

# CHAINLINK

The Magazine of the  
**Christian Motorcyclists' Association**

Reg Charity No. 1080911



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***Winter 2007 Jesus is Lord***

**Chainlink is the magazine of the  
Christian Motorcyclists' Association (CMA) UK**

The views expressed in *Chainlink* cannot be taken as the official CMA policy on any subject. The magazine is published three times a year, to provide information for its members and to encourage them in their personal walk with God.

*We pray that this magazine will stimulate non-Christian readers into thinking more about Jesus, and also into seeking Him for themselves.*

*The Bible says: "Seek and you will find". Matthew.7.vs7*

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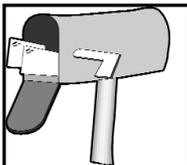
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'Working in partnership with  
Bible Society'



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## What's in the Winter 2007 Chainlink

There we were, 4 of us, riding around Guernsey for a week just chillin', as you do, and who should we meet but Sue and Colin. A great couple.

We also met many bikers, thanks to our host, Duke. We thank Duke for his hospitality and many hours of learning about Guernsey. We had lovely weather, excellent food, a great time of worship and prayer at Elim Pentecostal church with Steve Mutch and the congregation, but most of all we had a brilliant time with Duke Ken.



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To sponsor this magazine, or just one page, please e-mail the editor. This magazine is distributed all over the world, but is also on the web at [www.bike.org.uk](http://www.bike.org.uk) and we get many visitors to the CMA UK web site.

## Mike Fitton CMA UK President Happy Christmas to you all

50,000



2,500

I am sitting at my laptop in early September, having just returned from 'Stormin The Castle' MAG Rally, and it seems strange to be writing this article, knowing you will read it in the days leading up to Christmas.

During the service at the CMA National Rally this year, I reminded everyone about the vision God gave me a few years ago, that we were to be ready for a wave of blessing God was sending to reach the biker community in the UK, and how vital it was that we were personally ready to be a part of it.

Could it be that as you enter into 2008 you need to lay aside something that has held you back from fully dedicating yourself to the call of Jesus on your heart? Do you have nets to leave that may be from your past calling; no longer relevant to today? Leave them behind and follow His voice.

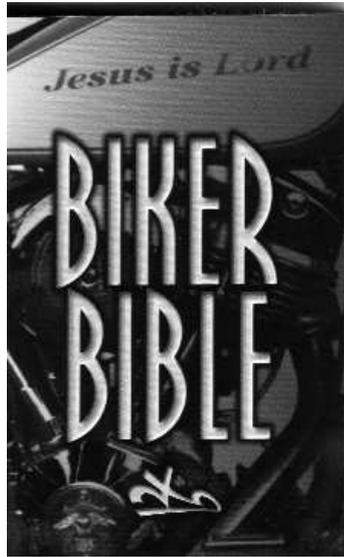
Mark Ch1 v16-18

As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." At once

they left their nets and followed him.

It is my firm belief that we are in the midst of the building up of the wave, and consequently many people have seen a new hunger for God within the bikers they meet. One of the most successful resources we have is the new Biker Bible. Since its launch at the Isle of Man TT Road Races in June, we have been overwhelmed by the interest; the stocks are running low in many branches already. Just this weekend at 'Stormin the Castle' we took 100 bibles and they had gone by Saturday evening. The most unexpected people were eager to get one. Many came back and discussed what they had read. One young man of 16/17yrs brought his sister to show her where he got his. What will the outcome of that be?

I believe God has laid two specific things on my heart to trust Him for in the years to come and I would ask you to join me in prayer and believing faith for them to be established. They are as follows: We took a big step of faith to go for 10,000 Biker Bibles and the Lord blessed us by providing £18,000 to achieve this.



My challenge now is that we aim to achieve 50,000 Biker Bibles within the next five years. It isn't that big a task, if we personally give sacrificially, pray, fast and focus, the financial aspect will follow. The motivation must be each life we have seen walking away reading the testimonies and the Word of God. If that doesn't move us to action then I would question whether this is the right ministry for us to be involved in. The approximate cost of a bible is now £2.00. If 500 people gave £2.00 a month for 12 months that would add up to £12,000. If 500 people gave £5.00 a month for 12 months that would add up to £30,000. Do I need to say any more? There is always the Gift Aid scheme as well that would recoup tax back from the government. Perhaps we all (whether we give currently or not) need to begin this Christmas by prayerfully considering our giving, in order that they may know. Incidentally, you may

recall at the end of the Sunday service at the National Rally, Colin stood up and arranged an impromptu collection in helmets towards the bibles. The amazing result was £482. One lady, well into her 80's, said it is such a blessing to give. She had learned the lesson of reaping and sowing. You cannot out give God He knows your need.

**Secondly** I believe God would have us trust Him to raise up a larger army of dedicated men, women and youth in the UK, who will commit themselves to the ministry of CMA in all aspects of the motorcycle world. We currently have in the region of 500 people, which means that we are often spread thinly on the ground at events. I would like you to join me in believing God will provide 2,500 members and affiliates within the next ten years. If you think about it this would actually mean each of us would have to introduce just five God called and Holy Spirit inspired people to CMA within 3650 days. The result would be incredible. Let me explain, I am absolutely NOT saying that we need a large membership for numbers sake. If you know me well, you know that is not my heart. What I am saying is that we need people who will dedicate themselves to fill a gap, show compassion, go the extra mile and then, offer support, pray, care, reach out etc. etc. etc. The more dedicated the team and the greater the team is, the more effective we can be overall.

So please carry these numbers in your hearts and minds to regularly pray for the Lord to meet our need.

**50,000**

**2,500**

I would like to thank you for your support, dedication and love throughout 2007. God has so much more planned though, and I for one am very excited to see it happen. Let me close with a couple of verses from well known carols that express the heart of God for a lost world.

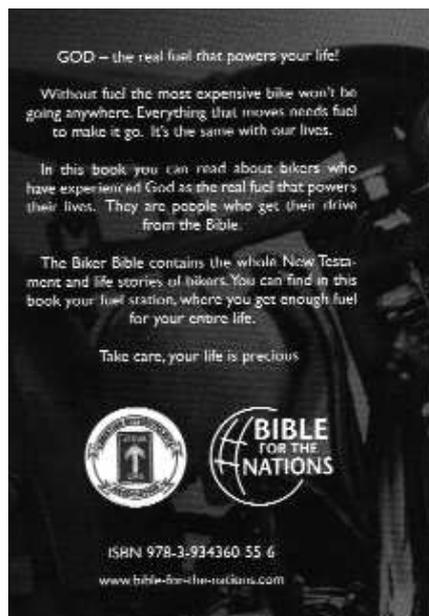
(Taken from O Little Town of Bethlehem)

How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heaven.  
No ear may hear His coming, but in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive him still, the dear Christ enters in.

(Taken from Christians awake salute the happy morn)

I bring good tidings of a Saviour's birth  
To you and all the nations upon earth  
This day hath God fulfilled His promised word;  
This day is born a Saviour, Christ the Lord."

**Happy Christmas and Blessed New Year  
to you all,  
With Love Mike,  
Sandy and Emma.**  
<<>>



## An Encouraging Word

by Rev. Bob Bogart, West Mid's.



Love will last forever.

(I Corinthians 13:8).

The word this issue is LOVE. You can't live in Liverpool for any length of time without having Beatle-Mania twist its way into your heart. Before moving to the Midlands we were in Liverpool for 5½ years and, during the many times we drove past Strawberry Fields, Penny Lane, and Eleanor Rigby's grave we would often rehearse their familiar lyrics out loud in the car. You can't help it! Liverpool breeds music, and The Beatles are Liverpool. And, when I'm 64, I think I'll like it all the more!

Before you know it, the new year will be upon us. Most of us approach such a day with aspirations of great change. The old year is past, the new year is upon us, and with it comes the hope of something much better than

what we had, or couldn't have. Like every new year, each generation wants to make its mark on the world. The Beatles sang a song entitled 'Revolution', released during the height of the Vietnam War. The beginning lyrics were as follows: You say you want a revolution. Well, you know we all want to change the world. Like most songs, there's an element of truth, or at least half-truth, found within the verses. We all, to some degree, would like to change the world. We all want to leave our mark or our legacy. None of us want to pass off the scene and be forgotten. My generation, the baby boomers, did in fact change many things in this old world. But 40 years on, though there have been a host of changes, there still remain war, poverty, hunger, injustice, prejudice and displaced souls around the world.

I'm convinced the only real way to change the world is to have someone do it for us. God is that someone, and His way of changing the world begins with love. When we allow Him to change our attitude toward sin, and our belief system from self to Saviour, we will then discover a lasting change of heart. When "we" attempt to change the world, the next generation has to try it all over again. When God changes the world, it's a change of the heart, and everyone knows, all you need is love.

## Romanian Update

by Ian and Sue Paxton (In Romania)

Almost a year has passed since our last published article in Chainlink, and we have much to report about how God is leading us in our new life here in Romania.

We moved to Radauti in the north of the country last December, and to be honest spent a few weeks over the Christmas period just resting. The seven months leading up to our move had been extremely busy, and had taken their toll both physically and emotionally as we packed up our life and ministry, saying goodbye to family, friends and church as well as to contacts who had supported our work for the Lord over many years.

As we prayed before we made our move, and after we arrived in Radauti, God made it clear that we should learn the language (Sue is already fluent, although lacking in the grammatical, and Ian continues to learn step by step, and is making good progress) and become integrated into the local community. With this in mind, shortly after Christmas we began lessons in the language, spending two hours each week with a lovely lady for whom we are her first "big pupils"! Although we love living here, and had visited many times over the previous sixteen years,



it was still hard going getting used to living here permanently and continually being subject to spoken Romanian in every area of our lives.

In February, Sue began to teach

English at 'Hannah', the foundation with which we have worked for some ten years, bringing aid and being involved in various projects as and when we could. She now has five classes each week, three of which are for beginners and two for more advanced students. Most of her pupils are adults, although there are a fair number of teenagers and a few children aged around eleven or twelve. This has proved an invaluable way to get to know people, and many of the students have become friends, and have given opportunities for Sue to witness her faith, before and after the lessons.

Ian has also been kept fairly busy, helping at Hannah with computer installations and some building work at various times since we settled here. After much prayer, we started to attend the local Baptist Church, where we believe God wants us to be. Again, this is an ongoing process of becoming integrated, and, we hope, encouraging the pastor and his wife in a rather difficult situation.

Many of the Christians here in the north of the country, regardless of denomination, are very keen on traditions within and even outside the church, many of which are not necessarily Bible-based. Marius and Rebecca are a very young couple and are keen to be more relevant to people outside the church, but are finding it difficult to implement their vision because of the opposition of their more mature brothers and sisters.

The one thing we want to do is to show the Christians in this area the freedom that Christ can bring. He came to give us life in abundance, and sadly this is not usually reflected in the church here, where traditional practices are adhered to and no scope is given for anyone even a little bit different.

Over the summer, we have been involved in two children's camps, one of which was run specifically for the children of our church. This enabled us to get to know the kids better, as well as some of the adults who were there as leaders.

On a personal level, we are in the throes of seeking a house to live in (we are currently in a two-roomed apartment, fine for the two of us but not big enough for guests) and would value your prayers for the right decisions to be made.



One exciting thing, a local bike club, Bukowina Motor Club, founded only last year, recently held its first rally a few kilometres from Radauti. We went along for an evening, and it was quite good, apart from the usual rally weather of pouring rain! We plan to make further contact with the club in the near future, but will probably have more chance of fitting in when we manage to get a bike (which can't happen until we have a house with a garage to keep it in!).

If anyone is interested in coming over for next year's rally, it's around the 17th August.

Please pray for us, we are sure we are in the right place, and believe that God has a very specific work for us to do in this area.

More info. can be found at [www.jars.org.uk](http://www.jars.org.uk) and you can email us at [info@jars.org.uk](mailto:info@jars.org.uk).

We try to raise them right, but kids will be kids! And, we wouldn't have it any other way! Out of the Mouth of Babies: 3-year-old Reese: 'Our Father, Who does art in heaven, Harold is His name. Amen.'

A little boy was overheard praying: 'Lord, if you can't make me a better boy, don't worry about it. I'm having a real good time like I am.'

## Uganda visit 2007 Part Two

by Sid O'Neill, CMA North Cheshire Branch

In the last edition of Chainlink you may have read my first instalment, regarding my trip to Uganda in February of this year? I was blessed to join a team of ten from the UK to take the Gospel and Aid out to this impoverished country in central Africa.



Well, a stampede erupted as the at first, orderly men waited then grabbed at the food. By this time the guards had left the courtyard and were half asleep in the shade. This gave us the chance to explain that this food was a free gift from us, which they readily accepted,

We spent three weeks visiting different villages, schools and a prison. The prison we visited was a dirty cramped place. As we arrived outside the gate, we were met by a pastor and then taken in by the guards, who were armed with rifles and hand guns. We had brought colas and bread to share with the prisoners. I was shocked to see five young women with children who were imprisoned with nearly 200 men.

