

Established 1988

# THE OILY RAG

February 2019



**Andy Donald**  
**1948 Indian Chief**

## Andy Donald

Andy Donald's memorial and thanksgiving service was held at St Michael's Church Alphington on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> January. The service was well attended with over £400 collected in tribute to Andy and donated to Devon Freewheelers, a charity close to Andy's heart. Ray Martin (Club Welfare Officer) gave the following tribute to our friend and former Club Treasurer:

\*\*\*\*\*

*Andy joined our club in May 2014, arriving on his magnificent 1948 Indian Chief. He quickly entered into the spirit of our friendly club, and took part in all our ride-outs, displays, outdoor shows and charity fund raising.*

*Whenever we went on a club run, I would always ride just behind him, and as we turned the many bends and corners, he would disappear from view, but the lovely sound of his big v-twin as he accelerated away from the corner was a clear signal that the road ahead was clear and I could follow the sound with confidence.*

*We all became firm friends with Andy, with his obvious passion for all things motorcycling, and his dedication to our club and its members over the years.*

*In 2016 we lost our Treasurer and Andy volunteered for the post, despite being already well involved with the Indian Club as their magazine editor, and he proved to be a responsible and meticulous treasurer with clockwork reliability, a real asset to the club.*

*When we decided on a club excursion to a motorbike museum in Hampshire Andy did all the organising of the trip, including hiring a mini-bus, and did all the driving for us on a wet, windy but happy day. Wonderful commitment...*

*In 2016, the chairman included Andy in his 'Men of the Year' awards, giving praise for his calm, cool, laid-back approach to his duties as treasurer and committee member. I think we all agreed this summed up Andy to a T.*

*When Andy became poorly, we tried to give Andy all the support we could, particular mention goes to David, John, Pete and Mike who all gave up their time to help him over the difficult period.*

*As Andy once said his family was his bike club and his church.*

*Enough to say he was admired and loved by all who met him and will stay in our memories for a very long time as someone very special in our lives.*

*Thank you. Ray*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Cover Picture:** Andy setting-off from Exeter Quay at the start of the 2014 annual Dartmoor Run.

If any members would like copies of Andy's short autobiography or of the photographs which were displayed at the memorial service please contact the Editor.

## Editor's Bit

Thank you again for the feedback on the magazine. As ever all contributions are welcome. I would also like to emphasise that this is the Club's, not my, magazine and I will always drop one of my 'dead donkey' articles in favour of a club member's contribution.

This month it's good to have available some Japanese and two-stroke bike input to balance my usual British four-stroke musings.

Also included is the first of the motorcyclographies which is the one for Brian Sussex. A big thank you to club member Simon Spoerer for originating this idea along with creating a new word for my spell checker. Please keep sending them in and remember to include some photos.

This month's recommended website is actually a link to a Youtube video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0LnNP7mw7XY> This links to a film recording of the Post-TT meeting held at Mallory Park in 1978 in which Mike Hailwood races the Sports Motorcycles Ducati 900 bike on which he had won the F1 TT race in the previous week. It's just great to be able to watch Hailwood at work on a long wheelbase bike – necessary for the 90 degree V-Twin Ducati engine – which is not well suited to such a short tight circuit as Mallory Park.

My contact details for any questions and articles are on the back page (Club Who's Who).

*Andy Heathwood (AH)*

\*\*\*\*\*

## Oily Rag – you've read the magazine now wear the clothing

I recently stumbled upon this fine company:



They produce a range of retro looking t-shirts featuring designs including various bikes, a spark plug, a timing wheel and a wiring diagram. Also available is the 'suck-squeeze-bang-blow' range referring of course to the 4 stages in the 4-stroke engine cycle. I'm sure you weren't thinking it could be anything else.

Other clothing items and accessories are available for men and women directly from them at their website <https://oilyrag.com/> and also from other suppliers, e.g. <https://saltflatsclothing.co.uk/> who at the time of writing were offering reduced price items in their sale.

