

# OUTLOOK

September/October 2025



The Magazine of the Federation of Sidecar Clubs

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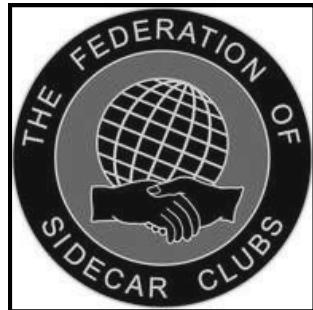
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September/October 2025



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Please send items for inclusion to the editor.

Email: [editor@sidecars.org.uk](mailto:editor@sidecars.org.uk)

## Editorial

*Summer appears to be over, hopefully many of you will have managed to get out and about and enjoy it. Since the last issue I attended the Annual Rally and the Jumbo Run on my outfit, plus a couple of rallies and longer trips on the Solo.*

*In this issue are some articles around the Annual Rally, the Sidecar Soiree and some sidecar meets. Plus a few articles from members journeys. I know there have been several other rallies over the summer period, if anyone could send me some photos and a report (doesn't need to be long) that would be great.*

*Sharing these events through Outlook is the best way to get more attendees, I for one will definitely be adding the Sidecar Soiree to my list to attend next year after reading Martyn's report.*

*Anyway, hopefully there is still some nice riding days left in the year.*

*Safe travels, Norton*

## From the Chair

I have been the Chairman for about eighteen months now. The Hot Seat seems to have cooled down a bit now, either that, or my backside has become more accustomed to the temperature! Now that the Annual Rally and the EGM are done I feel it appropriate to make comment on the direction of The Fed. Firstly I would like to thank everyone who helped with the running of the Rally. Without your assistance it would not have been possible.

The EGM was certainly animated and I am very pleased that everyone was able to have their say. I think that the issues that I considered needed to be addressed were. I hope that the bureaucracy within the Fed is now a little more streamlined. Also with more of the vacant committee posts filled I believe the Fed should run a bit more smoothly and efficiently. I no longer feel as if the committee is like a circus act, trying to keep a lot of plates spinning, without the chance to have more time to look to the future.

Next year The Annual Rally will be at Hinckley Rugby Club, I intend to hold the next AGM there, as we now have a six month notice time to announce it.

I am planning in 2026, as advertised on FaceBook and The Fed website, a Summer day meet at The Shuttleworth Collection in Old Warden, Bedfordshire.

Thank you for all of the support you have given over the last year or so.

*Martin France*

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Martin with Raffle prize winner, Andrew Ross



## EGM Minutes Southam Rugby Club

Sunday 24th August 2025

- ◊ The following officers were present:

**Chairman** - Martin France

**Membership Secretary** - Andrew Ross

**Editor** - Norton Walling

**Public Relations Officer.** - Nick Bentley

**Regalia Officer** - John Askham

- ◊ Apologies for absence : **Treasurer** - Mike Buyers, **Technical Officer** - David Angel
- ◊ 42 Members of The Fed present
- ◊ Meeting started 2.15 pm - Meeting ended 4.15 pm

### **The EGM was called for the following reasons:**

Election of Officers for vacant posts and changes to the Fed Constitution.

### **Election of Officers for Vacant Posts**

The following vacant posts were filled after discussion:

**Secretary** - Sally Sixsmith - proposed Ted Cheer, seconded Lesley Aves.

**Events Coordinator** - Jak Lemon - proposed Dave Greenwood, seconded Martin France.

**Web Master** - Pete Walk - proposed Ted Cheer, seconded Keith Aldridge.

**Legal Officer** - After discussion, this post has been removed and replaced by the BMF Liaison Officer.

**BMF Liaison Officer** - Jak Lemon - Proposed Dave Greenwood, seconded Martin France.

## **Changes To Constitution of The FOSC**

After discussion the following clauses to the Constitution were agreed and amended:

**Note:** Bold text shows the agreed changes, Brackets show the original wording.

### 8. Executive Officers

A. The NEC **should** comprise of up to 12 Executive Officers.

(The NEC shall comprise of up to 12 Executive Officers)

### 10. National Executive Committee (NEC)

A. The NEC shall meet a minimum of three times per year and hold other meetings at the Chairman's discretion and shall be given 15 days' notice with an agenda. Meetings may only proceed if **a minimum of 3** NEC officers are present.

(Meetings may only proceed if 5 or more NEC Officers are present.)

### 11. Annual General Meeting

A. **The AGM shall be held at the discretion of the NEC.**

I. **Should the AGM be held at the Annual Rally, the Old Committee shall remain in post, to run the current Annual Rally. The newly elected committee shall take charge at the end of the current Annual Rally.**

(A. The AGM shall be held between 1st October and 31st December)

B. **The purpose of the AGM will be:**

I. **Reports and Accounts – presentation thereof**

II. **Proposed changes to the Constitution - discussion and vote**

III. **Nominations for Office - discussion and vote**

IV. **These three items will constitute standing Agenda.**

V. Only matters on the Final Agenda may be debated and voted on unless two thirds of the votes present decide otherwise.

C. Any member may propose AGM motions or make nominations for office as an individual or representing any group of FoSC members approved by the FoSC.

- D. Late nominations may be accepted at the discretion of the Chairman.
- E. The following periods before and after the AGM shall be adhered to:
  - I. **At least 6 months before - The Membership shall be notified of the AGM.**
  - II. **At least 40 days before – The Secretary should receive nominations for office and changes to the Constitution for inclusion in the Final Agenda.**
  - III. 21 days before – The Membership shall be sent the Final Agenda, Officers' Reports, **Accounts** and any relevant papers.
  - IV. 60 days after – the Membership shall be sent Minutes of the AGM and **audited accounts.**

(E. The following periods before and after the AGM shall be adhered to.

- I. 90 days before the membership shall be notified of the agenda.
- II. 60 days before the membership shall be sent the provisional agenda.
- III. 40 days before the Secretary should receive nominations for office, changes to constitution, amendments to provisional agenda and business for final agenda.
- IV. 21 days before the memberships shall be sent final agenda, officers reports, audited accounts and any relevant papers.
- V. 60 days after Memberships shall be sent Minutes of the AGM.)

