



## NEWSLETTER

Issue 2 – April 14<sup>th</sup> 2021

Editor Geoff McGladdery – [herefordvmcc@outlook.com](mailto:herefordvmcc@outlook.com)

Welcome to issue 2 of the event newsletter. It is sent only to those who have previously entered, those who have expressed an interest in entering and event supporters. **If you wish to be removed from the mailing list, please let me know.**

## COVID

The 5th edition of Herefordshire on the Edge is still on track to run as planned on Sunday June 27<sup>th</sup>. Ideally we will be able to hold the event in the same way it has been held in previous years, but if that is not possible we feel we have contingencies in place, which will allow us to work around any restrictions short of a complete lockdown or travel ban. If for any reason, the event has to be cancelled before June 25<sup>th</sup>, we will return any entry fees in full.

## ENTRIES

We now have 51 paid-up entries, a shade over half way to our target of 100. Thanks to all of you for your support.

As ever, we have a fantastic spread of machines ranging from the oldest – Steve Sumner's 1926 BSA, to the youngest – Laurence Bourne's 2021 Kawasaki Z900RS. As they say "It takes all kinds to make a world". Slowly but surely we are attracting more "Banbury" bikes (pre 1930) and we have four

entered to date. One of them, Rob Woodford's 550cc 1929 CSD Triumph looks wonderful here in the evening sunshine.



Don't feel that you will be handicapped by riding an older bike. Terry Pickering romped to a gold medal in 2018 aboard his 1928 500cc Humber.



The average age of the machines is 55.8, with 1966 being the median age. The most popular of the seventeen marques is Triumph with seven, followed by BSA and Honda with five each. Almost half the entry are British machines.

## TRUST ME "SIZE DOESN'T MATTER"

Average capacity, is a lardy 506 cc. Whilst results clearly show there is nothing wrong with larger machines they also show that there is nothing wrong with smaller ones either. We will always offer encouragement to those choosing to ride smaller machines. Many of the event's roads are narrow and sinuous, often being single-track, where high speeds are impossible. The terrain definitely favours lightweights with good brakes and handling.

Amongst the largest of the eligible machinery is Jon Sugden's rare and handsome 1968 750 cc Norton P11. An "Edge" regular, Jon picked up a "Ragged" Gold in 2019.





## NO TIDDLERS YET

No real tiddlers have entered as yet, but we do have a couple of 175 cc Bantams.



Fred Spaven and partner Emily, have already

picked up a silver medal in 2017 on their 1960 D7 and are hoping to go one better this year. It is good to report that their relationship survived the experience! That same year saw one of the best ever tiddler performances from Simon Taylor. Only a late mechanical failure prevented him from winning a medal on his mighty 50cc Honda PA VLC Camino moped.



Sadly, since then, no one else has attempted the event on a moped or a step-thru.

Scooters too have never featured in the results.



Although Bromyard's Andy Rollings and his mates looked great at the start, they found the 2018

event too challenging and retired "en-masse" shortly after taking a leisurely lunch at Hay-on-Wye. We would love to see some scooters in 2021.



Dutchman George Bouret entered in the cancelled 2020 edition on this Laverda and was keen to carry this over to 2021, but the current difficulties in travelling from Holland to the UK mean that we will probably have to wait until the 2022 edition to call ourselves an "International".

Ann West on her 1981 Honda Benley CD200 is the only lady rider to have signed up so far this year, although we expect several more to follow. No three-wheelers yet, but there have been at least



five in every event to date. They're challenging in the narrow lanes, particularly when they have no reverse, but three-wheelers have always featured strongly in the results. Pete and Jan Howells won a "Ragged Edge" Gold in 2018 in their "steam punk" Citroen-powered home-brewed special.



Bob and Josie Ashwin made Bronze on their splendid 1936 AJS "Commercial", a machine I would love to own, but hate to ride in Herefordshire on the Edge!



If your taste is not for steam punk, sidecars, step-thrus or scooters, then how about a true mid-century British Classis? They don't get much more

British and much more "Classic" than John Taylor's well turned out 1956 Velocette Venom.



Whatever you choose to ride you are assured of a warm welcome from our organising team. (N.B. – machines under 25 years of age will be classified, but do not qualify for any awards)

### THE "150" MEDAL

An innovation for 2021 is the "150" medal. This will be awarded when the combined age of the entrant and their machine reaches 150. If you don't expect to see anyone win this medal, then think again, we already have 4 qualifying entries!

### CARRIED OVER ENTRY FEES FROM 2020

If you opted to carry over your 2020 entry fee to 2021, you are guaranteed a place, at no additional cost but it is important that you complete and send a 2021 entry form. It would be helpful if you could do that sooner rather than later. Don't waste money on post, you may just send a scan or a decent phone picture.

### ACCOMODATION

For those travelling from distance to the event, we would strongly recommend staying at the Lion at

Leintwardine.



Set in beautiful surroundings on the banks of the river Teme, in the picturesque village of Leintwardine, this quiet country inn with its riverside gardens is the perfect place to unwind, enjoy a drink or dinner, as well as being in an excellent position for exploring the delights of North Herefordshire, South Shropshire and the historic town of Ludlow.