As we introduced ourselves, they all sat in the courtyard to listen to our message. I was chosen to share testimony and then we gave a short gospel message. I couldn't take my eyes off one old man. He seemed ashamed to be there and I made a point of sitting with him. We prayed with many of the men and then brought out the colas and bread.

and to understand that salvation was also a free gift from God. "We paid for the food, but Jesus paid for your salvation". And so the Lord gave us a real time of blessing with these men and women in that horrible place.

For most of the trip we stayed together or split into two groups of five. But one morning it became clear to me that we were going to be dropped off at a village and go with an interpreter and witness on our own and share the gospel message. Erm, not sure about this one. I was happy with the group to support me, but I'd be on my own, with a Ugandan interpreter who was convinced I was Widnes' answer to Billy Graham! So out of the comfort zone once again. I did try to convince them I'd be better tagging along with one of the other groups.



But to no avail. The bus came to a grinding halt, and all I can remember is the side door slamming open and the bus roaring off in a cloud of dust. "be back in two hours to collect you Sid" was the last thing I heard.

As the dust cleared I could see that unmistakable look of expectation from my Ugandan guide. Above, you can see the streets where we witnessed; very poor with open drains and rubbish everywhere.

So don't complain about our bin men ever again.

As I moved off up the road, I was praying "Lord help me". Before I could finish, my guide was pushing me over the road to a group of locals, keen to hear what I was up to. And so we began. I shared my testimony and some scriptures. Many asked for prayer, and we were invited into one or two homes to sit and take a drink. The locals were all very friendly. As

we left one home, a man, cutting hair, came out and sat down, "What have you come to tell us?" he asked.

He was a Muslim, as were most people we met. I started in the Psalms and gave testimony, then spoke from the Gospels. He and his friends all asked me to pray for them. Then before I knew it, the bus came back in a cloud of dust. "That was great Sid, well done" said my guide. "That was the Lord mucka, not me"! As we bounced back along the roads I knew I was never on my own at all. The Lord had been there before me and along side me, and it was in His strength that I managed to get through another day out of the comfort zone in Uganda.

You know I could fill the whole Chainlink with that three weeks away, but I'll bring you up to date on what's happening next, the Lord willing.



When we stayed in Ssanga, at an orphanage with 235 children, I went with a group of small children to collect water. We walked through the bush and then down a very steep hill, only to collect water I wouldn't wash my car in! This week, I've been holding a charity week in work and we've managed to raise £1300 to put towards a new water pump and a 30metre deep bore hole, up on the hill, next to the orphanage. We've found a company in Uganda called "Water is Life", who have done a survey and have assured us they can reach the water table, which will provide clean water that won't run out. The total cost will be £1900.

So we have most of the cash and will keep raising more. We have instructed the company to drill. I'll have pictures soon, and we plan to return to Uganda in Feb 2008. If you would like to

support the work we are doing out there, I can assure you every penny hits the ground. We pay all our own costs and stay with the villagers in their homes. To be honest with you, I can't believe I'm involved with this, or have even been to Uganda in the first place.

I hope you have enjoyed reading these two short articles and I'm grateful for the encouragement I have received from CMA members around the UK. In Proverbs it says "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding, In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your paths". Prv 3:5:6.

So don't tell the Lord what you are going to do for him, but trust Him to show you what He can do through you, if you let Him and trust Him. Who knows where you could end up in the world?

## CMA Ladies

by Sandy Angel-Jones-Fitton



## LADIES OF CMA CONFERENCE 27th to 29th June 2008

What does Ladies of CMA refer to? Who is welcome to come? Well, let me explain it as clearly as I possibly can. I mean, if you are female, a member, an affiliate, wife, girlfriend, daughter, friend of a member or affiliate, or associated with CMA in any way whatsoever, you may pray for CMA, or have raised money for bibles or you may be simply interested in CMA but have not actually ever done anything about it. **THIS IS FOR YOU, MAKE NO MISTAKE ! NOW READ ON.**

Plans are well under way for the Ladies of CMA Conference, 2008. It is awesome to see how God is already starting to put things into place yet again. I know I shouldn't be 'amazed' and 'surprised' because when we do things according to His will and for His purpose and glory, then we should EXPECT great things to happen. I am always thrilled when I see His hand in all of this and I am ever grateful, because when He gets to work, then I know this is not my plan, but God's and it is what He wants, not me! Hallelujah and Praise Him for that!

We have been offered just over 100 single rooms in the new modernised building at the Hayes Conference Centre. However, we need to book now if we want them, or they will go to the next willing and committed bidder! I have put out an all points bulletin, so that you don't miss the opportunity. If you missed that, it may not be too late. Just give me a call on 01287 660329 or email me ([thefittons@aol.com](mailto:thefittons@aol.com)) to book your place.

So, with that in mind, I want to encourage you to put your plans to come along into action. Book your place and encourage someone else to join you. Let's commit ourselves to a blessing from the Lord and share in that blessing whilst we are about it. Another thing that has been brought to my attention is that someone may not feel able to come because of her financial status. If that is the case, please call me, confidentially, and we will find a way of getting you a place too.

I am looking forward to what God has in store and I am looking forward to sharing with you all again.

# President and the 2007 Executive Team



**Mike Fitton (President)**



**Debbie Jones**



**Jason Bee**



**Johnny Hallas**



**Rob Urand**



**(Aje) Alan Johnston**



**Ted Russell**

## Note from the Editor

### ***Deadline for Spring 2008 edition is 1st February 2008***

Publication dates are:- April - August - December

## Looking Forward to 2008 by Ken Hardy

Hi all, **see pages 32-33 'Jotting from Peterborough' from Les Jones**, This is one of the major events in the UK and it's in East Anglia, so for us Norfolk people, travelling is easy. Its down the road. Norfolk have been going to the BMF for many years and helping Les en-mass for a few of them.



The BMF has everything that the biking community would ever need and sometimes even dry, hot sunny weather in May. I am sure there are many events nation wide and the CMA are at many, but do remember to let others know, then lets have your dates and your story; the one you were going to write, but never got around to.

The Holy Joe's at the CMA tent on the showground is busy during the show times but as it's a closed site, the show ground itself is closed from 6pm to opening the next day.

The Memba Rally, usually on the showground, was this year about 6 miles down the road, and this is very well supported, with many camping for the weekend and there are always several bands. Many do not leave the Memba rally site as there is always loads to do.

In 2008 make your diary free and come for the weekend, for the day, the Saturday or the Sunday. Make a plan to get there by 9.30am or before to get to see all the show; you need time. Come and support the CMA tent for an hour or so, walk the showground showing the Cross. To get there it's well signposted and it's on major roads.

**2008 sees Bedford running this event, so please support Bedford Branch.**

**Articles for the Chainlink are most welcome, P L E A S E R E M E M B E R .**  
**All names, addresses and pictures, especially of children, must have permission to be published. If I get them, I am assuming you have done just that, so the sender needs to be responsible for all information sent. If in doubt, run it past the President or the Exec. committee. P L E A S E r e a d t h e f o l l o w i n g**  
**All pictures must be separate from any document; ie, send them as 300dpi or higher in tiff or jpg, either on e-mails or CD by post. For all photos sent, give an accompanying description of them on a thumbnail picture page, so I can relate them to specific events, then they can go on downloads as a picture montage. All photos sent will be returned. do not send pictures taken on mobiles unless they are 300dpi +**

# NATIONAL YOUTHBIKE

REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1114724

Machines that are built by the youth. Plus some awards waiting to be won



# NATIONAL YOUTHBIKE

REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1114724

By Bob Hudson

Youthbike is a national charity, which encourages young people off the streets to work on projects around motorcycles. Each year the projects are brought to be judged at a venue in Lincolnshire; the past 3 years at Welbourn. This year was exceptionally wet and many difficulties in the organisation meant that it was a much reduced turn out, which was a pity. In the past, up to 100 entries have been submitted. The young participants are very proud of their achievements, both in building a bike based vehicle, (some are really bizarre) or just in doing a really good restoration job. Also in showing their portfolio of their plans, progress pictures and problems solved on the

way.

CMA East Midlands has been involved with this event for some 7 or 8 years and sponsor 2 of the awards. The "Resurrection Award" is for the best restoration entry. This year, the prizes outnumbered the entries, but even in the best years there are so many classes of entry that nearly everyone goes home with a prize. We also run a 'Holy Joe's' at the event.

Please see the pictures and if you know of some young folk who could be inspired to start a group for next year's entries, an embryonic website has been set up: <http://www.youthbike.com/>



Hi Everyone we are 10 yrs serving  
the lord in South Ireland  
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24hr C.M.A. Ireland mobile Number  
at 00353 86 8057982  
Any other info needed, let me  
know. [www.cmainternational.com](http://www.cmainternational.com)

## Air Ambulance Run August 2007

By Bob Hudson

This run, on behalf of the Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire Air Ambulance, set off from Bottesford on a day forecast to be wet. There were, as a result, only a much reduced number of bikes taking part. Our secretary, David, turned up with a supply of Biker Bibles and gave away quite a few.

Wisely, I thought, I put my oversuit on before we set off from the Red Lion start point. However, we only had the slightest light shower on the way to Skegness. When we arrived, I was very hot and sweaty, so took off the oversuit before setting off to find a suitable lunch on the other side of town.

It rained quite steadily while I ate lunch, but cleared up as I got ready to ride home. Having gone 30 odd miles with no rain, I became suspicious of some dark clouds ahead, so started



looking for shelter to put on the oversuit again. Three miles later, having spotted no shelter at all, the heavens opened. I have never been caught in the wet with just my leathers as protection before. But as I had waxed them earlier, I thought 'well

I'm wet now, so might as well carry on'. The Kevlar panels at the top of my sleeves are great for ventilation in the summer, but not so good at keeping out the rain. I crouched over the half fairing to maximise protection, but after a while stretched up for a break, only to find that I had pools of water in my sleeves. So I stopped, took off my gloves and emptied the sleeves before carrying on. It continued to rain for the rest of the 40 miles home. My leathers took several days to dry out. I shall not do that again.

**Attempts at displaying Biker Bibles.** by Bob Hudson  
I have been playing around with methods of displaying the Biker Bibles at bike nights. These are my attempts using a cargo net. I put them on the top box if the back of the bike is more prominent or on the seat otherwise.



# Wordsearch Challenge 6

by Mark Wilgress - Norfolk

**This is for all the younger generation under 18 years old.  
The challenge is to find each of the following words.  
The bigger challenge is to beat the adults.**

This is the last one folks if no one sends an entry in.

***come on you youth 'let's be having your entry'.***

AJS, APRILIA, BENELLI, BMW, BSA, BUELL, BULTACO, CAGIVA, CCM, CZ, DUCATI, GASGAS, GILERA, HARLEY-DAVIDSON, HESQUETH, HONDA, HUSQVARMA, HYOSUNG, KAWASAKI, KTM, KYMCO, LAVERDAMALAGUTI, MATCHLESS, MBK, MOTOGUZZI, MZ NORTON, PUCH, ROYAL-ENFIELD, SACHS, SUNBEAM, SUZUKI SYM TRIUMPH, VESPA, YAMAHA, and Lambretta.

S	U	Z	U	K	I	A	B	A	V	I	G	A	C	G	A	S	G	A	S	C	D
Y	E	T	F	I	H	G	N	U	I	M	A	T	C	H	L	E	S	S	A	C	H
M	I	Q	J	Y	K	O	L	O	M	J	N	Z	O	N	P	L	Q	L	C	X	D
J	G	I	L	E	R	A	G	W	S	U	N	B	E	A	M	Z	L	Y	H	W	M
B	U	M	C	T	M	C	S	D	V	D	T	K	M	T	M	I	G	W	S	P	A
Q	E	Q	O	G	Y	Z	I	A	N	I	I	N	A	T	R	I	U	M	P	H	L
A	X	N	A	T	O	H	K	T	W	V	A	V	L	P	Y	H	W	O	M	L	D
S	Y	E	E	I	O	M	X	T	W	A	Q	E	A	I	W	W	C	O	E	H	A
U	Q	R	O	L	P	G	I	H	M	B	K	S	G	D	B	M	Q	U	G	T	T
B	R	O	Y	B	L	X	U	F	C	O	Y	P	U	R	Y	T	B	C	P	E	T
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L	L	Y	A	D	V	T	K	A	Z	A	W	A	I	S	M	P	L	Q	G	Q	R
T	V	L	U	M	E	T	D	L	E	I	F	N	E	L	A	Y	O	R	T	S	B
A	W	E	Q	A	R	C	I	W	Y	D	L	Q	T	O	H	H	V	C	A	E	M
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O	Z	A	W	Z	A	D	N	O	H	A	E	Q	L	G	N	U	S	O	Y	H	L

If you do not want to tear this page out of the Chainlink magazine, this wordsearch is also on the web site: [www.bike.org.uk](http://www.bike.org.uk) under 'Downloads' 'Wordsearch' Then you can post it to the editor, who will check them all off. In the event of a tie, the one I get which has the most other words found will be the winner. Just as an extra incentive.