*AH*



## Club Matters

### Club Evening Ride-Outs

Last year we held a couple of early evening ride outs on club meeting nights, heading off at 7pm. This year the plan is to hold these every club night from April through to September. The idea is to make it back to the Twisted Oak in time for the club meeting at 8pm. The first such ride out will be held on 1<sup>st</sup> April leaving at 7pm prompt.

### Monthly Club Sunday Ride Outs

These are planned to commence on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March, meeting at the Toby Middlemoor at 09:00 for a 10:00 start. There are four possible routes as follows:

1. Hawkins British Motorcycle Museum, St Stephen, Cornwall PL26 7LB
2. Corfe Castle & Swanage Railway, Wareham, Dorset BH20 5EJ
3. Minehead to Lynmouth
4. The Tank Museum, Bovington, Wareham Dorset, BH20 6JG

The route will be decided by ballot at the club meeting held on February 4<sup>th</sup>. If the weather is bad on 17<sup>th</sup> then the ride will be postponed one week, i.e. to the 24<sup>th</sup> March.

Please feel free to suggest new routes via the club suggestion scheme. The Runs Organiser (Steve Trevena) would welcome suggestions for routes anywhere within the 4 counties of Cornwall, Devon, Dorset and Somerset.

### Possible 3-day trip to Wales

Anyone interested in participating in a 3-day trip to Wales, avoiding motorways? Please contact Steve Trevena (see Club Who's Who).

### February Additional Club Events

Two diary dates:

- **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> February club meeting:**
  - Talk on modern oils for classic air cooled four-strokes.
  - Results of charity sealed bid auctions for bikes donated (funds raised are to be split between RD&E Bramble Ward and Hospiscare).
- **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February:** 10:00 – 12:00 am visit to Marsh Barton Incinerator.

### May Club Meeting Date

May Day bank holiday falls on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May so the club meeting will take place on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May at the Twisted Oak as usual.

### Club Treasurer

Steve Trevena has taken up the position of ECMC Club Treasurer with effect from his election at the club meeting held on Monday 7 January 2019. Club cheque signatories have been updated to two of the following; Chairman, Secretary and Vice Chairman. The application to add Steve's name as the fourth signatory has been submitted to the bank.

### Possible trip to Triumph Factory and National Motorcycle Museum

If you are interested in going on such a visit please contact Steve Trevena. A minibus may be hired for transport depending on numbers. Admission to Triumph for the 90 minute factory tour is £18 with half price entrance to NMM, e.g. £7.95 for seniors.



## My Motorcyclography – Brian Sussex

### What was your first motorcycle?

My first two-wheeled transport was a Lambretta Li150 scooter. My first road motorcycle at age seventeen, was a BSA Golden Flash 650cc four-stroke parallel twin – not that I had passed my test...

### When and where did you pass your test? Was it your first try?

I didn't take my test until 1979 aged 28! I passed first time.

### What is/are your current bike(s)?

- 1955 BSA A10 Golden Flash
- 1958 BSA C15 Star
- 2004 Yamaha TTR250 x 2
- 2011 Kawasaki W800

### Of all the bikes you've owned which was / is your favourite, and why?

It's the Golden Flash – a lovely old classic that starts easily and runs great. A comfortable ride and a wonderful exhaust note!

### What's your favourite motorcycling memory?

Trail riding across the mountains of the Dingle Peninsula in Ireland with a group of friends led by the late Olly Cooke - RIP

### Do you have any motorcycling related future plans?

Maybe take the Golden Flash over to France for an adventure!

