

CHAINLINK

The Magazine of the
Christian Motorcyclists' Association

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see story page 24-25

Winter 2008 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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'Working in partnership with
Bible Society'



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What's in the Winter 2008 Chainlink?

Pidd

Well known over the years for getting to and from the CMA Hollybush rally, Here he is about to go home with much more than he came with. He went shopping locally to a model engineering suppliers in Dewsbury and had well over 10 kilos of assorted mild steel sections on board.

The joys of modelling and biking!
Did you go? Brilliant.



Page 2	Names of Executive and National Officers
Page 3	Index
Page 4/6	CMA UK President, by Mike Fitton
Page 7	An Encouraging Word, by Rev. Bob Bogart, West Midlands
Page 8/9	Hi, It's me again by Emma Angel-Jones
Page 10/12	Ride Report from Africa by Rene Changuion
Page 13	Ace Cafe launches "Distance Suns" Review by Mike Fitton
Page 14	Biker Bibles, by Roul and Birgit Akesson
Page 15	Ladies of CMA Conference 2009 by Jackie Russell, New Forest Branch
Page 16/17	Ladies of CMA Conference Testimony by Vanessa Wood
Page 18	The President and the Executive team.
Page 19	Notes from the Editor, by Ken Hardy
Page 20	CMA Youth
Page 21/29	From around the branches.
Page 30/33	Major Events List, 2009.
Page 34/42	From around the branches.
Page 43	Where to find a CMA branch
Page 44/53	From around the branches.
Page 54/55	'Hear Ye', 'Hear Ye' Merchandising, by Andy & Naomi
Page 56/69	From around the branches.
Page 69/70	Some of our sponsors.
Page 71	A message and a prayer, by Mike Fitton
Page 72	Back Page



President's Encouragement

Stormin the Castle, 2008 by Mike Fitton

Many of us have been to countless rallies, some year after year, but we all will have one that sticks in our minds. This year 'Stormin the Castle' will be in my memory, because of mud, mud and lots more mud!



the gate and a marshal friend of mine said, "Just follow the mud and drive down the hill, it's not too deep". Understatement. I got thirty yards and sank to the axles.

The MAG organisers of Stormin had a big problem, in that they had to find an alternative site for 2008, as Witton Castle had been sold to a new company. They eventually found a field just outside of Barnard Castle (I'm not sure if the 'castle' element had any bearing on the choice) and the plans were put in place. To start with, the local council were objecting to the rally and Bill Bartle of the North East branch took MAG reps along to a meeting and helped present the case in favour of the event. The council agreed that it could go ahead.

As the weekend loomed, the weather forecast was terrible, but in the world of outreach we must never back down just because we might, no, sorry, we will get wet!

Paul Wedgwood and I checked the equipment in the NE branch box trailer for Holy Joes and Sandy and I bought all the provisions at Makro.

I towed the trailer to the site on Thursday afternoon drove through

A huge tractor unit came to the rescue and dragged me to the top of the hill. I carried on down, sank again and the same tractor eventually pulled me to the rear of the Holy Joes marquee.

At this stage the five acre site was about eight to ten inches of thick mud. Bill Bartle, Andy Hogan, Brian Murphy and Howard Robinson arrived to set up the gear. We had to spread half a round bale of straw on the floor just to keep our feet from slipping.

The next morning the torrent of rain continued. Before long, old friends of Holy Joes started to arrive from all over the country, with different stories of horrendous journeys and bikes falling over in the mud. Other members of CMA battled through the weather to help us Keith; Naomi, and her sister Julia from the NE Branch, Jason, Beth, Sid and Trevor from the North Cheshire Branch and Dave from West Mids. Jim from Lakes and Lancs turned up on Saturday. Every person showed great commitment in the face of distinct WETNESS....



Dave Parkes, Howard Robinson, Mike Fitton and Andy Hogan.

By the evening, we had a literal flow of water running through our marquee, also the dance tent (holds about 5,000) was 10-12 inches deep in liquid mud, as was the whole site. It was ironic really that I had just finished reading a book about the First World War and life in the trenches 'Forgotten Voices'.

We had to walk 200m to the water supply for Holy Joes, through mud that was halfway up our boots and flowing with floodwater. It was exhausting. During the night, we had a guy brought to us by the marshals who had collapsed in the mud. Eventually, we had to hand him over to the paramedics to treat for hypothermia. Things were getting out of hand, with tents ripped to shreds or filled with muddy water. We cared for many who had nowhere else to go, especially one guy called Dave; he

was wet and cold and his tent had gone with the wind! I had a great chat with him, but then a couple a 'lot worse for wear' came in about 4am, stumbled in the mud and poured their drinks on Dave sat behind, Thankfully he could laugh about it. What's a bit more, it won't make any difference!

By midday Saturday, for the first time in my experience, MAG had to abandon the rally and the paramedics had withdrawn their cover, due to the dangerous conditions.

It took us a long time to pack up and haul the gear through the mud. In the process, I lost my Blackberry phone somewhere in the muddy depths, since replaced thanks to Vodaphone. We were absolutely shattered, had practically no sleep at all and were wet through to the undies. It was the first rally I had ever attended, wearing



wellies; the trade stands sold out of them within a couple of hours.

Reflecting on the short time we were there, we had a great deal to praise God for. Numerous bibles were taken, friendships were made and respect for CMA was given because we were prepared to be there and serve with a smile, despite the conditions; going the second mile always touches hearts. So what about Dave? Well, the following week I went to the British Super Bikes meeting at Croft Circuit in the North East with Paul, Bill, Keith and Matthew, Paul's son. That morning, Sandy and I had prayed that I would have a specific opportunity to speak with someone that would have eternal consequences. I had only been at the circuit a few minutes and heard a voice say "That's the guys who looked after me when my tent was soaked." I turned round to see

Dave and his big grin, pointing at the cross on my back. He introduced me to his friend and told him all about Holy Joes and how we had been there for him. We had a good chat and I gave him my card; I just know God has a plan for Dave's heart.

It would have been so easy to stay at home that weekend, justifying it by saying we knew it would be abandoned, but I believe God wanted to show certain hearts that day that CMA cares and cares beyond comfort, because God cares for us.

Please pray for Dave. I really want him to meet with Jesus.

My thanks to everyone who attended, however long you could stay. It really counted for eternity.

Mike FITTON (President CMA UK)

An Encouraging Word

by Rev. Bob Bogart, West Mid's. Branch



"Come follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men."

Matthew 4:19 The word this issue is 'passion'. It never ceases to amaze me the passion that people express for the things they love. People are passionate about sports and their favorite team. They will wear the jersey and regalia of their chosen athlete even if they, themselves, appear to have never been to the gym a day in their life. They will sing the praises of a lean, trim marathon runner while barely being able to waddle down the hall and squeeze through the door.

Zetaman (Oregon's self-proclaimed superhero for the homeless) takes it upon himself to walk through the city streets at night offering, perhaps, a pair of gloves or a chicken sandwich to the city's destitute. He is passionate about helping those who live rough on the streets to have a more comfortable existence.

Former President Jimmy Carter is passionate about building bridges of peace throughout the world. Right or wrong, liked or disliked, no one can argue

against his overwhelming zeal to bring about a calmness and stability to a very shaky planet.

Closer to home there are many with whom I am associated that share a passion for motorcycles. As a member of the CMA UK we all love bikes (and scoots for some of you) but the greater tie that binds us together is our love for the bikers, themselves. Seeing people come to a faith relationship with Jesus Christ is (and should be) passion personified.

From all walks of life, from all nations and cultures; all people of all colours who express passion for the things they love the most; whether they know it or not, Jesus Christ is passionate about them. As a believer, ask God to channel your individual passion in such a manner that He will be glorified, souls will be saved and lives will be forever changed. By all means, be passionate, whether it is sports, dancing, travel, cars or even fishing, God will use your particular passion to help you become a fisher of men. Don't miss the plot, and certainly, don't miss the opportunities God will surely set before you.



Hi, It's me again

by Emma Angel-Jones.

Hi everyone, I'm back home safe and sound.

I have just got back from 9 weeks working as a volunteer for CMA USA, in Mena, Arkansas.

I'll start with the journey there. All the way to the airport I was praying to God that he would give me a relaxed and safe journey, as I had to catch three flights on my lonesome! and the prayers were definitely answered. I was flying Tee side to Gatwick, then to Atlanta and then finally to little

rock (the home of Bill Clinton). I had amazing flights there and even enjoyed the plane food! All through my journey to the United States, a song played permanently on my ipod; the song was "the voice of truth" by Casting Crowns. it was basically about listening to the voice of truth and following God and listening to him through troubled times. This song was such a blessing for me and it kept me safe and relaxed. When I arrived at the airport, I was greeted by a family that I never knew would have such a strong hold on my heart! Buddy, Becky and Kristen were the family that kept me for the nine weeks, and what a family they were! I had the BEST time with them and enjoyed the fun and giggles I had everyday. Buddy and Becky treated me like a daughter, taking me to amazing places such as Oklahoma and to good old Vicky's pie



shop, where I ate far too much!

After a couple of days of relaxing and getting to know Mena, I started work at the CMA headquarters in Hatfield. I had so much fun there, and I was treated wonderfully by everyone. I did all sorts of jobs, from filming DVDS for upcoming events to cooking

Yorkshire puddings and a roast dinner for everyone in the work place. They didn't really take to what Yorkshire puds were, but I ohh so loved them! I met such wonderful people and they made me so welcome, I was always called the "Brit" and never stopped laughing with all the jokes and friendships I had when I was working there. A couple of weeks into me working at CMA, I realized how much



I loved anything to do with art and creativity. Filming and photo editing really caught me and I got a wonderful opportunity to work with a lady called Meri Brock. She taught me all the basics and, thanks to her, I am now a wiz at Photoshop.

CMA in America is a massive organization and everything is done in such a big way. The warehouse that held all the merchandise and goodies was amazing! It would be exciting one day to see the CMA UK become as profound and as big as CMA USA! When I was working alongside the conference organization staff, I was shocked to see the amount of people that go to the conferences that are held by CMA. It was also unbelievable to see the number of people that had joined CMA in the 9 weeks that I was there; I think it was in the hundreds!

On my days off I had relaxing times with Buddy and Becky and also had the chance to go to a wonderful church in Mena called the Crossing. I fell in love with the church as soon as I walked in; every minute I spent there was blessed. I had a wonderful opportunity to go to the youth groups and bible study classes that happened weekly.

This trip has been the biggest growing up period I have had to face. Jesus took me out of my comfort zone. There were difficulties I had to face, but Jesus led me through them. The trip also made my relationship with God stronger, teaching me that I can do anything with him next to me and there are no limits into spreading the word of the lord! I would like to thank everyone who helped me with this trip, the churches, CMA NE, my parents, friends and family and also CMA itself for giving me this

amazing experience! There is one other big thank you I have to say, thank you to the lord for giving me the biggest opportunity I have faced, for taking me out of my comfort zone and keeping me safe! This trip was not the end to me spreading the word of Jesus, it was only the beginning! This opportunity is not just for me, it is for anyone of any age to use and to serve God! Its good to be scared of doing something like this, because once you have done it, it's a huge uplifting and I would recommend it to anyone! You don't even have to travel across the globe, you could go somewhere close to home, this would still be working for the lord and letting everyone know what you believe in. God will always be by your side and will always be there when you need him. Now that I have started art college in Middlesbrough, I see this as yet another challenge to let all the students know what I believe. I plan to spread the word of God everywhere. Thank you again to everyone who has supported me with prayer and guidance. You were the biggest encouragement!



Ride report from Africa

by Rene Changuion CMA SA- Bikers Church - CMA International



Riding for the Son

I've just returned from Windhoek the capital of Namibia. It's a journey that goes west from my home in Pretoria, South Africa, through Botswana for 1700 km. The landscape takes one from the cities of Johannesburg and Pretoria right out into the remotest parts of the continent. After leaving the dense traffic here, within hours the ride goes right into the African bush. I had 11 CMA'ers come along on the ride to Namibia with me. Our team of 12 took the long way, adding about another 1300 km to our ride north through the "Kapriivi" strip, via Botswana. Namibia and Botswana are very sparsely populated countries; Namibia has 2.1 million and Botswana about 1.8 million people. The contrast in population is huge as our area has 4.8m people in

the cities alone. Not quite London yet, but crowded. It's possible to ride for hours on this journey out west and hardly see a soul. The serenity of the bush and then the open plains and Kalahari and Namibian deserts are a wonder to experience. The awesome wonder of the open starry skies, with not a city light, adding artificial light is a sight to behold. Day time temperatures soar up to 41 C now as summer has just begun for us here in the Southern hemisphere. The possibility of encountering wild animals is always an exciting prospect and one needs to treat them with the needed respect.

No big 5 this time, but plenty to enjoy and male ostriches to be wary of as they race the bikes to protect their territory.

Our team consisted of several BMW's, two Harleys, a Triumph Tiger and two very brave guys on superbikes; a Fireblade and a GSXR. Life is never boring with a diverse group



Holy Spirit, deals with pretense, stirs up faith and enables change. The Sunday morning service, held in the new Bikers' Church premises (A

warehouse, transformed into a place of worship with excellence, without missing the biker atmosphere) was attended by more than 120 people. Good stuff for Namibia! What a response to the preaching and teaching of the word of God, with more than 80% response on Sunday morning. Praise God!

It seems that things have accelerated in the spiritual dimension. Here in South Africa our currency fluctuates continuously, the interest rate is high, the political climate is uncertain, but we have peace. This is not a time to be busy with personal trivial pursuits. We see this as the greatest hour. There is ONE constant, Jesus Christ, the immovable unchangeable, our Saviour and our Lord! What will it take to stop me/you from being obedient and effective for Christ? What will the excuses be - fear of man, fear of the unknown, fear of failure, love of comfort, prosperity.

