



From the Chair...

A good team of willing workers attended the stores on Saturday 25th April. The roof is now (hopefully) waterproof; the hard standing is neat and tidy with the raft, trials obstacles and trailer safely tucked away. We still need to have a tidy up in the store shed, so I will be looking for some help from you, the riders who benefit from it all. Thanks to Shaun Smith, Paul Jay, Terry Tidbury, Dave Mair and Dave Kavanagh. Together we had it all sorted by lunchtime.

Secretary of Meetings:

Please remember to get the workers and officials signing-on sheets to me so that we can keep the Bert Brett Shield points up to date. Still waiting for the list from the February Enduro.

Last month we appointed our Delegates to the various combines:

Should you have any comments that you would like to be brought up at the meetings, please contact the Delegate for your discipline.

**Enduro: Colin Boniface; Trials: Barry Brockman; TVTC: Neil Bowker;
Sport Guildford: Gordon Ayshford; South Eastern Centre: Bernard Jay;
ISDE: Gordon Ayshford: Under 25's: Aaron Smith.**

A new Enduro club has been accepted by the Centre:

The EPM (Eighty Percent Mental) Enduro club is based in Lightwater and is aimed mainly at females who want to try off road. They will however, welcome any newcomers to the sport. Their problem is the same as many clubs, they can't find ground to play on!

Finally, your Committee meets on the first Tuesday of every month at the Normandy Village Hall. Should you have anything that you would personally like to put to the Committee, you may do so by contacting Michelle so that it can be put on the agenda – then turn up to see how we run your Club. *Bernard Jay*

Keep it coming...

Thanks to all our contributors this month – John Martin, Pete Crummett, Bernard, Diana, Michelle and Jane. Please think about whether you could write something, no matter how short, to bring to the next party! *...Ed*

If you have any news or views – or pictures – for the next edition, please send them to lg_richards@yahoo.co.uk

Witley MCC Contact Details:

Chairman: **Bernard Jay** 07738 559644 radvr@tiscali.co.uk
Secretary: **Michelle Cutler** 01252 331495 michelle_cutler@hotmail.co.uk
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Clubroom: **Compton Village Club** (affiliated to The Royal British Legion),
The Street, Compton, Guildford, Surrey GU3 1EQ
(off A3 on B3000, by village green) Club night: Thursdays, 8.30pm.

Visit our website: www.witleymcc.org

Witley Warriors 3 Stage Trial

SUNDAY 3rd MAY – A Course Planner's View



Sunday kept up to its name, a bright sunny day. We had loaded the car the evening before and hit the road early. When we arrived at Four Marks the Castrol arrows were up and the gate opened.

With the Eze-ups erected, Jo and Pat were brewing up and making breakfast. We sat about putting the remaining safety signs out and doing the final checks to the course. By 8.30 the first riders had started to arrive and Gordon was busy checking them in and signing them on. With 61 pre-event bookings and 20 entries on the day, he had his work cut out – such a lot of paperwork...

(continued inside)



NEXT EVENT: TVTC Trial Sunday 14th June, Knights

This is the Witley round of the TVTC group trials and will be held at Knights Farm, Knights Lane, Dunsfold. Entry form available from Bernard Jay, 43 Orchard Close, Normandy, GU3 2EY; Tel: 01483 811573.

Please – if you intend to ride this event, bring an observer along. We have been struggling for observers at most of our events lately (as have other clubs). Is it not time that some of the enduro lads repaid the efforts of the trials riders? After all, you do see many trials riders helping out at enduros, but seldom the reverse. We are all Witley members and it is your club running the event. The TVTC rounds are fun. It's a friendly atmosphere and of course our ladies will be there to offer free refreshments to the helpers.

The land at Dunsfold is excellent for this event, there is plenty of good parking space and we usually attract a good entry. Come and join in the fun. Hopefully we will see a good gang of Witley helpers and riders. **Thanks: Bernard**

Want a ride? Or to help?

Contact Bernard Jay for details! T: 07738 559644 Or visit www.witleymcc.org

3 Stage Trial *(continued)*

The course checked and ridden, we found that it was 5.7 miles long and could be lapped in 19.5 minutes. With a predicted start time of 10.30, the riders started to approach the start area. At this time I am unsure how many laps would be in each stage – generally it was agreed 2 laps in stage 1, 2 laps in stage 2 and 4 laps in stage 3.