### Brian's bikes

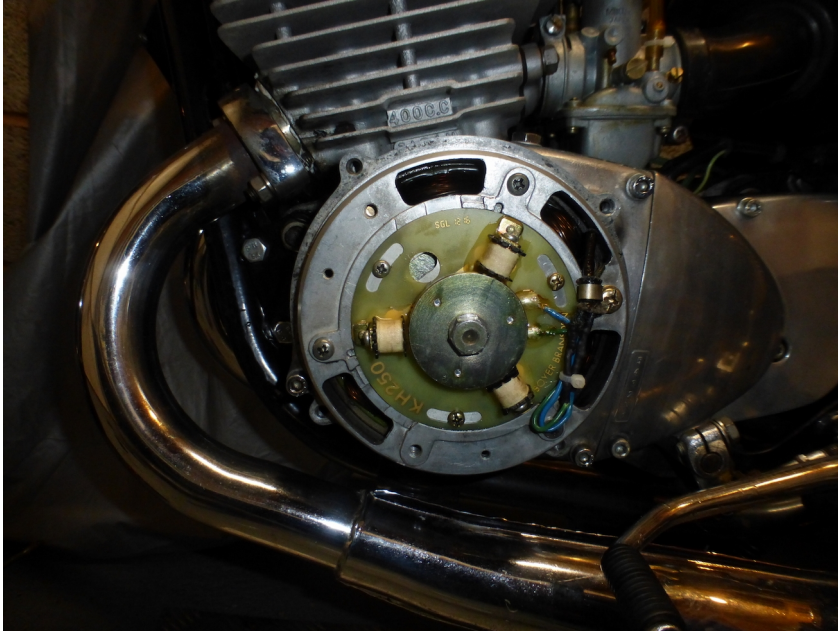


## Kawasaki KH400 – investigating ignition problems

I am investigating an ignition problem on my KH400 and on removing the points cover, quite a lot of oil came out. This can only point to one thing, the crank seal is leaking.

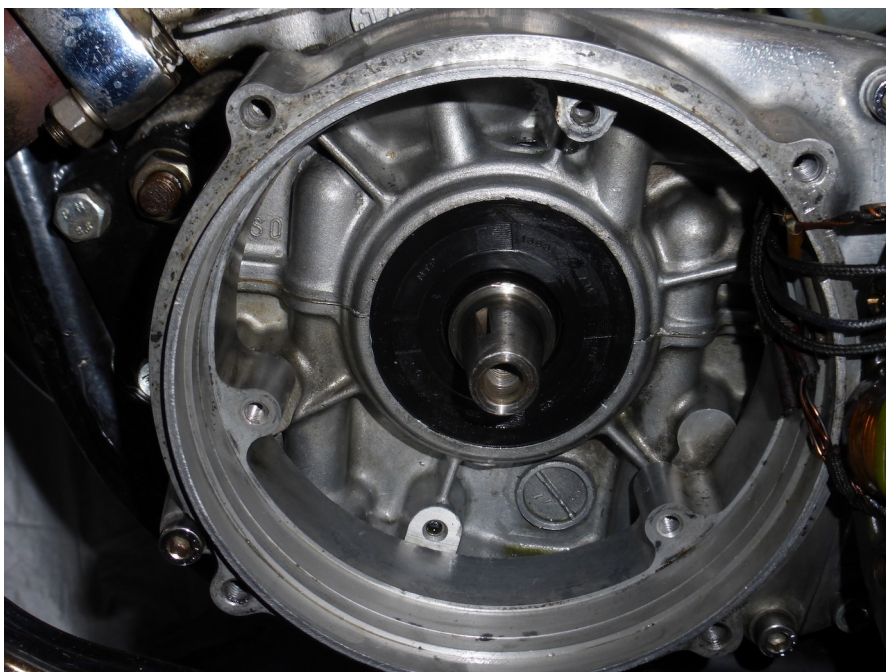
I did lots of research and found a nice video of a seal being replaced, so I ordered a new one and set about investigating.

First task, try to get inside here without disturbing the Boyer timing.



Happily, removing the 3 screws does not disturb the stator plate and the pickup has a locating pin.

The rotor is located with a woodruff key, also important as this sets the timing too.





If you look very closely, you may see that the seal is slightly proud of the casing. To remove it, you punch (NOT DRILL!!!) a hole in the seal. On the first tap of the hammer, the seal moved in slightly. This was good news! Screwing in a self taper pushes the seal out.

Here are the old and the, much better quality, new seals:



I took the precaution of adding a Loctite oil resistant sealant around the seal.

