

OUTLOOK

May/June 2025



The Magazine of the Federation of Sidecar Clubs

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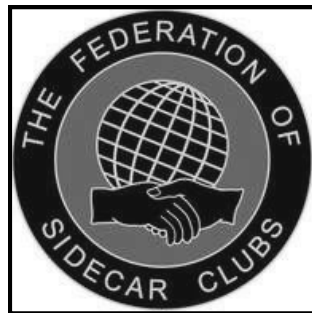
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OUTLOOK_{CONTENT}

March/April 2025



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Please send items for inclusion to the editor.

Email: editor@sidecars.org.uk

Feditorial

Hopefully everyone has been able to make the most of the driest Spring in over a Century and got out on their Outfits in one way or another. With some minor mishaps I managed to attend my first rally of the year with the WMSC and had a fantastic time.

In this issue is my write up on that rally plus a write up on the SYSC Easter Egg rally. Also some great photos from Mick Wadsworth's travels, an interesting interview with Merlin's founder and several other pieces sent in by our members. Keep them coming please.

The annual rally will be on us before we know it and I look forward to seeing plenty of you there if not before.

Safe travels, Norton

Committee News

It is with regret that we have to announce that both the International Rep (Pete Edwards) and the Legal Officer (Stuart Loveless) have both stepped down from the committee due to personal reasons. We thank them both for their time and input to keeping the FED running.

You will see from the next page that as a committee we have scheduled an EGM for during the annual rally this year. This is in order to make some proposals from the last AGM legal as the timing for sending the agenda out did not meet the rules of the constitution. We feel these timings are not necessary in this modern world of communication so are proposing changes to reflect this.

We are also proposing that in the future the AGM should be moved to the annual rally. This has been debated many times in the past but the current committee are behind the change, though everyone can have their say during the EGM. It should be noted that the committee is a voluntary role and the Officers put a lot of time in behind the scenes to make it work, combining the AGM with the Rally reduces this load and hopefully will encourage more members to attend and share their thoughts.

Certainly when I signed up to be editor I had not even considered that it would mean I was on the committee and the additional time that would involve on top of the 15+ hours put into each issue, I am not sure how Steve Wood managed it for so many years. As you can see from below we are still in need of volunteers to run the maintenance test at the Rally. It would be a shame to see this part of the Rally not continue as it forms part of the Overall Rally winner and Canterbury Cup, and I also think benefits many who enter and discover issues with their Outfit set-up. If there are no volunteers, maybe someone could suggest an alternative test.

Federation of Sidecar Clubs Annual Rally

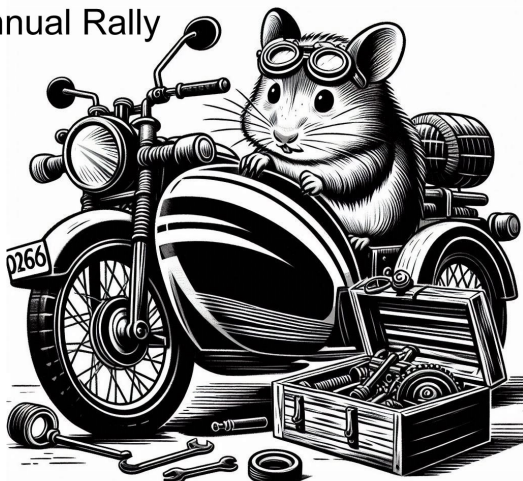
HELP NEEDED

22nd to 25th August 2025
Southam Rugby Club,
Warwickshire

Every year at the annual rally there
is a maintenance test

We need someone or a small group
of people to carry out the testing

You get to decide which criteria are
judged and how to award the points



EGM at 2025 FoSC Annual Rally

Proposed changes to the constitution to be discussed during the EGM (changes in bold):

Clause 11. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

A. 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

These three items will constitute the Standing Agenda.

B. The AGM shall be held at the Annual Rally.

- C. Only matters on the **Final Agenda** may be debated and voted on unless two thirds of the votes present decide otherwise.
- D. 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.
- E. Late nominations may be accepted at the discretion of the Chairman.

F. The following periods before and after the AGM shall be adhered to:

- i. **At least 40 days before – The Secretary should receive nominations for office and changes to the Constitution for inclusion in the Final Agenda.**
- ii. **21 days before – The Membership will be sent the Final Agenda, Officers' Reports, Audited Accounts and any other relevant papers.**
- iii. **60 days after – the Membership shall be sent Minutes of the AGM.**

Clause 16. Finance

C. The financial year shall end on the 15th June.

- I. **Should the FoSC be wound up, any remaining assets shall be distributed to such motorcycle/sidecarring related Charities, Causes, Organisations as determined by the NEC taking into consideration any beneficiaries proposed by the members.**

Ken Minns-the magician and Merlin

Based on a face to face interview between Mark Bell and Ken Minns 12th of April, 2025

Merlin Coachworks, Pity Me, County Durham. Saturday morning in the workshop, with Ken and Michael surrounded by pictures of bikes, two and three wheeled, a scrambler outfit awaits final preparations for the next event in the sidecar-cross championship. The two generations of the Minn family, Ken, and his sons, Michael and Peter, created and sustain the Merlin name and business. They have vast experience on two and three wheels from the Isle of Man, to national and regional events on track, grass and sand. This article is about Ken and the events in his life that made the evolution of some of the most competitive and eye-catching outfits from pen on paper sketch to bespoke outfits.