## 16. Finance

- C. The financial year shall end **at the discretion of the Treasurer.**  
(The financial year shall end on the 30th September)
- I. Should the FoSC be wound up, **once all commitments have been met.**
  - I. In order to wind up the FoSC an EGM must be called.
  - II. Physical assets shall be offered to affiliated clubs before any sale or other disposal.
  - III. Financial Assets will be disposed of at the discretion of The Members.
- (I. Should the FoSC be wound up the assets shall be distributed in proportion to the size of the membership)

## New FoSC Secretary

Hello, I am Sally Sixsmith, the new Secretary for the Fed since the Annual Rally 2025, so I thought I would introduce myself and my family.

I met Andy when I was 16 and I was introduced to our first outfit, a Jawa 350 and Javelin sidecar. This was soon to be changed to a Suzuki GSX 250 and Monza so I could ride on the back as my dad didn't want me to be in the sidecar.

Over our 41 years of marriage we have had many outfits. Some of which have been:



From the church to our wedding reception in 1984 on a Honda CX500 Custom and squire.



From Lands End to John O'Groats on a Kawasaki 750 and Palma with our daughter Katie and boxer dog.



At the moment we are solo on a Kawasaki Z900 RS on which we celebrated our 41<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary at Gretna Green by a handfasting ceremony.



We also have a Norton 961 Commando.

Hope to see you at a Rally or show in the future. We will be at Stafford show on 12 October and hope to be at the newly opened Jack Hills Cafe on 20 October

*Safe Riding, Sally Sixsmith*

## Sidecar & Trike Day

Dear Norton and Outlook readers.

Sunday 17th August was Sidecar and Trike day at the Ace cafe. Not a big turnout, I think due to almost non-existent advertising and also ULEZ charging. I found out from John Hind just a few days previous and others told me they only found out the night before.

However, it was a good day out and a nice sunny day. John Hinds new KTM/Wasp outfit caused a lot of interest. It is a well put together outfit . John had to wait several months while it was under construction but it must be worth the wait. John plans a trip to Iceland so this must be the perfect outfit for that type of trip, I wish him luck.

Also interesting was a 6-cylinder CBX Honda outfit. It had a very strong looking subframe and wasp forks. I did not get to speak to the owner but it looks like he may use it for his mobile mechanic business. He should be able to load motorbikes into the sidecar as it has a fold down tailgate.

The Dnepr made in Ukraine was interesting its owner Phill from Woodstock travels all over the world so he needs plenty of spares to keep his bike on the road. Soon after the invasion by Russia he ordered enough spares to last him 5 years.

I hope you find this interesting.

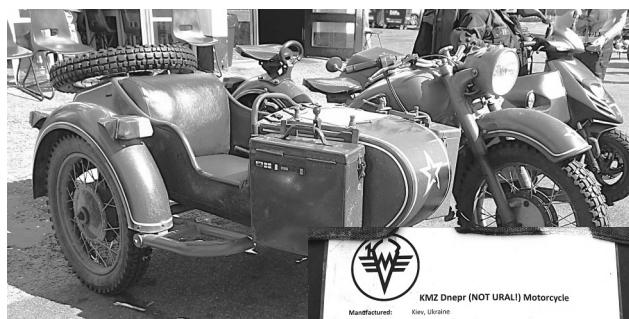
*Dave Greenwood*



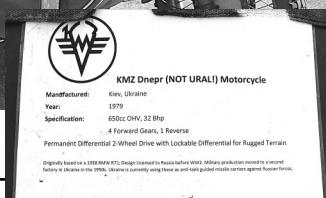
John Hinds' new KTM/Wasp



CBX sidecar with tailgate



Not a Ural



# 2025 Annual Rally and Award Winners

Her Scottishness (Marion) and I thought that the atmosphere at this years Annual Rally was very pleasant indeed.

This was the first time for a decade that I'd been to the rally and not been a committee member.

Nevertheless, I was roped in to help with the Silly Games, the Maintenance Test (well done to Jak (Lemon) for organising this, nice one) and my usual role as photographer.

It just goes to show that you can check out, but you can never leave!

I was asked by Martin the chairman if I would take pictures of the trophy winners, which I was happy to do.

Andrew Ross was on a grand tour of the British Isles, it seems, and easily collected the UK Long Distance Award, amongst other prizes and trophies on his thousand mile plus round trip.

Karen Tanner must have broken some kind of record with the youngest outfit to have won the Robbie Robson Award for oldest British outfit. I await to be corrected.

Anyway, without further ado, here's the list of winners, and some pictures to go with it.



**Overall Rally Winner - Michael**

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**Driving Test - Piers and Lucky**

**Maintenance Test - Dickie Jones**

**Highway Code - Michael Alexander**

**Overall Rally Runner up - Dickie Jones**

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**Canterbury Cup team - West Anglia**



**UK Long Distance - Andrew Ross (548mls)**



**Furthest Overseas Travelers - Christoph & Eric Weber (Germany)**



**Robbie Robson Shield Award - Karen Tanner**



**Ken Martin Award - TriAnglia Wheels (8)**



**Rebo Jackson Award** (Chairmans choice) - Paul Ennis



**Youngest Rallist** - Rachel Jones (Aged 5)



**Children's Silly Games** - Ida Orton



**Adult Silly Games** - Daniel Manning

Here's looking forward to seeing everyone next year, at Hinckley

*Stephen Wood*

### From Her Scottishness

Such a lovely time at the Fed rally this year . Perfect weather , not too hot and not too cold . We had delightful neighbours and had lovely chats .

Husband is in his element in a field full of bikers . I am lazy and love to sit and read . Perfect combination if the weather is fine.

Big thank you to Martin France and Mary . They worked tirelessly the whole weekend . I know people helped , but they shouldered the bulk of the work .

Really enjoyed it . Thank you all and see you next year .

*Marion xx*

Enjoying? The silly games



### SYSC on the Rally, taken from SYdelines

So, the significant event on the Feds calendar has transpired. Was it a triumph? In my estimation, it was. Seventy-eight units registered at some point over the weekend. I know that we have had higher numbers in the past. But considering that the F.o.S.C. has been hovering dangerously close to collapse, this number of attendees was good. It did top last years total.

