

CHAINLINK

The Magazine of the
Christian Motorcyclists' Association

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Spring 2009 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 Spring 2009 Chainlink?

We were down at Madeira drive doing the teas and coffee for the stewards doing Brighton bike show, when one of the ladies in the arches came over and said she had something for us.

She gave us this pencil drawing of me and Sarge, saying "There was an awful lot of love going on, I just had to draw it." NUFF said.

**Keep safe in The Lord
Kind regards,
Gaynor Barber**



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President's Encouragement

by Mike Fitton, National Chairman

Are youth a part of CMA or apart from CMA?

What do you think is the average age of CMA members and affiliates in the UK? 40-50yrs? 45-55yrs? It is imperative that we have a strategy and heart to include young people in this vital ministry and encourage them to find their place to serve God. I have often spoken to leaders in other



countries and heard how they ignored young people and paid the price for it; one day they woke up and realised they were old! No one was following and they were becoming stale as an organisation.

Some of you may know that I was previously a youth evangelist in the north of England and I collected a few great quotes on the lives and habits of young people. My favourite has to be the following: "The world is passing through troublesome times. The young people of today think of nothing but themselves.

They have no reverence for parents or old age. They are impatient of all restraint. They talk as if they know everything, and what passes for wisdom with us is foolishness to them. As for the girls, they are forward, immodest and unladylike in speech, behaviour and dress." So when do you think that was written? Last week? Last year?

No it is an extract from a sermon preached by Peter, the Hermit in A.D. 1274!

So what does that tell us? Young people haven't changed a lot in 735 years.

I imagine if Peter the Hermit was full on

for God that he felt a concern for the salvation of the young people he was frustrated with and must have often prayed "Lord how can I reach these kids for you, what will make a difference?"

Have we ever prayed such a prayer for the young people in the bike community of our area? Its

not that long ago that when I mentioned CMA making an impact for the Gospel in the lives of the biking youth in the UK that some members couldn't see why we would want to bother. The phrase often used was "We are not a youth organisation.

"True, we are not, and I am not suggesting that we should be running youth groups, but I believe we should be making an impact, using our bikes, bibles and testimonies to get alongside them.

Have you ever considered the many ways in which young people are already involved in the world of motorcycling? How about sand racing, moto cross, trials riding, quad racing, mini motos (legally or otherwise), twist and go scooters, 50cc street bikes, riding pillion with parents. They attend rallies, bike shows, race meets, coffee stops, touring holidays, drag racing. Some are already involved in bike building and learning the art of mechanics. They may already love bikes and biking but do they know about Jesus? Romans Ch10 v13-15 says: "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." How, then, can they call on the



Robert Charles Hughes -Burton receiving the trophy from Mike Fitton, National Chairman, for winning a motorbike racing computer game at Hollybush National Rally

one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?

It is essential that we make a concerted effort to reach out to our nations' youth. They won't go away. No one else has the in roads into their biking lives like we do and I believe with all my heart that branches must step out in faith and share the love of Jesus with them.

Consider the following ideas:

Offer to help as stewards at local off road events for young people.

Offer as a branch to give basic mechanic skills to a group of young people with their parents present.

Organise events that include families and make it clear that it will be a child friendly event.

Offer to host Christmas parties for the children of local bike clubs at a suitable venue, but do it well.

Contact local church youth and children's workers; they are always eager for speakers they can trust to come and share with their groups. Go out of your way to make the children of current members feel a major part of your branch

and National CMA events.

Do you celebrate their birthdays? Include their friends? Acknowledge even the smallest things they do to help? Do you ask them to help? Have you ever asked them what event they would like their CMA branch to go to? Perhaps they know where other young people go to see bike events in your area, something you may have missed.

One of the most special things the North East branch did for Emma was have a collection to help her with the trip she took to work as a volunteer at CMA USA Headquarters. Even more special was that they did it without asking Sandy and I. They showed they cared and it meant the world to Emma. They had a little presentation for her in Holy Joes at the Farmyard Party; what better place. Emma was in the middle of the CMA's ministry, finding her feet, working with Paul, learning the ropes and being encouraged by everyone, even the non Christian Bikers. She grew that day and became a more integrated part of the branch and family of CMA. These young people will one day be adults, fired up with enthusiasm and will start to seek to belong to some group or club in the bike world. There is a place for them today in CMA, a place of safety and adventure. Have you made space?

My final and important comment is, whatever you do with young people MUST be done in accordance with our CMA UK Child Protection Policy. This is firstly to protect young people and secondly to safe guard you if anything went wrong. The policy can be found in The CMA UK Handbook; please adhere to it.

Let me know what's happening in your area; how are you making space for young people?

An Encouraging Word

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



I have a friend in prison. He's not my

friend because he's in prison, and I didn't know him before his prison days, but I am proud to say, Kevin Aycock is my friend. Obviously, Kevin has a good bit of time on his hands. I've asked him to write the Encouraging Word for this issue from the perspective of, what else, prison! I'm glad he did! As we are now well into a new year let's be ever thankful that prison walls can never prevent the Gospel message of Jesus Christ; either self-made prisons, or literal prisons.

Also, why not begin this New Year by whispering a prayer for Kevin. He's a fellow believer in a difficult place. That being said, I suspect those same words could well have, at one time or another, been spoken about each of us.

Some sat in darkness and the deepest gloom, prisoners suffering in iron chains, for they had rebelled against the words of God and despised the counsel of the Most High. So He subjected them to bitter labour; they stumbled, and there was no one to help. Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and He saved them from their distress. He brought them out of darkness and the deepest gloom and broke away their chains.

Psalm 107:10-14

Do you know anyone who is in prison? Most people think that those in prison deserve whatever misery they experience as punishment for their crimes. But God loves all men and women, no matter how far they have fallen. He wants to reach them with His love and dispel the gloom they now face.

Not all prisoners are criminals, some have been imprisoned for their faith; others for

their political views (and still others for both!). Not all prisons are literal, some are metaphorically imprisoned by emotions, mental conditions, or addictions; others by a lifestyle, a job, or expectations from another (whether one's parents, peers, or even society).

At some point in our lives, we have all been in one kind of prison or another. And without exception we have all been prisoners to sin, that cruelest of jailers.

Since we are usually in prisons of our own making, we therefore hold the key to the barred doors which keep us confined. Yet all too often we choose not to unlock those doors and go free; perhaps out of contentment with where we are, or fear of change if we do happen to free ourselves. But there is One who wants to free us, who knocks on the barred door, and asks for not only the key, but also the key to our spiritual hearts. He is also the only

One who can free us from the chains of sin, if we'll only allow Him. Much of the world is spiritually cold and dark. He is the Light and His love is the warmth. He is Christ, who offered Himself as the unblemished sacrifice for the sins of humankind, in order to save it from itself. All He asks is that we accept Him as our Saviour. Will you? I have.

The verses from Scripture (italicized above) epitomize my personal situation almost 8 years ago, as I found myself incarcerated because of one night's anger and in a literal prison for the first time ever. I've felt that deep gloom and despair (mingled with fear of my new surroundings), and still remember wondering how I was going to get through the next 14 years. Cut off from the outside world and family, forced to endure restrictive rules, cold metal toilets, thin mattresses, small cells, food portions fit only for a kid in a junior high school cafeteria, questionable medical care, contemptuous guards, negative reinforcement, and an ever-present feeling of stress and oppression. As those

biblical prisoners did in the verses above, I also cried out to the Lord. And He answered me. Since then, I have never experienced that same gloom or despair, instead; the joy of salvation has been mine since becoming saved, as well as comfort and security from the indwelling Holy Spirit, as I continually abide in the Lord. Does this make me perfect? Not at all! I still get emotional sometimes, angry at something or someone; frustrated and resentful at other times, when considering my past, or the present. But this is only part of the human experience. Even Christians sin, though through confession and repentance via prayer, can believers maintain their relationship with God by way of His Incarnation, Jesus. Do you wish to lift the veil of gloom from whatever prison that confines you today? Then ask Jesus into your life right now, and experience freedom like you've never known before!

Kevin Aycock No.0725706
A guest of the State of North Carolina
and a child of the King.



North Carolina Prison

Hi, It's me again

by Emma Angel-Jones.



What's in a Name

by Jackie Russell, New Forest Branch

LADIES OF CMA CONFERENCE 2009

Does it bother you if people call you a 'lady'?

Do you get wound up if you are called a 'girlie'?

Does the term 'women' make your hackles rise?

Do you know what 'Real Women' are or what they look like?

What goes through your mind when you hear about the CMA 'Ladies' Conference?

If you are anything like me you get confused!

We hear and see so many different labels attached to people today that a lot of people are as confused as I am. Add to that mixture the images we see of women on television, in newspapers and in advertising and you have a sure-fire



recipe for Satan to poke and prod and lie to us about who we really are and what we are really worth in the eyes of the world, but most importantly, in the eyes of our Heavenly Father God.

So if you want to look at what makes a 'real' woman, and to explore some of God's truths about women, make sure you don't miss the 2009 Ladies of CMA Conference. It's being held over the weekend of 23rd to 25th

October 2009 at The Hayes Christian Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire.

We can guarantee that you will be challenged, amused and perplexed during the weekend. You will have a great time of fellowship, some fantastic food, first class en-suite accommodation and God will bless you!

You may also find out what a 'real woman' looks like!

Ladies of CMA Conference. It's being held over the weekend of 23rd to 25th October 2009 at The Hayes Christian Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire.

Full details

CMA UK, PO BOX 8155, Loughborough LE11 9AR
phone 0800 0154479

Breast Cancer Survivors Riding in the USA

by Wendy Peek, Devon and Cornwall Branch.



Amazon Heart Thunder - A 2008 Journey

Early in 2008 I became the first ever UK participant to register for this annual event.

Preparation

How would I ever have been ready for this ride if I hadn't retired in April!, sort out flights, then get my fund raising under way? Participants have to pay their own expenses, but must raise at least £750 for charity for every ride. My annual travel insurance, which covers me for any recurrence of cancer, wouldn't cover me if I got injured motorcycling, crazy! I found a one-off policy with the AA for only £28; highly recommended. Organising packing took a while; What should I wear to be cool, but safe, riding in a California summer? Of course I took way too much luggage, but it did fit in the designated size soft bag!

Briefing (4th September)

The Amazon Heart organisation is

impressive. A presentation about the reasons for the organisation, previous adventures, and some ride rules, was followed by signing of waiver forms. There was great excitement as each of us on an Amazon Heart ride for the first time were given our free H-D leather jacket. Many of the girls had brought gifts, so we all collected T-shirts, scarves, pins, buffs, a ride bell and a biker bible. Finally, there was an opportunity for each of us to say a little about why we had come on the ride, and our hopes and expectations for the week. I was struck by the diversity of the women, the wide range of ages, from cities and small country towns, creative people, business women, mums, a fascinating mix. How would we all get on? It was quite emotional as we started to find out more about each other's cancer history, but also inspiring and encouraging; the start point for life long



and life changing friendships.

Ride Formation

The ride was divided into sub-groups of 5 or 6 riders, with a lead and sweep, followed by a super-sweep and support vans. An important element of the ride is that women can learn to ride to take part. This formation allows less experienced riders, and those of us 'on the wrong side of the road', to be in the middle of a small group. We quickly got used to the riding styles of those around us, and at junctions each small group was able to stick together in close formation. Experience has proven this to be the safest and most effective way to keep the whole ride together and moving at optimum speed. Anyone needing to pull over is joined by super-sweep and a van, only necessary on one day, when two riders were joined by bees in their helmet and jacket!

The Bikes (5th September)

There was more excitement as our bikes arrived, loaned free by Harley-Davidson. Ours were trucked down to us in Los Angeles from the 105th in Milwaukee. Most were new models, with virtually nothing on the clock. I was allocated a

blue and pewter pearl Softail Custom, with just 178 miles on it. We spent some time riding in a large car park. Most people were on bikes very different from what they normally ride, but we were soon looking pretty good. We practised some large group formation parking, then headed off on a test ride down the coast to Hermosa Beach. The first highlight was coming over the brow of a hill to see a long stretch of beach, with breakers rolling in and palm trees along the sand, I'm really doing this, California on a Harley, I laughed out loud in my helmet! 24 miles down, lots to go!

The Route, and selected diary entries (6th to 13th September)

Day 1. Marina del Rey to Ventura, 98 miles. All the iconic place names, Malibu, Ventura, I have driven here before, and watched enviously as groups of bikers went by. Now I am one of them. I still can't believe it.

