



MAG's on a roll!



MAG's Chair, Selina Lavender, says she is delighted by how much progress MAG has made in recent years. *"MAG perhaps used to focus more on the 'fun' aspects like rallies and demonstrations but in more recent times it has become increasingly focussed on a professional dialogue. It looks like this change is delivering a lot more clout than we've had previously, which is very good news for MAG."*

Selina believes that this professional approach, along with investment in political and industry relationships, is paying dividends. *"Our political unit spends a great deal of time in meetings, and although that may not look as exciting as attending rallies or demos, the truth is we generate more of an impact by sitting inside the Home Office than we do by demonstrating outside it. That's why our presence on the*

Home Office Task Group, which has been set up to tackle moped-enabled crime, is so important. They've got the resources and we've got the specialist knowledge: it's a good combination."

MAG has also been effective at generating new activity around the country. MAG's team in the North West achieved a superb result by helping the restart of a motorcycle show at Blackpool's Winter Gardens. Meanwhile, in Northern Ireland, Regional Rep Martyn Boyd and his team had a membership surge and are busy getting ready for next year's Motorcycle Show in February 2018. Elsewhere, MAG Cumbria has recruited half the MPs in the entire region.

"We've also got much better at appearing in the media regarding biking issues. Down in the South East, Steve Mallett has become a bit of a star, with regular appearances on the BBC. Colin Brown is doing the same in the West Midlands - and that's all set to increase around the country next year. It's partly about how we share best practice these days and I was delighted with the training weekend we held in York in November. It's all about making sure we operate professionally without having to work everything out from scratch every time."

MAG has great expectations for 2018. *"There's a lot to worry about, from illogical pollution charges through to the implications of Brexit for riders' rights. But that's why we're here - to fix problems. It's been a great team effort by staff and volunteers throughout 2017 and we're looking forward to building on this during 2018."*

NW MAG Christmas Raffle 2017



A big thanks to everyone who bought tickets for the NW Christmas raffle this year. The winning ticket was drawn by the manageress of the Mitton Fold Hotel at the Red Rose MAG Xmas meal on 8th December and the winner, a thrilled Pete Watkins, received his "Xmas bonus" the next day.

Last month - NEC 2017

No matter what your views are on the NEC Bike Show, there's nothing really to rival it in the UK for range and variety. Admission isn't cheap (£25 on the door!) but once in there's plenty to occupy you for a few hours. From MAG's point of view it's a must – we can talk to so many bikers old and new, and sign up new members, over the week that it's not to be missed. There were also several disgruntled BMF members there, unhappy that the group were not there again this year. Mr. Mutch has produced a fine report on the show in the Road this month so I'll just share a few interesting bikes that he left out.



It may not be the fastest café racer on the road but it's still an interesting home for a Virago 1100 engine.



If retro twins float your boat then the new Royal Enfield Interceptor may be for you.



Is this the bike that could have saved the British Bike Industry? This 1971 Triumph Bandit 350 DOHC twin still looks stunning. A 250 version might have sold in thousands to L-plate riders – I'd have had one!



Honda's Cub concept bike was a bit of a "sleeper star" at the show. Keeping very similar lines to the original (which is behind), it's got a single seat and a 125 engine. Build quality looked superb.



The National Motorcycle Museum stand (opposite the MAG stand) featured a “live workshop” which undertook the restoration of a 1958 Triumph T100 over the nine days of the show. Always fun to watch someone else getting their hands dirty! The restoration proceeds clockwise from the top left corner.



March of the Robots continues



The government is making changes to regulations, and the Highway Code, to take advances in “driver assistance” into account. The DfT is planning to amend the Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986 in order to clarify the legality of remote control parking using hand-held devices such as smartphones, so long as you are within 6 metres of the vehicle. It will also remove the requirement for drivers to keep their hands on the wheel when using driver assist at speed on motorways. The government has said that it wants to make the UK a centre for driverless technology. Driverless trucks will be tested on motorways next year. MAG, rest assured, is monitoring all this closely.

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 **DDMC** at the **clubhouse, Hardman St, Bury at 8pm on Wednesday 24th January 2018**. 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 (**last one of the year this weekend**)

Black Diamonds open night every Friday at the clubhouse in Hindley

Allegiance MC Open Night first Saturday of month at the clubhouse Aintree (**No more until the party 3rd Feb**)

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

Red Rose MAG - meet every 1st&3rd Wednesday, Petre Arms, Langho nr Blackburn – **at Dog Inn, Whalley at moment hope to be back at the Petre mid Dec**

Ecclestone Delph Bike Meet every Tuesday until end of season, café open till 9pm – **ended for this year**

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

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

Brotherhood Quest Bike Nite – every Monday (except last in month) 7-9pm Anchor pub, 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 Greyhound pub, 44 Leigh Rd, Worsley M2 1LR - open night every 3rd Thursday

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 at 8pm.

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

British Bulldogs MCC – every Wednesday at the Balcarres Arms, Wigan WN2 1PA

Spartan MCC meet every Thursday at Railway Linnet pub Middleton, M24 1GQ

Avernus MCC – will be held at the Red Herring dates TBC

Known upcoming events –

31st Dec - Toy Run Ellsmere time TBC

24th Feb 2018– Millennium BC 17th Anniversary Rock Night 7:30pm – 1am Canberra Club BB2 7LF

16th March 2018 - Road Reaper's St. Patrick's Rock Night, Ellesmere Club, Bolton

10th March 2018 – Crisis Crew 1st Anniversary Party – ticket only, live music, free food, fun and games – Ship Inn, Irlam

7th April 2018 – Rising Moon – Ashton Cricket club – One Nighter Party £5 per ticket, band and food

28th April 2018 – Red Rose MAG 2nd St.George's Rock Knight, Whittingham & Goosnargh Social Club

23rd June – Pop Club (with Accrington MCC & B.A.D. MCC) Childrens' Cancer Fundraiser

29th June – 1st July Blackpool MAG's 21st Rally Fleetwood Rugby Club

28-29th June 2018 - HAMC Manchester Rally

12th – 14th Oct 2018 - Rising Moon Rally £12.00 per ticket bands food raffle etc

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





Red Rose MAG
presents the 2nd



**St. George's
Rock Knight**



Saturday 28th April 2018

**Whittingham & Goosnargh Social Club,
Old Hospital Grounds, Whittingham, Preston PR3 2JE**

Live music

Free Camping

Raffle

£5 on the door

All profits go to the Motorcycle Action Group Fighting Fund - Defending Riders' Rights!



8th WARRINGTON WHEELS YOUTH MOTOR CYCLE COMPETITION 2018

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 WOOLSTON BROOK SCHOOL, WARRINGTON, CHESHIRE,
WA1 4JL, ON FRIDAY 25th MAY 2018. (11.30am-2pm)

Presentation at 1.30 Bring a gazebo

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) HELD IN LINCOLNSHIRE JUNE 2018

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT BOB TOWLER
C/O WOOLSTON BROOK SCHOOL, GREEN LANE, WARRINGTON,
WA1 4JL 01925 818549

Or E-mail bobtowler57@hotmail.co.uk
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£20 OTG

Fleetwood Rugby Club, Melbourne Avenue, Lincs. FY7 8AY

All profits to The Motorcycle Action Group Ltd
Protecting our "Right to Ride"