To get to Southam, I had a steady but very boring ride down the M1 . I clocked just 100 miles. This took me 2 and a half hours. As my stamina is not what it was, I was rather pleased that I did the trip in one go. For the first time, I took along my walking stick. I did use it too.

I did notice that one or two others are now using sticks. I must admit that none of us are getting any younger. Knee & hip replacement operations seem to be all the rage. It seems like "Old Feddies" are like old British bikes, we need replacement parts to keep us going.

The SYSC put in a decent showing. I counted Michael & Gaye Alexander. Pete Ellis. Steve & Jackie Fenton. Alf Tindall. Sean Wilson. John Hyman and Grand-son Nathan. Mark Fowler too. Did he sign in as a Viking club member?. Sean Wilson came on a solo. John Hyman came in his van. I think that we gave the "TriAnglia Wheels" a good run for the "Best club Attendance" award. . Most of the SYSC were camped up behind the advertising signs splitting the camp into two.

Michael Alexander was the recipient of two awards. One for the "Highway Code" and the top award, "Overall Rally Winner" Well done Michael.

*Safe riding, John.*

## Tri-Anglia Wheels—Sidecar Soiree

*Words and photos taken with permission from Sidecarland.uk, where more photos are available.*

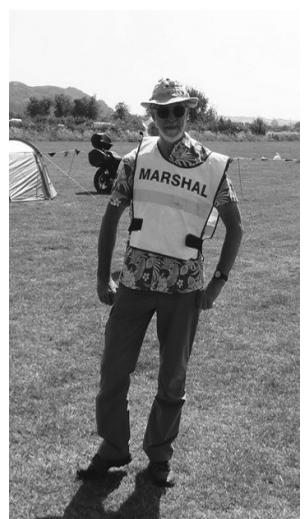
Our first Somerset Sidecar Soiree kicked off on the Thursday with several turning up to beat the ever-increasing traffic on a Friday, which appears to be the norm now. It appeared attendees used various routes, taking some local roads, some with grass up the middle! Then blaming the sat nav when their passenger complained about the bumpy ride.



A selection of the Outfits on site, including best outfit winner, Harley and Anson Osprey

Thursday was simply a pitch up, get sorted, get in some supplies and chill out day with a social gathering in the Marquee / Social area. Friday, many ventured out to do the short walk treasure hunt and take a stroll around Cheddar. Lots to do and see and of course the famous Cheddar Gorge and caves.

Friday afternoon Martyn lead a walk out from the site to Cheddar Ales Tap Room with the Shark as Tail End Charlie. Great beer, plenty of tables outside to enjoy the weather and, from 4pm onwards, handmade wood-fired pizzas. Just about everyone was back onsite by 8pm for the Friday night (pub) quiz.



Mark the Sharks HiVis and Hawaiian Combo



Pub, followed by...



Pub Quiz

Saturday, after surviving Friday night, most had planned their day, walks around the reservoir, ride out up or down the Gorge and local roads, a spot of green lane riding, visit Wells. But most were back by the afternoon so they could pay another visit to Cheddar Ales Tap Room, the fact it is only a 5-minute walk helps. There was entertainment at the Tap Room plus entertainment on the campsite, along with food and a pop-up cocktail bar.

In the evening the awards were presented followed by a bumper raffle. Then it was the major event, The Famous Grand Prix. This was unbelievably popular this year. Those who were attending the Sidecar Soiree for the first time were a little bit apprehensive about taking part, then said it was brilliant and they had a whale of a time.



Children's & Adults contest—Who took it more seriously



Sunday arrived quite quickly and it was time for most to pack up in the dry, which is a bonus for any event, and head home, with 3 attendees staying on. So, who won what? The quiz was won by Nibbs, Gribbs and Avi, second place in the Tresure Hunt was "Cheesy Triple" Mark, Karen and Paul, first place was Carolyn and Dave. Best outfit was Robert's Harley and Anson Osprey with the Mucky Hands awards going to Ryan and Mike for their on the field spannering. The Kids Grand Prix was won by Oscar and the Adult Grand Prix was won by Phil (of various hats).

We would like to thank those who helped over the weekend from carrying the recycling, getting water etc and a special thank you to the raffle ticket sellers and folders. The turn out of sidecars was fantastic, and such a wide variety. So will it be on next year, the answer is yes, same weekend has been provisionally booked and we are in conversation tidying up the loose ends so to speak. Keep an eye out on the events page.

Finally, a big thank you to all of you who turned up and made the weekend a special one and we hope to see you next year.

*Martyn Aves*



## Bikes (and Sidecars) in Bygone Bristol

*A selection of photos Paul Martyn has found from Bristol's motorcycling past. Thank you Paul.*



Outfit and Car outside a hardware store



Douglas Motorcycle showroom in Bristol city centre (courtesy of John Roberts)



Haskins motors City Road Bristol (care of FB)

## NOSTALGIA TOUR 2025 – OLD GEEZER ON AN OLD BIKE

*Our Membership Sec, Andrews accounts of his journey to the Annual Rally and beyond....*

“I don’t think I’m going,” I said. “The bike’s making a funny noise.”

Catherine wasn’t having any of this. “Stop being pathetic and just get on with it.”

“OK”.



Andrew with his Outfit at Leiston, Suffolk

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So this was a couple of days before departure on what turned out to be a 2,400 mile trip with a 1978 Moto Guzzi T3 California (sort of) and Watsonian Monaco, starting and ending at our home in the Outer Hebrides.

So the night before, just checking everything was in order for my 8.30 departure from Lochboisdale.

“Oh bother (or words to that effect)!” It was actually a 5.45 departure, for which one is supposed to be there 45 minutes prior, which was going to mean leaving the house at 3.30am. Although still summer(ish), it was going to be dark, as well as unreasonably early. As it happened, I had recently fitted an LED headlight bulb, but had not got round to testing it. It was in fact quite a revelation to have decent LED lights for the 55-mile night-time run to the ferry.

First night was a fine campsite near Gretna – Bruce’s Cave – which I would recommend, not least because they also own a pub in the village, where campers can get a discount on their meals. I was dreading the second day, as it was the Friday before August Bank Holiday weekend, and I had visions of getting stuck in many traffic jams with my 50 year-old air-cooled engine in the English heat. So I made sure to be up with the lark and was on the road just after 6am.