**The winner, last issue, Summer edition Wordsearch Challenge 5, was Juliette Pout aged 10 from Bristol. Thank you for your efforts, (Gary Richardson also sent one in. Thanks for the support).**

## Nexus/CRE Exhibition Aug 07

by David Hunter

The Clyde Presbyteries of the Church of Scotland joined with the Christian Resources Exhibition to host an event called 'NEXUS' at the SECC in Glasgow. Rest of Scotland Branch had a stand there, and over the three days



many people visited it and chatted, although it would be fair to say that very few were bikers or had any interest in motorcycling. Although having a stand at a Christian event is certainly not our 'core business' of evangelism, nevertheless the Exhibition was very successful for us. During the course of the three days, quite a few people asked if they could have either a Biker Bible or a Manual for Life for a non-Christian husband, son or friend who was a biker and was open to Christianity but had not yet made a decision for Christ. Please pray that these folks get the right opportunity to give their family member/friend the New Testament at the right time, and that it will then be read and the Holy Spirit will open the eyes of the reader to the Gospel. Others took tracts and during the Exhibition contact was made with a few Christian bikers, some ministers and others involved in the life of their own church. The highlight of the event for me personally though, was two non-Christian members of SECC staff who were bikers and came who along and chatted for quite a while soon after the Exhibition opened on the Wednesday. One of their colleagues had told them

there was a bike on one of the stands, so they made a bee-line for the CMA stand. Although they did not take up the invitation to acquire a Biker Bible, they did take one of our run lists, so hopefully we will see them sometime in the future.

They were certainly happy to talk with a Christian, because they were talking with a fellow biker! The security man who guarded the door just to the side of our stand also became quite chatty during the course of the three days, having been decidedly boot faced on the Wednesday when the stands were being set up. Can't be much fun guarding a door for three days, with just short breaks of a few minutes at a time! The matter of getting a bike onto our stand was not, however, trouble free. Although the Sales Manager for the event (who is a Christian biker) had specifically said to put a bike on our stand, the SECC Health & Safety people had different ideas. First of all they queried whether or not our gazebo was made from fire-resistant material, when they had not asked anyone else whether their stands were made of this material! Then I was told that bikes were not allowed into the SECC, full stop! When I pointed out politely that we had had one at the 'Big Saturday' event there two years ago (a Triumph Rocket 3), that I had minimal petrol in the tank, a fire extinguisher on the stand, and also that there were two cars in the Exhibition

which had been driven in, very grudging, authority was given. Later that day the head H&S man came back and told me that on the following two days I would have to leave the bike outside for 20 minutes or so to cool down after I arrived, before bringing it in. No problem, as I was there about 45 minutes before opening time anyway. As well as talking with visitors to the Exhibition, some good chats were had with other stand-holders during quieter spells, or before the Exhibition opened in the morning. Although this was a Christian event, not all stands at the CRE part of the event were manned by Christians, as some are just advertising/selling things to the Christian community passing through as visitors. Some of these folks in particular were very interested in the

concept of 'Christian bikers' and were happy to talk about Christianity in a way that they would not have felt free to do with some of the folks from perhaps more 'traditional' Christian stands. Thankfully, we have had a total smoking ban in all enclosed public places for some time now in Scotland, but even so, I found myself going home each evening hoarse through talking to so many people in the drier enclosed atmosphere of the SECC hall. What a good thing it would be if we all felt hoarse at the end of each day through sharing the Gospel with others, or simply by talking and breaking down barriers that exist between the people of God (the Church) and those outside. Do you like being hoarse too through talking with people? If not, why not?

## **The Grampian Motorcycle Convention, Alford, Sept. 2007** by David Hunter

This was our second year at this show, the largest motorcycle show in the North of Scotland. This year was the 25th anniversary of the Grampian Motorcycle Convention, which is held in the grounds of the Grampian Motor Museum in Alford, near Aberdeen. Once again the event was graced with good weather, with the exception of a few heavy spots of rain early afternoon, which thankfully came to nothing, and a strong wind that blew up near the end of the event. The Grampian Motorcycle Convention is an all-outside show, so very dependant upon the weather to make it a success. Our stand this year was between the Triumph Owners Club to our rear, and a

mini-moto racing club for youngsters to the right of us. The future of biking looks sound when you see youngsters from the age of 4 years old dressed in leathers and helmets and then going for a ride around the arena together as a club later in the day. Throughout the day there was a steady stream of bikers coming to chat, and approximately 40 Biker Bibles/Manual for Life were picked up from the tables at the front of the stand, as well as a good number of various tracts. The organiser of the mini-moto club and his 14 year-old son were very friendly and chatted away throughout the day, and we found out that the young lad has been doing very well at race events and is going

to graduate to bigger bikes now, as his aim is to be a professional racer. At the end of the day he came and took a Biker Bible and his dad shook hands with us before they left. As the last parts of our stand were being packed away in the car, one of the Triumph Owners Club came over to chat, and on being asked if he would like a Biker Bible initially said no, but when I said that was alright, they were there if he changed his mind, he said, yes, he would like one. Another few minutes and we would have been away, as the car was all but loaded up and the Bibles etc were already in the boot. During the afternoon a biker came along with his wife and told me that they were not Christians, but he had a biker friend who is a Baptist minister and could he have a Biker Bible for him. When I asked the guy where he was from, it turned out that I have been in touch with his friend the minister several times by email and on the 'phone, which quite gob-smacked the guy. I gave him a Biker Bible, but asked him if he would read the stories (testimonies to us) at the front and back, before giving it to his friend Bob the minister, or preferably keeping it for himself and asking for another for his friend. Please pray that he will start reading and forget to stop once he gets to Matthew and keep the Biker Bible for himself. I know Bob won't mind!

The saddest conversation of the day was with a troubled-looking lady, who interrupted a conversation I was having early on in the day with the chap from the mini-moto club, his son and their mechanic, by butting right in and telling me that we should have a multi-faith stand. When I gently explained to her

that as a Christian I was not interested in telling people about false beliefs, she went on to 'explain' to me that basically all roads lead to God, like the spokes of a wheel lead to the hub. When I told her that Jesus had said He was the only way "I am the way, the truth and the life, no-one comes to the Father but by Me" and that He was neither a liar nor deluded, she agreed quite forcefully that Jesus was neither a liar nor deluded, but could not see that this meant and means that there is no other way to God the Father. It was a sad reminder that there are many people nowadays who are similarly taken in by false teaching and think that it does not matter what you believe as all roads are leading the same way. They are almost right, as all roads but one are leading to eternal separation from God. This should spur us on to get alongside others and build bridges of trust and respect with them, so that we earn the privilege of explaining God's love for them when the Holy Spirit creates the opportunity, as He will. Do you want to see men and women, young folks and children won for Christ? It won't happen if we don't spend time talking with folks of all ages (not getting up their noses with religious waffle), and building bridges with them. As Christians, we need to show that we care about who we are talking with and are interested in them, not because of what we can get from them, but just because we care about them! In the book *My Dear Child*, there is a quote that God loves us because He loves us, in other words with no strings attached; His love is just unconditional. Jesus cared enough to die for the lost. How much do we care?

## National Centre Fund, What is it?

by Rob Urand

If you have been to one of the CMA's Annual General Meetings, or you have seen any of our year end accounts, then you might know the answer to this question, or at least some of the answer. I suspect that the majority of members and affiliates, particularly newer ones, will not know.



Most of us will at best be a bit hazy on the subject.

Before too many eyes begin to glaze over, because it involves 'funds', let me explain the 'National Centre' part. This refers to central premises of some sort, for CMA. Some years ago several unconnected individuals within CMA had visions about the organisation having a central property which might provide, say, an office, accommodation, camping, bike repair workshops and cooking facilities.

Over the period of a few years, several people saw such visions, all with some of these components present. These visions were eventually shared, and although not much was known about the 'where' or 'what', the 'how' would certainly be within God's remit, if it was confirmed this was indeed His will for us. Everyone within CMA was asked to

keep their eyes open as they travelled around different parts of the country, and to listen out for any prompting from God on this subject. Perhaps God had found such a property for us, maybe something along the lines of farm buildings for instance. We needed to know God's will on this, His timing, and His direction. In short, we felt we had to wait on God.

After a while a couple of people within CMA felt they wanted to contribute some money towards this project, which meant that a separate fund had to be set up to 'ring fence' money given for this purpose.

The fund has grown, quite slowly, but steadily, and is alive and well today.

The National Centre Fund was recently discussed as part of one of our regular National Exec meetings. It was decided to inform everyone about the background to the fund, through 'Chainlink', and then to ask everyone in CMA to pray, seeking God for guidance on the future of this project. The bottom line is that if God is in it, then CMA is in it. Let's all pray about the National Centre and ask God where He wants us to go with this vision.

## CMA Handbook by Ted Russell

I wonder if you have had chance to look at our Handbook yet. A copy was sent in July to those members and affiliates who subscribe to the 'members' e-mail distribution list and a copy was posted as a download on our web page. The message I sent with the launch was:-



The intention of the National Executive in producing this document is to bring useful information into one source for ease of reference and clarity. As the book was being developed we have attempted to bring as much as possible into one document. It cannot, and has not been intended to replace the constitution or rules and does not remove the need for members to be familiar with both documents.

The information within is from a variety of sources and authors, and on behalf of the National Executive I

would like to thank those who have contributed.

The intention is that this handbook will be updated each year after the AGM. As you use the document you may notice things that could be added or changed. I ask that you bring such suggestions to my attention, rather than to

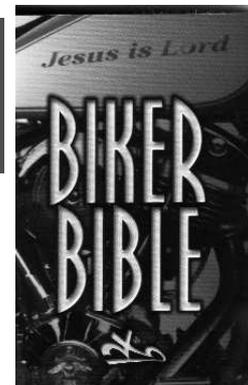
other members of the Executive, so that I can co-ordinate the responses and bring them to the attention of the whole Executive.

It is presently intended that the handbook be available in electronic form so that relevant pieces can be printed as required.

As of 20th September 07, only one person has suggested any amendments to the document for next year. I have some ideas for additional material. What would you like to see in there?

**Biker Bible - It's here, and it's free.  
It's available whenever you see us at the many  
rallies and biker events throughout the UK**

**The best book in town. Read it,  
live it, tell others about it.  
Want to know more?  
look at [www.bike.org.uk](http://www.bike.org.uk)**



## Major CMA National Events List 2008

Always check out the web site [www.bike.org.uk](http://www.bike.org.uk) under events, for events throughout the UK. Look at the whole of the UK. The major events where the CMA have a presence also need your support. Go, you will love it; give it a try. Get to a 'NABD' rally or the 'Farmyard'. What about 'Stormin the Castle', or the 'HJ at Bristol' - GO FOR IT, SUPPORT YOUR CMA.

**February** Leaders' weekend

**April** National AGM

**To find up to date information of events, look at [www.bike.org.uk](http://www.bike.org.uk)**

**May** 16-18 BMF Peterborough

**May** 'Run for the Son' CMA fund raising run

**May** NABD Rally

**May** Builth Wells Rally with the CMA Stand

**June** 27th to the 29th, CMA Ladies Conference at Hayes Conference Centre

**June** National Event, Farmyard Party MAG Yorkshire. HOLY JOE'S and MARSHALLING

**July** Hogwash in Guernsey

**July** 'Rave in the Nave' at Ely Cathedral

**July** 17th to the 20th National Rally at Hollybush, Thirsk, North Yorkshire YO7 4DH

**August** NATIONAL EVENT P/Indian 11th Rally. HOLY JOE'S Kent

**August** EMC CMA Rally, Holland

**August** 'Stormin' the Castle' in the Castle HOLY JOE'S Hexham, Barnard Castle.

**October** Leaders' weekend

**October** NABD Rally

**October** Xcel Mens' Conference

**October** (1st Sunday) Copdock Ipswich MC show

**Interested? Are you up for a sponsored motorbike ride for charity? Kent to Kosovo, Spring 2008. Contact: Aje or Mandie, South West London Branch [sw\\_london@bike.org.uk](mailto:sw_london@bike.org.uk) or call 020 8890 4020 [www.smileinternational.org](http://www.smileinternational.org)**

## A Biker farewell to Gerry Tobin

by Sarge Surrey and Sussex branch

On Saturday 15th September 2007, several thousand bikers gathered together in London to say farewell to Gerry Tobin, who was shot dead on the M40 Motorway last month.

We were invited to attend by The President of Wessex Hells Angels

through my position as Chairman of the Thames Valley Coalition. Gaynor and I were accompanied by Mike Fitton (President C.M.A. U.K., Dave Phelps (Chair Surrey and Sussex) and Phil Hull (Chair S.E. London). We met several members of the 'Warlords' at Box Hill and they escorted us to their meeting cafe in Heresham, where we met the rest of the 'Warlords' and enjoyed the usual staple, a 'Biker Breaky', courtesy of the 'Warlords'. We then set off for Bethnal Green, where the London Clubhouse of the Hells Angels was being used as the start point for the Funeral Cortège.

On arrival, we saw several hundred bikers, with more and more arriving each minute. We made our way round to the Clubhouse and viewed the many tributes to Gerry



and were presented with a 'Gentleman Gerry' armband.

Around us were representatives from Angel Chapters and Clubs from all over the world; Canada, Lisbon, Germany and Prague to name but a few. We were able, amongst all the throng, to meet up with some friends

from local Clubs and exchange greetings.

