

GOLDIE

The International Magazine of
THE GOLD STAR OWNERS CLUB
Dedicated to the Preservation, Maintenance
And Enjoyment of the Classic
BSA GOLD STAR & ROCKET GOLD STAR



APRIL 2026

No. 589

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HONORARY MEMBERS:

P Burrows - B Gomm - R Pallinger - MJ Payne .

HONORARY MEMBERS (Dec'd):

BD Codd - JJ Gardner - E Haldane - AJ Harper - AG Lupton - RH Pike - DT Powell

A Wilkinson - GH Chiswell - J Drysdale—JV Smith MBE.

DISCLAIMER ETC

THE Gold Star Owners Club AS AN ORGANISATION does not specifically recommend products or services advertised within, or attached to, this magazine. At all times it is the responsibility of the purchasers to ensure that they are happy with the goods or service provided

DESPATCH BOOK RECORD: contact the Machine Registrar with SAE for a copy of the details shown in the Despatch Book.

NOTE: THE INFORMATION PROVIDED DOES NOT VERIFY THE AUTHENTICITY OF ANY BIKE

ENGINE TEST CERTIFICATE:

for a copy contact the Technical Officer, with SAE and Membership Number.

INFORMATION AND ADVICE

**The Gold Star Owners Club is always there to give help & advice
REMEMBER ANY HELP OR ADVICE GIVEN BY OTHERS
(INCLUDING GSOC MEMBERS / OFFICIALS) IS THEIR BEST OPINION,
YOU HAVE TO WEIGH UP THE PROS & CONS OF TAKING THAT ADVICE**

WEBSITE

www.bsagoldstarownersclub.com

**Co-ordinator: Jim Donnelly -
See contact details inside front cover**

COPY DATE

*May 2026 issue
material **MUST** be in before
20th April 2026 please*

The Gold Star Owners Club is a member of the Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs. Their website is where you can read a copy of the latest newsletter plus the back copies

<http://fbhvc.co.uk/members-pages/newsletter-archive/>

When there are articles that are relevant to us, a precis will be included in the Magazine

REGISTRATION NUMBER QUERIES : DVLA

For information and help regarding registration numbers contact either the BSAOC or VMCC as the Gold Star Owners Club no longer has a link to the DVLA.

Advertise your business in the magazine

Current Rates are:

1/4 page: **£75** per annum 1/2 page: **£150** per annum Full page: **£300** per annum

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Goldie magazine is digitally printed & distributed by Lavenham Press, Lavenham, Suffolk

Editor's Ramblings

Hi everyone and welcome to my first attempt at the Goldie Magazine. Learning to use Microsoft Publisher has been an adventure!

Firstly, many thanks to Malec for his tenure as Editor and I am sure all will agree he'll be a hard act to follow.

The main subject of this edition is the AGM and Club finances. It is important that all GSOC members are aware of AGM discussion and decisions as the committee work towards ways to improve and stabilise our finances and guarantee the continued existence of the Club.

You'll see from the AGM Report that members voted on a refresh of club website to include a members only section and the introduction of a members only a FaceBook page for those active in that online world.

Work towards the new website is progressing apace and I hope to be able to launch at the end of April once the links behind the pages are adapted to allow continued membership payments and renewals and to ensure we have a secure means to only allow paid up members to access the members area.

However, the GSOC FaceBook page is already up and running, launched on 13 March—thanks to Pete Jury for his assistance in this. I have to approve all those who want access (after checking against the membership database) and so far this is working well with 35 people signed up and posting and 5 or 6 illegal applicants rejected. If you want access, then contact me via email or FaceBook Private Message (Jim Triumph) and I'll arrange an invite for you.

Jim

The photo is not from last week, or on a BSA but does show me with a lovely 80's hair style.



Chairman's Chatter

Hello its me again and we hope we find you all well and good. Hopefully you're raring to go for the Summer. Let me first say, although I did mention it in my opening address at the AGM, Thank You to all of you our members for taking the time to come to what myself and the committee found to be a very good and informative meeting and thank you all for having me for another year as your Chairman. I will not say any more about the AGM as it is covered in depth in this magazine, only to say thank you to our outgoing editor Malcolm for all his hard work over the years and welcome to our new editor Jim who I am sure will do a splendid job as he steps into Malc's shoes. Now hopefully next month things will start to happen as the weather will get better and we will have more to write about club wise. We do have a number of events in the pipeline so to speak and we will let you know in due course as things will happen in an area close to you and so we hope to fly the Goldie flag around the country. The next big event is the STAFFORD SHOW and so Dave, our new events organiser, is all raring to go with the 2026 Goldie stand and we look forward to seeing some of you there whether Sat or Sun or both days.

Now it saddens me to learn of the death of one of the greatest, if not THE greatest, scrambles riders we in this country have ever had, one of our Honorary members Jeff Smith MBE who campaigned a Goldie Scrambler as a BSA works rider all over England and the continent in the 50s and 60s with fantastic success. Sadly I learned of his passing away as I was writing this report and thought it only fitting to mention it.

Well I think I will end on that sad note and until we can see or speak again
All the very best

John your chairman



Membership

This month the Gold Star Owners Club welcomes the following
NEW MEMBERS

5358	Pauline Darley	Redhill
5359	Garry Tyler	Clevedon
5360	Howard Johnston	San Jose, USA
5361	Norton Pereira	Singapore
5362	Christopher Wood	Queensland, Australia

To renew your Membership:-

- 1. Telephone Sara Rippingale at Lavenham Press on 01787 249286 and this will be answered as Gold Star Owners Club.
Monday – Friday 9am to 5pm and use your debit/credit card to make the payment or set up a direct debit OR**
- 2. Post a cheque along with your name, address and membership number to Sara Rippingale, Gold Star Owners Club, 47 Water Street, Lavenham, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 9RN OR**
- 3. On our website:- www.bsagoldstarownersclub.com – follow the links to the membership page.**

As detailed in the Treasurer’s Report, the way you pay your membership has a significant impact on the costs incurred by your club. To minimise costs to the club and to allow us to keep membership costs down, please try to pay by the most efficient means for the club; avoiding PayPal if at all possible. Please try to pay by Direct Debit if in the UK or by Stripe for those abroad.

Membership

By far the easiest and best way for overseas members to pay is by going to the Club Website.

www.bsagoldstarownersclub.com

and following the link to the membership page.

