



North West Newsletter

January 2018

Happy New Year!

Here's hoping that everyone had an enjoyable Christmas and wishing you all a safe 2018. As I write, sunny East Lancs is blanketed under snow so it seems highly unlikely there'll be much motorcycling happening this week – hopefully though it'll clear up for the Fred Hill Run next month, we're usually lucky. MAG, meanwhile, is straight back into action after the festive break, continuing to improve as a campaigning machine. MAG has never been in better shape but it can achieve nothing without the support of its members – that's where you come in. Many thanks for your membership in 2017 and please don't forget to renew in 2018. And if you can talk/persuade/kick someone else into joining this year, so much the better!

MAG keeps up the pressure in the capital



In the week that 17 year old Derryck John, of Croydon, admitted carrying out six acid attacks in less than two hours in order to steal mopeds, MAG has met the Chair of the Greater London Authority (GLA) Transport Committee, Keith Prince, to begin a serious dialogue about the future of motorcycling in London.

The attacks happened in July last year and left one victim with "life changing" injuries. John waited for bikes to stop at traffic lights before attacking them, trying to make away with their bikes while they struggled to remove their helmets.

MAG's Chair, Selina Lavender, and London Rep, Tim Fawthrop held the meeting, held on 10th January 2018 at the GLA's City Hall headquarters, not only to cover bike crime but also a number of policy areas which have been of major concern to MAG in recent months. MAG's Director of Communications and Public Affairs, Lembit Öpik, was also there.

Selina observes: *"We covered four key areas of work with Mr Prince. These were bike-related crime, secure parking, charging riders for using the roads and the case for promoting motorbikes as a net reducer of congestion and pollution. As Keith himself is a rider, it made him easy to talk with and meant there was little need to explain the benefits we all get from the freedom of two wheels. This enabled us to focus the meeting as he could see our viewpoint. Keith was most supportive of riders and I look forward to MAG maintaining an open dialogue with him and the GLA."*

As a specific next step, MAG will be providing some detailed technical information to justify the benefits that motorcycles bring to the city in reducing congestion and pollution, as well as increasing mobility for less wealthy citizens.

Tim Fawthrop also raised the question of access to bus lanes. *"We keep being told that Transport for London wants to enable motorbikes to use bus lanes across the city. Mr Prince was supportive of this, and gave us very good advice on how to proceed. The specific steps he proposed – and offered to support - really make sense. We've created a lot of work for ourselves in meeting the Chair of the committee, and this kind of investment will undoubtedly generate a much more powerful voice for the riding community in London."*

Meanwhile acid-attacker Derryck John was warned by the judge that he faced "the possibility of a long prison sentence". Fingers crossed, eh?

This Month – Fred Hill Run – 11th Feb

Time flies like an arrow* and soon North West MAG region will be holding its 14th consecutive **Fred Hill Run**. This is the time of year when we come together in proud remembrance of one of our original brave campaigners and rededicate ourselves to the cause of riders' rights. For the third year running we'll be meeting up at the home of Red Rose MAG, the **Petre Arms, Whalley Rd, Langho, Nr Blackburn BB6 8AB**. We'll be arriving from noon onwards, ready to leave for Blackburn Cathedral at 1pm. It's always great to see the familiar faces, who turn out whatever the weather, as well as some new ones who just want an excuse to get the bike out. Bishop Michael, chaplain to Leyland Eagles MCC, has agreed to officiate again. The pub has again kindly offered to put on a brew and a bacon butty in the back room at a very reasonable price and you'll be able to get a decent pint at Sam Smith's prices. We'll look forward to seeing you!



**which begs the question, what kind of fly is a "time fly" and why do they like arrows so much?*

This Month – NW MAG AGM – 11th Feb



As you well know, MAG is nothing if not a democratic organisation and it's that time of year again when you can have your say on how it is run and who should represent your views. We appreciate that the NW region is large and members often have to travel long distances to attend meetings and events, so last year we decided to run the Fred Hill Run and NW AGM back to back at the Petre Arms. This was generally well received so we've decided to do it again this year. The plan is to leave on the run at 1pm before returning to the pub for the AGM at 2.30pm. The AGM should be over by 4.30pm. Members who can't make the Fred Hill Run but want to attend the AGM can simply get to the pub by 2.30pm. We have exclusive use of the rear function room (see above) and there will be a range of well-cooked meals available at reasonable prices. Remember to bring your membership card to vote!

Do androids dream of electric bikes?