But with a delayed stage 2 was shortened to 1 lap – this put us back on track and 4 laps remained for stage 3. The sun shone and everyone seemed to be enjoying a “Grand Day Out”. The riders used the catering facilities, and Jo and Pat were soon hard at it pouring teas and flipping burgers like the professionals they are.

Gordon and I felt a little overcome by the compliments we were receiving from the riders, the ACU steward gave a glowing report and good humour was in abundance!

In closing I really must say a big thanks to our Club members who helped set up and take down the course: Dave May-Miller, Neil Varney and Nick, Shaun Smith and Aaron, Paul Marshall, Manny Bernardez, Rob Carey, Simon Beken, Laurence Catt and Arnaud Didey, who travelled up from Bristol to help us with the event. Also our observers: Tracey Mair, Alec Jay, Paul Jay, Bernard Jay, Diana Delahoy, Barry and Becky Brockman, and many others whose names I didn’t manage to get! Oh yes – there was one young lad who volunteered at short notice to take a section alone and did a great job. Thanks to Glen Cramer, section 2 – Chris, you must be proud of him! At one time it looked as though we would have to close sections for lack of observers, but thanks to Jo (who managed to coax some out of the woodwork) we managed to cover every section.

Thanks to everyone who turned up to support the event. Yes! It was a “Grand Day Out!”
John Martin

3 Stage Trial Results:

Trials – Class A:

- 1: Tony Williamson: 1 mark lost;
- 2: Lee Wildsmith: 8; 3: Jeremy Tester: 15

Trail – Class B:

- 1: Richard Caselton: 4;
- 2: Doug Johnson: 19;
- 3: Tristan Robinson: 24

Enduro – Class C:

- 1: Mike Grounds: 1; 2: Mark Jordan: 1;
- 3: Jason Mair: 4

Team Placings:

- 1: Team Mairco: 34;
- 2: Team Old El Paso: 38;
- 3: The DTs: One rider retired

Special Test – fastest times:

- 1: Mike Grounds (C): 0:37.18;
- 2: James Brown (C): 0:37.75;
- 3: Tony Williamson (A): 0:39.12

A warm Witley welcome to our **NEW MEMBERS this month:**

- **Andrew Bristow**, Addlestone: Enduro
- **Oliver Bristow**, Addlestone: Enduro
- **Andy Scott**, Binfield: Enduro

We wish you safe and successful riding under the Witley banner, and also hope to see you at the Clubroom or at some of our social events.

LEGS REQUIRED!

Come along and join the effort to propel Witley’s trusty RAFT from Debenhams in Guildford to Bellfields. If you can help us get her shipshape, or paddle on the day, **contact Alan on 07824 805791.**

You can also sponsor the team at www.justgiving.com/witleyraft

Camping Weekend

The summer is on its way (apparently!) and by some accounts it will be a scorcher. So why not think about joining us for one of the top social events of the year?



This year the Camping Weekend will take place from Friday afternoon, July 10th to Sunday afternoon July 12th. The venue, as in recent years, will be Butcherland Farm, Ebernoe, Petworth, West Sussex, GU28 9JX (from Guildford on the A283 Petworth Road, turn left by the Deepwell Inn at Northchapel). Thanks to Mr. Ivan Wadey for making his land and facilities available to us once again.

There will be a small charge of £5 for camping to cover expenses.

If you haven’t attended previously, or even if you have, please talk to Club Captain Rebecca Brockman or any Committee member to find out more.

From the Editor...

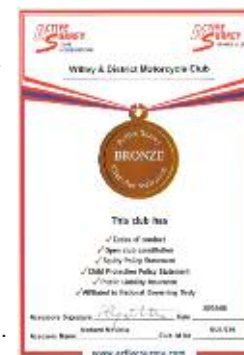
Thanks to the efforts of NewsFlash contributors this month, we have ended up with a bumper 8 page edition!

Having had a number of comments about the font size in recent issues, this has also enabled me to make the type just a little larger, so I hope that those of you (like me!) who have to reach for our specs when the mail drops on the mat, will have an easier read. We may not regularly go beyond 4 pages – it will depend on how many items we receive – but I hope at any rate that you will enjoy reading this one.

Why not get scribbling and send me something about your particular motorcycling – or other – interest? Anyway, until next time – happy riding!

Sport Guildford:

Gordon has received the **Active Surrey Bronze Accreditation Certificate**, recognising the Witley Club’s standards of organisation and procedure.



From Jo Ayshford’s “End of Term” speech at the AGM...

