

CHAINLINK

The Magazine of the
Christian Motorcyclists' Association

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Summer 2013

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

The views expressed in *Chainlink* cannot be taken as official CMA policy on any subject.
The magazine is published up to four times a year, to provide information for CMA members and to encourage them in their personal walk with God.
We pray that this magazine will also stimulate non-Christian readers into thinking more about Jesus, and also seeking Him for themselves.

The Bible says: "Seek and you will find". Matthew Chapter 7, verse 7

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CMA UK is part of the CMA Worldwide
International Outreach Ministry

For more information: www.bike.org.uk

***The deadline for
submission of items for
the next edition is
14th September, 2013***

Cover photos supplied by
Front : Steve Grubb
Back : Brian Carbonero

Articles for Chainlink are most welcome, and should be submitted by email to chainlink@bike.org.uk or by post to the address shown above.

The sender must obtain permission for the inclusion of ALL names, addresses and pictures, especially of children, prior to submission and provide accreditation for all material that is not original.

The sender takes all responsibility for all content and rights relating to all items that are submitted. If in doubt, please obtain verification from the National Chairman or the Exec committee.

All pictures must be 300dpi or higher in tiff or jpg format and submitted separately (* N.B. not embedded in a text document***).**

Mike Fitton : National Chairman CMA UK.

A Forgotten Phone And A Sachet Of Instant Cappuccino

“My ways are far beyond anything you could imagine.”

Isaiah Ch. 55 v 8

By the time you read this issue of Chainlink, many of you will have attended rallies, bike shows, race meets, taken a ride out to local bike cafes and meeting places or perhaps been somewhere you have never been before.

I absolutely love the diversity of our UK bike community and the opportunity it gives us to reach out to bikers and their families.

In May, I joined the Northern Ireland branch at the North West 200 Road Races, a huge event based at the coastal town of Portrush, not far from the Giants Causeway.

Whenever I am involved in any event, I pray that God will enable me to be an encourager and give the team honour with the organisers and bikers, but it never ceases to amaze me how God goes before us to lay His path of blessing.

When I arrived at Cairnryan for the Larne ferry, I met a biker called Martin in the café. We sat together on the ferry and then I realised I had left my phone on my desk at home – disaster! Once I put it in God's hands, Martin offered me the use of his to ask Sandy to send it on overnight. As it was his first time in Northern Ireland, we rode together to his B&B and I prayed that God would bless me with another opportunity to meet up with him.

This year at the NW 200 we were given a prime position for an outreach marquee, right in the centre of the paddock next to the toilets - the one location everyone had to visit numerous times a day; what more could we ask for?

BSB Rider Justin Waring attends our church in Whitby and before I left for the NW200, he asked if I could try and meet up with one of his road race friends who would be competing. As I arrived in the paddock, I made enquiries about the location of his team. Would you believe it? They were situated right opposite our marquee, not more than ten meters away. God had brought His plan together and nothing would stand in its way. It was good to meet Jason's

friend and establish links; I hope to meet up with him again in the future, possibly at a BSB event.

We had an incredible week sharing the Gospel with countless people, some sheltering from the storms and, oh boy, were there storms!! Other bikers just came in and said "I just don't get it" and we talked and talked about Jesus. I met many people I knew from rallies and renewed old friendships. We served complimentary tea and coffee throughout the week, especially on race day which was eventually abandoned due to torrential rain. Riding to my B&B that evening, I passed through 10-12 inches of flood water, but thankfully I was riding my BMW GS 1200 Adventure.

One morning, I was packing my bag to leave for the paddock and I just had a sense that God wanted me to take a sachet of instant cappuccino (I always carry some to have with my quiet time), so in the bag it went. I had no idea why. A few minutes after we opened the marquee a young 14 yr old rider came and asked "Do you have any cappuccino please?" Who would have thought that God would use a sachet of instant coffee to be the catalyst to connect with an up and coming rider, I explained about the Biker Bible and he was pleased to receive a copy.

Friday evening, I was privileged to make a presentation to Brian and Anne Gardiner who were retiring from CMA after many years serving the Lord. Their contribution will be missed. Brian's testimony is in the Biker Bible.

