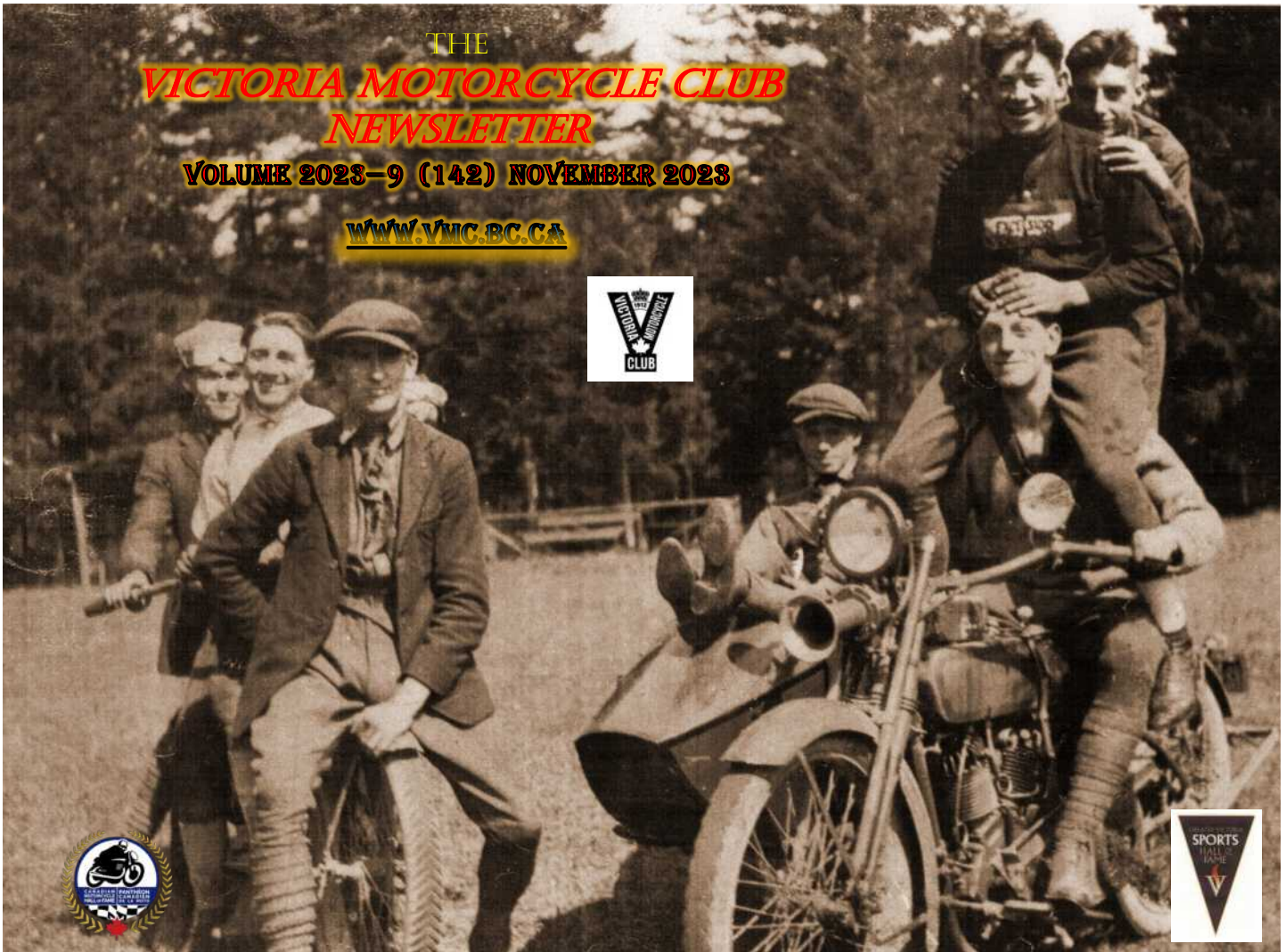


THE
VICTORIA MOTORCYCLE CLUB
NEWSLETTER

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www.vmc.bc.ca



EDITORS MESSAGE—BY Roger Boothroyd

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VMC

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Recently I received an email with the above picture attached. It was from “Vivian” who said that her husband had been given this picture, along with another, from **J. Edgar Miles** and that she wondered who she could send it to. She mentioned that it was taken circa 1922–1925 and that **Miles** had been the first secretary of the VMC.

Upon responding and thanking her for the picture, she said she would send me the copies. She included the names of a couple of them written on the back which is always helpful when trying to identify them. The fellow sitting on the fender is **J. Edgar Miles** and the one poking out from behind the fellow on the riders shoulders is **Bob Shanks**, both members of the club in that era. I’ve no doubt that some of the others may well have been VMC club members in that time but have not found their names recorded

Other information that “Vivian” wrote was that **Miles** ran **Fred Deeley’s** shop on West Broadway in Vancouver in 1934. In scouring through our old minutes in PDF format, I only found his name once as he signed off the minutes in 1922.