This way, Lavenhams (the magazine printer and distributor) knows you have paid and you will not run the risk of not getting your magazine.

If you cannot pay this way, please contact me and I will help.

The contact details of members are NOT given out to other members. If you want to contact another member, please ask for your details to be passed on to them.

If you have any queries do not hesitate to E Mail me on rachelluke54@hotmail.co.uk or ring me on 01460 74714

Rachel Luke - Membership Secretary



Letters

No letters received this month. I guess due to the fact that lots of people attended the AGM and chatted in person. Hopefully it wasn't that they have all got lost between Malc and myself!

Please do send me your letters, section reports and articles; there is no magazine without your contributions.

So, in lieu of letters I'll include a photo of Jeff Smith MBE, an honorary GSOC member who went onto his final special section in March.

Jeff was born in Colne, Lancashire on the 1st of January 1934. By the age of nine years old he was riding a motorcycle, a 125cc BSA Bantam. In 1953 he was hired by Birmingham Small Arms (BSA) to serve an engineering apprenticeship. On BSA machinery he would start to make an impression in the off road world winning the ACU British Trials Championship in 1953 and 1954, Scottish Six Days Trial in 1955 and the Scott Trial in 1954 and 1959.

In the Scrambles world, or motocross as it would later become known, he was a true 'Racer' in every sense. Starting in 1955 he would win the ACU 500cc British Motocross Championship on a further nine occasions with his last win in 1967. He would win the ultimate goal, the FIM 500cc Motocross World Championship in 1964 and 1965. He also proudly represented his country in the Motocross Des Nations on nine occasions.

He also had eight Gold Medals to his name in the ISDT, such was his all-round ability on a motorcycle. After his retirement from racing in 1972 he emigrated to Canada to work for Can-Am during the seventies before moving to the USA in 1978.



Gold Star Owners Club Annual General Meeting

held on Sunday 8th March 2026 at Silverstone Recreational Association

The Chairman, John Birchall, opened the meeting at 11am by introducing the members of the outgoing committee. 34 members had signed in – sufficient to exceed the number of 25 members to make the meeting quorate and therefore valid.

Apologies – apologies had been received from Dave Webber, Tim Adler, Karin Clarke, Denise Butler, Wayne Scholter, Dave Warman, Tim Harriss, Mark Bazeley, Geoff Bloor, Dave Jackson, Roger Sandford.

Minutes of the 2025 AGM – There were no matters arising. Ron May proposed acceptance and Graham Sandford seconded, accepted by the meeting.

Report by the Treasurer Paul Thorpe presented the accounts to the meeting:

A year ago, all but a day, I stood before you to report a deficit of £3,082 for our operations in 2024. Today I can report that in 2025 we have improved on that with a deficit of expenditure over income of only £529. A vast improvement but we are not out of the woods yet. If our Chairman, John Birchall, had not managed to win first prize for his stand at the Stafford show and second prize at the Newark show, which together totalled £1,300, we would have had a deficit of £1,829. The interest we earned on our savings produced £1,252 of income to further support our insufficient subscription income. John has stepped down from organising our northern shows and the interest rate on savings is steadily falling so this year it will be difficult to do better.

You will hear later from Jim Donnelly of an IT strategy to modernise the way we operate on line, which has the potential in the long run to deliver savings to members by offering subscription reductions to those who wish to receive our magazine on-line, whilst retaining the traditional magazine format for those, like me, who prefer to receive it by post.

You have all received the hand-out detailing the income and expenditure plus the balance sheet on 31st December 2025. So, I will finish my report on last year's operations with a few key points:

- Increased subscription rates brought in about £4,000 more than the year before.
- Bank interest was less in 2025 than in 2024 due to the fall in savings rates.
- Regalia sales only break even so have a neutral effect on the accounts.
- We spent £2,000 less than in 2024 on magazine printing and distribution, because of our change of printers.
- But this was swallowed up by the fees (£4,232) we pay our printer for taking over the challenging work of collecting subscriptions and managing members.
- We kept committee expenses down by holding every meeting over the internet via Zoom instead of paying travel and accommodation for meeting in person.
- AGM costs were large due to the cost of a buffet at the previous AGM in March 2025. Today, as you may have noticed, we have not provided a buffet.

- Payment processing fees grow every year as more people pay by card over the website. PayPal has exorbitant fees and should be reserved for overseas' members only. Unfortunately, many UK members use this method to pay us. We lose £1.32 out of every £35 paid by UK members who use PayPal; if they paid by direct debit, it would only cost the club 49 pence per renewal, or 73 pence if paid by debit card.
- An added charge is bank account fees. When we moved our current account to Bank of Scotland, it was a fee free account. Halfway through 2025 they introduced fees on their community accounts for clubs. There is a fixed fee of £4.75 per month and a sliding scale fee based on the number and type of transactions per month. They gave us the option to close the account if dissatisfied, but we couldn't find another that offered free banking.
- Finally the stock adjustment figure of £45 is a balancing of the books figure because we only conduct a major regalia stock take once per year in December and with 12 months between stock takes is impossible to take account of the small gains and losses depending on whether John is able to hand over the goods in person at shows or whether we have to post the goods to members all over the world for a flat rate contribution of £3 per package.

On the Balance Sheet at the year end, our reserves (which are the accumulated surpluses over the 50 years of the club's existence) shrunk to £41,768. Some members suggest we are hoarding money but remember, due to inflation, £41,000 does not have the buying power of what £41,000 would have bought way back in 2014 when our reserves stood then at £42,221. We are steadily running down the buying power of these reserves, and they will be used again in 2026 to balance the books. I will take any questions you have and I'm content to continue in the role of treasurer if you so wish.

Asked if the payment to Lavenham's for membership management was a one off or annual – Paul replied that it was an annual payment.

Other questions included – would an on-line magazine reduce costs, would a bi-monthly magazine reduce costs – these are options that are being examined by the committee ready for a proposal to members.

Derek Pike proposed acceptance and approval of the accounts and Jane Cox seconded, the meeting agreed unanimously.

Note: Full accounts are shown at Pages 16-18.

Chairman:

Now as is customary I thank you for voting me in as your chairman for the past year I will now resign as your chairman but if no one wishes to take up the post I am willing to carry on if you will have me.