Early on Sunday, I rode to Lisburn Community Church, south of Belfast, and preached there morning and evening; by then I was so tired I could hardly stand up, but I was so blessed.



Monday morning, I returned to Larne for my ferry and who should I meet there but Martin! As we chatted over coffee, he received a Biker Bible and admitted he had checked me out on Google to see what CMA was all about.

He was pleased to ride together towards Penrith, but on the way he noticed my rear tyre was going down. I made it to a garage in Dumfries and thankfully (after I prayed) the owner managed to plug it, and I arrived home at 8.30 p.m., blessed and exhausted.

I would like to thank Roy (Chairman) and all the branch for their warmth of fellowship and dedication to the ministry of CMA.

“Who knows what will happen during our day and how God will make all things work together for His Glory.”
(Romans Ch. 8 v. 28).

“Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done.”
(Philippians Ch. 4:v. 6)

God bless you as you ride with great expectation.

Mike
National Chairman CMA UK



Important news about the CMA UK Ladies' Conference - 2013; go to page 8



A Winter's Tale

Ian Turvey

What on earth is someone doing writing about winter in the balmy heights of our Great British Summer? I know, I felt the same when I wrote the title, but bear with me

After working with the West Midlands Branch (and others) at the Classic Bike Show (NEC), and as winter 2012 approached, I found myself on reduced hours at work, so with a long weekend every week (Fridays are now all mine!), I decided it would be nice to try one of those infamous biker winter projects in my increased spare time.

To that end, I procured, at great expense, a 1970 BSA Bantam D14 and a 1975 Honda CD175 from the garage of a certain well known Vicar from Daventry. Adam at MK Motorcycle Centre (quick plug – these guys are good, check them out if you are in the area: www.miltonkeynesmotorcyclecentre.co.uk) and Malcolm Hysom, assisted with the necessary works, and the Bantam was back on the road in January, followed swiftly by the CD at the end of February. Bliss, I thought; itch scratched; sit back and enjoy.

For those of you who are into bikes of an older nature, you will be smiling to yourselves, and you already know that they can get under your skin. Sure enough, they got under mine! With my 50th birthday now in sight, I thought it would be good to find a 1964 bike to play with next, having decided to sell the CD (at the time of writing it's still available if anyone is interested) and so fund my next investment. Could I find anything decent from '64? No chance; my wife thinks I might be the only good thing created that year!



On the last Sunday in April (still feeling much like mid-winter!), we (Towcester Branch) were due to be helping out at the Trike and Outfit day at Jacks Hill. I went along, really expecting that God had some good conversations planned for me. I had a great day, and Pete Crane was in his element, but I didn't feel like I'd really been used by God.

However, having found another old bike (1955 Royal Enfield Bullet 350 (G2)) up the road in Rugby, I still had the rest of the day to go!

That afternoon we drove to Rugby and I purchased said Bullet. On the ride home I noticed a distinct reduction in power after Weedon on the A5. Nothing to do with the supernatural abilities of the good people of Weedon, I suspected, much more likely to be linked with the new noise from the front of my engine head. As I limped past Jack's Hill, which, at 5:00 p.m. was sadly closed, the Bullet came to a stop, the head gasket well and truly blown. The threatened rain started to fall, and after calling the AA I was advised that recovery would be in an hour.

Ho hum. I don't know about you, but I'm a bit of a control freak, so this unwelcome interlude in my Sunday would normally have sent my blood pressure boiling, but by the side of the A5/A43 roundabout, waving at the odd passing biker in the rain, I felt strangely calm, and I was sure that God still had some plans for me for that day.

The AA were late and not equipped to recover a bike (great!). They did help me push the bike to a nearby garage, where I made full use of the Costa machine. I now had another hour's wait until the low loader arrived. Amazingly, I still felt calm.

My first significant conversation came with the garage manager, who wanted to know why I had a cross on my jacket. We chatted for a while between customers, until one of them joined in! And so the conversation around bikes, Jesus and eternity continued.