Day 2. Ventura to Buellton via Santa Barbara, 113 miles. An early start, cool and misty, reminds me of early summer mornings in Cornwall. Days are planned this way so that we don't ride when it's too hot. People at the motel are interested in



our ride and give us donations. Riding over the brow of a hill I get a blast of hot air and think something is wrong with the bike I realise we have moved inland and lost the ocean breeze!

Day 3. Buellton to Cambria, 118 miles. Joined at lunch by a TV crew for a feature on that evening's local news. When they've gone we all dance in the car park to "I Will Survive". The beach is across the road from our lovely motel, and we have a group evening with takeaway at the picnic area, followed by beers in the hot tub.

Day 4. Cambria to Monterey, via Big Sur, 100 miles. Our most challenging day. The Big Sur road climbs higher and higher and then follows the sheer cliff edge, with lots of twists and turns; very beautiful. We stop at a viewpoint and meet some guys from Utah riding in the opposite direction. One has dropped his bike on the way in. He said it was that or go over the edge. Not too encouraging! He did admit he was going too fast for the conditions.

Day 5. Monterey to Palo Alto, 126 miles. A pleasant morning on a rural freeway. Crazy afternoon via 'Alpine Road', a bit of a mistake, steep and narrow, camber all

wrong, tarmac rucked up into the middle of the road and foot deep tyre tracks at the edges, no white lines, lots of blind bends, bees on the attack. We eventually made it down at about 10mph.

Day 6. Palo Alto to Benecia, 86 miles. Riding through lots of beautiful trees, though in the commuter area for San Francisco. You can really smell the trees from the bike. One of our ladies did her one woman show for us; lots of laughter and tears.

Day 7. Benecia to Rohnert Park, 110 miles. Now in the Napa Valley, vines everywhere. Very pretty country and relaxing riding. The final night was another group evening, with mixed feelings, a huge sense of achievement, looking forward to the final ride into the city, but sadness that it is almost over. Everyone has a chance to say something about their ride experience, and how it compared to their hopes and expectations.

Day 8. Rohnert Park to San Francisco, 69 miles. We rode to the viewpoint at Marin Headlands, lots of photos with the Golden Gate bridge in the distance. We then rode



into San Francisco over the Golden Gate bridge to be met by family and friends who organised a barbecue party to welcome us. We left the bikes sadly by the truck that has come to take them, 844 miles done.

There are lots of photos, more about the route, radio interviews, links to the Amazon Heart website and blogs on www.cornwall.myzen.co.uk/AHT.html

It's Not The Destination, It's The Journey
I found this sticker that summed up everything I felt about the ride. The hardened bikers amongst you will see the daily mileage and wonder what on earth we did the rest of the day. I originally signed up for the fantastic chance to ride a Harley Davidson in the USA, but as the ride progressed it was much more about the unique bond that forms between cancer survivors during an adventure experience. We are able to talk together in a way that nobody else can understand, but it is not all sadness and talk of illness, it's about celebrating life and making the most of our future. We all felt that we had

made friends for life. The ride allowed time for this, as well as the riding.

Through the generous sponsorship I received, I raised over £2500. It will be spent in the UK, with various charities providing support for women who have been diagnosed with breast cancer.

Australia 2009

Now I have signed up for Australia in May 2009, from Brisbane to Sydney. There will be 42 of us, and it will be a more international event, with riders from the UK, USA, Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong and South Africa. We start on an island where we can swim with dolphins, so it is already sounding very exciting. Since my first experience of riding on a Harley was in Australia, this really is coming full circle. I have to raise at least another £750 for charity to go on this ride, so if anyone else would like to donate please visit my fund raising page at:-

www.smartgive.com/funds/aht09wendy

If you know any woman that has had a diagnosis of breast cancer, then tell her about the Amazon Heart website. It is an excellent organisation. And it is life changing, a wonderful way to celebrate being alive.

National Chairman and the 2009 Executive Team



Mike Fitton
National Chairman



Rob Urand



Ted Russell



Jason Bee



Pete Crane



Ken Hardy

Note from the Editor

**The deadline for the Summer 2009 edition is
1st June 2009**

Publication dates are:- April - August - December

Working together by Ken Hardy

What are you doing this year? Where are you going this year? Let me say the National is going to Storthes Hall in 2009. Where is that? Look at <http://www.stortheshall.co.uk/> Storthes Hall Park, Conference & Banqueting, Kirkburton, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, HD8 0WA.

BOOK YOUR HOLIDAYS NOW. YES YES YES



It's the CMA's 30th Anniversary National Rally, 23rd-26th July 2009.

This is a completely new venue and is quality all the way. It caters for all the family. The CMA would like this to be a winner with many of your friends and family going and your church supporting this event. Ask them to support you in prayer, and in whatever way they can.

2010 is the EMC and will be using the same location, so if we get it right this year then EMC/CMA Rally, 4th-8th Aug 2010, will be the biggest and most exciting EMC/CMA ever.

Now why are you not going? Now is the time to say to your branch that you are, and that you might need help to get there. There is no reason why you should not have the opportunity of going to both of these events.

Tell us now confidentially if you wish, but go, do not miss these next two years of meeting the CMA, the prayer, the worship, the fellowship.

I have put an update of the kiddies grass track in the Norfolk area with what Jordan, aged 6, will be riding in 2009. See page 49. Be there to show the cross.

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 +

This is the real me!

by Liz Robertson, Gloucester Branch

Do you watch 'reality' TV shows? We seem to be bombarded by programmes in which members of the public, or celebrities, try to become something, or someone, else. I'm sure you know the kind of programmes I mean; people trying to sing like their favourite singer or look like their favourite film star (the person who loved 'Lassie' had an especially tough time of it!).



you since you were in the womb; He knows the 'real' you. Better still; He loves you (even though He knows what you are really like!). The only person God wants you to be like is Jesus. It will take all your life as you walk side by side with Him and grow in faith and understanding; being yourself, but allowing God to change the things that need to be changed. Have a look in the Bible to see what it says.

The process of transforming the 'wannabe' into their hero is often funny, sometimes painful, and, just occasionally, sad. It might simply mean putting on different clothes and wearing an alternative hairstyle, but sometimes it involves much more radical measures, like plastic surgery and new teeth!

There's not much wrong with copying a fashion or liking a singer, but just remember who God wants you to be!

It's great to have a dream and an ambition, it gives you something to work towards; a goal, but the people striving to be someone else often end up devastated and disappointed when it doesn't work out.

Who are you modelling yourself on? TV programmes, adverts and magazines throw images at us all the time. 'Be like this.' 'Look like this.' 'Buy this to get the right image.' What can we do? Who do we believe?

The Bible tells you that God has known



The Royal Enfield OC Rally

by Brian Jenner, Gloucester Branch.

I went on a Royal Enfield Owners Club rally to the Norman Knight pub in Whichford. Not wanting to be too obvious, I only had a testimony and bibles on the bike and a cross on my back, but didn't ask everyone if they were saved.

I had a good welcome and people seemed to be comfortable with me

around. I had met a few at previous rallies. On Friday evening I had a longish talk with Douglas, who had a vaguely Christian background, but no faith and had problems with miracles. I pray I may have left him something to ponder on. He wanted to get a clip on route finder. I was able to phone him on Sunday when I got home with a contact. He was pleased to hear from me. I pray he may find THE WAY.

On Saturday, night I spent some time talking to a pagan priestess. She knew who I was, as the cross is hardly discrete and suggested that I wouldn't want to talk to her, but was quite happy that I did. My daughter's boy friend's Mother is a pagan, so I was keen to learn and asked many questions so the few comments I had were not invasive. I pray she may come to know that God is more interested in her than I was.



On Sunday morning I popped off to find the church to see if it had a service and at what time. When I found the church it was about three minutes past nine and the service started at nine! I eased open the large wooden door of the old Norman Church to bump into the old priest and his cross-bearing Warden. I

got a welcome, a large hymn book and a (small) book of common prayer at the right page. As I had left my glasses behind, this was welcome. My vision of the prayers were as dim as my memory of the old services. All went fairly well.

After the service I was welcomed some more. Folk promised to pray for us, I gave away another C.M.A. leaflet or two and bought a village tea towel for church funds to take home for my wife, When I got home later I found that there was a picture of the Norman Knight pub on the bottom too.

I'm reminded we always need to be ready to answer for our faith and be protected physically and spiritually. My thanks go to all those who pray for this ministry.

P.S. I never did find out why the Priest had a Warden specifically for his bearings or why she was cross!



A Prayer for World Peace

by Mike Pout, Bristol Branch

"Oh, I have seen a vision, and I have dreamed a dream

The world was changed, all re-arranged,
serenity soared supreme

We've had a belly-full of famine – let's
declare war on the thing

And with serendipitous synergy starve
conflict of its' sting!...!



This is the first verse of a poem by Mike Pout of the Bristol branch – if this wets your appetite and you want to read the rest of the poem, it can be found along with other poems and artworks in a recently published booklet entitled 'Christian Biker Poet Volume 1'. This is not available in the shops, but can be downloaded from:-

<http://sites.google.com/site/christianbikerpoet>

You can print, publicly perform, or reproduce excerpts in any medium, but Paul Pout reserves the right to be recognised as the author of the work. Any donations received will go to fund the work of the CMA and pay for more Biker's Bibles. Please send cheques, no matter how large, made out to CMA (Bristol) to 49 Langton Road, St Annes, Bristol. BS4 4ER.



Raising the profile for the CMA locally

By Rob Urand, MESS Branch.

How often have we heard from a newly joined affiliate that they had previously had no idea of the existence of C.M.A, or that they had been looking for an organisation of Christian motorcyclists for ages, but had not found one; until they stumbled across C.M.A?



the library or from home, so a bike enthusiast might search under 'motorcycles' and get a list. Clicking on any one of the entries on that list brings up the detailed information provided by that organisation about itself.

We continue to try many ways of getting the message out that C.M.A exists. One of the newer recruits to our branch (thanks Phil) asked if we knew about the information facilities provided by the library service in each county. If you have ventured into your local library lately, you will have seen that they have computers there for visitors to search for information. As part of this service, each county provides a local information website, available free for organisations to place details of who they are, what they do, and where they meet. These databases can be searched, either in

The acronym 'MESS' stands for 'Most of Essex and South Suffolk' so we have input information about C.M.A in general, and MESS branch in particular, onto both the Essex, and Suffolk, library service information databases. Take a look at these, and see if you think it worthwhile to put details about C.M.A and your branch onto your county library information database. It may help someone out there to find other Christian bikers they can join.

The Suffolk site is:
<http://suffolkinfolink.suffolkcc.gov.uk>

The Essex site is:
<http://www.essexlife.org>



Feel the Breeze with DeafBikers! DeafBikers are friends you haven't met yet!!

By David (Zippy) Whittall, East Midlands Branch.

'Deaf Bikers UK was formed in August 1999. Our first meeting was at the "Eclipse run", where a large group of deaf motorcyclists from all parts of the United Kingdom met on one campsite in Cornwall'.



the spring, summer and autumn seasons'. During several winters, we've held DeafBikersUK's Winter Parties'.

'We received generous support from

'The Deaf Bikers club is run on a volunteer basis, is non-profit making and caters for deaf and hard of hearing motorcyclists of all ages, both male and female. Bikes range from 50cc moped to unlimited size. Over the past few months, we've met at various meeting points, attend motorcycle rallies, shows, camping weekends, bike runs etc'.

'We made our first European tour with a group of Deaf Bikers in 2001, which was seen as a success and then expanded in 2002 to include our first contact with the European DeafBikers in a Belgian DeafBikers Rally during May 2002. Since then as years grew we've made several other successful European tours and getting to know DeafBikers from different countries, therefore enriching the newfound culture of DeafBikers world. At the same time we meet regularly at different locations around the UK during

BMF, MAG, Christian Motorcyclists' Association (CMA) and various other groups over the years in our events: such as in 2 previous bike rallies: one in Market Harborough in June 2004 and again in June 2006 in Letchworth. As you are aware, CMA had generously and still is actively supporting Deaf bikers UK in the forthcoming rally'.

The third DeafBikers' rally will be held in June 2009 to coincide the DeafBikersUK's 10 Years Anniversary and the rally will be celebrated as such.

'The club is used solely for deaf motorcycle riders (past riders are welcome as well). Hearing bikers are welcome, in which we share our DeafBikers culture with (in fact anyone else are welcome!) to join if they wish to get together for motorcycle rides, events, information, learn about not only our generic Deaf culture and British Sign Language (BSL)'.

