

## HUGH MAIR PALIN MBE TD (The Gentle Giant)

Founder Member, Chairman 1967 – 1969 and President 1993 – 1995



Hugh was born in 1912 in Wallington, Surrey

Before the war Hugh was an amateur competitor in Trials and from 1936 to 1939 he was honorary secretary to the Carshalton MCC.

He joined the Westminster Dragoons (Territorial Army Unit) in 1938 so was soon called for more permanent duties at the outbreak of war. From 1939 to 1945 he served in the Royal Tank Regiment, initially as a Private but soon attained the rank of Captain. In February 1945, he was given a temporary rank of Major. As a result of his services in the field in North Africa Hugh was awarded the MBE (Military Division)

After the war he served as a Captain in the Warwickshire Yeomanry (Territorial Army) from 1946 to 1950, for which he was awarded a TD [Territorial Decoration] for services to the Territorial Army.

In business Hugh was very prominent.

### **CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

<b>1945</b>	Director British Cycle & Motorcycle Manufacturers Association
<b>1966</b>	Marketing Director Norton Villiers Managing Director Norton Villiers Triumph Europe
<b>1976</b>	Purchasing Director Skoda GB Ltd
<b>1979</b>	President and Executive Chairman Motorcycle Association of Great Britain
<b>1984</b>	Retired

After retirement he held various positions:

- Non-executive Director RAC Motoring Services Ltd.
- Chairman RAC Motorcycle Committee
- Director of the ACU

Over the years Hugh organised several Club runs. He rode regularly until the late 1980's, from when he rode in the RAC Van.

One of his most important contributions to The Club was the arrangement whereby Club Runs were always accompanied by an RAC Van (Hugh's private Taxi!), even when we journeyed into Europe. Many members have, over the years, been thankful for this wonderful addition to the Club Convey.

Hugh was always anxious to accompany runs and even in 2002 at Church Stretton when presented with a 90<sup>th</sup> birthday cake, he got to his feet and entertained us with a typically Hugh Palin Speech.

Hugh died on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2004. He is missed very much.