

**Ultimate Custom Show, Manchester Central – 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> January 2015**



The old bike show had been in slow decline for a few years now, each event having fewer stands and less variety. The major manufacturers stopped coming a couple of years back, with the dealers trying not very successfully to fill the void. Last year there were whole tracts at the back of the hall full of nothing but space. The result was a lot of disgruntled punters. So, I was hopeful that a change of format might reinvigorate the event. Many bikers will have given the show a miss, thinking that it would mainly be about cars and trucks. Well, they were right.

There were a few bikes on display but there was no getting away from the fact that this show was about four wheels not two. Yet again, however, there were too few exhibits, all widely spaced out in an attempt to make the hall look full. And it was £18 to get in – on what planet is that value? Better save your money for Event City in March.

The award for the best looking custom at the show was, by a mile .... Grobbo's chopper on the MAG stand! It was surrounded by an admiring audience all weekend, which is more than be said for most of the exhibits. We saw quite a few new faces at the MAG stall, which is always gratifying – it's all about getting the message out after all! Thanks to all you "old timers" who stuck your head in to say hello as well.



*Manchester MP James Leech checks out the riding position on a bike built for a guy 18 inches taller than him while NW rep Tony Cox and Director of Communications Lambit Opik laugh. James showed a lot interest and sympathy for MAG's position and even put his hand in his pockets and joined!*

## Looking ahead to next month - NW Fred Hill Run Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February

Jeez, where does the time go? Next month will see the 11<sup>th</sup> NW Fred Hill Run at the Sir Charles Napier pub on Tontine Street in Blackburn. It goes without saying that it don't seem like twelve months since the last 'un!

On the face of it, the run is just about MAG members getting together, all over the UK, to remember the death of a MAG activist. Fred's story is well known (and just a Google away if you don't know it). But it's more than that. The annual Fred Hill commemoration is a chance for all MAG members to pause and reflect on what we all believe in and what the organization is all about: the freedom to make our own decisions about your own safety. It's a never ending battle, and one that we're by no means sure to win. Take an article in this Sunday's paper:

### **"Speed limiters may be made compulsory in new cars**

...research for the European Commission has backed their introduction on safety grounds...it could be included in legislation expected to be drawn up within the year...the devices could be introduced as an option on cars before being made mandatory"



MAG has consistently argued against such devices on principle, and pointed out how dangerous they would be on bikes, but we're dealing with a different mind-set here. To the legislators in Europe, statistics are all. Quantity of life matters more than quality of life. It's as if they don't live in the same world as us. Or the same world as Fred Hill.

The Charles Napier will be open at noon for a brew and we'll set off at 1pm. The length of the run will, as ever, depend on the mood of the English weather and as usual there'll be some complimentary butties laid on afterwards. See you there.



### **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 at **Mid Life Crisis MCC** at the **Ship Inn, Irlam M44 6AJ** on **Wednesday 28th January** at **8pm**.

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 last month.

### Regular monthly events

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

Sutton Rockers Band Night, 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month.

Black Diamonds open night every Friday at the clubhouse in Hindley

Last Friday of each Month - Open Night, Ribble Valley Chop Club

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday every month – Born of Chaos MCC meeting everyone welcome - Warrington WA4 6RS

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday every month – Brickies Bike Club meeting everyone welcome - Atherton, M46 0QA

Salford MAG meeting 8pm Last Thursday every month, Duke of York, Church St, Eccles

Rogue Riders meeting every Thursday – The clubhouse Statham WA13 9BT

Mid-Life Crisis Meet'n'greet, BBQ - last Wednesday of each month, Ship Inn Irlam M44 6AJ – finished now until next spring

1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday April → Sept – Rising Moon MCC Ride In, Hyde – over now until next spring

### Known upcoming events –

14<sup>th</sup> Feb Black Diamonds Gazza's 60<sup>th</sup> Do – the Clubhouse, Hindley

28<sup>th</sup> Feb – Avernus MCC Underground Rock Night

28<sup>th</sup> Feb – Millennium Rocknight, Canberra Club.

Feb 2015 - Leyland Eagles Rock Night, Farrington Social Club

8th Feb 2015 - NW Fred Hill Run, Charles Napier, Blackburn leaving 1pm

22nd Feb 2015 -NW MAG AGM, Duke of York, Eccles. Starts at 1pm.

28-29<sup>th</sup> March Event City Bike Show Manchester

March 2015 - But Why AVVA Laugh Rock night and Bike show

22nd May 2015 - Warrington Wheels Youth-bike - Grappenhall School, Warrington, entry forms available from Bob Towler 01925 263895 or E-mail bobtowler57@hotmail.co.uk

26-28th June 2015 - Blackpool Area MAG 18th Rally, Fleetwood RUFC

5<sup>th</sup> July – Blackpool Bike Show, Italian Gardens, Stanley Park, Blackpool.

4-5<sup>th</sup> July 2015 MidLife Crisis MCC Bike show

10-12<sup>th</sup> July 2015 Millennium Caveman Bash Rally

10<sup>th</sup> Oct 2015 – MidLife Crisis MCC Birthday Bash

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



**11<sup>th</sup> Annual NW MAG  
Fred Hill Run**  
Sunday 8th February 2015

Meeting at the  
Sir Charles Napier pub, Fontine St, Blackburn, Lancs  
leaving at 1 pm.

