



Is it renewal time? If you usually renew your membership at one of the summer rallies, which are now either cancelled or sold out, you may have missed your reminder this year. If so, just call the MAG office on 01926 844064 and they'll sort you out in not time!

All new bikes to be zero emissions from 2035?

The Government's Transport Decarbonisation Plan sets out how the UK Government proposes to tackle carbon emissions from the transport sector of the economy on its path to delivering a Net Zero UK by 2050. MAG has issued its response. MAG remains opposed to compulsion as a solution to reducing carbon emissions. We have always acknowledged the need to reduce the harmful impacts of transport and this is why we have long promoted modal shift to motorcycles as a significant lever for achieving that aim. We are pleased to see the recognition of the positive and significant role played by motorcycles acknowledged in the plan, but are concerned that a technological roadmap for motorcycles has yet to be fully developed.



We call for the Plan's recognition of motorcycling's role to be applied immediately by way of a more proactive and inclusive approach to motorcycling in transport policy.

We urge the Government to listen to all voices in the forthcoming consultation which proposes the requirement for all new motorcycles and scooters being fully zero emissions at the tailpipe from 2035. Equally we want to see consideration and support for the full range of potential solutions in the technological roadmap. MAG Chair, Selina Lavender, said:

"MAG will engage with the Government and the motorcycle industry in this process and will continue to robustly represent all the opinions of its members. There is still much work to be done to ensure the benefits of motorcycling are enhanced and recognised. I am confident that MAG's engagement in this work will be positive and achieve the best possible results for motorcyclists in the UK."

Government rules out hard shoulder to cry on



Restoring the hard shoulder to the 400 miles of "smart" motorway in Britain would lead to an additional 25 deaths and 224 serious casualties per year, according to analysis by the Department for Transport. The reasoning behind this is that bringing back the hard shoulder would cut motorway capacity by a quarter, leading to greater congestion and forcing more vehicles onto less safe A and B roads. In addition, the increased congestion could cost the country £2.84 billion per year in lost productivity. These calculations have been denounced by anti-smart campaigners as "biased guesswork". CCTV cameras are not always monitored and new radar technology to detect stranded vehicles will not be fully functional until September next year.

Another nice little earner for councils

Failure to understand the meaning of a common road sign has cost bikers and drivers £14 million in London alone last year. So called "Low traffic Neighbourhoods", where only bicycles and pedestrians are allowed, have expanded greatly during lockdown, the theory being that they will encourage locals to walk or cycle. Unfortunately non-locals are not familiar with the scheme and stray inadvertently into the restricted zones, immediately incurring a £130 fine. They are usually marked by the bike over a car sign (no access for motor vehicles), with the road often restricted by obstacles such as planters. These schemes have been criticised by police, ambulance



and fire services for making access to emergencies difficult. In November, £175 million was allocated to expand the scheme across the UK. Coming soon to a street near you? Local authorities have used emergency powers to justify fast-tracking the introduction of these schemes on the premise that they assist with social distancing. Local objections have already had an effect in causing the removal of a number of these schemes.

Please inform Lembit if you have worries about a local Low Traffic Neighbourhood. We need to act fast and clearly if there is to be a successful challenge in your locality. As we've said before, MAG is not standing against progress. We've just got issues about poorly thought-out schemes that appear to owe more to the agenda of forcing a shift to cycling and walking than they do to the transport needs of a modern economy and society.

Call Lembit with any Low Traffic Neighbourhood info or questions and comments on 01926 844064 or email Lembit@mag-uk.org

E10 petrol worries

The introduction of E10 petrol later this year will be of concern to riders of older bikes, which may not be compatible with the new fuel. The government has provided a check to see whether you'll have any problems:

<https://www.gov.uk/check-vehicle-e10-petrol>

E-scooters in Chester



Cheshire West and Chester council have launched a 12-month E-scooter trial in Chester – you rent them for £2 per 20 mins. They are setting up no less than 48 E-scooter parking bays in the city. This is despite a huge increase in robberies and assaults using these things being reported and a 3 year old girl being left with serious injuries after a collision with one being ridden in a park. Meanwhile, after a complaint from reportedly just one person, the council restricted parking for real motorcycles on a section of the Groves, between the Cheshire Farm Ice Cream café and the Chester Bandstand, last year. However, bikers held a series

of peaceful protests and over 2000 people signed a petition to 'Save our motorcycle/scooter parking at The Groves', leading to a 5.5-metre length of parking space permanently reserved for motorcycles, with the adjoining 16.5-metre length reserved for motorcycles at weekends and bank holidays. Many thanks to Pete 'Click' Clark for bringing us up to speed on that. For further info see:

<https://www.chesterstandard.co.uk/news/19171017.riders-welcome-proposed-parking-agreement-groves-chester/>

By the way, the Chester Council website advises that E-scooters have a weight limit of 100KG, which is equivalent to 15 stone 10½lb. Worth bearing in mind if you fancy a go.

North West Motorcycle Alliance

Meetings will resume on **Wednesday 28th July**, to be hosted by **Shieldmaidenz MCC.**

The 25th August meeting will hopefully be hosted by Lioness MCC.

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 meetings to be arranged (St.Chad's Club is out of action)

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

Bill

NW Political Rep





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