped off at the Whitworth cafe for a coffee then on through Rowsley and Beeley and around the Chatsworth estate.

From there somehow I picked up the A5012 heading towards Cromford then the A5023 to Middleton and back through Wirksworth. Seriously I don't know those road's, I've just looked on Google maps to get an idea where we went! I did a similar mystery ride on my own the day before. Like I said to Graham over the coffee "we're in England, it's not big enough to get lost for very long " I just enjoyed the ride.

Sorry but we didn't take any photos.

Door to door was about 4 to 4.5 hours for me. Yeah a good ride that got the need out of my system”

Glen Dickens.

The WhatsApp group worked well for them. It pays to keep an eye on it. If you would like to be involved, let me know and I can add you.

Saturday Morning Coffee (& Eclipse) Run, 29th March.

Sixteen bikes turned up for this amazing run. Graham was leading us in a large arc around the area to the North of Matlock.

From Ripley, we passed through Pentrich, Park Head, skirted Crich to Lea, Dethick, Holystone Moor and Slack. Sydnop Hill then served as a severe brake test as we dropped down to Two Dales.

Crossing the A6, we rode through Darley Bridge, Winster, and then found the narrow twisty bits with grass down the middle and gravel everywhere else, leading to Dale End and Frinden, finally running down the Via Gellia to stop for the long-awaited coffee at Homesford Tearooms.



Ian arrived on his beautiful Norton International, which I hadn't seen before.



Bob with his Suzuki GT500, which I also hadn't seen before.



Left: the early birds.
Bottom left: The Little Velocette LE had no trouble keeping up with the group.
Below: Aerial view.



A beautiful ride in perfect conditions, with a variety of roads, ranging from the above-mentioned narrow lanes to faster, sweeping bends. Only about forty miles but it felt like far more!

Thanks to Graham for leading.

I had managed to grab my Eclipse Specs from my tank bag on two occasions whilst on Junction Duty, and just put them back before I was required to move on. A lovely ride and a partial Solar eclipse together. What's not to like?

Meet for a Ride, 9th April.



From Spring to Autumn, we have "Meet for a Ride" mid-week runs with no designated leader. We just turn up and somebody volunteers to lead. I couldn't make today's run but Graham Franks, who led, sends this report:

"Today's run attracted thirteen riders. Would have been one more but a well-known member (name withheld to protect the guilty) went to Belper, realised his mistake then went to Ripley, failed to see us on the Market Place turned round and went away! The route was South Wingfield, Wheatcroft, Riber, roundabout to Darley Dale, Stanton, Youlgreave, Friden to Hulme End Caff. Returning via Alstonefield, the Lane to Parwich was closed, so a confused turn round at the junction caused a splitting up of things, but we all got home safely."

Photo supplied by Malc.

Sammy's Gems.

In September last year, I finally managed to visit the Sammy Miller Motorcycle Museum in New Milton, Hampshire. I thoroughly recommend a visit. In the meantime, there will be a short section (Trials reference there!) in each edition about some of my favourites.

500cc Scott Speedway Special. 1930.



This beautiful machine was outside being photographed for a magazine as I arrived. It's powered by a Scott 500cc power plus engine, producing 27 bhp. Webb forks. Believed raced by Frank Charles in 1930.

I was told that the curved bar mounted upright from the engine was for the rider to push against when cornering. It's believed that very few of these bikes left the north of England and were heavily favoured by the locals.



Unusual Motorcycle.



A Triumph 350cc 3SW Armoured Motorcycle: 1940 At first glance, the concept of armouring only one side of a motorcycle may seem unusual, but it had a strategic purpose.

This prototype, developed after the Dunkirk evacuation in May 1940, was designed in response to the looming threat of a German invasion.

The idea was that a soldier could ride to a tactical position while carrying a Bren gun, then dismount and use the motorcycle's armoured side as cover while engaging the enemy. This approach offered greater mobility compared to a motorcycle with a sidecar-mounted gun.

Only one prototype was built, and it never saw combat. The project was ultimately abandoned in October 1940 as the threat of invasion diminished. The motorcycle was likely converted back into a standard model.

