



North West Newsletter

April 2016

MAG gets political!

Lots of politics going on this month, which is not surprising with elections looming. Bear in mind, however, that MAG doesn't carry a flag for any particular party. We are first and foremost a riders' rights organisation and, as such, we'll work with whichever party accepts our point of view. There are MAG members of all political persuasions but we're all agreed on one thing – that biking should stay free. To that end MAG has worked tirelessly for the last 43 years.

And as you may have noticed, we ain't about to stop anytime soon!

This Month – Manchester Bike Show 2nd-3rd April, Event City



The MAG stand had a prime spot and attracted loads of attention

Did you go? I was there and enjoyed it thoroughly. More importantly I heard positive things from others who were there. Large events such as this have to be good for biking as a whole and are thus well worth supporting. The fact that there was plenty to see and do, loads of kit at reduced prices and a friendly biker atmosphere was a real bonus.

Shows such as this lure in many a curious non-biker who may be then tempted onto two wheels themselves. This is to be encouraged. Heaven knows, biking in general needs some new blood in this country!



How to make an old man very happy!

Next Month – You’ve Been NABBED 25 - 6th – 8th May



Wouldn't miss it for the world!

In my mind, the summer starts here. Why not come along to help celebrate 25 years of the NABD at the best motorcycle rally of 2016!

You don't have to be an NABD member to join in the best party of the year and you don't have to be disabled; but you would have to be as mad as a deep-fried bog roll to miss it!

There are 20+ top quality live bands and performers playing from the three stages over the weekend - can you really afford to miss out on such wondrous world-class entertainment?

All this plus excellent real ale or traditionally brewed cider in the 'Back Street Heroes - Real Ale Marquee'. What more could you want - the MAG stall? Well, we'll be there too!

A Political Party set up by bikers for bikers (and anyone else who values freedom of choice)

New M.A.P. Chairman Blayz writes:

The Motorcycle Alliance Party is a new national political party representing the core values of the biker community in the political arena. Founded in February 2012 the aim of the party was to field a candidate in the upcoming Greater Manchester Police Commissioner Election in November 2012. This election was chosen specifically because of the sometimes harsh and discriminatory policing methods employed by Greater Manchester Police towards bikers, including restricting movement, abusing power and misusing legal tools such as ASBO's. Bikers in the Greater Manchester area had even been prevented from attending funerals by their local police, an act that was felt to be unjustifiable in a civilized country. However, the election rules were changed which meant that we were unable to field a suitable candidate.

The current party leadership is:

- Party Leader: Steve Blay
- Treasurer: Bill Green
- Nominations Officer: Adam Evans

(names & addresses to be supplied upon request)

The party is not just concerned with bikers however, and supports freedom for all citizens of the UK, and the right to choose how to live their lives, as long as their actions do not negatively impact on the freedom and rights of others. Membership requires that you hold, or have held, the legal ability to ride a motorcycle, (including scooters trike or quad-bike).

Our Mission Statement is:

To bring about a fair and lawful society, where all, including Police Officers, will be equal within the law and not act in a manner that discriminates against any group or individual due to the mode of transport they choose.

To be brought about via lawful demonstrations, meetings and election of members to political positions including that of Commissioner of Police, Local Councillor and MP.

So, why do we need our own political party? After all, there are plenty of traditional political parties out there: Labour, Conservative, UKIP, Liberal Democrats and Green Party to name just some in the mainstream. If you are a member of any of the political parties, just ask yourselves, what have they done for bikers like you? Do they listen to your concerns and more importantly, do they act on them?

I suspect that the general answer would be no, although MAG is making very good inroads into some local governments and some parts of national government with the introduction of biker friendly policies such as allowing bikes into bus lanes. However, it is only in certain areas of the country where the local government has started to listen to what its constituents want and not across the whole of the UK.

So why am I writing this? First of all, did you know that bikers had their own party? Secondly what would it take for YOU to join?



The answer to the first question is now you do know about us. The answer to the second question lies with you. We want active members, bikers who are willing to stick their necks out (a little bit) and put themselves forward in local elections to support their local (biking) communities and freedom of choice for all, It cost nothing to do but the Motorcycle Alliance Party emblem appears next to your name on the ballot paper. (imagine the leverage this could bring). Should you actually win an election, it's your choice whether you wish to continue, however you would have the full support of the Party, naturally, and hopefully the rest of the biking community in your local area.

It's a start and with your support we can grow into a major force in this country. Just a thought, if every biker voted for a member of its own political party we could change the face of politics in this country.

I don't do politics, I hear some of you say, well unfortunately for you, politics works for or against you, on your behalf whether you like it or not. Why not get on board and help influence policy decision making in your neck of the woods?

The Motorcycle Alliance Party is an avid supporter of MAG and the majority of its party members are also members of MAG.