Recently while researching for an article, I found a well written piece on the Canadian Biker Magazine website ([VictoriaMotorcycleClub : 100 Years on The Throttle \(cdnbkr.ca\)](http://VictoriaMotorcycleClub:100YearsOnTheThrottle.cdnbkr.ca)) It’s a great read and was about the book “The VMC—the First 100 Years” produced by **Gary & Elizabeth Nordstrom, Barb Lohrmann** and

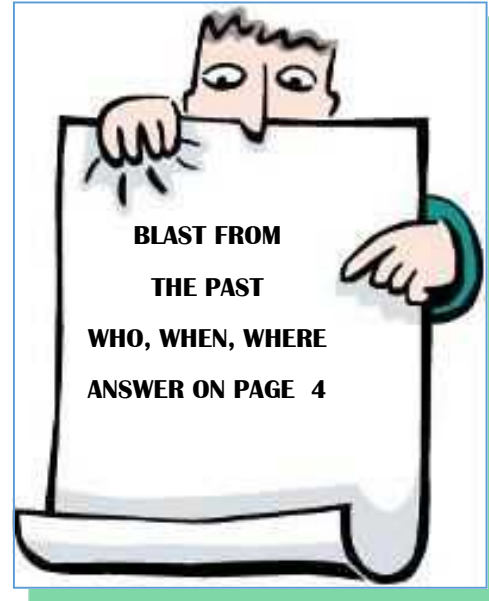
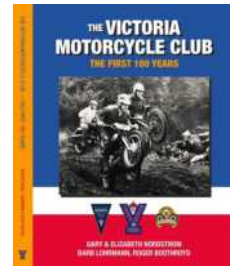
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Editor's Message Continued.

yours truly, **Roger Boothroyd**. We sold out all that we had printed but if there is enough interest, we would consider having more redone. If you would like one and want to be put on a list, email **Gary** at gary.nordstrom@shaw.ca or **Roger** at rkboots965@gmail.com. If we receive enough requests then a reprint will be considered. All monies back to the club.

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CLUB NEWZ

It has come to the notice of the executive that a member had been voluntarily picking up garbage, broken glass etc. from around the parking lot and there were no garbage cans to put it in. He then took it home to dispose of it. We appreciate the effort this member has made.

When there were 45 gallon drums for garbage at Cycle Park, former Life member **John Boomer Gronow** (RIP), would take them home after they had been filled to dispose of the contents. Unfortunately, after **John** passed away, Director **Gary Gronow** found them in the garage still full and "fermenting."

It was decided not to replace the drums at Cycle Park and to let members clean up after themselves. If you are one who uses the property, who consumes food and drink at Cycle Park, **PLEASE** take any cans, bottles, or paper home with you. It's your park, let's keep it neat.



Garbage in - Garbage out

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Every once in a while I'll receive an email to let me know that information I've printed in the newsletter is wrong or missing. There definitely was three errors in the last newsletter in my Editor's Message. I had stated that it was a fifty mile loop in the FIM Trial at Bragg Creek whereas it was a 69 mile loop as noted by **Outlaw Dave Rhodes** who laid the event out. The next one was from my "partner in crime," **Gary Nordstrom**. I had stated that the picture was check #1 but Gary thought that it was #2 or #3. Either way, it was a definite 5 points for many of us. And the other mistake I made as pointed out by both **Dave** and **Gary** was that **Yrjo Vesterinan** won with **Martin Lampkin** second and **Charles Coutard** third. The fact is, **Lampkin** won the World Championship that year. There - retraction done !! It was still an event that is memorable for **Gary** and me.

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*Good judgement comes from experience
Experience comes from poor judgement !*

VINTAGE SPEAKING

A Brief History of the Marque Armis

The **Armis Cycle Manufacturing Company**, of Heneage Street, Birmingham, manufactured 1919 to 1923 *

Built quite a variety of machines using a range of engines which included the 269cc Precision two-strokes and a 654cc MAG V-twin.

The founders were Messrs. Harrison and [Baker](#).

In 1919-1920 they offered two models, both with [Precision](#) engines. The larger of the two used the old 8hp 269cc sv V-twin Precision and a three-speed [Sturmey-Archer](#) gearbox. There was also a medium-weight that had a new Precision 349cc two-stroke engine delivering power via an [Enfield](#) two-chain, two-speed transmission. The V-twin model was short-lived, and the transmission of the two-stroke was via a [Burman](#) Gearbox. Armis also listed a complete sidecar combination as well as a solo [JAP](#) model.

1921 The V-twin returned, this time with a 654cc sidevalve JAP engine, in both solo and [sidecar](#) combination versions.

1922 saw the V-twin still in the catalogue, was joined by other models with JAP or [MAG](#) engines. They were sold with sidecars to order. Nothing was heard of the marque after 1923.

Sources: [Tragatsch](#) p78, correspondence, [Graces Guide](#)

Notes:

Tragatsch gives dates of 1920-1923

The Latin word "armis" is suggested to mean in this context, "by force and arms".



