

THE VINTAGE MOTOR CYCLE CLUB  
CYCLEMOTOR AND AUTOCYCLE SECTION  
NEWSLETTER NUMBER THREE, WINTER 1981

Edited by Rory Sinclair, 20 Clifton Avenue, Hartlepool, Cleveland

Editorial

I am pleased to record that the Section continues to prosper, and that at the beginning of 1982, we have a membership of 60. A special welcome is due to our first overseas members: Dick Boulton and Pat Wood from New Zealand.

Cliff Clover would like to see a series of extracts of cyclemotor and autocycle manuals reproduced in the NEWSLETTER, and members' views would be appreciated.

Committee members are asked to make a note of the next committee meeting at 2.00p.m. on the 3rd April 1982, at Stan Greenway's home, 25 Pine Court, Cubbington Road, Leamington Spa, telephone 0926-24706.

Happy New Year to you all.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Rory,

Congratulations on the 2nd edition of the NEWSLETTER. May I occupy a little of your valuable space to publicise the Mid-Lincs. Section "Veteran and Belt-Drive Weekend" to be held this year on the 8th and 9th of May.

This event, now based at Woodhall Spa, Lincs.-with many thanks to the management and staff of the "Petwood" Hotel- will be the fourth consecutive performance. The title is a slight mis-nomer as cyclemotors are and always have been Welcome. The route is chosen so as to be suitable for primitive machinery - traffic-free roads and a minimum of hills. However, as previous participants will recollect, we can do little about gale-force, arctic winds!!

We make no excuses, though, it is not an easy run: the shorter, optional route for cyclemotors still amounts to 30-35 miles on the Saturday and 35-40 on the Sunday. The routes are planned to pass through pleasant, unspoilt countryside on traffic-free roads and we are usually able to provide a back-up vehicle.

Participation in either day's activities is optional, membership of the V.M.C.C. is obligatory and a sense of humour helps.

We have had a steadily increasing entry each year and it would be rather nice to 'crack' the two-dozen barrier. If you have a veteran, belt-drive or feeble flat-tank machine these machines are more than welcome, but bring plenty of petrol... ask the Family Hughes!!

Further details from Stan Greenway, Rory Sinclair or myself.

Yours sincerely,

DAVID DAVIES

21 Burgess Road, Brigg, Sth Humberside, DN20 8DA

Spares and Literature

Some moped and autocycle literature is for sale from Mr C Pearce, 4 Hillmount Gardens, Finaghy, Belfast, BT10 OEP, telephone 0232-612435.

Information from John Burrough, that Blays of Twickenham have limited stocks of cyclemotor and autocycle spares.

A small supply of pistons, rings, and brake linings is held by Mr P Sylvester, 33 Ancaster Avenue, Spilsby, Lincs. PE23 5HP, telephone 0790-52141, and according to Cliff Clover they are reasonably priced.

For those in need, John Upton, 26 Doyle Avenue, Portsmouth, Hants., has a contact who has new B.S.A. "Winged Wheel", Cyclemaster, and Mini-Motor barrels, pistons, and heads, plus a few Mini-Motor silencers.

Cyclemaster piston blanks are available from Dick Boulton, 22 Thornlow St Glendene, Auckland 8, New Zealand, who knows of a supplier of 25.7cc Cyclemaster piston rings for about £3.60NZ a pair...

Andrew Roddham, 76 Bixley Road, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP3 8PG, can obtain the following cyclemotor parts (all items plus carriage).  
OILSEALS: Cyclemaster/mate, centre main bearing £1.0; Mini-Motor, drive roller side £1 .30, magneto side £1.0; Power Pak, crankcase £1.0; others available, send original as pattern.  
BEARINGS: Cyclemaster/mate, crankshaft and clutch side of drive shaft £4.60, sprocket end of drive shaft £12.40; Mini-Motor, crankshaft, both ends £5.20; others available, send original as pattern.  
CHAIN: Cyclemaster drive chain, endless loops, primary £3.25, secondary £5.20.

#### The Vincent Firefly

Some 3,000 Fly's were made in all. The designer, a certain gent from Poland, Polisky, I believe his name was (what else) worked for Miller at the time, the engine being an outlet for Miller Electrics. It cost £25.0 as a kit or could be bought complete with Phillips sprung fork bicycle for a further £40.0 or so. Production started in 1953, finished 1955.