Thank you can we carry on with the meeting I will hand over to our AGM secretary

Chairman's Report – John Birchall reported as follows:-

I would like if I may just say a big thank you to the committee members who have worked very hard, and I might add voluntarily, to keep the GSOC up and running for another year. Last year was our 50th Anniversary and even though we have been through hard times we are still up and running and it is thanks to you also our loyal members who keep supporting us.

If you remember at last year's AGM we as a committee had decided not to have one large summer get together but to have smaller local ones instead and if I may just remind you of some of those. Just to jog your memories can I refer to the GOLDIE MAG of December 2025. And they all went very well.

Now as you may know I have stood down from being the show/events organiser for personal reasons, but we have a young man who is willing to take up the baton and I am sure you will help him as much as you all helped me as he tries his very best to put on some fantastic stand displays and his name is Dave Halsall.

Vice Chairman – Jon Luke. This role remains very quiet due to the ever presence and enthusiasm of our chairman who consequently leaves little to be done in this role. The job is to keep on top of club affairs in order to be able to step into the role of chairman at short notice whenever this is necessary. This is something that I do anyway and so it is no additional burden, I would consequently be delighted to continue in this role subject to AGM approval.

Membership Secretary – Rachel Luke

For those who don't know me, I'm Rachel Luke, your membership secretary. My role has changed considerably as a result of outsourcing the secretarial role to Lavenhams Press, leaving me to sort out members' individual queries and problems. This transition has gone well with membership looking very healthy at around 660 members. I am happy to continue in this role with the approval of the AGM.

Editor – Malcolm Clarke Firstly, can I thank you all for turning up here at Silverstone. Annual General Meetings are not the most exciting of events to turn out for but a club can only survive if it's members support the club and take part in all club events.

If you have been reading the Club magazine, you will know that I am retiring as editor at this AGM. But you won't get rid of me that easy! As Karin is also retiring as Club General Secretary, it seems only right that I put myself forward to take on that job – one I did for 15 years before being “arm twisted” into the editor's position. So, if you, the members, agree I will still be involved with the running of the Club. My successor as editor will no doubt bring a fresh approach to the job, which I feel is something that is needed every so often.

As I said in the latest and my last magazine “Over the past few years we have worked very hard to bring the Club into the 20th century, but now is the time to move on and work towards the 21st!!”

But and it is a big but, no way do we want to change for change's sake – it needs to be done for the benefit of all of our members without whom there would be no Gold Star Owners Club.

Secretary - Karin Clarke – as Karin cannot be here today, Malcolm passed on her thanks to all members who have been so supportive over the years in her positions as both membership secretary and general secretary.

Technical Officer – Jon Luke. Another year and another flood of enquiries on all technical aspects. It is particularly pleasant to meet so many members and, hopefully, help them out, and so I am very willing to continue in the role, subject to AGM approval. We are here to help and so I would encourage all members to let me know of their technical issues, these are often common to many other members and so identifying them enables me to spread the help and advice more widely through the magazine articles, not to mention the possibilities available with enhanced I.T. possibilities – who knows, I could eventually be replaced by a chatbot (whatever that is!).

Regalia – John Butler. Hi, everyone, I am John Butler sourcing and supplying all your Regalia needs.
Last year we sent a few items abroad so if the overseas members require any Regalia please get in touch with me and I will get the price of the postage which you will have to pay on top of the cost of Regalia.
The price of the items has stayed the same again this year so are great value.
We have sold more last year than previous years I suppose this is due the 50th Anniversary clothing which can still be ordered if you missed out last year I am willing to continue in this post if the AGM so wishes Thank you.

Machine Registrar – Ian Jackson

The Machine Registrar's Job Description is to safeguard the Club property held by the Machine Registrar update the Club records as bikes / engines / frames / registration numbers are declared, provide members with details from the BSA Despatch Books and Club records – but not divulge information to enable “matching”.
I used to count the number of Gold Stars and Rocket Gold Stars in the Club records and report these numbers at the AGM. However, as no-one has any idea how many of these bikes / engines / frames are genuine, I've stopped doing that. By genuine I mean stamped by BSA.



I have counted the number of duplicate DBD34 Gold Stars in the Club records to give some idea what's been going on over the years. But the problem is, again, I don't know which of these bikes are genuine. Or how accurate the Club records are. So these numbers have little meaning either.

BUT

DBD34 Gold Star engines

BSA started numbering DBDs from 2001: in the Club records there are 58 DBDs numbered before that.

Two of these "pre-production" engines are recorded against two different frames with different registrations.

One of these engines is recorded against three different frames each with different registrations.

DBD DUPLICATES ETC

There are

143 duplicates – that is, the same engine number in 2 different frames.

24 triplicates – the same engine number in 3 different frames.

3 quadruplets – the same engine number in 4 different frames.

1 quintuplet – the same engine in four different frames but one frame has 2 different registrations.

I'm sorry but I didn't have the enthusiasm to check any of the other records.

Now for some facts – sort of – to answer a question I'm often asked: how many Gold Stars did BSA build?

It's impossible to give exact figures for Gold Star production numbers as in the Despatch Books there are many deleted, disappeared, dismantled, duplicates or returned.

I still haven't counted the pre-war JM and KM Gold Stars but these production numbers for the post-war Models are CLOSE:

ZB32 GS	: 850	}
ZB34 GS	: 902	} – 1752
BB32 GS	: 600	}
BB34 GS	: 951	} – 1551
CB32 GS	: 410	}
CB34 GS	: 775	} – 1185
DB32 GS	: 1,351	}
DB34 GS	: 1,437	} – 2788
DBD34 GS	: 5,082	}

So ABOUT 12,358 Gold Stars in 14 years. Rocket Gold Stars: 1,574 - in 2 years.

Plus quite a few we don't know about . . . I hope this was of interest. Thank you.

Racing Section – Ian Simpkin. Whilst in 2025 we saw the grids dwindle a little more on the race circuits of Britain, we did see an increase in the numbers of Goldies racing on the Isle of Man. We are always trying to gain more riders and sponsors for the British race circuits and we are looking forward to even more riders racing their Goldies on the Island this year.

I am happy to stand again if so required.

Election of the Club Committee

The following existing Committee members are standing for re-election:-

Chairman – John Birchall,

Vice Chairman – Jon Luke,

Treasurer – Paul Thorpe,

Membership Secretary – Rachel Luke

Technical Officer – Jon Luke,

Regalia – John Butler,

Machine Registrar – Ian Jackson,

Racing Section – Ian Simpkin

The following are standing for new positions on the committee:-

Secretary – Malcolm Clarke, Editor / IT / Website – Jim Donnelly

As no other members showed an interest in any of the Committee positions, it was suggested that we have a proposer and seconder from the floor to appoint the members listed and followed by a general vote.

