



MAG's Position on Motorcycle Crime: Enough is Enough!



Theft of mopeds, motorcycles and scooters has long been a difficult crime to combat. However between 2015 and 2017 there has been a massive increase in such crimes - exceeding 600% - with the perpetrators resorting to new and horrific methods. Motorcycle theft and bike-jacking (the taking of a motorcycle by force, essentially robbery) is a crime epidemic spiralling out of control everywhere - especially in London - and shows no sign of abating. Bikers all over the country are victims of these crimes. Directly, they suffer the loss of their machines. Indirectly, they endure increased insurance premiums as

insurance companies seek to offset their losses. The Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, Metropolitan Police Superintendent Mark Payne of Operation Venice, and others in positions of authority nationwide have publicly stated that motorcycle theft is partly the fault of the owners for not securing their vehicles properly. More and more bikers are securing their machines but there are not sufficient anchor points provided for them to do so. Local authorities experiencing austerity cuts are unlikely to provide extra anchor points so bikers are, in many cases, anchoring to street furniture as an alternative, but these vehicles continue to be stolen. Even so, the small fall in the theft of machines that are secured has been offset by a corresponding rise in bike-jacking. Bikers are asking: what can we do when we are pushed off our machines and they are stolen from under us, or we are followed home and robbed there, often with weapons? There is no Police Crime Prevention advice or message in relation to bike-jacking. Riders are left to improvise.

Due to the Motorcycle Action Group and other riders' rights groups there is an increase in public and rider awareness. However, this crime epidemic will not cease until the authorities stop blaming the victims or punishing them when they take preventative measures, such as running a red light, exceeding speed limits or riding in a prohibited bus lane whilst trying to escape. In the same context, riders are extremely concerned that they try to secure their machines to street furniture to prevent theft, only to receive a Penalty Charge Notice (PCN). Finally, due to potential litigation and negative IPCC enquiries, police officers are placed in a very difficult position when it comes to chasing suspected thieves. It is often the case that they may subsequently be the subject of an inquiry, leading to a police culture which massively reduces the motivation to seek to apprehend the criminals.

The Police, Government and Judiciary have to take ownership of this problem and do something now. The Motorcycle Action Group is calling for the following measures to be implemented:

- Victim blaming must end, publically and financially.
- Victims must be supported just as any other 'wounded' community and discretion shown to those riders who through taking preventative measures find themselves having to commit an offence
- Police pursuit policies should be addressed urgently and officers supported.
- Police should issue guidance on preventative measures regarding bike-jacking and on-highway assaults.
- The Judicial system must hand down meaningful sentences that deter others.
- Young offenders must be given a deterrent sentence, rather than cautions or derisory penalties.
- Compensation orders must cover recovery and repair to a bike, plus the increased premiums.

MAG is on the move, encouraging members to continue to push the crime prevention message and is working to take active steps, directly, to bring these offenders to justice. The NPCC, Home Office & the Judiciary must respond to this crime epidemic. The current response is not good enough. MAG challenges the relevant authorities to address this problem promptly and robustly. Bikers have had enough: Enough IS enough!

This Month – The Great North West Motorbike Festival 25th – 27th Aug

Thinking of going to the Great North West Motorbike Festival this weekend? The good news is that MAG members will receive a **20% discount** on proof of membership. If yours has lapsed you can renew at the show and receive a free event programme. This offer is also open to new members who sign up on the day so tell your friends! Any MAG members who have paid full price please go to the MAG stand at the entrance and get your festival program for free.



Classic footage and Q&A's with celebrity guests



Action packed simulation zone

This is a new event for the area and will have a range of activities available to experience including live music, demonstrations and gaming, plus big-brand exhibitors and traders. The event, which will be officially opened by Carl Fogarty, will be hosted at the Winter Gardens and full details regarding the event can be found at www.qnwmf17.co.uk. MAG's North West Regional Rep, Tony Cox, said "MAG is pleased to be supporting this new event, which should attract bikers from all quarters, and we'll be celebrating all that's good about biking. Do come along to our stand and have a chat with us about what we do."

(Please be aware that Friday is VIP ticket holders only and not open to the public.)

Next Month – Jesters MCC Rally 15th-17th September

Long-time MAG supporting club **Jesters MCC** are holding their 18th **Cum'n' Dribble int' Ribble Rally** next month (try getting the apostrophes in the right place on that one). This is a cracking, friendly, laid-back little rally so why not get over to Whittingham and Goosnargh Social Club and have yourself a great weekend. It's only £12 advance or £15 on the gate – bargain! See details below.



Next Month – Stormin’ the Castle 1st – 3rd September



Don't forget about the 27th Stormin' the Castle Rally, one of Europe's premier music and motorcycling events, in the grounds of Witton Castle, Witton le Wear, County Durham DL14 0DE. Hobgoblin are taking care of the bars and MAG member vouchers will be available as ever for liquid refreshments. There is a vast choice of food outlets available throughout the entire weekend, plus a great line-up of bands and entertainment. Profits go straight to the MAG fighting fund.

Next Month – MAG National AGC Saturday 30th September

This year's National AGC will be held at the **Royal British Legion, East St, Manea, (nr. March) Cambridgeshire PE15 0JJ**. Signing in will be from 10:00am and the meeting will start at **??**. Lunch will be provided. Don't forget your membership card or you'll have had a wasted journey!