Ken outside Merlin Coachworks, and still working

Ken was born in Usher Moor, County Durham. We are looking through the first of many of his photograph albums and like so many born before 50s there is a small black and white photo of a boy aged 5 sat on a Norton 16H 500 side-valve outfit. Ken can remember sitting on the tank as his dad, Ernie, moved the combination, believing that he was at the controls. You can just see the shape of a sidecar, fully enclosed with windows, space for two seats and luggage, the family transport. His dad had made that sidecar in their front room. He had to remove the front window of the terraced house to get it outside, before mounting it on the chassis. In a time of rationing and post war recovery, 'it's what people did'.

To this day, Ken reflects on the stoicism of his parents' generation in his determination to see a project through to fulfil a purpose and complete a project. After school, aged 15, Ken started work down the Bearpark pit, mining for coal, but at the age of 19, sought a different career and was apprenticed as a coach painter and sign writer. Ken and his mates would ride around on solo machines and would go and see the popular scrambling events up in Weardale. Ken, reckoned that he could do as well as any of the competitors he watched and he already had hands on experience with motorcycles.

One of his first homebuilt was a Triton, an 'Iron' Triumph Thunderbird on a Featherbed Norton Frame. Years of experience of competition and building bikes followed. Ken found the time and the love of his life, Carol and they married in 1969. This did not stop him competing in scrambling events with sidecars. He was for 6 years the North East Champion in the 1970s. His sons, Michael and Peter, were born in 1972 and 1975, respectively. During their formative years they lived and breathed machine shops, garage spray booth and the roar of competitive engines. The garage business was started too, fertile ground for innovation, it was in the blood.



Triumph Thunderbird. Ken made the DMD fairing and the Steib sidecar copy



Merlin F2 on an TL 1000 Ken's favourite

The origin of the 60 Merlin-designed and made sidecar combinations stems from the engineering knowledge and racing experience that surrounded the family. However, it was necessity that proved to be the inspiration for the road legal models. In 1993, Michael was in a sidecar accident at Cadwell Park. The combination ended up on top of him as the bike rolled over. Michael's knees were still in the traps, but the impact had driven the top of the thigh bone through his pelvis. The resulting trauma and immobility during the recovery years, required some fast transport. A Yamaha FJ1200 with sidecar was designed and constructed for that sole purpose and the biker community that surrounded them, took interest and began to ask for their own machines.

The initial sidecar design was sold on to become the familiar Charnwood shape. Ken, the designer and family began to make the sidecar shapes we know today, including a fully faired track day combination, a double adult, the SuperSport and the F2. Ken admits that the F2, was designed for track days, but that they got carried away after their 'one off toy', gathered so much attention. The F2 has a fairing shape added between the bike and the sidecar to smooth that airflow and to reduce the drag created by the upper and lower sidecar struts. Artfully completed with a very high standard of paint and colour schemes, everything from Hinckley Triumph Triples, to Hayabusa, BMW K1200RS, Suzukis, got the treatment.

There was a Merlin club at one point with a yearly meeting, instigated by Mike Hardy, some of the photos still reside on the web, but the website is no more. They would gather at the garage in Pity Me. The artful evolution of all the bikes that appear lined up, show that a combination of engineering and art, form the sculptured sidecar shapes, as much as the geometry and physics determine the suspension and wheel configurations used. One early example used an Austin Maestro bumper down the side to create the curve and profile for the sidecar wheel mudguard.

Michael and Peter, run a successful business at Merlin Coachworks and regularly compete on bikes, combinations and now Quads. They are no strangers to success in their chosen bike-sport, from the Isle of Man to Grasstrack and speedway, but Ken still helps out in the office and spray-booth, but there are to be no more road-use sidecars. They are now too technical to build commercially, and Ken keeps just one, a stunning Kawasaki, as an example of the building skills evident in a Merlin. They still make motocross competition bikes. The support of Ken and his family for the sidecar community, through competing, sponsorship and by adding to the diversity of Sidecar designs seen around the world remain a source of inspiration. Merlin the magician rightly appeared as a logo on some sidecars.

Ken sold me my first combination ten years ago and instructed me from the sidecar on a quiet road nearby. I remember only clipping the curb once. Every time I turn up with my next purchase, just as I did today, a 1953 Golden Flash, he will appraise it and the set up. Accordingly, a little more 'lean out' is suggested by him and Michael, as Ken rides and turns the combination down the street by the Merlin garage. That knowledge and experience are invaluable to this, the Fed.

Best wishes, Mark Bell

Editor: Thank you Mark and Ken for taking the time to put this together. A very interesting read.

Blasts from the Past

Hello Norton.

Enclosed are some photos, from the past!!

GROVE FERRY, KENT 31/07/1958

Taken by me during my first m/c holiday. With a KODAK BROWNIE SIX-20 Model C.