As it turned out, the journey south wasn’t nearly as bad as anticipated, since most of the traffic was going the other way, and the only place where it got a bit sketchy was on the York by-pass. I tend to avoid motorways on this bike and let Google choose the routes. It did well, sending me down the Fosse Way for part of the journey, which was nice.

The satnav did not however screen out the bumpy roads, and not long over the border in England one of the bike’s side panels fell off and the other one nearly did, the headlamp shell cracked right across (glad I brought plenty of duct tape) and two of the bolts holding the screen on came loose. Certain people may claim there were maintenance issues at play here. However I blame the roads. Oh and I hit a pigeon at some point that day as well, which put a crack in the sidecar screen. I’m not sure the pigeon fared too well either.



In the event I was at the Fed Rally site at Southam around 4 o'clock, which is considerably earlier than I had feared. It had been a satisfying first leg of the tour.

I won't dwell on the Fed Rally as such, since I know others are doing write-ups about it. Suffice to say, I was really pleased to win the long distance award (548 miles) and slightly embarrassed (but pleased) also to win first prize in the raffle.

Well done to Martin and everyone else who had a hand in putting the event on – I thought it was great, although perhaps slightly ashamed that this was the first Fed Rally I had been to since our son was in a push chair – he is now 34!

Oh, and big thanks to Michael Alexander for helping fix a few electrical issues I was having.

The following few days were spent in Northamptonshire, Suffolk and Oxford, visiting friends and family. Purely by coincidence I realised my Suffolk friend lived just over the road from Dave Silver's truly amazing Honda collection, comprising over 200 motorcycles from the earliest ever Honda bike dating back to the late 1940s through to the 1990s. I would highly recommend a visit if you are in the area (or even if you aren't).



*Some of the Dave Silver Honda Collection:  
Including a C50 and the first Honda ever, a two-stroke*



The following weekend it was down to Culm Vale for their annual gathering on the North Somerset coast, which was well-attended and very enjoyable. It was nice to revisit a site just up the road from the rally where my grandmother had a static caravan back in the 1960s. I found the place, which unsurprisingly had changed a little since I was last there aged about 6 or 7!

The Guzzi was still running well, although Mr. Wood did comment that he could hear my tappets coming down the road! Safer loose than tight I always think...

After Culm Vale it was on to the second phase of the tour – Ireland. But first of all a rainy night at Talybont, a great campsite used by the MZ Riders Club and other clubs for their events. By now the weather had well and truly broken and it was a wet tent that got packed up on departure. After a pleasant, and only slightly damp stay on a campsite near St David's which I knew from my childhood, and which we had taken our own children to in the early '90s, the heaviest rain of the trip hit on the 20-mile ride up to Fishguard. An epic deluge demonstrated if nothing else that the Guzzi's electrics really don't mind getting wet, which has certainly not been the case for every motorcycle I have owned.



Near St David's, first went to this site in 1960s

Welsh rain at Talybont

More rain, but Irish

The main reason for going to Ireland was to attend the annual MZ gathering at Glencar in Co Kerry. Although not on an MZ, I felt legit as I had attended the previous year on my 1975 TS250. Prior to 2024, the only other time I had been to this rally was in 1987! As usual, this year was a great weekend of good company, good food and excellent Guinness. It was a shame the weather for the run out was atrocious and that there was something of a storm during Saturday night, which did for a couple of the tents on site and partly collapsed mine – entirely user error, not putting the pegs in properly. A lesson learned.



On Sunday I commenced the trip back north, blessed with a nice tail wind most of the way, and stopping for a very nice meal in Kanturk with my sister-in-law and her husband who happened to be on holiday in the area at the time. The ferry from Belfast to Cairnryan (south Scotland) was Tuesday morning, which was no problem, although I think in future I would probably use the alternative Larne – Cairnryan route, as the Belfast traffic was a bit of pain on the outfit. The campsite I stayed in on that last night about ten miles from the port was also not one of my favourites, despite being the most expensive of the whole trip.

Nourishment for the body and soul

Due to bad weather coming in, my ferry back to the islands got moved from Mallaig to Oban, which actually did me a favour, as Oban is considerably further south, and I made it up there in one day from Cairnryan. In the process I discovered the A85 road from Tyndrum to Oban. How come I've never discovered this route before? A brilliant road with wide sweeping curves, ideally suited to outfits. I was waiting for the bends to tighten up and catch me out, but they never did. Even better was the fact that it was now early evening and there was hardly any other traffic. By now the bike seemed to be running even better than when I had started out. An annoying intermittent misfire which had been evident from time to time, seemed to have cleared up and even the oil leaks from various places had diminished. Maybe all the oil had come out by that time (I jest – I had checked, and topped up, both engine and gear oil a number of times during the trip).

However all good things come to an end, and I soon found myself on the very picturesque campsite a couple of miles out of Oban overlooking the island of Kerrera. I know this is probably reading a bit like a nostalgia tour, but I had last stayed on this campsite in 1984, when I was doing a Scottish tour in a heatwave on an MZ outfit. The campsite seems to be having the same water supply issues today as I remembered from 41 years previously.

After a bouncy ride back to Lochboisdale on the MV Lord of the Isles (Sturgeon to the rescue!), I was back on the flooded roads of Uist and eventually home. I was certainly glad I had chosen to come back that day, as on the following day an unpleasant September gale came through and most of the local ferries were cancelled.

So 2,400 miles in all and I considered it a thoroughly successful trip, during which all objectives had been met, in terms of events attended and meeting up with people. I did think the bike had been getting a bit noisy latterly, and I found that one of the removable baffles in the Mistral exhaust had disappeared. So obviously I had to remove the other one, and it's just running straight-throughs. Now I think you may hear more than just the tappets coming down the road.

*Andrew Ross*



Last night of the Tour,  
near Oban

## Musée Baster – Musée de la moto



1930's Rene Gillet

On my recent trip to Greece, I managed to find time to call into the Baster Motorcycle Museum. I had previously called in a couple of years earlier but had only managed a quick look around, this time I had a bit longer and being the only visitor had a good chat with Monsieur Baster.