DeafBikers Regions across the UK:
DeafBikers UK London & Southeast
England
DeafBikers UK Central England
DeafBikers UK East England
DeafBikers UK South East England &
Wales
DeafBikers UK North England & Scotland'

These are just a few lines from
DeafBikers UK website. Please visit
<http://www.deafbikers.org.uk/> for more
information.

Adam Walker
Chairman of DeafBikers UK.

Elise and I became members after being
invited along with East Midlands Branch
of CMA to attend the 1st DeafBikers UK
International Rally at Market Harborough
in 2004.

Letchworth, in June 2006, was the venue
for the 2nd DeafBikers UK International
Rally. CMA were invited and again
provided a Holy Joes Café.

For more information on the previous
rallies and our involvement, please visit:
<http://www.ontheroadforjesus.org/deafbikersuk.htm>

This is the 10th year of DeafBikers UK
and to mark the occasion, The 10th Year

Anniversary Rally (International) is taking
place on: 19th 20th June 2009 At:-
Reading Abbey Rugby Club, Rose Hill,
Peppard Road,
Emmer Green, Reading, RG4 8XA
On the B481 from A4155/A4/A33 North
Reading.

For tickets or other enquiries email
ticket@deafbikers.org.uk

The rally is expected to attract a large
number of Deaf Bikers from all over
Europe, and there will be a full weekend
of activities for all the family.

CMA will be there from Thursday 18 June
2009 with a Holy Joes Café.

Please come along and meet our Deaf
Biker friends from UK and Europe.

Looking forward to seeing you.

David and Elise Whittall
Email: david@ontheroadforjesus.org

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

Note. CMA. If you would like to help with
the staffing of the Holy Joes Café, please
contact me at
david@ontheroadforjesus.org



CMA International Leaders' Conference 2008. Iron Mountain, Mena, Arkansas, USA by Mike Fitton, National Chairman, CMA UK.



Mike Fitton, Herb Shreve and Ted Russell

Each year I receive an invitation to attend the CMA International Leaders' Conference, so I thought I would explain what we get up to and the purpose of our meetings.

In December 2008, CMA USA hosted the conference and, as usual, fully funded all the expenses for the President of each country to attend; that includes air travel, accommodation in a local motel and food for the entire time I am there. As you can imagine that is a huge commitment and we are all very grateful for their support.

On the morning of my departure Sandy and Emma dropped me off at Durham Tees Valley Airport at the crack of dawn to catch a flight to Amsterdam, the first flight. As I landed in Holland, I met up with Ted

Russell who was travelling with me and after a short wait we took off to Memphis with American Airlines; the flight took approximately eight hours-the second flight. On arrival in Memphis we checked our bags, negotiated passport control (I was checked through by the same officer as last time who didn't smile until I told him why I was visiting the US - a brief explanation about CMA really made his day) and grabbed a quick half awake snack before our third flight to Little Rock which takes an hour.

At Little Rock it was now approximately 9pm and we met up with CMA leaders from Ireland, Spain, Serbia, Germany and Latvia. Sadly, Matti from Albania was turned back at customs for not having

We had wonderful times of fellowship in their RV, meeting other CMA members and I am not ashamed to say shedding a few tears as we heard testimonies of God's Grace in action.

There are numerous vendors on site selling bike gear, including trailer tents for bikes; they are called 'Bunkhouses'. They have king size beds, electric ice boxes and would you believe it air conditioning units for those living in the southern states!!! Most folk ride Harleys or Gold Wings, so they have the towing power. They think nothing about riding 1500 miles to a rally, so I suppose the comfort comes in handy.

The finale of the rally is really a mass ride into Mena town. We were unable to borrow bikes, so we watched as hundreds of them rode past. It's a moving sight as the local community stands pointing to heaven as a tribute to CMA's ministry.

Our Leaders' Conference is held at Iron Mountain after the rally closes and it involves further updates on what each country is doing and, in particular, the need to discuss at length the details of the International Ministry Agreement. You may recall I explained in the past that all CMA countries are equal under the agreement we compiled together. No changes can be made without a joint decision of Presidents from each country agreeing and, contrary to the belief of some, the USA or South Africa do not lead CMA. They have the resources and infrastructure to organise events and meet with countries that are interested in starting up CMA. Rene Changuion is the International Coordinator and is part funded to visit countries to discuss the process of joining the ministry. John Ogden the CEO of CMA USA has repeatedly told us that any resources they have we can use. Anything that will enhance what we do is available to the

UK. We prayed for Arturs from Latvia as he began the process of building CMA in his country. Since then, Iceland, Paraguay and Nepal have joined CMA too; it's amazing to be part of this ministry isn't it!

We had the privilege of meeting the man who felt the call of God as a non biker to start an outreach over thirty years ago that ultimately became the CMA in the USA His name is Herb Shreve.

At the end of the conference it was my birthday and I said goodbye to all the international delegates as they left for home, I stayed on to take a birthday (51yrs old ahhh!!) wide mouth bass fishing trip with a friend from Mena. I flew home the next day, via Little Rock, Memphis, Amsterdam and Durham Tees Valley. It was a wonderful privilege to go to the conference, to minister to and encourage other leaders and their wives and to see God at work, reaching the bikers of this world.

I usually take a few days to overcome the jet lag fatigue but it is always worth it.

When you hear of me going in the future, please pray for me that I will know God's hand upon me as I represent CMA UK. His anointing upon each conversation I have, each opportunity to speak from the platform and for Sandy and Emma while I am away; without their support this would not be possible.

We are not a country alone in CMA. We are part of the worldwide ministry of CMA, ordained by God. It's not us and them. We are CMA and I am delighted that we are all serving God together.

Thank you for your prayers and support.



Scenes from the National rally 2008



Major CMA National Events List, 2009

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.

February 21st to the 22nd National Leaders' Meeting on Saturday and CMA participation in the church service on Sunday at North Camp Methodist Church, 45 Lynchford Rd., Farnborough, Hampshire GU14 6NB.

April 18th National AGM at New Life Church, Danesford Community Centre, West Road, Congleton, Cheshire, CW12 4EY. Further detail to follow.

May 16th to the 17th National BMF Show at East of England Showground, Peterborough. This is a major event for CMA outreach.

June 19th to the 21st National MAG 'Farmyard Party' at Duncombe Park, Helmsley, North Yorkshire. CMA will run a Holy Joe's Cafe (contact Keith Skinner at akskinnerster@googlemail.com) over the weekend and be involved in marshalling the event (contact Glen Knight at knightraider@lineone.net).

July 23rd to the 26th CMA National Rally at Storthes Hall Park, Storthes Hall Lane, Kirkburton, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, HD8 0WA.

30th July to the 2nd of August EMC Rally at Betlem Campsite in Tepla, Czech Republic. This is a family rally for European Christian Bike Clubs and Ministries and will be a great time of fellowship, fun and feeding. See the links <http://maps.google.com/maps?ie=UTF-8&hl=en&tab=wl> http://www.autokempbetlem.cz/index_en.html

October 17th to the 18th National Autumn Leaders' meeting on Saturday, with fellowship until Sunday. Venue is to be arranged.

October 23rd to the 25th National CMA Ladies' Conference at The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Alfreton, Derbyshire DE55 1AU



Find out about many other events where the CMA get involved by going to www.bike.org.uk Look on left for Events all Branches or look on left for RSS feed, where all the branch events are listed.

Contact the branch. We will be pleased to hear from you.

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



EMC 2009

WHAT:

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

WHEN:

30.07. - 02.08.2009

WHERE:

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

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

The National CMA 30th Rally 2009

**'JOEL' 23rd to 26th July 2009
will be held at Storthes Hall, Huddersfield**

(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.

***Please see the 4 page leaflet with this magazine
for Booking form and information sheet***

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. also see

<http://www.stortheshall.co.uk/video.html>

http://www.virtualhuddersfield.com/virtualvideo_digs.htm





EMC Rally Holland 2008

View from the sofa

by Pete Crane, East Midlands Branch.

(A personal outlook at biking by Pete Crane) Stopping to help

A couple of years ago I was working on a Saturday. I was driving a lorry up the A5 north of Towcester. I had just passed Jack's Hill Café, when I saw a guy riding a Harley coming towards me. I



assumed he was heading to the Harley Dealer in Towcester and felt somewhat jealous. Not of his bike, I personally wouldn't give a Harley garage space, but of the fact that he was free on a nice Saturday morning to ride around posing while I had to work.

I began to imagine myself riding my sidecar outfit down the A5 to the Café, munching a big breakfast, chatting to other bikers there and then riding over to scrounge a cup of tea at Euroclassics in Northampton, the local BMW Independent who had sold me the bike.

I hadn't been checking my mirrors much and this became apparent as there was a huge noise as three big jap sports bikes passed me at a heck of a speed, fleece jackets flapping in the wind. Again I felt well miffed that they were out enjoying themselves and I wasn't. I consoled myself with the thought that although they were riding a lot faster than I ever did, at least I could be pretty confident that for all their skill (or was it just bottle) they probably couldn't even keep a sidecar outfit in a straight line.

As I was pondering this, I saw a guy, quite a way ahead, standing on the grass verge

next to a bike on its side stand at the edge of the road. It looked like he'd broken down, as it wasn't a place you'd choose to stop. As I passed, I noticed it was a Laverda Jota, "THE" Superbike to

have in my younger days. Memories of the old poster in a mate's flat, Elizabeth's Taxi, custom paint job, monoshock framed Jota, what a machine!

But as soon as I was past him I immediately felt guilty that I hadn't been able to stop and help him. Unfortunately, I was driving a Propane Gas Tanker and the law concerning how, where and when you can stop, prevented me from doing so.

But it raised the question in my mind; how come the guy on the Harley or the three sports bike riders hadn't stopped. Part of the camaraderie of riding bikes always used to be that if you found yourself in trouble any other passing rider used to stop and lend a hand. It was part of what separated us from the general car driving public. A sense of belonging, sticking together, helping those who we don't know, but have at least one thing in common with. I have stopped many times over the years, sometimes to lend a hand or a piece of toolkit, trying to repair a bike, others to take a rider pillion to the nearest petrol station and return him with a newly purchased can full of fuel. But even when the offer of help has been refused,

it doesn't put me off. In fact, in recent years, when I have pulled over to ask if everything is O.K., younger riders seem shocked that I have bothered. But in my younger days I would have expected the first passing motorcycle to pull in and ask "you all right mate?" I began to wonder why people don't seem to stop much these days. I can only think that as most bike insurance policies have breakdown cover, and most of us have mobile phones, people assume there is nothing they can do to help. This, along with the increasing complexity of modern bikes, means many breakdowns cannot be fixed at the roadside.

But what if the rider doesn't have a phone or his phone has a flat battery or no credit, surely pulling over and letting them use your phone isn't too much hardship.

And if running out of fuel is the problem I'm sure a ride to the nearest petrol station and back would be a lot quicker than waiting for a mechanic to respond.

I do feel that people think that because they would be alright in such a situation then so would everybody else and therefore they just can't be bothered.

But it is so nice to have someone take an interest in your situation and offer to help,

even if they can't be of use.

So next time you see a rider in such a situation, just pull in and ask if he's O.K., How much will that cost you in time or money? Are you really that busy and poor that you can't afford to stop and just enquire.

A cautionary tale though. An old friend of mine tells the story of seeing a guy trying to fix a scooter in a lay by. Being on a BSA A10 with a sidecar, he always carried a comprehensive toolkit, for both reasons of necessity (an old BSA) and the ability to do so (a big sidecar). Even though his tools would have been imperial and the scooter would have been metric, he decided to turn around and go back to offer his help. By the time the he got to the scooter its rider was halfway across an adjoining field, fleeing from the perceived threat of a six foot tall, long haired biker, who then had to shout after him.

"I only stopped to see if you needed a hand"

So what about that Saturday morning?

You see, if I had been able to stop, I would have done. Even if I couldn't have been much help.

I'd have stopped just to look at the Jota!



Hoggin' the Bridge event (October 08)

by Liz Robertson, Gloucester Branch.

Introduction:

The theme and reading for the morning service at Chepstow Baptist was Ephesians 6 v 10-17. We really sensed that this day was a 'battle'; our enemy, of course, is Satan, not those he ensnares.



