



### Trike Helmet Law update

On the 19<sup>th</sup> of this month the consultation ended on the proposed compulsory helmet law in Northern Ireland. It appears to be driven by an urge to “neaten up” the law, as much as anything. After a spate of accidents, they have decided to make helmets mandatory on quad-bikes, which will be defined as any motor vehicle having –

- a. 4 wheels;
- b. an unladen weight not exceeding 550 kilograms
- c. handlebars, and designed to be operated with the

driver seated astride a seat longitudinally. As two-wheeled motorcycles already have a compulsory helmet law, this leaves trikes as a bit of an anomaly. Despite no strong evidence that there is a problem, the law-makers of Northern Ireland seem to be irritated by this inconsistency. I suppose it's a form of legal OCD. However, even they are loathe to pass a law that would make it a requirement to wear a helmet while driving a three-wheeled car such as a Reliant. You can imagine the outcry (and mocking headlines) this would receive, although it would certainly add a new comic element to any remake of “Only Fools and Horses”. In order to avoid this they are suggesting that only motorcycle-style trikes would be affected, which would be defined as any trike except where it (a) is horizontally confined by a body enclosing each person carried which also provides protection (b) is fitted with a fixed roof or other rollover protection for each person carried in or on the vehicle (c) has seatbelts fitted when required by the relevant regulations.

This would mean that:



You won't need to wear a helmet in the old Robin.



You'll definitely need to wear a helmet here.



Er, I'm not sure here.

As many trikes are home-built, I imagine there would be a few modifications happening to circumvent this law. The whole thing could become a bureaucratic nightmare and almost impossible to enforce. MAG is arguing that the trike rider is best placed to decide whether to

wear a helmet or not. As one triker said to me recently, "if I'm going down the motorway, I wear a helmet. If I'm just nipping round to the shops, I don't bother. I can weigh up the risks for myself."

## Armadillos Update

Congratulations to Blayz and the rest of Salford MAG for successfully getting rid of the death-traps from their neck of the woods. Victory is ours! It just shows what determined and persistent campaigning can achieve. However, just as we thought we had them licked, the little blighters have migrated to Stockport. So, we start again. And we won't let it rest until they're gone as well.



## This Month - Jesters Rally 14-16<sup>th</sup> August



There's been nothing but good feedback for the Jesters MCC rally at Whittingham & Goosenargh Social Club. With a great rally site, great music and a crowd determined to party, it was always going to be winner. There was a bit of a worry when the Friday night band cancelled at the last minute, but Blackpool rockers Whistle Test stepped in at the last minute and proved a sensation.

MAG, in the shape of Tony Cox (NW Regional Rep), was very much in attendance all weekend of course.



*Will helmets be needed soon?*



*Bloody MAG – you can't get away from them!*



## Next Month – Salford MAG fundraiser 11<sup>th</sup> September

In MAG we definitely believe in mixing business with pleasure. If you can have fun and raise a bit of money for the fighting fund at the same time, what's not to like?

So, Friday 11th September sees the latest **Salford MAG Rock Night Fundraiser**. As before it will be at the Duke of York, Eccles M30 0EJ. The band on the night will be old school hard rock/metal outfit **Deathwish**, so a great time is guaranteed. The evening kicks off at about 8pm and the cost is whatever you fancy donating on the door – you can't say fairer than that!



## Quiz

**Quiz question 1** – Which was the first production motorcycle to be fitted with a green neutral light? (If you know, please tell me – I've been asking for years and still haven't found out)

## Farmyard Woes

NW MAG member Phil Conyngham writes

*“Had a great time at the Farmyard (as usual), bit of a damper though (not the weather this time). Talked two friends into riding over on Saturday through crap rain to join us in tents already pitched. Disgusted to find out they were charged £40 each to spend the rest of their hard earned at the Farmyard. It was after 1.30 on Saturday when they rode in, hell of a way to greet two new rally virgins.”*

NW Rep Tony Cox replies:

*“Sorry to hear of your woes Phil. The Farmyard Party is run by “Magic Action Productions” and MAG has no say in how they run the event although all profits do go to MAG's fighting fund. I was led to believe that this year there would be Saturday night only tickets but I think they needed to be pre-booked before the event. Hope it hasn't dampened the rally spirits of the now ex-virgins!”*

## Wishful thinking?



Spotted in Mallorca last week – you're fooling no-one but yourself, pal!



## 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 **8pm** on **Wednesday 16th September** by **Gypsy Divas MCC** at **Woolpack Hotel, Haslingden BB4 6LN**. Here is the latest, up to date list of biker events which the Alliance has put together, which includes a few changes from last 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 8pm last Thursday every month, Duke of York, Church St, Eccles**

**Mid-Life Crisis Meet'n'greet, BBQ - 3rd Wednesday of each month, Ship Inn Irlam M44 6AJ**

**Brotherhood Quest Bike Nite**-every Monday Black Bull Pope Lane Penwortham Preston PR1 9BA

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

**Gypsy Divas meet** – 1<sup>st</sup>&3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, Woolpack, Haslingden from 8.30pm.