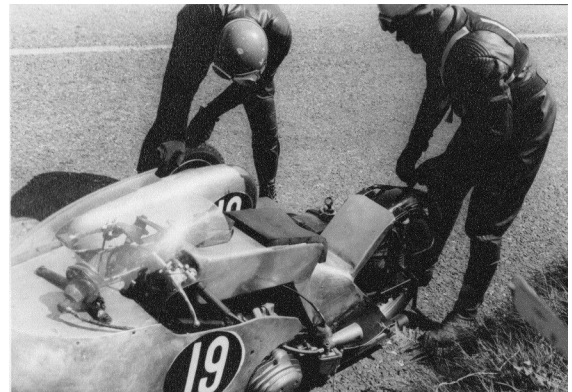
The two, of s/c interest are during the 1963 TT. A.BUTSCHER. Prior to, and after, the s/c wheel came off!! Photos taken with a KODAK RETINETTE IA 35mm.

Hope all is well with you and keep up the most excellent work.

ATB

David Brindley

Editor: Thank you David for the excellent photos, for once I haven't had to convert to Black and White. The TT sounds like an interesting experience.



A PILGRIM ON 3 WHEELS

Hi Norton, I enclose my sidecar travel journals for spring this year. My regards, Michael (Wadsworth)



In mid March I return to Brittany and I found I have had a LODGER in the sidecar.

Breton Micky Mouse also used my bike cover to make his cosy winter nest.



Then onto the Way of St James in Galicia (Camino de Santiago).



The outfit get VIP protection in the hotel carpark in Noain, Spain.

On my way in the south west I take a ferry ride on this ferry. The BAC Le Verdon Royan.

Once off the ferry I visit this very special memorial to the Cockleshell Heroes.



3 pilgrim ladies admire the outfit (2 from South Korea and 1 from Germany).

The Way to Portugal

My hotel in Vila Real –Arroios.



A Zundapp
outside a local
café and bar in
the village

Adventure Sidecars in Portugal

On 27th of March we are visiting Gusto Motorbikes and Sidecar Adventures and I am made very welcome by Rob & Zayne and invite to lunch and given a part worn tyre.



Next on my
bucket list to visit
“What Were The
Lines of Torres
Vedras?”

The Chosen Men

In Torres Vedras at the Residential that I am stopping at one staff member joins the URAL FAN CLUB.



On the ROAD I have a chat with these 4 x guys from France, travelling to ride the TET Portugal (Trans Euro Trail).

Next I went
to see
Ciudad
Rodrigo.



Where
even my
hotel had a
canon.

Parador de
León and a ideal
place for a Pilgrim
on a Ural.



Las Tre Columnas
(Part of a Roman
Temple
reconstructed on
a roundabout).



Yes, its TUFF being a Pilgrim on a Ural my next
parador was this place, Parador of
Argomaniz. It was the HQ for the French Army
at this last battle in Spain.



The Forlorn Hope



Next my journey
takes me León,
Spain and a night
in an olde
Monastery.



It's very important
to stay hydrated
went travelling.

L'HYDRAVIATION



Outside the seaplane museum, Biscarrosse

Bumped into some expats from Dronfield, Dbys with their BMW outfit.



Giant, concrete, U-Boat pens

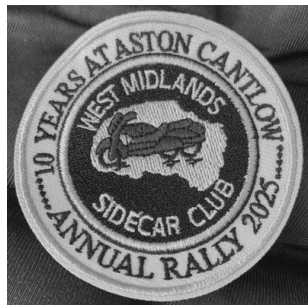
Alongside the Nantes to Brest Canal.



Back in England ON THE BANKS OF THE RIVER ALNE

Its Friday the 16th May and we are the county of Warwickshire in the village of Aston Cantlow.

For the. West Midland S.C. its a very special weekend with camping on the banks of the River Alne for 10 years now.



The Twins ETH sidecars



Happy hour in the Friday afternoon sun.

Editor: Thank you Mick for the photos of your fantastic trips so far for 2025. For more photos in colour, check out sidecarland.uk

SYSC—Easter Egg Rally 2025

Editor—Words from Sydelines (The journal of the South Yorkshire Sidecar Club) by John Askham and photos taken by the Tria-Anglia Wheels SC (Sidecarland.uk). Thank you both.

With the “Easter Egg” rally now but a memory, the weather has taken a definite turn for the better. Mind you, I don’t think anyone had any complaints about Bamford and the “Peak District” weather in general. Just the poor souls that stayed on until Easter Monday. It seems that mention Easter, and it’s always about the weather.

The rally itself was declared a great start to the rally season. Not having the register list to hand, I think that over 35 units signed in, with at least 15 Day visitors. For the first time, we had the pleasure of some of the “M.Z. Riders Club” camping. These lads have certainly got the camping bug. I have read one or two of their club magazines. To me, they seem predominantly Northern based riders. Let us hope that we see more of them.

Another club that hasn’t featured in the past at the Easter Rally is the “Mayflower” club. John & Caroline Flitney, Members of the SYSC, are also members of the “Mayflower” club. To this effect, enough members of that club turned up which enabled the “Mayflower” club to win the “Best Club Attendance” award.