After a briefing with all parties, spirits were further rallied by the morning service at the Baptist church, in which Gloucester members addressed the assembled company. Several personnel were then

dispatched to take up their stations in the two main car parks to hand out invitations to 'engage'. Intrepid commandos, Martin from Bristol and Mark and Margaret from Gloucester, entered the fray by joining with the several thousand riders riding across the Severn Bridge.

'Into Battle!'

Occasion: 'Hoggin' the bridge' charity bike ride (organised by Bridgewater HOG)

Reconnaissance: Preliminary plans were briefly discussed in September 2008. Terms of engagement agreed with allies, forming an allegiance between CMA and Chepstow Baptist Church (representing Chepstow Churches Together).

Battle plan: An alliance of CMA Gloucester, Bristol, West Midlands, Bedford and other supporters, and members of Chepstow Baptist, would engage a two-pronged advance: a helmet park and HJs café, to take place at Chepstow Baptist Church.

Action stations: Advanced party from CMA Bedford arrived in Gloucester at 7.30am, in the form of Harley Pete! After rations of tea, Pete and the Gloucester battalion advanced guard (Alan, Liz Sue O'Dell, Peter Steele and Bethany) manoeuvred down the A48 to Chepstow, where they were joined by more Gloucester members Colin Wright, Brian Jenner; Chris Tennant from West Midlands, Enice Lowther from Bristol and other friends from Bath and Redditch. Battalion colours (HJ banner) were hung outside HQ (Chepstow Baptist).

Mentioned in dispatches: Many reinforcements from Chepstow Baptist worked tirelessly in the field; supplying hot drinks and friendliness to all those in the theatre of engagement. All CMA contingent acquitted themselves magnificently; many conversations, listening to people's stories, being a friend. Nearly 50 Bibles were given away during the day, as well as leaflets. CMA definitely 'made their mark' at the event.

Debrief: It had been an exciting, exhilarating day. We had taken the battle to the enemy, trod on his turf, claiming the ground for the Kingdom. We pray that God's word will have pierced the defences of many who were in Chepstow that day. Hoggin' the Bridge 2009 promises to be even more amazing as we begin now to plan for a possible CMA stand, and helmet parks and HJs in other locations, as well as the Baptist church. We would like to thank Roger Taylor, minister of the Baptist Church; he caught the vision for this work originally. Will YOU join us in October this year in Chepstow?

Hoggin' the Bridge event October 2008

Mark and I found it an amazing experience, riding with thousands of other Harley riders over the Severn Bridge and into Chepstow. There was a good feeling between the bikers and the crowds who were waving and cheering us on. The elderly guy sitting outside his house with an empty chair beside him with a sign saying 'Biker Chick Wanted' made me smile.

When we arrived at Chepstow we met up with the rest of Glos branch at the Baptist Church and this time we stood by the roadside, waving to the riders going by. It was a good feeling to give as well as to receive!

Hoggin the Bridge was definitely one of the highlights of the year and I'm really looking forward to the next one in 2009.

Margaret Wade, Gloucester Branch

Hoggin' the Bridge event October 2008

It was the first time I had attended this event and I was amazed at the number of Harley Davidsons. The atmosphere was very friendly and brought Chepstow alive. At the Baptist Church, where we were running the Helmet Park & Café, things were quieter but we had a steady stream of visitors. It was a good first year and has bags of potential for the future. It was good to wander around the centre and

feel the buzz. I bumped into friends from MAG as I went around and everyone was having a good time. The icing on the cake, for me, was riding there and back in the sidecar on Alan Robertson's Triumph Tiger outfit, which is somewhat less sedate than riding a Harley!

Sue O'Dell, Gloucester Branch



Testimony

by Gaynor Barber, SAS Branch

I became a silent Christian when I entered my second marriage to a non-believer. He had great admiration for many religions but was very abusive towards Christians.

During those years I had three children whom I love and tried to bring up with Christian values. I became a proud

Grandmother to four beautiful Grandchildren.

I also had problems with a degenerative spine that had me walking on two crutches for many years.

As the relationship progressed, I had a lot of trouble coping with the abusive marriage and started to drink, take drugs and entered the bike scene. All through this I was determined to stay in the marriage until my youngest was eighteen.

After twenty-seven years, I finally came out of that relationship when my youngest was nineteen. On my own for the first time, I found the world a frightening place but the Lord was waiting.

I no longer felt the need for drink or drugs but needed to find a place where I could communicate with the Lord and hear what he had to say. Strangely, this was in a mobile home site where the carnie people stayed for the winter.

I went to a local church where I now



lived and resumed my relationship with the Lord. I could now openly and comfortably talk to the Lord and ask for his guidance.

He has led me along many a difficult path, but also some very pleasant and uplifting ones too.

One weekend, I was led to a biker weekend at

Beaulieu, where I found the CMA stand. There in the background, was Sarge. There followed a time of many rides to different members churches and places of witness. Also, I asked for help with Bible study, which Sarge promptly volunteered for.

At this time I was living in East Grinstead in a bed-sit. Later, I found this was in a house full of scientologists and, unbeknown to me, I was being groomed to join them.

I was kept safe by my strong faith in the Lord and Sarge who helped me to escape from the scientologists after a high-speed chase down the M23.

Sarge and I have since married and continue on our journey together with the Lord's guidance.

The Lord has always let me know He is there for me and cares for me.

Keep safe in the Lord.

Are you ready for the new season?

by Rev Peter Clapham, West Mid Branch.

They say a young man's fancy turns in the Spring, when you get to my age you have to start a little earlier. I am talking about getting your bike ready for the riding season! We all have our yearly ritual of polishing, oiling, servicing, etc. We make sure our kit is in good order so we can strut our stuff out on the highway. Some of you may



laugh, as like me you are all year round riders. There is lots of talk in the motorcycle press about getting yourself mentally ready for getting back on your bike, with lots of good advice about taking it easy for the first mile or two.

Are you Spiritually ready for the new season of rallies and events with the C.M.A.? What happens if you meet an enquiring non believer, who asks you to explain what the Biker Bible you have just given them is all about? What is your response to this wonderful gift of a question? Tell them to go and read the testimonies and stories?, or can you explain the wonderful gift of Jesus' plan of salvation, free of charge, for them. If our bike, kit or us are not ready, then we have

a bad ride when we get out on the road. Spiritually we feel bad that we have witnessed another failed opportunity that makes it harder next time we talk to somebody.

I would like to give you all a K.I.S.S (keep it simple stupid) to help you get fit when you talk to that person who asks the awkward question. I was

looking at our American friends' web site and found an absolutely wonderful accessory to help out at those difficult times. Written in easy understand biker language. It is called the Ride Plan that makes the message of the Gospel relevant and understandable, not using big words that we do not understand, let alone a non-churched person. I am let going to chunter on about it, but just ask you to go on the web site, read it, print a copy off and carry it in your kit when you go out on your bike.

The Ride Plan can be found on the following web page http://www.cmausa.org/ride_plan/ Pray before you read it and enjoy the rest of the site.



URGENT MESSAGE FROM CHRIS CLIFTON, KENT BRANCH:- Fail to read it at your peril - Unwitting motorists face £1,000 fines as thousands of photocard driving licences expire. They risk prosecution after failing to spot the extremely small print on their photocard licence which says it automatically expires after 10 years and has to be renewed, even though drivers are licensed to drive until the age of 70. The fiasco has come to light a decade after the first batch of photo licences was issued in July 1998, just as they start to expire. The DVLA said no one had so far been charged with failing to surrender a licence.

**Join the CMA at the many rallies and events that can be found at:- www.bike.org.uk
look for RSS Feed or Events on the left.
Phone us on UK freefone 0800 0154479 for more information.**



Going the right way?

by John Grant, Northern Ireland Branch.

In June of 2008, CMA Northern Ireland did a 20th Anniversary run through the 32 counties of Ireland.

I was just getting back into CMA after a 4 or 5 year break, but decided to go along to "Get some miles under my belt" and meet up with the changed faces within CMA Northern Ireland.

The run was led by Jim, whom I had only met once before.

We covered around 900 miles over the weekend.

It occurred to me at one point, deep in Southern Ireland -

"I am riding along here with 6 other people, most of whom I don't know, in a country I don't know, without a map or directions. I have no idea where we are going or how long it is going to take. If I lose the people up ahead I am completely lost. In these circumstances I am following a man I barely know.

I was reminded how Jesus called His disciples to "follow me". The Bible doesn't record if He told them where He was going or where He would take them. He just said "Follow me".

At one point on the first day the ride had got strung out (there were about 12 bikes at this time) and I was towards the rear of



the group going through Sligo. I forgot that two riders had said that they were returning home once we got to Sligo. Suddenly, the two bikes in front of me turned off, whilst others both behind and in front kept straight on; who was right, who was wrong? Had some of the guys made a mistake in the route? I initially followed the two guys, but almost immediately knew I had made a mistake. I

quickly turned the bike around and rapidly headed back to try and find the main group. It was surprising how far ahead they had got in such a short time. I was worried, I have to say, but relieved when I caught up with the main group after a few sets of traffic lights.

How easy it is to follow good people in a wrong direction in our Christian lives. We are told to "fix our eyes on Jesus the author and finisher of our faith". Good people can take wrong turns. Good people can lead others astray.

When Jesus said "Follow me" he meant "Follow me". Even if you appear to be the only one going that way, if you are truly following Jesus, then you are going the right way.

**Stay on track,
finish the journey,
finish it well.**

To wear or not to wear

by Rev. Bob Bogart, West Midlands Branch.

That is the question

Reflective vests just make sense! Here's Barbara sporting her hi-visibility vests with Kenilworth Castle in the background. While driving the car, I often play the motorway game of spotting motorbikes in the distance. Without question, those bikers who wear reflective clothing stand out more, even from great distances away, yet it seems so few of us take the time to actually don such sensible apparel. Could it possibly be down to a sense of pride? We've been around the block, so to speak, on our bikes and have outgrown such things as L plates and bright yellow jackets. We know the ropes and furthermore, our white crosses are a great witness to those driving behind. Maybe so, but with so many of our CMA bikers either getting knocked down or experiencing close calls on the road, it might be a good time to re-think the idea of some additional visual aids. Let's make 2009 the safest year yet for our CMA UK members and affiliates. Keep riding, be visible and keep the shiny side up.



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

(Aberdeenshire and Mearns Twig)
Forth and Tay
Rest of Scotland
Scottish Borders

Midlands

East Midlands
West Midlands
Stafford
Bedford
Norfolk

Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland

North East

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

North West

North Cheshire
Lakes N' Lancs.

South West

Bristol
Gloucester
Devon & Cornwall
(Somerset & North Devon twig)

Wales

North & West Wales
South Wales

South East

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



CMA is established in the following countries

Albania	Napal
Argentina	Netherlands
Australia	New Zealand
Belgium	Paraguay
Canada	Philippines
Dubai (United-Arab Emirates)	Poland
France	Portugal
Germany	Serbia
Hungary	South Africa
Iceland	Spain
Ireland	United Kingdom
Mexico	USA
Namibia	Zambia
	Zimbabwe

Around the world

By Barrie Lawrence, Norfolk Branch.

I suppose I'm a traveller! I have never really seen myself as such, but people tell me I am, so it must be! But then I have to travel, because for one thing, I have four daughters living in 4 different countries, who themselves tend to move



countries periodically. So the one who lived in New Zealand for 12 years has just moved to Abu Dhabi, and the one who lived in Bosnia for 11 years moved to the Netherlands 2 years ago, and the other two seem reasonable, fixed in England and France respectively. And then again my wife and I sometimes travel to different countries on behalf of our church. Also, we simply like to go and see places!

I have a 'mission statement' for my life, which some people tell me makes them want to throw up. It goes like this, "My mission on this earth is to please God and make Wendy's (my wife) dreams come true". So when I proposed marriage, I asked Wendy what her dreams were. She had been living by herself for some years, and loved travel and nature programmes on TV. Her number one dream was the Galapagos ("Where?" I asked) and number two was the Great Wall of China, and I couldn't afford either of them at the time. But dream number three was to go on safari, and so that's what we did for honeymoon. The other dreams came true for her a few years later!

There are wonderful places to visit in this country, our favourites are being Lake District and the Derbyshire Dales. But there are the Yorkshire moors, the New Forest, Scottish Highlands, and so many beautiful and interesting cities. I could go on, and on!