I have been to many motorcycle museums, but this has to be one of the biggest (in terms of number of motorcycles) and have one of the widest range of motorcycles. It also has one of the biggest collections of sidecars I have come across. There are over 900 bikes in the museum (the owner has another 150 in another warehouse), of which about 100 had sidecars attached, there were over 30 in the room full of East European machines alone.

If there is a downside to the museum, it is that there are so many bikes crammed in it is sometimes difficult to get photos. A case in point being my favourite outfit, a 1930s Rene Gillet Outfit complete with wicker basket on the back and a matching trailer.

The museum is on the edge of Riom, not far from Clermont Ferrand, it is on an industrial estate with an Indian Motorcycle themed restaurant next door. It is well worth a visit, but I would recommend phoning first as the opening hours are a bit random.

*Jak Lemon*

*Editor: Those members who are friends with my dad on Facebook will have seen his recent exploits across Europe on a Royal Enfield Meteor to the Greek National Rally. He stopped at many interesting places on route, but I imagine this museum would keep a lot of us busy for hours, more information on the museum can be found at <http://museebaster.fr/>*



## Barney Enfield



This is Barney Enfield, a Royal Enfield Himalayan with a Canterbury trials chair. If you recall Barney was the subject of a recent Outlook write up describing how I put the outfit together. Barney is a go anywhere outfit, and he has been anywhere and everywhere in the short time he has been put together. Barney has trundled through Europe – France, Belgium, Germany and back – to a small club rally in the shadow of the mighty Eder dam. He has attended the Armchair Adventure Weekend organised by the Sidecar Guys (the two lads who went around the world on a twist and go Honda with a homemade sidecar). And Barney has been green-laning on Salisbury Plain, The Ridges and Dips of Dorset, and some tortuous tracks in Snowdonia. He really is the go anywhere bike.

But I really put him to the test in May when I took him up a ....well I can only describe this road/hill as a cliff face. I was laid on the tank, feet pushed against the footpegs and flat-out in first. A single-track lane with laughable passing places, 25% the sign said, I had to crick my neck to see forward and still the hill loomed overhead.

It was a ride to remember, so I wrote this:

*Editor: Thank you for sending this in Steve. I took my Ural off road in Wales for the Taffy Dakar and your poem brought back memories.*

### **A moment of madness**

Engine screaming, piston pumping  
Every single cc thumping  
Skip over the cattle-grid, bounce onto the lane  
I'm on the ancient Port Way and the Long Mynd hill  
Four eleven that's all I've got  
First gear now, nothing left  
Throttle twisted to the stop  
One in four, 25%, I'm sure it's steeper  
This isn't a hill, it's the north face of the Eiger  
And steep enough to make an aircraft stall  
But I'm committed, can't turn back, can't stop for others  
No chance to turn or to make way  
Doubt the brakes would hold anyway  
And the wheel that drives wouldn't get us going  
So just power on, riding hard, lie flat on the tank  
Nothing left, just have to pray  
And still the roadway looms overhead, one in four,  
More like one in three, but feels like one in one to me  
And we just keep climbing, though not far now  
And crest the top, Barney Enfield coughs  
I take a breath, Barney takes a bow  
I don't think I'll do that again  
Certainly, won't go back that way  
That was scary, don't mind admitting, scary and exhilarating  
Just thirty seconds, doubt it's more  
And etched into my memory for evermore.

© A moment of madness taken from "The Song that Never Ends" by Stephen Anthony Lyons

*Steve Lyons*

PS, it's just a sticker, but the forks are Wasp.

# Events 2025 & 2026

*A calendar of Sidecar events for 2025 and 2026, both national and international. I will 'line out' events that have happened by the issues publication, but leave them in so you can pencil in the calendars for next year.*

## January

<b>18<sup>th</sup> – The 2026 Winter Sidecar Meet</b>	Silver Ball Cafe, A10 at Reed, Hertfordshire, SG8 8BD. (situated on the northbound lane of the A10) <u>From 10am.</u> Contact: Stephen Wood; <a href="mailto:baldybiker@sjwood.uk">baldybiker@sjwood.uk</a> phone 07534 456642 David Greenwood; <a href="mailto:davidjgreenwood@hotmail.co.uk">davidjgreenwood@hotmail.co.uk</a> phone 01628 528866
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## April

<b>11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> – Irish SOC, Shepherd's Rest Shindig</b> -	At the usual venue of the Shepherd's Rest in the Sperrins, near Draperstown. See Facebook for more details.
<b>18<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> – South Yorkshire SC, Easter Egg Rally</b>	Bamford and Thornhill Recreation Ground, S33 0DA. See flyer for full details.

## May

<b>16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> – Hedingham SOC, Camping Weekend</b>	Clennel Hall Country Hotel, Morpeth Northumberland, NE65 7BL. Lovely scenic sight, good food and great beer, rooms available, but be quick, phone the hotel on 01669650377 to book. HSOC contact John 01788 578743.
<b>15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> – West Midlands SC, Annual Rally</b>	<b>West Midland Sidecar Club Rally, May 2026</b> Island Meadow Caravan Park, Aston Cantlow, Henley in Arden, Warwickshire. B95 6JP To help us please email: <a href="mailto:wmsc122@gmail.com">wmsc122@gmail.com</a> if you intend to come. More details to follow.
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> – ADAM Camping Weekend</b>	Het Bosland, Meeneweg 29, 7021 HP Zelhem See flyer for full details.
<b>29<sup>th</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup> June – 21<sup>st</sup> International Sidecar Rally Brugge</b>	On the grounds of Sint Lodewijks College, Magdalenstraat 30, 8200 Sint Michiels Brugge. See flyer for full details

## June

13 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup> – Culm Vale SC, Forest Glade Camping Weekend	<b>Venue:</b> Forest Glade Holiday Park, Broad Rd, Kentisbeare, Cullompton, Devon EX15 2DT See flyer for full details.
20 <sup>th</sup> – 22 <sup>nd</sup> – Vikings Camping Weekend	Chain Bridge Honey Farm, Horncliff, Berwick on Tweed, Northumberland, TD15 2XT Full facilities, honey farm shop/visitor centre, small museum. Large collection of old farming equipment. Large club tent for socialising (or shelter). Hog roast van on site Friday and Saturday evening. Pub 1 mile. Berwick is 3 miles away with shops and filling stations. We will be there on Wednesday 18th, so if you want to join us and make a longer weekend please do so. Cost £10 per unit per night Contact: Don 07736 650310
27 <sup>th</sup> – 29 <sup>th</sup> – Hobgoblin Camping Weekend	Netherwood campsite – New location for 2025, limited spaces (pre book and pay). See flyer for full details.

