



#### **London launches Ultra Low Emissions Zone**

As of 8<sup>th</sup> April the Ultra Low Emissions Zone (ULEZ) in London is live. Other cities will soon follow. MAG has campaigned tirelessly to seek an exemption for all motorcycles of all ages and we've been entirely consistent with our arguments:

- motorcycles are very clean.
- they generate fewer emissions than other conventionally powered vehicles.
- they reduce congestion (and so reduce secondary emissions from traffic jams).

We also pointed out that motorbikes are often the choice of the least wealthy commuters, who simply can't afford to change their vehicle, making this a tax on the poorest workers in London.

With your continued support we will hopefully see common sense prevail.

You can find out if your bike is affected by using the vehicle checker at:

https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/driving/ultra-low-emission-zone/ulez-where-and-when#on-thispage-1

## Next Month - You've Been Nabbed 28 10-12th May



It's that time again. You've Been Nabbed 28 at the Cheshire Showground is almost upon us. As usual there will be loads of entertainment: 15 bands in 2 marques and the Frog & Bucket Comedy Club Roadshow on the Saturday afternoon. All profits will obviously support NABD in helping disabled bikers to get back onto the road.

The NW MAG stand will be there as usual and will be looking forward to seeing you – so make sure you drop by and say hi.

## Driverless vehicles go solo

By the end of the year completely driverless cars are expected to take to Britain's roads under government plans to scrap the requirement for a dedicated "safety driver". For the first time self-driving vehicles, without a steering wheel or human in control, will be allowed to be tested on the highway. So far only limited trials of self-driving vehicles without a human driver have taken place in the



United States, which is seen as the global leader, but none in Europe. Critics claim that the vehicles are years away from being safe enough to operate without a driver. In March last year a 49-year-old woman was killed by a self-driving Uber as she crossed a road in Tempe, Arizona, even though there was a human monitor behind the wheel,

The government has said that it expects fully self-driving vehicles to be in commercial operation on British roads by 2021. It has been estimated that the technology will be worth £52 billion to Britain by 2035, and it's claimed that autonomous vehicles will make us much safer. Figures suggest that as many as nine in ten accidents on public roads are caused by human error, mainly drivers not looking properly and going too fast. It's also claimed that here will also be a productivity boost, as motorists are free to work whilst the car drives itself.

Advocates of the technology also point to improvements in traffic flow in the long term as the stop-start of normal vehicles is eliminated. However, a study last year by Arthur D Little, the management consultants, said that congestion could rise more than 16 per cent while driverless cars share the road with humans.

as autonomous vehicles would be too focused on "obeying the law and not taking risks" when moving between lanes, causing more tailbacks.

#### Insurance let down



It's a decision we may all have to make.

Approaching a busy central London junction on his bike, Dexter Fielding had to make a split-second decision: hit a pedestrian who had stepped out into the road without looking, or take evasive action. Dexter, 30, chose the second option. He veered just in time to avoid the woman and slid off his bike, breaking his wrist and fracturing his right hand. No other vehicle was involved in the accident in January, but still Dexter's Kawasaki Versys had to be scrapped. He has been unable to ride since.

While his insurer, Carole Nash, accepted that he was not to blame it still classed the crash as an "at-fault" accident, meaning he was liable for personal injury costs. As a result, Dexter received no injury pay-out. Personal injury can be covered if you buy a policy add-on, but any claim is still recorded on your insurance history, causing problems when you renew.

On his doctor's advice Dexter had to take took two weeks off work to recuperate, though it cost him about £800 in lost earnings. "My wrist is getting stronger but having to use it for work all the time isn't making it any better," said Dexter. "But I can't afford to take further time off." The black mark on his insurance history is also causing concern: he has been searching for a new motorbike policy on comparison websites and the crash has already bumped up his premiums by 20%.

Claims fall into two categories: "non-fault" and "at fault". Confusingly, how an accident in which you are involved is classed has little to do with blame. "Non-fault" simply means insurers are able to recover the total cost of a claim from the person whose fault it was.

You can still be involved in an accident that wasn't your fault and yet is classed as at fault for insurance purposes, because it could have been caused by someone or something the insurer can't claim against — an animal in the road, for example, or another motorist who drives off.

Dexter said that although the pedestrian apologised to him at the scene, admitting the accident was her fault and giving him her contact details, she later refused to admit any liability, meaning that the accident had to be classed as "at fault".

Eventually, after Dexter went public with his complaint, Carole Nash told him he was covered for personal injury after all, because he had bought a policy add-on. It advised him to make a claim and paid £75 by way of apology.

"I'm fully comprehensive and it was an addition on the policy that I didn't know about," he said. "Initially, Carole Nash said I couldn't make a personal injury claim and closed my file without telling me. I only found out when I sent them some hospital records."

The additional benefit is not typically included in fully comprehensive policies but, in Dexter's case, will pay out up to £350 if his claim is successful.

Carole Nash could not explain why he was not made aware of the add-on earlier. The insurer said: "The details appear to be that the pedestrian stepped out in the road and [Dexter] swerved and came off his bike. We have referred him to his personal accident policy, which he could claim from."