Over the years I have found a spiritual aspect to my travelling, in that I have come to pray for cities and nations when I visit them. I have prayed for many European cities and for nations around the world and on all continents. Why? Because

Jesus told us to pray, and I know that God hears me when I do so. So, when you travel, pray. Pray for the cities, for God's people who live there, and for God's churches that serve Him there. Pray for revival for nations, that the Spirit of God would sweep through them, changing the lives of millions and extending the kingdom of God on earth.

Another thing I do, especially when abroad, is pray for people in need back home. I often focus on just one person, pray for them, and send them a postcard! God hears and God answers. A lady had stopped coming to our church because something someone had said had upset her, so we would pray for her and, when we went away, we would send her a postcard. After six months or so of this, we returned from a two-week break to find her not only in church, but going to the front and beaming at us as she recounted how loved she felt, receiving the occasional postcard from us and knew we were praying. As I said, God hears and God answers.

So enjoy this wonderful world that God has given us, of mountains, rivers, lakes, snowfields, deserts, forests, flowers; of interesting cities and infinite variety. Remember that He hears and answers, and so you too can have a part in changing the lives of cities and nations, and those in need back home.

The Boundary Classic Motorcycle Challenge 2008

by Bill Bartle, North East Branch.

Neither Paul (N.E. Chair) or I were on 'classics' when we turned up at Hurworth on Tees for the start of this run. It was part of a weekend organised by Cleveland Fire Service to raise money for the Great North Air Ambulance.

For the really hard riders, the Boundary consisted of coastline of Britain. Next came a run around the North East, as far as the Scottish Borders (about 400 miles) Our 'baby' run around North Yorkshire was originally open to classics only, but had proved so popular that it was open to all bikes.

As I said, Paul's R80R and my N.T.V. are not classics, although I have been invited to join the Vintage Japanese Club! The 125 miles to be covered seemed at first glance to be a tour of North Yorks eating places, so we were looking forward to it. First stop was Lord Stones Cafe on the edge of the Cleveland hills. Views of Teeside and the Durham coast opened up as we ascended the steep approach road. The cafe itself is built into the hillside and is a popular bikers meet. Here, Paul treated me to a bacon butty, eaten to the sound of screeching birds, Guinea fowl, or bikers!

Next stop was Brymor ice cream parlour, near Bedale. It was a little cool for ice cream, but, in the interest of research, we had some. Here a brief description of the noise emitted by a passing Harley took place. After nearly 50 years of being



condemned for riding 'those horrible noisy machines', I was impressed. With friends like that, who needs enemies?

The Wensleydale cheese factory came next; Wallace and Grommet country. Strolling round Hawes we came across a group of Monkey

Bikers. (if that's the right name) It is amazing what they do to these miniature bikes. Trick suspension, nickel coated frames, superchargers, no expense spared.

I brought some of the famous cheese for my wife and got into trouble later for eating most of it!

The route back to Hurworth took in Thwaite where scones and jam topped up already full stomachs. here I was given £10 by a lady rambler when she found out why all the bikes were there.

A couple of observations. Since we were obliged to stick to the speed limits or be excluded, we seemed to arrive at each stop with the same people. The guy solo on his Blackbird made the same time as the one , two up on his MZ250. A lesson here I think. Frequent stops, and the fact that we were wearing CMA gear, meant that we had lots of opportunity to chat to people about what the CMA is. Whilst all the time raising money for a good cause. I hope to do it again next year and encourage as many white crosses, to join me as possible.

CMA life in the South West

by Stephen Hague, Devon and Cornwall Branch.



There is life in the South West with the Devon and Cornwall Branch. Since becoming a branch in 2006 we have grown both in numbers and the number of events we attended over the successive two years.

The branch was started with three members and now has twelve members and affiliates. In 2007, we started a twig in the Taunton area (SAND Somerset and North Devon), which has eight members and affiliates.

Like most branches we have taken part in a varied list of activities including biker events, church runs, visiting local Youth clubs and other organisations.

In South Devon, a lot of the biking events are held in Paignton and the biking year starts with the Paignton Bike Festival, which is held during the first weekend of May. It is held on Paignton green and is getting bigger every year. This event is organised by BMAD (Bikers Make a Difference) and all the profits go to charity. From the end of May to the end of September BMAD organise Bike Night

every Wednesday evening, held on the sea front in Paignton. Some weeks over 1,000 bikes are there and we try to ensure that there is a CMA presence. On the last bike night of this year, over 40 bikes were taken and we had conversations with several bikers about the work of CMA.

In June, the Plymouth Mega Ride is held for bikers from all over the south west. Over 6,000 bikers join the ride, which starts at Lee Mill and heads towards Exeter, before it turns round and goes to the Hoe in Plymouth, where there are stands and other events. There are over 6000 bikes on the ride and stands.

We are getting known among local bikers and they know what we stand for and they are happy for us to share our faith among the biker community.

The Branch was contacted by a family of a local biker who had died, asking whether CMA could take the service and ride behind the hearse, which we did.

The branch also takes part in services in churches in Devon and Cornwall. This year the Branch and Twig went to a

Methodist Church in Tiverton, where we took part in the morning and evening services and our members spoke at both services. Before the evening service, the minister went out for his first ride on the back of a bike with one of our members. He was very nervous, but came back from a ride round the block with a big smile on his face.

The biking season closes with the West Country Bike show on the last weekend of September, held at the Newton Abbot racecourse.

Devon and Cornwall branch meet on the second Monday of the month in Torquay

at the Salvation Army, as the Major is one of our members. Our best attended meeting is usually the December meeting, when we meet at the home of one of our members for a Christmas dinner. His wife is a wonderful cook and hostess. Other well attended meetings include Mike Fitton's annual visit, which is always popular and a BBQ.

In our next meeting we are to seek God's intention for the future of our branch and look forward to an increase in membership as we aim to continue to bring God's word to the Bikers of Devon and Cornwall.

What happens to the Biker Bibles we give out?

Mike Fitton, CMA (UK) National Chairman

Let me share a short story about a 72yr old biker called Bill. He had been an atheist all his life and then contracted Motor Neurone Disease. His doctor (a non Christian) saw that he was dying without hope and told Bill that she had just the thing he needed to read. She went home and took him a Biker Bible that I had given her a year previously. Bill read it and the twenty four personal testimonies of European bikers, who's lives had been transformed by Jesus. He asked if he could see me after Christmas as he was hooked up to a ventilator and wanted to spend that time with his family. However, on Boxing Day morning (26th December) surrounded by his family, Bill passed away before I could meet him. The next day his wife Jean rang me and asked if I would take his funeral. We met, and I shared the Gospel with her. She said that she felt sure that Bill had met with Jesus for the first time before he died. He died in peace, something he had never known in his life before.

The funeral was a mighty blessing, with

many sharing how God had touched them in their grief for his loss, yet felt encouraged by Christ's Hope. I had the opportunity to show everyone a Biker Bible and relate Bill's experience as I preached the Gospel.

You see as you and I meet people and hand them the Word of God we have no idea at all where that bible will end up and who that bible is destined to bring to the Cross. It may be another Bill, a retired atheist biker, who is dying without Hope. We must never forget the retired bikers; they need Jesus.



A visit from South Africa

by Geraldine Ruskin, Bristol Branch.

Ever had one of those moments? I did. I was quietly getting on with my work when there was a phone call from Nick. He informed me that he was chatting with three 'chaps' from South Africa who are in England on a course. (Chaps; meaning nice

blokes, is a 'Nickism' for any that have not met him!)

While I was aware that Nick would be meeting with them, I wasn't prepared for the next stage, which was having a meal together in the evening. Not a problem in itself, except that I had not done the weekly shop! And I was the cook for the evening! Now all you ladies amongst us will understand the panic that ensued in my heart.

Nick had met them at Gordano services for a chat and dragged them home so that I could meet them and, also so they could have a break from eating in cafés etc. They are staying in Yeovil and managing to see quite a bit of the West Country and South Wales. As it is summer in South Africa they are finding the cold hard to bear and were delighted to come into the warm! Although they did say that even though England is a cold country, we do appear to have the talent for keeping our homes and other buildings warm.

Well, I got home, actually Nick fetched me from work. and I was introduced to three very charming gentlemen. Two are active members of CMA SA and the other was



'just a work colleague'. It was a privilege to meet them and I realised that sometimes I let the cares of this world get in the way of meeting with our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Our granddaughter, Erin arrived whilst they were with us and entertained

them as only a three year old can. No inhibitions about not knowing them or why they are here. They 'must be okay as they are in Granny and Grandad's house!' She went around and gave each of them a hug good bye when she left, showing Gods love from a child's perspective.

We were able to discuss our different perspectives of what CMA means and why we belong. There was a wonderful opportunity to understand how God blesses us where we are and not how we think we should be.

It was a wonderful opportunity to understand that although we do things differently in CMA UK, we are all working towards God's glory and not to fulfil some imagined self interest. It was a reminder to me that as Christians we must not impose our way of evangelising the Gospel on others. It's the very fact that we are living it that is important.

PS. We had sausage casserole, boiled new potatoes and mixed vegetables for our meal! Why was I worried, when I should know God provides, and so many go without in this world.

God is Alive

by Colin Wright, Gloucester Branch.

God is alive and working well at Y3C Free Summer Festival.

Earlier this year I had an e-mail come to me, via the CMA website. It was a request from a local church for CMA presence at a Free Festival in Dursley and Cam.

Imagine the enquirer's surprise when I replied that I already knew about the event. I was giving support as a member of one of the other local churches (Cam Congregational Church).

Last year Cotswold Community Church had the vision for the biggest outreach (mainly to youth) that Dursley and Cam had ever seen. It was to be held on the local recreation ground.

With just three months to go to the event, Cotswold Community Church and Cam Congregational Church merged to become 3C Community Church. We were busy.

On Tuesday, about 20 of us erected what was potentially a 900 seater marquee. We nearly lost it in the wind!

Wednesday: Toilets and floodlights arrived, and the first event took place in the evening, including a home grown 60's group called the "Should be" band. Then the generator broke down!

Thursday and Friday the rain came, and came, and came! and I was not well. As many of you know, I have suffered from Non Epileptic attacks. On Thursday



evening they manifested themselves several times. I was having at least one a day.

Where was God in all this?

On Friday evening, during an event called "Youth Aloud", 35 youngsters responded to the Gospel message. There was also as much ministry going on outside the marquee as on the inside.

Kids and young adults (some full of booze and drugs) were listening to the gospel message. Realising that their lives were in a mess, they admitted they wanted help to change.

And where was the CMA?

As the sun shone on Saturday and Sunday we were there with our bikes. Sharing the Gospel and sharing our bikes. What about my health?

Having worked 18+ hour days, and sleeping over as security, I was a wreck. During the Sunday morning service I went forward for prayer. I was in emotional, mental and physical meltdown.

When I was prayed for, I keeled over as the Holy Spirit touched me. I could not stop laughing.

God reached down and healed me. I haven't had a non epileptic episode all week!

He also gave me a new name: RELENTLESS.

Why Relentless you may ask?

Because that is the way God has asked me to follow and serve Him, Relentlessly.

NABD Rally, 2008

by George Mackie, Forth and Tay Branch



The Holy Joe's cafe for coffee and tea.

God, I believe, opened two doors in particular this year for Forth and Tay. The first was an invite by the President of the Scottish Road Racing Club to have a stand at the 60 Year Celebration of Scottish Road Racing. Challenge duly accepted, we took a stand for the two days of the event and, although the weather was not very good, approximately 140 bibles were taken by passers-by.

The last weekend in August found Forth and Tay bringing the presence of a Holy Joe's cafe to a biker rally in Scotland for the very first time. The National Association for Bikers with a Disability (NABD) invited CMA to have a stand at their annual rally way back in March, and plans were firmed up when CMA and NABD spoke together again at the Kelso Bike Fest. Mike Fitton, supporting Borders branch at Kelso, exercised his impressive negotiating skills to gain us stall holder's entrance free of charge, which was a blessing.

North East branch kindly loaned us their cafe kit and on Thursday we all had fun trying to stop the various walls and roof flying away long enough to get them linked together. It was very windy! The cafe opened officially at noon on Friday and went through to 2.30am the following morning. There was a queue at the door at 7.15am the next morning and that story was repeated on Saturday.

Holy Joe's was very well received (particularly the hot chocolate "special" with scooshy cream and a flake), many of the attending bikers having had experience of the cafe previously at 'Storming the Castle'. Trade was brisk early morning and again in late evening and although no-one asked for prayer, many good conversations were held with rally goers and more than 120 bibles were taken. We were also able to make links with other bike clubs, such as the Hillbillies MCC and the Rampant Lion Rally Club.