Graham Sandford proposed acceptance of the Committee, Bill Shackleford seconded and the meeting agreed.

The Future of the GSOC IT strategy – Jim Donnelly

What is the requirement and what will it do for me?

The current GSOC website is a public area where anyone can access all the pages and information and can join the club. What I'd propose to add is:

A member only area (requiring a login), which contains:

- Forums for members chatting to each other (including buying / selling).
- A repository of technical articles
- Engine and Frame numbering info
- Racing Section
- Goldie magazines (old versions and eventually new ones)
- Regalia

A refreshed layout, ensuring simple, clear membership process for new members. This will allow members only to chat without the spam, misleading info and general stupidity on current GoldStar or BSA FaceBook pages. It should attract new members as they have to join in order to access the valuable information. In time it will allow individuals the option of soft copy only Goldie magazines with reduced costs for individuals and club. A new, member only, FaceBook page, with tightly controlled admin is also planned. This will duplicate some of the functionality of the website but feedback from members seems pretty equally split between forums and Facebook (based on age perhaps).

How do we get there?

I have commenced discussions with Lavenhams, Crossmember and Agile (Dave Clough). There is a pretty good updated shadow website under development (Dave Clough is very helpful) and with a few tweaks I think we can get this ready for launch for the end of April.

Ditto, with assistance from Peter (@dynamoregulatorconversions) we'll set up a GoldStar FaceBook page for members only.

In advance of launch, I'll test all the functionality and upload tech data, events to the calendar, old magazines etc to prove it works for both mediums.

Once we have confirmed that all functionality and links, (especially Crossmember payment links) work we'll swap to the new site. There may be an initial kerfuffle as I sort out member logins but eventually members will be able to use all the functionality of the new site and those who request it can use the FaceBook page.

Next Steps

AGM endorsement of the above proposals and roll out of the new website and Face-book page.

The new web site with sections for members only was welcomed by the meeting. This will then allow a review of subscription options (suggest a small working group under Treasurer's leadership) with a view, perhaps, to an EGM later this Autumn to meet all the constitutional requirements for a change to subscriptions for 2027 allowing soft copy membership for those who want it.

The meeting had some questions regarding how and when these changes would take place and how it would affect membership fees etc.

It was proposed by Ron May that the Committee work out the details of any proposed changes to the membership fees and publish them in the magazine before an EGM so that the members could vote on the proposals.

This was seconded by both Jim Donnelly and Jane Cox. The meeting agreed.

A suitable date / place for the EGM would be on Saturday 28th November at Tewkesbury when the racing section hold their awards night as the room is already booked. Further details to be published in the magazine.

Before the Chairman closed the meeting, John Kent, from the floor, thanked the Committee for their hard work in running the Club.

The next 3 pages detail the 2025 club accounts and are shown in full to meet the requirements of the Constitution and to provide full clarity to members, showing all income and expenditure.

GOLD STAR OWNERS CLUB

DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
for the year ended 31 December 2025

	31 December 2025		31 December 2024	
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Membership subscriptions	23,735		19,853	
Advertising Revenue	275		300	
Regalia sales to members	2,568		1,932	
Show prize money	1,300		-	
Donations & sponsorship	647		456	
Other income	97		-	
	<u> </u>	28,622	<u> </u>	22,541
Other Income				
Deposit account interest		1,253		1,606
		<u> </u>		<u> </u>
		29,875		24,147
Expenditure				
Magazine printing & distribution	15,286		17,250	
Membership management (Lavenham)	4,232		-	
Committee meetings & expenses	203		1,276	
Postage, stationery & sundries	700		860	
Accountancy	480		450	
Public liability insurance	543		504	
Show & event expenses	1,344		1,109	
Summer event expenses	2,061		1,764	
Racing section	616		468	
Payment processing fees	387		277	
Federation of British Historic Vehicles	340		347	
Cost of goods sold: Regalia items	2,493		1,990	
AGM Costs	1,202		525	
Stock adjustment	45		50	
Bank charges	31		-	
Software licences	391		276	
Depreciation	50		83	
	<u> </u>	30,404	<u> </u>	27,229
Surplus/(Deficit) for the period		<u> </u>		<u> </u>
		(529)		(3,082)

GOLD STAR OWNERS CLUB

**BALANCE SHEET
31 DECEMBER 2025**

	31 December 2025	
	£	£
FIXED ASSETS		
Trailer mover	105	
Less: Depreciation	<u>(50)</u>	
		55
CURRENT ASSETS		
Charity bank (4.26% fixed)	20,000	
Bank of Scotland	10,685	
Hampshire trust bank (4.1% fixed)	<u>10,000</u>	
Total cash at bank		40,685
Regalia stock @ 31 December 2025	3,378	
Advance payment for Bristol show	38	
Deposit paid for AGM room hire in 2026	<u>125</u>	
Total other assets		3,541
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>44,281</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Advance receipts for 2026 memberships		1,719
December invoice unpaid at the year end date		<u>794</u>
		2,513
NET ASSETS		<u>41,768</u>
Reserves		
Brought Forward from 2024		42,297
Surplus/(Defecit) for 2025		<u>(529)</u>
Carried Forward to 2026		<u>41,768</u>

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2025

ACCOUNTANTS REPORT TO

GOLD STAR OWNERS CLUB

In accordance with instructions provided, I have prepared without carrying out an audit the annexed financial statements from the accounting records of Gold Star Owners Club and from information and explanations supplied by the treasurer.

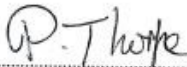


Stuart Lofas
12 Matlock Drive
Grimsby
N E Lincolnshire
DN37 9LY

Date 21/02/26

CLIENT APPROVAL CERTIFICATE

We approve the financial statements and confirm that we have made available all relevant records and information for their preparation.



P Thorpe - Treasurer

Date 21/2/2026



J Birchall - Chairman

Date 24/2/2026

Exmoor Ride Out 2026

Each year myself, Dave Holmyard and Jon Luke try to organise a mid May ride out for like minded folk in and around rural parts of the South West and Wales. Open to anyone with a sporting bike from the fifties or sixties. Not just Goldies but bikes like Vincent Comets, Tribsas and Tritons are also all welcome.