## July

10 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> – London SC, Rally	<b>London Sidecar Club International Rally, July 2026</b> Venue is Kenley RAFA Club. Surrey Details to follow as and when we get the site confirmation. Contact is Ted Cheer:- <a href="mailto:www.eddiecheer@aol.com">www.eddiecheer@aol.com</a> or 07746584093
19 <sup>th</sup> – 2026 Chairmans Run	Summer Meet at The Shuttleworth Collection. The Collection is made up of historic aeroplanes, a small collection of classic British bikes, old cars and farm equipment. There is The Swiss Garden to walk round. An onsite cafe provides snacks and cooked meals. Cost is a discounted £10 per person which allows for return free for the next 30 days. More details to follow.
16th – 20th – Suffolk SC Camping Weekend	Venue: Trinity Park, Felixstowe Road, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP3 8UH Directions: Follow signs for Trinity Park. Facilities: toilets, shower and electricity. Cost: TBA Contact: Charles Gosling 07758 831887. Leave a message and I will get back to you.
24 <sup>th</sup> – 27 <sup>th</sup> – Tri- Anglia Wheels SC, The Sidecar Soiree	NEW venue – Petruth Paddocks, Labourham Drove, Cheddar BS27 3FS See flyer for details.

## August

<b>1<sup>st</sup>—3<sup>rd</sup>—Phoenix Camping Weekend</b>	Tanpits Cider Farm, West Monkton, Taunton, Somerset, TA2 8BZ. <a href="http://www.tanpitsfarmcampsite.co.uk/">http://www.tanpitsfarmcampsite.co.uk/</a>  good toilets with free showers and wash up facilities. nearest pub with good food 5mins. Price £8 per tent and £1 per person Early camping from Wednesday 30th July and <u>Sorry no caravans</u> Early camping and general enquires contact Chris Rodd Tel 07443568969 or email <a href="mailto:crodd8@gmail.com">crodd8@gmail.com</a>
<b>22<sup>nd</sup>—25<sup>th</sup>—Federation of SC Annual Rally</b>	Southam Rugby Club, Warwickshire. See flyer for full details.
<b>29<sup>th</sup>—31<sup>st</sup>—Culm Vale SC, Watchet Camping Weekend</b>	<b><u>This event is a pre-book only event. To pre-book contact the organiser by email or Text.</u></b> Venue: Warren Farm caravan and camping site, Warren Farm, Watchet, Somerset, TA23 0JP See flyer for full details.

## Advance Notice

The 2026 Federation of Sidecar Clubs Annual Rally will be held at Hinckley Rugby Club on the August Bank holiday weekend.

After the successful running of the EGM this year,  
the committee are planning to hold the AGM at the  
rally

Further details to follow.

## September

<b>5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> – West Midlands SC, Autumn Gathering</b>	Century House Campsite (AM & LM Trevitt), 100 Turning Lane, Scarisbrick, nr Southport, PR8 5HZ £11 PER UNIT PER NIGHT, pay at reception on arrival. £5 Per Person Day Visit Good facilities with disabled access. BBQ Area with a gazebo for socialising etc. Close to shops and pubs. Tel: 01704 535 164
<b>12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> – Jumbo GB rally</b>	Birch Coppice Miners Social Welfare Centre, Watling St, Dordon, Tamworth, B78 1SY. See flyer for full details.
<b>19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> – Vikings Camping Weekend</b>	Moor End Farm, Acaster Malbis, York, YO23 2UG. Toilets, showers disabled/family wet room, pet wash area, washing machines, microwave and fridge. Boat trips into York. £10 per unit per night Contact Don 07736 650310

## October

<b>2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> – London SC, Autumn Camp</b>	Address: – Cherrywood Scout Campsite. Purfleet, A1306 Arterial Road. Opposite Circus Tavern Nite Club. RM19 1TS Amenities. Camping in wooded glade, Showers, Toilets, Washup area, Power supply to charge electronics. & Bonfire (which you make) Please note we have added an extra day (Thursday) No awards, no raffle, Bring own food, drink, and sense of humour. If you arrive in a car, it won't be allowed to stay on the glade as ground is soft. There is a hard standing area to park cars, RVs and Caravans etc. Contact Ted Cheer. eddiecheer@aol.com or 07746584093 Sat Nav N51.29.185 E0.14.816
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## November

<b>14th – 16th – Hedingham SOC Winter Warmer Rally</b>	The Waterloo Inn, Main Street, Biggin-by-Hartington, Buxton, Derbyshire, SK17 0DH See flyer for full details
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**HEDINGHAM SIDECAR OWNERS CLUB – WINTER WARMER RALLY 2025 –**

**November 14/15/16**

**Location:** The Waterloo Inn, Main Street, Biggin-by-Hartington, Buxton, Derbyshire, SK17 0DH

Traditional camping rally behind the pub. Cosy bars with open fire, good food served, lovely staff, Sunday roast dinner, breakfast rolls available

SATURDAY morning ride-out. Saturday evening HSOC quiz with our very own quizmaster Terry Weights, raffle and rally awards

HSOC Club tent with hot drink making facilities. Toilets open 24/7

Dogs are welcome on the campsite and in the pub

NO Open Fires on the camping ground

**Prices:**

£15.00 per night for tent

£30.00 per night for campervan/motorhome with electric hook-up

£5.00 each for day visitors

Payment in cash collected by HSOC at the rally

**PLEASE NOTE** – Biggin Hall Hotel, next door, which some of our regular rally-goers have used for accommodation in past years is fully booked out this weekend, due to hosting a wedding.

Some of our regulars have booked self catering rentals with Sykes Cottages. AirBnB may be another option?

**Contact:** Steve 07757386419 or [chairman@hedinghamclub.co.uk](mailto:chairman@hedinghamclub.co.uk).

If coming in campervan/motorhome please let me know.

