



## NEWSLETTER

Issue 1 Jan 12th 2023

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Welcome to issue 1 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.**

### 7<sup>th</sup> EDITION

Welcome to the 7<sup>th</sup> running of **“Herefordshire on the Edge”**, which will be held on **Sunday June 25<sup>th</sup> 2023**. In addition to this newsletter, you should have received a set of regulations and an entry form. If you haven't received these, please email me at the address above. We will be delighted to see all of you who have entered before and hope that those of you who haven't yet entered will do so in 2023. If you've enjoyed previous events, please encourage your friends to enter.

### WHAT IS IT ALL ABOUT?

**“Herefordshire on the Edge 23”** – is an enjoyable, full day event for 2 or 3 wheelers. It will challenge entrants' riding and navigation skills and test their machines over a wide range of surfaced roads. The 7<sup>th</sup> running of this unique event provides entrants with the opportunity to explore some remote and beautiful corners of one of Britain's most scenic, most historic, but least visited counties.

The locations of 24 waypoints, spaced at roughly 6 mile intervals on and around the borders of Herefordshire will be published two weeks before the event, in the form of post codes, 6 figure grid references, DMM map co-ordinates and *“what three words”*. You simply plan and follow a route to visit as many of these waypoints as you choose. You are welcome to use maps, satnavs or any other system you feel comfortable with. There is no right way or wrong way, **just your way!**

#### HEREFORDSHIRE ON THE “RAGGED EDGE”

For the ambitious, four of the waypoints will have **alternative** locations, sited on non-damaging, unsurfaced roads and possibly involving a water splash. In normal summer conditions these will be passable, with care on road tyres. You may choose to visit any or all of these alternative waypoints as you wish. Entrants visiting all four qualify for a **“Herefordshire on the Ragged Edge”** ribbon **in addition** to any other award they may earn.

**NB** - these waypoints are **alternatives** and not additional. It will be quite clear when the route instructions are issued, where these alternative waypoints are. There is absolutely no penalty for not visiting these alternative waypoints.



All other awards are detailed in the “Regulations”

### TWO START/FINISH POINTS.

As usual, there are 2 start/finish points. You may select either, but you must start and finish at the same point to qualify for an award.

- The Southern Start/Finish will be located at the Travellers Rest, HR9 7QJ, on the outskirts of the beautiful market town of Ross-on-Wye.
- The Northern Start/Finish will again be based at the excellent Lion Hotel, Leintwardine SY7 0JZ.

### ACCOMODATION

For those travelling from afar 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 location for exploring



the delights of North Herefordshire, South Shropshire and the wonderful historic town of Ludlow. There are only a few rooms available, so please book early.

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

Accommodation is available at the Premier Inn, which is on the same site as the Southern start, 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 2021 and 2022!

There are of course other hotels, guest houses B&Bs and camp sites in the area. We recommend exploring the "Visit Herefordshire" website, which has a directory of local accommodation

<https://www.visitherefordshire.co.uk/>

### WHY NOT EXTEND YOUR STAY?

We have arranged a series of 5 full-day rides – **To Herefordshire & Beyond** – from June 19<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> - the week preceding "Herefordshire on the Edge 23". To ensure that you ride the best roads and see the finest scenery, experienced local section members will plan and lead the rides. Coffee and lunch stops will be arranged and there will be free use of a fully equipped workshop for any maintenance or repair works.

### NO CHARGE FOR THESE RIDES

There is no charge for these additional rides and no need to register in advance. You can do some of them or all of them. Route maps and other details will be available on our website closer to the event. If you plan to do the whole week, and require hotel accommodation, we have arranged special prices at Hereford's famous city centre hotel – The Green Dragon, which has secure parking.



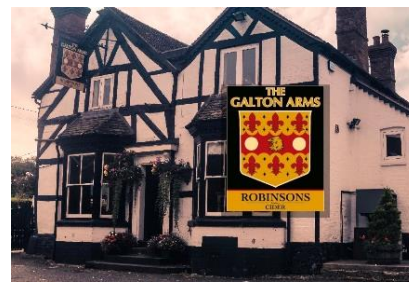
Hotel places are limited, so if you intend to take part, you must contact Terry Pickering on 07850 602222 as soon as possible.