CMA Namibia, under the capable leadership of Peter and Maggie Dickman, is prospering in numbers and maturity. They now have 5 active chapters in this rugged country, where God seems to be molding and chiselling out a people that have an uncompromising faith in the Rock of Ages, Jesus Christ. We experienced a hunger for reality wherever we went. The "cheap plastic" be nice, imitation gospel has never worked, but the Good News of Jesus Christ always challenges men women and children to the core. The "All or Nothing" approach, lovingly presented by the inspiration of the

The words found in the letter to the Romans stir my heart to action - Rom 13:12 - The night is far spent, the day is at hand.

Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.

Rom 13:13 - Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy.

Rom 13:14 - But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.



Let's not miss this open door of opportunity. What a privilege to invest our lives in an eternal Kingdom. There are always sacrifices to be made. Loving sacrifice is the foundation of true Christianity. All the team members have to pay their own way. Trusting God for the funds is normally a good way to find the right guys and ladies to come. This preparation is faith building, it's a cost to consider and count; God is faithful. Each team member carries Bibles to hand out to people that we meet along the road, that we meet on the highways and byways, from police to petrol attendants or whosoever will come, Our main thrust is always the bikers of the world, but we never

ignore the obvious needs God sends our way on these journeys. It's very encouraging to go back a year or so later and meet the ones who said yes to Jesus and observe the progress.

We have just become grandparents 2 months ago, and right now I can hear our granddaughter Dyella in the background. How I love this gorgeous little girl. I've missed her and the family, but the call of God brings a satisfaction that is indescribable. The sacrifice made brings great joy when we think back on nearly 4500km of hard riding; the spills in the sand, the challenges of the border posts, and the long runs with having to carry extra fuel... all for the joy of touching lives with the Good News of Jesus Christ. These trips take from 7-10 days, but these are days well spent, days in which the team "live more" than many do in a lifetime!

Riding for the Son is never boring and has eternal rewards.

Rene Changuion



Peter and Maggy Dickman, Peter is the Regional Coordinator and pastor of Namibia.

Ace Cafe Launches 'Distance Suns'

Saturday 1st November 2008, by Mike Fitton (President CMA UK)

The new adventure motorcycle travel book by Sam Manicom "Adventure in the vastness of Africa and South America"



This launch and book signing at the Ace Café-London is a unique event.

You'll be able to meet Sam Manicom, round the world motorcyclist, journalist and travel writer. Also come and chat to the team behind Distant Suns, the editor, the designer and the proofreaders.

We are delighted to announce that rock singer and acoustic guitarist Steve McGill will be playing sets during the afternoon. Steve's stunning new CD will have just been released.

<http://www.gumtree.com/london/95/27134095.html>

In July, I attended the BMF Show in Kelso and, during the weekend, I had the privilege of meeting Sam Manicom, the round the world motorcyclist.

Sam asked me if I would be willing to write a review of his new book 'Distant Suns', an account of his journey with his partner Birgit through Africa and South America, riding his trusted BMW nicknamed 'Libby' an R80GS.

I have read a few travel books and some have been such flamboyant attempts to sound impressive they have been put back on my bookcase for another day. Needless to say, they have remained there. However, in this case, I couldn't put Sam's book down. As I read, it wasn't so much a case of 'being there' as you wanted to fill your bike tank and 'go there' as soon as possible. I highly recommend this book to anyone interested in other cultures, travel and the highs and lows of motorcycling in unknown territory. Sam is the son of Baptist Missionaries

and we had a wonderful conversation; he was happy to receive a copy of the CMA Biker Bible. Sam was particularly interested to hear about the partnership we have with World

Horizons, to supply bikes to their missionaries. He did say that after I complete my review, if anyone from CMA purchases a copy of his book, he will make a small donation to our WH bikes project. Just let him know you are with CMA.

If anyone is able to attend the book launch at the Ace Café, between 2pm-7pm on Saturday 1st November, that would be wonderful. I shall be involved with an Exec. meeting that day, shame!

When CMAers place their order they will need to put **CMA** in the comments box, cheque/paypal/credit card options have the facility to do this on line, by doing this 15% will be donated to the CMA

Biker Bibles

from Roul and Birgit Akesson of 'Bibles For the Nations'.

In a short time span we have been able to produce over 300,000 copies of the Biker Bible in languages such as Swedish, English, German,



Danish, Norwegian, Portuguese, Dutch, Albanian and Russian. We are now planning for the next phase, which will include French, Spanish and Italian. Only God's Spirit can make this possible. We are completely depending on God's Spirit for the future.



Without the strong cooperation with several European biker clubs it would never have been possible to come as far as we have now. But our

target is to reach all of Europe. Winning Europe for Christ is the theme we have for Biker Mission. Let us be open to the leading of the Lord Jesus. It is essential that we, together with you and Biker clubs in Europe, target and reach other countries with God's Word.

Jesus is Lord

BIKER BIBLE

GOD – the real fuel that powers your life!

Without fuel the most expensive bike won't be going anywhere. Everything that moves needs fuel to make it go. It's the same with our lives.

In this book you can read about bikers who have experienced God as the real fuel that powers their lives. They are people who get their drive from the Bible.

The Biker Bible contains the whole New Testament and life stories of bikers. You can find in this book your fuel station, where you get enough fuel for your entire life.

Take care, your life is precious

ISBN 978-3-934360-55-6
www.bible-for-the-nations.com

Where were you?

by Jackie Russell.

LADIES OF CMA CONFERENCE 2009

We booked the venue, arranged the rooms, ordered the food, found some speakers, so where were you ladies?

I'm talking about the 2008 CMA Ladies Conference, which took place over the weekend of 27th to 29th June at The Hayes Christian Conference Centre in Swanwick, Derbyshire.

Over 50 women of CMA spent the weekend together, looking at some really tough issues around this years heading of 'Through the Fire'.

For some it was their second conference, for others it was their first, but no-one said it would be their last!

For me, well, I don't do women's stuff! I went very reluctantly last year, in fact 'please don't make me go' was in my head and my heart!

But it was fantastic - not a knitting pattern in sight, no baby photos, nothing that I thought of as women's stuff!

God really worked in me and through me that weekend and I was blessed. So much so that I offered to help with the conference in 2008. I didn't think for a minute I'd end up leading workshops with Sandy, but she has such a way about her, and I really felt



God wanted me to be that involved.

So this year I was up front, on the platform, quaking and shaking, but trying to be obedient to God. And, surprise, surprise, I was blessed! I was also moved to tears by my sister's pain, shaken with laughter by their humour and humbled by their grace and honesty. Their compassion for each other

was awesome and the love and sense of family over the weekend was amazing.

Did God work in me, yes! Was I refreshed and uplifted, yes!

Was I exhausted, yes! Am I booked for next year, Oh yes!

So what about you? If you've already booked, I'll see you there. If you haven't, then think about it, pray about it, ask about it and then act! Book your place and be blessed.

We've already booked The Hayes for 23rd to 25th October 2009 and we are filling places fast. Our theme is 'Real Women'. You can book by contacting our Membership Secretary, Mandie Johnston on 01364 642577 or email at mandie@madasafish.com The booking form is also available on line. So what about it? The only thing that can hold you back is you!

CMA Ladies Conference - Testimony

by Vanessa Wood, East Midlands Branch.

This year's CMA Women's conference was approached with some trepidation, not because I was scared off by last year! Far from it. The reason was, I had spent the previous six weeks very poorly and almost entirely in bed, due to suspected meningitis.



Thankfully, this was ruled out by a Lumbar Puncture, but I was left with all sorts of complications that ranged from intense blinding headaches, a very painful back and Labyrinthitis, (a very unpleasant middle ear infection, causing dizziness and again intense headaches), this last problem beginning only five days before the conference!

The Wednesday before the conference I rang Sandy with the intention of telling her I wouldn't be going. I found I couldn't actually say the words. I left it that I would turn up on the Friday, or not depending on how I was feeling!

Friday came and I was going to go. Penny picked me up, cushions and medicines all packed. We arrived during dinner and I was already anxious and in a lot of pain. Penny was very calm! We went off to join everyone else and within seconds of entering the room I turned and went out again and proceeded to have a nasty panic attack; something uncommon for me. Friends

immediately came to my assistance and I blurted out that I wish I hadn't come! I was enveloped in love and kindness by my sisters and was encouraged to come in and sit in the conference room. I did and never looked back! The amazing grace of God surrounded me.

After a good sleep I was ready to join in and be involved, the only problem being that I would only be able to stay for very short periods because of the intensity of the pain in my back. This was sorted in five minutes by Debbie hauling in the benches from outside the room. I had my bed! I could stay! And stay I did the whole time. A wheel chair was brought over, just in case I would swallow my pride and use it for moving from place to place, No way! Gaynor had even volunteered to push. I was really challenged about my pride, God won, pride lost and with the encouragement to use it in the, 'in between bits, the not important bits! To enable me to be at the important bits seemed to make sense. I took the plunge. As Sandy and Jackie began their workshops we were asked to consider where we were in relation to God; was it the valleys, the mountains or the long stretches. What a challenge. It was really difficult to admit I was in the valley, hugging my knees! What I realised later was when we are in that

position the only way is up! But would I be able to allow God to use the people in that place to help me to my feet? It was my choice, I could stay and fester or give it a go... I gave it a go. Later came the 'Refining Fire'. "What was stopping me reaching the potential God has for me"? To occupy the place He has for me in the world. What did God need to refine in my life? What was blocking the 'drainpipe'? stopping god's love and life flowing through me? Ouch!

The day continued with challenge after challenge. As I lay on my 'bed' God spoke to me about self sufficiency and pride again and again. Did I want the fire of God to 'be fanned' in my life? If so then I needed to deal with these issues.

Later, in my room I opened a book by Margaret Silf called 'Wayfaring; a book I had not picked up for 3 to 4 months. I began to read. It spoke of how we inhabit our own 'island kingdoms' and the false security they give us, and we forget that below the tide line is bedrock, which is wholeness. She goes on to say, "Our island relationships are often superficial or at war because we forget the bedrock. It is only in Christ can we do away with islands and

recognise we are one in Him" On Sunday, we were asked by our special guest Mike Fitton, in his talk, what sort of aroma we left behind us in our lives and what did we have on our motorbike? He showed us some very amusing yet challenging pictures. Was it a stink from a load of pigs on the back of our bike, or were we icy like great chunks of ice? Were we dead fish etc. etc. Although we laughed, we knew exactly what was being said... was I going to listen? Were we all going to listen and be prepared to allow God to thaw us out or remove the unpleasant aroma of smelly pigs, thus enabling us to serve Him and worship Him with clean hearts.

Wow! what a time we had, testimonies were moving God was glorified and lives were changed. I was changed! The weekend was the opportunity to be cleansed and refreshed and drawn back to the cross of Jesus again and again.

I was so glad I went and stayed. For me it was the beginning of recovery. I was back.....

Well done and thank you to our faithful leaders, Jackie and Sandy, and all the teams working behind the scenes.

Never ride faster than your Guardian Angel can fly

A woman was trying hard to get the ketchup out of the jar. During her struggle the phone rang so she asked her 4-year-old daughter to answer the phone. 'Mommy can't come to the phone to talk to you right now. She's hitting the bottle.'*

OPINIONS - On the first day of school, a first-grader handed his teacher a note from his mother. The note read, 'The opinions expressed by this child are not necessarily those of his parents.'

President and the 2008 Executive Team



Mike Fitton (President)



Rob Urand



(Aje) Alan Johnston



Ted Russell



Jason Bee



Pete Crane



Ken Hardy

Note from the Editor

The deadline for the Spring 2009 edition is 1st February 2009

Publication dates are:- April - August - December

Wow! What a brill year so far by Ken Hardy

Well I am now looking to start the Spring 2009 Chainlink so where did 2008 go?

Having more free time now-a-days, doing less work, I have travelled the length and breadth of England. One visit to Wales and sadly my appointment to go to Scotland for the week in September to combine it with the Scottish show failed, due to my health.



I also travelled to the EMC and visited Holland, Germany and Belgium, meeting up with a wide range of people. I have been to 10 weekend rallies, including NABD. I have, in Norfolk and specifically Norwich, visited 15 churches, garden fetes and BBQ's, plus been involved with much of the www.networknorwich.co.uk Churches Together in Greater Norwich (Transforming Norwich) and the Norwich Churches/City Council Dialogue. This is where the church is going, groups working together and involving groups such as the CMA so that we all work closer together, taking Jesus to the people. The CMA have been involved since its inception.

2009 is the 30th year of the UK CMA. Lets mark it with more of what we do by getting involved with bike clubs, associations with local church groups, with the local youth groups. Don't forget the small local biker meets as well as the bigger ones. Be there; be seen on a regular basis. Then there are the motor cycle sports events from the major ones to the local small kiddies grass track and trials. The mission field is huge. What are you doing in 2009? Tell us by using the chainlink pages. Safe riding.

Articles for the Chainlink are most welcome. PLEASE REMEMBER. 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. PLEASE read the following. 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 +

CMA Youth



Stephen Michael Hughes-Burton who at 17, from Pwllheli, North Wales, seen here receiving the longest distance award for motorbikes 125cc and under, from Mike Fitton the CMA UK President. Stephen, travelled 210 miles to the CMA National rally.

If your interested in going to the CMA National rally now is the time to look, see www.bike.org.uk for many events the CMA go to during the year.



Breakfast time at the CMA Rally Hollybush 2008 - 2 of the youth from Holland

Thanks for being gentle with me

by Dave {Reaper} Cartwright, New Forest Branch.

I am of course referring to my first CMA UK National Rally at The Hollybush Christian Centre in Thirsk North Yorkshire. The last time I was in Thirsk was in February 2007 with my family. We had to scrape the ice off the car windows every morning, because it was minus 6 degrees.

