

The Syd Plevin Trophy Winner – VMCC AGM – 9th April

The following nomination submitted by Section Chairman Martyn Round on behalf of the North Birmingham Section resulted in Peter Ashen being awarded the Syd Plevin Trophy in recognition of outstanding work at Section level within the V.M.C.C. The nomination was up against seven others, showing what a worthy recipient Peter was.



Peter Ashen receiving the Award from
VMCC President Rod Hann

As a ten-year old lad riding pillion on Dad's Scott I saw Peter as a one of my Father's contemporaries, it never occurred to me that some forty-eight years later Peter would not only be a friend and fellow committee member but a valued point of reference throughout my first few years as Section Chairman – as he had been for my predecessors.

Peter has served the North Birmingham Section well during his unbroken service of *forty-three years* on the section's committee, acting variously as committee member, Treasurer, Chairman, ex-officio member and latterly, Award Secretary – a role he created by assuming the responsibility for the storage, care, maintenance, procurement and administration of the silverware held within the section and which includes Geoff Davidson's 1913 Levis Cup. Alongside these roles, Peter has served on the

Club's management committee and has executed the responsibilities of Clerk of the Course for the Levis Cup Trial on no fewer than twelve occasions as well as organising and participating in many of our social runs until eyesight deterioration curtailed his riding activities in 2014.

Peter's support for the section centred on his riding activity – invariably vintage Sunbeam mounted – one of his own restorations for which, both within the V.M.C.C. and the Sunbeam Register he is well renowned, being respected for both his restoration skills and technical prowess.

His passion for the club and in particular the North Birmingham Section coupled with an awareness that many of us participate with the forbearance of our partners led him to reintroduce the annual dinner and organise the section's annual picnic run – usually terminating at a National Trust house so providing a family day out for all participants and the opportunity to showcase the section and hence, the Club.

Peter may be described as 'one of nature's gentlemen', certainly as an ambassador for the V.M.C.C. you will find none better, his manner, machinery and consideration for others has, and continues to be gentlemanly in the true vintage style, that is "...of good and rare quality".

Martyn Round. Section Chairman.