



## Party Over

It was all going so well. After a successful Yorkshire Pudding rally it looked like we were going to have a Farmyard Party too. Sadly it was not to be. It may not be the biggest tragedy, especially in the midst of everything else that's happening at the moment. However it will hit MAG's finances at a time when we need a voice to speak up for the future of motorcycling.

MAG needs its members more than ever this year – don't forget to renew!

## “Smart” traffic lights to keep things moving?

As any biker will tell you, one reason that motorcycles produce less pollution is that they don't tend to sit still in traffic for long periods. But to cut pollution in cities more significantly we have to make sure that all traffic keeps flowing smoothly, not just bikes. A new generation of “smart” traffic lights may help with this.

This new technology will send information to motorists about the best speed to use on the approach to lights, to avoid getting stuck on red. In trials the system, called green light optimal speed advice (GLOSA), resulted in up to a 14 per cent fall in the number of vehicle “stops and starts” as well as cutting overall journey times.

The green light system allows networks of traffic lights to send signals to vehicles through mobile phone or Wi-Fi technology. Information is relayed from the roadside to in-built vehicle

computers, sat-navs or smartphones, telling road users the optimum speed at which to approach signals, increasing the chance of getting a green light. Every little helps I suppose.



## Diesel in decline



*The Royal Enfield Robin – we'll never see its like again*

Sales of “green” vehicles have jumped above diesels for the first time, indicating that fossil-fuelled vehicles are on the way out. 33,000 pure electric and hybrid cars were registered between April and June, compared with 29,900 diesels. Four years ago, diesels outsold hybrid and electric cars by almost 14 to 1. This shift away from diesel has been hastened by the introduction of charges such as the ultra-low emission zone in central London, which charges owners of diesel vehicles. Diesel may have a future as a fuel for HGVs but its future use by cars in cities is limited.

The shift is likely to accelerate as the government prepares to introduce rules banning the sale of new petrol or diesel models, possibly as soon as 2030.

Ministers had originally announced that the sale of fossil fuelled private cars & vans would be phased out by 2040 but this will be brought forward. Boris Johnson is expected to announce the new target soon

## Green ain't so clean

One reason campaigners are fretting so much about diesel vehicles are the micro-particles they emit. However all vehicles release tiny particles from their tyres and brakes. These account for up to half of particulate matter (known as PM2.5) from road transport. This is the most dangerous form of air pollution because the particulates' microscopic size allows them to enter the lungs and the bloodstream (PM2.5 refers to particles that have diameter less than 2.5 micrometres, more than 100 times thinner than a human hair, and remain suspended in air for longer).



PM2.5 is seen as a huge public health problem, with an estimated half a million tonnes of tyre particles produced annually across Europe. A large amount is swept into waterways and oceans, eventually entering the food chain.

Governments are pushing for electric and hydrogen vehicles in order to cut emissions produced by petrol and diesel engines. However, while exhaust emissions will be cut, the shift will fail to make any impact on tyre particles, which will continue to be released into the environment. It is feared that the problem could escalate in the coming years because of the rise in the use of electric vehicles, which tend to be heavier than comparable petrol or diesel models because of batteries, meaning more wear on brakes and tyres. A recent study by the Norwegian Institute for Air Research revealed that more than 200,000 tonnes of such particles are blown from roads into the oceans every year.

And just when you thought it couldn't get any worse, a study by Yale University has found that asphalt-covered roads and paths can emit poisonous chemicals, especially on hot sunny days, contributing to overall air pollution. Asphalt is the surfacing materials for 95% of UK roads, car parks, paths and playgrounds, so there's no getting away from it.

Makes you wonder how we've all lived this long.

## E-scooter trial hits the brakes after complaints from walkers



It must have seemed like a good idea at the time. Coventry has suspended an E-scooter trial after only five days because of safety concerns. The rental of such machines has been "paused" after users were seen mounting the pavement and riding in shopping areas, both of which are banned. Coventry is one of only five towns or cities to introduce the technology so far, although dozens more are expected to follow.

The government legalised e-scooters at the start of July. The devices are limited to 15.5mph but can only be used on 30mph roads and in bike lanes. Coventry city council has said that it will review how to find "ways in which it can recommence in an appropriate manner".