Other winners of awards were “Ted Lishman Pent” with his “Oldest Outfit” Which is a mid-seventies Honda 250 twin with a single seater Velorex. All fitted together with homemade fittings. Ted & Linda Cheer won the “Long Distance” award with over 200 miles clocked up. Finally, the “Phil Cheswick award (badged up as the “Chairman’s choice”) was awarded to Don Leng. For the assistance he gave us over the weekend. All worthy winners.

Just one incident during the weekend. Mark Fowler, walking down the road, stepped off the pavement in order to let folk pass, got his feet cross-hobbled and went down to the ground landing heavily on his shoulder. So much that he wasn’t able to ride his outfit. Adam Fenton, along with Don Leng did the job of ferrying Mark and his rig, back home to Scarborough. A visit to the hospital cleared Mark of anything more than severe bruising. Mark has been advised to rest up for a few weeks. You have our best wishes Mark. I wish that I had your phone number (the 2 numbers that I have don’t work).



Some of the 35 Units



The Oldest Outfit Award

As we cleared up after the rally, someone had left behind a pair of reading glasses. These are now in my care. If I can remember where I have put them for safekeeping. In the kitchen area, the only plug point was in use for all of the weekend. John Procter had his power bank chargers in operation. As he was packing up, he noticed that one of his devices was missing. Upon returning home, he checked everything, no charger. If anyone has inadvertently picked this up thinking it was theirs, John would like it back.

My route back home from Bamford is normally via the Strines road. This road is spectacularly twisty and very undulating. Good fun on a solo bike. On this occasion, being rather heavily loaded, I came home by way of Hillsborough in order to make things rather easier. Big mistake. My route took me past the Sheffield Wednesday ground. Wednesday being at home, this made things difficult. On match days, all of the roads are subject to closure and, or reduced lanes. It took me over 1 hour to cover something like a mile. The crowd figures for that Monday were in the region of 28.000. Mistake or what.

Unfortunately, I have no pictures of the rally. The battery of my camera failed me. From fully charged to dead, just by attempting to take one photo. If anyone has any photos they are willing to share. I will put them in the next Sydelines. Special thanks go to the Flitneys. I'm sure we couldn't have managed without you. Also to the Wilson's, always on hand to help. Not hearing of any tales of woe. I presume that you all got back home o/k.

Looking back at the rally. It was clear that the "Old Brigade" of hardy campers is now on the wain. Some who would have camped regardless of the conditions, now came as "Day Visitors". This can be because of, onset of old age, health issues, family commitments, i.e. becoming Grand-Parents etc. All of these issues and maybe more contribute to a change in our lifestyle. At least, we have been there, done it all and made some great friends along the way. This doesn't mean that I am giving up the way of life that I enjoy just yet. These are just some observations that I have made.

What do you out there think of this. Or is it just me, a rambling old twit.

Safe riding, John.



Still some hardy campers out there

WMSC—Aston Cantlow 2025

I finished servicing my Outfit, including a top end rebuild, on the Sunday before the Rally. Due time and space constraints of my garage I wasn't able to start the bike up until the Wednesday night, when I played Tetris with the bikes and got the Outfit to the front. Hit the button and everything looked good, so I went off for the evening to my bike clubs normal meet in Wirksworth.

Happy that the bike was mechanically sound I packed the sidecar on the Thursday, collected my daughter from school on the Friday and had a quick bite to eat. Bike gear on, goodbyes said and Thea sat snugly in the sidecar, I hit the starter to the wonderful sound of clicks... Thea out, bike gear off, garage open, bike on charge and then on to that joyful task of searching for electrical gremlins. Thankfully it didn't take too long to discover a spade terminal on the reg/rec was loose, a quick crimp with some pliers and once the battery was charged it was back through the departure sequence and this time... Roar.

The ride over to the site was pleasant, using my Beeline satnav set to fun mode the roads were full of bends and blissfully clear, probably due to the delayed set off. We hit two road closures, the last just before Aston Cantlow. In retrospect we could have got through, they seem to put the road closed signs further and further away from the actual issue these days. Pulling into a layby I checked how I could get round this final hurdle and once I worked out the way, hit the magic button again to silence. The air turned blue briefly as I wondered how far I could throw the battery, then I realised I had hit the kill switch so I could hear Thea.



One of the camping fields filling up



Enjoying the fire and company

A few minutes later we arrived on site and Thea promptly disappeared off with her friend Amelia (Tim Reardon's Granddaughter) and left me to set up camp. There was half a dozen tents already set up in the first field but still plenty of room (possibly due to the nesting swan with day old cygnets), but everyone appeared to be off site sampling the local watering holes. While I was setting up John Mildenhall and Steve Wood came over and said they were staying on site that night and we were welcome to join. I went to find them later and checked the other camping field which was full. A nice evening was spent chatting round the fire and then later near my tent when the others returned from getting refreshments.

At 11AM on the Saturday everyone doing the run out lined up and we set off in good order with John at the front and Tim as Last Man Charlie. The route was a pleasant 18 miles with no mishaps with us all arriving together at Wythall Transport Museum where we were waved through to park in the main bus yard. The museum was a great place to spend a few hours with plenty of exhibits and things for children to do, with a little café and burger van. We had a ride on the model railway and a trip on the free open top bus, with the sun coming through just as we were getting ready to return to the campsite.



