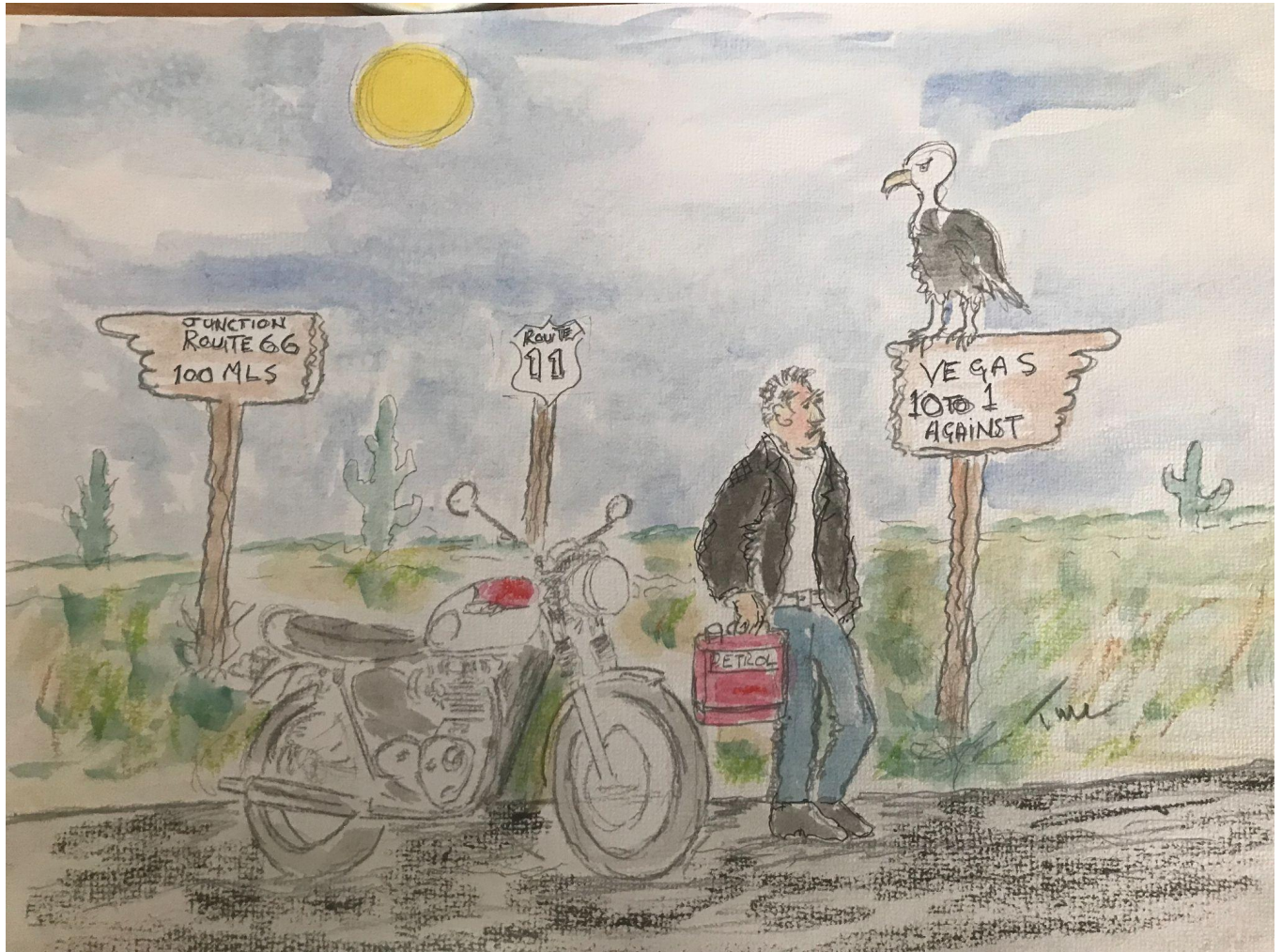


Waterlooville M.C.C.



Gazette August 2026

EDITORIAL.

I've never been a fan of electric vehicles, especially electric bikes, but it is increasingly obvious that global warming is a global warning! The poor chap above is

more likely to find a “gas” station than an electric charging point, however.

Unlike America, we contribute around 1% of global emissions and motorcycles around 0.1% of that. I can see the case for increased electrification and the powers that be are banning new sales of petrol fuelled vehicles by 2030.

In the immediate post W.W.2 years motorcycles were ride to work hacks and often from war service stock and repainted in black. By the late 1950's and 1960's they had become leisure machine and well used in the sporting clubs that had sprung up. (w.m.c.c. already sprung and blooming). The “ton up boys” gave the comfy jumper brigade something to moan about and were welcomed at transport kaffs.

