

**VMCC Notts and Derby April Newsletter**



**A selection of the bikes at the Tissington Meet / Coffee Run**

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## What's on in May.

6<sup>th</sup>. Duke William, Matlock.

7<sup>th</sup> Natter Night.

9<sup>th</sup> Sat PM Run. 2pm. A52 ½ mile south of Brailsford. Clive 01335 390396

13<sup>th</sup>. (Wednesday.) Meet for a Ride. 1pm. A6 Lay-By south of Whatstandwell.

19<sup>th</sup> Inter Section Gathering. 7pm Appleby Inn, Swadlingcote. DE12 7AP

21<sup>st</sup> Barries Chip Shop Run. 6.30pm Ripley Market Place Graham 07745  
888938

23<sup>rd</sup> Meet the Neighbours 2pm Motus.

28<sup>th</sup> Evening Run. 7pm A6 Lay-By south of Whatstandwell. Mike Worthy 07979  
642680

29<sup>th</sup> WALES RUN

## Section News.

### Our New "Home" and Chip Cob Night.



Outside views of the Crown. The car park has accommodated many vintage vehicles.

As you might have read in this month's Journal section notes, we have found a new venue for club nights. The committee visited in late February and voted to adopt it.

### Reasons for the move.

The attendance has dwindled in recent years and we think that this could partly be due to the location of our previous club room. The Royal Oak is also advertised for sale with a view to develop the site, so we would not be able to stay indefinitely.

Our new venue, **The Crown Inn**, is in Awsworth, near Ilkeston, but importantly, very close to some major roads, particularly the A610, the M1 and the A38, giving it very good access from a number of directions.

Also, there is a large car park and outside area, and the room we will use (the lounge), although shared some of the time with the public, can be closed off for Private Functions, such as our Christmas Party night and AGM

The owners, Chris and Marina are very welcoming and are looking forward to us being part of their community. The full address is 8 Croft Cres, Awsworth, Nottingham NG16 2QY.

The first Club night in our new home will be **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May**, and the first Thursday of each month thereafter unless there is a run planned. We would love to see the attendance increased and have proper club nights again.



Committee Members in the meeting and a general view of the room.

### **Free chips!**

Now the good news: to encourage you to come and see the Crown, there will be one free chip cob for each member on that first night only. When you arrive, see a committee member to obtain a ticket which entitles you to the free cob.

### **Let us know.**

If you are thinking of coming along, even if you are not sure you will make it, please send a message to me on email or the WhatsApp group so I can inform the pub.

You don't **have** to order in advance (we understand the difference that poor weather can make to your plans) but it would help the landlords, Chris and Sue to gauge numbers, reduce waiting times, and prepare enough to avoid waste yet satisfy the demand. If you haven't ordered and turn up on the night, there should be enough to go round.

See you there!

## New Area Rep.

We have a new Area Rep for the North Midlands (our Area.) He is Rob Sawyer. We look forwards to meeting him.

## VMCC North Midlands Area 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Baton Relay

Most of you should know by now that it is the VMCC's 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year. Among the events planned to celebrate this, is the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Baton. For past anniversaries, it's my understanding that one baton was passed around every section in the UK. Obviously, there are difficulties when you consider that there are over 80 sections and some of them are very widely spread.

Allen House has decided to have one baton for each area. Notts and Derby are in the North Midlands area, so we will be receiving the baton from the Burton Section and passing it on to the North Staff section at Banbury.

Ralph Taylor has the honour of taking it to Banbury and handing it over to Kate Wain of the North Staffs section. See below for a complete itinerary of its progress.