It may seem that predictions about the demise of the internal combustion engine have been premature. In 2011 the Head of Renault-Nissan, Carlos Ghosn, predicted that they would be selling 1.5 million electric vehicles per year by 2016. As it turned out they sold fewer than 300 000 vehicles in total over that period. In 2017 electric vehicles accounted for less than 1% of total sales worldwide. Petrol and diesel engines are cleaner and more economical now than they have ever been and electric vehicles are, to many at least, still something of a joke. However, all that could at last be about to change. The traditional lithium-ion



The electric Brutus V9 promises 125bhp, 115mph and up to 280 mile range. Plus fake V-twin engine noises. A snip at \$32,000.

batteries used in electric vehicles have been around since the 1970s. They are bulky, heavy and slow to recharge. However, this isn't stopping massive new investment in their production – Tesla's new production plant in Nevada (currently the biggest building on Earth and visible from space) can deliver batteries for half a million vehicles a year. Adding that to the estimated 26 similar such factories under construction worldwide gives you an idea of how seriously the future of electric vehicles is being taken. Driving much of this is China, the world's most profitable vehicle market, where urban air pollution is starting to cause real social unrest. With the majority of developed countries setting deadlines to phase out internal combustion engines, money is pouring into battery R&D (including several billion from the UK's own James Dyson). And after many years in the lab it looks like we will soon have a game changer – solid state.

Using a solid rather than a liquid in a battery boosts power output, cuts recharge time and takes up far less room. The best lithium-ion batteries can give a vehicle a range of around 300 miles if driven very carefully. Solid state can double that range and recharge in five minutes. Another new development is the use of magnesium rather than lithium. This will potentially provide much more power (Mg^{2+} ions carry twice the charge of Li^{+} ions) and recharge even more quickly. In fact, battery technology is advancing to the point where Airbus is working on a 100 seat hybrid jet plane carrying batteries in the wings. The OPEC oil cartel themselves believe that there will be 266 million electric vehicles by 2040, which isn't that far away. We live in interesting times. The bike I ride now is very similar to my first bike back in the mid-seventies, it's just more refined. A young rider starting out now won't be able to say the same thing in 40 years' time. Big decisions are going to be made about the way bikes develop, many made by people who know little about motorcycling. Let's make sure MAG is there to point the way

Morecambe & District MAG Have a new meeting venue.

Morecambe & District MAG have a new meeting venue at on White Lund Industrial Estate at **Lancaster Motorcycles, Irving House, Northgate, Morecambe LA3 3AY** on the last Friday of the month starting at 7:30pm. For more details please contact Kev Hyde on 07963 606 725.

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 **DDMC** at the **The Two Tubs, 19 The Wylde, Bury BL9 0LA**, at **8pm on Wednesday 24th January**. Please check the NW Alliance website for any last minutes changes to venue/dates– they do happen! 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 3rd Saturday of month, open 7.30 'til late

HAMC Manchester Open night last Saturday of month, open 7.30 'til late (**last one of the year this weekend**)

Black Diamonds open night every Friday at the clubhouse in Hindley

Allegiance MC Open Night first Saturday of month at the clubhouse Aintree (**No more until the party 3rd Feb**)

Hell's Belles WMC Open Night last Monday of month at clubhouse Radcliffe – Everyone welcome - The Cauldron, Globe Industrial Estate, Derbyshire St, Radcliffe, M26 2TA

Red Rose MAG - meet every 1st&3rd Wednesday, Petre Arms, Langho nr Blackburn – **at Dog Inn, Whalley at moment hope to be back at the Petre mid Dec**

Ecclestone Delph Bike Meet every Tuesday until end of season, café open till 9pm – **ended for this year**

MT Heads Meet – Flying Horse Rochdale 8pm every Monday, donations to “Hounds for Heroes”

Road Reapers MCC - meet 1st Sunday 1pm & 2nd Wednesday at 7.30 at the Ellsmere Rd Rec Club, Bolton

Brotherhood Quest Bike Nite – every Monday (except last in month) 7-9pm Anchor pub, Liverpool Rd, Hutton PR4 5SL

Bury the Hatchett MCC - meet at the Two Tubs pub Bury at 7.30 last Thursday of month

Ronin MCC - meet every Thursday at the Greyhound pub, 44 Leigh Rd, Worsley M2 1LR - open night every 3rd Thursday

Cogheads MCC meet every Thursday (except 1st) at 8pm, Forts Arms, Clayton-le-Moors

Road Slayers Brotherhood meet every 2nd Friday at Rock Hotel pub, Peel Green Rd, Barton M30 7AY

Accrington MCC meet at Poplar Club, Wellington St. Accrington every other Sunday at 8pm.

Chorley Wildhartz MCC – meet first Thursday of month at Seaview Inn, Preston Rd, Chorley

British Bulldogs MCC – every Wednesday at the Balcarres Arms, Wigan WN2 1PA

Spartan MCC meet every Thursday at Railway Linnet pub Middleton, M24 1GQ

Avernus MCC – will be held at the Red Herring dates TBC

Known upcoming events –

11th Feb – NW MAG Fred Hill Run & AGM - Petre Arms, Whalley Rd, Langho, Nr Blackburn BB6 8AB, leaving at 1pm

24th Feb 2018– Millenium BC 17th Anniversary Rock Night 7:30pm – 1am Canberra Club BB2 7LF

16th March 2018 - Road Reaper's St. Patrick's Rock Night, Ellesmere Club, Bolton

10th March 2018 – Crisis Crew 1st Anniversary Party – ticket only, live music, free food, fun and games – Ship Inn, Irlam

7th April 2018 – Rising Moon – Ashton Cricket club – One Nighter Party £5 per ticket, band and food

28th April 2018 – Red Rose MAG 2nd St.George's Rock Knight, Whittingham & Goosnargh Social Club

23rd June – Pop Club (with Accrington MCC & B.A.D. MCC) Childrens' Cancer Fundraiser

29th June – 1st July – Blackpool MAG 21st Seaside Rally, Fleetwood Rugby Club, FY7 8AY

28-29th June 2018 - HAMC Manchester Rally

12th – 14th Oct 2018 - Rising Moon Rally £12.00 per ticket bands food raffle etc

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 billgreen@madasafish.com and I'll put it into the newsletter next month.