If you would like to be part of MAP please drop a line to Blayz at salford-rep@mag-uk.org

Key London Mayoral Candidates Share Motorbike Views with MAG

MAG has secured statements from the two front running candidates in the race to become Mayor of London. Sadiq Khan MP (Labour) and Zac Goldsmith MP (Conservative) shared with MAG their thoughts and plans for the capital's hundreds of thousands of qualified motorcycle and scooter riders - and both have expressed their appreciation of the importance of powered two wheelers as part of the London transport mix, promising to work to ensure their needs are taken into account.

MAG's Chair Selina Lavender, very encouraged by their responses, said: *"MAG is not party political, we engage with members of all parties with a view to assisting riders in making an informed decision between leading candidates. As either Zac or Sadiq are tipped to win this election, we invited them to outline how they see motorcycles in the context of London Transport policy (as neither had done so prior to our involvement)... riders haven't always felt they've enjoyed a level playing field with other road users. Hundreds of millions of pounds have been spent on making cycling safer. All we're asking for is consideration for our needs too and recognition of the importance of motorbikes and scooters in our ever more congested city. I'm heartened by the responses of both these front-running candidates. MAG can and will work with the winner. We leave it to the motorcycle and scooter riders of London to vote to decide who that should be."*

So why does this concern us, up here in the North-West? Well, we all know that what happens in the capital sets a precedent for the rest of the country. If MAG can establish biker-friendly policies down there, it'll make our jobs easier up here. If you'd like to read exactly what each of them said the links are:

https://wiki.mag-uk.org/images/a/a6/Sadiq_Khan_MP_2016_03_26.docx (which has appeared in The Road) and https://wiki.mag-uk.org/index.php/File:Zac_Goldsmith_MP_2016_04_18.docx

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 **Millennium 2000 BC** at **8pm on Monday 11th May** at the **Broadfield Arms, 22 Leyland Ln, Leyland PR25 1XH**. 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

Black Diamonds open night every Friday at the clubhouse in Hindley

Salford MAG meeting – meet at Bird in Hand, Eccles, last Thursday of month

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

Millennium MCC Biker Meet every Tuesday night - CANCELLED

Anvil MCC meet every Wed 8pm - contact Ray 07747748946

Avernus MCC – open clubhouse - last Saturday night of month Coppull Mill, Mill Lane PR7 5BW

Mid-Life Crisis Meet'n'greet, BBQ - starts again April 2016 then 3rd Wed of month

Brotherhood Quest Bike Nite - every Monday Black Bull in Penwortham on A59

Cogheads MCC meet every Thursday Black Bull Huncoat BB5 6LN Contact David 07480927399

MT Heads Meet – Flying Horse Rochdale 8pm every Monday

Gypsy Divas meet – 1st&3rd Wednesday, Woolpack, Haslingden from 8.00pm.

Rigby's Guardians meet every Sunday 6.30-9.00 at the Gardener's Arms, Hollin Lane, Middleton M24 5LE (near Junc. 19 M62)

Road Reapers MCC meet 1st Sunday at 12 & 2nd Wednesday at 7 at the Doff Cocker pub, 780 Chorley Old Rd, Bolton

Known upcoming events –

29th April-1st May – Into the Valley Rally – Dalton Estate, South Dalton, Yorkshire

7th May – Bikes & Trikes RC Rocknight – Southport Railway Club, Sussex Rd. Southport

6th-8th May – You've Been Nabbed 25 – Astle Park, Chelford, Cheshire

8th May – Kitty Gunson & Preston Posse Pet Food Run meet at noon at Lane Ends Pub, Ashton, Preston, leave at 12.30 to ride to The Ark, Tarleton.

Avernus trip to Ibiza 9th -19th May – Rock festival, 1497miles – anyone interested contact Ant 07584098610 for details of discount. Itinerary, costs available for next meeting. £270 for 10 days, hotel inclusive.

20th-22nd May – Leyland Eagles MCC Rally – The Show Field, Salwick Lane, Wharles, Nr Kirkham, Preston PR4 3SN

17th-19th June 30th Farmyard Party – Duncombe Park, Helmsley N. Yorkshire

24-26th June – Blackpool MAG Rally – the North-West's No.1 Riders' Rights Rally! – Fleetwood Rugby Club

3rd July NW MAG Bike Show – Italian Gardens, Stanley Park Blackpool

2nd -3rd July Mid-Life Crisis Bike Show – Ship Hotel, Irlam

7th – 10th July – Caveman Bash Rally – Canberra Club Salmesbury 18 pre-book, £23 otd

8th July – Jimmy T's Party for Elaine, Britannia Hotel, Palatine Rd, Didsbury (with Deathwish)

10th July Salford MAG AutoJumble – Bird in Hand, Eccles – stalls £10, free music

22nd – 24th July AAVMCC Not Forgotten Rally, Bradford on Avon

5th-7th August – Yorkshire Pudding Rally – Escrick Park near York

21st August Cogheads' Bike Show – rear of Arndale, Accrington 11am on

27th August NABD Fundraiser **CANCELLED**

26th-29th August – Avernus Underworld Rally - Hamilton House Farm, St. Michaels on Wyre PR3 0TB