Prime parking

A couple of hours were spent sat in the sun chatting, while the children played on the swings and treehouse on the site. My partner Jade had met us at the museum with my 2 year old son, Zach, and I took him and Thea for a gentle ride sat on the bike. It was soon time to get over to the Aston Cantlow Social Club for the buffet tea that the WMSC had kindly arranged. And a very nice meal it was along with some decent ales from the bar. Tim and myself took the children for a short play on the village playground while the sun was still out, and he was roped in to pushing the girls on the swings to the point I was worried I might need to call him an ambulance.



How much!

After a long day I was actually up on the Sunday before Thea, unlike the 5AM on the Saturday when she asked if she could go play. With the sidecar loaded and many farewells exchanged we set off home around 11AM with my dad following on his “new” 1936 Royal Enfield model KX which he had arrived on during the Saturday afternoon. Another enjoyable ride was had on back roads on the way home to Derby. All in all a great first rally of the year for me and Thea, thank you to all of WMSC for organizing it.

Safe travels, *Norton*



On any Saturday



“On the buses” reboot

Letters

Editor: Attached are a few letters I have received, thank you all for the kind words and the content, this is what will keep the Outlook going.

.....

Firstly our very best wishes to a new editor, would you please accept this hand written letter on re-cycled note paper. Your own intro tells that we have met once before, 20 years back, and I had asked you for a ride out in S/C of a Ural Outfit. The comfort feedback from the chair was an A1 ride, as good as any before.

Also Norton we have both been in Melbourne, Aus. As a young man I worked abroad for 9 years as an overhead linesman on Tramways and Post Office. With good wages coming in I was soon able to buy a good used BMW R60. Most happy times touring and camping in the Southern States—Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia.

As this letter would indicate, I live in a computer free zone by choice. Telephone, pen and paper gives me a worldwide access. Mr. Editor please call me, would like to talk.

Regards,

George Potter ⁽⁵⁷⁷⁾

Editor: I did call George and had a nice chat, though we agreed it couldn't have been me who gave him a ride in the Ural as I would have been 15. If the person who did take him out reads this then George would like a chat, he can be contacted on 01303 875193. I look forward to receiving more letters from him, makes a refreshing change to emails.

.....

Hi Norton,

(great name ! my outfit at 17 was a Norton 650cc SS with a Watsonian Monza) followed by a Combat Commando Fastback :-)

Update, I SOLD the advertised sidecar to the first member who came to view it.

Can we continue to advertise the leading link forks for a Yamaha XS1100 (may be adapted to other models ? Willing to take appropriate measurements and additional photos direct to an interested member.

Finally would it be possible for me to reach out for help through the next edition or networking with the fitting of a pair of leading links specifically for my Gold Wing GL1100 ? Your help in these matters will be greatly appreciated.

Kind regards

Paul Weaver

Editor: If anyone could help Paul, please reach out. I also have seen a few posts on the FED Facebook group for technical advice on sidecars. Maybe one or more members would write some pieces for outlook on what to look out for when buying a sidecar and specific areas of maintenance that are not common to solo motorcycling.

A bit on the side

Hi Norton,

We met at the West Midlands weekend. I'm Steve Lyons and I used to send copy to Steve Woods for the Outlook, usually about the Elbow Patch Sidecar Club. But this time it's a poem.

It is entitled 'A bit on the side' and it is all about riding with a sidecar. This poem is from a collection of poems that I have compiled into a book which is available on Amazon for £4.99.

The collection goes by the catchy title of Love & Kate - by Stephen Anthony Lyons - <https://amzn.eu/d/j64d364>

Anyway, I hope you like the poem. I hope to have some sort of a write up some time soon, about the ongoing exploits of the Elbow Patch.

Regards, Steve Lyons

A sidecar is an accessory bolted to the side of a bike
Affecting its handling
Affecting its brakes
And whichever direction you want to take
Yet it's not a mod
Even though that bolt-on is the biggest modification
You could possibly make.

.
That bolt-on will pull you left, as you let out the clutch
Push you right when you are trying to stop
An advantage, of course, on a right-hand curve
But a turn to the left, it's a matter of nerves
No chance to lean, just shift your weight and add a few revs
It's a rigid overtake, so get the bike slightly ahead of the chair
Then grin and bear it, and motor on thru as if you don't care.

.
It's a whole different science, adding that extra wheel
Leaning into a curve becomes a thing of the past
And filtering through traffic, say farewell to that
Goodbye too to good mph or g or however you measure
And get used to the slow traffic flow
Some say you might as well have a car
But we all know, riding with a sidecar is the best fun by far.

Editor: It was nice to meet you Steve and thanks for sending this in. It definitely reflects how I feel about sidecars, you might not get many miles per gallon but you get lots of smiles per miles. Looking forward to hearing more exploits from the EPC.

Aust Meetings

Hi Norton,

At last I have started receiving the Outlook again, all my fault as it was sending all sidecars.org emails to my junk mail. Hope its all sorted now as I didn't know if you had published anything I sent you, and you had, so thank you.

The Aust meets attract at least 7 outfits per meet, so that's good.

