

The Motor Cycling Club Ltd
MONTHLY NEWS LETTER: NOVEMBER 2009

www.themotorcyclingclub.org.uk

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POSTAL DISPUTE: At present we are involved in a postal dispute which is leading to delivery problems. Sadly this is all out of our hands but could we suggest that while the uncertainty lasts you use telephone or Email for club communications wherever possible. Unfortunately some 200 odd club members don't have internet facilities and will be receiving this newsletter by post. Although it's being posted today, goodness knows when that will be, so if you have a member friend without Email please be kind and download him a copy

HAPPY BIRTHDAY EXETER: 2010 will see the MCC celebrating the centenary of The Exeter Trial – the youngest of its three classics. For anyone who is still confused the "Normal" Exeter Trial will take place in January and whilst it is unlikely the organisers will let you forget that this is the trial's one hundredth running, the main celebration, comes over Spring Bank Holiday at the end of May. The route which will include many familiar old names even though the hills have not been used for some years will be based around Exeter itself and depart for a night loop to the East on Friday evening, return for breakfast and then complete another loop to the West on Saturday to return to the city in time for a celebration supper. Then on Sunday there will be an entirely separate social run to Sidmouth, where so many Exeter Trials ended, for lunch.

To make the trial suitable for less robust vehicles there will be no loose surfaces throughout while for those who prefer not to compete in the dark there will be a special class which omits the night run

EXETER FLEECES: Anna Robinson, *The Fleece Babe*, wishes to remind everyone that time is rushing by, and the closing date for ordering Exeter Commemorative Fleeces is approaching. The last date for orders is 13th November 2009 - only one week away! *How about a Christmas present to yourself?*

THE BOOK: Twenty years ago David and Charles of Newton Abbot, published Peter Garnier's book detailing the history of the MCC. Since then the book has become a "Must" for anyone interested in the club and its history. All of the original print run have now been sold and the publishers have given me permission on behalf of the club to reprint. Peter, a former editor of The Autocar magazine was a lifelong MCC enthusiast who would often recall how as a boy he would go eagerly to the end of the road in his native Newlyn to see the "Racers" on the last stages of their weary way to Lands End each Easter. I had little difficulty persuading him to undertake writing this volume although its research proved quite a task as the club did not have, then, the archives it does today. Fortunately we had the run of old copies of the appropriate magazines from the former Temple Press and Beaulieu libraries so my task of researching became quite pleasurable leaving Peter to do the hard work turning it all into something readable. Most of you who have read the original will testify to how well he succeeded and for this reason I am not altering anything in this reprint but running it warts and all as Peter wrote it. I am, however, adding a much longer foreword to fill in the club's happenings over the last twenty years while the appendices detailing club presidents will be updated and that listing and briefly describing old MCC hills will have an Edinburgh section added – thanks to Andrew Brown's efforts.

I hope many of you who already have a copy will invest in the reprint to stand alongside the original. Copies should be available before Christmas at the same price as the earlier edition - £15.00. Orders are being taken now and until the end of the year I will be waiving the usual charge of £2.50 for p and p.

SUBS DUE: Not only for those entering the Exeter but for everyone subscriptions are due and they are now **£26.00,**

Would all members PLEASE fill in a renewal form, downloadable from the web and send them to:

John Childs at 57 Ash Grove, Wheathampstead, Herts. AL4 8DF

COMING EVENTS IN 2010

Exeter Trial – 8/9 January; Lands End Trial – 2/3 April; Exeter Centenary Event – 29 May; Testing Trial – 11 July; Edinburgh Trial – 2 October.