



Party On

This weekend sees the MAG rally season finally off to a belated start with the delayed Yorkshire Pudding. As you know, besides being a great weekend, MAG rallies are also vital fund-raisers for the group. The end of September also sees the rescheduled Farmacyard Party which is always a fantastic time. If you're able to go, you'll be helping MAG enormously through a difficult year.



The Future is Smart

So, seven more stretches of "Smart" motorways get the green light from the government just as the head of Highways England stands down from his £450,000 p.a. job over criticism of the policy. Jim O'Sullivan has refused to admit that there are any serious problems with the system, first introduced 14 years ago. Despite widespread public concerns over safety, Mr. O'Sullivan insisted that they are safer than conventional motorways. The new stretches are likely to be on the M6, M62, M56, A1(M), M1, M25 and the M40/M42 interchange.

Regardless of the advantages or disadvantages, we still have the pleasure of putting up with their construction. Just this week I slogged through



20 miles of upgrade roadworks between junctions 13 and 15 on the M6. About half way though the speed limit now increases to 60mph, which would be great if it hadn't resulted in a traffic jam straight away (of course the narrowed lanes prevented any filtering). As usual, there were bits of sporadic work going on but long stretches with absolutely no activity visible. I've long wondered why they can't just work on a one mile stretch and then move on when it's finished, leaving travellers much less inconvenienced. I'm sure there will be a good reason why they don't do this but I've yet to hear it.

Careful or they'll have you!



New powers for councils to fine road users have resulted in a 34% increase in the number of such fines being issued. Since London and Cardiff councils have been allowed to issue fines directly they have collected more than £58 million, mainly from vehicles stopping in yellow boxes. Concerns are now being raised that this is turning into a "cash cow" for hard-up boroughs. In other areas it is the responsibility of the police to issue such fines. As the government plans to grant such powers to all council, alarm bells are ringing with road users organisations that once again road users will be seen as easy marks.

Highway Code adapts to Driverless Technology

As of next spring the DfT plans to legalise the use of "lane keeping" technology on motorways in the UK. For the first time, drivers will be allowed to take their hands off the wheel and rely on the car to keep between the lines. This will mean changing Rule 150 of the Highway Code that states that drivers should keep their hands on the wheel at all times. No cars are presently sold with this ability although many have "lane assist", which alerts the driver if they drift out of their lane. Overall this could be a good thing. With the massive increase in texting-while-driving over the past few years, anything that stops cars wandering into the side of me on the motorway is very welcome.



North West Motorcycle Alliance

The Alliance finally got up and running again this month, the last meeting being in February. 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 **Shieldmaidenz MCC** at the **HAMC** clubhouse on **Liverpool Rd, M44 5BQ** at **8pm** on **Wednesday 30th September 2020**. **Please check the NW Alliance FB page for any last minute 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 in normal times!

HAMC Liverpool Open night 3rd Saturday of month, open 7.30 'til late

HAMC Manchester Open night last Saturday of month – **Not running at the moment**

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

Red Rose MAG – meetings suspended until new venue found

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

Ronin MCC – every Saturday night @ the Plough, Hazel Grove

Road Slayers Brotherhood every 2nd Friday at the Veterans' Garage Barton – **restarts 2nd week in September**

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 George, Southport 1st Saturday at 7pm & 3rd Sunday at 3pm

Leyland Eagles MCC meet 3rd Mondays at Leyland RAFA Club

Avernus MCC – meet at the Red Herring, Mill Lane, Coppull PR7 5AN every other Friday
RBLR meet 2nd 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 – free food!
Throttle Twisters MCC every Monday – North Chadderton Social & Bowling Club, open night every 3rd Monday
Veterans Garage open at Barton Aerodrome every Monday 6pm onwards
Accrington MCC meet every other Sunday at the Poplar Club, Accrington
Boggarts MCC meet every 2nd & 4th Wednesday 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 Tempest Arms, Chorley Old Rd, Bolton
Coyote MCC – meet every Tuesday Old Cock Inn Oldham Rd Middleton M24 2EB
Pist'N'Nuts MCC – meet every Thursday 8pm @ The Pear Tree, 431 Hadfield Rd, Hadfield SK13 1PY
The Sisterhood – meet first Tuesday of month @ 7pm at The Cart & Horses, Astley M29 7SD
Millennium 2000BC meet at Broadfield Arms, Leyland, every other Monday
Shieldmaidenz MCC meet at the clubhouse, 198 Liverpool Rd, M44 5DB 1st Friday of the month
Road Kill MCC meet at the clubhouse, Unit 10, M44 5AZ, Irlam every Tuesday evening about 6pm.
Rally Rebels RC meet at the Cock & Rabbit, Manchester Rd, Southport every other Sunday 3-5pm
Antagonist MCC meet every Wednesday at the Church Inn, Chadderton OL1 2RR
Union Riders MCC meets at the Malaga Drift, Eccles M30 0DY every 1st Friday from 8pm
Gawsworth Jesters MCC meet at the Harrington Arms, Church Lane. Gawsworth SK11 9RJ, Weds evenings from 7.00pm.
Heathens MCC – meet at the Top House, Oldham OL4 5TB first Wed of month @ 8pm
Wiccan Wolves MCC meet @ Radcliffe Cricket Club M26 3RF every other Friday