We've been invited back for the 2009



NABD rally, when we'll be attending our second bikers' wedding. Two NABD members are planning to marry at the rally and the groom, Kenny, spoke to Forth and Tay members about the possibility of

Holy Joe's being involved in their big day. Many thanks to all the CMA members who supported the cafe and covered us with prayer over the weekend. Special thanks to Mike Fitton for driving many miles with the tent trailer to ensure this event happened.

Not having been to a non-Christian biker rally before, I did not really know how we as Christians would be received or what

to expect, but I have to say we were made very welcome. There was a bit of "testing us out", but once the rally-goers understood that we were just biking people like them, then barriers were removed. The NABD bikers certainly enjoyed themselves with both the music and the beer and I think our cafe was a welcome break and a seat for many to chill out, lingering long. It was not until driving home on Sunday afternoon that it dawned on me that we had erected, dismantled and packed away the cafe in the Trossachs in the dry. It didn't rain until I was on my way home. Thank God!

I should like to say a special thanks to all who rallied to the cause. Indeed, many helpers have said they were inspired by the experience and I think some old ex-CMAers have perhaps been fired up to join again. Onwards and upwards. God is good.



Sent in by Clive James.

Taken from the book

"A Box of Delights' by J. John and Mark Stibbe

The TV is my shepherd, I shall not want.
It makes me lie down on the sofa
it leads me away from faith
it destroys my soul
it leads me in the paths of sex and
violence
for the sponsors' sake.
Yea, though I walk in the shadow of my
responsibilities
there will be no interruption
for the TV is with me,

its cable and remote control comfort me.
It prepares a commercial before me
in the presence of my worldliness.
It anoints my head with humanism and
consumerism.
My covetousness runneth over.
Surely laziness and ignorance
shall follow me all the days of my life
and I shall dwell in the house
watching TV for ever.

Ireland visit

By Colin Wood, East Midlands Branch.

You will have read about the visit of the East Midlands branch to Ireland in June. Unfortunately, I was unable to join that trip. However, with Vanessa and the children, I was to visit Ireland in August.

We were to spend just over a week in Ireland and, in advance of our trip, I had been in touch with Nigel Stephens of the Irish CMA to arrange a meet up. In a very relaxed Irish sort of way I arranged to meet up on the second Sunday of our visit.

The first 4 days of our holiday was spent in a Christian B&B called "His Father's House" in Balliskelligs, South Kerry. The guy who ran the B&B was a biker, and as such, had come into contact with the "Unchained Gang" Christian Motor bike group.

After our stay in Kerry we headed back to Dublin to stay in the Travel Lodge there. Upon arrival, the receptionist said I had had a message at the desk to ring Nigel Stephens of the Ireland CMA. I rang, "Hi Colin" he said "change of plan, are you free tomorrow (Saturday) for a breakfast run across the Wicklow mountains?". "Erm, yea, I said, "as long as we are back to see Riverdance in the afternoon". "Good" he said " you need to ring Phil to get the details".

This I did and the next morning we drove off to the Red Cow Hotel to meet up with the Irish CMA.

Pat was the first to arrive. A friendly face who I had met at the national rally before. Soon everybody else arrived. This was to



be a real international event; Mickey from California, two girls from Germany who went to a local church in Dublin, on their first CMA outing, me from the UK, plus everyone else from Ireland. Nigel introduced me and we had the obligatory photo shoot. Then it was off to the Wicklow mountains. Vanessa, Matthew, Kathryn and me were to follow Phil, who had also brought his

children along as well.

Wow! what a ride out, travelling though the Gap of Wicklow I could see the stunning views. Soon we arrived at the appointed cafe, where we took over a whole section and ordered breakfast.

In typical CMA fashion, the chat flowed, with everyone sharing and joining in. We felt very welcome. Time flew by and it was soon time to go. Even on the way out we met up with a group of Americans, one of whom was a biker and we were able to give him some CMA material. We said our goodbyes and headed back to Dublin where Phil dropped us off near the theatre. The next day we decided to go to the Vineyard Church, where we met up with Pat and Graham of Ireland CMA, plus their wife's. Even there we were able to chat and introduce ourselves to a biker who had not come across the CMA before. Since arriving back, Nigel has sent an extract of the Ireland CMA web page that features this ride out. www.cmaireland.ie

How good it is to have brothers and sisters all over the world.

Outreach to the youth of Norfolk

By Ross Jenkins, Norfolk Branch.

Jordan (6) has had a good year on the bike(s), considering it's his first year. He has mainly ridden at Frettenham, trying as hard as his bike would allow. The elusive first win is still to come, but I'm sure it will arrive in due course. He started the season on his KTM mini Adventure (mainly because he couldn't fit onto anything bigger), and



Ready for the 2009 season with the SX50

September I managed to get him a Senior Adventure; basically the same engine just in a bigger frame. He is certainly trying hard. On one of his last training sessions, he had got it pinned coming out the corners, going sideways with the front wheel crossed up, as natural as can be. He certainly has learned how to get my heart to miss a beat!

I have finally managed to get him a KTM SX50 (water cooled), although the weather has been too bad for him to be able to ride it as yet, but he is certainly looking forward to it.

He finished 3rd in the local club results this year, (not bad for his first year), and got the most improved rider award. We are certainly proud of him. He would have got first, however, his behaviour was not too good for one race so I banned him from racing that weekend, a harsh lesson, but let's hope it has worked.

Christmas was coming so the usual discussions ensue, what would you like for Christmas? was the question, the

answer, a pair of orange goggles (what else when you ride a KTM), a new pair of boots, and a 21mm carburettor!

The first 2 items he will have to wait and see, the carb, well that's fitted to his SX50.

I have also managed to get him a KTM 65, ready for 2010. He needs to grow a couple of inches and then he'll be on it to learn the "gear

change" thing. Hopefully, I can get him into many races before the end of the season.

I am currently trying to get together dates for youth grass track events for the coming season, at both local and national level, Boy! this could be expensive! But who cares, I get as much of a buzz as he does; mine comes with grey hairs.

The photo above is on Christmas Day, the new kit and new KTM SX50.

The photo left is from one of last season's races, on his KTM mini adventure, at Frettenham.





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

Late

by Sue Brown, North Cheshire Branch.

I came late today to church and slipped in as unobtrusively as possible to a seat next to my friend, Sara. I swallowed down the inevitable guilt at somehow - again - not having made it for the welcome prayers and silently thanked tradition that the people in the seats around were singing with their eyes closed, as if my God was unaware. I tried to still my heart only to find this melting thing inside, something akin to the way a heavy morning mist feels as it deadens rural sounds and yet is totally white, and wet,



and cleansing - saturating every item of clothing, getting in your hair and leaving droplets on your eyelashes - filling up your lungs with the turquoise green of fir tree fronds and pungent vegetation - other-worldly, isolating you from everything around. And so, unearned, unexpected even, the presence of our merciful eternal God crept in to populate the air around my busy, guilty soul. Worship settles sometimes as a sense of heaven meeting earth, which the grace of God breathes life into for praise.

With eyes closed, I listened quietly. As my ears registered the beauty of a congregation raised as one in song, I felt

humbled by the people that I love. With their varied chords and unintentional harmonies, after over 17 years mostly here in the same church the songs and voices of my friends are now almost as familiar as their faces and the sense of God that filled me in those moments was profound. As certainly as I know my dear friend Sara's voice without the need to see her, in the same instant I was stamped by something deep inside that told me, "Sue, I know you all.

One by one, I see you; skin from skin, I hear you; voice from voice, you matter." In the same way as I knew Sara's voice and the recognition of that fact erupted into love, so came a revelation that He also knows my voice - our voices - intimately, too.

"Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will not be exhausted, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Luke 12: 32-34) "If you love me, you will obey what I command. And I will ask the Father,

The Paradox of Jesus' (John Ch.14)

and he will give you another Counsellor to be with you forever, the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. On that day you will realise that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him." (John 14: 15-21)

Within the context of the promised Holy Spirit and his imminent departure to Jerusalem, Jesus told his disciples 'I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you' (verse 18). How could they have known just then how fully he would leave? I wonder periodically whether they returned to those words and drew from them some later comfort after Jesus went back to the Father. Many times during the last 17 years since I became a Christian, Jesus has whispered those words into my heart, but it has taken me until quite recently to understand the crux of meaning found in verse 19: 'Before long, the world will not see me, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live.' Jesus has had to leave me many times to 'go up to Jerusalem'. Sometimes this is simply because silence is my portion at that time, but sometimes it's a journey to Jerusalem for some deep-seated bondage in my spirit, or some other

wrongly held attitude, some secret pride, or some desire to see somebody paying for whatever they have done that hurt me. And then I hear (more accurately, fail to hear) the still small voice of Jesus whisper 'Before long, Sue, you will not see me anymore' For while I move on in temporary blindness towards the painful, necessary path of truth, Jesus goes on ahead to draw me to the place of reconciliation, where he bathes my eyes so I can watch him lifted up and know that I have put him there, again. I suppose what I have realised is that while the grace in which we live is inexhaustible, the reconciliation ('but') only comes at the pace with which we are able to proceed towards a true acceptance of whichever bit of truth we need to hear just then. 'but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live.' and we will all experience an inevitable humiliation at our own slowness in getting there. 'Because I live, you also will live.' At this point all my questions are silenced by the utterly total knowledge of His presence and reality and the realisation of how small my human understanding of his Godhead has become, for 'On that day you will realise that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him.' I used to think that Jesus had deserted me, but now I know that he has not: instead he's had to go up to Jerusalem, so I can see the Father's grace, again.



Thanks for prayer

by Fred Becket, Norfolk branch.

On behalf of all my family I would like to thank all those who offered up prayer for my grandson Jez, who fell twenty feet and badly fractured his skull in June. You will be pleased to hear he is doing very well; even his consultants are amazed by his progress. There appears to be no long term or permanent damage. For those who say there are no such things as miracles I say, open your eyes and see the evidence all around you. Jesus lives (and so does my grandson). Thanks again, God bless you all. Fred



St John's gospel begins "In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God."

By living out the Old Testament prophesies, Jesus has become the Sword of the Spirit, the Word of God.

THE SWORD AND THE CROSS

Picture the scene, Mary has given birth to the baby Jesus. The shepherds and wise men have been and gone, so it is time for the infant to be taken to the synagogue to give thanks and praise to God.

At the synagogue an old man called Simeon, who has been told in a vision that he will not die until he has seen the Messiah, meets them. As soon as he saw the baby he knew that this was the One. Simeon told Mary that Jesus was indeed the long awaited Saviour of mankind and would do great deeds, but by His life and death "sorrow would pierce her heart like a sword".

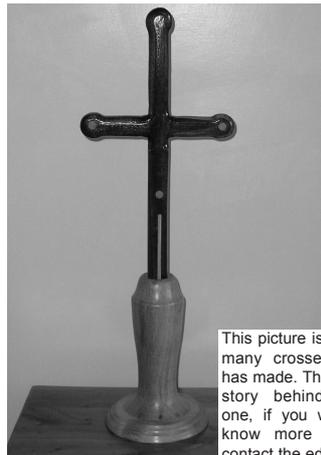
The gospels mention swords several times during Christ's ministry; sometimes used to attack people as when the disciple cut off the servant's ear when Jesus was arrested and sometimes in defence, as when St Paul speaks of the sword of the Spirit (which is the word of God.) This is often known as The Armour Of God.

So swords were spoken of at the beginning of His life and ministry and at the end.

And to prove His love for YOU and ME, He turned the sword of sorrow upside down so it became a cross of hope, once a symbol of shame, now an emblem of Triumph.

He made blind men see, lame men walk and the dead come back to life.

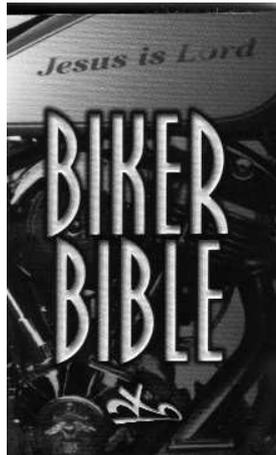
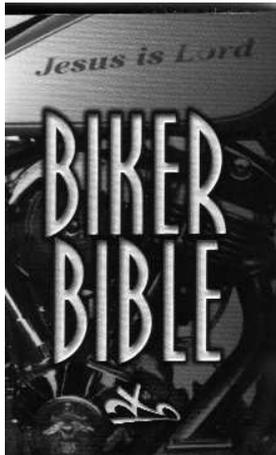
He turns lives inside out and back to front just as He turned that sword upside down. If you want to share that Triumph, turn away from the old life and ask Him to show you the New One that's waiting for YOU.