### The Plan for the North Midlands Area:

<u>Leg</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>From / to</u>	<u>Where (handover point)</u>	<u>Section</u>
<u>1</u>	<u>16-Mar</u>	<u>President to Ian</u>	<u>AGM</u>	
<u>2</u>	<u>12-Apr</u>	<u>Ian</u>	<u>Oatcakes Run</u>	<u>North Staffs</u>
<u>3</u>	<u>10-May</u>	<u>Ian to Eddy Grew</u>	<u>Burton Parade</u>	<u>Burton</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>23-May</u>	<u>Ed to Notts &amp; Derby</u>	<u>Meet the neighbours</u>	<u>Notts and Derby</u>
<u>5</u>	<u>7-Jun</u>	<u>Ralph Taylor hand to Kate Wain/Ted Foreman</u>	<u>Banbury</u>	<u>National</u>
<u>6</u>	<u>17-Jun</u>	<u>Baton on the run</u>	<u>ISDT Centenary</u>	<u>North Staffs</u>
<u>7</u>	<u>18/19-Jul</u>	<u>Sat or Sunday from North Staffs to BHR</u>	<u>Darley Moor</u>	<u>BHR</u>
<u>8</u>		<u>BHR to Birmingham</u>	<u>Founders Day</u>	<u>Birmingham</u>
		<u>Birmingham to Ironmasters</u>		<u>Ironmasters</u>
<u>9</u>		<u>Ironmasters to North Birmingham</u>		<u>North Birmingham</u>
<u>10</u>	<u>27-</u>	<u>David Spencer to</u>	<u>Levis Cup</u>	<u>North</u>

## Tiddlers Meet and Saturday Coffee Run. 21<sup>st</sup> March.

Today's event was a two-in-one affair. Graham B's Saturday Morning Coffee Run and Chris R's Tiddler's Meet at Tissington were both programmed for the same day. The Tiddlers is a meet-up for bikes of 15 bhp or less and it's quite a run for some of them to get there!

Graham's run is, of course, all about a coffee stop, so where better for him to head than Tissington, so that the two events could meet up.

I wasn't free to attend either so I am grateful to Graham, Ken and Chris for supplying the photos.

The day was very successful and appears to be a formula worth repeating next year!



The start at Ripley.



Coffee time.



Fantastic attendance.

## Meet for a Ride, Thursday 9th April. (No photos, unfortunately.)

Nine riders met at Ripley Market Place, despite the weather forecast for rain. In surprisingly dry conditions, Graham led the group via Pentrich, Chrich, Whatstandwell, and Longcliffe, skirting Pikehall on Monsdale Lane to take a “bumpy and gravelly” (Paul’s words) lane to Parwich.

The route then went via Alsop en le Dale and Milldale for a break at Whetton Mill Café. After a cuppa, the rain descended as we set off again. Paul experienced the Whetton Mill tunnel for the first time and we carried on through Alstonefield and Ilam, where the recently redressed and graveled road was “interesting” in the rain. We carried on the Ashbourne to finish at Belper. Thanks to Derek for his last man duties.

### **Graham Franks.**



One of the Tiddlers, a Jawa Babetta.



Back at the finish.

### Full Throttle Café.



A new café for motorcyclists has opened just outside Buxton on the Ashbourne Road A515.

Loads and loads of parking!

Open every day from 9.30am to 3pm. (Hours will extend as summer gets closer).

## Mystery Photo.



“Easy” one this month:

Who is the iconic Harley rider?

“Easy” one this month:

Who is the icon What’s on in May.

## Last Month’s Answer.



Last month’s Kawasaki rider was, of course, five times 500cc GP winner, Eddie Lawson. He was the first MotoGP competitor to win back-to-back 500cc world championships on machines from two different manufacturers. He was nicknamed “Steady Eddie” as he rarely crashed and consistently finished in the points.

## FOR SALE:

### Motorcycles For Sale.

**To my VMCC Colleagues** - hopefully this will help you to understand the reasons why I have given up my lifelong interest in motorcycles & decided to sell my small collection of bikes.

I have ridden motorcycles for best part of the last 60 years. They were always a major part of my life, however sadly, my riding days ended after the loss of my dear son Chris in January 2024. Some of you may know or have met me at past bikes shows and/or from happier days as a very enthusiastic member the VMCC. If so, you will probably be aware that Chris was not only my son, but my riding buddy and my best mate as well.