At 12.00 engines started and we prepared to set out on one of the biggest runs that London has ever seen. The cortège started off, led by the hearse, and followed by Gerry's bike being ridden by one of his fellow Angels. Gerry's partner, Rebecca, rode behind together with his Mother. There followed hundreds and hundreds of Hells Angels. We were positioned close to the centre of the Pack and it still took over 15 minutes for us to get out onto the road; Police estimate there were around 3,000 bikes all going the same route. At times, when the pack opened up it gave the chance to achieve speeds of 60mph or more through the centre of our capital; a feat rarely possible.

Due to the sheer size of the run, roads were closed, traffic-lights were ignored and the supporting police were very hard pressed at times to keep the mass of riders moving. We saw many bikes at the side of the road, steaming and smoking (and that was just the riders). Most of the riders were familiar with riding within a pack, so there was a reasonable discipline and very few 'bumps' were seen in our area.

After nearly two hours we arrives at the Richmond Crematorium, a journey of only 13 miles. Parking was 'get what you can', on pavements, on the grass, anywhere that a bike will fit. We walked up the hill and into the grounds and found a shady spot among the trees in front of the Crematorium building. The Service was relayed outside to the

thousands who stood. Club members grouped together in quiet reverence, while a Live Hard Rock Band played some of Gerry's favourites.

Various tributes were read out between the songs and Gerry's partner gave a wonderful epitaph to him, explaining how he was always the first to help and always there with a happy smile. Gerry's Mother had travelled over from Canada and gave thanks to the Hells Angels for their hospitality and explained how she would now treat them all as her sons because of the 'Brotherhood'. All the chosen songs spoke of something 'beyond' and a yearning to meet again.

We Prayed that Gerry had made his peace with Our Lord in his final moments.



Courtesy & Copyright' Sky News

Gerry Tobin became a Christian while living in Canada and came back to the U.K. ten years ago. From all that was said at the Service, it would seem that Gerry was still following the Christian way of life; he was always ready to help, he would spend hours longer at the stands than his shift required and he helped many of his Brothers in such a way as to touch their lives deeply and fundamentally.

One of the fears of such a large number of varied Clubs, coming together in a very charged atmosphere, was that there was a possibility of clashes and disputes. I am very pleased to say that our Prayers were answered and there were no incidents that we saw, or

that were reported. The public lined the whole of our route, many of whom cheered and clapped as we passed. Various news reports said it was the largest Biker run in British history and I believe it was the biggest through London. It was something that I feel we will not see the like of again and both Gaynor and I were privileged to be a part of it.

Thanks should be extended to the 'Warlords' Brotherhood for their welcome, hospitality and escort to London. Thanks also to the Hells Angels for their organisation that made this great run possible, and finally to the Metropolitan Police for all their hard work during the run.



Courtesy & Copyright Sky News

## NED Outreach work at Matlock Bath

by Sally Stracy - NED Branch



NED branch have held some outreach events at Matlock Bath in Derbyshire. Matlock Bath is the place, in our area, where bikers gather on a sunny Sunday or Saturday. There are normally a good few thousand bikes there with loads of people wandering around, tucking into fish and chips, butties etc and admiring the bikes.

We set up a stall at the little car park, opposite The Fishpond pub. Imaginatively, the car park has a fish pond and it is a really pleasant spot and we are very visible. Many people congregate there and there is a cheap food outlet nearby. Lez brings a table and the Bikers' Bibles and leaflets in her car and we set up near the car park entrance. Over the three events we have done so far, we have given away

at least one hundred Bibles, which is fantastic. The response suggests that people really want to find out about Jesus. As long as you don't look ready to pounce on people, they are happy to chat and take away a leaflet or Bible for reading later. I like to wander about ,chatting about bikes and hopefully giving the impression that I'm a normal human being! It's nice to challenge some people's preconceptions. We've all found it very rewarding and also a thoroughly enjoyable way to spend the day. We plan to make these outreach events a regular monthly event and hopefully invite other branches to join us. On one of the days, I managed to ride over to Rivington Barn in the afternoon and meet up with the Cheshire branch.

## Tear Down the Barns an update

by Dave Phelps

In the Spring edition of Chainlink I had an article published, proposing that we contribute our unwanted (but saleable) goods to a central point to raise cash to buy Biker Bibles. One of the key needs was for someone with e-bay expertise and a willingness to 'get the ball



rolling' in terms of selling the goods. Alan (Aje) Johnston, of SW London Branch took on the challenge, despite his many existing commitments. Aje is an executive member of the CMA, chairman of SW London branch, worship leader, family man, oh, and he works full time for the Local Authority!

A number of us contributed goods, which were stored in Aje's Consolidation Warehouse in Middlesex (until recently his garage). Over a three or four month period, using a combination of e-bay and car boot sales, Aje has raised over £400 towards the next production run of Biker Bibles. Items sold range from a pair of cuff-links (50p) to a Kirby Hoover (£130). Other sale items include a horse-whip, motorbike gear, Hells Angels Big Red Machine magazines, stress-balls, song books and my old Isetta three-wheeler, genuine workshop manual (it cost me an eye-watering £2:10shillings in 1963).

Every item is shipped out with a CMA tract enclosed and a number of donations have been made when people realise that the proceeds 'are going to a good cause'.

So what can you do to help further this initiative?

Firstly, Aje needs more saleable goods. What

would be ideal would be for someone in each branch to collect goods from branch members, families, colleagues, friends etc. and deliver them to Aje.

Secondly, if someone with computer skills would be willing to support Aje by selling goods in their area, this would help share the workload and increase the total income.

If you can help in either of the above ways please call Aje on 07790 411794.

The potential exists to make serious money for the purchase of Biker Bibles. So please sort out the garage, clear the cupboards, empty the spare room and achieve a double whammy by freeing yourself from clutter at the same time as serving the Lord!

If each branch Chair, texted Aje 07790 411794 their branch contact name then Aje can keep you informed as to how things are doing, so any help needed can quickly be achieved.

Collect it, price it, photo it, put it on e-bay.

## Testimony by Russell Boyce

### A Serious 2 Stroke Fan - Now A Committed Christian Biker

I first discovered the joys of motor bikes on the back of my father's BSA Gold Flash and sidecar outfit. My earliest memories are from about 8.

I started riding bikes at about 15 on the local fields. My first bikes were the Bantam and Enfield Super Meteor if anyone remembers them.

At sixteen I had the choice of a microscope and a career in science or a bike; the bike won! Within my first week I had learnt the joys of riding, had my first warning for speeding and my first accident claim! I have had few of either since then!

I have ridden most sizes of machine. The majority have been 2 strokes; there is something that appeals to me. I once even had a 2 stroke car, a Wartburg! In size, I have ridden everything from 25 cc to 650 of my own, and ridden on most other sizes on friends machines. My favourites have been MZ's and Jawas, due to their rugged, simple engineering, BSA's, older BMW's (though now I own one I am not over impressed by some of the engineering, in fact I believe MZ did a better job) and the Suzuki T500.

Up to the age of 40 really very little seemed to faze me. I would have said then that I felt as though I had seen and done most things of importance in my life and genuinely felt as though I knew it all! If I got any problem I usually



seemed to deal well with it and was rarely 'down'. By then my girls had started attending Girls Brigade and went to the local Baptist Church as they found the local Methodist Church to be 'boring'. The Minister was crafty. He said it was O.K. for them to join if I came to an odd service. This seemed a

reasonable request. I started going to the odd service and came away with more questions than answers and found myself attending more services to find the answers.

Eventually my wife and myself went to "Mission Hull". I went forward. I cannot to this day explain it, but I felt as though there was a voice in my head saying it was time 'I put my money where my mouth was and committed myself'. I cannot say that I felt grossly different after, but I knew I was changing "for the better". My wife reckons I curse and swear less when things go wrong, sometimes!

Since becoming a Christian life, has been challenging, but also rewarding. I have had redundancy and early retirement to cope with.

I have suffered illness in recent years, but I have also taught young people coming off drugs in college and at YMCA's. I am now co-chairman of the new Linc's and East York's CMA. Please feel free to come and speak to me.

## Jottings from Peterborough by Les Jones



Despite all the rumours about the BMF and whether The-Show-Would-Go-On or not, the BMF Show opened its gates at 9.00am on Saturday 19th May, as intended, and the people arrived in droves. And the sun shone and the skies stayed dry for the next 48 hours!

CMA's marquee was raised and kitted out (well, the urn was boiling and tea was brewed) on Friday afternoon. The new display stand was finally delivered at 4.00pm on Friday, but to Mike Fitton's home in North Yorkshire, from where it rapidly travelled south. Enjoy the photo, the stand looks good and goes together quickly, but it's held together by magnetic strips, not good in a high wind!

The marquee was set up so that the display area and the 'Holy Joe's' hospitality area flowed into one

another; the tent always seemed to be full of visitors chatting and drinking (just like a real Holy Joe's)

Thanks to Aje and Sarge for leading our morning prayer times.

Pete Shrubbs' 'Screaming Eagle' Harley brought in plenty of passing visitors.

MESS were asked to take a Wedding Blessing in Essex.

Pete and Aje took their bikes (Harley and BMW) around a very muddy arena for the Cavalcade of Clubs. Mike Fitton and Les Jones promised to wash them down afterwards - Les got to the BMW first.

Hospitality flourished and the tea, coffee and coca cola flowed freely.

Thanks to Kate for sharing her birthday with us all.

Thanks to all the helpers, especially Bedford and Norwich who came as branch teams for the weekend.

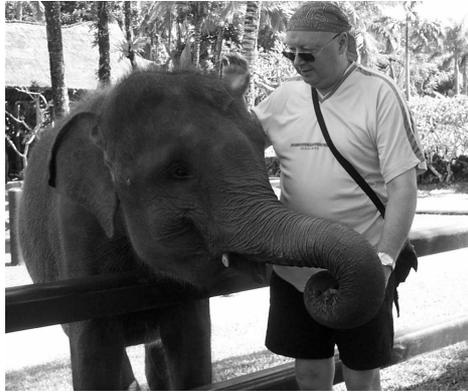
I've run CMA's presence at the BMF for the last 8-9 years, in which we have seen many changes in the way we 'raise the flag' at the BMF. It's time for new blood and new ideas, so I pass over running our tent to Bedford branch for 2008. My thanks to all who have helped and supported me at Peterborough over the years.

Les



## Bali Difficult! by Ian Brailey - Bristol Branch

First, some background. As a born again biker and a Christian, I read about CMA in the local newspaper and sought them out as I thought this was a great idea. I joined the Bristol branch in January and have



attended several trips and visits, although I cannot make the monthly meetings, due to other commitments. I am just an ordinary bloke, but seem somehow to have become not only a magistrate but also Lay Pastor of a Congregational Chapel, 12 miles away from where I live! I use the bike (a Honda Deauville) for getting to and from work, for my work in the church and The Boys' Brigade, as my wife tends to hog the car!

You do NOT want to ride a bike in Bali. No, seriously you don't. Whilst on holiday there earlier in the summer, (no, we're not rich, it took three years of saving) I was amazed at the number of motorcycles in use on the roads and the way they ride them. Apparently, most households own at least one motorbike. To get a licence you attend a two hour indoor lecture, and this entitles you to ride a bike with passengers. I say passengers, because the capacity seems to be up to two adults and three children.

Helmets, at least for the driver are compulsory, unless you are going to a holy place such as temple or mosque, but, as we were also told, "everything is

negotiable".

We asked about speed limits and found that "everything is negotiable". Priority on the roads lies with the largest vehicles and those in front, so often our minibus would turn, cutting up the motorcyclist on our

inside, who was duty bound to avoid us. It was not unusual to stop at the lights on a dual carriageway, in three lines of vehicles and about five lines of motorbikes. As most bikes were overloaded and only 100cc, they hardly tended to race away.

Motorbikes are used to move anything. It was not unusual to see one with five of the water cooler bottles (full) on the back! The largest item I saw on the back of a bike was a wardrobe!

Protective clothing seems to consist of tee shirts, shorts and flip flops, whilst pillion ladies in short skirts tend to ride side saddle. Friends of mine are surprised to see film of a roundabout in Denpasar, the capital, where motorbikes turning right go to the right and those going elsewhere keep to the left!

Having said all that, they do seem to have remarkably few accidents, especially as the Balinese culture says that bright lights at night bring evil, so they tend to use sidelights only, if at all, and streetlights are rare.

Still I suppose if you do have an accident, "everything is negotiable!"

# A good day out in Essex

by Phil Hull



Phil

It was a bright sunny Saturday in September when I joined with the North East London twig to help out at an event.

A group by the name of

American Motorcycle Owners Club, or A,M,O,C for short, held their annual event and this year it was the Essex branch that hosted it in the car park of the pub where they meet.

There were a good number of people from a variety of clubs, There was a band on the trailer of a lorry, which provided the music for the afternoon, which was very nice. Also George joined us; a member of Bikers for Christ and a new affiliate member of N/E London twig. The day went very well and we had a good number of conversations. George and I were



left is Sindy with Steff, who is secretary to the North East London twig.

invited to their regular meetings, as we ride Harleys. When we left we asked if they would like to accept some Biker Bibles and tracts, which they did, so we left 5 Bibles for them. Overall, it was a very good day. We got ourselves noticed and got an invite to attend their weekly meetings when we wanted. Praise God David Hope, chairman of the Twig, is planning to approach the event organisers next year to have a CMA thing there, so please pray for this that they will be happy to have us.