3rd September – Preston Posse Custom Show – Vernon Cricket Club, Penwortham

11th September – Millennium Custom Show – Barons Rest, Astley Village, Chorley

16th-18th September Jesters MCC Rally – Whittingham Social Club, Goosenargh

7th-9th Oct Rising Moon MCC Rally, Lowerhouse Cricket Club, Padiham

8th Oct Mid-Life Crisis Birthday Bash – Ship, Irlam – ticket only

29th Oct Millennium Rock Night –Canberra Club, Salmesbury £5 otd

5th Nov Blackpool MAG Hellfire Bonfire Party – fancy dress, Blackpool Rugby Club

11th Nov Leyland Eagles Rock Nite – Leyland& Farrington Social Club

19th Nov – Avernus Anti-Christmas Party – Red Herring, Coppull

26th Nov – Cogheads MCC Nightmare before Xmas – Fancy dress, Poplar Social Club, Wellington St Accrington

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

***Which party
really has the
needs of bikers
at heart?***



Join the Motorcycle Alliance Party!

For Sale

Kawasaki VN800 Custom Bobber Y reg

**Been garaged for a while so needs a
little bit of TLC**

Full Service History + 6 months MOT

£2500ono

Call 07883635733



The National Association for Bikers with a Disability
Invite you to attend their Nabbed Rally for 2016

YOU'VE BEEN NABBED

25 YEARS

6-8TH MAY 2016
Astle Park, Chelford, Cheshire
on the A535 between
Chelford & Jodrell Bank (J18 M6)

FEATURING LIVE MUSIC FROM
20+ GREAT BANDS IN THREE MARQUEES
THE VERY BEST IN STAND-UP COMEDY
THE PROG & BUCKET COMEDY CLUB ROADSHOW
Bike/Trike Show Trophies - 3 DISCOS
ENTERTAINMENT FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES
REAL ALE BAR featuring 60 Ales & Ciders

ADVANCE TICKETS (before 20th April 2016) £10 - GATE PRICE £20
CAR PARKING £20 (DISABLED DRIVERS FREE PARKING)
CAMPING & MOTORHOMES £20
STRICTLY NO DOGS (EXCEPT GUIDE DOGS) - NO FIRES - NO GLASS

ADVANCE TICKETS FROM: HARB, UNIT 20, THE BRIDGEWATER CENTRE
ROBSON AVENUE, URWORTH, MANCHESTER, M41 7TB.
CHEQUES SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO NABD
TICKET ORDERING BY CREDIT CARD (TEL: 0844 415 4848)

OR VIA THE ONLINE SHOP AT WWW.NABD.ORG.UK

ALCOHOL WILL NOT BE PERMITTED THROUGH THE GATE AS WE WILL BE SELLING
BEER, WINE AND SPIRITS AT ON-RAIL PRICES ON THE GATE. ALL PROCEEDS
FROM THIS EVENT GO TO HELP DISABLED PEOPLE
TO ENJOY THE FREEDOM & INDEPENDENCE OF MOTORCYCLING
THE NABD IS A REGISTERED CHARITY OF BENEFIT
ALL ENQUIRIES 0844 415 4848 OR office@nabd.org.uk

Blackpool Motorcyclist Action Group HIGH CHAPARRALLY

24TH-26TH JUNE 2016
FLEETWOOD RUBBY CLUB, MELBOURNE
AVENUE, LANCASHIRE, FY7 BAY

LIVE MUSIC
BOTH
NIGHTS
FEATURING

POWERTRIP
VARUS
+ ROCK DJ

£15 PRE-BOOK
£18 O.T.G.
AFFILIATED CLUBS
BUY FIVE GET ONE
FREE

CHEQUE & SAE TO: BLACKPOOL MAG TREASURER,
29, LINCOLN AVENUE, CLEVELEYS, FY5 2DT
OR PAYPAL VIA WEB-SITE.
WWW.NORTH-WEST-REGION-MAG-UK.ORG
ALL PROFITS GO TO PROTECTING "RIDERS' RIGHTS"

Motorcyclist Action Group Blackpool Stanley Park Motorcycle Show

Featuring Rupert Fabulous in the Bandstand

Sunday 3rd July 2016
11am-4:30pm

**£2 per bike/trike parking
which gains free entry in
the show. Trophies for best
in each class and overall**

**All profits to MAG's
Fighting Fund
Protecting "Riders' Rights"**

Further details at
www.north-west-region-mag-uk.org

Leyland Eagles M.C.C. (Est 1985)

The 'Pearlesque' Rally

20th - 22nd May 2016
The Show Field, Salwick Road, Wharfedale, Nr Kirkham, Preston,
Lancashire PR4 3SN

£13.00 Pre-book or £16.00 O.T.G. (Patch included for all)
For tickets send cheque and SAE to :-
L.E.M.C.C. Secretary, c/o 53 Kittlingborne Brow,
Higher Walton, Preston, PR5 4DP
Cheques payable to Leyland Eagles MCC please

Cars (on field parking) - £8.00 (Blue Badge holders - free)
Anything larger than a trike - STRICTLY by arrangement

Info - Tony (Chairman) 07920097437
Joan (Secretary) 07715022242