I wonder how to progress this in the Outlook as we are open to visitors from wherever and are a regular year long meet. So the Aust Meet is held on the 3rd Sunday of the month year round between the 1100hrs till 1300hrs at The Severn View Services car park, BS354BH. All Motorbikes, Outfits and Trikes can stay free. We have it in writing from the operators. If you are passing in your car/motorhome and fancy popping in, you are welcome but Cars/etc. have a 2 hour limit and it is camera enforced.

There is going to be a hiccup to this schedule as I am organising a bike show for the local village hall and all monies raised are going towards the upkeep of the hall.

This show is free, you only pay for refreshments that the village hall are selling i.e. BBQ, cakes and drinks. If you pre enter, you will get a free commemorative sticker and it would be appreciated if you can send and pics of your Bike/Outfit(humorous ones appreciated, even if of previous bikes/Outfits) for the video that will be running in the village hall.

So the Aust schedule for the rest of the year.....

18th May

15th June

20th July

17th August meet being held at the Severn Beach Village Hall, BS35 4QE. See flyer.

21st September.

19th October

16th November

21st December

18th January 2026.

Cheers,

Paul

MOTORCYCLE SHOW

Severn Beach Village Hall Ableton Lane BS35 4QE

SUNDAY 17TH AUGUST 2025



1300 HRS – 1600 HRS ~ 1PM – 4PM

To enter your bike in the show, please
send your name, make & model to
sbvhms@gmail.com

Pre-register to get a free show sticker on
the day

Limited number of spaces

Bar-B-Que

Refreshments

Cakes

All proceeds go to the upkeep of Severn Beach Village Hall
Registered Charity 265636

Success in the Sales

Norton,

You can now remove two adverts from the for sale pages.

My Bonneville and GP 700 has now sold.

Also, I purchased the Watsonian GP 700 from Alan and Sue and have had it fitted to my Moto-Guzzi V7 Stone.

All happened because of the Outlook magazine, so my thanks for that.

A photo of the completed outfit attached.

Kindest regards,

Duncan Simpson



Hi Norton,

I hope this note finds you well.

Can you please removed my outfit from the for sale section.

I just spoke to Matt at Sidecar Experience. They were advertising in the March / April "Outlook" mag.

I'm going to learn home to ride the machine properly and enjoy it.

Thank you !!

Kindest regards,

Chris Sugden

Events 2025

A calendar of Sidecar events for 2025, 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

18 th —The Winter Sidecar Meet	Silver Ball Cafe, A10 at Reed, Hertfordshire, SG8 8BD. From 10.30am
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April

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

May

16 th —18 th —Hedingham SOC, Camping Weekend	Clennel Hall Country Hotel, Morpeth Northumberland, NE65 7BJ. 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.
16 th —18 th —West Midlands SC, Annual Rally	Island Meadow Caravan Park, Aston Cantlow, Henley in Arden, Warwickshire.B95 6JP To help us please email: wmsc122@gmail.com if you intend to come See flyer for full details.
23 rd —26 th —ADAM Camping Weekend	Het Bosland, Meeneweg 29, 7021 HP Zelhem See flyer for full details.
29 th —1 st June —21 st International Sidecar Rally Brugge	On the grounds of Sint Lodewijks College, Magdalenastraat 30, 8200 Sint Michiels Brugge. See flyer for full details

June	
13 th – 15 th – Culm Vale SC, Forest Glade Camping Weekend	Venue: Forest Glade Holiday Park, Broad Rd, Kentisbeare, Cullompton, Devon EX15 2DT See flyer for full details.
20 th – 22 nd – 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 th – 29 th – Hobgoblin Camping Weekend	Netherwood Campsite New location for 2025, limited spaces (pre book and pay) See flyer for details.
July	
10 th – 13 th – London SC, Rally	Venue: RAFA Portcullis Club, Kenley Airfield, Victor Beamish Avenue, Caterham. CR3 5FX For those using sat navs use <u>Victor Beamish Road NOT post code</u> Contact is Ted Cheer- eddiecheer@aol.com Phone for rally is 07746584093 Our website will be updated soon for further details.
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 th – 27 th – Tri-Anglia Wheels SC, The Sidecar Soiree	NEW venue - Petruth Paddocks, Labourham Drove, Cheddar BS27 3FS See flyer for details.

Events 2025.....

August	
1 st – 3 rd – Phoenix Camping Weekend	<p>Tanpits Cider Farm, West Monkton, Taunton, Somerset, TA2 8BZ. http://www.tanpitsfarmcampsite.co.uk/</p> <p>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 crodd8@gmail.com</p>
22 nd – 25 th – Federation of SC Annual Rally	<p>Southam Rugby Club, Warwickshire. See flyer for full details.</p>
29 th – 31 st – Culm Vale SC, Watchet Camping Weekend	<p><u>This event is a pre-book only event. To pre-book contact the organiser by email or Text.</u> Venue: Warren Farm caravan and camping site, Warren Farm, Watchet, Somerset, TA23 0JP See flyer for full details.</p>

Notice: EGM to be held at the 2025 FED annual rally

This is a placeholder to announce that the committee plans to hold an EGM during the annual rally. The full agenda will be announced in the next issue of Outlook and via other communication to members.