### THE GIRDER FORK RUN

On Saturday June 24<sup>th</sup>, all "Herefordshire on the Edge 2023" entrants, whatever machine they are riding, are invited to join The VMCC's North Birmingham section "Girder Fork Run". This free, informal, 65-mile social event, commences at 10.30 from Rowberry's Garden Centre & Café (Lower Chaddesley Corbett, Kidderminster, DY10 4QN) Riders usually begin to gather from 10.00, allowing time for a bit of "tyre-kicking", pre-run coffee and toasted tea-cake .....and of course the necessary facilities!

### LUNCH STOP AT THE GALTON ARMS

Whilst the route has not been finalised, it is usually through Worcestershire and south Shropshire, on reasonably surfaced minor roads with an occasional ford which, where possible, has a bypass route for those not so adventurous or where pre-event heavy rain has caused significant swelling of the crossing. The lunch venue, at about 45- 50 miles will be the



Galton Arms at Himbleton, WR9 7LQ, which offers mid-day lunches from simple sandwiches to a more substantial feast, but more importantly the

venue is only about 15 miles from the start point to allow easy return for those who have brought their machine on a trailer, or a simple drop-off point for making the homeward journey. A route sheet is provided for all participants which is of the usual 'tulip' or pictorial format which allows riders to set their own pace or ride in small groups.

Organised by Mark Baker, the "Girder Fork Run" was introduced to the North Birmingham Section's calendar in the 1980's as a short run of about 40 miles specifically for and to encourage the use of early vintage girder fork machines.



Why not grab the opportunity for a second ride of the weekend and enjoy mingling with some interesting and historic machinery. No re-booking is necessary, just turn up at the start.



## SIGHTSEEING

If you don't fancy any more riding, The historic market towns of Hay-on-Wye, Ross-on-Wye, Ledbury and Ludlow will reward time spent and a walk on the wonderful Malvern Hills may be the ideal preparation for Sunday's ride.

## ANYTHING NEW FOR 2023?

The basic structure of the event remains the same, with any changes being based on entrant's experiences and feedback.

The traditional Cardinal Point West will no longer be located in the Town of Hay itself and will move to a more convenient location a couple of miles away. There will be a waypoint in Hay, which will encourage entrants to discover the beautiful border town.

## "150" AWARD

Following its highly successful introduction in 2021, the 150 award will be continued in 2023. In addition to whatever event award you receive, If the combined age of you and your machine totals 150 or more, you will automatically receive the 150-award conditional upon you visiting all the cardinal points and arriving at your chosen finish control prior to its closure.

## "50" AWARD

In the same way we aim to encourage older riders on older machinery, we would be delighted to see younger riders on newer machinery (but still at least 25 years old). We will make a special award when the age of the rider and machine equals 50 or less. As per the above, the "50" award will be made in addition to any event award and is conditional upon you visiting all the cardinal points and arriving at your chosen finish control prior to its closure.

## MACHINES AND THEIR RIDERS



24 different marques entered "[Herefordshire on the Edge 22](#)" 41 were of British origin, 32 Japanese and 20 European, with Honda, once again proving to be the most popular. Average age of the machines in 2022 was 55 (i.e. manufactured in 1967). The oldest was 96 and the youngest 14 (NB - machines under 25 years of age are not eligible for prizes and are only admitted if the entry list is not full...Ed).

It is wonderful to see Vincent and Brough owners rubbing shoulders with passionate Lambretta riders

and girder fork owners sharing the tarmac with mid '80s Superbikes. We hope 2023 will bring an even wider range of machines to the line - perhaps we might see another 100-year-old machine or our first American made bike.



The average age of the riders was 64, our oldest (who shall remain anonymous), was born in 1939, took a bronze and vows to return in 2023. Our youngest entrant, Harley MT350 mounted Jack England - a mere child of 30!