## Attempts at displaying Biker Bibles by Bob Hudson

I have been playing around with methods of displaying the Biker Bibles at bike nights. These are my attempts using a cargo net. I put them on the top box if the back of the bike is more prominent or on the seat otherwise.



# God knew who he was

by Robert Oats

Whilst at the Holy Joe's tent at "Storming the Castle" in the N.East, I had an encounter with an individual that you might appreciate. It was about 11.30pm, the bands were playing in the next Marquee and the crowds and volume were GREAT. We were serving coffee, teas and hot chocolate like it was going out of fashion. As I was replenishing our free biscuits for the tables, a highly inebriated individual, wearing combats, a horribly painted face and beanie hat came into Holy Joe's and put his arm around me. He said, "Can I have a word". I turned round and said "of course". He replied "out side, I won't hurt you". Alarm bells started going off in my head, but I thought to myself that this is what God had put me there for, so, putting his arm around my shoulder we weaved our way out of the tent and then he said "around the side" so we weaved our way round to the quieter side of the tent away from the masses. As I turned to face him, he said "turn around with your back to me". I was starting to get very wary at this point, but obediently turned my back to him and faced the fencing. He dropped to his knees, and I thought what is this all about! So I looked

over my shoulder to see him raise his hands in prayer and start praying to the Cross on my back. He cried out to the Lord to save all the youngsters at the event from the power of drink and drugs. He went on to ask God to oversee the whole event and keep the Devil at bay. This went on for about 4-5 mins and then he stood up and clasped me again, saying that we at "Holy Joe's" were doing great work. I asked him his name, but he would not give it to me, but said that God knew who he was and that it was too late for him to repent, but he believed in God. As we weaved our way back to the front of the tent I asked him if I could pray for him. He replied that I could, but he still wouldn't give me his name. We stood and talked randomly for about ten minutes until he was ready to leave and then he staggered away into the night and the crowds, leaving me to go back to work in the tent, thanking God, for a very unusual encounter.

Please pray with me for this individual with no name, that God will do a mighty work again in him and that he will come to know his Lord anew.

## ICE Campaign

**We all carry our mobile phone, with names & numbers stored in its memory, but nobody, other than ourselves, knows which of these numbers belong to our closest family or friends.**

**If we were to be involved in an accident or were taken ill, the people attending us would have our mobile phone, but wouldn't know who to call.**

## "In Case of Emergency"

**Hence "ICE" (In Case of Emergency) Campaign**

**For more than one contact name simply enter ICE1, ICE2 and ICE3 etc  
The concept of "ICE" is catching on quickly.**

**ICE will speak for you when you are not able to.**

# CMA Tracts available

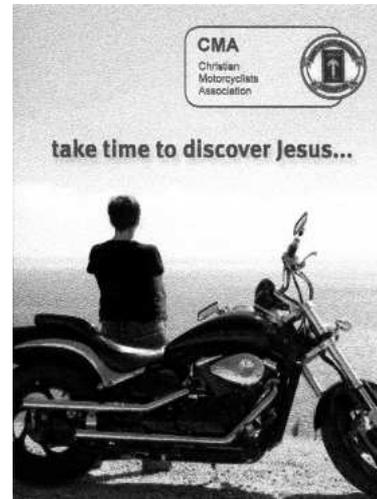
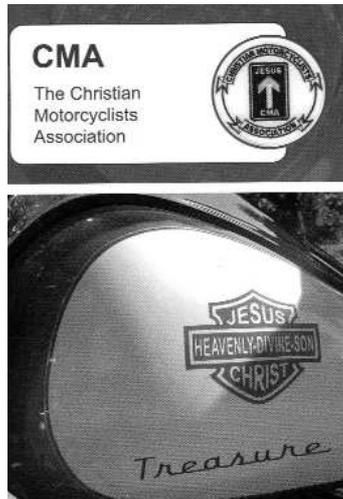
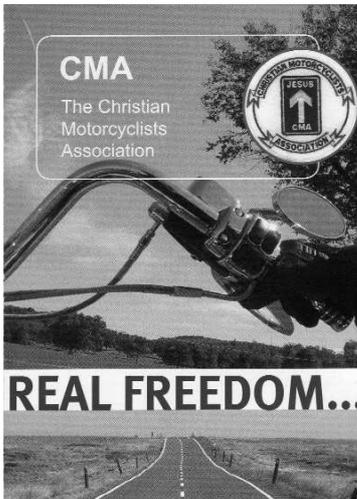


By Sid O'Neill



What a blessing it is to be part of this exciting ministry supplying our new CMA tracts to members and branches. I would just like to thank all the CMA members who have supported this outreach, and would like to encourage you to take a look at what is on offer to help you in your work for the Lord within CMA.

We have three tracts available:



We can supply you with 100 of these new tracts for only £5  
P&P is £1.95

I'll be available at as many of the national events as possible to make sure you have an opportunity to take a look at these new tools for evangelism. Watch out for new tracts coming soon  
God Bless, Sid O'Neill. [sid.oneill@ntlworld.com](mailto:sid.oneill@ntlworld.com)

## A little personal information



**This month it's from Gary Humphries of the North East Branch. Do you know Gary? No? Well I am sure he would be very happy for you to chat to him. Why not phone your brothers and sisters in Christ from time to time.**

As I was about to leave HollyBush Mike Fitton leaned over the fence and gave Pauline and I a hug, blessing us, and said that he had prayed for people like me (Motorcycle Instructor) to join CMA. He encouraged me to write something for Chainlink.

I'm Gary Humphries of the Northeast Branch. I came into the world 28.05.1953.

Born-again July 20-22, 2007. What a birth. Pauline and I had just left HollyBush and with a tear in my eye I looked back in my mirror to see the

most beautiful thing on earth and thinking how much I loved her, one of many tears cried that weekend. That weekend I sang with you, I prayed with you, I cried with you and when Mike Fitton lifted the hammer I hung my head in shame. I'm still crying. May we never forget the love and passion of Jesus and take it with us throughout our lives. To all those intending to attend Hollybush next year. If there are any who are not sure whether they would like to ride a bike or want to move to a bigger bike. You can have a taster on Sat 19th July, 2008 (Hollybush weekend) on Tockwith Airfield. Yes God has blessed me. God Bless you all.



A Hollybush ride out. Bikes and a cafe, what more do you need.

## Where to find a CMA Branch

### Scotland

Forth and Tay  
Rest of Scotland  
Scottish Borders



### Midlands

East Midlands  
West Midlands  
Stafford  
Bedford  
Norfolk

### Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland

### Isle of Man

Isle of Man

### North East

West Yorkshire  
Lincs. & East Yorks.  
(East Yorks Twig)  
North East  
North East Derbyshire

### North West

Merseyside  
North Cheshire  
Lakes N' Lancs.

### South West

Bristol  
Gloucester  
Devon & Cornwall

### South East

Kent  
Most of Essex  
& South Suffolk  
(North East London Twig)'

South East London  
South West London  
Surrey and Sussex  
(New Forest Twig)  
Thames Valley

### Wales

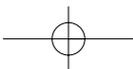
North & West Wales  
South Wales

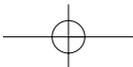
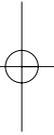
## CMA International is established in the following countries

Argentina  
Australia  
Canada  
Germany  
Hungary  
Ireland  
Mexico  
Namibia  
Netherlands



New Zealand  
Philippines  
Poland  
Portugal  
South Africa  
United Arab Emigrates  
United Kingdom  
USA





## Norfolk out and about

by Mark (Rat) Wilgress (2nd left)



Just a few of the 15 from Norfolk branch on a dry summer evening at the St. Francis 'Reality' fete, for the youth of the Thorpe Area, Norwich an incorporation of the 12 churches in that area, aiming its ministry to the youth. The lady seated was the singer during the evening, not a biker, but very interested in the work we do.

Stephen Gilder (MESS) and Tara (Forth & Tay Scotland) serving in the Holy Joes tent at 'Stormin' the Castle'



## Cromhall Revisited

by Geraldine Ruskin Bristol Branch

In autumn 2006, Bristol CMA was invited to visit Cromhall Chapel in South Gloucestershire to give a presentation on our work and mission, both locally and nationally. They had seen the wonderful publicity

that the local branch had received in the press and wanted to discover more about us.

On September 9th, 2007, Bristol CMA were invited back, as apparently they haven't stopped talking about us since!

We were invited to lead the service, not just to do a presentation. Naturally, we were excited at the prospect and went with great enthusiasm, knowing that we were going to be received with warmth by a congregation that has a loving and good relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ.

We were blessed by members of Gloucestershire branch joining with us. The welcome as we arrived was wonderful. The people of Cromhall Chapel were eager to hear about the work of the CMA and excited about the new Biker Bibles reaching the vast amount of people who have never had a relationship with our Lord. A generous donation of £110



Geraldine right chatting to church members

was made towards the Bible fund.

Nick Bristol branch chairman, opened the service with a welcome and I did some opening prayers. We then had a Bible reading from Colin Wright, using the new Biker Bible. Colin spoke

about being invited to a great banquet and added in words of his own about the marginalised in society that made the reading more personal. It was very moving and well received. This was followed by a wonderful testimony of our Lord's work in us by Alan Robertson. Alan and Colin are both Gloucestershire branch members. Nick, valiantly aided by Mike, (Bristol treasurer) did a presentation using overheads.

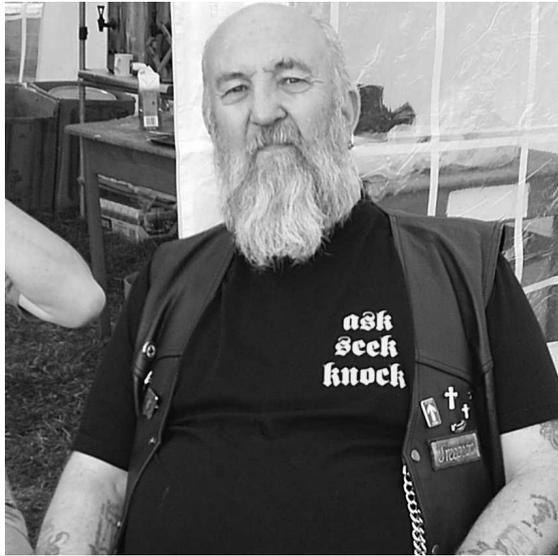
Nick ended the service with an old favourite of his. He asked us to hold hands and say to our neighbour 'that standing next to you has been a thrill beyond measure!' This made the whole congregation smile, even the ones that have heard it before!

Coffee afterwards was relaxed and the people of Cromhall were keen to engage us in conversation about the work of the CMA. Some of the bibles were taken to give to people that were known to be seeking the Lord.

# Godoholism

by Ray (Treebeard) Knapman Kent Branch

As a recovering alcoholic and drug addict, I feel I know a fair amount about addictions, but at the National Rally this year I think I have discovered a new one, Godoholism. Cannot find it in the dictionary, or at any clinic I have ever visited, but



that does not stop it being as real as any other addiction.

Having become completely drunk in the Spirit on Friday night, Saturday found me with a head ache and horrible churning feeling in my stomach that experience told me was a hang over. I drank what seemed like the equivalent of the Atlantic ocean and had a huge breakfast; well done Hollybush, but the feeling persisted.

I knew instinctively what was needed; the hair of the dog. The prayer group in the morning helped, but by the time the evening came around all the symptoms had returned, and I needed more. Once again a lively Saturday worship, thank you C.A.B. and a strong message left me reeling again. I cannot remember returning to my tent that night, but must have for that is where I woke Sunday morning. This time I was aware of what was

happening; I had yet another Spiritual hang over. The cure was at hand, read my bible, attend the prayers and then brace myself for the binge of Sunday Worship. Filled once more by the inspired music of our own worship band and the Lord speaking

to me directly through Mike, I headed home buzzing.

Godoholism does not have a cure, thank goodness, but the long term effects are not dangerous; quite the opposite in fact. If you, dear reader, suffer from addiction, or anyone you know does, introduce them to mine. The long term effects are beneficial. It is the only habit that you can carry beyond the grave. The whole thing can be maintained with a bible and regular fixes from God and the outcome is eternal. God Bless you all and Praise the Lord for His Son.



## Its in the box by John Pritchard

For those motorcyclists who have a "top-box" fitted to the rear carrier, all manner of items are put inside. For example, spare pair of leather gloves, your crash hat when not in use, a security lock and chain/wire cable, a



How was I going to keep the bible in as new condition?

Having found a new, clean, empty plastic container, I then considered carrying a small selection of other items to accompany the bible, instead of stuffed into

my jacket pocket! The box was filled with a couple of CMA information leaflets/tracts, a pencil & paper, because a biro pen can leak and fail to write in the wet. Also, it is always good to take down contact details, CMA visitors card, lastly, a "Why Jesus?" booklet, which is always a good tool to assist you with explaining some basic questions and can be handed to someone who shows interest.

So, now I have a box inside a box, a really simple and practical method of taking a new "Biker Bible" with me when I go out on my motorcycle.