Fuel consumption at 25 mph was 137 mpg (same as a Black Shadow at same speed in top gear) max speed 32 mph, which leads me to mention the hod rod version I built up unofficially, which eventually clocked 50 mph on a racing cycle (downhill) before exploding.

The usual two stroke tuning mods were carried out padding the crankcase, opening and reshaping inlet and exhaust, points etc., various exhaust systems were tried, the carb. was changed to steep downdraught type with choke size around  $\frac{1}{8}$ " from around  $\frac{3}{8}$ ".

With a rev. capability of 9,000 from its designed max. of 4,000 at which speed it produced 1 BHP we estimated it might possibly produce 3 BHP.

The power band was 8,500 to 9 so some furious pedalling do\vn a slope was necessary to get it on the mega as we four strokers say.

The end came quite drematically when it spewed all the big end rollers out the exhaust pipe whilst seeking the ultimate.

TED DAVIS

("The Vincent Firefly" supplied to David Hughes by Mr Ted Davis, ex-Vincent Chief Development Engineer)

News Clippings

Detective work by David Hughes has lead to the discovery of a British Eagle cyclemotor; apparently only three were made about 1956, and the engine unit is mounted over the rear wheel.

Mr B E Bradley, 5 King Street, Coalville, Leicester, has several Bown, James, New Hudson, and Norman autocycles for sale, and local members may care to investigate.

An enthusiast in the Orkney Islands wrote to CYCLING recently with a request for information to enable him to restore his Cyclemaster...

Heard of a Terrot? Well, Alan Knight has 60% of this 1953 French cyclemotor. It has chain reduction drive between engine and friction roller, which drives the rear wheel.

Our only Cornish member, Les Vincent, 102 Penberthy Road, Helston, Cornwall TR13 8AR would welcome correspondence from fellow enthusiasts. He would be pleased to see anyone who is visiting Cornwall on holiday.

You may have read in the OBSERVER COLOUR MAGAZINE, 7th November 1981, that Jack Olding, proprietor of B.G.Cycles (it stands for Bloody Good), Bath Road, Melksham, Wiltshire, has produced a run of seven electric-powered bicycles. An ordinary car battery is used and power engages through a wheel on to a standard front tyre only when the rider is pedalling - a switch measures tension in the chain. Wonder if he is the same Jack Olding who distributed the Corgi scooter?

I hear "through the grapevine" that Doug Whittaker has acquired a brand-new Ducati Cucciolo, still in its box. Doug thinks they're the best thing since sliced bread!

7th Annual Cyclemotor Run, Cyclemotor Section A.G.M., and Bring and Buy Sale, 4th July 1982.

THE ROAD RUN will be non-competitive with no regulations, awards, or entry fee, except for a 'voluntary' donation of some unwanted "cyclemotoring goodies" for the Bring and Buy Sale. The start will be at 10.00a.m. prompt from the "Little Chef", Long Itchington, Nr Southam, Warwicks. - 12 miles south of Coventry on the A423. In addition to the Full facilities of the "Little Chef", adequate parking is available for cars and trailers. The route, which will pass through some of the most remote and picturesque countryside in Warwickshire, will be of 16 or 24 miles to riders choice; route cards will be provided at the start. The lunch-stop will be at the "Three Horseshoes", Princethorpe, where 'bar snacks' will be available, if required.

THE BRING & BUY SALE, & ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, for members only, will be held at 2.30p.m. prompt in the Scout Headquarters, Craven Lane, Southam; this will enable the competitors using trailers to ride their machines the 3 miles from the "Three Horseshoes", back to the "Little

Chef", load-up, and proceed the further 2 miles to Southam by car and trailer. In Southam please leave cars and trailers on the Wood Street Car Park and proceed to the A.G.M. on foot. The Bring and Buy Sale will be held before the A.G.M., and any parts unsold, in the allocated time, will be retained by the Committee for future disposal.