Average machine capacity was a lumpen 533cc. We didn't see any British "go-to-work" 2-strokes last year, not a single Bantam, Excelsior, James or Francis Barnett. Please take a look in your shed, you must have one somewhere! Where are you moped riders, Autocyclists and step-thru fans? For 2023 - "Small is beautiful".

Statistics confirm that this event seems to suit 2 and 3 wheeled machines of all eras, marques and capacities.....so, If you're wondering if your bike is suitable, then whatever it is, **the answer is definitely yes!**

## PHOTOS AND HISTORY OF YOUR BIKE

When you enter, please don't be shy in sending us pictures of your machine. Send old pictures if you have them – Box Brownie specials would be great.





Let's see some loon pants, some brothel creepers, or leather jackets, silk scarves and submariner's socks. Let's see some berets, some flying helmets, goggles, army greatcoats and flat caps. Let's see kipper ties and platform shoes, Parkas and Hush Puppies. If all else fails, drag your pride and joy out into the sunshine and point your mobile phone at it!

## HISTORY

If you know anything of the history of your machine, then please share it with us. Is it the only one of its kind in the world? Is it the only one of its kind in Powys? Is it the first one made or indeed the last one made? Have you owned it since new, did you pay half a crown for it, or did you swap it for a bloater paste sandwich?

What may be dull and familiar to you is often captivating to others. We need this information for our newsletters and press releases. I can't promise to publish everything, but I will do my best.

## THE 2023 WESTERN REGION ROAD TRIAL CHAMPIONSHIP

The Western Region Road Trial Championship will once again take place this year. The format will be the same as before, 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 (marked \*)events are:

April 1st & 2nd \***Felix Burke Weekend**  
April 15th & 16th \***Cheddar Weekend**  
May 13th \***Cotswold Signpost Rally (Saturday)**  
May 21st \***Black Mountain Trial**  
June 10th & 11th \***Flat tank & Cotswold Weekend**  
June 25th \***Herefordshire on the Edge**  
July 9th \***White Horse Trial (W Wilts)**  
July 30th \***Somerset Signpost Rally**  
September \*Vale of Glamorgan Run  
September 15th-17th \***Saundersfoot Weekend**  
September 24th \***Levis Trial**

### Events in bold type are confirmed.

There is no requirement to formally sign-up for the Championship. Entering any of the events automatically enrolls you.

If you would like more information on this excellent championship, contact Robert Rendell by email at [ear@globalnet.co.uk](mailto:ear@globalnet.co.uk) or phone him on 01452 863470.

## SECTION WEBSITE



The Herefordshire and Mid-Wales Section website can be found by following the link below. There is a whole section devoted to the history of **Herefordshire on the Edge** including past results and lots of pictures. You can also download the 2023 Regulations and Entry Forms from it. We will publish all updates and other information on the 2023 event to the website as well as in the regular event Newsletters.

<https://herefordmidwalesvmcc.org/events-calendar/>

## CWMPAS

Introduced in 2020 as a substitute for the COVID hit Herefordshire on the Edge, **CWMPAS** was run again in 2022, proving so popular that there will be another event in 2023, centred, as usual on Mid-Wales.

**Cwmpas '23** will be open from Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup> (Good Friday) until Wednesday Oct 4<sup>th</sup>. Waypoint information will be available on our website at least 2 weeks prior to opening and will be mailed directly to all those on our mailing list. Event stickers, badges and certificates will be awarded as usual.

## VMCC MEMBERSHIP

**"Herefordshire on the Edge 23"** is organised by the Herefordshire and Mid Wales section of the VMCC and would normally be limited to VMCC Members only.



Non-members are invited to take part, to see at first-hand what the VMCC is all about. If you are not a member, we hope that our event will provide a good reason to join us. Anyone

joining the VMCC on the day will have their non-member's entry premium of £9 refunded.


## 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.



<http://www.stmichaels-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!

<https://www.facebook.com/VMCCHerefordshire>