Known upcoming events

28th-30th August - Yorkshire Pudding Rally

4-6th September – Stormin the Castle – postponed to 2021

11th-13th September - Jesters MCC Rally – postponed to 2021

18-19th September – Lioness MCC Rally – Cancelled

25-27th September – Farmyard Party

24th October- RDMC Manchester 2nd Anniversary Party at the clubhouse Hindley Green

31st October – Accrington MCC Halloween Night - Poplar Club, Accrington

28th November - Avernus Rock Night, Red Herring, Mill Lane, Coppull PR7 5AN

5th December – Coyote MCC Xmas Party Old Cock Inn Oldham Rd Middleton M24 2EB

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@masdafish.com and I'll put it into the newsletter next month.

Bill

NW Political Rep



MAG *Safety & Security* **Foundation**

WE are Promoting

- LOOK CHAINS FOR EXTRA SECURITY Lock
- DIESEL SPILLS KILL DON'T OVERFILL SECURE YOUR FILLER CAP
- Get a Grip

WE are Supporting a Number of Stolen Bike Recovery Schemes

YOU Can Financially Support US by Shopping On-Line at

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When you shop via the smile.amazon.co.uk website, Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to the MAG Foundation, if we're your nominated charity..

Visit the MAG Foundation website for more information www.mag-foundation.org

The MAG Foundation Registered Charity no. 1100274

THE MOTORCYCLE ACTION GROUP, YORKSHIRE PRESENTS:



**RESCHEDULED
NEW DATE ANNOUNCED**



**OVER 30 BANDS
ACROSS 4 STAGES
PLAYING FROM
MID-DAY ON FRIDAY!**

FOR ALL EVENT INFO AND TICKET BOOKINGS VISIT:
WWW.FARMYARDPARTY.COM

0800 988 3199*

4 BARS ACROSS SITE

COMEDY SHOW

THE BSH RIDE-IN

BIKE SHOW (SAT PM)

**EXTENSIVE SELECTION OF FOOD
HOT SHOWERS AND CLEAN TOILETS
BOTH AVAILABLE ON SITE!**

25th - 27th SEPT 2020

**DUNCOMBE PARK
HELMSLEY, NORTH
YORKSHIRE, YO62 5EB**

**WE EXPECT 2020 TO
BE PRE-BOOK ONLY!**

**FULL WEEKEND
TICKETS PRE-BOOK: £37.00**

OTHER TICKET OPTIONS:

LIMITED THURSDAY NIGHT CAMPING: £5.00**
SATURDAY-ONLY TICKETS: £25.00 EACH
(SEE WEBSITE FOR BOOKING AND DETAILS)

CHEQUES (WITH SAE) TO: 'THE FARMYARD PARTY',
P.O. BOX 247, BEVERLEY, HU17 6BB - BIKERS IN
CASH: STRICTLY PRE-BOOK ONLY BY FREEPHONE*

*BOOKING CLOSING DATES: POSTAL SALES 15/08/20; ONLINE, PHONE AND CASH
PAYERS 20/08/20. **TAXES APPLY (PLEASE SEE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS).
***THURSDAY TICKETS: 500 PLACES LIMIT. GATES OPEN 3:00 PM.
WEEKEND TICKET HOLDERS: GATES OPEN FRIDAY AT 09:00 AM.
ALL OTHER TELEPHONE AND POSTAL ENQUIRIES DIRECT TO 0800 988 3199

THE FARMYARD PARTY. SINCE 1987.

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