September	
5 th – 7 th – West Midlands SC, Autumn Gathering	<p>Century House Campsite (AM & LM Trevitt), 100 Turning Lane, Scarisbrick, nr Southport, PR8 5HZ</p> <p>£11 PER UNIT PER NIGHT, pay at reception on arrival.</p> <p>£5 Per Person Day Visit</p> <p>Good facilities with disabled access.</p> <p>BBQ Area with a gazebo for socialising etc.</p> <p>Close to shops and pubs.</p> <p>Tel: 01704 535 164</p>
12 th – 14 th – Jumbo GB rally	<p>Birch Coppice Miners Social Welfare Centre, Watling St, Dordon, Tamworth, B78 1SY.</p> <p>More details to follow.</p>
19 th – 21 st – Vikings Camping Weekend	<p>Moor End Farm, Acaster Malbis, York, YO23 2UG.</p> <p>Toilets, showers disabled/family wet room, pot wash area, washing machines, microwave and fridge.</p> <p>Boat trips into York.</p> <p>£10 per unit per night</p> <p>Contact Don 07736 650310</p>
October	
2 nd – 5 th – London SC, Autumn Camp	<p>Address: – Cherrywood Scout Campsite. Purfleet, A1306 Arterial Road.</p> <p>Opposite Circus Tavern Nite Club. RM19 1TS</p> <p>Amenities. Camping in wooded glade, Showers, Toilets, Wash-up area, Power supply to charge electronics. & Bonfire (which you make)</p> <p>Please note we have added an extra day (Thursday)</p> <p>No awards, no raffle, Bring own food, drink, and sense of humour.</p> <p>If you arrive in a car, it won't be allowed to stay on the glade as ground is soft.</p> <p>There is a hard standing area to park cars, RVs and Caravans etc.</p> <p>Contact Ted Cheer. eddiecheer@aol.com or 07746584093</p> <p>Sat Nav N51.29.185 E0.14.816</p>
November	
Heddingham SOC Winter Warmer Rally	<p>Biggin, Derbyshire.</p> <p>More details to follow.</p>

13th, 14th and 15th June 2025

Culm Vale Sidecar Clubs Forest Glade Camping Weekend

Venue Forest Glade Holiday Park, Broad Rd, Kentisbeare, Cullompton, Devon EX15 2DT

Facilities Large Flat Field, Toilets & Showers, Laundry & Dishwashing Facilities, Shop and pre ordered Take Away Food, Swimming pool, Sauna, Tennis courts, Games room, Children's play areas and forest walks. Camping either side of the weekend available early arrivals please check in with reception.

Cost TBA

Other types of accommodation available, check out the Forest Glade website and mention the rally if booking.

For more information

Contact Keith Aldridge, tel 01884 841165, email kandj06@live.co.uk

Culm Vale Sidecar Club's Camping Weekends 2025

This event is a pre-book only event. To pre-book contact the organiser by email or Text.

29th, 30th and 31st, August 2025

Culm Vale Sidecar Club's Watchet camping weekend.

Venue Warren Farm caravan and camping site, Warren Farm, Watchet, Somerset, TA23 0JP

Facilities Toilets showers, dishwashing and clothes washing. In Watchet there are shops, pubs, cafes, take away food outlets, a cashpoint and a steam railway station. On Saturday there will be a "bangers and burgers" bbq with a drink of cider followed by a raffle. Camping before and after the weekend may be possible, this has to be pre-booked with the organisers.

Directions At Williton stay on the A39 until Carhampton take the B3191 to Blue Anchor, drive along the sea front and up the hill and Warren Farm campsite is on the left in about a mile.

Cost TBA

For more information

Contact, Keith Aldridge, tel 01884 841165, text 07974622636, Email kandj06@live.co.uk



2025 Tri-Anglia Wheels Sidecar Soiree

Thursday 24th to Sunday 27th July at

Petruth Paddocks, Labourham Drove, Cheddar BS27 3FS

the site is signposted off the A371 Cheddar to Wells Road.

What three words: generally·pitching·distilled

The Sidecar Soiree is back at a new venue with your Wheels Team at the helm. Yes, the famous Sidecar Grand Prix will be on the Saturday evening. There will be a quiz night and hopefully more.

Flat level site with loads of room and separate field for us to use.

Club marquee with free tea and coffee.

Play area for the children. Site shop. Great food shack serving food in the evening and breakfast rolls in the morning. Dog friendly site.

Tap room, Shops, Pubs and Takeaways within walking distance.

Cost: £13 for a single person with tent per night. £17 for a tent with two or more people per night. Campervans/Caravans add £2 to the tent per night cost.

Want to stop on, no problem, let us know when you book in. (Note; we can't guarantee an electric hook up). You don't have to pre-book but if you are planning to attend, please could you let us know as it would be helpful and assist us

Do not book in at reception,
please book in at the club marquee.

The Sidecar Club Sail Banners will be up so you should be able to find us.

Federation of Sidecar Clubs Annual Rally 2025



22nd – 25th August



Southam Rugby
Club
Kinton Road
Southam
Warwickshire
CV47 2DG

Rally prices remain the same as last year:

Members: £12 per unit per night, Non-members: £16 per unit per night, Day
visitors £5

The usual fun and games (*Organisers to be announced*):

Driving competition, Highway Code test, Maintenance test,|

Silly games, disco, raffle

Run out

Bar provided by the Rugby Club and food from the Smiley Chef

Dogs are allowed on the site: Owners, please act responsibly

Strictly no open fires, charcoal BBQs etc. (Gas BBQs allowed)

More information to follow



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 Weber: 07905 440095

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



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.
Denbeigh 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

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.