The last time we rode together was in September 2023 and I have not had the heart to ride since. Regarding my bikes, anyone who knows me will know that they have always been kept in lovely condition and cossetted in a warm carpeted garage with their own Optimate chargers.

All my bikes have been scrutinised and had details submitted to my insurance Company (Lynbrook) along with photos for the purpose of ensuring that they all had an underwritten agreed valuation. I will include the agreed values in my brief descriptions of each machine. I just want them to go to a good home, with a VMCC member who will look after them as well as we have.

Anyway, I'll give you as much info as briefly as I can, but there is no point in me keeping them sitting in my garage now when they could be sold to help my grandchildren, especially Chris's wife and our lovely granddaughter, who was only 6 years old when she lost her daddy, our beloved son, Chris.

Above are some photos of Chris and I with the two beautiful 400cc twin Honda Dream bikes that we rode most of the time,

(whenever he could travel up north to visit us), some of you may recognise the carousel at Southport, the other photo was taken over the water on the Lever estate. These were unbelievably wonderful times that we shared as father and son and riding buddies; we have all been left shellshocked and will never get over his loss.

My contact details for anyone interested are shown below and on the individual sheets: Michael W George: - Home 01704 -876934 (Formby), Mobile 07990 572360, Email [mwg.1951@gmail.com](mailto:mwg.1951@gmail.com)

## **MOTORCYCLE DETAILS:**

### **Classic 1982 Historic Bike - Honda CM250cc Twin.**



This bike was fully refurbished a couple of years ago as it was intended to be a bike for my Chris to take down south (Essex).

There was an awful lot wrong with it initially (it was a distance sale and basically, not as advertised) and I do have a comprehensive record of the work carried out to ensure that it was spot on for Chris. He did have the opportunity to ride it once and I do have a short video of him riding it if any prospective buyer wishes to see and hear it running.

The current recorded ODO mileage is 39,122 miles; however, this cannot be guaranteed and except for confirmation of the rectification work carried out to bring this bike up to required standard. I can provide no real previous track record and/or ride history for this bike.

With a manufactured year of 1982 this is classed as a Historic Vehicle by DVLA, so obviously it is free of MOT and Road Tax. It is the bike that I would really like to sell first (for obvious reasons).

This motorcycle was given an Insured agreed valuation of £2,500.00, (which is a couple of years old now). It owes me more than its valuation, as there was a lot of hard work and money put into this; however, I am just looking for sensible offers of a lot less than this bike owes me.

I am thus asking for offers of £1,900.00 o.n.o.

Michael W George: - Home 01704 -876934 (Formby), Mobile 07990 572360,  
Email [mwg.1951@gmail.com](mailto:mwg.1951@gmail.com)

### **Superb 1955 Triumph T110 in Fantastic Condition**

This bike was completely rebuilt by VMCC Triumph expert Gordon Gaskell, and I hankered after it for years before he eventually sold it to me some 14 years ago, back in 2012. It has its original registration with matching engine and frame numbers and this motorcycle is also registered with DVLA as a Historic Vehicle, so is free of MOT and Road Tax requirements.

It has been displayed at many VMCC events and ridden on many VMCC club runs and anyone who knows of its provenance will know that it really is a superb machine. Since my ownership I have made many safety additions (for example – original Britax Engine bars, mirrors, centre stand etc), I have added a rear carrier with Givi rear top box and like most of my bikes, for safety, added very subtle daytime running lights.

Although it has covered very few miles (I would estimate less than 1,000 miles during my ownership) it has had regular oil and filter changes and has only taken out to ride when the weather is nice. This beautiful machine has spent most of its time blanketed, under wraps in my carpeted garage.



I had intended to request an updated agreed valuation from my insurance Company, because of the additional investments made in the bike since my purchase and, obviously, in consideration of the fact that its agreed valuation of £8,500.00 was set some 14 years ago, back in 2012

As it has not been changed since, this valuation is well out of date now. In consideration of its originality, provenance, its low mileage of only 8,912 miles to date, and its excellent condition I would really wish to look for offers north of £9,000.00, which I would consider to be very reasonable for this lovely machine. However, realistically I would be prepared to accept £8,200.00 o.n.o.