**Known upcoming events –**

**21<sup>st</sup> August – Road Slayers Brotherhood Rock Nite** Royal Oak, Eccles

**21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> August - Rigby's Guardians MCC Ride & Weekend** – Mayfield Rugby Club, Rochdale OL11 3AG

**28-31<sup>st</sup> August - Avernus MCC Underworld Rally** Hamilton House Farm Tarnacre Lane St.Michaels PR3 OTB

**11th Sept - Salford MAG Fundraiser** Duke of York, Eccles M30 0EJ (featuring Deathwish) Donation on entry

**19<sup>th</sup> Sept - Brotherhood Quest Social Nite**- Black Bull Pope Lane Penwortham Preston PR1 9BA

**19<sup>th</sup> Sept- Westsiders MCC Rock Nite** Castle on the Hill, Hindley - Free!

**26<sup>th</sup> Sept – AAVMC Party for the Alliance** - Canberra Club, Salmesbury

**27<sup>th</sup> Sept -The North Manchester Custom & Classic Bike Show** Ramsbottom Cricket Club, BL0 0BS

**10<sup>th</sup> October – MidLife Crisis MCC Birthday Bash** – Ship, Irlam – with music from Heston

**17<sup>th</sup> October – Black Diamonds MC '70s Nite with '70s tribute** at the clubhouse Hindley – **free entry!**

**17<sup>th</sup> October - Gypsy Divas Bike Show/Rock Nite Haslingden Cricket Club** £5 per-booked £6 OTG

**31<sup>st</sup> October – Millennium Halloween Rock Night**, Canberra Club £5 on door

**7<sup>th</sup> Nov – Blackpool MAG Halloween Fancy Dress & Bonfire Party** – Blackpool Rugby club, £5 on door

**21<sup>st</sup> Nov – Avernus MCC Anti-Christmas Party**, Red Herring pub, Mill Lane Coppull (then back to clubhouse) £3 on door

**4<sup>th</sup> Dec – Leyland Eagles Rock Nite** – Leyland& Farrington Social Club, Derby St, entry by donation.

**4<sup>th</sup> Dec - Salford MAG Anti Xmas Fancy Dress Fundraiser**, (with Powertrip) Donations on the Door

**Avernus trip to Ibiza 16<sup>th</sup> -26<sup>th</sup> May 2016** – Rock festival, 1497miles – anyone interested contact Ant 07584098610 for details of discount. Itinerary, costs available for next meeting

**JT is organising the “MMM Run” in 2016** (Manchester, Minsk and Moscow) – 5000 miles round trip. Any like-minded intrepid and foolhardy adventurers please contact Jimmy for details.

**22<sup>nd</sup> – 24th July 2016 – HAMC Manchester 81 Bike Show/Rally** (full weekend free camping – live bands& DJ all weekend, bars till late, pole dancers, trade stands, merchandise, food, cash prizes) – Rixton Green (1.5miles from M6 junc.21)

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



## Two wheels good ...

I don't care what people say, I think Honda Cubs are cool!

**Quiz question 2** – Name the band in the picture.





The Duke of York  
Eccles M30 OEJ

Back by Popular Demand  
for a SALFORD MAG  
Fundraiser

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2015

From 8pm onwards DONATION ON ENTRY and Burgers for Sale

**KAMIKAZE**  
CAVE RUN

9th - 11th Oct 2015

"BANDS"  
DEATH WISH  
MASSIVE WAGONS  
BLACKMAIL SNAPS

£16 pre book  
"OUR OWN CHEAP  
TINNEY BAR"

FOODVANS, STALLS,  
TATTOOIST.

£20 on gate

SILVERSAPLING CAMPSITE  
SILVERDALE

MOBILE CHAOS  
MOTORCYCLE CLUB

**MILLENNIUM**  
**2000BC**  
**ZOMBIE HALLOWEEN PARTY**  
WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

**31-10-15**

**CANBERRA CLUB**  
**SAMLESBURY AERODROME**  
**BALDERSTONE LANCAHIRE BB2 7LF**

8.00 Till Late **£5** Free Camping  
Charity Raffle **O.T.D** Rock Solutions DJ

[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/MILLENNIUM2000BC](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/MILLENNIUM2000BC)

Blackpool Area MAG Halloween  
Fancy Dress & Bonfire Party

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2015

8pm till Late DJ & Live Music from  
Free Camping!

Blackpool RUFC  
Fleetwood Road  
Blackpool  
FY5 1RN

**DEATHWISH**  
and others

£5 OTD

All profits go to The Motorcycle Action Group  
"Fighting For Riders RIGHTS"  
[www.north-west-region.mag-uk.org](http://www.north-west-region.mag-uk.org)