VINTAGE ADS OF OLD



URNS OUT THAT BEING A "SENIOR" IS MOSTLY JUST GOOGLING HOW TO DO STUFF.



Wayne Mammel and **Jim Douglas** (RIP) on a Yamaha 360 in the 1979 Sidecar Trial in December. In the background is former member **Chris Bell** (Belstaff Coat) and **Terry and Ron Hyde**. I wrote the following for Cycle Canada magazine in December 1979 - *Roger:-*

While most of Canada have put their bikes away for the winter, the VMC held one of their annual sidecar trials. Nine rigs took part in the 12 Km event laid out in the Spectacle Lake area north of Victoria. Twelve sections were used, once through each. Scoring was one, two or three points for dabs by the driver. Four points were given for a stall without a dab and able to start up to complete the section. A complete stop with foot down by the driver or if the monkey (passenger) leaves the car is five points. A “one ounce” handicap was given to those who “cleaned” the section - no points awarded.

Several of the sections were next to impossible for the big bore bikes with low ground clearance. Muscle power was in evidence with these units. Even some of the trials rigs found themselves in precarious positions as they tried to maneuver over the rough terrain.

The Team of **Dan McLaren** (RIP) and **Peter Liard** on a 360 Yamaha captured first place with 17 points lost. The brothers **Blow, Gordy** and **Russell**, riding a 350 Honda, were second with 20 points lost. In third place on a Suzuki 500, was the team of **Steve (Froggy) Drane** and **Chris Corbett** with 25 points lost. The picture of **Mammel** and **Douglas** were fourth with 31 points.

VMC HILLCLIMB—OCTOBER 30, 2023

Fall is in the air and with it comes the annual Victoria Motorcycle Club’s Hillclimb at Cycle Park, the club’s property on Happy Valley Road. Twenty-two riders signed up, many in multiple displacement Classes, and four were first year members. Nine of the entrants were non-members, with one from the lower mainland.

Rider sign up was well coordinated by **Meaghan Symes** and **Rachel Olsen** with help from **Peter Grant**. **Bruce Taylor** and team took care of the Tech inspections while **Charlie Parker** and a slew of other members did a great job marshalling and raking out the launch pit and catching bikes hillside.

New member **Simon Ritchie** did a impressive job as commentator on the mike and **Haileigh** and **Jake Mullin** did a fantastic job scoring in the tower. As well as helping with the sign in, **Peter Grant** beat the donation drum for public donations while **Deanne Horner** beat the 50/50 draw drum bucket for ticket sales which netted \$225 for the Metchosin Fire Dept. Society who provided First Aid services. Metchosin Boy Scouts were also in attendance and sold out of hot dogs.

The approximate 200 public spectators were treated to some very fast runs up the dust free “incline” on the club’s property prepared by member **Dave McCullough** and his crew. A report by one member said the overall event organization by **Brent Donaldson** made this the best VMC Hillclimb he’d ever attended.

Member **Quinn McCullough** is the King of the Hill for 2023 as he edged out all riders in every class he was eligible to enter:- 300, 450, 700, the Club Championship Paul Girardau and the Island Championship F.W. Francis. He also won the special LogX and XClimb.)

Continued Page 5



VMC HILLCLIMB—OCTOBER 30, 2023 continued

In the Small Wheel class, **Cecelia Olsen** took 1st by attaining 135 feet while **Ivan Ritchie** was close behind in 2nd by reaching 131 feet.

Only one rider was in the Big Wheel class and **Kaylie Livingstone** reached 105 feet.

The 454–700 class had **Quinn McCullough** in 1st in 5.01 seconds. His Dad, **Dave McCullough** was 2nd in 5.47 seconds while **Trevor Metters** was 3rd in 6.19 seconds.

Several riders entered the 0–350 class and **Quinn McCullough** was first in 6.1 seconds. In second place was **Jon Rumley** in 6.36 seconds while third place was **Todd Wilson** in 7.07 seconds.

The 301–450 class had six riders and, once again, **Quinn McCullough** was in 1st place in 5.3 seconds.

Second place went to **Thomas Cordner** in 5.45 seconds. Third was **Keelan Portier** in 6.71 second.

Seven riders rode the 701–Open class and 1st place went to **Quinn McCullough** in 5.14 seconds. Running in second place again was **Thomas Cordner** in 5.19 seconds. **Rob Schoemeyer** was 3rd in 6.11 seconds.

The Club Championship, the **Paul Girardau** trophy, was **Quinn McCullough's** to take home in a time of 4.98 seconds. Second place went to **Thomas Cordner** in 5.35 seconds while **Dave McCullough** was 3rd in 6.05 seconds.

Fourteen riders entered the Island Championship, the F.W. Francis trophy, and once again **Quinn McCullough** was in first in 5.03 seconds. **Thomas Cordner** placed second in 5.1 seconds while **Dave McCullough** was third in 5.75 seconds.