I set out with Ted and Jackie

Russell on Thursday 17th July about 8.45 with Ted leading Jackie in the middle and me riding shotgun. It was raining.

It took us approximately seven hours with a couple of good stops to refuel both bikes and bodies. We arrived on site about 4pm and it was still raining. There was a warm greeting from everyone who was on site at the time and despite being wet {not as wet as last year I was quickly told} I was glad I came. During a break in the rain we quickly erected our tents and stashed our kit, then made our way to Holy Joe's for a cuppa. Having wet my whistle and suitably charged my system with caffeine, I proceeded to familiarise myself with the site. First priority to find a refuelling depot, café or restaurant, I also stumbled across a de-scaling unit {showers}. It then occurred to me that I had forgotten my tooth brush, hair shampoo, and tooth paste. I then found



the basket of 'forgetful' that the CMA Ladies had provided for those of us men with only half a brain working at any one time. A big thank you to the ladies for that one. The rhyme you composed was very good and most apt.

Most of the time it was raining, with brief interludes of sun, but it did not dampen anyone's spirits at all. I felt

that the Lord was with us all the way; the food was good the company was great and the praise and worship was awesome. I got to see an old pal of mine, BB, who lives up this end, which was great. It was a great privilege to also meet Ollie, President of CMA Holland, Steff and Toone also from Holland, and a Lady from Belgium.

I have to say, this is the only rally I have attended, where I have been confident in leaving my tent and kit, knowing they would still be there when I got back.

The highlight for me, was when Jim and Dot Gough arrived on site. To see this walking miracle with the Lord at his side was a moving experience. It even overshadowed me winning best bike at the rally, {which was a great surprise}

I have returned home refreshed, uplifted and inspired, Thank You CMA UK.

Caleb Vincent Baptism Kent Coast Twig's Youth

by Paul and Dawn Baker, Kent Branch Coastal Twig

Caleb Vincent is just 16 years old and has just got his first motorbike. He recently joined our Youth Membership; and, along with his dad Martyn and his sister Naomi, he has become fully committed to the work of the CMA.



We thank and praise God for the whole family's commitment and enthusiasm, and warmly welcome them into our 'family'.

On Sunday, 29th June 2008, Caleb was baptised in water, a very moving event to witness of someone so young and so keen. He gave the following testimony to a crowded church prior to his 'dunking'

"I first became a Christian when I was out on my paper round about 2 years ago. The main cause was because of the beautiful view down one of the roads. I thought there must be more than this to life. So as of then I was a Christian because I wondered if heaven can be as beautiful as this. But before that I had a real eye opener 'the car crash'. This actually showed me that God was on my side because let's face it, we should have died back then. My door was unable to open it was so badly bent. And then recently as you all know my mum died and obviously that weakened my faith, and shortly after that I made a big mistake, but through that it helped me to

actually become a true Christian. What made me become a better Christian through my mistake was that I felt God saying "Don't give up". This gave me

strength to continue being a Christian. The main reason that I want to get baptised is the fact that God told me to, and that I want to know God in a new depth and wholeness. My life before was I just went to church because my family did, and that didn't really give me a wholesome faith. I had been going to church for 12 years when my mum died and felt for 12 years I went to church for nothing, and then I had my accident when I met God and dedicated my life.

I have lived in Whitstable for all of my life and just recently I found a hobby, motorbikes just like my Dad. I have joined the CMA and I'm hoping to help bring others to Christ via that."

Thank God for such a witness from our youth. Never before have our young people needed to know God with such urgency as they do in today's contemporary world. So let's all join Caleb in his commitment to 'get out there' and tell other young motorcyclists the good news about Jesus Christ.



Photo (on left)
Caleb giving his testimony

Photo (below left)
being Baptised. On his left Tom
Woodington, on the right is Chris
Issard. Caleb's Pastor.

Photo (below right)
his proud dad Martyn (showing the
white cross) receiving Caleb coming
out of the water.



On the road for Jesus

By David and Elise Whittall, East Midlands Branch.

Visit to The Emerald Isle CÈAD MILE FÀILTE (A HUNDRED THOUSAND WELCOMES)

Towards the end of 2007, we decided to organise a trip to Ireland. I had never been before, and Elise had made a brief visit there many years ago.

With the help of Carol from a company called Leisure Breaks, a 7 day tour by motorcycles staying at selected hotels was put together.

On Friday 13th June 2008 most of the party of 12 arrived at Holyhead for an overnight stay, before catching the ferry to Dublin the next day.

The crossing was calm and the weather good. But then we arrived in Ireland! We were greeted by a torrential down pour and we made our way from Dublin to our first stop just outside Wexford. Fortunately, the weather improved as we travelled south and despite a slight detour, yes I took the wrong turn, we all arrived safely at our first hotel.

After a good night's rest, we travelled to Cobh, just outside Cork. The 2 night stay at the hotel gave us plenty of time to see the area and meet the locals. Cobh (pronounced Cove) was the last port the Titanic pulled into



before it left for America. You can almost sense the anticipation of the passengers as they left for a new life, but also a great sadness knowing that most would never see land again.

On Tuesday we left Cobh and rode to Killarney for another 2 night stay. We had planned to ride The Ring of Kerry on Wednesday, but the rain had returned and was in for the day. Instead we had a look around the town and enjoyed some of the facilities at the hotel. On reflection, although we didn't manage to ride The Ring of Kerry, a day out of the saddle and relaxing was just what we needed.

Thursday, we travelled up to Limerick for an overnight stay, before heading back to Dublin on Friday for our last night in Ireland. Nigel, from The Christian Motorcyclists' Association Ireland, invited us to his house in the evening for a meal and to meet with some of the members of C.M.A. Ireland. It was a great time of fellowship and an encouragement for us all, to discover what God was

doing through C.M.A.

Saturday saw the return of the rain as we said goodbye to Ireland and made our way to the ferry to return to Holyhead, then to ride back home.

During the preparation and the tour itself, God had his hand on us. We not only had a great time, we had a Blessed Time. Many new friendships were made, and our witness for Christ went with us everywhere we went. Praise God.

We pray that God will pour out His Blessings on Ireland, and bring many people to salvation and into a personal relationship with Him through our Beloved Saviour Jesus Christ. We pray for the work of C.M.A. Ireland. That God will use them to take The Good News about His Son to bikers wherever they go. And that He will keep them safe and shower

them with His love.

A thank you to the group who accompanied us on the trip; Alan and Jan, Andy and Irene, Neil and Jackie, Pete and Krista, Penny, and our daughter Nicola. C.M.A. Ireland, Carol from Leisure Breaks, and for all your prayers.

As for next year! Where God leads we will follow.

David and Elise Whittall
On The Road For Jesus.

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

For more information about C.M.A. Ireland, go to:
<http://www.cmaireland.ie/default.aspx>

This is what it's all about, having fun in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ



Group Photo at Killarney

BMF Peterborough

By Keith Sanders, Bdford Branch.

The stand had been open for about an hour on the Saturday morning, when Sarge said "I reckon we've had about 200 people in already" and it didn't seem to slow down all weekend. We gave away 400 Biker Bibles and the same number of goody bags, containing ear plugs, rubber gloves and a CMA tract. Thanks to Sarge and Gaynor for the idea.



quarter mile at Santa Pod. He reckons it eats 228 apples per mile.

The bikes were displayed on stands made by Graham and Mark from Bedford Branch. These raised the bikes up for all to see and also gave them some protection from over enthusiastic visitors.

Our aim in displaying these special exhibits was to bring more people into our marquee and it seems to have worked. In the photo below, you can see some visitors with clip boards. We didn't really know why they were carrying them, but we found out on Sunday evening when the same team came back and told us we had been awarded the "Best Club Display" out of 92 club stands there. They presented us with a trophy, and explained that the displays, coupled with Bens knowledge of the "apple bike", (he'd actually been following the articles in "Bike") had clinched the award for CMA.

Bernhard Lantsbery, a vintage motorcycle enthusiast from Northampton, very kindly brought 3 vintage Bikes to the show for us, one of which had been in the London to Brighton run earlier in the year.



Photo with thanks from Brian Tarbuck, courtesy of him and Motor Cycle Monthly.

Rupert Paul, a freelance eco journalist who has a regular column in "Bike" magazine, loaned us a Triumph Daytona 675. This bike has featured in the magazine since April, following his attempt to get it to run on ethanol made from apples. If you haven't been reading the articles, he succeeded, reaching just over 158mph at Bruntingthorpe test track and reaching 123mph in the standing



We really had felt God's hand on us right from the start, not only when things went right, but when they went wrong, because we knew that He had the right answer for us if only we were patient and waited for the right things to turn up. That was very true of getting the vintage bikes and also the "apple" bike, as Rupert had to obtain permission from Triumph, who loaned it to him, make sure they



Photo with thanks from Brian Tarbuck courtesy of him and Motor Cycle Monthly.

didn't want it on their stand and make sure Bike didn't want to feature it on their stand either. Not only that, but "Bike" also e-mailed us a full set of their articles for us to print out enlarged copies for display. We felt mighty blessed.

Not everything went right, as we didn't get the expected take up for the Saturday night barbeque we invited other exhibitors to, but we will learn from this and will make a better effort next year.

Another first for us was to have a greater involvement in the Sunday morning service, traditionally run by the Fellowship of Christian Motorcyclists. We were very fortunate to be given the services of a 6 piece worship band from Luton Christian Fellowship (our newest affiliated church), with sound and vision being provided by

"The Big Image". Over the past few years, the service has been dogged by problems with the right venue and the agreed start time. We had the same problem this year as we were told we could use the new Atrium Hall, which would have been a great venue. However, this was being used as a café and the showground staff agreed to close the bar in the Cambridge suite

and let us use that. Thank you Lord.

So was it worth it? Well, the last couple of years I counted 25 - 30 at the service. The lowest estimate I was given for this year was 60 with the highest being an enthusiastic 120. Still room to improve, with an estimated attendance at the show of 73,000. However, many actually came. They heard a good account of our faith as Sarge gave his testimony and Mike preached the Word.

Thanks to all who came and spent time on the stand, either in serving hot drinks or engaging with visitors, helping us set up and strip down. The trophy is yours, it couldn't happen without you, but of course the best news is, Bedford Branch have run out of Biker Bibles already.

The CMA go to many rallies, shows, motorcycle events throughout the UK. Let the CMA know about your rally. Ask about the Holy Joe's Cafe that the CMA take to many rallies. Can we come to your rally? Contact details are in this magazine.

View from the sofa

by Pete Crane, East Midlands Branch.

(A personal outlook at Biking by Pete Crane) Who do you acknowledge?

A few weeks ago I helped a local Minister find a new bike and it raised an interesting point that has occurred to me many times over the years.

Malcom has ridden a 600 Fazer for a number of years but due to a change in job (he now works for an Industrial Chaplaincy) he is able to use a bike daily, but needed something with good luggage so he could carry his work stuff around. Space for a laptop, digital projector etc lead us to get him a BMW K100 RT with the usual BMW hard luggage. After a few weeks we went on a Saturday morning run together to introduce him to a local BMW specialist and visit a Café of course. One remark he made raised a pet subject of mine.

He had noticed far fewer bikers returning his nods to them as compared to when he had been on his Fazer. I had to say that as a BMW rider of quite a few years now I had become used to it, for some reason I am not worthy of such acknowledgement because of the make of bike I ride. Maybe they think I am just a wealthy, fair weather, Sunday afternoon rider and therefore not like them. Or maybe they see the reality that I am riding a 19 year old bike that cost £700, in all weathers and nearly every day of the year and I'm still not like them. In fact I've noticed that even BMW riders don't nod back that often, but then again an unfaired K series doesn't look much like BM. So I can't win, some people know



it's a BM and don't nod because it is, whereas others don't realise it is and don't nod because it isn't.

Around 25 years ago a friend of mine decided to take up

riding. He was one of the few friends in quite a large group who didn't already have a bike. He set off enthusiastically on an old Suzuki B120, one of the guys had got him, to learn the ropes before taking the old two part test. One thing he kept mentioning every time he returned was what bikes he had waved at (we used to wave or even flash headlights in those days). He obviously really felt part of the wider motorcycling community as nearly everyone would wave or flash back at him. (Except those stuck up rich guys on BMWs I seem to recall).

But oh how things changed once he passed his test and got a Suzuki GS550. While out one day a guy coming the other way waved at him but he didn't wave back. When later asked "didn't you see that guy?" he replied "yeah, but he was only on a 125, I don't wave at guys on little bikes". Needless to say a number of us expressed our views on the matter too him quite strongly.

I did myself go through a phase of not waving. In 1992 I bought an XT500 in a very sorry state from a friend in the National Chopper Club, who has used it as a winter hack. I spend many hours completely stripping it and doing a full

nut and bolt rebuild until it looked like new (it was 15 years old then). As most of my riding in those days was local it was an ideal machine, looked good, sounded great and did around 70mpg. One day riding through Leicester I pulled up next to a guy on a lowrider wearing an NCC patch. He looked over to me as he heard the rather rorty exhaust note, as he did I waved, immediately he looked away not wishing to acknowledge me. Clearly I wasn't the "right sort". How stupid I thought, three months ago that very bike had been owned by his Chapters Run Captain and was an absolute wreck. I had probably spent as much time on it as he had building his lowrider but somehow I didn't count in his world. I decided there and then that who you waved at was too political and I wasn't going to bother waving at anyone at all. But once back in CMA in the late 1990's (I had been a member in the mid to late

80's) I concluded that the only real way to go was to acknowledge everyone no matter what they ride. And that is what I do, Harleys, BM's, sports bikes, scooters, whatever, whoever, wherever.

