

REG McDONALD

FORMALLY A SOLO AND SIDECAR GRASSTRACK COMPETITOR EARLY YEARS MEMBER OF THE TENTERDEN AND DISTRICT MOTORCYCLE CLUB REG McDONALD LIVED IN THE HASTINGS AREA AND BY TRADE WAS A MOTORCYCLE DISTRIBUTOR. DURING HIS TIME WITH THE CLUB HE COMPETED AT ROAD RACING ON BOTH SOLO AND SIDECAR AT CIRCUITS INCLUDING BLANDFORD, DUNHOLME, BRANDS HATCH, HADDENHAM, SCARBOROUGH, SIVERSTONE AND THE ISLE OF MAN.

1948

DUNHOLME CIRCUIT: ENTERED SIDECAR EVENT ON A NORTON OUTFIT PASSENGERED BY J VARLOW, WHO WAS ALSO ENTERED IN THE SOLO 350cc RACE HIMSELF, SOMEONE WHO HAD EXPERIENCE OF PILOTING SOLO AND SIDECAR ON GRASSTRACK.

1949

REG ENTERED THE ISLE OF MAN CLUBMANS SENIOR TT RIDING A NORTON INTERNATIONAL MACHINE FINISHING A CREDITABLE 21ST PLACE AT 66.99mph. 43 RIDERS HAD STARTED THE RACE, WHICH WAS WON BY THE SOON TO BECOME THE LEGENDARY GEOFF DUKE.

1950

RETURNING TO THE ISLE OF MAN THIS TIME REG ENTERED THE MANX GRAND PRIX IN THE JUNIOR RACE ON A VELOCETTE. CRASHING AT THE GOOSE NECK CORNER LOSING SOME 6 MINUTES RESTARTING ON THE UPHILL GRADIENT BEFORE CONTINUING. HE MANAGED WITH BENT AND DAMAGED HANDLEBARS, FOOTREST, AND EXHAUST TO SCRAPE HOME IN 42ND PLACE. THIS WAS OUT OF 109 RIDERS WHO HAD ENTERED THE EVENT.

MEMBERS PAST ARCHIVE

HE FOLLOWED THIS UP BY RIDING TO 50TH PLACE IN THE SENIOR MANX GRAND PRIX AT SPEED OF 72.92mph, AGAIN WITH OVER 100 RIDERS ENTERED.

HIS CLUBMANS TT AND MANX GRAND PRIX FINISHES WERE NO MEAN FEAT ON A CIRCUIT SOME 37 MILES IN LENGTH NOTORIOUSLY HARD ON MAN AND MACHINE AND DIFFICULT TO LEARN. THE MOTORCYCLE PREPARATION HAS TO BE OF A HIGH STANDARD TO OBTAIN FINISHES.

1951

BACK TO THREE WHEELS AT BRANDS HATCH RIDING A NORTON SIDECAR OUTFIT WITH FELLOW CLUB MEMBER AND FUTURE MANX GRAND PRIX WINNER DEREK FARRANT IN THE CHAIR. THE PAIR WERE ENTERED BY FARMERS(HASTINGS)LTD, THE HASTINGS SUSSEX MOTORCYCLE DEALERS.

1952

THE SILVERSTONE INTERNATIONAL RACES: AGAIN NORTON SIDECAR MOUNTED WITH PASSENGER T HOLDEN ENTRANTS AGAIN FARMERS(HASTINGS) LTD

1953

BRANDS HATCH: NORTON SIDECAR THIS TIME PASSENGER T HOLDER. WERE T HOLDER AND T HOLDEN THE SAME PERSON?

1954 AGAIN TO BRANDS HATCH THIS TIME ON A NORTON WATSONIAN OUTFIT PASSENGERED BY B BLAKE.

INTERVIEWED IN 1951 FOR THE TT RACES WHO'S WHO BOOKLET REG GAVE HIS HOBBY AS FARMING.

MEMBERS PAST ARCHIVE

LITTLE ELSE IS KNOWN ABOUT THE TALENTED CLUB MEMBER OR HIS PASSENGERS APART FROM DEREK FARRANT AND ANY INFORMATION WOULD BE MOST GRATEFUL.