



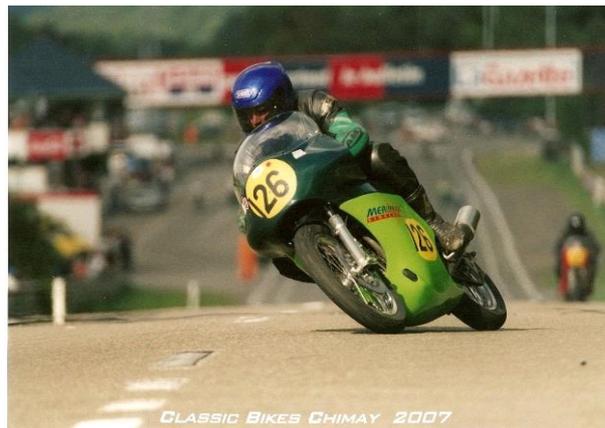
www.nemcrc.co.uk

20 years on the public roads of the Belgium Ardennes

I first started going to the Belgium Classic meetings in 1999 at various public roads circuits such as Jeonville (2mile) -Geddine (3.2mile) -Mette (Circuit Jules Tacheny 3.2mile)– and Chimay (2.7 mile). . Chimay and Mette in particular were circuits in the continental circuit group which figured largely early in the GP seasons of the 60s and 70s . If you are interested Google them .There are a few more in the region which are not now in use

With these public roads circuits, the person having the 'Yes' or 'No' say as to give authority for the event to go ahead with the meetings is the local government representative. i.e. the local Mayor. However, Chimay and Geddine in particular, are well attended by spectators bringing needed tourism from all over the continent and both circuits have excellent facilities and viewing points

The first corner
at Chimay 2009
on the Weslake
before the uphill
one-kilometre



For the first ten years or so of competing in these races the programmes were for the historic classic machines. i.e. manufactured prior to 1973. However over the years as enthusiasts for owning riding and building these machines have faded away entries of these pre 72 machines although still well supported are not now in sufficient numbers to allow meetings to be financially viable. Therefore organisers have had to adapt to the changing support from enthusiasts of the merging eras and introduce the later classes i.e. Post Classics -Evo - Solo and Sidecars classes- Production machines etc to enable meetings to remain financially viable All the eligibility details for the various classes can be found on the Belgium Classic Clubs web site www.CRMB.be



Club Member

Dave Beadle getting ready for his first ride on his newly acquired 350 Aermacchi at Geddine 2018 .

The paddock was affected by the heavy rainfall preceding the event



NEMCRC Members at Chimay 2006



One minute you're up the
next you're down
Trying too hard at the
Geddine Hairpin

Marshalls very hospitable
as I waited recovery

Unfortunately, no longer do we have Jeonville which ceased in 2004. The Mette Road circuit ceased in 2006 when a typical nondescript short circuit was built within the old Mette public roads system. *In order to try and attract the classic riders the organisers invited Classic Competitors with subsidised entries at the short circuit but it was not successful*

In 2008 the Chimay organisers ran their meeting on the large original 6.8-mile circuit. Permission was granted after each household and business on the circuit around the town of Chimay and the Village of Lasselles were circulated and gave their agreement to let the meeting go ahead to Celebrate 20yrs of the Classic event. This was a terrific success with over 700 entries from all over Europe. Hope of it being repeated in 2018 to celebrate 30yr anniversary Alas did not happen. This was due to concern that emergency vehicles could not access the roads and public safety after a number of new additional constructions including a Fire Station situated at the last corner prior to the finish line.



Dave Beadle 2018

after a terrific ride to 3rd place
on CW Racings 4 cylinder
350 Honda outclassing
much faster machines

In all the years of attending as helper or competitor I have been impressed with the support the organisers through the Belgium Classic Motorcycle Racing Club give to participants in their annual meetings. They want you out there racing. Also, the spectating public show their support in very enthusiastic display. It also never fails to amaze me by the number of British Marshalls and Spectators that arrive at the venues. There are plenty of food venues at the circuits. At Geddine the local houses trackside turn into restaurants for the weekend. Tried them, good food and a great welcome. In Chimay the town centre is only 5 minutes walk with a lovely main square with plenty of

alfresco restaurants and Bars



Celebrating my 65th Birthday
With club members at Chimay
In July 2007 .
Ridding the Weslake in Group 2
event and Alec Christie Seely G50
in the IHRO races .
Four practise sessions and four
races over the weekend
concluded with a very large glass
of malt

Invariably blessed with good hot sunshine I've have only attended two wet meetings in the last twenty years .You can do both circuits from the north east in straight 12hr stint through the tunnel.

The Ferry from Hull to Zeebrugge although more expensive is the way to go giving a relaxing start to the adventure . Anyone contemplating going to one of these events to compete will need to have a full ACU National Licence and to obtain start permission from the ACU which includes Full medical and repatriation expenses in the event of any mishap .

Unfortunately, it is doubtful whether we will get to Belgium this year 2020 with the current crisis .

However, here's hoping Geddine might go ahead in late august