This picture is one of many crosses Fred has made. There is a story behind each one, if you want to know more please contact the editor.

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!'



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

Let us have some stories of what you did in 2008/9.

The CMA National dates for 2009 are on page 26-28, 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!

Does God speak in a regional accent

by Jason Bee, North Cheshire Branch.

An odd question you may think, but I need to put it into context. CMA is a very unique ministry. We have just about every area of the UK and most Christian denominations represented. We have the full range from the high Anglican hand bag swingers, with smells and bells to the most outrageous pentecostals.

This makes for a massive diversion of points of view. How often do we consider all of these factors when we are organising and attending events and functions. We are all talking the same key language, but many of us have a regional twang and bias. I am not saying that one accent is better than another, but it's something we need to be keenly aware of.

Personally, I feel we need to pitch our style somewhere in the middle so that all of the members can share in it together. So many times when I have raised this I get the response that "well they should be doing it my way, anyway so they will just have to put up with it." We need to be very careful if this attitude shows up when we are arranging anything. Just remember



that the complete other end of the spectrum thinks the same way as you.

Personally, I feel this shows itself when we worship as CMA, and this is possibly one of the more emotive subjects. So I challenge you, next time we worship as CMA and there is someone from the opposite end of the spectrum from you, don't disapprove. Take the opportunity to open your mind and try something new. Take the time to sit down and talk with people from another point of view. You may find out that instead of your pentecostal worship, you may get so much out of quiet liturgy or vice versa.

And to those who arrange the events and worship, please remember that we all don't go to your church and do things exactly the same way as you do. Remember that just because you like the newest choruses from the latest worship leader that not everyone else does. We also can't have nothing but Mission Praise edition 1 or Hymns Ancient and Modern. All things need to be a balance to accommodate all preferences and traditions.

But my biggest challenge of all is this. No matter what your theological stance, or preferred style of worship, get involved, give it your all and keep an open mind. If you come across something new or challenging take the time to ask questions and perhaps challenge your own point of view. You may find that you can adapt part of someone else's accent into your vocabulary or even pick up a colloquial

phrase that you can become very fond of. Finally, Luke 10:27 says 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'" The part we often fail to emphasize is "with all your mind" take your time to study and find out about things, it's your responsibility.

Jason with wife Beth and Mick Brooksbank IOM TT 2005



Anaemic Faith

Sent in by Jon Barber (Sarge), SAS Branch.

"For we also have had the gospel preached to us, just as they did; but the message they heard was of no value to them, because those who heard did not combine it with faith" (Heb 4:2-3).



I run into anaemic Christians every day. They have a form of religion but fail to mix their belief with faith and obedience. The apostle Paul described them when he said, "These people have a form of godliness, but deny its power."

What are the telltale signs of anaemic faith? When you no longer pray about decisions, you have anaemic faith. When you fail to speak to others about their relationship with God, you have anaemic faith. When you're unwilling to spend time with God everyday, your faith has become anaemic. You no longer have a living faith.

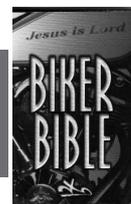
God spoke to John, the apostle, through a vision and told him about some Christians who were part of the church in Laodicea: "To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God's creation. I know your deeds, that

you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm- neither hot nor cold- I am about to spit you out of my mouth. You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see" (Rev 3:14-18).

These are strong words from our Lord. We are all susceptible to growing cold and anaemic in our faith. Today, ask God to revive your heart and to restore the fire of your faith so that you will experience a vibrant and active faith that impacts the kingdom of darkness.

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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**



Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor

Hi Ken,

This is for the Chainlink; comments on leaders weekends, AGM's, the National and attending.

If you believe that this (the CMA) is God's calling for you, and for you to be in this ministry, then you should be at the leader's weekends, for this is what God has called you to do. There is little excuse for missing these times with your brothers and sisters.

Numbers 6 v 24/26

Bob Branch Chairman

C.M.A North and West Wales

From wendy *see story page 10-13*

In September I rode 844 miles on a Harley-Davidson from Los Angeles to San Francisco with 19 other breast cancer survivors. We shared an important common bond, as well as raising awareness and funds for breast cancer charities. Everything I raise is going to charities in the UK. In October I rode a further 341 miles in the UK leg of Amazon Heart Thunder. I have now registered to ride from Brisbane to Sydney in Australia in May 2009.

Visit:- www.amazonheartthunder.org to see more about the organisation and my personal reasons for taking part in this adventure, or go directly to my sponsorship page at www.smartgive.com/funds/aht09wendy thank you.

The CMA go to many rallies, shows, and 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.

send in by Bob Bogart

Okay, election news is discouraging and tedious, the market news is horrible, the economy is in the tank, and people are pretty much living in despondency. I read the following poem today at our Senior Adult Lunch Club. If you really want a break from all the nay-sayer stuff, then lose yourself in the following poem by A.A. Milne (the author of Winnie the Pooh). What a breath of fresh air! It has anything to do with today, but perhaps that's what we need the rest of this day.

THREE LITTLE FOXES

Once upon a time there were three little foxes
Who didn't wear stockings, and they didn't
wear socks,

But they all had handkerchiefs to blow their
noses,

And they kept their handkerchiefs in
cardboard boxes.

They lived in the forest in three little houses,
And they didn't wear coats, and they didn't
wear trousers,

They ran through the woods on their little bare
tootsies,

And they played "Touch Last" with a family of

mouses.

They didn't go shopping in the High Street
shopses,

But caught what they wanted in the woods
and cospes.

They all went fishing, and they caught three
wormses,

They went out hunting, and they caught three
wopses.

They went to a Fair, and they all won prizes --
Three plum puddings and three mince-pieses.

They rode on elephants and swang on
swingses,

And hit three coconuts at coconut shieses.

That's all that I know of the three little foxes
Who kept their handkerchiefs in cardboard
boxes.

they lived in the forest in three little houses,
but they didn't wear coats and they didn't wear
trousies,

And they didn't wear stockings and they didn't
wear socks.

Quilt of Holes

Sent in by Kate Moore, West Yorks Branch.

As I faced my Maker at the last Judgement, I knelt before the Lord along with all the other souls.

Before each of us laid our lives like the squares of a quilt in many piles, an angel sat before each of us sewing our quilt squares together into a tapestry that is our life.

But as my angel took each piece of cloth off the pile, I noticed how ragged and empty each of my squares was. They were filled with giant holes. Each square was labelled with a part of my life that had been difficult, the challenges and temptations I was faced with in every day life. I saw hardships that I endured, which were the largest holes of all.

I glanced around me. Nobody else had such squares. Other than a tiny hole here and there, the tapestries were filled with rich colour and the bright hues of worldly fortune. I gazed upon my own life and was disheartened.

My angel was sewing the ragged pieces of cloth together, threadbare and empty, like binding air.

Finally the time came when each life was to be displayed, held up to the light, the scrutiny of truth. The others rose, each in turn, holding up their tapestries. So filled their lives had been. My angel looked upon me and nodded for me to rise.

My gaze dropped to the ground in shame. I hadn't had all the earthly fortunes; I had love in my life and laughter. But there had also been trials of illness and wealth, and



false accusations that took me from my world as I knew it. I had to start over many times. I often struggled with the temptation to quit, only to somehow muster the strength to pick up and begin again. I spent many nights on my knees in prayer, asking for help and guidance in my life. I had often been

held up to ridicule, which I endured painfully, each time offering it up to the Father in hopes that I would not melt within my skin beneath the judgemental gaze of those who unfairly judged me.

And now, I had to face the truth. My life was what it was and I had to accept it for what it was.

I rose and slowly lifted the combined squares of my life to the light.

An awe filled gasp filled the air. I gazed around at the others who stared at me with wide eyes.

Then, I looked at the tapestry before me. Light flooded the many holes, creating an image, the face of Christ. Then our Lord stood before me, with warmth and love in his eyes. He said, "Every time you gave over your life to Me, it became My life, My hardships and My struggles.

Each point of light in your life is when you stepped aside and let Me shine through, until there was more of Me than there was of you."

May all our quilts be worn and threadbare, allowing Christ to shine through.

Author unknown

Open Night at the Salvation Army

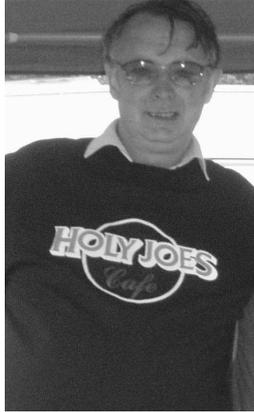
by Russell Boyce, Links and East Yorks Branch.

In an effort to make our name more widely known in the area, we organised an 'Open Night' instead of having our usual meeting we did a display of our new equipment and the 'Biker Bibles'.

By the time the open evening arrived I felt I could not have reasonably publicised the event more. I had emailed or written directly to every preacher that I knew of in a 15 miles radius, I had also written

to Radio Humberside and to Radio Lincolnshire. They very kindly asked for a contribution to their web site and have now asked that we do regular updates on what we are doing to go on the faith area of the website. I also wrote to the Telegraph, the local newspaper and they did a piece on us. The other local radio stations, Viking FM and Linc's FM were also informed.

As a novelty, I did a number of business cards and scattered those about the display. The business cards, instead of the usual information, had prompts such



as Prayer Ministry we do that, Prison Visits we do that and so on.

Come the evening I went through to Hull to collect Dave and Paula. We had just got on the Humber Bridge when we got a call and Ian asked where we were, so he joined us at Elsham and followed us in towards Scunthorpe. That was quite a help as it meant I did not need to run back after the event.

When we set up several people who turn up to come and view the stand. These included a local vicar, who has invited us to lead a bible study and prayer group and also said he would like us to come to one of his services. He has also offered to do a spiritual retreat day with us. We also picked up a new member and another 3 people who may come to the next meeting.

All things considered, I feel the evening was worthwhile, especially as we have been asked if we will do it next year.

A Tale From Down Under

An elderly man in Queensland had owned a large property for several years. He had a dam in one of the lower paddocks, where he had planted mango and avocado trees. The dam had been fixed up for swimming when it was built and he also had some picnic tables placed there in the shade of the fruit trees. One evening, the old farmer decided to go down to the dam to look it over, as he hadn't been there for a while. He grabbed a ten litre bucket to bring back some fruit. As he neared the dam, he heard voices shouting and laughing with glee. He came closer and saw it was a bunch of young women skinny-dipping in his dam. He made the women aware of his presence and they all went to the deep end. One of the women shouted to him, 'We're not coming out until you leave!' The old man frowned, and replied, 'I didn't come down here to watch you ladies swim naked or make you get out of the dam naked.' Holding the bucket up he said, 'I'm here to feed the crocodile.' Moral: Old men may walk slowly, but they can still think fast.

Rest Of Scotland News

by David Hunter, Rest of Scotland Branch.

Prison Visit

On Saturday 23rd August, Robert Stuart and myself visited Bowhouse Prison, Kilmarnock, as part of a 'prison invasion', organized by Prison Fellowship Scotland. From Friday morning through to Sunday evening there were a series of events taking place in the prison, from concerts with Christian music groups, various speakers and singers, to a banquet. We spent the whole of Saturday afternoon with about 20 inmates and a group of Christians, some of whom had come across from Northern Ireland (NI) for the day. The lads who 'live' there chatted quite freely with us during the course of the afternoon, in between the various 'events' that took place. Biker Bibles and tracts were taken, and it was really good to see these guys walking about quite openly, carrying the Word of God with them.

One of the NI visitors gave his testimony during the afternoon. He was a former drug dealer in a big way and involved in all sorts of violence and other crimes until he was converted during a visit to Spain, where he had gone to make a drugs purchase. As many of the inmates that we talked with were in prison for drug offences, his testimony was particularly appropriate. One young man, sitting besides me at the time, said to me "If God can do that for him, he can do it for me!" All in all it was a great afternoon, and we look forward to being able to spend further time in Bowhouse, chatting and witnessing to the guys in there.



