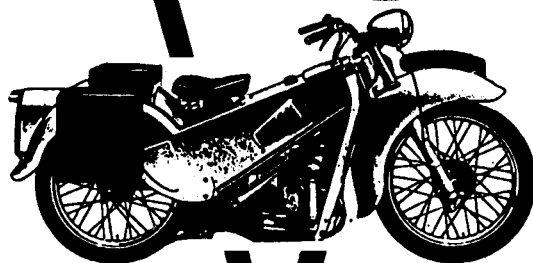


TECHNICAL NOTES

Notes on the
Maintenance & Overhaul
of the

VELOCETTE L.E. Model



Velocette

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Notes on the Maintenance and Overhaul of the Velocette L.E. Model

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FOREWORD

From the earliest days, the LE Velo Club has been blessed with the services of some notable Technical Secretaries, who have contributed a great wealth of material to the club magazine under the title of 'Technical Notes'. When I in my turn started to add to this legacy, I was merely keeping up a long tradition and trying to reach the same high standards.

However one very important factor had changed and that was the demise of Veloce in 1971 - the factory could no longer be relied upon for the provision of spares and overhauled components. Thus myself and others had to set about learning how to recondition parts such as the crankshaft ourselves. With very little information available to us, the task was more akin to detective work and I tended to use 'Technical Notes' as a means of passing on my ideas and findings to the members. The notes were never written in any particular order, but rather whatever the current problem was, more often than not with my own machine!

After several years, I seem to have covered just about every aspect and increasingly members began to suggest that the notes might usefully be indexed and formed into something like a workshop manual. This volume is the outcome. A certain amount of editing and rearranging has been necessary, and some material from my successors has been added. Maybe in time reprints will keep abreast of future developments. I hope it proves a useful supplement to the official 'Service Manual'.

Dave Rix

Cambridge
December 1990

INTRODUCTION

If you asked a Club member during the 1970's which 'On the Level' articles they always read, Technical Notes would have emerged as a clear favourite. These were written by the then Technical Secretary, Dave Rix, who had succeeded to the post in 1974 on the death of Stan Green.

Dave was the best (formally qualified) Technical Secretary the Club has had, and he set to the task with his usual enthusiasm. Between October 1975 and January 1982, fifty-one editions of O.T.L. were produced, and Dave wrote a set of Technical Notes for every one. This was in addition to answering hundreds of members queries and also playing a major role in establishing the Club's Spares Scheme; most of our newly manufactured spares are to Dave's designs.

The particular value of Dave's Technical Notes was that they were the first to be written in a post-Veloce era, without Factory or dealer backup. Thus they dealt with all the major reconditioning projects which members began to face, including a full overhaul of the complete engine unit. Special importance has been placed on the articles which dealt with reconditioning otherwise irreplaceable items such as the early crankshafts. In the days of Veloce, these items would have been readily available on a new or service exchange basis, and the need for such complex work by owners did not exist. As a bonus they were written in an accessible and often humorous style, and were illustrated by a wealth of drawings produced to a very high standard.

Since Dave stood down in 1986 (his contribution to the Club has been recognised by making him a life member) a number of members have produced their own informal, collated editions of his Technical Notes by photocopying the relevant articles from O.T.L. The initiative for this publication came from Staffordshire member Bob Lowndes. He proposed that a properly edited version of Dave's work, plus contributions from our current Technical Secretary, Robin Hambling and others would be of considerable interest to Club members.

The Club has Bob to thank for spending well over a year producing this final edition, which reads more like a technical manual than a set of notes not written in any particular order. The loose leaf format has been chosen deliberately, allowing members to add their own information, and perhaps to encourage future contributors to produce an update.

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AVAILABILITY OF SERVICE MANUALS

The Club Historian is able to supply copies of Service Manuals and Spare Parts Lists for all the post-war Velocette lightweights.

For the Mk III L.E. these are printed editions using the original Veloce printing plates. All other editions are good quality photocopies.

Details of the ordering procedure and price are contained in the Club Magazine.