Full results on our website at www.vmc.bc.ca

Here's a YouTube video taken by member **Graham Turner** - 17 minutes

<https://youtu.be/Utv0G0lwVf8>



Cecelia Olsen



Quinn McCullough



All Hillclimb pictures
by Loren Olsen

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NAME THE RIDER



**Answer on
Page 7**





Starting November 1st, dues will be due and payable for the 2024 season and must be paid before the end of January 2024 or membership will lapse. Payment may be made by E-transfer to: vmc-membership@vmc.bc.ca or by cheque to:- VMC, RPO Town & Country, PO Box 48138, Victoria, B.C. V8Z 7H5. If paying by E-transfer or cheque, please include your name and/or the name of the member (s) you are paying for.

As voted on and accepted at the September general meeting, the dues are as follows:-

Active (adult 19–64) - **\$150**, **Senior** (65 and over) - **\$75** **Junior** (under 19) - **\$25**

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Another EXTREME video by member **Graham Turner**. The Tearzberg Enduro at Tansky on October 8th. It beat him and his machine and claimed half the entry, including **Graham**. About 1 hour and 8 minutes. Enjoy. <https://youtu.be/GtzPzGyFv w> Other videos by **Graham** can be enjoyed at:- [HardEnduroVlogger - YouTube](#)

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For those wondering when the trophy and awards presentation will take place, it was decided at a general meeting that a multi-year ceremony will take place in the Spring of 2024. It will include the 2021, 2022 and 2023 years. Further information will be provided prior to the event.

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Minutes of the VMC Executive Meeting

Held on October 12, 2023, at **Perry Chow's** residence common room Condensed For Publication

This was the ninth in-person VMC Executive meeting of 2023.

In Attendance: President: **Dave Horner** Vice President: **Mark Fisher** Treasurer: **Perry Chow**
Secretary: **Peter Grant** Directors: **Brent Donaldson, Dave Fair, Jordan McFarlane, Mike Hornick, Nick Newton** Also present were members **Peter Smither** and **Bobbi Bjornholt** - new Website committee
Absent were; Directors **Gary Gronow** and **Justin Roach** and **Ellen Voermans**-Membership Chair and (new/old) Past President **Ben Hircock**.



The meeting was called to order by President **Dave Horner** at 7:05 PM. Reading of previous meeting minutes was waived.

Topics discussed:

- 1) **Dave Horner** initiated a discussion on new website options. As **Bobbi Bjornholt** was running late **Peter Smither** provided an overview of where things were at. The subject was tabled until later in the evening for more detailed discussion.
- Agreed that the New Website Committee be officially named, being comprised of all current Executive Members plus **Peter Smither** and **Bobbi Bjornholt**. These members are charged with seeing this project through to completion.
- 2) **Mike Hornick** provided an in-depth review and discussion on next steps for the projects currently underway at Cycle Park.
- **Jordan McFarlane** discussed the controlled access gate installation.
Motion by **Dave Horner**, seconded by **Mark Fisher** to approve re-grading parking lot around pavilion area and trenching work to install water, electrical and communication conduit from entrance area across to SeaCan and Pavilion. **Carried.** To be tabled at next week's regular meeting.
- 3) **Mike Hornick** discussed his ideas for grounds improvements in the Hill Climb 'pit area' and safety mod's on the hill climb course, a project for coming year(s).
- 4) **Brent Donaldson** provided a recap of the Hill Climb event run Oct. 1st
- 5) **Brent Donaldson** with an update on Gate Key deposits.
order an additional 10 keys to float us until the new Powered Gate with Electronic Fob system has been installed.

Continued Page 7

Executive Minutes Continued



- Gate Key safekeeping and distribution duties to Director **Nick Newton**.

6) **Dave Horner** provided another update on BC Hydro installation and the challenge of having the old mortgage removed from title.

7) **Perry Chow** on membership renewal process and the upcoming Annual Meeting and Elections in January:

- Expressed his concern that in January there could be non-paid up members in attendance that are able to vote even if not returning to membership. This proposal aligns the Election process to represent the current year's general membership more accurately.

Motion by **Dave Horner**, second by **Mark Fisher** to propose a Special Resolution at next week's regular meeting that the VMC's Bylaws be amended to schedule the Annual Meeting and Election of Executive to the 3rd Tuesday of February (from January).

- Such motion to be posted on website, circulated by email and voted upon at November's regular meeting.

8) Brent reported on upcoming Metchosin SAR overnight training exercise to be held at upper Cycle Park on Sept. 21/22. Access via **Dave Fair's** property.

9) Member **Bobbi Bjornholt** presented her findings and recommendation on the design and construction of new club website to satisfy the needs expressed by membership during her assessment process.

- **Bobbi's** recommended Website 'design and build' company has provided a quote.

- **Bobbi** to review quote with this vendor again with a few suggested tweaks and add-ons and report back.

- Estimated monthly subscription costs including Web Hosting to a maximum of \$3,500.

Formal request for budget approval to be tabled at next Regular meeting.