“On a personal note I would like to thank everyone for all the support they have given me over the last 9 years and extend best wishes to my successor. You haven’t totally got rid of me though as I will still be participating in Witley events in the future”.

And many thanks to Jo for the huge enthusiasm and commitment she showed during her term as Hon. Secretary, and continues to show in all she does for the Witley Club.

A 'cool' sport...

Having been told by fellow speedway fans how exciting ice racing is, Daphne and I decided to find out for ourselves.

We booked the 3 night trip through Travel Plus Tours who specialise in sports tours, mainly speedway.

A 7:30am flight from Heathrow to Schipol and then a coach journey to Groningen, our base for 2 nights.

Proceedings kicked off on Friday evening with a non-championship

meeting. As this was our first taste of ice racing we did not know quite what to expect, but we were not disappointed. The final two rounds of the World Championship on the Saturday and Sunday were even faster with the fastest 4 laps of the 400 metre track recorded at 1 minute 53 seconds – pretty quick. Riders consisted mostly of Russians, and Swedes with one Austrian (who was very popular with the fans) called Frankie Zorn. On Saturday Nikolai Krasnikov was only beaten once in six rides by Frankie Zorn. On Sunday Krasnikov remained unbeaten, Zorn having two engine failures and a crash. Nikolai Krasnikov at 24 years of age had won his 5th World Crown, and I am sure he will be around for some time to come.

After the meeting our coach took us back to Amsterdam for our final night before our Monday afternoon flight back to Heathrow. A tiring, but very enjoyable weekend was had by all – roll on next year!

Pete Crummett



BUM IN SADDLE...

Last year, a radio presenter asked listeners to phone in, condensing into in six words what most accurately described something of importance about their life. It took only moments for me to come up with: *'Bum In Saddle All Day Long'*.

One of the most important skills parents can teach their children is to ride a push bike; this opens up a lifetime of enjoyment, freedom, friendship and inevitable fractures! As a child, I would spend hours cycling through the (then) open countryside around Walderslade in Kent – my companion, a small Dutch rabbit nestling into the little wicker basket on the handlebars.

Then, as a teenager living in a Surrey village with an almost non-existent bus service, the necessity to progress onto motorbikes was no problem. Those of you who have read the Witley news for more than a couple of years may already know of my formative years as a biker, BSA C15 and all.

From an early age, horse riding – both English, and later on, Western – has also been a major part of my life. Keen parents introduced me to the exhilarating and all too often painful world of horse riding and all that goes with it; so by six years of age my bum was well acquainted with the equestrian saddle.



Again, some of you may be familiar with my American Quarter Horse, Hobo – a talented yet often challenging character. Together we made a formidable team. We knew each other's every move. Horse and rider working as one. One mind, one goal. We galloped together, we soared through the air together, we won together, we lost together. We enjoyed the sun and the rain together. The good times and bad. Hobo retired from competition some years ago, but we continued to enjoy hacking out until last September. He remained in good health into his thirties and I was expecting him to enjoy at the very least one more summer of retirement; but in March of this year he took a sudden and serious turn for the worse and after a devoted partnership that spanned over twenty-one years, we sadly had to say goodbye. It was a bright spring day when the single shot rang out

that tore apart two kindred spirits. As a friend so eloquently remarked. *"It's the empty head collar. You're left with just the empty head collar and your memories."*

Having got back into motorcycling with a Suzuki 125cc, I knew that moving onto something with considerably more oomph was a must. But the 125 had become my comfort zone and I was reluctant to leave it. Where do you find confidence? My search began in the Yellow Pages under 'Motorcycle Training'. The nearest centre was RideSure at Dunsfold, so with some trepidation I booked a 'confidence boosting' lesson with Audra. First lesson – I spent two sweltering hot hours on the runway at Dunsfold airfield 'doing cones'. I think we did a few other things as well, but 'cones' is what I remember! I returned a few weeks later for another lesson, *(continued overleaf...)*

Get Connected!

We're now able to provide updates by email, keeping you up to speed with the latest information on club activities. If you'd like to receive these updates, or to notify club members of an event you're organising, then please email me at mcutler@witleymcc.org. I will arrange for you to receive updates on official Witley events, TVTCs, enduros, etc. but also can circulate details of impromptu rideouts, or anything else for that matter!
Michelle Cutler

Dates for your Diary

Witley TVTC Trial
Sunday 14th June

Guildford Lions Festival Raft Race
Saturday 4th July

National Road Rally
Saturday 4th - Sunday 5th July

Camping Weekend
Friday 10th - Sunday 12th July

Long Distance Trial
Sunday 4th October

H.C. ("Charlie") Wake Trial
Saturday 7th November

Reg Bowker Trial
Sunday 13th December

Boxing Day Enduro
Saturday 26th December

but this time rode one of the school bikes, a 500cc Kawasaki. Audra had much more confidence in me than I did and she successfully took me well beyond my comfort zone. Sometimes you need an 'Audra' in your life simply to change your "I can't..." into "Well, how about that – I can!"

