

Established 1988

# THE OILY RAG

December 2016



**Merry Christmas!**

## **CLUB MEETING – 7<sup>th</sup> November**

Apologies were received from Chris Ellis, Bill Jones, Mike Norton and Bud Westcott.

Chairman, Ray Martin, began the meeting by welcoming new member Brian Clarke.

He then ran through a number of forthcoming events:

### **Boxing Day Run - Exmouth seafront**

A nice venue for a day out after the excesses of Christmas Day (although last year's event was something of a sandstorm). Meet at Exeter Quay at 10.00am for a 10.30am departure.

### **Janfest - Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> January**

The Club's post-Christmas get-together at The Twisted Oak. A good chance for us all to meet each other in a relaxed setting. Guests (1) - Wives, partners and friends of members are all welcome.

The cost is £15 per person (after a subsidy from club funds). The meal will be 3 courses, to include a main course carvery with a choice of meats, a vegetarian option and a choice of starter and dessert. Dave Denham is organising (thanks, Dave) and needs to know your starter and dessert choices asap. Please also indicate if you require a vegetarian main course. We are limited to 50 places so if you haven't yet booked and would like to attend please contact Dave at [daviddenhams@talktalk.net](mailto:daviddenhams@talktalk.net) or phone 01392 255268 or see him at the Club meeting on Monday 5th December. Dave will be collecting the payment at the December meeting.

### **Menu**

**The choices for the starter are –**

- (1) Country pate, crisp toast and red onion marmalade.**
- (2) Smoked haddock Thai fishcake with salad and chilli dressing.**
- (3) Traditional tomato soup and half baguette.**
- (4) Creamy wild mushrooms and brie on garlic bread.**

**The choices for dessert are --**

- (1) Christmas pudding and brandy custard.**
- (2) Homemade fresh fruit salad.**
- (3) Warm chocolate sponge with custard.**
- (4) Blackcurrant cheesecake with poached cinnamon pear.**

## Sammy Miller Museum - Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April

An interesting day out to see Sammy's extensive collection of classic bikes. The Club is planning to hire a minibus which Andy Donald has volunteered to drive (but don't let that put you off). Cost will be approx £15 - £17 per person plus an entry fee to the museum of £7, which also includes an auto jumble on the day.

The Chairman then moved on to mention the **Chris Hellier Shield**. Chris was a member of the Club (since the 1960s) who sadly collapsed on the Quay at the start of the Dartmoor Run in 2005 and later died. A shield in his memory was instituted the following year as one of the Dartmoor Run riders' awards, and engraved with the winner's name each year. As the shield was now full, the ECMC committee had agreed that it could be returned to Chris's family at their request.

A new award will now be introduced in memory of **Alan Cotterill**. Details to follow.

**Andy Donald** then stepped up to give the members a talk on the **Linkert carburettor** and other American carbs. These carbs were found on Indian and Harley Davidson motorcycles from the 1930s onwards and represented a different take on carburettor design from the Americans when compared with their British counterparts. One key benefit was that they were infinitely tuneable to suit an individual bike and were therefore effectively a bespoke carburettor.



*Never has a description of bellmouths, floats and needles been so compelling! Huge thanks go to Andy for such an entertaining and comprehensive talk.*

## Next Club meeting - Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December

The Lord (Lady?) Mayor, Cynthia Thompson and a representative from her chosen charity (which also happens to be ECMC's charity for 2016), Devon Freewheelers, will attend our next Club meeting to receive a cheque for funds raised from The Dartmoor Run. Please come along and support this Club Night if you can.

Finally, Ray would like to say a personal "thank you" to all the members who attend Club Nights for their kind attention and consideration when he is standing in front of them, speaking at the meetings. And, of course, for laughing at his jokes.



## Wednesday rideout - 2<sup>nd</sup> November

Following an email to members on Monday 31st October, seven members met at Bridge Motorcycles on 2nd November for a rideout. After visiting the Triumph section at Bridge and viewing the new Triumph T100 Bonneville, members made their way to Cafe 53 at Bridge for a coffee and in some cases a bacon sandwich. Peter White joined us for a



coffee, but indicated that he could not take part in the run as decorating was the order of the day!

After discussions as to where we would go, Chris Ellis suggested that he had found a cafe at Newton Abbott which he said was a good venue, so we agreed to pay a visit via a scenic route.

Leaving Bridge at about 10.30 the group followed David Denham to Ide, Tedburn and Moretonhampstead with a winding road to Bovey Tracey. Steve left the group at Bovey for another commitment. The six remaining members carried on to Newton Abbott and the Leisure Lounge Cafe, Kingsteignton part of the Winners 2000 gym complex overlooking Newton Abbott Racecourse.