10) Tres. **Chow** provided the Monthly Treasurers Report:

11) Tres. **Grant** reviewed recently received correspondence:

12) Next Regular Club Meeting: - Tuesday Oct. 17th, 7:30 at Barnes Harley-Davidson

Next Executive Meeting: - Not scheduled

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 PM.

Moved **Mark Fisher**, seconded **Brent Donaldson**.

NAME THE RIDER ANSWER

Adam Raga, on a Bultaco Chispa 50 cc, He was born April 6, 1892 in Uldecona province of Tarragona, Catalonia, Spain. He is a Spanish professional motorcycle Trials rider, and is one of the worlds most successful motorcycle riders.

He won four Indoor World motorcycle championships (Indoor 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006) and two Outdoor World Championships (2005, 2006).

To this day **Adam Raga** has been at the forefront of motorcycle trials sports for 25 years. He has won many titles and all these years he was considered a serious threat to his competitors.

He is one of the most titled motorcycle riders in history because of his brave and tireless spirit. The interesting thing is that earning these titles are still going on and he is shining at the top.

When it comes to his team, **Raga** was riding for Gas Gas company from 2005 to 2015. From 2016 to now (2022) he is riding for TRS motorcycle factory. He is also a Red Bull athlete for 10 years till now.

Of course, **Adam Raga** isn't finished yet. No one knows when he will stop riding for World title glory but whenever he will stop he will remain one of the most successful motorcyclist for a long time.

Ed. Note:- At the end of the 2023 season, **Adam Raga** will no longer be a TRS rider. This year has been very tough for **Raga**, with multiple injuries that kept him from being 100%.

Victoria Motorcycle Club
Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting - held on October 17, 2023
at Barnes Harley-Davidson



prepared by Sec. **Peter Grant** This was the tenth Regular Monthly Meeting of 2023.

In Attendance : President: **Dave Horner** Vice President: **Mark Fisher** Treasurer: **Perry Chow**
Secretary: **Peter Grant** Directors:- **Brent Donaldson, Dave Fair, Gary Gronow, Jordan McFarlane,**
Mike Hornick, Nick Newton

Committee Chairs present included: **Roger Boothroyd**-Newsletter Ed. & Communications, **Ellen Voermans**-Membership Chair, **Tony Wilson**-Trail Maintenance Committee Co-Chair and **Peter Smither**-new Website. Absent were director **Justin Roach** and (new/old) Past President **Ben Hircock (Dan McLaren passed away 01/29/2023)**.

Welcome: The meeting was called to order by the President **Dave Horner** at 7:34 PM with 23 total members and executive signed in.

1) Sec. **Grant** read the minutes of the previous Regular Monthly Meeting of 09/9/23. Moved to accept by **Roger Boothroyd**, seconded **Mike Hornick**, carried.

2) Sec. **Grant** read the minutes of the prior week's Executive Meeting of 10/11/23. Moved to accept by **Brent Donaldson**, seconded by **Perry Chow**, carried.

BUSINESS ARISING/OLD BUSINESS:

3) Pres **Horner** provided an update on Memorial Pavilion construction and powered controlled access gate installation:

- Roofing material on-site, work to install starting this weekend.
- BC Hydro installation still stalled due to legal issue- removal of an old charge on title (mortgage) registered on the lower property-remedy in progress;
- Electrical Shed is almost complete-awaiting roofing to allow installation of control components; new controlled access gate is ready for installation-will proceed shortly (electrical power dependent).

4) Tres. **Chow** provided a review of new construction vs ongoing property maintenance:

- YTD is at \$78K on Property Management and Improvements budget line.
- Well under budget for this line item.
- Estimated by **Mike Hornick** will incur an added \$16K + \$30K for all remaining works with sufficient budget approval in place to cover all remaining current project costs.

5) Sec. **Grant** and **Peter Smither** provided an update on our new website initiative:

- Reviewed background on why we have undertaken this project.
- Results of the high level 2021 Member Survey about the good and bad and ugly of the club.
- Results of **Bobbi Bjornholt's** survey of member website wants.
- Reviewed **Bobbi's** recommendations, attributes, recommended vendor - AILA Studios, and estimated one-time and annual costs to build and operate.

Motion by **Brent Donaldson**, seconded by **Peter Smither**:

- To allocate a maximum of \$10,000 for the design and construction of a new website that will operate under our existing URL, www.vmc.bc.ca when ready to launch.
- To allow for a maximum of \$2,000 in annual operating costs which will include all subscriptions, licenses, hosting, and maintenance fees. Motion Carried.

Peter Smither and Sec. **Grant** will work with **Bobbi** and vendor AILA Studios to kick start this into action. For Fall 2023 we will proceed with prior Membership Renewal process and test the new membership renewal and dues payment process in January on a limited basis.

6) Treasurer **Chow** provided his monthly Treasurer's Report:

- Reviewed income and expense statement
- Cash On Hand on deposit
- Term deposits
- Events run to date

Moved to accept report by **Roger Boothroyd**, seconded by **Gary Gronow**, carried.