I recently rode down to the VMCC Banbury Run on a Sunday morning, I was on my BMW sidecar outfit and Jay was on a much modified BSA B40. We must have nodded at over 40 bikes between Leicester and Banbury, not one nodded back. What has happened to bikers, motorcyclists, whatever you want to be called? We nearly all used to acknowledge each other and 25 years ago you saw far more bikes out and about on a daily basis than you do now.

I don't know what you do personally but I encourage you to just do it. Nod, wave, whatever, just acknowledge everyone on two or three wheels regardless of their reaction.

"Dragon Rally 2008, Yes, wearing a T shirt in February in Wales"



Major CMA National Events List, 2008

Always check out the web site 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.

NATIONAL RALLY HISTORY Thanks to Snowy for this information

BOOKS	YEAR	PLACE	BRANCH
GENESIS	1984	NUFFIELD,	BERKS, READING
EXODUS	1985	NORWICH,	EAST ANGLIA (TURKEY)
LEVITICUS	1986	NORWICH,	EAST ANGLIA (TURKEY)
NUMBERS	1987	SEVENOAKS	KENT
DEUTERONOMY	1988	STATHERN	MIDLANDS
JOSHUA	1989	STATHERN	MIDLANDS
JUDGES	1990	HOLLYBUSH	NORTH EAST
RUTH	1991	HOLLYBUSH	NORTH EAST
SAMUEL	1992	CASTLE DONINGTON	N.A.S.A
KINGS	1993	CASTLE DONINGTON	N.A.S.A
CHRONICLES	1994	THREE COUNTIES SHOW GROUND	MALVERN
EZRA	1995	CHEDDAR	BRISTOL
NEHEMIAH	1996	SOUTHPORT	NORTH CHESHIRE
ESTHER	1997	LLANYBLODWEL,	WALES, CASA
JOB	1998	SOUTHPORT	NORTH CHESHIRE
PSALMS	1999	FOREST OF DEAN	SOUTH WALES
PROVERBS	2000	STATHERN	NATIONAL
ECCLESIASTES	2001	STATHERN	NATIONAL
SONG of SOLOMON	2002	STATHERN	NATIONAL
ISAIAH	2003	STATHERN	NATIONAL
JEREMIAH	2004	CMA 25 YEARS,	HOLLYBUSH, NATIONAL/EMC
LAMENTATIONS	2006	HOLLYBUSH	NATIONAL
EZEKIEL	2005	HOLLYBUSH	NATIONAL
DANIEL	2007	HOLLYBUSH	NATIONAL
HOSEA	2008	HOLLYBUSH	NATIONAL
JOEL	2009	CMA 30Years	TBA
AMOS	2010	National/EMC Rally	TBA
OBADIAH	2011		
JONAH	2012		
MICAH	2013		
NAHUM	2014		
HABAKKUK	2015		
ZEPHANIAH	2016		
HAGGAI	2017		
ZECHARIAH	2018		
MALACHI	2019		



Just a small part of the CMA rally in Yorkshire. Want to know more?, then go to www.bike.org.uk

The CMA go to many rallies many with the Holy Joe's cafe. Be part of this exciting outreach opportunity.

To find up-to-date information of events, look at www.bike.org.uk



EMC 2008

WHAT:

**EUROPEAN MOTORCYCLISTS
FOR CHRIST COME TOGETHER TO
BUILD GOD'S KINGDOM**

WHEN:

30.07. - 02.08.2008

WHERE:

**TEPLA CAMPING SITE
NEAR MARIANSKE LAZNE
JUST FOLLOW THE SIGNS**

**BOOKING CABINS OR ROOMS:
WWW.AUTOKEMPBETLEM.CZ**

**MORE INFORMATION ABOUT
THE PROGRAM FOLLOW IN
OCTOBER**

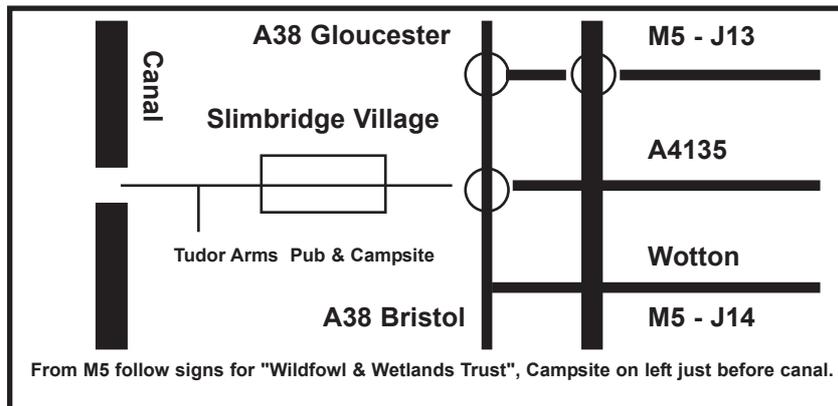
Slimbridge 2009

**Friday 3rd April to Sunday 5th April
Tudor Arms Campsite, Slimbridge, Glos**

**Hosted by:-
Alan & Liz Robertson
on behalf of the Hedingham Sidecar Owners Club.
With invitations to:-
The BMW Club, The Federation of Sidecar Clubs,
The Christian Motorcyclists Association.**

**Camping Fees :- £7.00 / Unit / Night
For further Information Contact Alan or Liz :- 01452 382 965
Or e-mail at :- HSOC.Slimbridge@supanet.com**

**Good family run site with shower facilities etc.
Excellent adjacent pub providing.
Good food & children's room.
Saturday activities :- scenic run from site at 11.30 am.
Skittles in pub from 7.00 pm.
Please donate a raffle prize for the evening draw
Bed & Breakfast available at Tudor Arms Pub.
Please contact directly to arrange :-
01453 890306 or e-mail;- tudorarms@aol.com**



The National CMA Rally 2009 JOEL

will be held at a venue to be confirmed

(Hollybush is unable to accomodate us this year)

it will be a family friendly gathering of CMA members,
affiliates and friends from all over the UK,
we hope to welcome overseas visitors too.

We shall be celebrating the 30th Anniversary of CMA in the UK
and as such we will have much to celebrate.

Activities will include:-

Ride outs - bouncy castles - BBQs - worship and
challenges from God's Word - merchandise
children's work - on site food and drinks
prayer ministry - PS2 MotoGP Challenge

Want to be part of this event then,
look at

www.bike.org.uk or phone 01603 495277 for more
information.



Sponsored Run 2008

by Robert Stuart, Rest of Scotland Branch.

Saturday morning dawned bright and crisp and dry, which made a change for the summer which, as you will know, has been a bit grim! Six riders and two travelling by car, carrying the stand and exhibits for the following day, assembled at Stirling Services for a two day run with a one day stop-off at the Grampian Motorcycle Convention in Alford. As

usual, there was plenty of chat before we set off and, as usual, there was a good sense of fellowship between us all. After a quick coffee and a discussion about the route we set off, and still no rain! Remembering that we were trying to raise funds for The Bible Society of Scotland and its project in the Democratic Republic of Congo, the rain would not have stopped us anyway. That project aims to provide motorcycles and Bibles to outlying areas where the roads are poor so the Word of God can be spread. Why not visit the Society's website for further details; www.scottishbiblesociety.org.

Our first stop was scheduled to be at Blairgowrie for lunch. It's a fine run up there, past Gleneagles Hotel, Auchterarder and through some of Perthshire's best farming countryside. However, after only ten minutes we realised that nobody could actually remember the route. We stopped for a quick chat. Sandy and George realising that they were the only two who were awake, they would lead. It's a good job they knew what they were doing! Perthshire is a beautiful county, although



with the farmers hard at work in the fields just now, it's wise to be aware of the mud on the road and the possibility of slower vehicles around the next bend. Riding past the huge beech hedge on the road between Cargill and Meikleour reminded me again that I must come back as it changes colour in autumn, prior to shedding its leaves. A good speed

with sensible riding and we were soon in Blairgowrie, where there was a local fair being held in the town.

Blairgowrie has become a regular stopping point for the Rest of Scotland branch on its runs. It's quite centrally located, with some great roads all around. There's also a fine coffee shop where lunch has been taken in the past, as it was again on this occasion. The soup was especially good, although the waitress mysteriously did have a problem taking Sandy's order. That was soon remedied and the chat flowed at lunch with excellent fellowship and a clear witness to others in the shop as we chatted. Jesus was on clear display through David's CMA sweatshirt and people giving individual thanks prior to eating showed in who we trust and can thank for our every blessing. Due to its central location, Blairgowrie was also where we met up with three other bikers, one of whom was to join us for the rest of the weekend and two who could only manage that day, due to other commitments. However, they are already linked to friends at Stonehaven,

where some progress is being made to the possible establishment of a new Twig. Initial shyness dispelled as bike chat followed and that spilled out onto the pavement when Colin and Susan arrived hot-foot from Glasgow, where Susan had just collected her shiny new Harley Davidson. Telling us how comfortable she had been on the bike as she rode north, Susan could only join us for lunch but Colin was with us for the rest of the weekend. A ride-out for lunch seemed like a good idea and it wasn't possible to wipe the smile from Susan's face as she discussed the new bike with the rest of us. Not to be out-done, Colin's recently acquired KTM Super Duke has some interesting lines and the orange colour certainly turns some heads. Not only that, but it can certainly move!

For me Blairgowrie is the starting point for what I believe to be the best route in Scotland. Follow the road north over Glenshee, drop down to Braemar and then ride along Royal Deeside for a coffee stop at Ballater. Spectacular scenery and a great road, God's creation in full view and fine weather - what more can we ask for? Meeting an enthusiastic collector at

Ballater proved to be a God appointment as David handed out the first of the weekend's "Biker Bibles". Our contact had 14 bikes at home and chat flowed freely as he stood with us for a while. Pray that he will read the Bible and that God will speak to him very clearly and directly. "The hour is fast approaching when every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord". Some will do so willingly, whilst others will regret for eternity the moment they did not accept the gift so freely given! From Ballater we headed off to our various campsites and bed and breakfasts for a good nights rest because the following day would see us all meet again at Alford for the motorcycle convention.

The Grampian Motorcycle Convention at Alford is the largest event of its kind in the north of Scotland. It's a well-established gathering that is well attended and provides the CMA with a great opportunity to witness for God. This year was the third that the branch had attended and we're already known by some other exhibitors who are very curious of us. Nine bibles were requested by youngsters who came specifically to ask for "Biker Bibles" very early in the day, giving us hope



and encouragement that we would see success for the God who loves us all - bikers too! In total, approximately 50 Bibles were taken from the stand in addition to tracts and leaflets which is great. We were also joined by nine more friends on Sunday, one of whom stayed with us for the following Monday and the run home. Great fellowship was the order of the day as we shared testimony, enjoyed the various displays and stands at the convention and made some new friends. The day had begun with some of our members taking part in the church service at Howe Trinity Church of Scotland, where the welcome is always very friendly and the Minister is eager to get us involved. The church also made a donation to the sponsorship which was very much appreciated as did the hostess where my wife and I stayed for the two nights we were in the area. People's generosity never ceases to amaze, does it? Although there was some rain on the Sunday it was definitely more than worthwhile attending the GMC to renew past acquaintances, to make new friends and share the best news there is. God loves us all!

The CMA stand was one of the last stands to leave the ground at the end of the day. If someone wants to talk with us about God we must make sure we don't suggest that we have something more important to do - because we don't! Our body language tells people a lot about us, so let's stay focussed. However, having packed up the stand and some folks having to head home, those remaining gathered in a small restaurant in Alford for food and chat. There was a general sense that God had been in the day and that He would bless it to Himself. We strive for Him and none other, so all the glory and success belongs to Him. We are weak without Him and will achieve nothing if we try by and for ourselves.

Monday was the day for setting off home via Stonehaven, Montrose and Arbroath, where we stopped for lunch and more fellowship. The weather was still holding fine and the east coast offers some great roads to enjoy. With new contacts made, we said our farewells as we would split up along the route homewards at a leisurely pace. We could all say that we had enjoyed the weekend and had known God with us.



We had enjoyed each others company and chatted about a wide range of subjects from matters mechanical to thoughts of God and how great He is.

We had enjoyed great scenery and some spectacular stunt riding at the convention so perhaps going back to work for some the following day would not be quite as much of a chore!

But what of our conversations and witness to others? Had we honoured God in how we conducted ourselves and made the most of the opportunities? What of the Bibles we had handed out and had we been used by God to challenge people

about their stance before Him? Had we made the most of the time and shared God's love with people who may be strangers to His grace? Would we see these folks in Glory - or had we been a stumbling block? Only God knows what will become of the brief moments we had with those we met, but it must surely be our prayer that God will use each meeting to change a life and bring hope in a very dark world. The clock is ticking and we must do all we can to take His name out to people who need saving. We have a gift to pass on, so let's take every opportunity that he presents to us.

Gordon, George, Israel, David, Colin.



Mike Graham, Moira, Sandy, Gail,



YWAM Mega outreach to Philippines 07

by Janet Finch, West Midlands Branch

It was my privilege to be part of an outreach team to the Philippines arranged by YWAM (Youth with a Mission) during July and August 2007.

We left the Kings Lodge, Nuneaton by coach for Heathrow Airport at 3.00pm on June 28th, arriving in

Cagayan De Oro City some 36 hours later. We first flew to Seoul in South Korea, a 12 hour flight, then a 4 hour flight to Manila and eventually after a 1 hour internal flight we arrived at our destination. By then, as you will have guessed, we were pretty tired and ready for our first night in bed on Philippine soil.

How to condense nearly 3 hectic weeks of activity into a short report that may be of interest to you all.

I have therefore decided to highlight just 3 situations from the very many which have had such a profound effect upon me and no doubt upon many of the others involved in this outreach.