Next, a guy towing a very old refurbished Sunbeam back to Kent arrived, and seeing the Bullet outside and me swamped in empty

Costa cups inside, correctly connected us and off we went again! He'd just won best in show at Stafford and was chuffed to bits to find a fellow biker to share his news with. I was glad of another diversion from the coffee machine (it was getting to be an expensive afternoon), and we soon got onto the Cross again.

I wasn't at all surprised when the AA low loader arrived late, but I was pleasantly



surprised when the driver revealed he was a biker from the South West, and that he had an original (his since new) 1960's BSA 250 in his garage back home (at least it was not a 1964 model and it wasn't for sale!).

On the journey back to Milton Keynes, he asked me about the Cross, and when I explained a little about my faith, my belief and hope in Jesus, and my love of God and bikes, he asked me what the difference between a Church and the Baptists was. An interesting question you'll agree. It turned out that his partner, a relapsed alcoholic, had recently had a stroke and been placed in a christian convalescent home in the SW, by the sea. Part of the regime was a trip to a local Baptist Church each Sunday morning, and he had started going along too.

By the time we got home, at 10.30 p.m., it was the recovery driver's break. He came in, had some coffee with Sam and I and we were able to chat more about our faith and how we believed that God could and does set people free from addictions like the one his partner was in. We were able to give him a Biker Bible and pray with him and for both him and his partner before he left us.

That day did not work out at all as I thought it would, but what an amazing day it was, stemming from my growing interest in old bikes. I really found God at the place where my passion met His plans. A final part of this story is that the Bullet is now sorted and the guy I bought it from paid towards the repairs, which was a blessing!

It's been a long winter, but I have learned to be seeking God more and I'd encourage you to look for God in every situation, even the unplanned and difficult ones, and listen for His prompting; He really does turn our challenges into His opportunities!

A Busy May In The Bay

Duncan Irwin

May is always a busy time for the Devon and Cornwall branch; it's when we have our stand at the Paignton BMAD Bike Festival which this year was 3rd – 5th May and which is held each year on Paignton sea front. The weather was glorious and the event was packed all day, every day. On top of that we attended a 150th church birthday celebration.

The BMAD festival is one of the largest biking events in the South West. In addition to our normal display stand, we run a helmet park and this year was our busiest yet with approximately double the users from last year. As always, our little battery powered cruiser was a superstar and by far the most popular and most photographed bike on our stand. Many productive discussions were had with young and old alike and many testimonies were shared and Biker Bibles given out. With growing branch numbers, we were able to keep the stand well manned and make good use of our new mess tent, which had its first outing with great success.

As on previous years, we held an early morning Sunday service which was well attended and Rev. Graham McBain from Upton Vale Baptist Church, Torquay, spoke on Jesus being the Light of the World. We forged new links with other biking groups, particularly the Blue Knights whom we are starting to ride out with on a regular basis.

Two weeks later, we attended the 150th birthday celebrations for Upton Vale Baptist Church. The church took over a local park for Pentecost Sunday and put on a free party for all comers at which we had a display stand and bikes. It proved to be a very successful church run and outreach event all rolled into one, with some very in depth discussions. Also, all the local dignitaries and the local MP attended and



were introduced to what we do and why and all went away with a Biker Bible. It was altogether such a success that the Council have asked if it can be a twice yearly event. The church has a large number of bikers and an active informal riding group, many of whom are considering becoming involved with our Branch and a significant number are joining us on our next church run.



The elders of a church were so pleased that their minister had recovered from an illness, they headlined their next church newsletter with :

“God is good;
The Pastor is better”

A nun, driving her jeep in a non-christian country, ran out of fuel. The only container she could find was a chamber pot, in which she collected some petrol and, with great difficulty, refilled the tank. Some locals looking on observed, “Sister, we don't share your religion, but we definitely admire your faith.”