Clothing

Over Trousers, thick winter weight 36-38 waist Helmet medium, both items hardly used. Free to collect. SE Kent.
Contact: George 01303 875193 after 6.00 pm please.

Wanted

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

Contact: Justin 07773 459253,
justinriggs@btinternet.com

Wanted

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

A.I.C.V. for 1989 GL 1500 Goldwing (0525). Contact Phil Weston: fil.weston@googlemail.com or 07759058858

Wheel Hub for Watsonian Palma or Monaco

sidecar. Contact Mick 01555664970 or m.lynch931@btinternet.com



BMW R60/2 (1964)/Steib sidecar.

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

Contact Dave Knight:

dthomas409@hotmail.com / 07798 866071

Indian sidecar and chassis. (0325)

50s original. **NEW Price: £3500**

Contact Dave Knight:

dthomas409@hotmail.com / 07798 866071



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.

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 handle-bars. Colour matched panniers & Givi top box.

Price: **£5,500**. Contact: Scotia sidecars

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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

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Watsonian Palma Sidecar

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

Tow bar & sidecar brake (small wheel)

Price: **£850 O.N.O.**

Contact Ken: 07548639806.

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Moto Guzzi V7 Stone

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

Price: **£3250**.

Contact: Keith 07768 077761.

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Triumph Street Twin

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

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



Kids Corner



Hi Norton,

Thank you for taking on the task of Editor. It's so nice to still receive Outlook and see what everyone has been up to.

I thought the following might make you smile and that you could perhaps use it in Kids Corner, which I also think is a very good addition to Outlook. After all, isn't that why many people actually acquire an outfit?

This is a photo of our daughter Katelyn (now 31) at 11 months old at a campsite in Spain. We thought it would make an amusing photo to show her when she was older. However, a fellow camper at the time (a non-sidecarrist) wandered over and said " Did she come all the way in that?" We had to explain that she had in fact "come all the way" in the sidecar, to which she asked anxiously "Can she actually breathe in there"? Honestly! Muggles! As Harry Potter would have said!

Chris Sumner

Editor: Thank you for the great photo and story behind it Chris. I'm sure Katelyn has many good memories of being "trapped" in the sidecar.

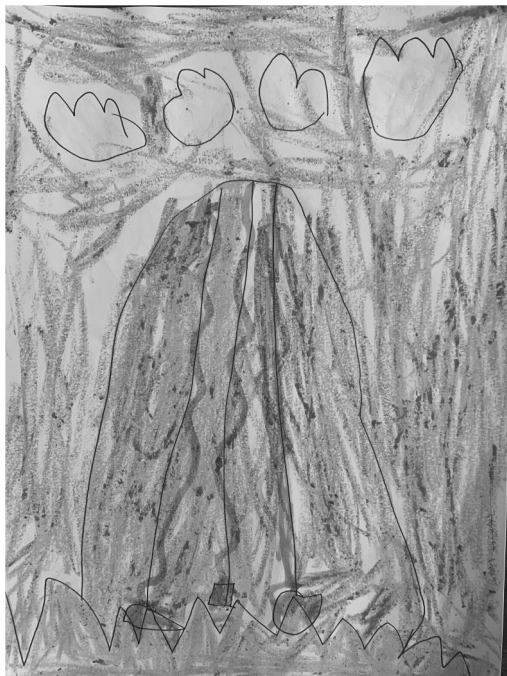
Hi Norton,

I'm enjoying the latest outlook and think the kids corner is a nice idea. I mentioned it to one of my daughters (the one you met last year at Aston Cantlow). Her daughter was keen to have a picture published and I mentioned you had a kids corner in the outlook magazine. She has drawn a picture (below) of the swings at Aston Cantlow and is looking forward to playing on them with Thea later this week.

You will note there is not a motorcycle or sidecar in sight. Clearly in my granddaughter's mind Aston Cantlow is all about the playing on the swings with the other children there! An interesting perspective!

Anyway, here's a picture (also below) that is evidence my grandkids do recognise a motorcycle when they see one!

Cheers, Tim



Editor: I was going to save Tim's piece until the next issue in case nothing else came through. But I had the space and it felt relevant as Amelia and Thea had a lovely time together at Aston Cantlow. Hopefully some more of our members will share photos, drawings or stories of what owning an outfit has meant for them as a family.

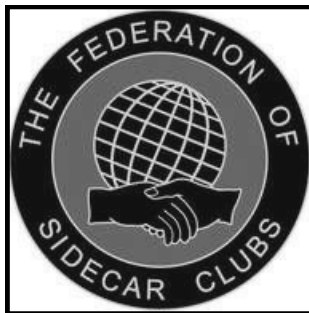
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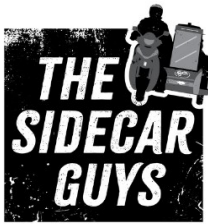
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