Now I just have to wait until the engine runs again to see if the leak is cured. Happy days!

★★★★★ Service Stars to Motor Parts Direct on Marsh Barton who understood what sealant I required, and [kawasakitripleparts.com](http://kawasakitripleparts.com) for their usual quick delivery.

*Steve Adcock*



## Cheap and cheerful classic bike security

For us classic bike owners protecting our bikes from ‘tea leafs’ when we’re out and about can be a bit of a problem. This brief article looks at some of the options and recommends a low cost one.

Some of the methods with their pros and cons are shown below:

Method	Advantages	Disadvantages
Strong chain and lock	A good security mechanism not too expensive (<£100)	Must be heavy chain to be strong enough and something strong to chain to is needed. Can be difficult to carry on the bike.
SmartWater, Datatag, Alphasdot etc.	Has a deterrent effect and helps track thieves and bike parts. Low <£100 cost.	Depends on level of use of all scanner types by the police.
Tracking Device	Best chance of tracking thieves and the bike to recover it.	Initially costly with an ongoing charge, e.g. for phone SIM. May be found and easily removed by thieves.
Movement alarm	Deterrent effect if fitted and especially if triggered. Portable. Low cost (from £20).	Won't prevent the <i>'4 strong blokes with two scaffold poles and a large van'</i> method of thievery.

I opted for a movement alarm and, as my bike has conventionally spoked wheels, was able to use a low-cost disk alarm locked over a wheel spoke. Several brands are available but I opted for one from JDC which is available on eBay for around £20.

The lock was delivered with spare batteries, 3 keys and a hexagon key for changing batteries. There is no danger of moving-off with the lock fitted as the slightest movement sets-off the alarm, e.g. moving the bike off the centre/side stand or sitting on the bike.



Illustration 1: Disk movement alarm



Illustration 2: Fitted to rear wheel spoke

The lock works well with no false alarms and it is small enough to carry in a jacket pocket or small tank bag.