Crossreach Conference, Dundee

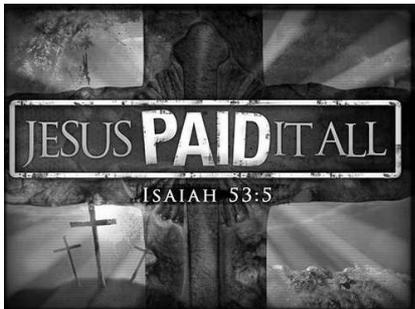
The Crossreach Conference in Dundee on Thursday 4th September was a totally different type of occasion from our prison visit, but valuable as well. Crossreach is the name of the Church of Scotland run organisation, which runs its care homes,

old folks homes and residential schools for boys who have 'got into trouble' etc. Each year they run a staff conference for members of staff, and this year I was invited to take three seminars throughout the day on what the Christian Motorcyclists' Association is involved in. Originally, it was agreed I would take one seminar in the afternoon, but somehow it grew like topsy to become three; two in the morning and one in the afternoon.

Many of the folks who came along to the seminars were not bikers, but just interested in finding out something about this strange breed of Christian; a Christian motorcyclist! Several of those attending were, however, either active or former bikers. We had a fun time throughout the day, with an excellent lunch provided by the Conference centre, and several invitations for us to come along and speak to youth or church groups look likely to come out of the day.

A number of folks who came to the seminars also took Biker Bibles for non-Christian biker relatives or friends. 21 Bibles were taken and also a number of tracts, and it was great to share fellowship with fellow Christians throughout the day. It was also a good opportunity to share

the Gospel with the folks that came along, not all of whom would have been Christians, although many were, and encourage those that were to 'think out of the box' on how to use their particular interests/hobbies to reach others for Christ, just as we use our bikes. As a Branch, we have had a good relationship with Crossreach for some years now, as one of our members works for them, and on several occasions a couple of us have taken a service at one of the Crossreach schools for teenage boys, being able to go round and chat with the boys afterwards in their individual classrooms and activities. I have since heard that the member of staff who approached me to speak at the Conference has bought himself a 'bike, a potential member in waiting perhaps? The Conference was a new departure for me, but a worthwhile opportunity to share the gospel, encourage others to reach out with the love of God, and to reach other bikers through some of the folks who were attending the Conference. Who knows, we may also get the odd additional



member out of it as well, and also further opportunities to witness.

STOP PRESS – NEW TWIG!

We now have a new Twig formed in the North East of Scotland, called 'Aberdeenshire and Mearns'. This exciting development will fill a gap in that part of Scotland and make reaching out to bikers and others there so much easier. The initial members are all fired up to reach out for the Lord and plan to hold alternate meetings in the Fraserburgh and Stonehaven areas to spread the travelling load for the members and also assist potential new members to attend. The Twig has runs and other events planned, in fact their inaugural meeting on 20th September was preceded by a run and BBQ, which attracted several non-Christians along. Contact has been made with quite a few Christian bikers in the area, who it is hoped will eventually become members after they have demonstrated suitable commitment and shared their testimonies at a meeting of the Twig. Anyone planning to visit the Aberdeenshire area of Scotland next year (when hopefully there will be a 'proper' summer), should make contact with the members up there, details will be inserted on the website soon, and join them for a ride-out or other event. There are some cracking roads in that part of the country, with beautiful scenery everywhere. National Trust members should also make sure they take their membership cards with them, as there are lots of castles and other locations to be enjoyed.

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.

Fellowship with other bikers

by Greg Bright, Norfolk Branch.

I am an American, who has now ridden a motorcycle on two continents; China for 1 year and now England for more than 2 years with CMA. I have been asked to say a few words to my fellow Chainlink readers.

My wife, whom I am very proud of, after many years of wanting to ride motorcycles, passed her 125 cc test in the beginning of August. In doing so, passed before the new testing process came into force. Nevertheless, she did it. Within 2 weeks of passing this test, me on our Harley Davidson Dyna Glide with 1.5 Watsonian sidecar, filled with our two sons, set off for the 50th anniversary of the Federation of Sidecar Clubs rally in Worcester. This is the same place we went to last year, for the 49th anniversary.

I am so proud of the fact, we rode some 898 miles to the 'Fed Rally' and back. But, more amazing, is that my lovely wife Julie, rode solo behind me on her new 125cc bike, the entire distance. I hope you all know, I must have spent some 600 miles looking in my mirrors to make sure she was alright. I was not too worried about the bad British weather we had over bank holiday 2008, nor her driving, I was trying to make sure I was not driving too fast for her 125 to keep up with me and our boys.

Out of all those miles, we had only 1 day in the rain, but quite a few days of windy conditions. I now have no doubt about her ability to ride in all conditions.

I have written all of this to say what is really on my mind to say. Cast your minds back to the AGM,

I remember and was reminded what Chris Tennant said, making point of saying that he felt we all should be part of another biker organization. I can only second this, not



because we do also belong to the Sidecar Federation, but what I believe Chris was trying to say. My real point is that being in CMA for more than two years, it is through the 'Fed', I feel I can actually sit down and start to make more lasting relationships.

While camping this year I had the most in depth and the most enjoyable conversation about Christ since joining CMA. Being a part of another organisation, we can also

nurture and build on relationships, for me at least, it has had a better results for the Gospel's sake. Yes I know we are all trying to fulfill the Great Commission, but in my brief time it has a double impact on being a part of another organisation.

This year it did, although it meant spending time in a 'muddy field' as well as camping in a 'muddy field' in our dreadful weather. Yes, we all know about these 'muddy fields', including our National Rally in Yorkshire.

What Chris's and I are trying to say is the more spheres of influence we have to make contacts and relationships with the biker world, the more satisfying and fulfilled our time can and could become.

While at the Fed Rally, I did meet up with Chris and Pete Crane and we had a long chat about the future and even starting our own sidecar club. We found out all it takes is three members to make up a new club. Well, we have 9 including our children and of course our wives. We could even hold and sponsor our own National sidecar rally. Yes only of course with the help of the CMA. So any more sidecar riders in CMA who would like to join us and any more members of CMA would like to consider taking up Chris' and now my challenge, to join other or another biker organization? Please feel free to contact me or my wife through Ken Hardy through Chainlink or through the Norfolk Branch.

Child by Sue Brown, North Cheshire Branch

I'd open up your heart if I were able
I'd breathe into your ears the Jesus song
I'd hold your heart until it beat in rhythm
I'd take you to his presence all day long

I'd lead you to Gethsemane to seek him
I'd pour out oil of gladness on the pain
I'd still your mind with truth about the reason
I'd bind you tightly to the Cross again

I'd trample on the wreckage of your errors
I'd save you from the terrors of the night
I'd turn your compass North towards the Father
I'd shout for him 'til you regain your sight

I'd make you see if I could find the glasses
I'd blindfold you and lead you by the hand

I'd weep until your deep resolve had melted

I'd cause your hardened heart to understand

But I cannot do anything to force you
I cannot do anything, but pray
And sometimes that's so hard that it is wordless
I'd give anything on earth to hear you say:

I've found him Mum, found Jesus in an alley

I've found him, Mum, found Jesus in the sea

I've found him, Mum, found Jesus - he is awesome!

I've found him, Mum, but really he found me.

Sue Brown © September 2008

CMA UK Web site

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get a good discount. Phone 0800 0154479 and leave message.

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, National Chairman (UK) CMA



In our Chainlink magazine we try to include articles that will help you see that as Christian Bikers we have a relationship with Jesus Christ and that it is the most important thing in our lives, even second to riding bikes!

We haven't always been Christians though, there was a time in our lives when we considered how much God loves us and then responded to it personally.

But you might ask how can we have a relationship with Jesus? By being good? No, because we could never be good enough. Well how then? The Bible clearly states that the one thing that creates a barrier between God and us is our 'sin'. In other words, the things we do wrong. God loves you and I so much that He wanted to forgive us and begin a relationship with us, but He had to deal with the sin first.

So out of love for you, God sent His Son Jesus Christ to earth, to die on a cross to pay for the sins of the world, then rise again three days later, He hadn't done

anything wrong, but He would be held responsible for your sins and mine. It hardly seems fair does it that Jesus should pay for the debt I owe, but He did. All that we are required to do is believe that He died for our sin and ask God to forgive us.

It seems so incredibly simple that it can't be true, but that doesn't change the fact that it is.

You can begin a relationship with Jesus Christ today, right now. God will hear your prayer. If you have never prayed before, try the one below:

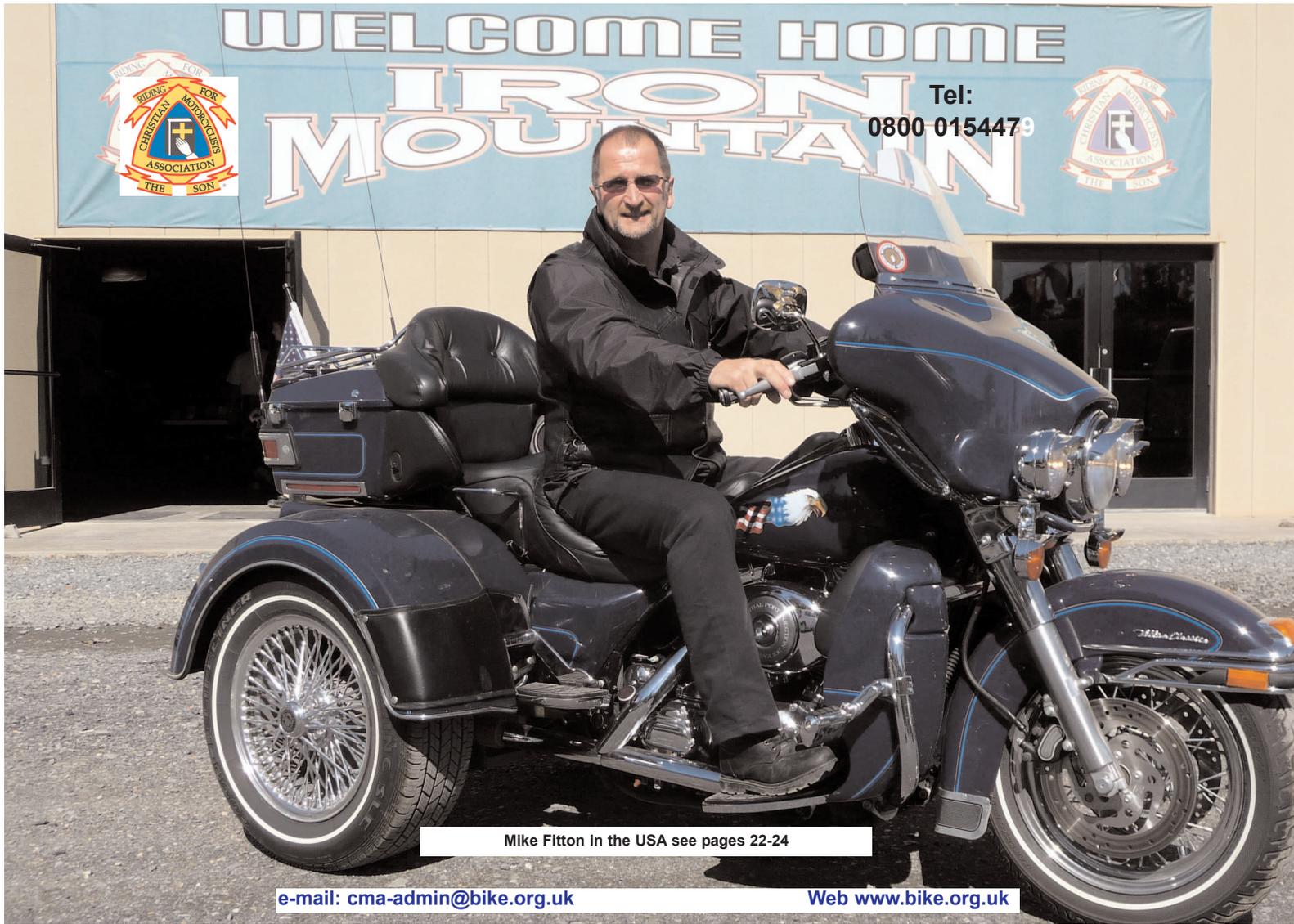
Lord Jesus, You died on the cross so that my sins could be forgiven. I want You to come into my life and take charge. Please forgive all the wrong things I have done, make me clean and fill me with Your Holy Spirit to live the life you want me to live. Amen.

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. God Bless you,
Mike FITTON President CMA UK

We want to support you too, so get in touch with us at:

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Mike Fitton in the USA see pages 22-24

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