



# WMCC Gazette August 2025

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The editor's correspondence.

Another month, another mag! A handful of club members attended a HIOWAA CPR course recently. Cardio pulmonary resuscitation! A few of us said that we would

have previously hesitated before doing CPR and especially using the mysterious defibrillator. No such worries now!

A world away from the workings of our bodies and a world away from the workings of our old bikes,Ducati are trialling automatic gearboxes to rival the Honda E clutch.

These transmissions will be legal for racing if featured on road models,so watch out for these on a road near you!

Regular readers(I'm saying nothing),will have guessed that although I talk a good technician,I could be sold a set of metric adjustables!My saving grace is that over the years I have turned out a reasonable painter,having started when we were brush painting new commercials.The ideal witches brew was good old Dulux with a dash of linseed oil and proper turpentine.

Without living in the past too much,it's nice to have a little corner of our country that still celebrates byegone skills and practices.Our club fits in with this nicely-embracing the modern with the old bikes and(unlike me) skilled mechanics. Happy trails. Ed.

Tea break (now)

I have enjoyed cartoons since my school days and have joined the ranks with little success. My early heroes were Bill Thacker,Willie Rushton and anything in the ooh-err-missus category.

Daily Express cartoonist "Giles" was blind in one eye and deaf in one ear following a motorcycle accident and unfit for war service. He became a war correspondent instead.

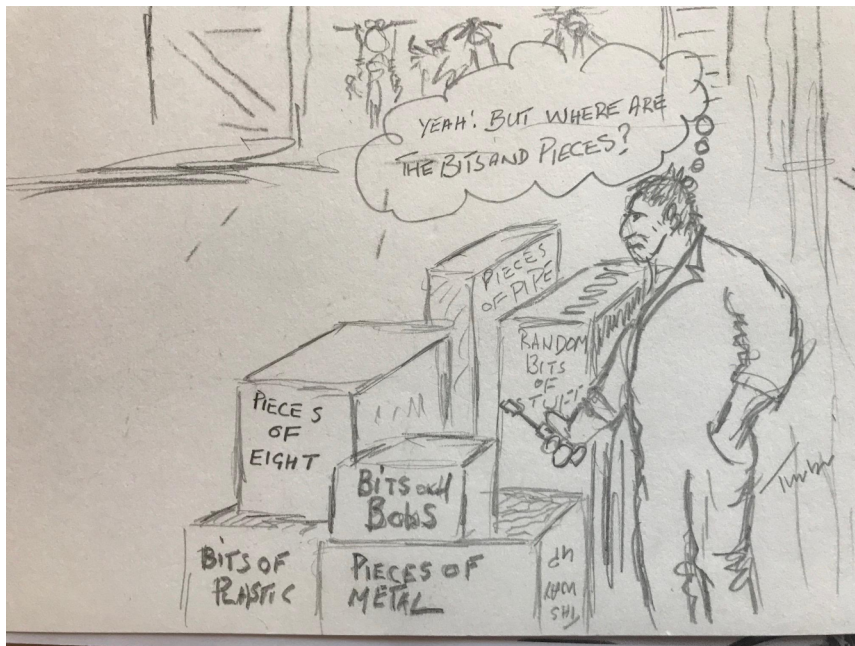


Bamforth  
postcards,  
Are now  
collectible.  
Lots of  
memories of  
holidays in  
past times  
there!



Tea break(then). 2006 Classic Bike Guide. With much talk of classic bike prices having dropped,I thought I'd do a comparison. Although some were quite high prices, there were some surprisingly lower. This led the detective in me to wonder if the prices had risen after this before dropping lately. June '66 issue of "motorcycle" magazine (they had dropped "the" in the title) bemoaned the high price of some pre war bikes at £75.00. Probably, someone out there will work out how that compares to average wages at the time! "The Motorcycle" (with "the") of April '57, as an example had a '38 Triumph 500 cc at £35/10. "motorcycling" of April '51, and a '39 Triumph Tiger 80 at £79/10. Lots of bikes, gear Etc. advertised in old Gazettes. Come on-free advertising, like minded buyers-and scam free!





**BITS&PIECES.** Members of the motorcycle action group seem an interesting lot.(and the june issue of their magazine had an advert for our Fossils run.) An interesting observation in the mag-the final insult is that computer users are being asked to prove that they are human by a robot!Lots of stuff in there for future Gazettes.

Malcolm Wells,who has done much for the club over the years was at the Fossils and took some lovely photos which will feature later in the [mag.He](#) was chief photographer for the Portsmouth News,so I will probably be told off for calling them snaps! He tells me that after a lay off of some years, he recently competed in the Lythe trial at Butser for the Waltham Chase club All went well and he was rather pleased with himself,until afterwards his legs had ballooned and he had knocked one of them-the joys of getting old!