**SYSC invites all to a Day Meet**

For some of us, the Vikings weekend marked the end of the rally season. Their rigs pushed to the back of the garage until next Spring. But, there is a core of us who ride all the year round. Therefore on **October 12th** there will be a Day-Meet at the

**Green Hut at Ollerton**. Meet up at **noon, 12 o-clock** This is the first time this year that I have arranged such a meet. Various issues have brought this about.

Anyhow, if the weather holds let's have a good turnout.

# The Winter Meet

on

Sunday 18 January

at

The Silver Ball Café

at

The Silver Ball Café

Reed, nr Royston

Hertfordshire

SG8 8BD

(Situated on the northbound lane of the A10)

Contact Stephen Wood ([baldybiker@sjwwood.uk](mailto:baldybiker@sjwwood.uk))



*Image: A revival of the jan/Feb 2021 Outlook cover.*

*The Sidecar boys (Matt & Reece) in Russia.*



**BMW R60/2 (1964)/Steib sidecar.**

Price: **£13,500.** Uxbridge, Middlesex.

Contact Dave Knight:

[dthomas409@hotmail.com](mailto:dthomas409@hotmail.com) / 07798 866071

**1979 (Wes Coley) road replica style OEM: GS1000s/Hedingham Sidecar (0725)**

Leading links , top box and rack. Very good tank re sprayed tank, front guard, side panels. New tubes and tyres all round: brand new electronic ignition: MOT and Road tax exempt; needs new owner to love and ride. I'll be sorry to let it go but I have another new project and need the money and space to progress. Bike is in North Norfolk. all good to ride home. Price: **£7000 ONO**

Contact Dave: [dhdnoswad1@aol.com](mailto:dhdnoswad1@aol.com) or phone/message 07788445798



**BSA M21 (1954)/Watsonian sidecar chassis (1952) (524)**

Beautifully restored. Loss of promised garaging and possible osteoarthritis forces sale!

Price: **£7,500.**

Contact Austin Winstanley: 01434 633751 or 07968 662867 Email: [austin@austinwinstanley.com](mailto:austin@austinwinstanley.com).

**BSA A10 (1959)/Bender Sidecar (922)**

This was renovated between 2016 and 2018. The overall cost of the rebuild and engine parts was £10,000.

I have all the receipts.

**Open to sensible offers.**

Contact David Timmis: 07919 278084



**Honda Deauville NT 700 VA-7 (2007) /Charnwood Sport (124)**

32,416 miles. MOT Oct.2023, 6 months tax.

Price: **£3,500.** Long Eaton, Nottingham

Contact Steve Holbrook: 01159 724873

## Sales Showroom.....Complete outfits, sidecars & solo motorcycles

### BMW R1150RS/Tripteq Ridgeback model sidecar (0325)

Professional built by Scotia Sidecars. 36k miles, MOT'd, ABS removed. Tripteq rear wheel kit & front trail reducer kit (like power steering). Linked sidecar brake. Goodridge brake hoses throughout. Tripteq passenger footrest kit. Boxer Design pullback & lift handlebars. Colour matched panniers & Givi top box.

Price: £5,500. Contact: Scotia sidecars



### BMW R60 (1956)/Steib 500 sidecar (0325)

In perfect condition, English attached, 3 new tyres. Will be available to view at the Sietekaristen in Brugge.

Price: €15500 (£13000) ONO

Contact: Johan PUYPE : [johan@puype-banden.be](mailto:johan@puype-banden.be)

### Watsonian Palma Sidecar

Came off AJS & Matchless with all fittings, (duplex frame AJS).

Tow bar & sidecar brake (small wheel)

Price: £850 ONO

Contact Ken: 07548639806.



### Moto Guzzi V7 Stone

Year 2012, White, 37,296 miles, on sorn.

Price: £3250.

Contact: Keith 07768 077761.

### Triumph Street Twin

Very low mileage extras include Datatool S4, Datatag, Scottoiler, Triumph centre stand, rear rack, screen. Lack of mobility forces sale.

Price: £7,000, due to stupid low mileage (154miles). Mot to late July.



## Sales Showroom.....Complete outfits, sidecars & solo motorcycles



### 2008 Rocket 111 & Monroe Double Adult Sidecar (0925)

Built in Holland by EZS. 51000 miles on the clock. It has EZS wheels all round. EZS leading link forks. Radio and intercom in the sidecar. It comes with Matching crash helmets with built in intercoms and mikes. With a spare gel seat with backrest. Lots of spares. Full service history and lots of paperwork, Manual's etc. Owing to my disability the brakes have been adapted with Kliktronic twin brake levers. One operates the front brakes and the second one operates the rear brake and sidecar brake. I still have the original parts so it can be put back to standard. Price: £14,500ono; Loc: Birmingham; Cont: Nick Bentley, 07757950944

### Honda CB 750 four 1977 / Watsonian GP (0925)

Bike purchased from a charter house auction 8 years ago as a restored bike from a private collection. Sidecar added shortly after.

Price: £16,000. Location: Near Portsmouth

Contact: David Knight, 01489 885475 , knight6th@btinternet.com



### Triumph Bonneville 865cc / Watsonian GP Manx (0725)

Immaculate outfit and extremely low mileage. Full MOT and running superbly.

Price: £7950

Contact: Duncan @ simpsonduncan66@gmail.com

### BMW R100 (1983) / Palma Sidecar (0725)

Historic vehicle tax, leading link forks, standard wire wheels, new starter, replaced diode board. Spare parts to go back to solo.

Spare loom, solo bevel drive box. Spare cast rear wheel. Spare spoked 15" front wheel. Genuine reason for sale, giving them up.

Price: £2995; Location: Fife, Scotland; Contact: Harry, 07979983957



### 2012 Triumph T100 Bonneville / Watsonian (0725)

110 years anniversary limited edition no.594. Bought new by me. 8000 miles only. Immac condition, serviced by my garage-owning m/c mechanic friend. S/car with Hagen shock, chrome wheel, all made and fitted up including chassis by Watsonian Sidecars. Very reluctant sale

Price: £9,999. Contact: Kenneth, 07895382424.