With my new-found confidence and lots of enthusiasm I searched for several months, until finally in mid-December I found the bike that's perfect for me – a Suzuki GS500. Good deals are to be had at this time of year, and so without too much haggling a bike I couldn't afford just scraped into the top end of my budget.

Laurie and I have been able to get out on the bikes most weekends, and at last I can keep up with him. I've already put 700 miles on the clock. I've had a few scary moments with confidence taking a bit of a knock, but hopefully with continued encouragement from Laurie and Audra, my new bike will become my new comfort zone.

Laurie and I are now planning a trip to Scotland on our bikes this July. I don't know if I'll make it but I'm looking forward to giving it a go. One thing is for certain – it will definitely be **BUM IN SADDLE ALL DAY LONG!**

Jane Richards



COMPTON QUIZ NIGHT

Thanks to everyone who took part in our quiz on 30 April. Hope you all enjoyed it as much as we did. About 20 attempted the 7 rounds of questions, which might have taken a little too long as some (Jo) were gasping for a drink and others (Paul M) for a pee before the end.

There was a lot of banter particularly from Jo, who tried her best to disrupt proceedings, and Rob who complained the questions were aimed at the older generation (most of us are senior citizens!). We tried to make the questions as light-hearted and wide-ranging as possible, although maybe Bernard took his 2 biking rounds a little too seriously. Perhaps more members should read their Club history! Our host Colin (from British Legion) tried to cheat by getting out his copy of Witley Club History donated to him by Bill Glover.

Out of 70+ marks Andy (Helmet) Hewett managed to get 45 (even though he missed the first round), so won a bottle of pink fizz (which he struggled to take home on his bike!), Dave was second with 43, but booby prize definitely went to Rob, Shaun and Aaron with 25 points.

Rob Carey has been volunteered to do an autumn quiz aimed at the younger generation so us Oldies can look equally baffled!

Diana Delahoy

And thanks to Diana and Bernard for their hard work in organising it... Ed

Southern Classic Show

A slightly different angle on 'Shows' saw Witley taking a space for the first time at the Southern Classic Show at Kempton Park on Saturday May 9th.

In the past we have displayed at various events such as the Surrey County Show, Guildford Town Show, and the Lions Easter Show. The idea this time was to raise the Club's profile in the non-sporting area of the motorcycling community.

We weren't allocated a great deal of space, but the location made up for it – pole position, first stand on the left inside the entrance! I had taken a trip up on Friday evening to recce the venue and set up the display (which is better than a big panic on Saturday morning) so all that remained to be done was to await the machinery.



Many thanks indeed to our exhibitors Peter Crummett (Rudge Ulster), Alec Jay (Honda CB550) and Dave Mair (Maico MC490). Peter was rewarded with a well-deserved Highly Commended rosette for the 1939 ISDT model 500cc Rudge. And apologies to Alec for failing to sell the Honda!

We had quite a bit of interest from folks asking questions about the Club and especially the Rudge! Visitors included present and past club members and other familiar faces.

For those of you who aren't familiar with it, the Southern Classic Show takes place each May in tandem with one of the six Bike Jumbles run during the year at Kempton. All manner of machines are on display, from a collection of vintage Douglas competition models to pristine Gold Stars, from assorted historic police motorcycles to speedway machines, from FS1Es to Suzuki kettles, from Itoms to Vincents. Not a huge show, but always worth a look.

The Jumble, however, covers most of the available tarmac at the racecourse and, with complete bikes or basket cases, gearboxes or mudguards, spanners or handlebars, will keep any enthusiast happily occupied for hours.

It was good to see Derek and Betty out for the day with the NSU on the A to Z (Adler to Zundapp) stand. Shaun and Conor turned up to give their support, as did Rob Carey.



Special thanks are due to Bernard and Diana for being on duty, Dave Kav for manning the stand and transporting the Maico, and Andy Hewett for hanging on for the clear-up.

We will have to see whether we return as exhibitors in future, but it was certainly an enjoyable day for all.

LGR