I love you Lord  
 You bring me autumn leaves  
 and wind upon which raindrops fly  
 shifting patterns in the sky  
 pink mackerel swimming across its  
 depths  
 eddies fussing around my ankles  
 a hundred yapping dogs in flapping coat  
 tails

faces surrounding scorn the wonder  
 brought in on a northerly force 6

promises of mightiness go unnoticed  
 left crumpled in puddles, sloshed under  
 tyres  
 rubbished behind the shabby tenements  
 reflected in their eyes

And yet this heart uplifts on wings of  
 freedom  
 raised to greet the Day Star at His dawn

(Sue Brown © 2007)

## Rivington Barn by Sue Brown North Cheshire Branch

Rivington Barn has been an established bikers' meeting place for over 50 years and I have been going there on and off since the September of 1979 (yes, I know that's a very long time..!). In those days, my chosen form of transport was the sturdy Yamaha XS650 owned by me and my fiancée



Michael. We arrived in Bolton as newcomers from the South West and found it difficult at the time to feel a sense of home. After all, where we'd come from people spoke English and we thought that we'd arrived into a foreign land with its own special language. In Lancashire, they ate oven-bottom barm cakes and mashed their tea - we only did that with potatoes! Hmm... Anyway, we found our way quite soon to the wonderful culinary delights and biker fellowship at the Barn. Time passed and Michael returned to the West Country, while I remained "Up North". The change of language didn't pose a long-term problem and I even found a job working for the local newspaper as a copy collector. This was fun, because by then I was the owner of a Kawasaki 650D (a cross between the Z and the Ltd) and my first ever paid employment had been as a motorcycle courier in Bristol back in

1976. So collecting copy around the Lancashire Journal Series patch was just a breeze and I loved it. It also taught me an awful lot about the geography of the area, which has stood me in good stead ever since. Rivington Barn may see a couple of thousand bikers coming through its car

park on a good, sunny Sunday. There are all the things a biker likes to see - lots of other bikes (and other Bikers) to look at and discuss; two or three regular vendors in the car park (such as Punctureseal and Alan's tent full of jacket badges and bandanas). Inside the Barn there is the best range of food that you could ask for, from the trusty bacon butty, through Cumberland sausage and onions (tell me where else you would find that as standard), pizza and chips to even a full choice of affordable Sunday roasts (around £6.00). Rivington Barn has been in the same family for generations and, since they were first frequented by Bikers from all over the North West, the management and staff have made us feel both welcomed and valued. If you'd like to read about the social history of the Leverhulme Estate as well as see the apron in front of the Barn in all its Sunday Biking glory,

use this link: <http://www.rivingtonhallbarn.co.uk/bikersmeet.htm>

the CMA stand is located inside the Barn, next to the licensed bar on the first and third Sundays each month. Visiting Bikers, families, etc can browse through the many different tracts and leaflets, or they can request a free Biker Bible - and many of them do - more than 150 were requested since the outreach began in June 06. Although it is a big commitment for the Branch, we believe that God opened up this door and it is a double blessing to be able to share both the Gospel and the company of Bikers in such an enjoyable, non-intimidating way. When we initially started to display a prayer book, we were unsure that it would be used, but this too surprised

us with the openness with which the passing trade have acknowledged their need for help from God. It is a joy to be there and we hope that it may long continue.



## A Question of Commitment by Russell Boyce

Recently I found myself reappraising the meaning of Christian commitment. After a long and tiring weekend I felt out of step and questioning many things I took as read. It might perhaps help us to understand commitment by looking at what the dictionary definition of commitment is. The Oxford Dictionary / Thesaurus defines the noun commitment as, 'an engagement or obligation, committing oneself, a pledge, dedication.'

To me these words mean that when I say I will do something I will do it to the best of my ability. It will not be a half hearted effort, it will mean full effort or not getting involved in the first place. In my case, commitment also translates to physical activity and not just thinking about someone.

It is easy to say we will help and support someone, but we need to make clear to the recipient what we mean by this, as they may take it literally and be disappointed by the result. If we mean that we will pray for them and maintain them in prayer support and nothing else, this needs to be made clear and explicit. If we mean that we will help in practical terms, then we need to be equally clear when we will be available and give clear indication of what our time commitments are and when we can be expected, so that there are no misunderstandings.

Equally, I feel that we need to be clear about our commitment to events at a national and local level. Whilst all of us



get a level of support and enjoyment going to national events, there is also the question of building the branch at local level. We need to remember that without 'commitment' to local events then the nature of the national organisation becomes a totally different

and possibly more vague entity. It is arguable that, without commitment to local events and churches, there might not be a CMA as we know and understand it. One needs to remember that whilst there may be large groups within CMA, some are small groups, thinly stretched and with limited resources.

Looking at delivery of effort at a local level it is easy to find that you are over committed. The natural temptation is to try and get to as many places as possible to spread the word. Without the physical presence and support from others however, the effort rapidly becomes dissipated. It is a question of getting a balance.

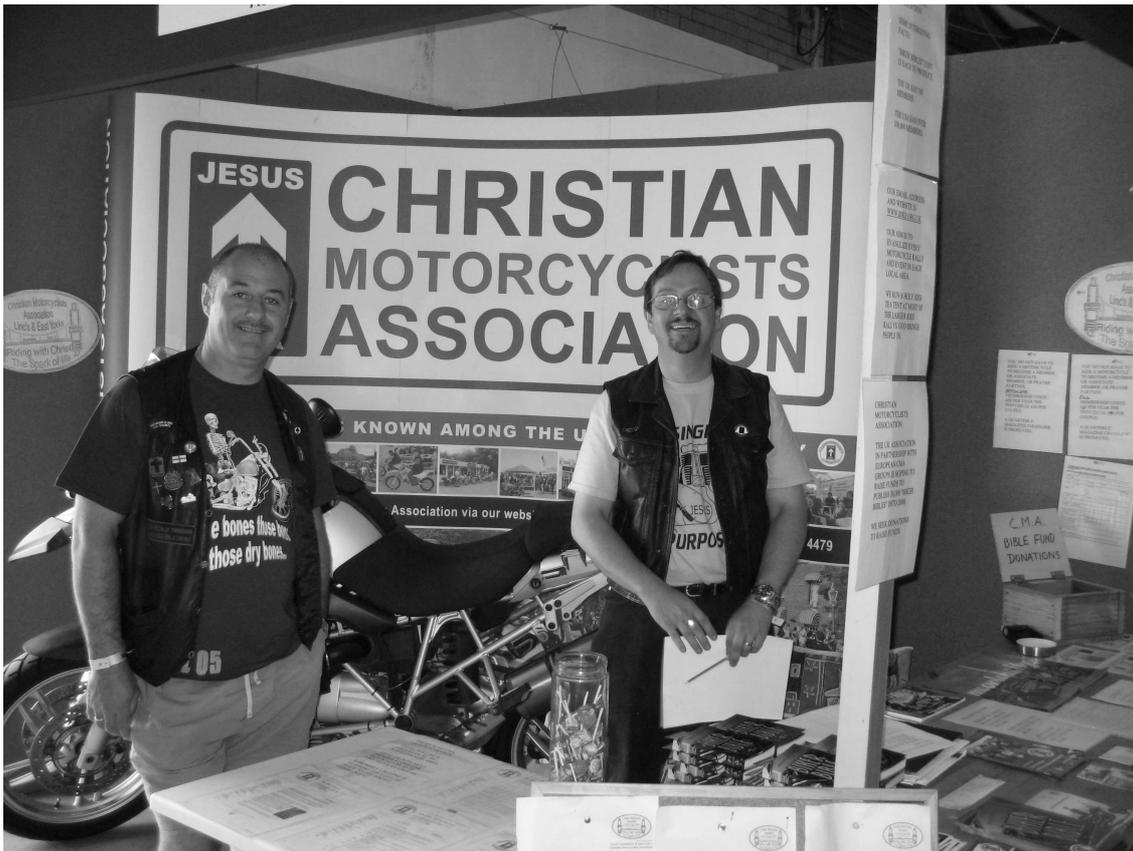
I would personally like to thank Julia, Stephan and his son, for their help and support with the recent meeting at Lincoln at the Boys Brigade. It gave me an amazing lift to know that these individuals were prepared to put themselves out to the extent they did. As a result of our visit we have been asked back. I have heard comment to the effect that we should only bother with purely biking events; this overlooks the support of local churches and

other groups. Last year, I spoke to a disabled group of older people. I went expecting little and came away after spending an enjoyable afternoon talking bikes and having given out 9 bibles on request.

We were told at the Lincoln Boys Brigade that our presence at Skellingthorpe, a local Lincoln gala for the previous 2 years, had been a deciding factor in asking us to come to the Boys Brigade in the first place.

It is easy to overlook the fact that we need to involve the community in our efforts. We forget that most bikers live

within towns and villages and are part of the local fabric. It is therefore natural that they will sometimes attend these events. They may not attend in large numbers, but it gives chance for more relaxed individual attention to requests for information. It also provides a way for the community to engage with bike groups in a non-threatening way. Essentially, we need to remember that none of us has all the answers, but we have to engage bikers and the community whenever opportunity presents itself and think of long-term goals.



**Grapvine 2007 who is going to go 2008 speak to your branch today  
Or chat to Trev the Rev Dave Finan. Co-ordinator East Yorks Twig**

## Party in the Park

by David (\*aka Zippy) Whittall, East Midlands branch

Narborough, Leicestershire Saturday  
18 August 2007

During the spring of 2006, we were approached by Narborough Congregational Church

<http://www.narboroughcongregational.org.uk/> and invited to put on a stand at their second Party in The Park. The church had a 3 year vision, and after the success of their first year, they asked CMA to join with them. Elaine Taylor, from the church, initially asked if we could provide a child entertainer or a clown. We just went as we were!

Party in The Park 2007 was the third of the 3 year vision. We arrived about 10.30, and there was already a hive of activity with all the stalls and the stage being assembled. We were warmly welcomed by the church and allocated our pitch.

CMA members Jen Crane, Les Jones, Colin Hewitt, and I soon had the stand sorted, and we committed the day to the Lord in prayer. Several motorcycles were on display (always a good crowd puller), together with copies of our Biker Bibles, various CMA tracts, and copies of The Jesus Magazine and Jesus video, kindly given to us by Central Avenue Christian Church, Wigston.

<http://www.caccwigston.org.uk/welcome.htm>  
Paul Gosling, from the Christian band 'Brave' <http://www.braveband.com/> who were playing on the day, came over for a chat and expressed a desire to get involved with CMA at a biker

event. Check out their web site for their up and coming gigs.

The party officially started at 12.00 and soon the activity was attracting lots of people.

We were joined by others from CMA, Dave Parks, Ian and Lesley Cameron, and friends of CMA Andy and Irene.

Finish time was 17.00, but rain meant we finished early, with the organisers pulling the plug at 15.15.

Despite the weather, we were greatly blessed with many conversations about Jesus and making Him known to the lost. Although not a biker event, 12 Biker Bibles were taken by those who ride, or to be given to friends or family members that do, and at least 12 of 'The Jesus Magazine' and 'Jesus video' were given to non Christians to help them understand the Good News.

It is always surprising when meeting other Christians at events like this that many have never heard of CMA. Prayer and support is essential for our ministry and we thank God for you all.

Party in The Park 2008? We will just have to wait and see what plans God has.

David, Secretary, East Midlands Branch on 0116 220 8864

<http://www.bike.org.uk/cma/>

<http://www.ontheroadforjesus.co.uk/>

<http://www.deaf-bikers.org.uk/>

## Stinkwheel Classic Show by Roger Moseley

This annual event, set in the grounds of the beautiful Beaumanor Hall, has been attended by the CMA East Midlands crew for the past few years; in the past supplying a helmet park and tea tent. This years format was slightly different, with a simple Gazebo and a table of Bibles, most of which went during the day. Though seen as a tail end event, the weather has usually been kind and once again the sun shone on England's wettest county.



**Colin, Badger and Scooter**

The Stinkwheel Classic Bike Show is the last vestige of the Leicester Pageant, and this year has a strong Italian flavour with a good showing from the local branch of the Guzzi Owners Club and Twiggers, the local Guzzi outlet, with many other classic bikes in attendance as well as a number of trade stalls.

All the stands etc surrounded the main arena, with shows from various motorcycle display teams, including MPC and its tame Ural combinations (even supplying its own compere and vicar).and classic clubs; the whole day was filled.

The highlight of the day's events for some at least, was the appearance of the CMA in the arena, the diversity of the CMA being represented by the variety of bikes, a sidecar outfit, a scooter and a cruiser.



**In the Arena, Scooter, Badger, The Rev.**

A later performance by Rev. Phelps was notable for the size of his smile if not for his circumnavigation of the arena on two wheels only.

Throughout the day people visited the stand and paused for a chat, or filched a Bible and moved quickly on. A number of conversations during the day showed the genuine affection felt by many friends of members and a genuine interest in how the CMA was moving forwards.

Finally as the day wound down, fellowship in the Sunshine



**Colin, Scooter, Penny and The Rev.**

## Testimony by Bob Hudson

I was born of parents who believed, but had stopped attending church. I was taken to Sunday school from the age of three and, not long after this, my mother re-found her faith and became a regular churchgoer and supporter.