Continued Page 9

General Meeting Minutes Continued

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

7) Past Events:

Committee Chair **Brent Donaldson** reported on the annual Historic Hill Climb run on Oct. 1st. First HC work party saw 9 members attend and 2nd work party had 12 members helping. Event day saw 20+ members in attendance working on various duties.

-Thanks to member **Dave McCullough** for his efforts in grooming the course.

-Twenty-two individual entrants, many riding in multiple classes.

-This was Year 6 of the re-started (2016) Hill Climb at Cycle Park after Saanich ended the run at Mt. Douglas Park (first run in 1929).

-Congratulations to **Quinn McCullough**, undefeated in all classes he entered. Full results on our website.

-**Dave Fair** reported on the Apted Trial for Vintage Bikes and Junior & Beginner riders on all bikes. Held Sep. 24th in and around lower parking lot area. The **George Apted** Family was in attendance and operated a BBQ for riders and guests. All funds raised to be returned to next year's event and BBQ fund.

8) Upcoming Events:

- **Dave Fair** reported that there are two more regular Trials events on the schedule for Fall 2023 at Cycle Park. Oct. 29th for the Reg Shanks Trial Nov. 26th for the Lohrmann Trial

- Junior and Beginner Kids classes included for both.

- Dir. **Brent Donaldson** noted that volunteers are required to operate a club run concession and BBQ for these events.

-**Brent** called on all newly admitted 2023 Members to step forward to get in their required Two Days of Work Duty. There are many other events on our annual schedule that had/have no Organizing Committee including: Brentwood Enduro, All Day Dual Sport, various Road Rides, and many more activities.

Interested members should contact any Executive Member to volunteer and be directed to receive organizing tips and guidance.

NEW BUSINESS:

9) Pres. **Horner** raised the subject of our annual Election for Executive board. This is specified to be held at the Annual Meeting, set to occur on the 3rd Tuesday of January:

-Tres. **Chow** spoke on why the election date should be moved to February to properly align with the Membership roster of current fully paid-up members.

- Lengthy discussion followed as to pros & cons of why this change now.

Special Resolution was tabled by **Roger Boothroyd**, seconded by **Brent Donaldson** to move the date of the Annual Meeting and Elections.

-This Special Resolution is to be posted on our website with notice circulated to membership by email and then to be voted upon at our next regular meeting set for November 21st:

Motion to change Article 5 Meetings - Section 3 Current: "The Annual meeting of the Club shall be held on the third Tuesday in January."

Proposed: "The Annual meeting of the Club shall be held on the third Tuesday in February."

Per current VMC By-Laws;

ARTICLE 4 - ELECTIONS

-Section 2. The election of officers and other directors shall take place at the annual meeting and shall be by secret ballot.

ARTICLE 5 - MEETINGS

-Section 3. The Annual meeting of the Club shall be held on the third Tuesday in January.

General Meeting Minutes Continued

CLUB BY-LAWS

1. *In these By-laws: -*

A. "The Club" shall mean the Victoria Motorcycle Club;

B. "Extraordinary Resolution" shall mean a resolution passed by a majority of not less than three-quarters of the members entitled to vote as are present at a general meeting of which notice specifying the intention to propose the resolution as an Extraordinary Resolution has been duly given.

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General Meeting Minutes Continued

C. Notice of Extraordinary Resolution shall be deemed to have been given to all members, if posted on the website at least two weeks prior to the meeting. All members to be alerted to this posting through a broadcast e-mail. Notice that an Extraordinary Resolution will be presented, must also be given at the regular VMC meeting prior to the meeting at which it will be voted upon.