My Trip With Open Doors

Ian Francis



OpenDoors

Serving persecuted Christians worldwide

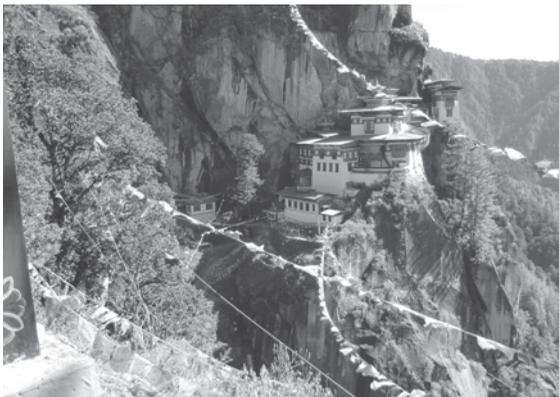
Two years ago at the national rally in Huddersfield, I went to the Open Doors (OD) seminar, during which Roger Faulkner of OD said something about a forthcoming trip to a country that I had wanted to visit for over a decade (I cannot mention the country for reasons that will become apparent).

After his presentation, I approached him and asked how I could get involved with the trip. Basically, it was a trip for OD speakers, so I asked how I could become one and he gave me all the relevant forms which I filled in and handed back before the end of the rally.

Sixteen months later (halfway through my OD speakers course), I found myself at Manchester airport waiting for a flight to Heathrow to join the rest of the team that was going to the far east, with the stories of other peoples OD travel experiences ringing in my ears, mainly Mike Fitton's trip to a country where conditions were, at best, basic and where he had picked up a bug that floored him. I had had all my jabs and in my hand luggage I had enough cereal bars to live on for ten days!

The team assembled over an hour or so as they arrived by plane, train and car. Introductions were made and we set off on the 40-hour journey through six airports and five countries, with an overnight stop in Bangkok. The flights were without incident

Under the guise of tourists, we were able to meet up with pastors and believers from three of the largest cities in the country. The church in this Buddhist country is persecuted and its activities are severely restricted. The believers meet in secret and are extremely cautious of outsiders who come to their meetings. Three weeks before we arrived, two pastors were imprisoned and threatened with death if they wouldn't sign papers saying that they wouldn't evangelise. Neither signed; one was beaten to death and the other had a sword at his throat until the intervention of a superior officer who stopped the sergeant from beheading him.



Temple

In total, we attended four services, each one of which was spirit-filled. All of us from the UK had a chance to share something, and pray with, and for, these beautiful people who face persecution for their faith on a daily basis. We had a chance to reflect on how blessed we are in our country, with a government that allows freedom of speech and the ability to worship God however we feel fit. We also all came to the conclusion that the church in this Buddhist country is growing and expanding at a phenomenal rate that we haven't seen in the UK for centuries. Perhaps, as is written in Acts, persecution is a catalyst for growth and regeneration. We considered how content and safe we felt in our own churches, and how different it would be if being a Christian in the UK actually meant facing hardship and persecution.

As it was, I didn't need the cereal bars, the food was lovely and the hotels we stayed in were fantastic with superb panoramic views of mountains virtually everywhere we went.

I came home fired up to finish my OD speakers course and determined to get on as many future OD trips as possible.

The persecuted church needs our prayers right NOW, there are people being persecuted, suffering and dying as you read this. I am available to come to your church as an OD speaker (north west at weekends, Derby/Nottingham area during the week) or you can google Open Doors UK and put in a request for a speaker in your area.



Prayer Flags

and, at the end of the journey, we found ourselves in one of the nicest airports I have ever been in.

The tour guide who was going to be our companion for the next seven days met us and ushered us to the tour bus, where we met our driver. They were both Christian brothers and were perfect hosts for our entire trip.

Anyone who wishes to become a pastor has to go to college outside of the country. When asked how they get there, the reply was 'They walk!'. Once qualified, they walk back into the country.

One of the services we went to was attended by people who had walked for seven hours just to worship with us. After the service and lunch they had a seven hour walk to get home!!

A View Of God's Creation As A Pillion Was All It Took

Trisha Knight

Finding a relationship with Jesus opened up a whole new world for Michelle. She came to faith two months ago and started coming to church with us, her heart softened to the things and ways of God and we have a closer bond as mother and daughter, and as a family as a whole.

One Sunday earlier this month, after spending the morning in Church, Michelle and I came home just as Tony, her step dad, came home from going on the June Mystery Church Run with the Sussex Branch; before he had a chance to put the bike away, she ran out to ask if he would like to go for a ride with her on the pillion.