Contact details

Michael W George: - Home 01704 -876934 (Formby), Mobile 07990 572360,  
Email [mwg.1951@gmail.com](mailto:mwg.1951@gmail.com)

### **Lovely 1957 AJS 16MS 350cc Motorcycle.**

I have owned this motorcycle since 1996; it was completely rebuilt and has served me faithfully ever since. during which time it has been ridden on many VMCC organised ride outs and been displayed at many prestigious events, such as Southport Flower Show, Mallory Park and the Aintree Sprint.



It has won several awards, been featured as a giant “matchbox” toy at the Woodvale Rally and at one stage it was specifically requested by RH Specialist Insurance as a feature for one of their displays at Stafford Bike Show.



This AJ's “baptism by fire” was in 2009 when I rode it to the Isle of Man Manx, riding around the island in some of the worst weather I have ever experienced. However this beautiful old girl never missed a beat and got me home safely in one piece. It is a machine that is dearly loved and one of which I vowed never to sell, but rather, intended to pass on to my beloved son, who unexpectedly passed way suddenly not so long ago.

There is much history to this bike with its original registration, matching engine and frame numbers and its original brown logbook documentation, listing its previous owners.

Obviously, like all my other bikes it is registered with DVLA as a Historic Vehicle, so MOT and Road Tax free. It has been extremely well looked after and been regularly serviced.

It has had many additions over the years, including original engine bars, rear carrier and cartridge oil filter etc. Like the other bikes in my ownership, it has not covered

many miles (just over 4K miles since 1996) and it has spent most of its life covered up in my garage.

Again, its agreed valuation of £4,000.00 was set 14 years ago, back in 2012, and as it has not been changed since, it is well out of date now. I have owned this lovely machine for the last 30 years; it breaks my heart to part with it.

This bike is a "one-off", thus I would not wish to sell it for much less than £3,900.00

Contact details

Michael W George: - Home 01704 -876934 (Formby), Mobile 07990 572360,

Email [mwg.1951@gmail.com](mailto:mwg.1951@gmail.com)

### Lovely 1979 Honda Superdream 400cc Twin Motorcycle



Purchased only 6 years ago there is evidence to collaborate that the extremely low mileage of this rather unique motorcycle is quite genuine and there is some history that

appears to prove this. It was in lovely condition when purchased and has remained the same ever since.

Apart from general maintenance and servicing, all that this lovely bike has required has been a replacement battery and Optimate charging connector, new spark plugs, tyre pressure indicators, a top box and plate and for safety a pair of discrete daytime running lights.

Honda engineering, economy and reliability is very hard to beat. Add on the cost-effective benefits of excellent miles per gallon, Historic Vehicle status, free of MOT and Road Tax and you can't go wrong.

It is an absolute dream, or should I say super dream to ride, and these Hondas were the favourite bikes for my son (and riding buddy) and I to take trips out on a lovely day together.

Here it can be seen with its older sister, a very rare 1978 400cc twin Honda Dream, at Southport Carousel.

Both are lovely machines to ride, and we would often alternate our steeds during a ride out.

You really would be hard pushed to source such a beautiful and unique twin Honda Superdream (especially being a 400cc twin) in such superb condition with such low genuine milage.

As you can see this unique machine has only covered 6,850 miles from when it was new in 1979, some 47 years ago!

This lovely Superdream was initially given an agreed insurance value of £4,500.00 but that was some years ago and before added improvements.

I firmly believe that the value of this extremely unique motorcycle should now be well worth a figure north of £5,000.00.

A superb machine, with incredibly low mileage, for which I am sensibly seeking offers of £4,500.00 o.n.o.

