

This Month - You've Been Nabbed 28 10-12th May



This year's NABD rally was another cracking event, with the weather staying decent and the entertainment being as fantastic as ever. There was a last minute change of field after the original was inadvertently ploughed by a farmer, but if anything it was an improvement. And a shed load of cash was raised to help bikers with disabilities, which is the main thing. Thanks to everyone who swung into the MAG stand, it's always good to see you.

Next Month – Blackpool MAG Rally 28th-30th June

Get your tent ready because Blackpool MAG returns to Fleetwood Rugby club next month for their 22nd consecutive rally. This ever popular event is a fantastic little "old school" get together. There's always a chilled out atmosphere, real ale bar, great bands and sunny Blackpool is only a tram ride away if you fancy a donkey ride. And if the weather is nearly as good as last year it'll be a real belter.

Tickets are only £15 pre-book or £20 on the gate – bargain! All profits, as ever, will go straight into the MAG fighting fund. So, why not have some fun and protect riders' rights at the same time?



Lower speed limits called for (again)



Brake, the road safety charity, has called on the government to cut the speed limit on single carriageway rural roads, claiming that the current 60mph speed limit is unsafe. A report published by them recently said that rural single carriageways were the most dangerous type of road, with more fatal accidents than any other part of the road network. In 2017 there were 603 fatalities on 60mph single-carriageway roads.

The report says that rural roads are unsuited to high speeds because of blind bends, animals in the road, slow-moving farm vehicles, limited safe passing space and lack of crash barriers. More than a third of 1,000 drivers they surveyed had had a near-miss on a rural road. Brake did not specify what the new limit should be but it has previously called for a cut to 50mph. A report by the Department for Transport last year also said that 60mph was too high for this road type. Joshua Harris, Brake's director of campaigns, said the default limit of 60mph was putting everyone who used rural roads at risk and urged the government to reduce the limit.

Don't ignore lane closures

New powers will allow police to use traffic cameras to penalise motorists who fail to abide by lane closures on almost 300 miles of the "smart" motorway network. Thousands of road users will be automatically hit by £100 fines and penalty points for ignoring warning signs that they should move out of a lane immediately.

Smart motorways controversially operate without a hard shoulder, using red "X" warnings on overhead gantries to close lanes, often indicating accidents or stranded vehicles in the road ahead. There are fears that too many car drivers are ignoring the signs and swerving around breakdowns and accidents at the last moment, risking a crash. For bikers, used to "white-lining" through congestion, the temptation

to stay in closed lanes until the last minute is great. Under the present system Highways England issues written warnings to drivers pictured ignoring the red X. More than 180,000 letters have been sent since the start of 2017 — almost 1,500 a week underlining the scale of non-compliance. Now the Home Office has approved the use of cameras to fine motorists for the first time. It rubber stamped legislation this week that will allow police to use gantry-mounted cameras to issue fixed penalties to motorists who ignore lane closures or illegally drive on the hard shoulder. Powers under the Road Traffic Offenders Order 2019 will be



introduced from June 10, although Highways England insisted that cameras would not be used to penalise drivers until "late summer", to allow for testing.

Individual police forces will obtain data directly from cameras, allowing them to issue fines of £100 with three penalty points. Previously, drivers could only be fined if they were actually seen breaking rules by traffic officers.

The change comes amid concerns over safety on smart motorways, where the hard shoulder is removed to create extra capacity and lay-bys are positioned up to 1.5 miles apart for drivers to pull off the road. The system is used on motorways including the M1, M4, M6, M25 and M62. Mike Wilson, Highways England's executive director for safety, said: "Our motorways are already among the safest in the world but this move will make them even safer. Red X signs over closed lanes help protect drivers from dangers ahead. Most drivers comply with lane closures, but the minority of people who don't are putting themselves and other road users at real risk. We welcome this auto-enforcement and the increase to driver safety it will bring."

The smart motorway network covers 416 miles of motorway, or 208 miles in each direction. Highways England said red X signs were used on 297 miles and it plans to almost double the length of the network to 788 miles by 2025. All new smart motorways will have lay-bys a mile apart, rather than 1.5 miles at present, to improve safety.

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 **Road Reapers MCC** at the **Ellesmere Road Recreation Club, Bolton BL3 3JT** at **8pm** on **Wednesday 26th June 2019**. <u>Please check the NW Alliance website for any last minutes changes to venue/dates- they do happen!</u> 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 - free entry, great bands, food available, open 7.30 'til late Red Devils MC Open Night every Friday at the clubhouse in Hindley

