



# A wind of change is blowing...

As I write the fallout from the Brexit vote is growing daily and we are still a long way from establishing a new relationship with the EU. Whichever way you voted in the referendum we will all have to live with this new reality. For the last 43 years much of our transport law has landed onto the UK government from Brussels in the form of European directives. Most recently, the changes to rider testing and licensing were part of a drive towards standardisation across the

continent even though MAG argued that they didn't suit the UK. Now it looks like all UK law will have to be reviewed. This won't happen quickly but already it seems that our laws will be divided into those that we keep the same, those that we change and those that we throw out as total euro-gibberish. Now, more than ever, bikers need a place at the table. We need to ensure that our voices are heard and MAG is best placed to be that voice. Through your support - by getting involved locally, attending MAG fundraising events or by simply being a paid up member, MAG is in the strongest possible position to argue our case.

We've got a great team – let's help them do the job!



# This Month – Farmyard Party 30 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> June



The last thirty years has seen Yorkshire MAG's Farmyard Party grow from a tiny event to the largest biker-only rally in Europe. It's also one of MAG's largest fundraisers and vital to our sustaining an effective opposition to anti-biking legislation. It's also a brilliant weekend. The weather was a bit grim on Friday night (this is Yorkshire remember) but it soon brightened up and blue skies appeared. The bands this year were fantastic, and varied enough for all musical tastes, and the Smacked Arse Comedy Show on the Saturday afternoon was one of the best I've seen. Can't wait for next year!



## This Month - The High Chaperral-ly - 24-26th June



Blackpool MAG did another grand job of organising their annual rally, this year dubbed the High Chaperral-ly in honour of the booking clash with the line dancers last year. This is the antidote to the massive Farmyard Party the week before – small, relaxed, chilled out and still with great bands and people. I particularly appreciated the Sunbeam bitter (too much in fact). Thanks Blackpool MAG for another excellent year.



# Next Month -NW MAG Bike Show - Sunday 3rd July



I've just looked at the weather forecast and it reckons that Stanley Park Blackpool will be fine and dry this Sunday. So why not take a ride out to the bike show? You can enter your bike for one of the trophies, there'll be plenty to see and the small entrance fee all goes into the MAG fighting fund. Just head for the park's main entrance.



# Blanket ban on pre-1999 bikes in Paris makes no logical sense

The Motorcycle Action Group (MAG) has hit out against Paris authorities which have announced plans to outlaw all motorcycles manufactured before June 1 1999 between 8am and 8pm from the city. The measure, scheduled to begin on July 1 2016, will be enforced with a 35 euro fine from 1st October. The ban was agreed by the Minister of Environment, the City of Paris, and the transport authorities.

The new policy contains some glaring contradictions, and the level of pollution generated by vehicles does not seem to be the key consideration. Vehicles in Paris already require a coloured badge to show the emissions group they belong to. Yet pre-1999 bikes will be banned regardless of the colour of the badge. That means that, even if a bike is clean, it will be excluded from the city solely on the basis of age.

MAG Chair, Selina Lavender, has strongly rejected what she regards as an unfair and counter-productive scheme. Whatever problems Paris has with air quality aren't going to be fixed by a blanket ban on older bikes. For one thing, even an aging scooter has a tiny environmental footprint compared to most new cars. So what's the logic of banning a good form of transport on the basis of what looks like political dogma? Also, the total amount of road traffic made up of older bikes and pre-1997 cars, which will also be banned, is less than 10%. Of that, a miniscule proportion is bikes

and scooters. So it makes no logical sense to ban this two-wheeled section of road traffic as there's going to be no measurable difference to air quality. It's a discriminatory, badly thought out move which will make Paris hugely unattractive to thousands of owners of older and classic bikes. London is considering an ultra-low emissions zone by 2020, which would introduce heavy charges for vehicles that do not meet stringent emissions standards. MAG has repeatedly raised the same concerns about this move as it is about the Paris ban. MAG is happy to work with the authorities to find sensible solutions to common concerns, adds Selina. What we won't tolerate is the systematic exclusion of one of the most eco-friendly forms of powered vehicles ever invented, just because the decision-makers haven't bothered to take a strategic - and sane - look at the consequences of what they're doing.

### **North West Motorcycle Alliance**

This is not a MAG organisation but a monthly meet for all bike clubs, organisations and interested bikers anywhere from Cheshire up to Lancaster. The next meeting is hosted by **Allegiance MCC** at the **clubhouse, Long Lane, Aintree L9 7BN** at **8pm** on **Wednesday 27th July.** Here is the latest, up to date list of biker events this autumn which the Alliance has put together, which includes a few changes from the previous month.

