

Dear friends

Since you elected me as chairman last Autumn, we've been through Brexit and a Global pandemic together; not to mention a winter when there was only one day without rain between November and March! Despite everything seemingly conspiring against us, plus the unavoidable cancellation of club nights and events, we've still managed to stay in touch.

The lockdown newsletters were well received and I'm happy to continue with a monthly section newsletter should you care to send in some stories. We've also seen some informal runs resume and my sincere thanks go to both the run organisers for their efforts and to you for supporting them.

Over the summer it became clear that Henstridge Golf club no longer really wanted us there and plans have been made to relocate elsewhere for club nights, once the lockdown restrictions are lifted. As soon as we're able to, we'll be together again, I promise. We'd also received nearly 100 entries for the GIANTS run, which have been carried over to next year. It has the potential to be an important event in the motorcycling calendar, courtesy of the Dorset section.

At the present time, we are planning to hold our usual monthly runs, albeit under the new restrictions and I look forward to seeing you on some or all of them. Although we are unable to mix in the usual way, at least we're still riding and if you plan to go out, why not contact some others in the section and arrange to meet up? Better still, send me a brief report and some photos and we can put them on the website, the secretary is always happy to publish anything of interest.

Speaking of which, at present it's really only feasible to communicate electronically- via email, the website and Facebook; word of mouth is difficult behind facemasks. Please try and think of members who may not get to read any emails and call to keep them updated.

I'd like to thank my committee who've worked tirelessly behind the scenes in these most difficult times and all of whom have offered to stay on until such time we can gather together to vote in a proper AGM. Having said that, new ideas are always welcome and any member who feels they'd like to get more involved need only contact me.

I hope you think we've done a reasonable job under the circumstances, certainly the profile of Dorset section is quite high- for all the right reasons, too. The winds of change are certainly blowing hard up at Allen House, but whatever happens up there, Dorset section remains strong, friendly and, in my opinion, the very best in the VMCC.

Ride safe

Paul Miles