Red Rose MAG - meet every 1st&3rd Wednesday, Petre Arms, Langho nr Blackburn

MT Heads Meet – Flying Horse Rochdale 8pm every Monday

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

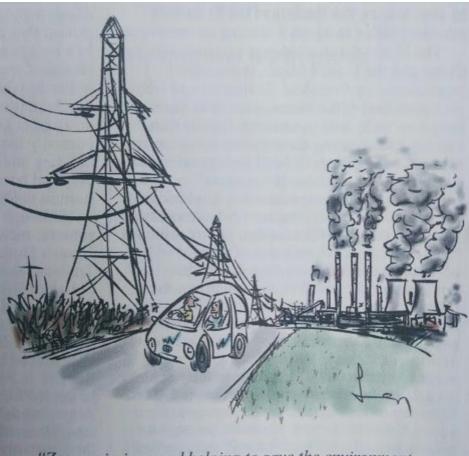
Bury the Hatchett MCC - meet at the Two Tubs pub Bury at 7.30 every Thursday Ronin MCC – Plough, Hazel Grove Cogheads MCC meet every Thursday (except 1st) at 8pm, Forts Arms, Clayton–le-Moors Road Slayers Brotherhood every 2nd Friday at Rock House Hotel pub, Peel Green Rd, Barton M30 7AY British Bulldogs MCC – every Wednesday at the Balcarres Arms, Wigan WN2 1PA Spartan MCC meet every Thursday at Railway Linnet pub Middleton, M24 1GQ Brigantia Rebels MCC meet at the Old Springs, Spring Rd, Wigan WN5 0JJ 1st Saturday at 7pm & 3rd Sunday at 3pm Leyland Eagles MCC meet 3rd Mondays at Leyland RAFA Club **Avernus MCC** – meet at the Red Herring Mill Lane Coppull PR7 5AN every Sunday **RBLR** meet 2nd Mondays at St.Chad's Club, Whittle-le-Woods Life Behind Bars MCC meet every other Sunday – Hare & Hounds, 170 Outwood Rd, Radcliffe Lioness MCC 1st and 3rd Wednesday @ Hope View farm, Astley M29 7LH Throttle Twisters MCC every Monday – The Rifle Range pub, Burnley lane, Chadderton Veterans Garage open at Barton Aerodrome every Monday 6pm onwards Rising Moon Bike Night – Wednesdays at the Travellers Call, Bredbury. Bike Night starts in March. Norsemen MCC – every 2nd& 4th Wednesday of every month @ Irlam Social Club Wild Bulls MCC meet every Wednesday at 7.30 in PR1 Bar, Preston. Accrington MCC meet every other Sunday at the Poplar Club, Accrington Boggarts MCC meet every 2nd & 4th Monday at Hope View farm, Astley M29 7LH Hell's Belles WMC meet last Monday of the month at the Cauldron Radcliffe Phoenix Rising MCC meet 1st Sunday of the month at 3pm Toll Bar Inn, Bolton, BL6 7QH Coyote MCC - meet every Tuesday Old Cock Inn Oldham Rd Middleton M24 2EB Pist'N'Nuts MCC – meet every Friday 8pm @ Spring Gardens, Compstall Rd, SK6 5HE The Sisterhood – meet first Tuesday of month @ 7pm at Greyhound Hotel, Sporting Lodge Inns, Warrington Rd, Leigh WN7 3XQ Millennium 2000BC meet at Broadfield Arms, Leyland, every other Monday Known upcoming events 21st-23rd June – Farmyard Party in Helmsley 28 – 30th June - Blackpool MAG Rally 29th June – Brigantia Rebels MCC Armed Forces Day at the Old Springs starts at 12, money to the British Legion 6th July - Spartan MCC 5th Anniversary at the Railway Linnet pub Middleton, M24 1GQ 20th July - Hell's Belles WMC Open Night at the Cauldron Radcliffe M26 2TA 26th – 28th July – Running on MT Rally – the Last One! Tickets on sale now! 28th July Norsemen MCC St. Rocco's Charity Run, starting from Rope & Anchor, Woolston at 9am 10th August Coyote MCC Charity Fundraiser Night at the Old Cock Inn, Middleton M24 2EB 23rd – 26th August – Avernus MCC Underworld Rally – unfortunately CANCELLED 13-15th Sept - Jesters of Preston MCC Rally at Whittingham Club, Goosnargh 20-21st Sept 2019 – Lioness MCC in conjunction with Boggarts MCC Rally, Hopeview Farm, Astley, M29 7LH. 5th Oct – Avernus MCC Rock Night – Red Herring Mill Lane Coppull PR7 5AN 19th October (prov) – RDMC Manchester – 1st Anniversary Party at the clubhouse, 26th October – Accrington MCC Rock Night – Poplar Club, Accrington 3rd November - Hell's Belles WMC Samhain Night at the Cauldron Radcliffe M26 2TA

9th November – Millennium 2000BC Rock Night @ the Canberra Club, Salmesbury with free camping

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 <u>billgreen@madasafish.com</u> and I'll put it into the newsletter next month. Bill

NW Political Rep





'Zero emissions and helping to save the environment... that's why I bought this electric car"

THE MODDEY DHOO MCC TT MOTORCYCLE SHOW

2019

Live Band on the Green

Good Grub

Motorbike Owners Clubs Manx Drag Bikes

THE ISLANDS BIGGEST, BEST AND ONLY MOTORCYCLE CUSTOM SHOW

Just park up, relax, look at bikes, grab some food and listen to some great music

PEEL PROMENADE 6th JUNE 2019 , 11am – 5pm

Free Entry from 11 Judging Starts @ 2pm Prizes @ 4.30pm





All profits to The Motorcycle Action Group Ltd Protecting our "Right to Ride" Blackpool Stanley Park Bike Show 2019 Sunday 7th 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

THE 8[™] DEAD END RALLY

12-14TH JULY 2019 DALTON UNITED F.C BECKSIDE ROAD DALTON IN FURNESS LA15 8DP 200 LIMIT PRE-BOOK ONLY

NO CARS LIVE MUSIC BOTH NIGHTS CHARITY RAFFLE

BLUE BADGE PARKING BY PRIOR ARRANGEMENT NO FIRES OR BBQ'S PLEASE EMAIL:- deadend.rally@gmail.com TICKETS £15. PAYPAL DETAILS ON FACEBOOK PAGE. FOR MORE INFO AND POSTAL TICKETS CONTACT 07583001181

ALL GATE PROCEEDS TO THE M.A.G FIGHTING FUND