Several of you might have come out with us over the last few years in Wales and Shropshire. But this year we are going to be riding around Exmoor, based at the Raleigh's Cross Inn, Brendon Hill, Exmoor, Somerset TA23 0LN (Tel 01984 640343). It's right in the heart of Exmoor with stunning scenery. Apart from the usual B&B accommodation they also have a campsite for people with tents or camper-vans. It's quite popular with motorcyclists touring the area so I would suggest that anyone wanting to come should book sooner rather than later.



The plan is to get there on Tues the 12th May, then two days of riding, roughly 100 miles per day with tea breaks and lunch stops. The last night will be Thursday 14th May and then we all depart on the Friday. So three nights away 12th May to 14th May.

We do suggest sporting bikes of the era, not because we ride like hooligans (Dave Holmyard excepted), but because if you come on a 1940's side valve you will struggle to keep up, especially on the hills. It's beautiful countryside with some really good riding, fast A roads to country lanes, upland moorland and coastal scenery.

Anyone wanting to come please do let us know so we have an idea of numbers. Contact details as follows:

Marcus Mitchell (marcusboxstone@gmail.com), 07821 395732

Dave Holmyard (davidholmyard@btinternet.com) 07940 513249

Jon Luke (jonluke52@hotmail.co.uk) 01460 74714

If you need any more information please do not hesitate to contact one of us.

Best wishes
Marcus Mitchell (3481)

Jon's Technical Corner

CYLINDER MIS-ALIGNMENT, OR WONKY BARRELS

Quite recently, I wrote about a smoky BB32 which turned out to be caused by a bent con-rod resulting in piston to bore misalignment. Funnily enough I have now been helping another member with another smoky BB32 with heavy crankcase venting. This one turned out to be the same cause but the other way round, the con-rod was straight but the barrel was leaning to one side to give similar piston to bore misalignment.

The questions arising here are, how did this situation arise, how do you measure it and what can you do about it? Taking these from the top, the barrel will have been about for 70 years and may well have had various work done on it and may not have been particularly accurate in the first place, so it is hard to say. A problem with repairs to cylinders is that, for convenience, cylinders are machine mounted on the cylinder head face making this face the datum for boring or honing and this is naughty, but easier than properly mounting the base flange to use this one as the datum for boring. My experience is that cylinder top faces are often not dead true to the cylinder bore, probably because the BSA bored the cylinder and machined the base flange in one go to ensure dead squareness thus allowing a possible small error on the top face which is of little consequence in production. I know this to be true because I often find the variation in head gap when measuring up head gasket thickness, a .005 inch gap variation front to back or side to side can arise and I've warned of this in previous articles.

The questions of how to measure it and what to do about it go together. The only way is to turn the cylinder bore between accurate centres and to measure joint face swash with a dial test indicator, so you need good kit or a good engine builder. While up between centres, any error found should be machined out. This was the work done for this member along with new piston rings to make good. As a consequence of the machining required, it was necessary to fit a thin cylinder base shim to make up the lost barrel material.

Jon Luke: Technical Officer.



Gold Star Racing Section

Hello again race fans. Nearly there, as I write this there's only two weeks to go before the racing season starts at sunny, I really hope so, Cadwell Park. Should be a good one as the Goldie boys will be there to fly the Gold Star flag in decent numbers and tear round the track as fast as possible. We're even expecting some of the Racing Section's sponsors to attend, assuming I can beg a few tickets for them.

I was unable to attend the Classic race practice day at Mallory Park recently as it clashed with our club AGM. Myself and my little dog Jack, went along and it was a really enjoyable and fruitful meeting. Lots got discussed, sorted out, future things planned and little Jack had a great day out meeting our club members and being fed treats by many of them.

Racing dates for 2026

Race Events

Round 1: 4th - 5th April 2026 - Cadwell Park

Round 2: 2nd - 3rd May 2026 - Pembrey

Round 3: 30th - 31st May 2026 - Snetterton 200

Round 4: 4th - 5th July 2026 - Brands Hatch Indy

Round 5: 1st - 2nd August 2026 - Donington Park National,

Round 6: 29th - 30th August 2026 - Anglesey Coastal

Round 7: 19th - 20th September 2026 - Mallory Park

As ever, please feel free to drop me an email if you want to know anything Goldie racing wise or need any help getting out on track and I look forward to seeing you trackside.

Ian Simpkin

This month, mainly as I've nothing else to write about, I thought I'd share with you something I wrote years ago to support a daft idea I had to start my own company making racing equipment. The recession at the time put a stop to my plans but I did make a dozen or so machines and they're still starting bike today. It might give you a few ideas if you fancy making one yourself.

Motorcycle Paddock Starter

Introduction

In the world of motorcycle circuit racing, motorcycles do not usually carry self starting devices, starter motors, kick start levers etc. Having identified the need for a self contained portable device that could be used by only one person to start any motorcycle I designed and built the following starter machines to enable bikes to be started in the paddock, on the grid or at home in the garage/workshop.

Requirements

The starter machine needs to be used by only one person to start the motorcycle.
Light weight and portable. Able to fit any make and model of motorcycle.
Powerful and reliable. Constructed from readily available parts where possible.
Easy to use and maintain. Affordable.

Design considerations

Once the functional requirements was understood, it was necessary to consider the construction process and workshop facilities available. As only Stick welding was available a slightly thicker box section wall thickness was chosen to aid in the fusion process. The turning of axles etc was done via a manual lathe and to save time and costs a protective powder coating finish was chosen over spray painting and out sourced to a local firm. To ease production and speed up the building of the starter machines they were made in batches of two and three which helped save time on tooling and process change over. Slight modifications were made to the design to allow for material shortages and lessons learned from customers and users, ie, a stronger clutch, fully welded construction and a power take off option to drive a rear mounted generator for tyre warmers. An electrical kill switch was added to switch off the petrol engine and wired into the engines existing electronics.

Specification / construction

Steel frame, flat plate, angle, box section. (jig built, bolted and welded) Adjustable frame for different wheel sizes. Two part construction for easy storage and transportation. Safety guard over moving parts. Front lifting handle rear wheels for easy and safe movement. Alloy front roller with bearings. Nylon self lubricating side rollers. 6.5 BHP petrol engine with pull start. (Honda generator type, fan cooled) Clutch and chain drive to single rubber tyre drive wheel. (racing go kart parts) Remote hand or foot controls. Durable powder coat finish. Optional Electric Start kit



Future Starter machine plans for 2026.