Bill

NW Political Rep



***Looking
forward to a
clear Fred Hill
Run this year!***





14th Annual Fred Hill Run

Sunday 11th February 2018

Meeting at

The Petre Arms, Whalley Rd, Blackburn BB6 8AB

leaving at 1 pm.

Details of run dependant on the weather.
All riders welcome.

Fred Hill died in prison, still fighting for his beliefs that bikers should have the freedom to ride. Each year we remember him, and continue the struggle.

"The price of freedom is eternal vigilance!"

Contact Bill on 07754891485

North West
MAG
the heart & soul of biking

North West
MAG
Motorcycle Action Group

Annual General Meeting Sunday 11th February 2018

The North West Region AGM
Will be held at the Petre Arms, The Petre
Arms, Whalley Rd, Blackburn **BB6 8AB**
starting at approximately 2pm,
dependant on the return time of the
Fred Hill Run. Please remember to bring
your membership to vote. If you are
interested in standing as North West
Representative or one of the supporting
roles, please e-mail
north-west-rep@mag-uk.org

Manchester BIKE SHOW

THE NUMBER ONE MOTORCYCLE SHOW IN THE NORTH



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24 & 25 MARCH 2018 9:30AM – 5:00PM

NEW 2018 MODELS | MAJOR MANUFACTURERS
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ADVANCE TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM WWW.MANCHESTERBIKESHOW.COM
INFO@MANCHESTERBIKESHOW.COM | 01484 482005



An InstantFocus event



#MancBikeShow



Red Rose MAG
presents the 2nd



**St. George's
Rock Knight**



Saturday 28th April 2018
Whittingham & Goosnargh Social Club,
Old Hospital Grounds, Whittingham, Preston PR3 2JE

Live music

Free Camping

Raffle

£5 on the door

All profits go to the Motorcycle Action Group Fighting Fund - Defending Riders' Rights!

8th WARRINGTON WHEELS YOUTH MOTOR CYCLE COMPETITION 2018

ARE YOU A YOUNG PERSON?
ARE YOU INTERESTED IN MOTOR CYCLES?



HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO ENTER A LOCAL MOTOR CYCLE
(OR MOTOR CYCLE RELATED VEHICLE) BUILDING COMPETITION
TO TAKE PLACE AT WOOLSTON BROOK SCHOOL, WARRINGTON, CHESHIRE,
WA1 4JL, ON FRIDAY 25th MAY 2018. (11.30am-2pm)

Presentation at 1.30 Bring a gazebo

ENTRANTS CAN BE TEAMS OR INDIVIDUALS AGED 18 YEARS OR
UNDER. ENTER AS MANY VEHICLES AS YOU CAN BUILD. (Any type
of bike, running or not)

ENTRANTS WILL ALSO BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO ENTER
THEIR EXHIBITS IN THE NATIONAL YOUTHBIKE COMPETITION
(www.youthbike.com) HELD IN LINCOLNSHIRE JUNE 2018

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT BOB TOWLER
C/O WOOLSTON BROOK SCHOOL, GREEN LANE, WARRINGTON,
WA1 4JL 01925 818549

Or E-mail bobtowler57@hotmail.co.uk
HAPPY BUILDING!



www.bobsbikeclasses.co.uk

BLACKPOOL STANLEY PARK

BIKE SHOW 2018

SUNDAY 8TH JULY 11AM-4PM



LIVE MUSIC PERFORMED
IN THE BANDSTAND

£2 PER BIKE/TRIKE PARKING
WHICH GAINS ENTRY IN THE SHOW

FURTHER DETAILS AT:
[HTTP://NORTH-WEST-REGION.MAG-UK.ORG](http://NORTH-WEST-REGION.MAG-UK.ORG)

BLACKPOOL MAG



RALLY

29TH JUNE-1ST JULY 2018

£15 PRE-BOOK

PayPal via <http://north-west-region.mag-uk.org>
Cheque & SAE to 29, Lincoln Avenue, Cleveleys. FY5 2DT

£20 OTG

Fleetwood Rugby Club, Melbourne Avenue, Lancs. FY7 8AY

All profits to The Motorcycle Action Group Ltd
Protecting our "Right to Ride"

CUM'N
DRIBBLE IN'T
RIBBLE 19
14TH-16TH
SEPTEMBER
2018

DETAILS OR BOOK ONLINE:
WWW.JESTERSMCC.ORG.UK

MOB: 07971530190



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LIMIT OF 350 TICKETS THIS YEAR

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