Boys Prison

We were allowed to visit a boys prison where some of the boys are as young as 6 years of age and are imprisoned just for begging, let alone more major crimes. To say that we were welcomed with open arms is almost an understatement. The boys would run up to us and want to be hugged, not having had anyone to visit them for a long time. That anyone would want to show them love and concern for their situation was



beyond their comprehension. Three bunk beds, roughly made from bamboo by some previous YWAM visitors, had to be shared by 40 boys who took it in turn to sleep on them, whilst the rest slept on the packed earth floor. There were no mattresses, pillows

or blankets, they just slept in what they were wearing. Primitive best describes what euphemistically was called sanitation and the 'smells', well you can guess the rest.

But in spite of all the squalor we were able to bring the love of Jesus to these boys, who responded so eagerly to our drama groups, games, singing and Bible stories.

Some just wanted to be hugged (imagine the outcry if you were moved to do that to a hurting child in this country) and nothing more.

On one occasion I was able with another ywamer to go to the local market and buy 40 pairs of new shorts and T shirts for the boys, whose clothes were little more than filthy rags at best. We were also able to give them a few treats such as sweets and a little extra food, but the greatest by far was the love that Jesus had for them.

That anyone should want to be bothered with them or just to hold their hands was more than they could comprehend. The look in their eyes said it all. Tearing ourselves away from these boys brought more than a few tears to the eyes of all those involved.

Foot Washing

One day, in a village where we were evangelising, I was invited by an elderly lady to go into her home in order that I could share the gospel with her. Homes to these people were mostly built onto a bamboo stilt frame, covered in either corrugated iron, wood, cardboard or more often a combination of all 3, lashed together with rope or string and entered by a short, rickety ladder. Protocol required us to take off our shoes before entering and, once up the ladder, to sit on the bamboo floor, which in my case I hoped and prayed would take my weight.

2

Whilst sharing the gospel with this lady I could not help but notice the poor state of her feet, which troubled me. That night, back at the YWAM base, I felt the Lord prompting me to go back at the first opportunity to wash and tend this ladies feet in spite of my inward reluctance to do so. Needless to say the Lord had His way and a few days later I was back at this ladie's house, armed with bowl and water (the water having been kindly given by another Christian lady, bearing in mind all water has to be bought bottled as there is no water on tap, the only other source being very suspect river water.) When you see what the river is used for you soon understand to leave it alone. The lady in question was quite overwhelmed that a white western woman wanted to wash and tend her feet. In no time at all her entire family arrived on the scene and I ended up washing the feet of her sons, daughters and grandchildren. Phew!

Living in the district was a German pastor called Michael who, with his family, had come to live there in order to minister spiritually and physically to the needs of these lovely people. When he caught sight of me washing feet he got one of our interpreters to read out aloud in front of the people concerned the relevant passage from scripture which describes our Lord washing the feet of His disciples. However, he was not content for me to restrict my activities to this one family and before long he had brought to me the village headman, together with the more dubious characters from the village that looked like members of the mafia, together with pimps, prostitutes etc. in addition to the ordinary villagers, so that they all might have their feet washed. What a sight to see all these people sitting on benches waiting for this white woman to come along and wash their feet, whilst all the time hearing the scriptures read to them in their own mother tongue. What a privilege to be able to take the love of Jesus to these people in such a practical way. My prayer is that many more will have come to know Jesus by such a simple enactment of part of our Lord's ministry.

Smokey Mountain

What an appropriate name. I could only muster up enough courage and determination to visit this place just once.

People were living, no existing here on the towns rubbish dump, trying to eke out a living of sorts, by scavenging whatever could be salvaged from the tip and sold for a few peso's.

Whatever could not be salvaged was burnt in an attempt to keep down infection.

So this mountain of rubbish was continually smouldering, a living reminder of what the rubbish dump outside Jerusalem in Gehenna must have been like in the Lord's day. As if my personal struggle with this experience here were not enough but to compound it all were the flies. Everywhere there were flies. (I wondered was it like this for the Egyptians when God brought the plague of flies upon them through Moses? I shuddered at the prospect.) Throughout this tumbling mass of rubbish and humanity were the ever present pigs and chickens. In every village or settlement pigs, goats and chickens mingled with the human population. In such circumstances and surroundings how would the gospel be received, if at all?

Miracle of miracles, people opened their homes to us, came out into the streets to witness our drama presentations, joined in with our singing and heard the gospel preached, whilst throughout was the almost overbearing stench of decaying rubbish (which included rotting animal carcasses) and not forgetting the flies. Who could forget the flies!

3.

But the gospel of our Lord Jesus knows no boundaries and His love pervaded even these dire surroundings and I was privileged to be just a small part of this outreach to these lovely Philippino people. May the Lord add His blessing to what was done in His name, and in answer to your question, yes, I would go back given the opportunity ' Smokey Mountain and all.'

Since returning home I have been overjoyed to receive the following news.

A home I had visited with another member of the team who was a physiotherapist had been asked to show the parents of a young boy who was crippled how to carry out some simple exercises to help with restoring his ability to walk, and whilst doing so, the parents in turn had shown considerable interest in the gospel message that was opened to them at the same time.

A few days after this event (by which time I had returned to the UK) the lady who was the physiotherapist was called back to this home where four members of the family had decided to give their lives to Jesus and my colleague was privileged to baptise them all in the sea. As the scriptures testify, one sows, another waters, but it is the Lord who gives the increase.

<http://www.bike.org.uk/cma/norfolk.php> look under events.

If you want to see a wide range of pictures, plus a video, plus other stuff, then look at the above site.

or

it's at www.bike.org.uk then branches then Norfolk then links. If you have any you wish to add, so people get a broader picture of what the CMA is all about, do let me know.

Editor

My first ride out with CMA

by Barrie Elliott, NED Branch.

I have been a biker for over 50 years and a committed Christian for the last 18 years. I had never heard of CMA, not until I met a young couple whilst on holiday in Llandudno in May. They gave me a copy of the Biker Bible and some other literature. When I returned home I obtained



from Chesterfield to Buxton and on through beautiful countryside with some stunning views, eventually finishing up at the 'Leigh Arms' in Adlington, Cheshire, where we had lunch.

Although we didn't see any other bikers, as we were walking towards

details of my nearest branch, the North East Derbyshire group, and attended the branch meeting in June. I was made most welcome by

the carpark to leave, we passed a table where six young men were sitting. They stopped us and asked who we were and what we represented. We were able to witness to them and found out that one of them was a Christian but not a biker. It was a great blessing for me to be able to witness to someone on my first ride out.



I would like to thank the members of NED I have met for the welcome and fellowship they have shared with me.

everybody, and from there went on my first ride out with them.

The ride out was most enjoyable. Not having ridden out in convoy for over 25 years, I spent most of the ride as 'Tail End Charlie', but the group always waited for me to catch up. We rode



Barrie Elliott Mike Dennis Julia Sean.

"I Don't do ladies conferences"

by Jen Crane, East Mids Branch.

If I have been told that once in the last two years I have been told it a thousand times. O.K. a slight exaggeration, but it seems like it. My reply to this statement is; "why?" The answers I feel are rather lame, ranging from I don't get on with other ladies, to I've got nothing in common with



other ladies and the classic was; they are not bikers. Hmm.

1. We have all been called into serving the Lord in different ways, taking the gospel message to all. If we cannot relate to other Christian ladies, how are we to reach those who do not know that salvation is there for ALL.

2. You have got loads of things in common, YOU ARE A LADY.

3. Admittedly, not all who go to the Ladies weekend are bikers, but so what? Spending a weekend with ladies that are in some way connected to C.M.A., all sharing their

love of the Lord, growing and learning together is not only encouraging, but I personally find it to be spiritually uplifting. Sharing concerns and praying together is what helps us grow in our faith and fellowship with each other.

I went to the first weekend full of scepticism, thinking it would be all recipes and knitting patterns. How wrong I was. Close friendships were forged which have developed over the year. There has certainly been a new unity brought to the ladies within C.M.A., which was further enhanced at this year's weekend.

To all of you ladies out there who trotted out the rather feeble reasons for not going, I would like to offer you a challenge. Try it! you will not only be surprised, but I will guarantee that the Lord will bless you through the ministry and fellowship.

Members and Affiliates please note:-

Fasttrack and Fastfriday

Do you know about them? Do you receive them? Would you like to know more? Fasttrack is the monthly Prayer letter.

Fastfriday is the weekly urgent prayer letter.

fastfriday@bike.org.uk - - - - cmaprayer.fasttrack@virgin.net

Or phone 0800 0154479 for more details or your branch chair. It is important that you know what they are for.

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
Somerset & North Devon (twig)

Wales

North & West Wales
South Wales

South East

(Isle of Wight Twig)
Kent
(Kent branch coastal Twig)
Most of Essex
& South Suffolk
(North East London Twig)
South East London
South West London
Surrey and Sussex
New Forest
Thames Valley



**CMA International
is established in the
following countries**



Argentina	New Zealand
Australia	Philippines
Belgium	Poland
Canada	Portugal
Germany	South Africa
Hungary	United Arab Emirates
Ireland	United Kingdom
Mexico	USA
Namibia	
Netherlands	

Lost 'n Found

By JK Keiron Gray, Norfolk Branch.

These days the membership of the CMA is made up of such a diversity of bikers that it's probably forgivable to forget sometimes where it's roots started, especially for those newcomers who, perhaps like me, never experienced the hardcore outlaw side of biking despite having ridden bikes since the age of 12 both on and off-road and race track. Does that mean we are any less welcome, worthy or eligible to be members of the CMA? Of course not. We only need two main ingredients to give us our common bond, we love God (Christians) and we love our Bikes (Motorcyclists), and we are all friends who have the same basic values (Association). Nuff said!

The 'Bad' old days

As for me, I was born into a working class family with one Parent a devout Catholic and the other an agnostic (not exactly a recipe for disaster, but hey, it was a starting point). I had a typical 'Religious' Catholic upbringing which, to be truthful, at that age made me feel like I was on an ASBO. By the time I was 15, along with my spots, libido and teenage temper, I broke out!

I was, to say the least, uninspired, unimpressed and unable to see any point in 'Religion', and if I couldn't see the point, then obviously something was missing because it just didn't do



what it said on the can. Whatever the problem, I certainly wasn't willing to hang around for several years, hoping to find it at the next Sunday School lecture or the next confessional! Don't get me wrong. I wasn't lured away by sex, drugs or Rock n Roll, far from it. But to me at that time the whole thing smacked of an

archaic institution that was as much lacking in inspiration and hope as it was steeped in incense and hypocrites. So, I was very much 'Out of there' Fast forward 37 years, to around 12 months ago now.

Unlike many Christians, I didn't find God in some dark, deep desperate corner of my life. Far from it. During that 37 years of doing it 'my way' I had led what I now consider to be a 'Blessed' life. Blessed with health, work, family, friends, house and a decent career. As far as I was concerned nothing was amiss, apart from more of the same. I viewed myself as an uneducated son of a farmer who miraculously managed to haul himself out of the poverty trap and into a world of travel, excitement and enlightenment. Ha! What did I know? In fact, as we all eventually find out, I didn't find Him at all, He found me! It all stemmed from a chance encounter with a relative stranger who came to me to have some work done. He seemed like a real pleasant guy and fun to chat with. One night, after a brief encounter, he

invited me around to a 'social night' with a few friends at his place.

The strange thing was that he actually mentioned to me that it had a 'Christian' theme to it, and I remember thinking afterwards 'Why didn't my normal 'warning bells' sound out? After all, I'd become very sensitive to anything or anyone who even remotely peddled Religion for a living, and I would normally have run a mile! I had no idea what was in store for me.

Born again

When I thought of Church, I thought 'building', 'antiquated', 'cold', 'desolate', 'empty'. As I was to find out, 'Church' meant something completely different. It didn't happen that night, nor did it happen at the next two impromptu meetings that I was invited to (how gently He led the way). But after that third meeting my world as I knew it collapsed. I came home that evening, after what had been a really pleasant meeting, sat down in front of the computer and quite literally sobbed like a 160lb baby! It was deep, unrelenting and explosive. What on earth had happened to me? Why was I in such a state? What in the world was going on inside of me? I didn't know then, but deep inside I'd finally dropped all of those barriers and defenses I'd built up over the years and He came storming in through the broken walls like an Army on a mission. The intensity and emotional impact I can only describe as like that experienced by a parent watching their first child being born. It was all consuming, complete and total love.

You know, there's a saying that goes

something like 'You don't have to be drowning to know you need air'. I say this because I'd always thought my life had been full of lucky breaks, close calls, and more than my fair share of happy, but unexplained 'coincidences'. But as I look back I think I really knew deep down inside that the Lord was always there at my side, watching me, keeping me safe, guiding me to that day when he finally revealed himself to me. I suppose I also knew I was drowning. I just wanted to see how long I could last. Over the past few months I've met and talked about this to quite a few Christians (bikers and non-bikers alike). It appears to me that a few have reservations on the depth of commitment or Faith that we can have if we've never actually visited death's door, lived life on the edge, or not craved your next meal, fix or ride to death or glory. I guess this is totally understandable, based on the life each of us have led and our own experiences, and I completely understand their point of view. But how, when or where a person finds their faith is not important. What is important is that we all realize that in the eyes of the Lord we are all equal.

So for those recently born again Christians (as I am), I just want to reassure you that there is no rush to define yourself, no competition to get ahead of, and absolutely no need to prove yourself in any way, shape or form. It's the debt of love and gratitude we owe to the Father that's important, and as long as we pay a little back each day in our own way as we listen and walk in God's Word, you won't go far wrong.

Sold out for God

by Simon (Bear) Moore, West Yorkshire Branch.