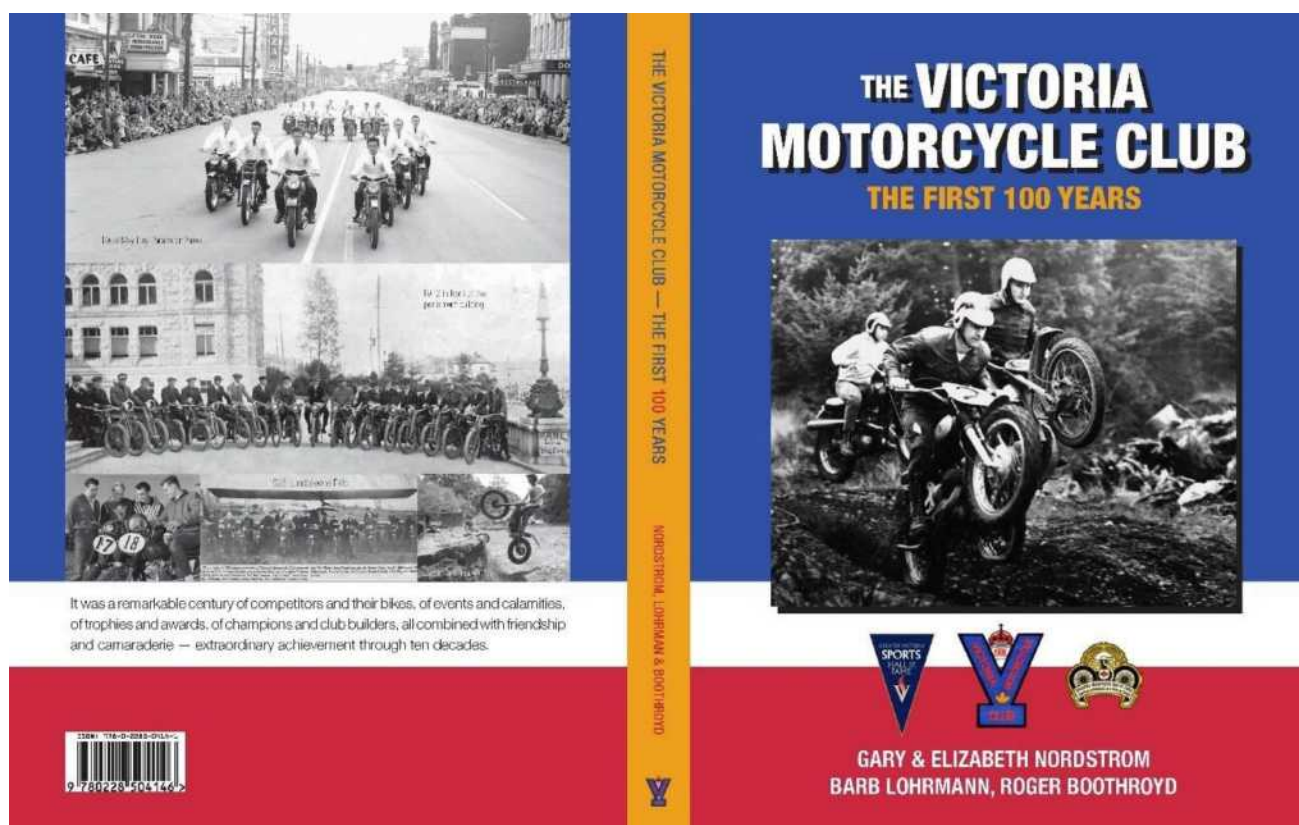
10) Newsletter Editor **Roger Boothroyd** spoke on three subjects:

i) -has been informed of broken glass bottles and trash somewhere that was left by members:

- We have no garbage cans on site as no one wants to take on the duty of emptying them on a bi-weekly basis.
- Members are reminded that when visiting Cycle Park, they are to pack their trash out and leave nothing behind but tire tracks.

ii)-The club has *Sold Out* all copies of the history book; 'VMC - The First 100 Years' (by **Gary Nordstrom, Barb Lohrman and Roger B.**). *This is now in danger of it going out of print as the publisher has given notice that they are closing their doors. Negotiations are taking place with a possible new buyer.*

-We require orders for 25 books for a new print run. Price is estimated at \$30/copy.



-Anyone wishing to order should contact either **Roger** or **Gary Nordstrom** soon.

iii) -First Notice of Membership Dues Renewal will be circulated by November with details and instructions. Dues payments can be made by e-transfer or cheque commencing November 1st and must be received no later than the end of January 2024 or membership will lapse.

11) Next Regular Club Meeting: - Tuesday November 21st, 7:30 pm, upstairs at Barnes Harley-Davidson Victoria.

12) Next Executive Meeting: - Not scheduled

Adjourn

On a motion by **Dave Horner**, seconded by **Brent Donaldson** the meeting was adjourned at 8:56 PM.

THE TRIALS DES NATIONS EXPERIENCE - BY JENN DICKSON



What to say about the 2023 Trials des Nations...the event was amazing, but truly, the first thing we think about as we reflect on the experience is all the people who helped us get there. What a community!!

Sending a full team of 11 people from Canada all the way to France was no small feat, and there is absolutely no way that we could have done it without our supporters. So, before we say anything else, we thank you. Thank you to every single one of you who bought a 50/50 ticket, donated to our Go-FundMe, attended one of our fundraising clinics, bought a

T-shirt, came to our burger beer night, donated product or your valuable time, helped us train and plan, offered some sage piece of advice, gave us an encouraging word, or followed us on social media and shared our channels and information (yes, this is important!). The list of supporters and ways in which we were supported is humbling, and honestly heart warming. There is no better feeling than belonging and we are privileged and proud to belong to this community and to have been able to represent trials for Canada. If that's too sappy for ya, what can we say, we are Canadian, eh!

Now, about the event...it was **CHALLENGING!** It was also **FUN** and frustrating; **EXCITING** and overwhelming; **BEAUTIFUL** and technical. It was **HOT**. The checking was stringent. The timeline was tight. It was all the things anyone has probably experienced in a trials event, only more. Stages, parades, manufacturer's rigs, tents, country flags, hundreds of riders in uniform, line ups (and elbows of people trying to break up your team and get ahead in line), announcements over PAs, cameramen and videographers, FIM representatives, and crowds. The good, the bad, and the ugly, we loved it all (or at least we can say that now). We led with our heart, determination, and grit, and we learned a lot. We are hungry for more.