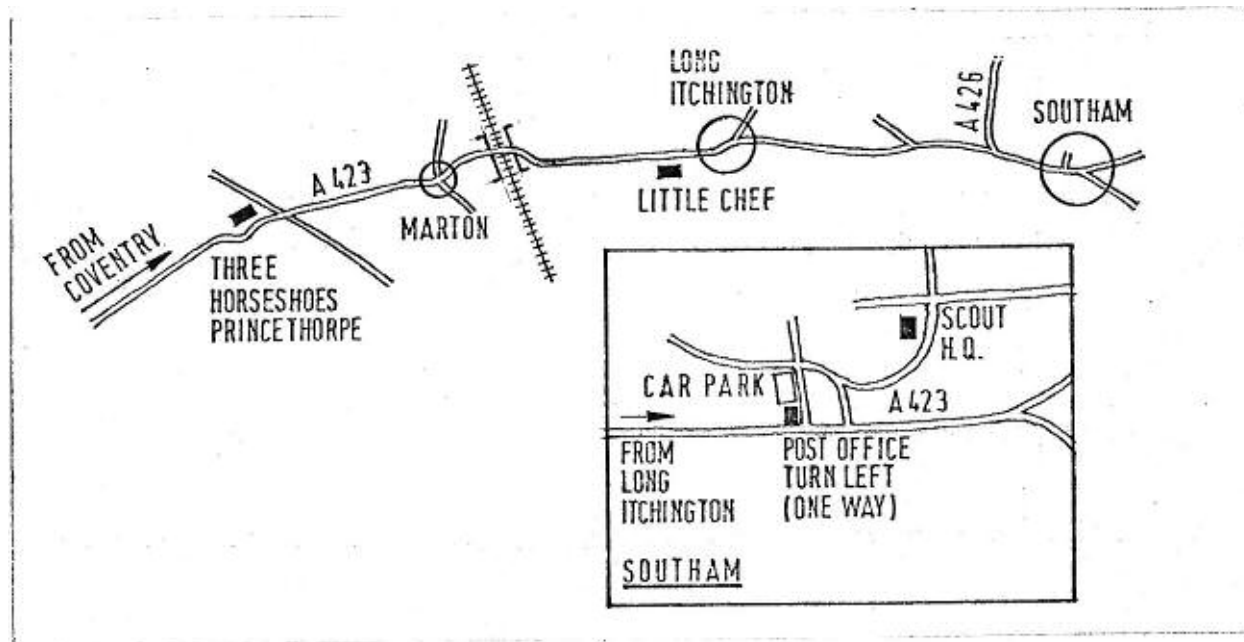
Donations for the Sale will be gratefully received and all funds raised, will, of course, be used for the benefit of the Cyclemotor Section. Good, clean bicycle, cyclemotor, and autocycle parts, books, leaflets, etc., only please. To assist the auctioneer, labelling and identifying the parts would be appreciated. Please hand donations to the Social Secretary on arrival at the start of the Run.

Timetable for the day will be as follows:-

- |  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 10.00a.m. - depart the "Little Chef",  | 2.30p.m. - Bring and Buy Sale |
| 12.00a.m. - arrive "Three Horseshoes", | 3.30p.m. - A.G.M.             |
| 1.30p.m. - depart 'Three Horseshoes",  | 5.00p.m. - Finish             |

Free tea and biscuits will be served during the afternoon. To assist members travelling long distances to and from the event all times should be regarded as prompt.

STAN GREENWAY



For Sale

Power Pak 49cc unit £55.0. 1948 Aberdale autocycle with original paintwork, almost new tyres, new seat, spares, and Norman autocycle in mint condition. Brian Kingsley, 7 Faulkner Place, Bagshot, Surrey.

Restored Scott Cyc-Auto 1945, BVG 653, Engine No. J 4460, Frame No. 1854, frame, wheels etc. shot-blasted and stove enamelled, tank silver, good tyres and tubes. Also dismantled Scott Cyc-Auto 1949, Engine No. Mk 2 7349,

Frame No. 3350, frame, wheels etc. shot-blasted and stove enamelled, virtually complete. Offers over £75.0 for the pair. Jack Stuart White, 164 Leeds Road, Barwick-in-Elmet, Leeds LS15 4HS.

Matching Pair: 2 Elswick Cyclemasters. Gent's "dropped" frame, sprung forks, hub front brake, original lights and paintwork, contemporary Reg. No. Taxed and tested until June 1982. Ladies, hub front brake, unsprung braced forks, original lights, very good original paintwork, contemporary Reg. No.