Mystery photo.



The top three in the 1958 Ulster GP. How many do you recognise?

Last Month's Answer.



The boy from last month was a very young Barry Sheene working in his dad Frank's bike

DECEMBER 5TH, 1935. THE MOTOR CYCLE. ADVERTISEMENTS. 9

OLYMPIA: STAND 30

Francis-Barnett

FOR 1936 —
IMPROVEMENTS TO THE "CRUISERS"

Larger Tanks, Friction Dampers on lower fork links, Adjustable Handlebars, Prop Stand, Flared Mudguards and Improved Electric Horn. Cleanliness, Comfort and Reliability, far above the ordinary are assured. The "Cruiser F45" has a cruising speed of 50 m.p.h.

There is an alternative "Cruiser"—the F39, which has gained a wonderful reputation. This model is as modern still more attractive by the alterations indicated above.

Price **£37.5**



250 c.c. "CRUISER F45."

OTHER MODELS EXHIBITED

| | | |
|----------------|--|---------------|
| "SEAGULL F43." | 250 c.c. Two-Stroke, with Flywheel Magneto, Dynamo Lighting and complete equipment | £32.10 |
| "PLOVER F40." | 150 c.c. Two-Stroke, with Flywheel Magneto Ignition and Lighting, Chromium Tank, Bulb Horn | £25.10 |
| "PLOVER F41." | 150 c.c. Two-Stroke, with Flywheel Magneto, Dynamo Lighting, Electric Horn | £28.10 |

See the new "RED STAG," with Fast Dunlop Tyres, Narrow Guards and Special Finish.

Price **£47**



250 c.c. "STAG F44."

The 248 c.c. O.H.V. "STAG F44" ranks amongst the finest machines of to-day. Gained Highest Award in the International Six Days Trial. Specification includes: 248 c.c. O.H.V. Francis-Barnett Engine, 4-speed gear box with foot change, Miller Dynamo, lighting set, 8 in. lamp and electric horn, 3½ gallon tank, rubber insulated handlebars, prop stand, primary chain enclosed in oil bath, 29 x 2.25 in. tyres, 3½ pint sump.

Price **£45**

PLEASE SEND CATALOGUE

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____

Manufacturers:
FRANCIS & BARNETT LTD., COVENTRY.

A period advertisement for the Francis Barnett Cruiser photographed in the Tiddlers description.

Free Advertisements.

WANTED:

Member Bob Gregg is looking for a sidecar outfit. Any make of bike but minimum 500cc. Non-runners certainly considered as he is an expert engineer. Ring Bob on **07790 589982** if you have an outfit to sell.

FOR SALE:

1937 BSA B21 Sports with a Rigid frame and Girder Forks. 250cc OHV.

This model was only made for one year, making it quite a rarity. It is a light motorcycle, easy to handle and move around. Located in Nottingham.

I am looking for a good home for this bike, so I will haggle around £4500.

Please contact Peter Gibson 07970 285 668 or 0115 931 4362. For more details,



1993 Triumph Trident 750



11 months MOT Dutch Import
with British number and V5C

£850 ono.

Martin.
mhanstock@outlook.com

07526474005

1995 BMW R80 Mono. PRICE REDUCED.

BMW R80 Mono. 1995 25000 miles. Extremely good original condition. BMW heated grips, nearly new Avon tyres. 2 sets of BMW panniers, large touring & slim city cases. Original tool kit and cable lock. ~~Was £5600.00.~~ Now only £4800

Contact Graham Bower, 07745888938, or graham.bower@outlook.com



1962 Triumph TR6SS Pre-unit. REDUCED

I have owned this bike for over 25 years. This is a very reluctant sale as I head to my octogenarian years, sadly, it is becoming too big and heavy for me now and my longer owned 1960 BSA C15 becomes my preferred riding choice.

Offers around £7000. Part exchange for good BSA B40 considered.



I do have many detailed photographs and history details to provide should potential buyers want more, as I'm sure they will.

Please contact: hornsbj_jm@yahoo.co.uk

CONTACT US:

Let me have any stories from the past, recent or distant, 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:

vmccnottsandderby@gmail.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.