**There are only a few rooms available, so please book early.**

<http://www.thelionleintwardine.co.uk/home>

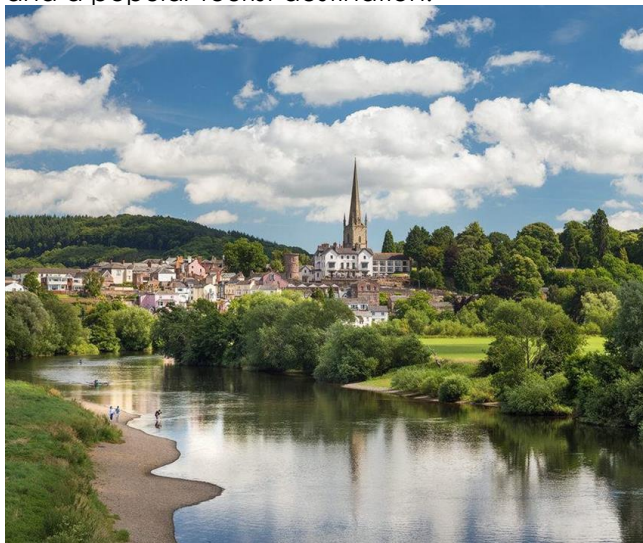
Accommodation is also available at the Southern start at the Premier Inn, which is on the same site as the Travellers Rest - Ledbury Road, Ross-On-Wye, Herefordshire HR9 7QJ.



To make a booking, use their website. Their normal rates apply. Whilst they have a lot of rooms, early booking is recommended. They sold out in 2019!



There are of course other hotels and guest houses in the area, just use the usual websites to search. Ross-on-Wye is a beautiful historic market town and a popular tourist destination.



It is ideally placed to explore Symonds Yat and the Forest of Dean.

All arrangements for cancellation charges are made between the hotels and the guest. We regret that, **Herefordshire on the Edge 2021** can take no responsibility for these charges and nor are we able to act as a booking agent for accommodation.

### WESTERN REGION ROAD TRIAL CHAMPIONSHIP

The Western Region Road Trial Championship will take place this year. The format will be the same as in previous years, with points awarded to entrants in each qualifying event. The championship will be using its traditional classes, veteran, vintage, post-vintage, post-war, post '60 or classic and post '75 or modern.

#### The qualifying events are:

**June 26th** *Flat-Tank & Cotswold Run*  
**June 27th** *Herefordshire on the Edge*

**July 4th**  
**August 1st**  
**August 7th (Sat)**  
**September 12th**  
**Sept 17th – 19th**  
**September 26th**

**West Wilts White Horse Trial**  
**Somerset Signpost Rally**  
**Cotswold Signpost Rally**  
**Vale of Glamorgan Run**  
**Saundersfoot Weekend**  
**Levis Trial**

Some events have been lost to COVID this year, and the future of others may still be in doubt, The Felix Burke Trial has been cancelled, but it's hoped all of the other events will run as planned. If you would like more information on any events in this excellent championship, contact Robert Rendell by email at [ear@globalnet.co.uk](mailto:ear@globalnet.co.uk) or phone him on 01452 863470.

### NEW SECTION WEBSITE

There is a complete section of the site dedicated to **Herefordshire on the Edge**. You can find results and photos from previous events and you can download entry forms and regulations. <https://herefordmidwalesvmcc.org/herefordshire-on-the-edge/>

### COMPASS AND CWMPAS

These two events were introduced in 2020 as substitutes for **Herefordshire on the Edge**. They have proved so popular that we will run them again on 2021.



**Compass** will be open from August 1<sup>st</sup> to Sep 5<sup>th</sup> and **Cwmpas** from May 1<sup>st</sup> to Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>. Regulations are available on our website and the

Waypoints lists will be published immediately before the opening day of each event.

These two rides offer you a great opportunity to travel our wonderful roads and to visit some little known, but fascinating corners of Herefordshire and Mid-Wales – the land that time forgot! The events are suitable for machines of any age or capacity. As per 2020, event stickers, badges and certificates will be awarded to all participants. Our thanks to Ray Whittaker, for his work on the badge and logo design and to John Munday, Mike Bertenshaw, Roger Bibbings and Chris Lawton-Smith for making this event possible.




### ST MICHAEL'S HOSPICE

Since the first event in 2016, entrants have raised funds for our wonderful Herefordshire Charity – The St Michael's Hospice.

We would be delighted if you chose to support the charity. You can find all the information you need on their website. Please tell us if you have collected for the Hospice. We would like to thank those who donated their **Herefordshire on the Edge 2020** entry fee to the Hospice, it was much appreciated.

<http://www.st-michaels-hospice.org.uk/>



**Find us on**  Updates and other stuff can be found on our **Facebook** page – VMCC Herefordshire section. Feel free to post to it. If you post stuff on your own Facebook page, please remember to link it to ours. If you're not sure how to do it - ask your grandkids!