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 **Elsmere Rd Rec Club, Bolton BL3 3JT** at **8pm on Wednesday 30th August**. Please check the NW Alliance website for any last minutes changes to venue/dates– they do happen! 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

Allegiance MC Open Night first Saturday of month at the clubhouse Aintree

Salford MAG meeting – meet at Bird in Hand, Eccles, last Thursday of month - **suspended for time being**

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

Ecclestone Delph Bike Meet every Tuesday until end of season, café open till 9pm.

MT Heads Meet – Flying Horse Rochdale 8pm every Monday, donations to “Hounds for Heroes”

Gypsy Divas meet – 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

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

Brotherhood Quest Bike Nite – every Monday (except last in month) 7-9pm Anchor, Liverpool Rd, Hutton PR4 5SL

Bury the Hatchett MCC - meet at the Two Tubs pub Bury at 7.30 last Thursday of month

Ronin MCC - meet every Thursday at the Grey Horse Hotel, Glazebury, Warrington.

Avernus MCC Open Night 2nd Saturday each month, at the clubhouse, Mill Lane, Coppull PR7 5BW

Hell's Belles WMC Open Night last Monday of month at clubhouse Radcliffe – Everyone welcome - The Cauldron, Globe Industrial Estate, Darbyshire St, Radcliffe, M26 2TA

Cogheads MCC meet every Thursday (except 1st) at 8pm, Forts Arms, Clayton-le-Moors

Road Slayers Brotherhood meet every 2nd Friday at Rock Hotel pub, Peel Green Rd, Barton M30 7AY

Accrington MCC meet at Poplar Club, Wellington St. Accrington every other Sunday (after 16th April) at 8pm.

Chorley Wildhartz MCC – meet first Thursday of month at Seaview Inn, Preston Rd, Chorley

Known upcoming events –

25th-28th August - Avernus Underworld Rally – Hamilton House Farm, Tarnacre Lane, St.Michaels PR3 0TB

25th – 27th August - Great North West Motorbike Festival, Winter Gardens, Blackpool

28th August MT Head's Bike Show – Rochdale Town Hall car park

2nd September Last Bastion MC Open Night at HA clubhouse, Cotton St. Liverpool

3rd September Millennium 2000BC Bike Show Baron's Rest Chorley PR1XA

9th September Farm Wars Festival – Hope View farm Astley M29 7LH

15-17th September Jesters Rally Whittington & Goosenargh Social Club

23rd-24th September Ramsbottom Motorcycle Show

28th October Accrington MCC Fright Night Poplar Club Wellington St, Accrington

28th October Millennium 2000BC Halloween Rock Night, Canberra Club

4th November – Blackpool MAG Halloween Party Night at Blackpool Rugby Club

25th November Cogheads Frightmare Before Christmas Poplar 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@masafish.com and I'll put it into the newsletter next month.

Bill

NW Political Rep



In Russia they take a hard line on bike theft prevention.

UNDERWORLD RALLY 2017

MAD MAX 5: RETURN TO THE UNDERWORLD

25-28 AUGUST

HAMILTON HOUSE FARM

TARNACRE LANE

ST MICHAELS-ON-WYRE

PR3 0TB

AWESOME BANDS

ROCK DISCO

TRADE STALLS

CATERERS

CHEAP BAR

GREAT RAFFLE

PRIZES

REAL BOGS

BONFIRE

OUTDOOR ENTERTAINMENT

BIKE SHOW

500 TICKET LIMIT

STRICTLY NO PEDESTRIANS

FOR TICKETS SEND A CHEQUE MADE PAYABLE TO 'AVERNUS MCC' ALONG WITH A SAE TO:

AVERNUS MCC, 98 STUMP LANE, CHORLEY, PR8 0AL

OR BUY THEM SECURELY ONLINE FROM www.avernusmcc.co.uk

LIMITED CAR PASSES AVAILABLE AT £20 EACH (STRICTLY PRE-BOOK)

FREE PARKING

THIS RALLY SELLS OUT
FAST
BOOK EARLY TO AVOID
MISSING OUT

TICKETS
£20

BUY 10 GET ONE FREE

CUM'N
DRIBBLE I'NT
RIBBLE 18
15TH-17TH
SEPTEMBER
2017



ALL THE USUAL PARTYING
AND DEBAUCHERY YOU CUM
TO EXPECT

LIVE BANDS
FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
NIGHT

WHITTINGHAM AND
GOOSNARGH
SOCIAL CLUB
990 WHITTINGHAM LANE
GOOSNARGH, PRESTON,
PR3 2AU

DETAILS OR BOOK ONLINE:
WWW.JESTERSMCC.ORG.UK

£12.00 PREBOOK OR £15.00 OTG

MOB: 07971530190

CHEQUES TO:

JESTERS MCC, 109 COLLEGE COURT PRESTON PR1 7RU

LIMIT OF 350 TICKETS THIS YEAR

NO CARS OR VANS: PARKING AVAILABLE FOR BLUE BADGE HOLDERS

**IF YOU ARE
WILLING TO
FIGHT
FOR WHAT YOU
BELIEVE IN
AND NOT JUST
CRY ABOUT
WHAT YOU WILL LOSE
JOIN MAG!**



www.mag-uk.org 
Tel. 01926 844064