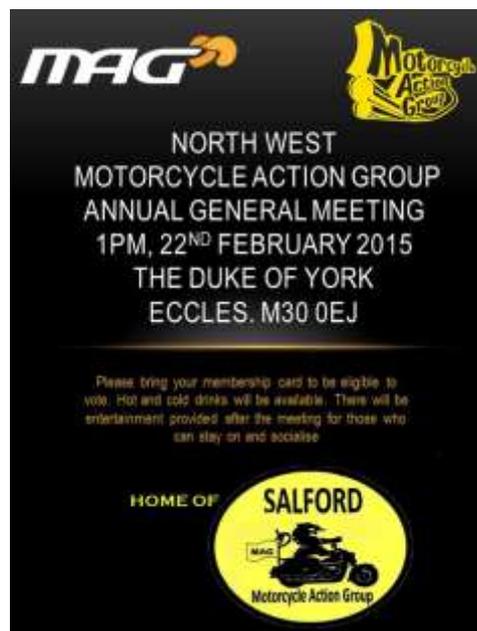
Details of run dependent on the weather.  
Food laid on after at the Charles Napier for all who attend.  
All riders welcome.

Fred Hill died in prison, still fighting for his beliefs that dealers 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



**MAG** **MOTORCYCLE ACTION GROUP**

NORTH WEST  
MOTORCYCLE ACTION GROUP  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
1PM, 22<sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY 2015  
THE DUKE OF YORK  
ECCLES. M30 0EJ

Please bring your membership card to be eligible to  
vote. Hot and cold drinks will be available. There will be  
entertainment provided after the meeting for those who  
can stay on and socialise.

HOME OF **SALFORD**  
Motorcycle Action Group



**Manchester**  
BIKE SHOW 2015  
THE NUMBER ONE MOTORCYCLE SHOW IN THE NORTH

28<sup>TH</sup> & 29<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2015  
09:30AM - 5:00PM

WWW.MANCHESTERBIKESHOW.COM  
INFO@MANCHESTERBIKESHOW.COM  
DIAL 0161 867 7776

Next to the Trapping Centre  
Manchester M17 1TB

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK  
& TWITTER

The National Association for Bikers with a Disability  
 Invite you to attend their Nabbed Rally for 2015

# YOU'VE BEEN NABBED 24

8<sup>TH</sup> - 10<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2015

Astle Park, Chelford, Cheshire.  
 on the A535 between  
 Chelford & Jodrell Bank (J18 M6)

FEATURING LIVE MUSIC FROM  
 25+ GREAT BANDS IN THREE MARQUEES  
 THE VERY BEST IN STAND-UP COMEDY  
 THE FROG & BUCKET COMEDY CLUB ROADSHOW  
 Bike/Trike Show Trophies - 3 DISCOS  
 ENTERTAINMENT FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES  
 REAL ALE BAR featuring 40 Ales & Ciders  
 ADVANCE TICKETS (Before 3rd May 2015) £25 - GATE PRICE £30  
 CAR PARKING £20 (DISABLED DRIVERS FREE PARKING)  
 CASH/IN £20 VIA ONLINE SHOP  
 STRICTLY NO DOGS (EXCEPT GUIDE DOGS) - NO FIRES - NO GLASS  
 ALCOHOL WILL NOT BE PERMITTED THROUGH THE GATE AS WE WILL BE SELLING  
 BEERS WINE & SPIRITS AT CHEAP PRICES ON THE BARS. ALL PROCEEDS  
 FROM THIS EVENT GO TO HELP DISABLED PEOPLE  
 TO ENJOY THE FREEDOM & INDEPENDENCE OF MOTORCYCLING  
 THE NABD IS A REGISTERED CHARITY (AFFINITY)  
 ALL ENQUIRIES 0844 415 4849 OR [www.nabd.org.uk](http://www.nabd.org.uk)



## 5th WARRINGTON WHEELS YOUTH MOTOR CYCLE COMPETITION 2015

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 GRAPPENHALL HALL SCHOOL, WARRINGTON ON FRIDAY 22nd MAY 2015. (11am-2pm)

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](http://www.youthbike.com)) HELD IN LINCOLNSHIRE IN JUNE 2015

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT BOB TOWLER  
 C/O GRAPPENHALL HALL SCHOOL, CHURCH LANE, GRAPPENHALL, WA4 3EU  
 01925 263895 Or E-mail [bobowler57@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:bobowler57@hotmail.co.uk)



[www.bobsbikeclasses.co.uk](http://www.bobsbikeclasses.co.uk)





Live Bands & Rock DJ  
 Both Nights  
 Cask Ales and Great Food!

Superb Camping Field  
 Proper Toilets  
 Hot Showers

18<sup>th</sup>

Cod Help Us !!

Rally

26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> June 2015

\*NEW SITE\* Fleetwood Rugby Club,  
 Melbourne Avenue, Fleetwood, Lancashire  
 FY7 8AY

Pre-book £15, OTG £18. MAG Affiliated clubs, buy 5 get one free!!  
 Postal applications SAE & Cheque to; Blackpool MAG,  
 29, Lincoln Avenue, Cleveleys, Lancs. FY5 2DT  
 OR

Via PayPal at [www.north-west-region.mag-uk.org](http://www.north-west-region.mag-uk.org) For further details, phone 07982181132 or e-mail [blackpool\\_rep@mag-uk.org](mailto:blackpool_rep@mag-uk.org)

All profits go to The Motorcycle Action Group  
 "Fighting For Riders RIGHTS"

## Blackpool Motorcycle Show 2015

The Italian Gardens, Stanley Park, Blackpool FY3 9EQ  
 Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July 11am-4.30pm

All Proceeds to:





£2.00

Bike/Trike Parking

Entitles all to

Free entry in the Show

Trophies for Individual Classes & Overall Best in Show, Public Choice

[www.north-west-region.mag-uk.org](http://www.north-west-region.mag-uk.org)

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