When I was younger, I thought I was invincible. I played and worked hard. I often used to ride to the rallies straight from work and then back again on the Monday morning. Over the years I have given my heart and soul to biking, to the extent that I have lost jobs because of it. However, to me the important part of what we give is friendship. Some of my friends have given much more than I have, and spent over 30 years partying with different bike clubs. Thinking about this has led me to thinking about my lifestyle and the choices I have made over the years.

Most of us in CMA spend a large part of our time and money to witness to others. Some years I have done many thousands of miles on the bike to achieve this.

However, having lost a number of friends through biking, and having survived three big crashes myself, I now feel every mile when I am in the saddle and the long journeys take longer to get over. I know that there are people within CMA who have much more crazy pasts than me and who are paying a much higher price.

The friends I knew within CMA international that died all knew Christ as Saviour and this is the message we need to give to all bikers.

Are we willing to pay the ultimate price? Over the summer someone asked me, "How do you come across and what



impact do you have on fellow bikers? Do you put them off or do you build friendships with them and bring them to the love of Jesus?"

We are on this planet made in the image of God and in his likeness. What does this

mean?

In the Bible it talks about our body being a Temple of the Holy Spirit. A place of worship where God dwells. In the way of the world, where we are busy 24/7, we are asked as Christians to stop for one day a week, to seek His face and worship Him.

How many of us have excesses in our lives that get in the way of our relationship with God?

How many of us maybe do too much, or not enough, with church and CMA? Maybe it is something we need to think about.

I was once told a story of a tribe in Africa who, when walking, travelled for two days and then stopped for a day so God could catch up with them. Maybe that last sentence should read 'so they could catch up with God?'

Sometimes we need as Christians to consider what our duty is to God and what he wants our duty to be to ourselves. Do we need to pace ourselves better and slow down? Do we need to do more; are we like 'sitting ducks' for the enemy, or do we need to stop completely and get in touch with God again?

Mallory Park Track Day August 2008

by Alan Finch, West Midlands Branch.

On July 14th. an e-mail from Mike Fitton was sent to all members, concerning the above event.

It was to be an opportunity for CMA members to join up with John Clayton, Chairman of Christians in Motor-sport, who was taking part in the Track Day on his

Honda CBR400 and to try and further the 'gospel message' at a different type of 'biking event' outreach.

As most CMA members would be working on a weekday, it was realised that support would be minimal, although the opportunity to take part in a 'track day' might be a big draw. As it happened, we arrived far too late to participate in the riding, but were able to access the pits on foot and to make contact between the twenty minute long training runs with John.

As it transpired, support was minimal, with just four CMAers able to attend; three from the West Midlands and one from the East Midlands (Michael - surname not remembered) who was also brave



From Left, Pidd, John Clayton, Alan Finch.

enough to mix it on his Honda Hornet with all the other bikers howling round the track. It did however give us the opportunity to make the acquaintance of John and to discuss possible ways in which the CMA could give support at events in the future organised by him for CIM.

Although CIM

activities are primarily for cars, many of their participants are also bikers (as is John) and we soon realised that here was an opportunity to further the 'gospel' in another arena of motor sport.

It was agreed that John would give us details of their fixtures calendar and that we would circulate this information to all CMA branches, in the hope that perhaps they could support such events when held in their geographical area, with perhaps a gazebo and literature table. John took a few Biker Bibles with him too.

Suffice it to say we all came away quite fired up at the prospect of what the future may hold, both for CMA and CIM, so please watch this space.



Left - The hairpin at Mallory Park

Right - John Clayton from

'Christians in Motor-sport'



The Wedding of Anna and Andrew

by Anna and Andrew, MESS Branch.

July 2008

Andrew: 'From the minute I woke, I felt the happiest man on earth, knowing I was about to marry the woman I love. That's why I had that big grin on my face all day.'

Anna: 'After waiting so long for this day to arrive, I couldn't stop smiling.'

50+ bikers and vehicles left Hollybush for Northallerton Registry Office and was a great witness.

The registry ceremony was happy, the photo session great fun and the evening Blessing, led by Mike, awesome. Being prayed for by everyone made the Blessing complete. We truly felt part of one great big family.

Our appreciation to so many who gave us wedding gifts, including a donation in place of payment, to Nick for his Photography and £200 tithed for Biker Bibles.

A memorable day!



The Wedding of Becky and Mark

by Barrie Thompson, N. Lincs and E. Yorks Branch.

My daughter, Becky Thompson, former member of West Yorkshire branch but now with North Cheshire, married Mark Baker of Middlewich on 30th August at Middlewich Community Church. Many friends and family attended from both sides of the country; at the request of the bride many CMA members arrived on bikes, from North Cheshitre and West Yorkshire branches and also Mike and Sandy Fitton. The ceremony was conducted by Colin Pownall, but otherwise the event passed without incident!

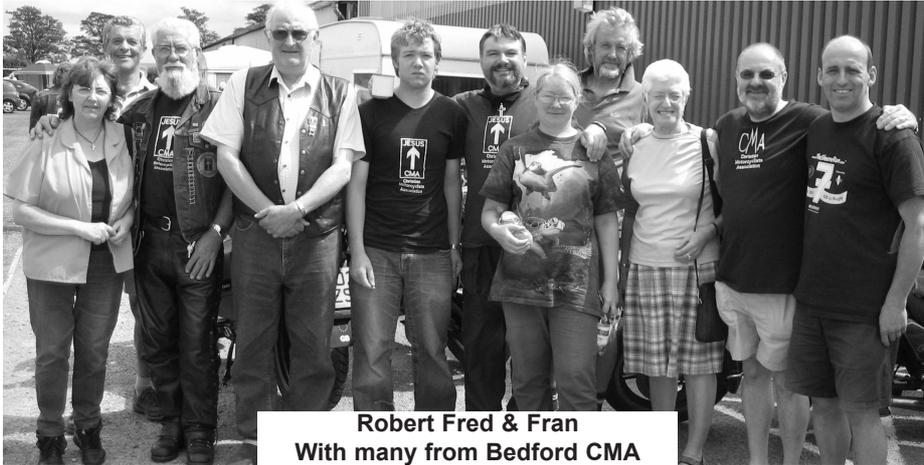
Saturday proved to be the only fine, sunny day, in an otherwise wet weekend, and the weather held for the happy couple to travel down to Cornwall for the honeymoon, by bike of course. And they were camping. And it rained, a lot.

The photo shows Mark and Becky, surrounded by friends from CMA, including one representative from the N. Lincs and E. Yorks branch; Barrie (2nd from left at the back)



Testimony of Fred Gill

by Fred Gill, Bedford Branch



**Robert Fred & Fran
With many from Bedford CMA**

I was 16 when I heard the gospel from friends at school. I didn't want to know about God and was very antagonistic to friends, but this antagonism led to discussions and I was confronted with the evidence for the reality of Jesus, his death and resurrection. I had to make a choice. Was he a deluded lunatic? Was he out to deceive people and exploit them? or was he who he claimed to be? the Son of God, the Saviour of the world? Taking Jesus for real meant a life changing choice, because He gave His life on a cross to take the punishment for my sins. Accepting that meant giving my life to him. After 6 months or more of arguing, I decided the gospel stories of Jesus must be true. Lunatics don't fulfil hundreds of prophecies about themselves and people don't volunteer for brutal execution, then rise from the dead as Jesus did. But it still took a difficult step of faith to make a genuine response to God, to commit myself to this truth. That meant admitting my sins and asking for His forgiveness

and accepting that when Jesus died on the cross He did it for everyone including me.

I wasn't aware of any great change and it took a long time for me to be sure of the step I had taken. None of us is perfect, I was told it was important to keep a daily routine of spending time with God, but I have always struggled with that. Until recently I didn't understand the day-to-day nature of this relationship.

A few months after deciding to follow Jesus I left school and started work as a trainee engineer in a local factory. I wanted to be independent and persuaded my parents to let me get a small motor bike, which was much against their better judgement. After a year or so with a Honda 50, I progressed up to a 250 BSA C15 then an 850 Norton Commando Mk3. I've also had other projects, which never made it onto the road and several Hondas.

I had great times out with the friends I made on bikes, although I was aware the older Christians who I looked up to didn't approve of this lifestyle, even though I would nervously try to take occasional opportunities to tell my friends of my Saviour. I have to admit that our socialising did involve quantities of alcohol and we enjoyed our riding to the full. As the son of a local copper and very 'green', I sometimes had a sense that I was possibly excluded from some of the group's activities. God has a way of protecting His own.

As time went on I grew in faith, attended a bible college for a year and there met a lovely girl, Carolyn, who became my first wife. We were very much in love and married within a year of leaving college. The marriage lasted less than 3 years.

After only a few months the doctors found she had leukaemia. She fought the disease bravely for 2 years 8 months. I was heartbroken when she died. I couldn't understand how God could be so cruel as to bring us together, only to part us like that. I didn't give up on faith, but I didn't cope well either. I remember drinking what for me was a lot of whiskey and becoming depressed. But I knew I wanted God to have control still and to help me. After about 6 months, feeling at my lowest, He stepped in in a lovely way and the healing began.

I continued being active in church, but I gave up the struggle to get up early and spend time with God. I think I just carried on by doing what suited me and was easy.

After about 4 years and a couple of dismal attempts at new relationships, I met Frances. We fell in love and married the following year. We were unable to have

children, so Fran was keen to try fostering or adoption. When the social worker brought us a photo and details of Robert we felt we didn't have to look any further. He had a lovely, cheeky smile and what he was looking for in a family was very close to what we were offering, a rural setting with dogs and quiet people. We fell in love with Robert and he with us. We were thrilled when he wanted to call us mum and dad straight away. We had expected that it could take years to reach that level of acceptance, especially because his own parents were still alive. Within a year he felt ready to take the step of adoption, which again filled us with joy.

Rob was our son from age 9, giving us just over 8 years with him. He was quiet most of the time at home. He loved TV, watching comedy programmes from the 70's and top gear and playing games on his playstation. He loved his bicycles, working on them and riding them with his friend. He was very practical. He enjoyed helping me when I did anything on my bikes. I came to own a 1972 Triumph Trident, which needed restoring. I also got a modern Triumph Tiger and Robert really enjoyed going out on these with me. I also joined the CMA, in fact we joined as a family.

We were very happy that Robert came to church with us and after about 5 years he decided to ask Jesus to be his friend. The following year, having seen 2 friends baptised, he decided he wanted that too. Being a church deacon at the time I had the great privilege of baptising Robert as our minister was away on the allotted weekend.

Robert knew great sadness as each year it seemed more of his relatives died,

including his own parents; always around Christmas. Sometimes Rob could be very moody, but given what he went through, it wasn't surprising.

In May last year God started something revolutionary in my life. I was helping on a CMA stand at a Rally in Rushden when I got talking with someone. As we talked about our experiences in faith and I admitted my lack of commitment to spending time alone with God he said 'God is missing that relationship with you'. Those words struck me with great force. I'd always thought of the daily 'devotional' or 'quiet time' as a discipline and a commitment more than a relationship. From that day God began to show me what I was missing. The time spent with him alone each day has become the most precious thing in my life.

Over last year those times became so beautiful that I had to set an alarm to stop myself from missing work because I was losing track of time. By Christmas I wanted to share this with my church because I felt if anyone wasn't experiencing this closeness of God's love they were missing out on the best thing in the world.

It was the best Christmas we have known as a family. Rob seemed to have grown out of the teenage moodiness and was so helpful and considerate to visitors; he was really becoming a lovely young man.

On Boxing day he went out to see his older brother and stay overnight. It was only late the following day that we realised Rob wasn't still with his brother. We called the police and a search was started. For the first 4 days we thought he was missing somewhere and went out looking for him. Then the police started to tell us that they were looking into a

possible link with an incident they knew of in town on the night Robert went missing. They were very good at breaking things to us gently, but by New Year's Eve we knew that police divers were looking for him in the river Ouse. On New Year's Day they found him. Three youths were in custody by then and were subsequently charged with his murder.

Since then a lot of our time and energy has been taken up in the process of helping the police with their enquiries, and then following the court process through to its conclusion this week. It has been draining. At the beginning, activity was so intense we would get to the end of the day and realise we had not had a proper meal, or only breakfast, but right through the process God has been incredibly good to us:

Hundreds of people have been praying for us; perhaps thousands.

Friends from our church and village have brought us cards, flowers even food when they knew we would struggle doing the basics for ourselves with all that was happening. Sometimes it was a struggle even to find time to just eat what had been provided.

We have been held up so much in prayer by our church and so many other churches, by our own branch of the CMA and by branches across this country and in other countries. Our church opened a place on the website for people to leave messages and CMA people from America and Europe left beautiful messages, telling us that they and their churches were praying for us.

The love of our families goes without saying.

Every faltering word of comfort or simple act has been a blessing and has uplifted us.

Still each day as often as I come to God, He lifts me up and gives me strength for that day.

The most important thing I can say is that death is not the end. Jesus overcame death on the cross. His victory is complete and nothing can stand against that. The power of God's love for each of us is the most amazing thing in the world. We are comforted more than anything by the knowledge that since his death Rob has been with his Saviour in Heaven. The God who he loved in this world has now taken him to Himself. He is beyond all hurt and sorrow. One day we will see him again, even though the separation is painful now. As I write this I am aware that tomorrow should have been Rob's 18th birthday. We will get through the day and in the evening we will have a meal with some of Rob's family, who we have grown close to through this loss. We will have an Indian meal because that was Rob's favourite choice.

That love of God that Rob knows in full now is available to all of us here and now. When Jesus died on the cross 2000 years ago, He gave his life as a sacrifice for all our wrongdoing. We only have to put our trust in him, ask for his forgiveness and we can know the perfect peace that passes all understanding.