## Motorway speed limit of 60mph to cut pollution

Highways England is preparing to lower the 70mph limit to 60mph in four locations by the end of this month to improve roadside air quality. The 60mph maximum will be used on the M6 between junctions 6 and 7, the M1 between junctions 33 and 34, the M602 from junctions 1 to 3 near Eccles and the M5 between junctions 1 to 2. Each stretch is up to 4.5 miles. It is the first time that lower limits have been imposed specifically to tackle emissions.

Motorists could be hit with a £100 fine and three penalty points for breaching the lower limit. It will remain in place for at least 12 months or longer if it is having a positive effect on emissions.



## 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. However, under the current circumstances, very little on the calendar will actually be taking place.

**Please check the NW Alliance FB page for any last minute changes**

**Regular monthly events in normal times!**

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

**HAMC Manchester Open night last Saturday of month** – **Not running at the moment**

**Red Devils MC Manchester Open Night** every Friday at the clubhouse in Hindley

**Red Rose MAG** – meetings suspended until new venue found

**MT Heads Meet** – Flying Horse Rochdale 8pm every Monday

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

**Ronin MCC** – every Saturday night @ the Plough, Hazel Grove

**Road Slayers Brotherhood** every 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday at the Veterans' Garage Barton – **restarts 2<sup>nd</sup> week in September**

**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 George, Southport 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday at 7pm & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday at 3pm

**Leyland Eagles MCC** meet 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays at Leyland RAFA Club

**Avernus MCC** – meet at the Red Herring, Mill Lane, Coppull PR7 5AN every other Friday

**RBLR** meet 2<sup>nd</sup> 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** 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday @ Hope View farm, Astley M29 7LH – free food!

**Throttle Twisters MCC** every Monday – North Chadderton Social & Bowling Club, open night every 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday

**Veterans Garage** open at Barton Aerodrome every Monday 6pm onwards

**Accrington MCC** meet every other Sunday at the Poplar Club, Accrington

**Boggarts MCC** meet every 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 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 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month at 3pm Tempest Arms, Chorley Old Rd, Bolton

**Coyote MCC** – meet every Tuesday Old Cock Inn Oldham Rd Middleton M24 2EB

**Pist'N'Nuts MCC** – meet every Thursday 8pm @ The Pear Tree, 431 Hadfield Rd, Hadfield SK13 1PY

**The Sisterhood** – meet first Tuesday of month @ 7pm at The Cart & Horses, Astley M29 7SD

**Millennium 2000BC** meet at Broadfield Arms, Leyland, every other Monday

**Shieldmaidenz MCC** meet at the clubhouse, 198 Liverpool Rd, M44 5DB 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month

**Road Kill MCC** meet at the clubhouse, Unit 10, M44 5AZ, Irlam every Tuesday evening about 6pm.

**Rally Rebels RC** meet at the Cock & Rabbit, Manchester Rd, Southport every other Sunday 3-5pm

**Antagonist MCC** meet every Wednesday at the Church Inn, Chadderton OL1 2RR

**Union Riders MCC** meets at the Malaga Drift, Eccles M30 0DY every 1<sup>st</sup> Friday from 8pm

**Gawsworth Jesters MCC** meet at the Harrington Arms, Church Lane. Gawsworth SK11 9RJ, Weds evenings from 7.00pm.

**Heathens MCC** – meet at the Top House, Oldham OL4 5TB first Wed of month @ 8pm

**Wiccan Wolves MCC** meet @ Radcliffe Cricket Club M26 3RF every other Friday

**Known upcoming events – don't hold your breath!**

**31<sup>st</sup> October** – **Accrington MCC Halloween Night** - Poplar Club, Accrington

**28<sup>th</sup> November** - **Avernus Rock Night**, Red Herring, Mill Lane, Coppull PR7 5AN

**5<sup>th</sup> December** – **Coyote MCC Xmas Party** Old Cock Inn Oldham Rd Middleton M24 2EB

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@masafish.com](mailto:billgreen@masafish.com) and I'll put it into the newsletter next month.

Bill

NW Political Rep



# MAG

Safety & Security



# Foundation



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