



Reasons to be Cheerful (in a field)

It looks like there's some light at the end of the tunnel and that the world may get back to a kind of normality by this summer. This means that it's rally time again! The decision was made (wisely, in retrospect) to cancel the **Into the Valley** rally (before Boris cancelled it for us). However, the **Farmyard Party**, **Yorkshire Pudding** and **Stormin' the Castle** rallies are all set to go ahead and I, for one, can't wait to get back out there. The dates are:

Farmyard Party: 18-20th June

Yorkshire Pudding: 6-8th August (pre-book only)

Stormin' the Castle 3rd-5th September

Remember, you'll not only have a great time but you'll also be helping to refill MAG's depleted fighting-fund coffers. See you there.

Future Priorities

The results are in for the survey of MAG members' priorities for MAG to campaign on in the future. They are:

1. **Access to all Bus Lanes**
2. **Better Road Surfaces**
3. **Safer crash barriers**
4. **More and better parking provision**
5. **Simplified licencing and training**

MAG has submitted the list to the Department for Transport along with a number of suggested ideas as to how they can deliver these outcomes. MAG's Director of Campaigns & Political Engagement, Colin Brown, commented:

"Given the warmth of our meeting I am sure that the Minister will give the priority list fair consideration. I hope that she will instruct

Department officials to work with MAG to ensure that all possible levers to support the local delivery of these priorities are used. The stock response by central Government on questions such as bus lanes has always been that they are a matter for local government. However, the Department does have considerable influence on the local decisions. I am sure that now the Minister has demonstrated the will, the way can be found. In short, I see this as the start of long, but happy, adventure."



Potholes worse as cash runs out



Local councils are taking two days longer to fill in potholes than in 2018, new research shows. It is now taking an average of three weeks to get them repaired with some areas taking up to 18 weeks. Unless you're in Liverpool where it can take over a year. Shortage of funds and the recent cold weather have exacerbated the situation, as they are usually formed by a freeze-thaw process. The government announced a £2.5 billion "pothole fund" in the 2020 budget and is about to release £500 million of it to councils. Let's hope so – hitting a bad pothole in a car is uncomfortable, and may even cause damage, but on a bike it can be lethal.

CBT woes

As you will be aware, lockdown restrictions mean that Approved Training Bodies (ATBs) are prohibited from offering motorcycle training, resulting in riders being unable to renew their expiring CBT certificates. Consequently, those affected, including key workers, cannot use their bikes, which affects their ability to commute, or carry out their jobs. You can be fined up to £1,000 and get up to 6 penalty points for riding if you don't have a valid CBT certificate. Therefore Independent MP, Jonathan Edwards, has tabled an Early Day Motion in Parliament, which asks:

That this House notes that Compulsory Basic Training (CBT) certificates for motorbikes and mopeds are issued on a two year basis for learner drivers; further notes that these vehicles provide a low carbon mode of transport for passenger and cargo; notes that many key workers use this mode of transport as part of their commute, especially in rural areas where public transport links can be poor; notes that as a result of lockdown measures, motorcycle and moped tests are suspended; expresses concern that road users whose CBT certificates lapse whilst lockdown measures are in place are prohibited from using their vehicles on public roads through no fault of their own; notes that whilst road safety concerns are paramount, motorists in this position have been using their chosen mode of transport for two years; calls for a temporary extension of CBT certificates whilst lockdown measures are in place; and further calls on the Government to annul test fees for people with CBT certificates which have lapsed during the current lockdown if they will not extend their validity.

Early day motions (EDMs) are motions submitted for debate in the House of Commons for which no day has been fixed. As there is no specific time allocated to EDMs very few are actually debated. However, many attract a great deal of public interest and media coverage and by attracting the signatures of other MPs they can be used to demonstrate the level of parliamentary support for a particular cause or point of view. The Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA) has announced that “in line with the government’s roadmap announcement, driving and theory tests will resume no earlier than 12 April. DVSA is working closely with the government and will provide more information, as soon as we are able to do so, on other tests, lessons and training”.

Low Traffic Neighbourhoods



Despite a recent High Court ruling the government is pressing on with plans for “low-traffic neighbourhoods” in towns and cities. These schemes involve closing residential streets to traffic, wider pavements and segregated lanes for cyclists. Critics of such schemes have complained about lack of local consultation, poor access for taxis and emergency vehicles and traffic simply being displaced to other streets nearby. Greater Manchester’s “cycling tsar” Chris Boardman has described such complaints as being driven by just a “negative minority” (I seem to remember the last tsar ended up down a well or something like). In Manchester 14 planters have

been placed across roads in Levenshulme and Burnage to deter “rat-runs” leading to vehicles mounting the pavement to get round them and delays of up to seven minutes for ambulances. In Hereford planters have been used to block roads leading into the town centre and its historic Old Bridge closed to vehicles causing complaints that the city centre looks like “there’s been a bomb scare”.

Meanwhile a DfT study has recommended removing parking places and raising fees to further discourage the use of motorised vehicles. As the high street is suffering badly from the effects of both lock-down and surging online sales this may not be the best time to make access even harder.

North West Motorcycle Alliance

There are high hopes for a June meeting (30/6/21)

This is not a MAG organisation but a monthly meet for all bike clubs, organisations and interested bikers anywhere from Cheshire up to Lancaster. However, under the current circumstances, very little on the calendar will actually be taking place.

Please check the NW Alliance FB page for any last minute changes

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

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



Planned Future Events (fingers crossed)

18-20 JUNE 2021

AC/DC-UK

34 FARMYARD PARTY

SHINE ON

PARTIES WITH A PURPOSE

Motorcycle Action Group

Blackpool Stanley Park Bike Show

Sunday July 4th 2021

11am - 4pm



£2 Bike/Trike Parking
Entitles Entry to the Show

Live Music in the
Bandstand Featuring
Rupert Fabulous

Trophies for
Various Classes and
Best in Show

Details at www.north-west-region.mag-uk.org
All Profits to the MAG Foundation Registered Charity 1100274



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WE are Supporting a Number of
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Shop at over 4,000 leading stores via the www.giveasyoulive.com
website, Donation Reminder or app and you'll raise free funds for The
MAG Foundation.



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

6TH - 8TH AUGUST 2021



PARTIES WITH A PURPOSE

STORMIN' THE CASTLE

3rd-5th Sep 2021

Stormin The Castle

Bike Rally & Custom Show
Witton Castle, Co Durham DL14 ODE

Join us for our 30th Anniversary in 2021

CUM'N
DRIBBLE IN'T
RIBBLE 21

17TH-19TH
SEPTEMBER

2021



FRIDAY SATURDAY



ALL THE USUAL PARTYING AND
DEBAUCHERY YOU CUM TO
EXPECT

LIVE BANDS
FRIDAY AND SATURDAY NIGHT

WHITTINGHAM CLUB
OLD WHITTINGHAM HOSPITAL
GROUNDS
WHITTINGHAM
PRESTON
PR3 2JE

£15.00
PREBOOK
ONLY

DETAILS : WWW.JESTERSMCC.ORG.UK

PRE BOOK ONLY 200 TICKETS AVAILABLE

Mob: 07434694265

NO CARS OR VANS: PARKING AVAILABLE FOR BLUE BADGE HOLDERS