God knows what He is doing. The Bible says we will not be tried beyond what we can endure and that God works for good

with those who love Him. If this had happened to us earlier in our lives we wouldn't have been able to cope in the way we can today, because we wouldn't have had enough experience of God. It is only because we have learned and received so much over the years from Him that we have the strength now to say to these youths who took our son's life that we forgive them. It is not something that humanly we could ever do. But the relationship we have with our Saviour is so precious that we want nothing to spoil it. All we want now is to know him, to serve and follow him. If we didn't forgive it would be like a cloud over the sun and we would be cutting ourselves off from part of that relationship. That cost would be too much.

It is a decision we have made. We may have to make it time and again when we question what we have done and what it means. It is not a betrayal of Robert because from his perspective now in Heaven he will completely understand what we are doing.

We all need love, peace and hope. God promises us that and so much with it. I would love to take any opportunity to commend my Saviour to anyone who doesn't know him yet.

The journey of grief isn't over, but as Joshua said to the people of Israel, 'As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord'. As long as He continues to give us the strength and grace to do that.





Hear Ye.

A note from us at Merchandise :

A huge THANK YOU for your continued support. Our new lines were taken to the AGM and received with great enthusiasm. The patches are flying off the shelves!

We unveiled some new lines at the National Rally and are about to unveil some more!

There is a new logo out, available on T-shirts £10 (Black or White) or Sweatshirts £17.50 (Black or Burgundy)



Christian Motorcyclists' Association

A trolley coin keyring (same size as a pound coin - can fit in trolleys at the supermarket or lockers in the gym) £1.50



And the insulated camping mug - the perfect addition to your camping collection - These sold extremely well at the National Rally and were seen dotted around the Stormin' the Castle (MAG Rally) in early September so are already in use! These are going for a fantastic £5 each!

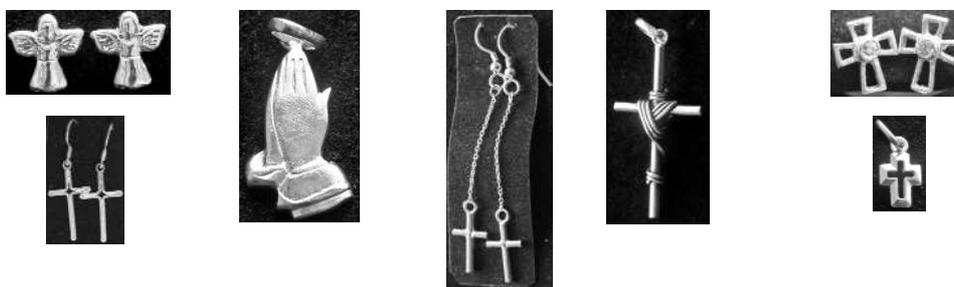


Hear Ye.



Now for our latest additions:

We have added some Sterling Silver Jewellery to our collection, some of which are pictured below



And... Finally we have managed to source some fabric patches. (These are handmade, machine-stitched, not computer generated, so show true craftsmanship)
They are available at £3.50 each.
They will go fast, so get in quickly!



Caps and beanies are back in stock, with some extra colours and designs available.

For more information, please visit the merchandise site at www.bike.org.uk/cma/merchandise/ or email us at merchandise@bike.org.uk

CMA Northern Ireland Motorcycle run

by Jim Armstrong, CMA Northern Ireland branch.

'The Thirty Two Counties' Round Ireland Motorcycle Run, celebrating the 20th Anniversary of CMA, Northern Ireland.

The CMA has been in existence in Northern Ireland for twenty years. We thought of different ways we could celebrate our big anniversary. Some

suggested a trip round the world and others thought the local Pizza Hut would be far enough. In the end, we thought we would do something in the middle and go around Ireland, entering every county. Initially, we thought a photograph of the riders and their machinery beside the 'Welcome to County (?)' would make an interesting montage. However, in reality, this did not happen as we just kept rolling along and stopped for nothing only refreshments and petrol.

On Friday the 13th. June 2008, at 0800hrs, we assembled at the 'Joey Dunlop' grandstand on the Ulster Grand Prix course, County Antrim. There were thirteen bikes with one pillion passenger at the starting point. We knew that some bikes were with us for that day only but we started off in good humour after a prayer by our chairperson, Roy. Roy brought his wife Anne, our only pillion passenger and



had previously requested a 'honeymoon suite' at our accommodation.

We travelled from County Antrim into Tyrone, where we had our first 'tea stop' in Cookstown. From there, we crossed into Fermanagh, where we had lunch at the Belleek Pottery. From there we left Northern

Ireland and entered the Republic of Ireland. No more sterling or imperial measurements, now we were real 'Europeans'. From Donegal we entered Sligo and zigzagged our way towards County Clare and our first night's accommodation in the unusually named 'Jamaica Inn' Hostel, Sixmilebridge. The rooms were good and we would have no difficulty recommending it. Even Roy and Anne had a double room with 'en suite.' (Well done Jim!) We gave Michael, the guy in charge of the hostel, a copy of the 'Biker Bible', which he gratefully accepted and promised to leave it available for travellers staying with him.

After a hearty Irish breakfast that necessitated in at least one animal giving its all, we had a 'thought for the day!' Jim told us about his favourite verse in the Bible, namely Jude 24. 'Now unto him that is able to keep from falling and present you faultless in his presence with exceeding joy.'

The simple thought was that we are unworthy and unable to maintain our faith on our own, but the Lord Himself keeps us from slipping and on Him only can we depend. We prayed that God would help us to depend on Him and that He would keep us safe on our journey that day.

We headed west for the ferry, still in County Clare, and travelled across the River Shannon estuary, towards Tarbert in County Kerry. This was our most westerly point. From Tralee we headed east across Cork, Tipperary, Waterford, Kilkenny, Wexford and towards Carlow. Here we had our second night's accommodation in a lovely 'bed and breakfast' that Uel had used before. We dined next door in a local hotel and it was lovely. This time we all had 'en suites.'

We were sort of hanging about. You know the way it is, too tired to go into town, can't be bothered. watching television, etc, when John suggested doing the 'thought for the day' there and then, rather than wait until the morning. So being in Ireland we had two 'thought for the day!' John talked about a recent book he had been reading. It reminded him that the main thing in the Christian life is Jesus. There are a lot of distractions, some are perfectly legitimate, but the instructions Jesus gave to his disciples was, 'Follow Me.' John confessed that at one point on our journey in Sligo, he had mistaken another motorcyclist and followed him instead of our trusted 'route-master!' How easy it is to get it wrong! In life we can often be busy and occupy our time, but is it really what we are about. Even

in 'church stuff' there can often be activity and industry, but is it really what God wants us to do. Jesus said, 'Follow me!' That means keeping our focus on Him and not necessarily on the efforts of others. We admitted it was hard to keep concentrating on what we should be, but we were encouraged to keep our eyes on Him!

On our last morning together we again enjoyed a hearty breakfast, none of that 'continental stuff' and headed north. We had a couple of 'diversions' and detours, but it was a lovely day and the roads were great. We stopped off at Trim, County Meath, for a cup of tea as it must have been almost sixty minutes since the last cup. We enjoyed a leisurely dander around the centre and a look at the impressive castle. We entered County Cavan and had another break in Castleblayney, County Monaghan. We were now on the home straight. Over the border into Northern Ireland, County Armagh and return to County Antrim.

We entered all 32 counties at some stage, stopped overnight in Counties Clare and Carlow and covered over 800 miles (880 from Carrickfergus my personal starting and finishing point). There was a mixture of all kinds of bikes. Some were so economical they did almost 29 miles to the gallon (ouch). Some were able to cover 200 miles per fill up and others 90. But we enjoyed those things we had in common, namely our love of our Lord and Saviour, CMA, each other and our bikes. Roll on our 21st anniversary.

(For a detailed copy of the route taken, please email jimarmstrong1953@hotmail.com)

Graffiti by Banksy

by Sean Kelly, Kent Branch

Jesus appears in the places you least expect him.

Recently I came across a graffiti street artist by the name of Banksy, who does graffiti drawings around London.

I began to look at Banksy a little more and found that he claims to be an activist against advertising and consumerism.

One such drawing I came across was a graffiti wall drawing of Jesus on the cross with shopping in each hand. This was displayed around Christmas time a few years ago, and has long since been removed from the wall it was drawn on. Beside the drawing were the words, "If you look hard enough, you can still find the true meaning of xmas".

I decided to get a copy of this picture and display it in front of my desk at work, without the lettering, to see what reaction if any, I got. My office is a hive of activity with many folk coming and going in a typical day.

It has caught the attention of many people. One person stood looking at it for a short time and I asked what came to mind. I received a thoughtful look but no reply. She asked me what it was. When I told her it was drawn



around Christmas, as a prompt, she simply said, "We have lost the true meaning". Another funny one was me and a colleague discussing the sort of things that may be in Jesus' shopping; bread, fish, olives, wine, but no figs. He didn't like figs.

One morning, after returning from morning tea, I was spoken to by a colleague who thought it was disgusting and why was I displaying such a thing? I simply gave the true meaning of the picture and said "What's really disgusting, is that it is a true message for today; God gave his only son, to be replaced by shopping self indulgence and greed". My point was accepted and the picture remains on my desk. What started with Banksy as an idea and controversial drawing, has actually been used as an introduction to talk about God. I always ask people what their idea behind Jesus' shopping is. It's the start of a conversion to talk about Jesus and give the true meaning.

Have a look at the web site, promoting the work of Banksy:-
http://www.artofthestate.co.uk/banksy/Banksy_christ_shopping.htm

For your information, the Chainlink is produced using QuarkXpress and Adobe Photoshop, plus Paintshop Pro. This is produced to the standard where it then goes to the printer, first for a proof run, which is signed off after checking, then the print run takes place. Nothing is changed by the printer, so keeping costs to a minimum. DVD in at one end the Chainlink out of the other. To achieve this, we have a time scale in which to do the work, which is:- 1st your contribution, 2nd placed in the magazine, with photo(s). 3rd near completion, Chainlink then goes to the Executive and proof readers, who also look at the content, to see that it fits with our mission. 4th, back to the editor, where the changes are completed. The cut off dates are 1st February/June/October, then it goes to the printer on the 15th of that month.

'Remember... rev up the positive and decelerate the negative!'

GOD'S HOUR-GLASS OF TIME

God has His reasons, His purpose and plans;
The hour-glass of Time, He holds in His hands;
It may take a while for us to realise,
He carries our burdens and cares through our lives;
Yet if we walk beside Him tall,
He'll take us always, through it all.
So don't ever grumble, complain or moan,
Because He promises, we're never alone;
When the grains of the future have finally passed,
He'll take us home, with Him at last.

LORD, YOU TAKE MY FEARS.

Jesus, my Saviour and my Friend,
I give my fears, for you to tend;
Take them all, one by one
Until I find that I have none;
Then let Your peace in me begin,
Send Your Spirit to dwell within;
Your grace, Your blessings and Your love,
Flow down to me from Your
heaven above.

By Yvonne Miller
(SAS Branch)



What have you got planned for 2009? What about 2010 even?

Let us have some stories of what you did in 2007/2008.

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. Let's be working together!

1st Colchester MAG Rally June '08

by Stephen Gilder, MESS Branch.



Unfortunately, we had a lot of rain this weekend and, as a result, the rally was poorly attended. At least 500 people were

expected, but only about 250 turned up. It was a very enjoyable rally with good music bands and varied other entertainment. 22 Biker Bibles were taken from our stand by people attending the rally and we pray that this word of God falls on fertile ground (hearts)

The Colchester MAG guys and gals are a great bunch and the rally was well organised and run. Let's hope next year's will be dry and sunny.



Andrew, Jon, Anna, Crispin, Stephen and Dave

Sent in by Bob and Debby Bogart

This is Stacy. She served with us here at KEC for 13 months as a missionary, working especially with youth and children. She attended many of the CMA meetings with me and became interested in bikes. Upon her return to Houston in the USA she purchased this scooter and took a training course. This is her way of fighting the rising cost of fuel even in the States.



A trip behind bars

by Martin Bridgwater, Bristol Branch.

When the new biker bibles were launched last year, Bristol Branch still had a small stock of 'Manual for Life', and Nick our chairman ask if anybody knew of some worthy recipients. I suggested my local prison, Earlstoke, as a member of my church was involved in the chaplaincy there.

Well, after much talk and at least one false start, it was all arranged. We would take about 30 manuals to the prison for their mid-week fellowship, I'd say a few words about CMA and the manuals then leave them for the inmates. So one Wednesday evening in June, Nick, Geraldine and I set off for

the prison. We arrived, left our helmets at the gate and were escorted over to the chapel. Nick was getting feelings of coming home, not because he's served time, but worked in prisons before. We had been unable to make it for the start of the service, but what a sight greeted us; about 30 or so inmates singing

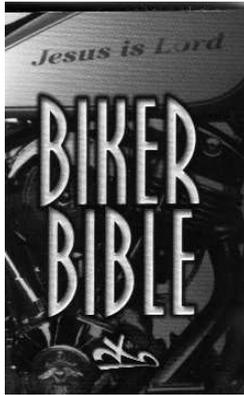


praises to the Lord.

After a brief introduction and a few more songs it was time for me to share a bit about CMA, that we are all still sinners and very much 'works in progress'. A few more songs, including a solo by an inmate and prayers, the service was over and it was time for drinks and chat. This

was very rewarding as we spoke to the prisoners, including some bikers and a scooterist!, and also to the chaplaincy team. Nick was especially blessed as a couple of the inmates he had met before, and was now able to speak much more freely to them about his faith. All the Manuals were taken, so it will be the Biker Bibles next time.

We now have an open invitation to return, and I will finish off with Geraldine's comment on leaving the prison; "I had much more meaningful conversations with the prisoners; they were happy to talk to me as an individual, which is more than has happened on most of our church runs."