I have a new electric starter in development at the moment, aimed at starting road and race Goldies fitted with a belt drive clutch. Put your bike on the stand, start it with only one hand on the starter and small enough to carry in a ruck sack. The prototype will be ready for trials next month.

FOR SALE & WANTS - 1

please send all bike related adverts to the editor by email or letter
All relevant adverts are free to members

FOR SALE



1955 DB34 Gold Star. £10,500 GBP. Well preserved and totally original.

All BSA paperwork and equipment. Some spares. Third ownership, currently in Germany.

Can assist in bringing over through Shippio.

Contact preferably via e-mail hagen.thieme@icloud.com or mobile 0049 (0)1788564222

FOR SALE

March 1955 DB34 GS102 second db34 off the production line matching frame number, RRT2 gear box verified paperwork by science museum and G.S. owners club

Restored in 2003 buff log book and some history

I'm too old to ride now so would like it to go to a new home £10750.

Colin Sutherland member No.2581 tel.07971952182 Kent



FOR SALE & WANTS - 2

please send all bike related adverts to the editor by email or letter
All relevant adverts are free to members

FOR SALE

Goldie Mag ,Fully serviced ,good spark ,comes complete with new drive pinion,
£ 200 Free to collect ,

GP carb Banjo fitting ,new, £10.

Bob newby ,front drive pulley 34t,

Complete with fittings ,as new condition £50.

Genuine goldy top fork yoke 42-5010 ,very good condition, .£80.

Cush drive assembly , , bearing, 65-2539, spring,

Cush drive sleeve 67-1135, Cush drive bearing nut, ,£25.

GENUINE MIKUNI, Throttle slide/Valves 2 New.

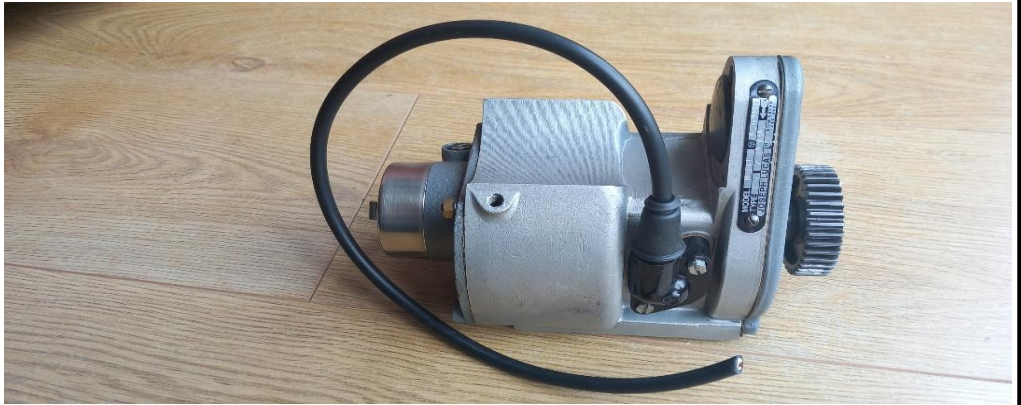
1/ vm vm38/24/2.0 / throttle valve38mm, #2.0 cutaway.

2/ vm 38/×24/3.0, throttle valve 38mm#3cutaway.

£50 the pair .

Contact ,Roger ,2336 , e/m hangpoint@aol.com

Tel 07955660228.



WANTED for project.

A pair of BB32/34 rockers, or B31/B33, and good late alloy valve spring caps.

Also a +60 thou B34 piston, short or long skirt

Tel: 07896202761 or email:bobmayow@googlemail.com

Bob Mayow 1964

FOR SALE & WANTS - 3

please send all bike related adverts to the editor by email or letter
All relevant adverts are free to members

FOR SALE

Rocket Gold Star Engine Framed in a BB32 Frame ,
This is a Project Build with some nice Features. Engine is in good order
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Gear Box Fully Reconditioned, 2 options of Exhausts Twin High level new & Single Seat New, 2 into 1 pipe with original Dual seat included, Large Alloy petrol Tank
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Offers invited

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Email
markconnolly@postformed.com



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John Cronshaw

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www.johncronshawracing.co.uk

If you can offer help to other members and you are not listed below please contact me and I will print a full list each month - Thanks, ED

- Electrical Help - Vic Tee 1170:- victree.g@gmail.com
- CB - Ray St.Clair (Arizona USA) 4046:- 30grail30@gmail.com
- Any wheel problems - Phil DeGruchy 3289:- phil@lightfootwheels.com
(see website www.lightfootwheels.com)
- ZB & BB - Graham White 4074 - email only please
grawhite54@btinternet.com
- '250' Gold Stars - Over a number of years I've had a particular interest in the those competition bikes (mainly racing, but there was at least one ISDT bike) which stemmed from the Roland Pike developments of the mid-1950's. A number of bikes were built, by the works and privately, the most famous and successful being the GMS, the Geoff Monty Special. Fred Pidcock (Membership No. 2330).
fred.pidcock@icloud.com
- KM24, JM etc
website <http://www.bsa-m24.com>

... Bob Mayow



News from Around the World

SOUTH EAST

Venue: The Portobello Inn West Kingsdown

Meetings: Last Wednesday of the month

Contact: Dave Warman 07860 242534.

Hi again all enthusiasts of the Goldie and RGS fraternity and hope all is progressing to get the steeds out of mothballs and back on the road now spring time is here. We had a quiet meeting this month as only 8 attended but it did not detract from the general chatter about anything on two wheels as many have different makes and models to play with. Ron's having problems starting his 'Harley Heritage' which might be the carby, ignition timing or even plug leads around the wrong way: big question mark on this problem with updates to come in anticipation!! I am pleased to say our new member 'Bob' was in attendance which is great as other interested parties turn up for one night but then disappear, (I really must change my deodorant). It is interesting to hear what Bob says about the new Goldie and I know he wished he purchased one years back as we all do I am sure. Like a lot of us, the opportunity and money were not available until later in life. At least Bob has promised to get the Goldie out for the VMCC West Kent show in August so that's another blessing for the bike numbers and it would be a bonus to think that maybe some of our other members from far afield could grace us with their presence as it is a good few days at the Priory and the sun always shines in Kent! Well that's what we are told but it has been a bit wet since Christmas.