Decades later they became treasured possessions and prices rocketed. Then the crash that we have all seen in recent years. I'm sure Kenny Rogers would say “you've got to know when to hold'em and know when to fold'em”. If we knew how to do that we'd all be millionaires!

Could classic machines see a renaissance after the ban? Who knows. Perhaps a time to hold'em!

You can't get much closer to the immediate post W.W.2 period than the month after the war ended and I have a copy of “Motor cycling” June 21st 1945 price 4d.

Even jobs, were subject to the “control of engagement order 1945”



In the bikes for sale ads—three Vincent 1000s advertised as “what offers” . the 1929 Wall Street crash in the USA. saw people in a similar predicament. The viral photo of a wall street banker by his luxury car with a sign “buy this car

for \$100” echoes the plight of people returning from the war and doing whatever was necessary to rebuild their lives.

My mole in the car sales world, who also keeps an eye on classic cars says that pre war cars especially are dropping in value. The iconic MG sports cars like the one driven by flying ace Douglas Bader can now be had

for under £15000, and Austin sevens (quite a driving experience) for about five grand.

Happy trails Editor.



TEA
BREAK.(now).
I am
experiencing a
severe bout of
“imposter
syndrome” as I

have been out of the saddle for some time (don't ask).

When I was riding, I often came across the balaclava clad riders of souped up E.bikes. Fast and furious. jumping red lights and causing chaos before disappearing down an alleyway.

Cleveland police have bought EV bikes to beat them at their own game. The initiative has been part funded by local housing associations. The Fossils run will have come and gone by the time the August issue reaches [you.](#) In the run up, I have been scanning the weather

predictions and the one rainy day forecast, of course, is our day. I have long been a fan of Dave King the weatherman (now sadly passed). A great character and police “noddy bike” LE Velocette rider. His book “weather without technology” has certain “dead cert” days for good weather based on centuries old folk lore. I don’t know if the current change in weather patterns has affected this and he is no longer around to shed any light on it—he always answered emailed questions! We could do worse than debate the matter of

future
Fossils
dates
.



TEA BREAK(then). The above picture is a rose coloured depiction of the Berts Kaff of [old.Ex](#) captain Cliff wrote a lovely article about “Berts” in a previous gazette. I spent many happy hours there with Al Straughan of this parish. (pictured with his B31 and me with my A7)



Al swapped his B31 for a super rocket and we had a little gang with a Gold Star among others. Happy days with a cup of almost drinkable coffee and a waft of local delights from

Smiths Crisps across the road.

An interesting project from “motorcycling” magazine 1960s. Dual control for bikes and scooters. Hmm. No helmet! Cigarette



optional?

Approved at committee meeting 25th March 1968.

The most noble order of the old Fossils.

Senior Fossil- The club member who has been in the club the most years.

Old Fossil 1st. Class-members in the club for 21 years or more.

Old Fossil-members in the club for 18 years or more.

Jack Mortlock. Registrar to the most noble Order of the Old Fossils.

So there you have it! The Fossils run as we now know it was originally the Old Fossils Run and kept the flame alive when the Gales Run was discontinued.

A message from Dave Jacobs.

The annual Newtown Fete has for many years had a display of “classic and interesting cars”. I had run the bar there for for the last 15 years, but retired from that last year. I was asked if I could arrange a display of “classic and interesting motorcycles” and agreed to try. I contacted the W.M.C.C. and other clubs such as the Harley Davidson Riders region 19. Encouraged by the excellent weather, we had a very good turn out with great support. The fete committee think it will be an annual event.

My thanks to all w.m.c.c. members.





A message from Steve Cox.

The W.M.C.C. committee would like to invite you to the annual BBQ on Sunday 30th August. Rob and Sylvie Doney have kindly offered us the use of their garden, as in previous years. Sarah Hards has kindly offered to collect names. contact me at wmcevents@outlook.com or 07970 088234. Or Sarah atwmcc.membership@hotmail.com or 07752 443934.

Another memorable fossils run under our belt! It's easy to take for granted the hours of work put in by the team putting this seamless event on. Perhaps one of the fossils

beavers will write an article on it for a future Gazette.



I bumped into a chap called Colin at the Fossils, who said he enjoyed my cartoons. (obviously, a man of taste and discernment!) Back when I was beaver away painting buses in the 1970s, a colleague said his neighbour earned more money from a

couple of cartoons than we did in a week. They were published in the Mirror Etc. under the pseudonym "Jones" and I followed him and tried to get some published myself with no luck! His cartoons always put a smile on my face at tea break. No cartoons, I promise, about rain at the Fossils run, which proved to be short lived!

Sue Cox has sent me some photos of the event and there will be more Fossils related stuff in the next Gazette (crumbs! October—where did the year go?)