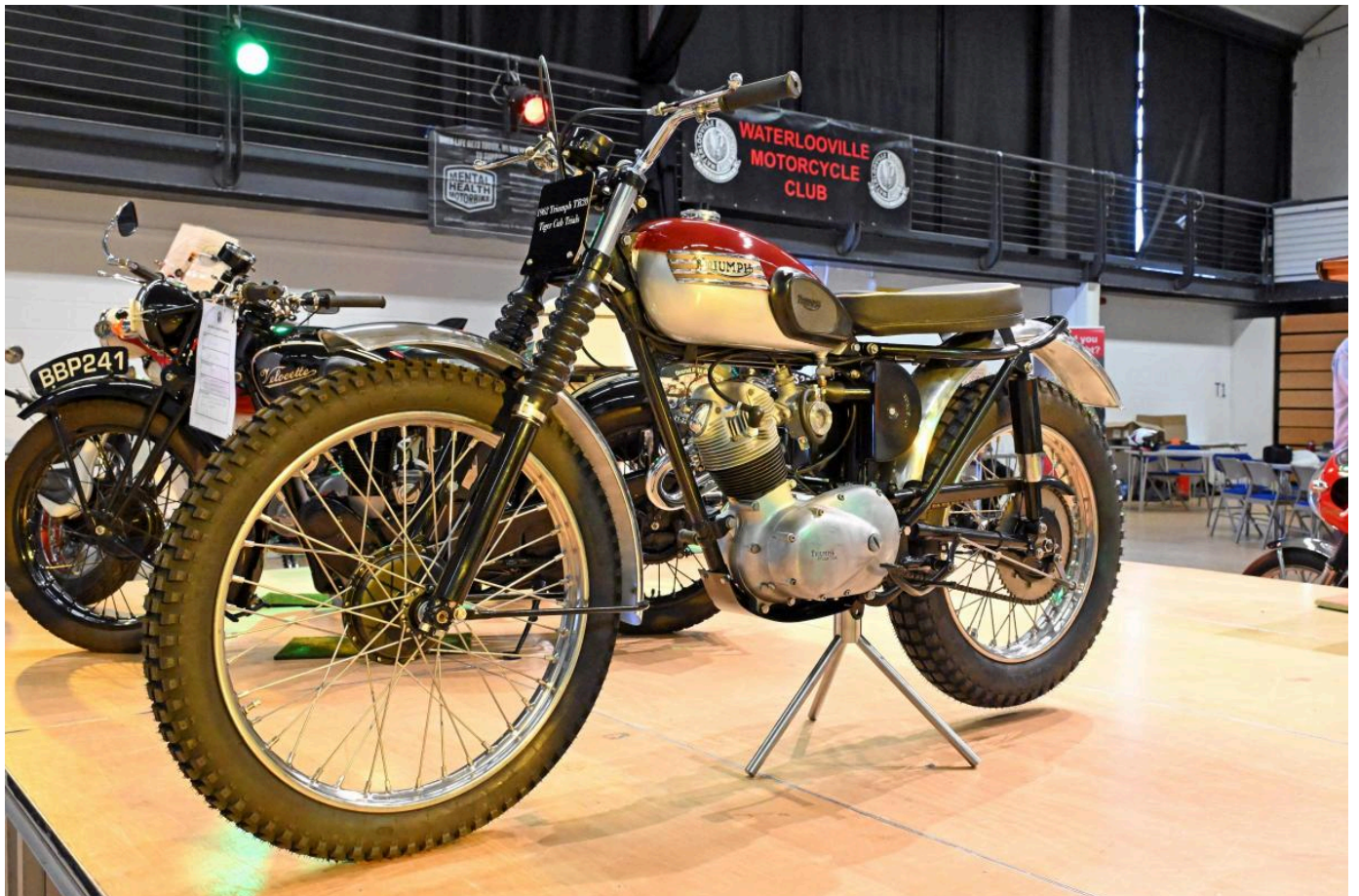












The 2025 Fossils run, went amazingly well, despite predictions of a plague of frogs and heavy rain in the run up!

The event was covered by the Hampshire Chronicle (could the lovely Malcolm Wells, who also provided the photos, have had anything to do with it?)

As always, money raised went to charity-HIOWAA and Serve Wessex. 166 riders! A good turn out, as it turned out (ouch).

The route of about 35 miles, meticulously planned by behind the scenes "grey men"-You know who you are-was the usual successful ride out.

A burger van, bike displays, prizes for machines taking part. A lovely day out-must advertise it more before the next one! We all know that our club dates back to 1928 as "The Waterloo & district motorcycle and light car club, but everyone may not know that "The old Fossils" title was awarded to well old fossils -who had been in the club since dinosaurs ruled the earth.

When the old Gales bike run was discontinued, the title was used for the successor run by WMCC.

Over the years the run has raised over £58,000.

There are not many small clubs with our sort of pedigree and current success, hosting the 2023 and 2024 world sidecar championships.

Thanks to the organisers and everyone who took part are due.

The event now named just The Fossils run aims to be more inclusive to reflect the changing times and machines. The next one could be Fossils 21-key of the door as they used to say!