I wont 'twitter' on anymore other than to say that fortunately, through unforeseen circumstances, I managed to make the AGM at Silverstone and I must say I was impressed by the Committee and professionalism shown. Whilst there seemed to be apprehension about the club last year, I came away feeling very positive and upbeat about the future and to boost this the amount of new members shown in the magazine can only strengthen the club. The new editor seems very positive with new ideas and a lot of talk was made for an optional electronic magazine so obviously we will be advised in due course but it does appear we have available the expertise to make this work. Regards to all Graham (Smiffy)

SCOTTON (LINCOLNSHIRE)

Venue: Scotton Village Hall, Scotton, Lincolnshire (DN21 3RA)

Meetings: 3rd Sunday of the month from 1pm **(NOTE CHANGE OF DATE)**

Contact: Malcolm (Editor), Eileen or Paul (Treasurer)

Nineteen attended on an overcast day. Two bikes came, both Goldies (one ancient and one modern). They must have got soaked on the way home because there was deluge when the heavens opened around 3:30pm. Next meeting on 19th April at Scotton hosted by Jane & Tony Tideswell (just like old times when we gathered at their house).

SOUTHERN

Venue: The Old Brewery Gillingham SP8 4NW

Meetings: 1st Wed. of the month from 12 noon

Contact: Ray Dickinson, 07414 289472, raylinda228@gmail.com

A very good turnout for our March meeting, including a couple of bikes, just Triumphs at this stage, too greasy yet for the Goldies to come out! A couple of apologies for medical appointments but still thirteen in attendance. The Bristol Show was discussed and generally agreed to be a success despite attendances being down again. Boxes of parts were exchanged as bits and pieces start to move between those who have them and those who want them, I ended up with a boot full to take to the AGM! The Southern Section now has quite a busy summer events programme listed below. Contact Jon Luke or Jim Donnelly (contacts inside front cover) for more details or letting us know you're coming.

12 – 15 May. Exmoor Run. See advert in this mag for details.

13 June 10 am - 4 pm. Gillingham in Gear (Dorset). Just turn up and show anytime.

11 July 10am -4.30 pm. Wallop Wings & Wheels. Army Flying Museum Middle Wallop, Hants. Contact Jim Donnelly to attend.

25-26 July. British Bike Bonanza, Batcombe, Dorset. Trial/Scramble, Ride Outs etc.

15 -16 July. British Superbike, Thruxton. Free entry for exhibitors. Contact Jim Donnelly to attend.

Jon Luke

NORTH NOTTS

Venue: The Plough at Farnsfield

Meetings: 1st Thursday of the month at 2pm

Contact: John Birchall Mob: 07816 178 486 e-mail: suebirchall@ntlworld.com

Greetings and salutations to you all. Our 1st Thursday of the month meeting at our watering hole The Plough was a great turn out. The weather gods were with us and we enjoyed the company of 14 members and friends and 8 bikes in the car park. It was such a nice afternoon that we were all able to sit outside and draw in the sun's rays and have our usual chit chat on the subjects of the week. It's good that the weather is getting better as we get nearer to spring time; dry roads and the sound of the GOLDIES twittering again ahh music to our ears. Thoughts now turn to ride outs when a few of us can get together for a ride out that is something to look forward to unless of course you have already started. Well until the road hammers meet again that is about all I have to tell you. So from us all, we bid you farewell

All the best John.

MANCHESTER

Venue: Radcliffe Arms, Middleton Junction, Manchester

Meetings: 2nd Monday of the month at 8pm

Contact: Mike Cardus 0161 643 4228 / Michael.cardus@hotmail.co.uk

Well this month turned out a good start to the New Year 7 of us attending on a damp evening. Big surprise was Peter Manley on his trusty 350 Goldie from Blackburn. Les Revelly returned a carburettor that Les had tried out on his bike. Fred Clayton our Yorkshire member called to discuss the various bike tweaks that crop up. David Scaife was again on hand with information on money saving offers with a certain app enabling all magazines to read with a 100 day free

trial, then £11.99 a month. This certainly won't help the sales of the various magazines, cars, motorcycles, OBM, virtually all. Phil Gray picked me up as usual en route to the venue which has only just opened up after a good 3 weeks renovation pushing the meeting back a week as a one off. Phil is awaiting the better weather to try out some winter work and gearbox /clutch and carb. Graham and myself made up a very enjoyable evening, I must say April is the 45th anniversary of my idea of setting up a Manchester area meeting and Les Revelly along with myself attended the first meeting, and since we have had many other members that have kept the meetings going so long and a BIG THANKS to all for their support Regards Mike.

NORTH EAST

Venue: The Dun Cow, Bournmoor, Durham DH4 6DY

Meetings: The last Saturday of the month at 2pm

Contact: Helen & Keith Vitty Helenvitty44@gmail.com 07514196706

Hi Malcolm,

Today eight of us met at the pub in Durham for the north east GSOC Christmas get together. An opportunity for us to escape the family Christmas and have a few hours of GS chat. It was really nice that our regular meeting fell between Christmas and new year. Thank you to all the northern members who have supported me in getting our local section off the ground and I look forward to 2026 and seeing more of our bikes. Helen

SOUTH EAST MIDLANDS

Venue: 10 Mill road, Bletchley Milton Keynes. MK2 2LD

Meetings: 2nd Wednesday of the month from 7.30pm

Contact: Chris 07925133466

The monthly meeting was attended by six members, Mac is still to unwell to attend. We discussed every subject imaginable including our ailments and the state of the country now. I am sure the latter had our blood pressures off the scale. Not much happening re bike events at the moment, so nothing to report there but we all enjoyed the meeting. Always lots of chat and laughter.

Six of us, including Paul, who had spent several hours on the road to get there, attended the AGM at Silverstone. I am guessing there may have been about forty members altogether. Reports from each of the committee were very interesting and informative. I have to say that it was wonderful to see so many dear friends, both members and committee.

Finally, I would like to inform those of you who don't know, that Jacks Hill Cafe at Towcester is open again under new owners who have made many improvements. Ton up day will be on the 26th July and there are events on every week. Its all on their website.