It was the end of the day when I parked my police van in front of the station. As I gathered my equipment, my K-9 partner, Jake, was barking, and I saw a little boy staring in at me. 'Is that a dog you got back there?' he asked. 'It sure is,' I replied. Puzzled, the boy looked at me and then towards the back of the van. Finally he said, 'What'd he do?'

Sharing your faith with others

Sent in by Jon Barber, SAS Branch.

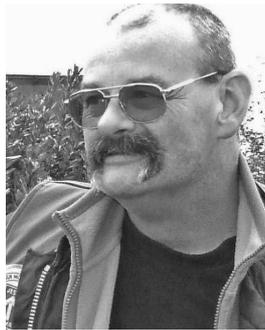
"I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith, so that you will have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ" (Philem 6-7).

There is a strong correlation between those who publicly share their faith with others and an increase in spiritual growth

for that individual. In my own journey, I've discovered that when I stop sharing my faith with non-believers I begin to see a dryness in my walk with God.

Sometimes we justify our lack of verbal witness by saying we don't have the spiritual gift of evangelism. Or we conclude that because we have an introvert personality we leave witnessing to others who we deem as more qualified. As a well-qualified introvert myself, I've often wanted to use that excuse. Then the Holy Spirit reminds me of a few instructions Jesus said to EVERYONE:

"But whoever disowns me before men, I will disown him before my Father in heaven" (Matt 10:33). "He said to them, "Go into all the world



and preach the good news to all creation" (Mark 16:15-16). There is not much confusion about what Jesus is saying in these verses and it relates to all of us.

When we share Christ with others, God allows us to gain a deeper and greater understanding of every

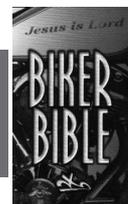
good thing in Christ. Do you see the direct correlation between sharing your faith and your own spiritual growth? Paul says it's actually a prerequisite to spiritual growth.

One of the great ways to turn a conversation to faith is by asking someone if there is anything you can pray for them about. You will be surprised how easily this will transition you into a conversation about their faith and lives.

Ask God for boldness today to offer to pray for someone.

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**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**



Don't we have a wonderful Father

by Amy Stalker, Forth and Tay Branch.

What a fantastic time was had at Hollybush !

Many thanks to all who worked so hard to make it happen.

God not only blessed each of us in individual ways, but blessed Forth and Tay with a new sister in Christ and two new members.

There were so many moments during the weekend that God gave glimpses of Himself which are both challenging and exciting.

It must be said that it was a real privilege to be part of Mr and Mrs Rodgers' special day (Not to mention the unforgettable bridesmaids!)

It became abundantly obvious during one of the fantastic fellowship times in Holy Joes, after a short run, led by



Stephen. (100 miles and several U turns later) that the Forth and Tay and MESS branches had become great friends (sorry about the noise)!

Stephen. If Jesus allows U turns, who are we to complain!

The decision was then made to twin the branches so, God willing, these times and friendships could become a real strength to the branches as witnesses as well as being prayer support for each other.

God has enriched our lives from the weekend spent with all our brothers and sisters in the C.M.A and the messages given to us in our services and worship together.

I started taking my 5 year old son to the football practice each Saturday morning in 2007, as you do if you're a dad, and got chatting with a guy whose son races 600cc bikes at club level. I also learned that his 5 year old Grandson (same class as Aaron) was also riding a 50cc grass track bike, so thought Aaron and myself would follow his season around the race tracks. Well, what a nice experience; mums, dads and the whole family cheering on their little ones, from 5 to 18 years old. Some were really good, and some had nice machinery. Many were riding off the peg, small bikes, modified a little to do the task. They were good and mums and dads were actually riding these bikes through their off-spring. Mmm: very competitive. Several took Biker Bibles.



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 and we get many visitors to the CMA UK web site.



The Old Church

by Yvonne Miller, SAS Branch.

*I trudged wearily down the street,
A place to rest my soul to seek;
Then there before my eyes I saw,
A quaint old church, with open doors.*

*Faster now, my footsteps went,
As if my soul was heaven sent;
When at last the door was near,
My soul was lifted and began to cheer.*

*Voices, loud came from within;
They really were making such a din!
Laughing, singing, shouting, cheering,
"What a joyful lot" I thought, nearing.*

*I entered in from sunshine bright;
My steps by now were very light;
But what was this before my eyes;
Not what I'd hoped to set me wise.*

*Traders with their market stalls,
Filled all the space within the halls;
People crowded, children played,
Money and goods being displayed.*

*The old building, built for God's glory,
Now told a completely different story;
Gone was the reverence and the beauty,
Replaced with busy, earthly "duties".*

*Not for the Gospel had the traders come;
Not for Jesus had the people come;
Where was the peace, the joy, the rest?
Instead they sought some bargains best.*

*My heart by now was burdened and sad;
How could these people be so falsely
glad?
And then I understood what Jesus meant,
When in the Temple, His anger spent.*

*A house of worship and of prayer;
Has become a building to sell their wares.*

*They do not know the old, old story;
Of this building, built to God's glory.*

*But even worse, they do not know,
God seeks them for His love to bestow;
They came to this church, not for Him,
But to barter and buy on their every whim.*

*'Won't you come in?' a trader said;
As I turned around to go instead;
'I need to pray, I now know why,
But I can't come in, so I'll say goodbye.'*

*He looked at me with some disdain;
'What a crank!' he seemed to claim.
But God had sent me there to see,
These people needed from this to flee.*

*'Oh Lord, help me with Your strength;
To speak Your Word with great intent.'
'Help me to be ever brave;
And bring these souls to You to save.'*

*I prayed with tears upon my face;
This earthly life is such a race.
When all at once a voice inside me said;
'My will, not yours will work instead!'*

*And then I knew, without a fear;
God had heard my every prayer.
He holds the whole world in His hands;
His Gospel throughout, will always stand.*

*This little building, with market stored,
With prayer, could one day be restored;
And then the wonderful, old, old story;
Would be told again, for God's glory.*

*So when you see a little church,
Used today for earthly 'research';
Just kneel and pray that God will hear;
To save these souls from selfish fear.*

Can you sleep when the wind blows?

Sent in by Yvonne Miller, SAS Branch.



Years ago, a farmer owned land along the Atlantic seacoast. He constantly advertised for hired hands. Most people were reluctant to work on farms along the Atlantic. They dreaded the awful storms that raged across the ocean, wreaking havoc on the buildings and crops. As the farmer interviewed applicants for the job, he received a steady stream of refusals. Finally, a short, thin man, well past middle age, approached the farmer. "Are you a good farm hand?" the farmer asked him. "Well, I can sleep when the wind blows," answered the little man. Although puzzled by this answer, the farmer, desperate for help, hired him. The little man worked well around the farm, busy from dawn to dusk and the farmer felt satisfied with the man's work. Then one night the wind howled loudly in from offshore. Jumping out of bed, the farmer grabbed a lantern and rushed next door to the hired hand's sleeping quarters. He shook the little man and yelled, "Get up! A storm is coming! Tie things down before they blow away!" The little man rolled over in

bed and said firmly, "No sir. I told you, I can sleep when the wind blows." Enraged by the response, the farmer was tempted to fire him on the spot. Instead, he hurried outside to prepare for the storm. To his amazement, he discovered that all of the haystacks had been covered with tarpaulins. The cows were in the barn, the chickens were in the coops, and the doors were barred. The shutters were tightly secured. Everything was tied down. Nothing could blow away. The farmer then understood what his hired hand meant, so he returned to his bed to also sleep while the wind blew. When you're prepared, spiritually, mentally, and physically, you have nothing to fear. Can you sleep when the wind blows through your life? The hired hand in the story was able to sleep because he had secured the farm against the storm. We secure ourselves against the storms of life by grounding ourselves in the Word of God. We don't need to understand, we just need to hold His hand to have peace in the middle of storms.

Be Encouraged

by Werner Oder, New Forest Branch.

A little resume' of God's work in and through the New Forest branch of CMA within the last 12 months Be encouraged.



Out of our meetings together came real times of fellowship and prayer, which triggered off little strategies with good results. I believe the Lord

encouraged us with our CMA stand at Netley Marsh, where we won a prize for The Best Stand and another one for the Best Modern Bike. This was the result of prayer for one NF CMA member to win the Bike competition as a tribute to the previous owner Mr. D., who was critically ill and expected to die within weeks. God did not just hear our prayer concerning the competition, but also remembered Mr.D., who at this very moment experienced an amazing strength to quit smoking without cravings. According to the hospital, this saved his life. He is now back to motor cycling, testifying this, being a miracle! He is reading a Bikers Bible.

Next NF CMA realised that God gave them the biggest biker congregation at Poole Quay and applied for a permit to put up a stand on the Quay on Tuesday night. This was reluctantly granted on a ONCE A YEAR ONLY basis. The stand was a great success, with many good contacts made, Bibles given away and ministry given to many

visitors to the stall. One, Mr.T, opened up to a CMA member, inviting him to see him. The following meeting at Mr.T's, business resulted in him calling in his staff to hear the good news and then visiting his neighbour who 'had disappeared.' Concerned, Mr. T climbed through the window to find Mr.P. out

cold on his bed; alcohol overdose.

When our CMA member prayed, the unconscious man sat up, sobered up, became coherent and willing to receive help to turn his life around.

Mr. T thought this to be amazing, discussing the possibility of turning his showroom into a biker's cafe! Please pray for the ongoing follow-up.

At a CMA meeting following the stand, prayer was offered up to the Lord for permission to display the stand on Poole Quay on a monthly basis. The next morning, one CMA member phoned the council for their viewpoint of the CMA stand. They were happy and offered other opportunities to do so on a MONTHLY BASIS!

So, for the first time in 20 years, Poole Quay Bike night has a regular Christian witness!

Thought this little oversight might encourage you all to attempt great things for God and expect great things from God! Be encouraged and keep praising the Lord.

Poole Quay on Tuesday night, repeated I am sure through the country. Are you at a biker meet?



Little Ted, Mark, Reaper, Ken & Werner, Big Ted



Biker Bibles from Bedford to Goa

by Keith Sanders, Bedford Branch.

Friends Brian and Elaine from our church regularly go to Goa and have many friends there. Their last trip was to celebrate a Christian wedding. Elaine asked if she could take some Biker Bibles with her on this recent trip (making a substantial donation to the Bible fund) and I was pleased to be able to let her have several copies.

Elaine writes.

Preparing for a flight to Goa for a wedding we asked Keith if we could take some Biker Bibles to distribute to some of the many bikers that we know there. We took with us 5 Bibles, not knowing to whom they would be given; we prayed that the Lord would guide us to the folk who needed them. We had no need to hurry in giving them away, as the holiday was for two weeks and we felt confident that God had a plan for them.

The first one was easy as he had on our previous visit asked for a bible, which we had promised to give the next time in Goa. The next one was given to the local second-hand book shop, where the tourists go and change their books (this one was Manual for Life). We asked him to give it away if anyone wanted it, but he always reads the books first before putting them on the shelf. We await a response from him. One of the boys on the staff at the hotel was the next to receive a bible; he is unable to afford to buy one on his small salary.

A member from the local church requested one, which then left one. It sat on the shelf in our room for ten days! Thinking that God had perhaps forgotten about the last one I reminded him that he needed to show me the person to whom it should be given. That day I went with my wrist watch to the local jeweller for a minor repair. We began to chat about this and that over the coffee his



assistant had made for us. Raja began to talk about names that he noticed were common to Asian and Europeans. He commented that he could trace his ancestors back to Ishmael in the Old Testament. He was interested in finding out about our scriptures as he knew the Quran very well, but had never read the Holy Bible.

We discussed how we also looked at scripture, cross referencing verses and events in both the Old and New Testaments. He then started to talk about when Isaac was taken up the mountain by Abraham and that God, at the last moment; himself provided the lamb for sacrifice. This was a real good point and we were able to show him that in the New Testament Jesus was Gods sacrificial Lamb, given for the worlds' salvation. We spent some time talking and then I asked him if he would like a Biker Bible to read? He was so thrilled. The next day when we saw him, he said "I have never read anything like this before. It doesn't just tell me about the Problem it gives me the Solution also". He became so excited and animated. "Please give me more to read and ask someone to come and speak with me".

Well, needless to say, we know a man from the local church who feels a God given ministry for the Muslim people. Please pray for those Bibles and the local church workers who continue to follow up on the contacts so far. Raja is now asking "Who do you say Jesus is"? Our friend has spent several hours with him and he is open to the Gospel.

Thank You for the opportunity to take God's Word into places where they have never read His Word for themselves.

A tip for you

by Bob Hudson, East Midlands Branch.

This tip was given to me a few years ago and I thought everyone knew about it, but when I was talking to Krista on the Lincs and Notts Air Ambulance run on 31st August, she insisted I needed to pass it on in Chainlink.



garment, put the carrier bag over your boot, it allows the foot to slip through the leg without that snagging and hopping around like a loony, or falling over. When the first leg is through, transfer the bag to second leg and repeat. Easy! This has proved

such a help to me. I hope those who have not heard the tip before find it as helpful.

While taking a routine vandalism report at an elementary school, I was interrupted by a little girl about 6 years old. Looking up and down at my uniform, she asked, 'Are you a cop?' 'Yes,' I answered and continued writing the report. My mother said if I ever needed help I should ask the police. 'Is that right?' 'Yes, that's right,' I told her. 'Well, then,' she said as she extended her foot toward me, 'would you please tie my shoe?'

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We're here to help...



Andy Sennett, whom Ward Gethin are sponsoring this year in the National Superstock 600 Champs, with Neil John, the founder of the BMF Biker Legal Line. Neil is a solicitor 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 Neil in the first instance:- on 01553 660033.

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A message from Mike Fitton, President (UK) CMA



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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Photo taken during the IOM TT week at the Ramsay Sprint TT

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