#### Regular monthly events

HAMC Liverpool Open night 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of month, open 7.30 'til late

HAMC Manchester Open night last Saturday of month, open 7.30 'til late

Black Diamonds open night every Friday at the clubhouse in Hindley

Salford MAG meeting – meet at Bird in Hand, Eccles, last Thursday of month

**Red Rose MAG** meet every 1<sup>st</sup>&3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, Petre Arms, Langho

Anvil MCC meet every Wed 8pm - contact Ray 07747748946

Avernus MCC – open clubhouse - last Saturday night of month Coppull Mill, Mill Lane PR7 5BW – <u>CANCELLED JUNE</u> Mid-Life Crisis Meet'n'greet, BBQ \_3<sup>rd</sup> Wed of month

Brotherhood Quest Bike Nite - every Monday Black Bull in Penwortham on A59

Cogheads MCC meet every Thursday Black Bull Huncoat BB5 6LN Contact David 07480927399

MT Heads Meet – Flying Horse Rochdale 8pm every Monday

**Gypsy Divas meet** – 1<sup>st</sup>&3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, Woolpack, Haslingden from 8.00pm.

**Rigby's Guardians meet** every Sunday 6.30-9.00 at the Gardener's Arms, Hollin Lane, Middleton M24 5LE (near Junc. 19 M62)

**Road Reapers MCC** meet 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at 7.30 at the Doff Cocker pub, 780 Chorley Old Rd, Bolton

### Known upcoming events -

2<sup>nd</sup> -3<sup>rd</sup> July Mid-Life Crisis Bike Show – Ship Hotel, Irlam

**2**<sup>nd</sup> **July – LIMEFEST Summer Fair and Bike Show**, Lime Tree Primary Academy, Budworth Road, Sale M33 2RP **3**<sup>rd</sup> **July NW MAG Bike Show** – Italian Gardens, Stanley Park Blackpool

7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> July – Caveman Bash Rally – Canberra Club, Salmesbury 18 pre-book, £23 otg

8<sup>th</sup> July – Jimmy T's Party for Elaine, Britannia Hotel, Palatine Rd, Didsbury (with Deathwish) – free food 10<sup>th</sup> July Salford MAG AutoJumble – Bird in Hand, Eccles – stalls £10, free music

22<sup>nd</sup> – 24th July MT Heads Rally – Heywood Tank Park, Viking theme, over 18s only.

22<sup>nd</sup> – 24th July AAVMCC Not Forgotten Rally, Bradford on Avon

5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> August – Yorkshire Pudding Rally – Escrick Park near York

21st August Cogheads' Bike Show – rear of Arndale, Accrington 11am on

27th August NABD Fundraiser - CANCELLED

26<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> August – Avernus Underworld Rally - Hamilton House Farm, St. Michaels on Wyre PR3 0TB

2<sup>nd</sup>- 4<sup>th</sup> September – Well Oiled MCC Rally, Colne Rugby Club

**3rd September – Preston Posse Custom Show** – Vernon Cricket Club, Penwortham

11<sup>th</sup> September – Millennium Custom Show – Barons Rest, Astley Village, Chorley

**16**<sup>th</sup>-**18**<sup>th</sup> **September Jesters MCC Rally** – Whittingham Social Club, Goosenargh

16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> September Spat Out of Hull - the old Farmyard site

7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> Oct Rising Moon MCC Rally, Lowerhouse Cricket Club, Padiham

8<sup>th</sup> Oct Mid-Life Crisis Birthday Bash – Ship, Irlam – ticket only

29th Oct Millennium Rock Night - Canberra Club, Salmesbury £5 otd

5<sup>th</sup> Nov Blackpool MAG Hellfire Bonfire Party – fancy dress, Blackpool Rugby Club

11th Nov Leyland Eagles Rock Nite – Leyland& Farrington Social Club

19th Nov – Avernus Anti-Christmas Party – Red Herring, Coppull

26th Nov - Cogheads MCC Frightmare before Xmas - Fancy dress, Poplar Social Club, Wellington St

As ever, if you would like to have your say on anything vaguely MAG-related, or sell something bike related, just drop me a line at <a href="mailto:billgreen@madasafish.com">billgreen@madasafish.com</a> and I'll put it into the newsletter next month. Bill

**NW Political Rep** 



I say, chaps, perhaps we can sort out UK motorcycle law now, and without Johnny Foreigner meddling this time!

What's On in the Region











## THE $5^{TH}$



# DEAD END RALLY

15TH - 17TH JULY 2016

DALTON UNITED F.C.

BECKSIDE ROAD

DALTON IN FURNESS

LAIS-SDP

TICKETS £12.50 200 LIMIT

PRE-BOOK ONLY

CUT OFF DATE FOR TICKETS IS 09/07/2016

LIVE MUSIC BOTH NIGHTS

NO CARS
DISABLED BY PRIOR
ARRANGEMENT ONLY

CONTACT & PAYPAL INFO:-JAN - 07951480486

deadend.rally@gmail.com yww.facebook.com/DeadEndRally