My son and his wife took me there for Mothers day breakfast which was my first visit since it reopened. The manageress showed me around and I have to say I was impressed with what I saw. The cafe is well staffed and the updated menu has vegetarian options. There's self service and takeaway and a much larger " coffee hatch". The toilets are much improved although there are still only three cubicles in the ladies which was always a problem on ton up day, even though portaloos were

available then. The " live group room" is now a regalia room and is well stocked. Free drinks with each regalia purchase. Ten % discount on food for all club members (show your membership card). Oh, and lorry drivers have new showers and a Gym room.

What was missing for me was the atmosphere. Its not the same. Customers that day were mainly families, very few bikers.

I spotted a defibrillator on the wall , perhaps for Goldie riders trying to kick start their bikes on a hot sunny day, wearing full leathers (and with an audience).

All for now folks

Chris

LONDON, ESSEX & HERTS

Venue: The Owl, Lippitts Hill, Epping Forest IG10 4AL

Meetings: Every Wednesday

Venue: Ongar Social & Sports club, Love Lane, Ongar, Essex CM5 9BL.

Meetings: Every Sunday morning for breakfast at 10am

Contact: Mike Pipe 0208 801 5659 mikepipe216@gmail.com

It is always sad when a good man dies who was also a good friend. I first met Mike Volante in the late 60's/early 70's at Cadwell Park if my memory serves me well. We talked about my Gold Star and I told him that I had been racing for about 10 years. We had a nice chat about Gold Stars in general and he invited me to join the Gold Star racing club. That was the start of a long friendship that lasted over several decades, with many good convos over the phone. He will be sadly missed by myself and my area members. Sending condolences to Mike's family from NE London, Essex & Herts members at this sad time.

Spring is just around the corner and so it is time to get the bikes ready for upcoming runs and races. I am building a sprinter for this year. I already have a Manx Norton frame and a 650 Triumph engine and need some parts to complete the project. If anyone has got a Manx fuel tank and/ or a Triumph rear conical hub with spindle for sale, please give me a bell.

I hope to be out on my Goldie later this year and meet up with the lads for a catch up and some good old banter.

Hope to see you all soon, ride safe!

Mike

WEST SUSSEX

Venue: The Plough, Lower Beeding RH13 6LT

Meetings: 2nd Wed. of the month from 7.30pm onwards

Contact: Michael & Carol Johnson 01342 718118

MIDDLESEX & WEST LONDON

Venue: The Red Lion Thorpe, Egham, Surrey TW20 8UE

Meetings: This venue no longer hosts GSOC meetings.

GRANTHAM (LINCOLNSHIRE)

Venue: Might be able to get out by arrangement so contact: Bill Harrison
bi11.harrison@ntlworld.com, or telephone 01476 405997

EAST MIDLANDS & DERBYSHIRE

Venue: The Ragley Boat Stop, Deep Dale Lane, Sinfin Lane, Derby, DE73 7FY
Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of the month at 1pm Contact: 07947893256

CENTRAL SOUTH COAST - NEW MEETING PLACE

Venue: The Hunters Inn, Cott Street, Swanmore, Hampshire SO32 2PZ
Meetings: Wednesdays March- Sept inclusive 12.30 - 2.30 PM
Contact: Malcolm MacGregor 07443 495303 / mdmacgregor@hotmail.co.uk

SURREY & SOUTH LONDON

Venue: The Star Public House, Kingston Road, Leatherhead KT22 0DP
Meetings: 1st Thursday of the month at 8pm onwards
Contact: Ian Avory 07788 136577 ianavory@yahoo.com

WEST MIDLANDS

Venue: The Railway, 30 Station Road, Whitacre Heath, B46 2EH
Meetings: 1st Tues. of the month at 7.30pm.
Contact: **Any members out there who will put themselves forward to be the contact??**

From Editor:

Please continue to advertise your section meetings, events and reports of what went on in the Goldie. I can also accept photos to break up the text a little bit. If your meeting no longer goes ahead please let me know and we can either advertise for a new co-ordinator or delete the entry to save confusing new members.

Thanks Jim

REGALIA



If there is any thing you would like with a Gold Star, Rocket Gold Star or 50th Anniversary Badge Embroidered on it let us know and we will see what we can do.

2 new lines ¼ Zip Fleece. And full length zip fleece both order only with or with out your name £23 each

Following the 2025 AGM, £3 postage & packing to be added to each order.

Stay safe John & Denise



Black only

Right:- Black or Navy



Below:- Black Clubman T Shirt



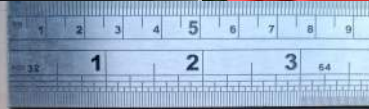
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Below right:- Softshell Gilet



Below:- Softshell jacket



Above:- Polo Shirts
Various colours Long sleeve polo shirt - special order only

GSOC REGALIA ORDER FORM

ITEM * Please indicate colour required	Price	Quantity	Size	Total £
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Beanie Hat (with GSOC badge on front) - one size fits all	£5.00			
Polo Shirts - white, black or navy *	£9.00			
Long Sleeved Polo Shirts any colour (special order only, 2—3 weeks)	£14.40			
Crew neck Sweatshirts - navy, red or black *	£10.20			
Gold Star T-Shirts - white, black, red or royal blue *	£6.00			
Rocket Gold Star T-Shirts - white, black or red *	£6.00			
Caps - black or navy *	£5.40			
Sew on Badges GSOC & RGS (£4.80) 50th Anniversary (£4.00)				
Metal Pin Badges - GSOC & 45th Anniversary, £1.00 50th, £1.50				
GSOC Stickers - for use inside glass, car windows etc	£0.15			
GSOC Stickers - to stick onto items	£0.15			
Magazine Binders - now available	£8.00			
Fleece Gilets	£19.80			
Softshell Gilets	£24.00			
Softshell Jackets	£30.00			
Zip scarf (Red or Navy) *	£10.99			
Silk Scarf (Silver, Navy Blue or Black) *	£11.99			
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Polyester Cool Polo Shirts (Special order only 2 to 3 Weeks) Blue,Black,Gray	£13.20			
Fleece Jackets ¼ Zip or Full Zip (Special order only 2 to 3 Weeks) Any Colour	£23.00			
Clubman T-shirt (black only)	£8.40			

Note: postage and packing per order = £3.00

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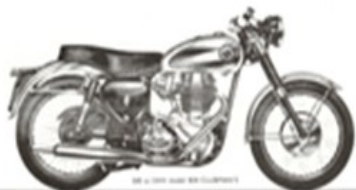
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