Contact details

Michael W George: - Home 01704 -876934 (Formby), Mobile 07990 572360, Email [mwg.1951@gmail.com](mailto:mwg.1951@gmail.com)

### **Lovely 1978 Honda Dream 400cc Twin Motorcycle.**

I originally drooled over this bike back in 2014 (when buying a Honda 400/4) I was so impressed with this bike that I begged the owner to sell it or let me know if he ever wanted to do so in the future, which he did some 6 years later! It was such a beautiful, comfortable and rare bike (I believe the 400cc twin Dream was only sold in the UK for about 6 months in 1978, being superseded by Honda's Superdream) and it literally does ride like a dream.

During my waiting time there had been a little deterioration of the chrome engine bars and rear carrier, so after purchasing it they were sent away for re-chroming. Other than new chrome mirrors, a new battery, brake calliper and pads, spark plugs, and a full

service and it was as good as new. For safety discrete daytime running lights were also fitted.

I researched the bike and have a full history confirming its provenance and mileage which proved to be genuine as it had only 3 former keepers and had been laid up for a period of 20 years from 1990 to 2010.

You really would be hard pushed to source such a beautiful, unique and rare twin Honda Dream (especially being a 400cc twin) in such superb condition with such low genuine mileage.



Again, this is a DVLA Historic Vehicle benefitting from being free of MOT and Road Tax and having the benefit of Honda economy, reliability and engineering and electric start in addition to its conventional kick start!

As you can see this unique machine has only covered a genuine 24,136 miles from when it was new in 1978, some 48 years ago.

Like its superseded Superdream this bike was initially given an agreed insurance value of £4,500.00 but that was some years ago, I do believe that such a unique motorcycle should now be worth a figure north of £5,500.00.

A superb low mileage machine, for which I would sensibly seek offers £4,500.00 o.n.o

Contact details

Michael W George: - Home 01704 -876934 (Formby), Mobile 07990 572360, Email [mwg.1951@gmail.com](mailto:mwg.1951@gmail.com)

### 1963 Velocette 500 Venom.

Good condition and runner. Selling on behalf of the widow of the last owner. The last two photos show details of the work done during restoration.



Price £6000

Please contact Ralph Taylor who is arranging the sale on:

[guidepostralph@gmail.com](mailto:guidepostralph@gmail.com) or phone 07981 995685 for more details.

**PLEASE NOTE:** the widow will be out of the country until the end of this month.

Velocette Venom Clubman Spec  
Registration Number ACC 957A  
Frame Number RS 16886  
Engine Number VM5674

These are matching engine and frame numbers as the machine left the factory, the Velocette factory records show :-  
Manufactured & Invoiced 09 07 1963 to  
Parks of Wolverhampton on invoice no 69064 Tab No 1529  
The factory records show an R after the engine number which may mean the bike was raced in the Clubmans

Work carried out to the above detailed motorcycle:-

Complete strip to bare frame and all parts repainted mainly in Velocette black.  
New Miller ammeter.  
New brake light switch, rod and nut.  
New footrest rubbers.

Seymour crankcase breathing system, as per Thruxton models under magneto.  
Special Seymour type sump return oil system, as per racing models.  
New fork damper assembly.  
New shock absorber plates.  
New chainguard.  
New 410 x 19 rear Avon Roadrunner & tube  
New 360 x 19 front Avon Roadrunner & tube  
New decompressor lever  
New dynamo  
New Magneto, manual advance & retard  
New voltage regulator – AO Services digital type  
New sweptback exhaust pipe  
New silencer  
New shaped dual seat  
Repainted Clubman tank  
New rebuilt wheels, hubs, bearings, new English chrome rims and spokes.  
Reconditioned Rev counter with new cable  
New stainless steel mudguards  
New carburettor  
New Lucas 700 headlamp, rim, glass and reflector  
New fork gaitors and clips  
Reconditioned twin leading shoe front brake  
Engine reconditioned

## Single Motorcycle Trailer.



Belonged to a N&D member who passed away.

£150.00 ono.

Please contact Graham Bower, who is acting on the widow's behalf for details.

07745888938 or

[graham.bower@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:graham.bower@hotmail.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](mailto: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.