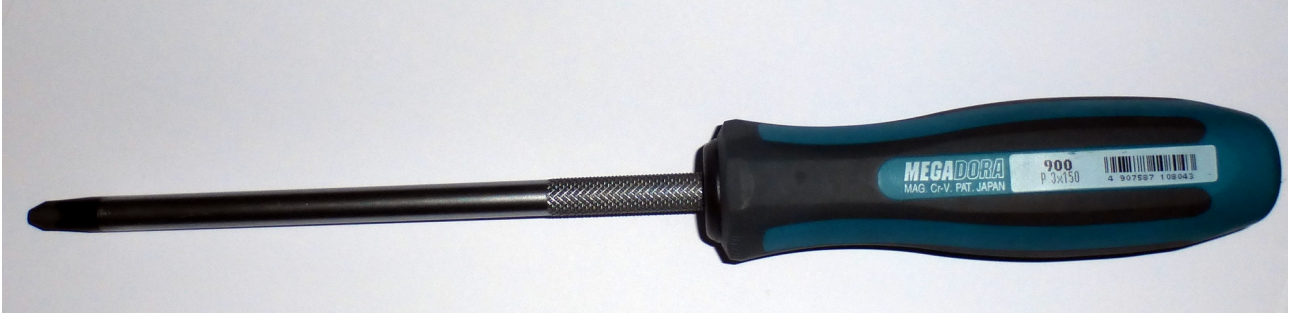
AH

## Japanese Screwdrivers (JIS, Japanese Industrial Standard)

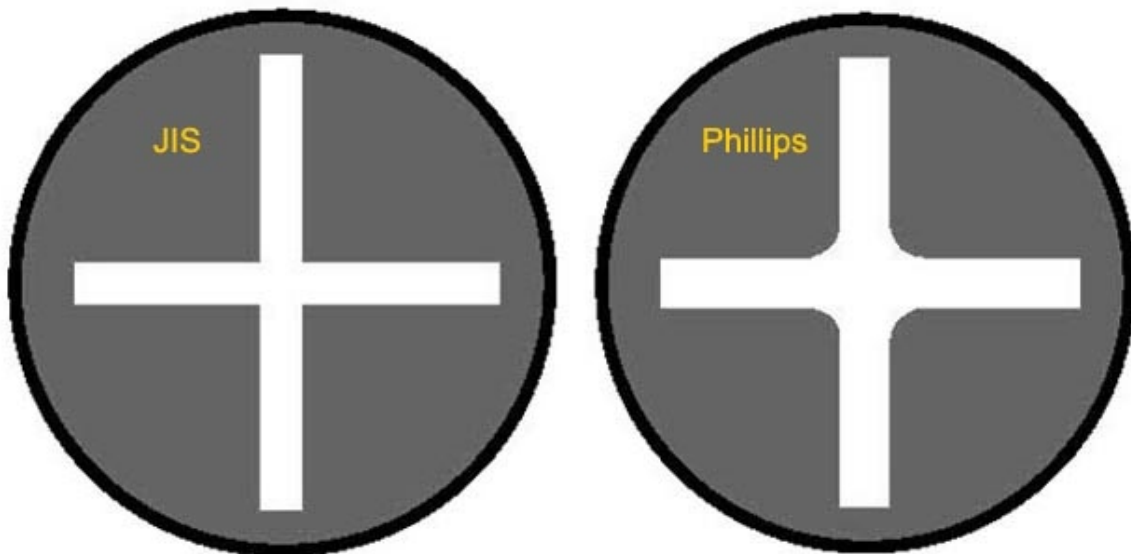
Is there such a thing?

Well, you may be surprised to learn that there is. Remember all those chewed up crosshead screws on secondhand Japanese bikes? We all said it was because they were made out of cheese and/or monkey metal. However, in this modern day and age, you can find weird and wonderful things on t'internet.

I have a set of Vessel Megadora JIS screwdrivers, here's one now:



...and this is how they differ from Phillips



You can find them on a well known Internet Sales Site, not exactly cheap but worth every penny IMHO.

*Steve Adcock*

## Exeter Services (an occasional plug for local bike-related services)

*Wild West Custom Paint* Unit 6, Grace Road Central, Marsh Barton, Exeter EX2 8QA (Tel: 07939 465528) – mentioned by John Margetts (see December 2018 Oily Rag) for tank repairs and painting. If you take a look at their website

<https://www.wildwestcustompaint.co.uk/> and facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/wildwestcustompaint/> there are photographs showing the standard of work which includes work on motorbikes and scooters amongst the various car projects. *AH*

## Club Facebook Use

There are now 88 Facebook members, up 5 in the last month. Only 127 posts, comments and reactions (to 27<sup>th</sup> January), down from an impressive 533 last month.

*Steve Marcus (Facebook Administrator)*

## Club Regalia

Peter White holds small stocks of club regalia which are available on club nights:



Hi Vis Waistcoat £3



Lapel Badge £4



Sticker 50p



Machine Badge £15



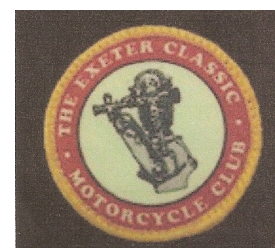
Baseball Cap £5



New Polo Shirt £20



Black Fleece £15



Sew On Badge £2



Windscreen Sticker 50p

## Available to borrow

**Small bike lift.** Type that lifts frame rails or crankcase. £5 per loan. Contact Chris Ellis.

**Single bike trailer.** For a donation to club funds. Contact Ray Martin.





## CLUB RUNS AND OTHER EVENTS

### 2019 Meets and Runs

**Wednesday** meets and possible runs – every Wednesday meeting at 9-10am at Toby Carvery, Exeter Arms, Middlemoor, Exeter EX2 7HL.