Sitting outside on a very warm and sunny day for a lunch break and taking in the glorious views while watching powered model aircraft in the centre of the racecourse could not be better.

Following lunch the group headed back to Exeter with three members travelling via the Teign valley and the remainder taking the main road to Exeter. A really good ride enjoyed by all with a mileage of 61 for the day.

Motorcycles used -- 2 Triumph Bonneville's, Triumph America, Triumph Street Twin, 2 Kawasakis and a Suzuki. *Peter Smith*



## Bedford Square - Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November

A fine (if cold) day saw a good turnout of bikes for the Club's annual fundraiser for Hospicecare. A varied selection of members' bikes lined both sides of Bedford Square and provided plenty of diversion for the Christmas shoppers passing by. Although not yet December, people still had plenty of Christmas spirit and we managed to raise £567 - a great effort by everyone who attended.

Steve Adcock has posted a fine selection of photos from the day on Flickr. Some of them are shown here. Follow this link to see the full album:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/exetercmc/albums/72157677144571885>



*Rumour has it that some people ride bikes without an engine. You twist your wrist but nothing happens and you then have to pedal with your legs before you can go anywhere. The French are particularly keen on it, apparently. Here's a report from Steve Adcock:*

## Va Va Froome (as they say sur le continent)

Last July I took myself off to Paris to watch the final day of the Tour de France. I stayed with a friend I have made through motorcycling and with his guidance saw Paris as a Parisian for the first time. It's completely different to being on the tourist trail, which I have done many times. He lives in the 14th arrondissement, close to Montparnesse station. This is a fabulous multicultural area packed with restaurants run by all nationalities, and boasts one of the most famous food shopping streets in town.

Anyway, as we were wandering around, I started to observe what was happening in the motorcycle world. Lots of commuters on scooters, including plenty of the 3 wheel variety. Many of them have the full weatherproof aprons that sensible Europeans use. It was that or, being very hot weather, just wear your T shirt. It'll soon dry after one of the regular showers. They do not seem to suffer from the Hi-Vis/ protective clothing H&S paranoia that has gripped the UK. Possibly because the motorists treat them with respect (as they probably own a scooter too).

So, here's a link to some photo's. Sharp dressed men riding Hinkley Triumphs, Ducati Monsters and mildly customised BMWs (Bobbbers if you like). Also a smattering of older bikes all looking like they were in regular use. I even saw a pair of Norton 916s but was too slow to get a picture. Luckily, there was a shop close to the Arc de Triomphe selling them. [url]<https://www.flickr.com/photos/exetercmc/albums/72157671057296992/>[/url]



Oh yes, the Tour de France! I positioned myself on the Rue de Rivoli, perfectly placed to see Froomey and Team Sky lead the pack in Paris. And to watch the

police and camera bikes in action of course. Marvellous!



## CLUB RUNS 2017

Yes, folks, the 2017 dates are here! Just a few months of winter to get through before we start the runs again on 15<sup>th</sup> March. The format of a Wednesday Run and a Sunday Run is unchanged from 2016, as are the meeting places. Please make a special note of the **Dartmoor Run on 30<sup>th</sup> July** - the Club's flagship event. *Thanks to John Davey for the 2017 schedule.*

### Wednesday Runs

Meet at The Old Coachhouse, Cheriton Bishop. 10am for 10.30am

15 March 12<sup>th</sup> April 10<sup>th</sup> May 7<sup>th</sup> June 12<sup>th</sup> July 9<sup>th</sup> August 13<sup>th</sup> Sept  
11<sup>th</sup> October

### Sunday Runs

Meet at Sainsbury's cafe at the Pinhoe store. 10am for 10.30am

26<sup>th</sup> March 23<sup>rd</sup> April 21<sup>st</sup> May 25<sup>th</sup> June 24<sup>th</sup> July 27<sup>th</sup> August 24<sup>th</sup> Sept

### Dartmoor Run Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July



## OTHER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

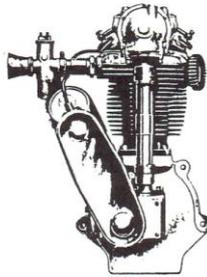
**Exmouth Boxing Day Run. Meet at Exeter Quay, 10am for 10.30am departure**

**Janfest Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> January**

**Sammy Miller Museum trip Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April**

**EXETER CLASSIC MOTOR  
CYCLE CLUB**

EST.



1988

**INFORMATION**

## **WHO'S WHO IN THE CLUB**

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John Davey, Dave Denham  
Mervyn Green, Gerry Merchant