

137 May/June 2009

Charity for Dunlop evening

The fourth Road Racing Legends Charity evening, held at the Wynnstay Hotel, Oswestry, Shropshire on 20 February proved to be another great success.

Each year Phil and Colin Morris, ably assisted by wives Gwen and Sue (who actually do the majority of the work) theme the event, this year it was an Irish evening, and donate all the profits, this year a stunning £13,559, to their chosen charities. For 2009 it was the Robert Dunlop Memorial Fund and local charities benefited.

A two hour auction, held ahead of the chat show, showed that when it comes to motorcyclists and charity there is no credit crunch, the auction alone made almost £7000. Blackpool Town Crier Barry McQueen opened proceedings by introducing Tommy Robb, who hosted proceedings, and then the riders, who rode into the room, TT legend Philip McCallen on a V4 Yamaha, William Dunlop, RC163 Honda, Alan Patterson, YX52 Yamaha and Michael Dunlop, RC163 Honda.

Wee Tommy kept the interviews light hearted and the top table guests had the audience in stitches. Michael Dunlop closed the evening with an emotional message of thanks from his mother, which brought the room to its feet.

Other special guests and former and current riders who were in the audience included Tony Rutter, Mark Parrott, Bill Smith, Mats Nilsson, Tony Scott, Frank Perris, Connor Cummings, Gavin Hunt, Selwyn Griffiths, John Kidson, Tom Dickie, Steve Tomes, Julian Ryder, and Neil Tuxworth (President of TT Riders' Association).

The RRL organisers, Colin Morris, Sue Morris, Gwen Morris and Phil Morris would like to thank their team of volunteers, sponsors of the event, many of whom provided material for the goody bags; Morris Holdings, Morris Lubricants, OTIS Oswestry, Oswestry Waste Paper, Griffiths Hire Shop, Hobbo Flowers, The Wynnstay Hotel, Paperway, Comtext Signs, Michelin, Ocean Telecom, Old Bike Mart, Classic Racer, Motorcycle Racer, Road Racing

Ireland, Duke Videos, Red Torpedo, Vintage Motor Cycle Club and Moto Nostalgia.

Next year's event is planned for 5 February, with details available shortly on www.roadracinglegendscharity.org or from Gwen Morris, Cherry Tree Cottage, Station Road, Whittington, Oswestry SY11 4BT 01691 662082 and Sue Morris, Mannanan, Old Newton, Craven Arms. Shropshire SY7 9PF 01588 672426.



Organisers, Colin Morris, back left, and Phil Morris, Back right, pictured with the Alan Patterson, second left and William Dunlop, and on the front row left to right, Phil McCallen, Michael Dunlop, and Tommy Robb.