Also B.S.A. "Winged Wheel", 100% original in B.S.A. frame with sprung forks, brand-new generator; rear wheel bearings need attention.

And tea-chest full or Cyclemaster engines, plus various wheels, hubs etc. Offers invited for all or any of the above, but would prefer to exchange for Veteran/Vintage spares. Owen Bowness, 67 Ermine Street, Broughton, Brigg, Sth Humberside, telephone 0652-53234.

### Wanted

Brand-new or second hand 32cc Cyclemaster. B Donnelly, 147 Garrick Road, Glasgow, G20 8RH.

Drive rollers for Trojan Mini-Motor also G.Y.S. Motamite. Exchange Trojan Mini-Motor for any bottom bracket mounted unit such as Vincent Firefly or Mosquito etc. Mr C H Clover, 24 Witham Bank West, Boston, telephone 62612.

For 32cc Cyclemasters: BEC carburettors, Series 90 flywheels and coils, Barrel, buy or exchange for Cyclemaster spares. Dick Boulton, 22 Thornlow St. Glendene, Auckland 8, New Zealand.

"Lohmann Diesel" and "Ducati Cucciolo" cyclemotors or complete machines, and 32cc Cyclemaster barrels and pistons (new or rebored oversize if possible). John Cull, 35 Belmont Road, Taunton, Somerset TA1 5NU.

98cc Excelsior "Goblin" engine-gear unit, two stroke, two speed, as fitted to the Excelsior Super-Autobik. P W J Wood, 7 Maxwell Avenue, Papatoetoe, New Zealand.

Anything for Raleigh moped, especially Amal handlebar grips and rubber cover for auxiliary battery box, also any parts for early VeloSolex. Albert L Nelson III, 154 Durward Road, Akron, Ohio 44313.

A petrol tank for a 1954 Mosquito cyclemotor. Engine shields for a 1954 New Hudson autocycle. J E Cushion, 8 Yew Tree Road, Huyton-with-Roby, Liverpool, L36 5UQ, telephone 051489-0472.

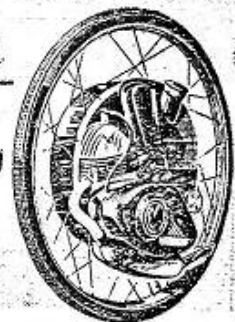
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Calender of Events - 1982

- 3rd April            Committee Meeting - 2.00p.m.  
25 Pine Court, Cubbington Road, Leamington Spa.
- 8th-9th May        "Social Weekend" - V.M.C.C. Mid-Lincs Invitation.  
Woodhall Spa, Lincs. Telephone David Davies 0652-53234  
for Regs. "Why not come on the Sunday if you can't make  
the whole weekend".
- 16th May            "Social Run" - V.M.C.C. Warwickshire Invitation.  
Meet at "Tom O'the Wood", Rowington, Nr Stratford-on-Avon.  
10.00a.m.
- 30th May            "The Verulam Run" - Hertfordshire.  
Details in next edition of the NE'JVSLETTER.
- 4th July            7th CYCLEMOTOR RUN & ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
Details elsewhere in this NEWSLETTER.
- 1st August          Static Display - Arena Ride - Concours.  
V.M.C.C. "Founder's Day", Stamford Hall, Nr Rugby - 10.00a.m.  
"Ideal opportunity to show-off your rare machines and  
ride any untaxed ones".
- 15th August        "Coventry Parade" - V.M.C.C. Warwickshire Invitation  
Road Run and Concours. Regs. from Social Secretary.  
"Ideal event for the family at Coombe Park, Coventry".
- 12th September    "Towcester Run"- V.M.C.C. Northampton Section.  
Telephone Doug Whittaker for Regs. 0601+-844157.
- 26th September    "Chalgrove Run" - V.M.C.C. Oxfordshire Section.  
See V.M.C.C. JOURNAL for entry details.  
Committee Meeting.
- 10th October        "Cyclemotor Century Run"  
Details in next edition of the NEWSLETTER.  
"A 100 mile run for the hardy".

Watch "Cyclemotor Section Notes" and "Regulations Available" in the  
V.M.C.C. JOURNAL for further details. Any queries write or telephone  
the Social Secretary, Stan Greenway, 25 Pine Court, Cubbington Road,  
Leamington Spa, Warwicks CV32 7AE, telephone 0926-24706.