I remember when I was about 8 years old really wanting Jesus to come back, and walk down our street. Having a strong simple faith, I wanted to help others and so I stood up for the boy who stuttered and was being bullied at school.

About the age of 9, I developed a form of irritable bowel syndrome, which was psychologically based and made travelling anywhere fearful, as I was afraid to be any distance from a toilet. This condition lasted for the next 20 years. I was a reserved and shy boy and this did not help.

As I grew older, I wanted to leave Sunday school. I went to church with my mum for a while instead, but I was bored most of the time. In my teens I drifted away from God, with doubts and feeling that my sexual desires and fantasies did not fit in with Christian teaching.

After that, I was greatly influenced by the joker of the class at school. He didn't care much about anything except a good laugh. Then a big change came when he came to know Jesus. He began to work well, acquired an ambition, and the transformation encouraged me to join the school Christian union, and also to make my

first decision to follow Jesus. I was given a small booklet, which explained the Christian faith and gave the opportunity to pray the believers' prayer at the end. This I did in my bedroom that night and felt a warm glow all over.

I soon slipped again, in that I failed to attend a church regularly. I tried to cope in my own strength with the changes of leaving school and starting to work. When I was about 19, I started a new demanding job, involving commuting to the City of London, at the same time as moving out of the house that I had been born in and lived for the first 19 years of my life. Only a couple of months later I changed jobs again to a higher grade in the civil service, where, as a junior manager, I had the responsibility of running an office of 4 staff. At this time, as my parents had retired to a country home, I was living with my sister's family during the week in the outskirts to the north of London, commuting into the city each day and travelling for the weekends to my parents in north Essex. This made me feel I did not belong anywhere. It was made all the more stressful, having to cope with the irritable bowel problem. Also at this time I developed a painful medical condition, which I was too embarrassed to see a doctor about for the next 10 years. With all these stressful changes, I was close to a breakdown,

waking each morning shaking with fear of the day and unable to eat without feeling sick until evening. This lasted about six months, during which time I lost 2 stones in weight.

I realised I had lost the centre to my life; I was crying out for help.

Through reading books I started the search back. I also began attending church again with my parents, but could not get involved in the church as I was only able to attend Sunday morning services, travelling back to London in the evening.

After 21/2 years, the opportunity came to live with my parents all the time despite longer daily commuting. This was made possible by acquiring a moped to get to the station, and it started my love of motorbikes. It also enabled me to attend church regularly and get involved with a youth club. I was still reticent and refused the opportunity to go on a church youth weekend. But when one of the boys had to drop out, I knew God wanted me to go in his place. On that weekend I found the faith to accept God as Creator and Jesus His Son raised from the dead. As the change in my school friend's life had witnessed the power of belief to me, so I could see that the change in the disciples' lives after the resurrection, from frightened people, hiding away for fear of the authorities, to speaking in public; witnessing to the fact of the risen Christ.

I decided I wanted to commit my life to Christ and became a member of the Methodist Church.

I threw myself into church life; where I

became Assistant youth club leader, a Church Council member & Trustee. I organised the church letter distribution, ran a church bookstall and was out most evenings doing something or other connected with church.

Greatest of all, I experienced the overwhelming love of God, while staying at Lee Abbey, a mixed denomination community of some 70 people trying to live a loving Christian life, and sharing this with up to a couple of hundred guests. During the first week of my visit, the guest speaker was saying that we should revise our mental images of God....old fashioned pictures of a white-haired, long bearded man on a cloud in the sky were not helpful. As an example, he said that he liked to think of God in the space between two people loving each other. This was a revelation to me. I hadn't seen visions, heard God's voice etc., but already I had felt the love of Christ in the community and this made me realise that I had experienced God's love through others. The overwhelming realisation of this was for me a message from God. I had the feeling that I was filled with the spirit of God. I could pray with ease and pleasure, the bible verses I read jumped out of the page with particular relevance to me, I felt love and concern for my fellow man as never before; not my love, but God's flowing through me, as I felt love for those I would previously have shunned.

The following verses are some of those that confirmed this experience and jumped out at me.

1 John 4: 7-16

“Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love, does not know God, because God is love. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God. but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him.”

Soon after this, I had an operation to correct the painful medical condition. Somehow, the experience of being attended to in hospital, pain and centring on self, seemed to dampen the spiritual life within me. I am still anticipating this to be fully restored.

I had given up thoughts of marriage and family of my own when still a bachelor at 29, so I really felt that God had sent Hazel into my life when I fell hopelessly in love at the age of 31 and we married the following year.

We have seen God at work in many different situations over the years. We have had wonderful answers to prayer and we have also been through some very tough and difficult situations, but we have seen God at work in all of them.

In particular, I feel that God has protected me in having several accidents that could have resulted in very serious injury or fatality, but I came away very lightly. 1) Skidding on black

ice and nearly rolled over a hedge. 2) Writing off a caravan on the A1 and 3) a recent motorbike accident at 60+ mph. This does make me feel I ought to be doing something for Him, as He must have kept me on the Earth for a purpose.

More recently, when I was feeling quite low spiritually, I became involved with the Christian Motorcyclists' Association (CMA). As a result of that, I found a biking friend in the village and was able to invite him to the CMA and subsequently an Alpha course. He was obviously searching, but he feels that God used me to help him find a faith, and this really encouraged me. Being in the CMA has given me confidence to camp at rallies and serve some of the more unusual characters of the biking fraternity. Also to go into Nottingham prison and take part in the service for the prisoners. All these things I would not have dreamed of doing before.

I still struggle sometimes with feelings of inadequacy as a Christian, but God always seems to find a way to encourage me when I start to feel like that. I don't know how many may have been helped towards a commitment to God through my sharing my faith with those I have had contact with since making my own commitment to follow Jesus 41 years ago. But I do know this: following Jesus has transformed the shy boy to a much less shy person.

A wife invited some people to dinner. At the table, she turned to their six-year-old daughter and said, 'Would you like to say the blessing?' 'I wouldn't know what to say,' the girl replied. 'Just say what you hear Mommy say,' the wife answered. The daughter bowed her head and said, 'Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner?'



### Competition 6

These eyes are watching you but whose eyes are they?

Replies to The Editor e-mail/phone  
all details on web

Want to make a comment as well? (or two?)

And win that prize of 'wishful thinking'

The kids also have a competition on page 19. but you can do both.

Winners will be published in the next issue.

Who will win?

hint all in the magazine

What have you got planned for 2008? what about 2009 even?  
Let us have some stories of what you did in 2007'  
The CMA National dates we have are on page 25, so start planning your year for holidays and extra days off. Bring the family to the National, bring your friends from your church, bring your mates, let's make it the biggest yet. Also look at the other branch events. Go and be part of their team as well even for only part of the weekend. Lets be working together



### The caption competition 5

Hi everyone.

Well we have a winner.

Yes, it's Pidd He has won that prize of wishful thinking with:-

Hold your nostrils closed with finger and thumb and say "Hello Biker."

# The Yorkshire Pudding Rally

by Glen Night

This was held at a Scout camp called Silverwood at Silkstone, Barnsley, over the 1st weekend in August. Fortunately, the heavy rains stopped, the sun shone the week before the rally, enabling the ground to dry



out for it to be fit to camp and walk on, without getting caked in mud. Also, the weather was kind to us over the weekend, enabling the bikers to relax and spread out in the sun whilst drinking tea, eating, socializing and in the beer tent listening to the bands.

On this occasion one of the stipulations for running a Holy Joe's was to be open 24 hours all weekend, as we had 10 tickets allocated to the CMA for this event.

On setting up, we had a few minor problems, which were dealt with professionally and efficiently. After what seemed a slow start, for the customers coming into the Holy Joe's to enjoy our hospitality, through the afternoon it steadily picked up. During the night shift, you'd have expected the tea tent to quieten down after a certain time, but no, the bikers just kept coming in at a steady pace all night, asking what time we closed. Some were surprised when we told them that we don't. In general, the bikers were more open for the CMA to talk about Jesus, resulting in some good conversations, along with all the general banter and Mickey taking.

One customer asked "Do you ever get any feedback" I replied "no" then he said "You must get people saying nice to see you here" I replied "yes we do, but don't take it as a compliment, but part of our

service to the biking community." After he and his wife had finished their refreshments, they came up to us and said "I would like to give some feedback. "He went on to say "Nobody else on the rally site has tables and chairs spread out for people to sit in and relax. When we come into the Holy Joe's we get a feeling of peace and tranquillity, so thank you." Not long after we had bikers giving us plenty of feedback and appreciation. (Not only to myself, but to other members of the CMA)

On speaking to a group of MAG marshals, Pete asked "have you enjoyed the rally and our being here" replying "yes we have, very much so." Pete and the rest of the MAG team were pleased with all that we had done over the weekend, especially how we conducted ourselves and for the service to the bikers. This has resulted in the CMA being invited to do a Holy Joe's at their next rally called "Into the Valley", held at Sledemere House near Wetwang in North Yorkshire over the May bank holiday weekend in 2008.

It goes without saying, that if we have the prayer support leading up to and during the rallies, we can go out in confidence and proclaim our Lord's name, knowing that we are under His protection, enveloped in his hands. I personally feel that this is important to us as CMA, when I ask for your prayers in church.

Serving the bikers isn't easy, but as we have one thing in common, our passion for motorcycles enables us to gently come alongside them, ready to

impart our love for Jesus and what he can do for them personally. As these conversations take place, we know that seeds are being sown, ready to bear fruit at a later date. I can testify to seeing God working abundantly when you step out of the boat into the uncomfortable areas, being totally dependent on God to do whatever he may wish with you; for you to use your gifts that he has bestowed upon you in a way that you may have never experienced.

## We are the Survivors by Michael Stafford

This is in response to 'page 50 Chainlink Summer issue' **"What's the Average Age within the CMA"** What about those of us born in the 30's? Yes, there are a few of us, and still riding bikes (I enjoy my Hornet). I thought the following might be of interest.

We are the Survivors (for those born before 1940)

"We were born before television, before penicillin, polio shots, Xerox, plastic, contact lenses, videos, frisbees and the Pill. We were before radar, credit cards, split atoms, laser beams and ball-point pens, before dishwashers, tumble driers, electric blankets, air

conditioners, drip-dry clothes, and before the man on the moon.

We thought "fast food" was what you ate in Lent, a "Big Mac" was an oversized raincoat, and instant coffee was unheard of. In our day, cigarette smoking was fashionable, "grass" was mown, "coke" was kept in the coal house, a "joint" was a piece of meat you ate on Sundays, "pot" was something you cooked in. We existed before house-husbands, computer dating, dual cars, and when a "meaningful relationship" meant getting along.



"Sheltered accommodation" was where you waited for the bus.

We were before day care centres, group houses and disposable nappies. We never heard of FM radio, tape decks, electric typewriters (let alone computers and word processors!), artificial hearts, yoghurt or young men wearing earrings, For us,

"time sharing" meant togetherness, a "chip" was a piece of wood or fried potato, "hardware" meant nuts and bolts and "software" wasn't a word. Before 1940 "Made in Japan" meant junk. "Rock music" was a fond mother's lullaby.

We who were born before 1940 must be a hardy bunch when you think of the way in which the world has changed, and the adjustments we have had to make. No wonder we are so confused and there is a generation gap today, but, by the grace of God, we have survived! Hallelujah!!

## Why do we do it? by Russell Boyce

I sat on a windswept field, slept in a cold draughty tent and got cold and wet. Why did I do this?

I at in a nice sunny corner of the field the answer is easy.

I am confronted by questions to which I do not know the full or meaningful answer. Oh help! everyone else has cleared off just when needed!

I am faced with a group of menacing looking bikers. Why am I doing this?

The answer is always that we do it to show the love of God exists in a practical face-to-face way. Sometimes we will find ourselves outside the 'comfort zone'. Sometimes this is a purely physical thing, being wet and cold. At other times it is being tested on our knowledge of the bible and its meaning for life. Sometimes the threats and fears come from within our own heads when they really are not there.

We need to remember a few things:

- 1) We are on a God given task.
- 2) He will see we are not tested beyond our limits.
- 3) We need prayer support and good organisation.
- 4) We need to plan for the maximum effect before the event and make sure everyone knows what he or she is doing.

It is easy for new Christians to get swept up by the enthusiasm of the moment. Equally, it is easy for older ones to dampen down ideas with 'it will never work', 'we tried that before', and



'they are not our target group'. Rob Whittaker, a speaker at Capernwray, once compared new and old Christians in a church to 2 teams of horses pulling in opposite directions. The older Christians were the old plough horses, pulling the old familiar ways and

the new Christians the stallions, trying to gallop off full of energy.

At the same talk he talked about maximising effort and talked about himself as a preacher, finding he was spending all week driving from place to place and finding when he got back to his main congregation he was wiped out. One day a member, who was a professional driver, offered to take on the driving, leaving him to concentrate on what he was good at.

None of us are good at everything. The key is finding people within the branch or the supporting church who can take on the bits that you are not good at. If they can look after the organisation or the prayer support, this leaves us free to do the bit we are good at - meeting and talking with bikers. A point I have made before within church is that you don't always need to be a biker to make a cup of tea or to care for someone who is tired or distressed.