### **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 **British Bulldogs MCC** at the **Balcarres Arms, Wigan WN2 1PA** at **8pm** on **Wednesday 29th May 2019.** <u>Please check the NW Alliance website for any last minutes changes to venue/dates—they do happen!</u> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of month, open 7.30 'til late

HAMC Manchester Open night last Saturday of month - free entry, great bands, food available, open 7.30 'til late

Red Devils MC Open Night every Friday at the clubhouse in Hindley

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

MT Heads Meet – Flying Horse Rochdale 8pm every Monday

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

Bury the Hatchett MCC - meet at the Two Tubs pub Bury at 7.30 every Thursday

Ronin MCC - Plough, Hazel Grove

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

Road Slayers Brotherhood every 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday at Rock House Hotel pub, Peel Green Rd, Barton M30 7AY

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

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

Brigantia Rebels MCC meet at the Old Springs, Spring Rd, Wigan WN5 0JJ 1st Saturday at 7pm & 3rd Sunday at 3pm

Leyland Eagles MCC meet 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays at Leyland RAFA Club

Avernus MCC – meet at the Red Herring Mill Lane Coppull PR7 5AN every Sunday

RBLR meet 2<sup>nd</sup> Mondays at St.Chad's Club, Whittle-le-Woods

Life Behind Bars MCC meet every other Sunday - Hare & Hounds, 170 Outwood Rd, Radcliffe

Lioness MCC 1st and 3rd Wednesday @ Hope View farm, Astley M29 7LH

Throttle Twisters MCC every Monday – The Rifle Range pub, Burnley lane, Chadderton

Veterans Garage open at Barton Aerodrome every Monday 6pm onwards

Rising Moon Bike Night - Wednesdays at the Travellers Call, Bredbury. Bike Night starts in March.

Norsemen MCC – every 2<sup>nd</sup>& 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of every month @ Irlam Social Club

Wild Bulls MCC meet every Wednesday at 7.30 in PR1 Bar, Preston.

Accrington MCC meet every other Sunday at the Poplar Club, Accrington

Boggarts MCC meet every 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Monday at Hope View farm, Astley M29 7LH

Hell's Belles WMC meet last Monday of the month at the Cauldron Radcliffe

Phoenix Rising MCC meet 1st Sunday of the month at 3pm Toll Bar Inn, Bolton, BL6 7QH

Coyote MCC – meet every Tuesday Old Cock Inn Oldham Rd Middleton M24 2EB

Pist'N'Nuts MCC – meet every Friday 8pm @ Spring Gardens, Compstall Rd, SK6 5HE

The Sisterhood – first Tuesday of month @ 7pm at Greyhound Hotel, Sporting Lodge Inns, Warrington Rd, Leigh WN7 3XQ

Millennium 2000BC meet at Broadfield Arms, Leyland, every other Monday

#### **Known upcoming events**

27th April - Highway to Hell Charity Run leaving HAMC Manchester clubhouse at 1pm

4<sup>th</sup> May – HAMC Liverpool Comedy Night – 8 till late, headline act John McCreadie

10-12th May - NABD Rally - Cheshire Showground

11th May - Throttle Twisting 60s, 70s, 80s Charity Music Night at the Rifle Range, Chadderton

17-19th May - Leyland Eagles MCC Rally

23rd-25th May 2019 - Manchester Rock & Bike Fest at Manchester Rd (A57), Moat Lane, Rixton, Warrington WA3 6ED

21st-23rd June - Farmyard Party

28 -30th June - Blackpool MAG Rally

29th June - Brigantia Rebels MCC Armed Forces Day at the Old Springs starts at 12, money to the British Legion

6<sup>th</sup> July - Spartan MCC 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at the Railway Linnet pub Middleton, M24 1GQ

20th July - Hell's Belles WMC Open Night at the Cauldron Radcliffe M26 2TA

26th - 28th July - Running on MT Rally - the Last One! Tickets on sale now!

28th July Norsemen MCC St. Rocco's Charity Run, starting from Rope & Anchor, Woolston at 9am

10<sup>th</sup> August Coyote MCC Charity Fundraiser Night at the Old Cock Inn, Middleton M24 2EB

23<sup>rd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> August – Avernus MCC Underworld Rally – unfortunately CANCELLED

13-15<sup>th</sup> Sept - Jesters of Preston MCC Rally at Whittingham Club, Goosnargh

20-21st Sept 2019 - Lioness MCC in conjunction with Boggarts MCC Rally, Hopeview Farm, Astley, M29 7LH.

5<sup>th</sup> Oct – Avernus MCC Rock Night – Red Herring Mill Lane Coppull PR7 5AN

19th October (prov) - RDMC Manchester - 1st Anniversary Party at the clubhouse,

26th October - Accrington MCC Rock Night - Poplar Club, Accrington

3<sup>rd</sup> November - Hell's Belles WMC Samhain Night at the Cauldron Radcliffe M26 2TA

9th November - Millennium 2000BC Rock Night @ the Canberra Club, Salmesbury with free camping

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 <a href="mailto:billgreen@madasafish.com">billgreen@madasafish.com</a> and I'll put it into the newsletter next month.

Bill

NW Political Rep





# 9th WARRINGTON WHEELS YOUTH MOTOR CYCLE COMPETITION 2019

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 WARRENSTON, CHESHERE, WAI ATL

ON FRIDAY ZIRDAM ZIRS, (II SIUM-Zen) PRESENTION of 13 30 Bring guzzbo

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 2019

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

Or E-mail bobtowler57@hotmail.co.uk

HAPPY BUILDING!









12-14TH JULY 2019 DALTON UNITED F.C **BECKSIDE ROAD** DALTON IN FURNESS **LA15 8DP** 200 LIMIT PRE-BOOK ONLY **NO CARS** 

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£15.00 **PREBOOK** 

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CHEQUES TO: JESTERS MCC, 109 COLLEGE COURT PRESTON PR1 7RU LIMIT OF 350 TICKETS THIS YEAR

CARS OR VANS: PRE BOOK ONLY (LIMITED NUMBERS)

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