**Sunday** meets and possible runs – every Sunday 9-10am at Toby Carvery, Exeter Arms, Middlemoor, Exeter EX2 7HL.

### 2019 Dates for Club Events

- Devon County Show: Thu 16-Sat 18 May
- Alphington Church Fête: Sat 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2-5pm
- Historic Vehicle Gathering at Powderham Castle: Sat 13-Sun 14 July
- ECMC Annual Dartmoor Run: Sun 28 July
- Exmouth Classic Vehicle Gathering: Sun 18 August
- Dawlish Bike & Trike Show: Sun 1st September
- Bedford Square: Sat 7<sup>th</sup> December

### Club Meetings – at The Twisted Oak, Ide

4<sup>th</sup> February, 4<sup>th</sup> March, 1<sup>st</sup> April, 7<sup>th</sup> May (usually first Monday of the month).

### Committee Meetings

18<sup>th</sup> March 2019

If there are any issues club members would like to raise with the Committee please contact any Committee member (see back page for Who's Who in the Club).

### Other Events (for information)

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2019, 09:30 – 16:00. Admission £3 per person.

VMCC Somerset Section, Motorcycle Autojumble, Royal Bath & West Showground, Shepton Mallet, Somerset BA4 6QN



## Some of our sponsors and supporters:

(Have your membership card with you and you may receive a discount)

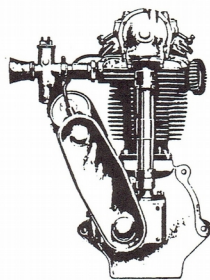
**Treen Motors, Charlotte Street, Crediton EX17 3BG** (on the corner, facing you as you ride through Crediton from Exeter). Tel. 01363 772283. Motorcycle servicing and MOTs. Used motorcycles, accessories. Support vehicle for the Dartmoor Run.

**The Worx, King Edward Street, Exeter, Devon EX4 4NY.** Servicing, repairs, MOTs, wheel building etc. For modern and classic bikes. Discount on bike MOTs for ECMC members. They now do car MOTs, servicing and repairs too. Tel. Chris on 01392 272722

**Exeter Engineering, Higher Park, Pennymoor, Tiverton EX16 8LL.** Tel. 01392 344944. [www.exeterengineering.co.uk](http://www.exeterengineering.co.uk). Restoration and renovation of classic vehicles, from individual components to full projects and everything in between.

# EXETER CLASSIC MOTOR CYCLE CLUB

EST.



1988

## INFORMATION

## WHO'S WHO IN THE CLUB

Chairman: Mervyn Green – 07799 100505

[mervyngreen@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:mervyngreen@tiscali.co.uk)

Vice-Chairman: Ray Heggadon – 07711690094

[laurays44@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:laurays44@yahoo.co.uk)

Secretary: Adrian Evans – 07712 063057

[adrianevans1960@outlook.com](mailto:adrianevans1960@outlook.com)

Membership Secretary: Chris Ellis – 01392 833354

1 The Paddocks, Kennford EX6 7XY

[ellis\\_family@talk21.com](mailto:ellis_family@talk21.com)

Treasurer: Steve Trevena 07817 764468

[ragtagsteve@outlook.com](mailto:ragtagsteve@outlook.com)

Club Regalia: Peter White – 01392 211474

[whiteski@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:whiteski@blueyonder.co.uk)

Welfare Officer: Ray Martin – 01392 274365

[mrnmrsmartin@btinternet.com](mailto:mrnmrsmartin@btinternet.com)

Website and photo albums: Steve Adcock – 01392 491346

[stevea.exeter@btinternet.com](mailto:stevea.exeter@btinternet.com)

Magazine editor: Andy Heathwood – 01647 252680, 07771 906647

[andyheathwood@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:andyheathwood@yahoo.co.uk)

Runs Organiser: Steve Trevena – 07817 764468

[ragtagsteve@outlook.com](mailto:ragtagsteve@outlook.com)

Facebook Administrator: Steve Harcus – 07779 342154

[sthbs@sky.com](mailto:sthbs@sky.com)

Committee Member: Laura Heggadon – 07711 690094

[laurays44@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:laurays44@yahoo.co.uk)