You just need to listen.

Let us all listen to others, be alert to talents around us that we can harness from others and remember why we are doing our evangelism in the first place, then we will be more effective.

## Anglesey Bike Show by Bob North and West Wales

Anglesey Agricultural Show Ground, near Gwalchmai, August Bank Holiday

The event consists of bike show, stalls and live bands in the evening 7pm till late. The show and indoor stalls (one of which is the CMA stand) start from 9am till 7pm, except Friday and Monday, Friday starts 12 noon till 10pm, Monday closes at 2pm. If we have enough people coming on bikes, we can put them on the stall, but if so they have to remain there till Monday 2pm closure.

What we hope to do next year is put on a normal CMA stand with helmet

park plus a Holy Joe's. The Holy Joe's cannot sell during caterers trading times. Once traders have closed, we can then sell, give away or take donations for drinks. This is usually around 2am, so we will be working two teams; one for the stand and one for the HJ's. All helpers will get free entry to the show (max 20 passes); under fourteens go free, but must be with an adult. All under 16s should be out of the music venue by 12.30am.

***So Bob is now looking for people to go and help. ring or e-mail him all details on Branches North and West Wales at [www.bike.org.uk](http://www.bike.org.uk)***



Above left: JPN Norton in the bike show

Above Right: Dawn and Stephen, manning the stand and helmet-park Friday morning just before the bikes were allowed in.

Left: You see Martin, Gavin, (Bob) and Jeff of the Staffs branch.

Thanks Staffs for your help.

## Homecoming by Sue Brown

I have a bittersweet relationship with city noise. Lying down last night after a long and busy day at work, I could almost feel my mind unravelling as a light, cool autumnal breeze drifted in through my ever-open window, lifting up the small hairs on my skin. Somewhere among the tectonic plates of my being, the sense of



Discussing my route to Santander from the Algarve

being home was so over-powering I had to write down all the words that came to mind: bed, night, tired, peace, raindrops, traffic, silence, noise. It was later than usual and, across the distance, our town hall clock single-chimed the half hour as I sank into sleep's blessed release... Homecoming is a concept that I never thought I would relate to. Stripped by the loss of our family home of 8 years to the costs of putting myself through a degree, I and my ten year old child embarked on a journey that left (or so I thought) an indelible stain on how I thought of "home". We spent the next 6 years as nomads - initially, without a car and with all our belongings in storage. Janine, Sammy (our cat) and I lived for 4 months from an attic room in Salford, until our dear friends emigrated to America. We left from there for 5 days' Soul Survivor with the church youth group. Picking up

the cat on our return, we installed ourselves for a further fortnight north of Bolton, house-sitting for some other friends who'd gone to France. Somewhere around mid-day, the Thursday prior to their return, they phoned from a service station to offer us a bed until we could find ourselves affordable rented accommodation. I felt

as though we'd been reprieved, but what I could never have imagined were the realities of what this meant. Looking back, we had a close, but church-centred relationship and would describe ourselves as friends. During the next 5 months - one for each year we'd known each other - that relationship was fundamentally refined, although it has survived. The combined effects of bartering my parental status for our housing as Janine was subsumed into the family's own 5 children, of sharing a bedroom with their youngest daughter as well as my own, and of having just 3 sets of clothing each to mix and match, left me feeling as invisible as a ghost (with about as much substance). We moved, with our cat, to the first of 3 rented properties in the December of that year as different people.

Thereafter, we moved once a year due to the need to reduce our monthly outlay, until I finally saved up enough for the deposit for my present house in April 2001. I tell you this because, as a single parent since my child was 3 months old, I had always felt as if we weren't somehow a "proper" family and that our home was somehow not a "proper" home. Now, eleven years on, through the process of riding my bike on a 2,800 mile round trip to visit my parents in Portugal this summer and all the challenges of coming back to ordinary life, I have realised these worries were unfounded. At last I live somewhere I neither want - nor have

- to leave. And Jesus has given me this gift in the face of so much that's changing. My now 22-year old daughter is, with Daniel her partner, buying their first house and it has taken patience.

If home is where the heart is, Jesus, then may my heart forever be in You - because that means I'll never be without a home again. As it says in Psalm 139: "If I go up to the heavens, You are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there Your hand will guide me, Your right hand will hold me fast. (NIV, verses 8-10).



## Jeremiah 31:19 (NLT) by Rev. Bob Bogart, West Mid's.



I Kicked myself for my stupidity  
(Jeremiah 31:9 NLT).

I can't believe I did it. After 6 years of owning a diesel van, today I filled it up with unleaded fuel. I rarely let the fuel tank get below the one-half mark, but today I noticed I was down to one-quarter tank. Got to get some fuel, I thought. There I am, sitting in a queue at the petrol station when finally it's my turn. I grab the green nozzle and start pumping; never once did it dawn on me that I was pumping in the wrong fuel. If this wasn't bad enough, I then drove the van 10 miles, before I realized what had happened.

Okay, what to do now? I call AA (that's the British Automobile Association, not Alcoholics Anonymous, though by now I'm leaning in that direction). They send a recovery vehicle, but tell me straight away that the cost of flushing out the contaminated fuel and disposal is my responsibility. No joke, I'm thinking. Vehicle is recovered and taken to the garage for the vehicular enema. Thirty minutes later I'm on my way back to the petrol station to fill up, once again!

Now for the part that stings! My initial wrong-fuel fill up cost £56.00. The disposal of contaminated fuel cost a whopping £271.00. My second (more thoughtful) fill up cost £71.00. Add it all up and it comes to an eye popping £398.00. Now, let me put this in some sort of perspective for y'all in the States. At today's present exchange rate, the grand total is 8 pennies shy of \$812.00. Not to mention I lost half of the day in the ministry, a ton of aggravation and (sense it was my fault) a fair amount of pride. I feel sick!

Then I stumbled all over the Scripture passage in today's Bible reading, that's right, today's Scripture (see above). I didn't even remember this being 'in' the Bible! I had to grin. Was God speaking or what? In fact, it was just the other day I was praying and asking God to help me hear Him better. Okay God, I'm listening.

Has it ever struck you how many times we spend the better part of the day, the week, or perhaps even the year kicking ourselves over our own stupidity or brooding over past mistakes? We've all done it. We've all said or done stupid things that cost us much more than we meant to pay.

To be sure, Jeremiah 31:19 is talking about sins conviction, Godly sorrow and heart-felt repentance. Filling up a diesel car with petrol is a ready illustration that God forgives our stupid mistakes when we ask. Furthermore, the glory of it all; He even paid the bill. Why am I even telling this? Well, it's too embarrassing not to tell. I'm sure I'll laugh about it one day, but not today!

## Full Throttle - a year on the road

by Dan Harris, Kent Branch

For those not in the know, Full Throttle is a motorbike youth ministry that works with many of Kent's young and illegal riders. As a project, it has been up and running for a year.

Full Throttle's main aim is to promote safe and responsible motorcycling in Kent. It has run a number of motorcycle youth clubs in schools and rural areas, and provides substantially subsidised CBT and A2 tests. As a result, many young people are receiving a leg up into legal biking, when they would otherwise continue with illegal and off-road riding in their local communities.

However, Full Throttle is not just about providing "free" bike tests. Young people who wish to do a bike test with us have to take part in a ten-week programme, called the Community Motorcycle Course. This programme covers a wide range of social issues, including the consequences of motorcycle theft and the impact of off-road riding on communities.

A number of the young people who have attended our projects have had problems in school, and in some extreme cases, have been expelled without taking any qualifications. As Full Throttle is a registered educational provider in its own right, we are able to offer nationally recognised qualifications, linked to our programmes. In some cases, this is the first real qualification that some young people have received in their school careers.

Before I started this project, I had little

experience of trusting God's word in physically providing for His work. This year we have received over £30,000 in funding, which is an amazing thing to witness. There have also been people, both within and outside the CMA, willing to invest their time in the project. This has taught me that when God says he will do something - he WILL do it!

Over the next 12 months we are looking to take the work in new directions. We have recently received Christian funding, so are looking at running some more evangelistic programmes in the near future. We are also hoping to run "Short Way Round", a project encouraging young people to plan short ride-outs and camping overnight.

As a youth worker, I have always felt that the CMA should explore ways of working with younger riders. Most of our membership is generally spread over the middle end of the age spectrum and, as with many clubs, we aren't really recruiting any young blood. Please may I take this opportunity to encourage you to take the Gospel to the younger riders too!



## Glenco Weekend Scotland

by Uel Irwin- Northern Ireland Branch

The weekend after the AGM, we arranged a visit to Scotland with yours truly acting as guide.

A mixed bunch went including several from CMA, NI, three from Bangor Elim, two of my neighbours and some extras.

We met on the Friday for the early ferry from Belfast, had a good crossing and went up the West side of Scotland, taking the Scenic route. A regroup at Girvan was welcome and then on to Largs for dinner in the Morris Cafe, which has a theme based on Morris Minors and other Morris cars and Memorabilia.

We then went on up the coast, past the Submarine base at Holyloch, and after some good scenery into Inverary for a welcome break. Soon it was on towards Glenco, but I took a 'B' road, which looked good on the map but it ran for about ten miles as a single track along a river. The scenery was good, but the concentration high. It was good to be on the A road to Glenco and it looked like the hand of God had cloaked the mountain as we neared the darkening clouds. However, the rain was not too long or bad and a petrol station at Glencoe was a welcome sight. On down ten miles or so and into Kinlochleven, where we stayed in hostels for the night and had a time of friendship over evening dinner.

We had a whip-round and bought enough for breakfast and did our own



cooking and some went to visit Inverness for the day, taking in the European Pipe Band Championships and a good stop at Fort Augustus and Fort William. Some went to Britian's best biking road; the road to Applecross, but the weather turned sour and they deserted it!

That evening we welcomed Colin and Susan Thompson

in their new Suburu Impress-us-agh from the Rest of Scotland Branch (Central Scotland) and renewed our friendships, as some of us had enjoyed a day trip last year to Loch Lommond. The next morning we breakfasted early and set off for home. We had planned to take in a service, but most decided to catch an earlier ferry. I went for the later booked one and managed to make a coffee fellowship at Helensburgh Baptist, just after their service, where Colin and Susan and others welcomed me.

A good Sunday lunch followed in a small local hotel and we enjoyed more friendship and fellowship with others before heading home. The sky stayed good and the roads mainly clear so all went well. On the ferry line up, three of the group were there, so it was good to have a chat on the way home.

The run was good. We needed a time together and a time to make some friends and even let a few know about the CMA and the Lord.

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## We're here to help...



Iain Grimes and Neil John are the founders of the BMF Biker Legal Line. Both Iain and Neil are solicitors at Ward Gethin, one of the largest firms in East Anglia, which is dedicated to serving the needs of bikers and their families. Ward Gethin has departments dealing with many areas of law, including personal injury claims, civil and commercial disputes, house sales and purchases, family law, wills and IHT planning.

For friendly and efficient advice, from one biker to another, call either Iain or Neil in the first instance on 01553 660033.

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## A message from Mike Fitton, President (UK) CMA



**Sandy, Emma and Mike**

In this edition of Chainlink you have read personal stories from people in CMA who are experiencing a day to day relationship with Jesus Christ. Do you experience the same thing?

The bible clearly states that God loves us so much that He has done everything necessary to establish that relationship and deal with the wrong things in our lives.

**John Ch3 V16** says "God so loved the world (that's you and me) that He sent His Son Jesus (to take the punishment for the sins of the world by dying on the Cross), that whoever believes in Him (His death and resurrection) will have everlasting life (we will have a relationship with Him every second of every day and be certain of a place in Heaven when we die).

A friend told me once "Every time a Christian Biker told me that, I wanted it to be true!" It is. You and I can have a relationship with God. Now that's Good News!

Another verse from the bible, which helped me a great deal is **Romans Ch5 v8** "God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us". In other words, God didn't wait for us to become perfect, His love reached out to us. He promises to forgive us if we honestly apologise for the things we have done, whatever they are. **1John Ch1 v9** "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness".

A young man who had made a terrible

mess of his life once said, "If only I could start all over again, if only I could be born again and start over!" Well I had news for him, you can. Jesus gives us a new start, and clears away all the mess of the past and gives us a sure and certain future.

If God existed, would you want to know Him? Of course you would; it would be ridiculous to say no!

The CMA Members have found new life through Jesus Christ (**read Acts 3:15**).

There will have been a starting point to this. God knows your heart. If you call out to Jesus Christ, He will hear you. You can ask Jesus into your life today if you wish. God will hear your prayers. If you have never prayed before, try the one below:

**Lord Jesus, You died on the cross so that my sins could be forgiven. I want You to come into my life and be Lord. Please forgive all the wrong things I have done, wash me clean and fill me with Your Spirit. Amen.**

-----  
If you have prayed this prayer for the first time and meant it from the heart, well done.

You may not feel any different at first, but it will be a good idea to tell the person who gave you this magazine. With God's help you need to find a good church that can offer you the support, understanding and friendship you need. You are now part of God's family.

We want to support you and send you some teaching materials that will be very useful. You're now part of God's family and a Brother or Sister in Christ.Contact:-

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