**Moto Guzzi 950T3 1975 & Watsonian Oxford (0925)**

88000 miles (60000 with current owner), sidecar fitted by Charnwood Classic restoration. Handles beautifully. Sidecar disc brake linked to bike front brake. MOT/Tax exempt. Starts and runs well. Frame powder coated, recently recovered seat. Leading link forks, uprated springs & dampers, self adjusting timing chain, 36mm carb, K&Ns, O&S Stainless 2-1 sidecar exhaust, Lucas Rita ignition. Saprisa charging, Odyssey gel battery, Avon SM IIs. on Cast wheels. Mounts for 5 Givi monokey boxes, easily took whole family camping. Kids have grown up, and grandson cried when he sat on, so time to pass it on to another family to enjoy.

Price: £5500; Loc: Bristol; Cont: Martin Johnson, 07707832752, mjoinson850@gmail.com

**Busmar Astral sidecar body**

Needing some attention and a chassis.

Price: £300 ONO; Location: Manchester; Contact: Dominic Sagar, dominic.sagar@outlook.com

**Hinckley Bonneville fuel tank - £125 (0525)**

Enlarged for sidecar work, 5 gallons approximately, new fuel tap, carburettor model

**15 inch rear wheel 40 spoke alloy rim £125**

Buyer collects. Contact:

[chrisandles@talktalk.net](mailto:chrisandles@talktalk.net)

**Leading link forks (0325) off a Yamaha XS1100, may fit others.**

Measurements and additional photos available.

In good condition, £295

Located near Ormskirk Lancashire.

Phone Paul Wever: 07905 440095

**Parts & Accessories****New Replacement Screens - RX4 & RX5 Chairs.**

Available in both clear & tinted versions. Orders now being taken.

Contact: Len Tempest on 07831 778083

**Screen for Monza sidecar**

Broken but considered repairable. Free to collector.

Denbigh near St Asaph close to Dragon rally.

Contact: Glynn 01745 814242.

**Kawasaki Zephyr 1100 A1 1992/93**

Parts, accessories, full fairing.

Contact: Trevor, 01709 719147

**BMW R100 15x125 complete wheels x2**

One rear and one front. Akront rims. Fair condition. £50 the pair

Contact: Bill Law, 07543054885

**Sidecars****Watsonian sidecar chassis early 1960s**

Very good condition, almost fully enclosed mudguard and mini wheel. Offered FREE to anyone who wants to collect it. A shame to see it go for scrap. Contact: Bill 02086 786253 Isle of Wight.

**Wanted**

**Sidecar wanted**, 1950s. I don't mind if it needs a bit of work.

Contact: Justin 07773 459253,  
justinriggs@btinternet.com

**Screen supports (rear pair) for Watsonian Monaco**

sidecar. robinstevens44@hotmail.com

Contact: Robin Stevens 07826 317694

**15" wheels for a 1994 BMW K1100LT, car tyre compatible.**

Contact: Keith on 07768 077761.

**Front chrome motif (badge) and hood (with or without frame), for pre-Watsonian steel-bodied**

Swallow Jet 80

Contact: Hugh Phillips 07917 551887

hughphillips@btinternet.com

**Leading Link Forks to fit 1981 Honda Goldwing 1100. Will collect. Reasonable price paid.**

Contact: Roger 07710 788392

**Wheel Hub for Watsonian Palma or Monaco**

**sidecar.** Contact: Mick,

01555664970 or m.lynch931@btinternet.com

# Kids Corner



## New FED Member

Congratulations to Adam Fenton & Rachel Wilson on the birth of Jakub Dene Fenton. He didn't come home from the hospital in a sidecar like his big brother Charlie, but has been out for his first rides at 10 days old in his dad's sidecar and with Grandma & Grandad (Jackie & Stephen Fenton). I am sure he will soon be racking up Youngest Ralliest Awards, just like his brother. But for now he seems to be enjoying getting rocked to sleep in the sidecar.

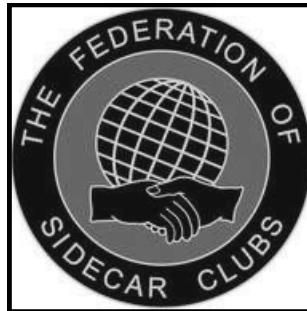
**President:**

David Angel

**Vice Presidents:**

Barbara Joliffe

Paul Chadwick



**Life Members:**

Martyn Aves,

George Cousins,

Mark Fowler,

Ove Gustavsson,

Bob Parsons,

Mike Priestley.

## National Executive Committee

**Chairman:** Martin France. 7 Carter Meadow, Biggleswade, Bedfordshire, SG18 0ILB.

Tel: 07765836190. email: chair@sidecars.org.uk

**Secretary:** Sally Sixsmith. 30 Long Pasture, Werrington, Peterborough PE4 5AX. Tel: 07906

662867. email: sal.sixsmith@gmail.com

**Treasurer:** Mike Buyers. 12 Chirton Hill Drive, N Shields, Northumberland, NE29 8BH.

Email: mikebuyers@msn.com

**Membership Secretary & International Rep:** Andrew Ross. 16 Backhill, Berneray, Isle of North Uist, HS6 5BD. Tel: 07515563357. Email: membership@sidecars.org.uk

**Editor:** Norton Walling. 18 Beech Avenue, Derby, Derbyshire, DE24 0DX.

Email: editor@sidecars.org.uk

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Tel: 01142490295, 07547791539 . Email: regalia@sidecars.org.uk

**Technical Officer:** David Angel. 290 Leverington Common, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire. PE13 5JG

Tel: 01945410165. Email: technical@sidecars.org

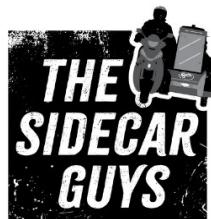
**Public Relations Officer:** Nick Bentley. 92 Parkdale Road, Sheldon, Birmingham. B26 3UU

Tel: 01217222054. Email: PRO@sidecars.org.uk

**Events Co-Ordinator & BMF Liasson:** Jak Lemon. 15 Summer Drive, Wirksworth, DE4 4EL. Tel:

Email: guzzilemon

**Webmaster:** Pete Walk.



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