Christy Williams Richards, women's team minder/ coach, and TdN veteran, had this to say for a women's team ride report: 'The format of the event, with three riders per team and two rides counting in each section, really created an atmosphere where every rider had a chance to shine, but possibly didn't show our improvement between the first and second loop to the fullest. Heading into the event, we relied heavily on VMC member **Melissa Andrist** to lead the team. However, after a couple good rides from **Katie McGeachy** of Vernon and **Jaclyn Delacroix** of North Vancouver, everyone finally understood that each rider can really affect the result. Being the first TdN for this team, the event was a huge learning experience, and when you consider first-time jitters, a last-minute teammate replacement, first time competing in a team event, and no-stop rules, the women's team really came together to produce an outcome that we can all be proud of.



Melissa Andrist in Action
Photo by **Jenn Dickson**



Photo by @pepsegales

VMC member **Jennifer Dickson**, although injured in training, was grateful to remain part of the team in a supportive role. She looks forward to completing rehab and getting right back into training. **Melissa Andrist** spent a few weeks traveling Europe with her brother after the TdN. Upon her return, she jumped right back into competing by entering the expert class in Ioco. No flies on us!

Although we don't yet know the full composition of the 2024 team, we are already looking forward and brainstorming plans; more exciting times are ahead, so please stay tuned.

With very little rain, clear blue skies and frost on the pumpkin, it made for some interesting sections at the annual Reg Shanks Trial held at the VMC property at the end of October. Thirty-six riders of all ages signed up to compete in this fourth trial of the five trial series leading to the VMC championship.

Ten sections were laid out with varying degrees of difficulty for the seven classes of riders. Riders were to make their way through these sections one by one without gaining points by dabbing, moving a marker, going out of bounds etc. Three loops were ridden by all. The lowest score at the end is deemed the winner in each class. It was nice to see in the more difficult sections that “minders” were used to make sure no riders were injured. It was also nice to see that the more proficient riders were coaching and helping the others.

In the Beginner class, **Rhys Fletcher** on his Gas Gas was first with 65 points. **Matthew** from the **Duggan** family was second, also on Gas Gas, with 80 points. Third was **Benson Duggan** on Oset with 102 points.

The Junior class had three riders and **Cecelia Olsen** on Gas Gas placed first with 30 points. Only eight points away was **Raine Fletcher** on a Scorpa with 38 points. **Don Doell** on a TRS was third with 74 points.

Cam Woodsend on Gas Gas was first in the Intermediate class finishing with 26 points. Second was Beta mounted **Josh Bocskei** on Beta with 42 points. **Colin Stares** on a Montesa was third with 92 points.

The Senior Intermediate class had five riders and **Paul Conroy** on Gas Gas took first with 11 points. Tied for second place in points was **Wes Evernden** on a Montesa and **Dave Fair** on his Vertigo. Both had 15 points but **Evernden** took second by virtue of more cleans—24 to Fair’s 23 who was third.



John Faa is airborne as **Chris Faa** [R] and **Thomas Cordner** [L] are minders

Leading from the start is **Connor Lund** on Gas Gas in the Sportsman class giving him 1st place with 37 points. Tied with 30 points after the second loop was **Blake Fontaine** and **Lucas Longstaff** both on Vertigo. At the end, **Fontaine** was second with 44 points while **Longstaff** had 45 points.

The Senior Sportsman class only had two competitors, **Peter Falk** on Vertigo and **Simon Kitchen** on Beta. The two were evenly matched as they finished with tie scores of 89 points however, **Falk** took first with four cleans, **Kitchen** had one.

Six experts entered the Expert class and the lowest score belonged to champion **Thomas Cordner** on Vertigo. With a total of 9 points lost at the end, **Cordner** maintained his winning ways. Second was **Jeremy McChesney** also on Vertigo. The total score for **McChesney** was 29 points giving him second place. Third place went to **Andrew Watson** on

Vertigo with 63 points.

The Clubman class, a “ride what you bring fun class,” had five entered. Riding a Vertigo and taking first place with 39 points was **Graham Twigg**. Second on a Gas Gas was **Alex Flint** with 58 points. **Rick Kool** on a Montesa placed third with 64 points.

Sign up and score keeping was handled by **Sonia Duggan**, **Susan Fair** and **Rachel Olsen**. The BBQ was run by **Jay Kreiger**, **Alan Doucet**, **Meaghan Symes**, **Brian Speirs**. Section lay out was done by **Jordan McFarlane**, **Rhys Hathaway**, **Connor Lund**, **Cecilia** and **Loren Olsen**, **Kevin Ash**, **Hugh Williams**, **John** and **Chris Faa**, & **Dave Fair**. Full results on our website at:-

www.vmc.bc.ca

Next trial is the Lohrmann Trial on November 26th, the last of the season.



First place **Thomas Cordner** (L) and Second place **Jeremy McChesney** (R)