Although, I'm only 4'10" and wear size 3 boots, she was able to wear my bike gear, helmet and boots and off they went; Tony took her to Leith Hill, which is quite exciting on the bike with all its twists and turns and steep hills.

Michelle had been a pillion years before on the back of a friend's bike, but now as a new Christian sitting on the bike, taking in the Sussex scenery, she had a new appreciation for the beauty of God's creation.

With the intercom radios in the helmets, they were able to talk to each other while riding, Michelle loved the ride so much that she told Tony she would like to take her CBT.

All she needs now is to save the money for the bike and the gear and she'll be on her way to possibly becoming our newest addition to the Sussex Branch.



Check out the web site (www.bike.org.uk) for events throughout 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

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.

Contact details : see next column

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www.bike.org.uk

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cma-admin@bike.org.uk

Tel: 0800 0154479

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Please note that, as a registered charity, we have our rules and a constitution to help ensure that the CMA is run according to agreed principles.

There is a handbook, updated annually (usually in May), which is available on the web.

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

On the CMA web site, there are various files for download, such as posters and flyers for CMA (UK) events, including the handbook. This is not a large document (37 pages). If you're unable to print it, contact the National Secretary for a copy, or your own branch members might be able to help.

Please make use of the handbook, as it guides the working of our branches and the CMA Ministry and provides most of the answers to your branch's working within the CMA ministry. However, always feel free to contact your Executive members for any clarification you might need.

CMA UK Ladies Conference 25th to 27th October, 2013

Do you have an abject fear and loathing of getting together with a bunch of ladies or do you love it? I have a theory; being in a group of ladies is a marmite moment really; you either 'love it or hate it'!!

Either way, we would love you to come along and sample just what it is like to be with CMA's ladies who are sold out on God in a beautiful hotel for the weekend!

The CMA UK Ladies Conference has been running for the last six years and has grown from strength to strength. So many conferences are just information thrown at you, the majority of which you forget within months, weeks, days, or even hours. Why? Because you haven't put into action what you have learnt. All our teaching is Biblically based in practical workshops – where you are equipped to practice what God teaches!

Let me add to this. Have you ever wondered what your role is in CMA? Or are you assured of your role and could encourage others to find their niche in this amazing ministry God has given us?" Then this is another reason you should come.

We all need to be encouraged, learn more about God and grow in our relationship with Him, as well as each other. Through these conferences, we have become a family and we would love our family to increase. We want to share all of this with you.

This year's conference is titled "What About Me?". The emphasis? It's all about Jesus (of course) and you! We have built in plenty of worship, prayer, fun and relaxing time.

Come and join us, and if you hate Marmite and a bunch of ladies, let us change your mind on at least one. No, not Marmite!!

All you need to do is fill in the form, send off £10 deposit to Pauline Lowery and prepare to have time for you and Jesus for a WHOLE weekend..... by the way, there is £10 off the total cost this year and the booking price includes everything! (It's all on the booking form)

"After all these years, I am still involved in the process of self-discovery"

Sophia Loren



If you have any questions, you can always call me on (07778 165694) I would love to see you there.

Be blessed, with Love,

Sandy x

"Reach down and lift others up. It's the best exercise you can get."

Anon

The Booking Form is on the opposite page. To use it, either photocopy the page, or tear the page out of the magazine.

The AGM (in April every year) is a weekend of fellowship, praise and half a day of the business. Have you ever been? The hospitality is always excellent, as is the food, etc. This is for everyone in the CMA.

Need to know more?

Ask your branch chair or a member of the Exec.

The Exec are there for you to speak to - so ask all those questions.



Calling all CMA Members and Supporters

It sounds obvious, but please remember that Chainlink is your magazine. What would you like to see included in the content? If you have any suggestions about regular features, the format or anything related to it, please don't hesitate to contact us by email (chainlink@bike.org.uk). All items submitted for inclusion in the magazine will be considered. If, for reasons of space, an item doesn't make it into the next issue, the sender(s) will be informed, and their item may be taken forward to the following edition.



What about Me!

CMA UK Ladies Conference 25th - 27th October 2013

We warmly invite you to a **MUCH MORE RELAXED**
CMA Ladies Conference weekend this year – entitled

What about me!

There will be worship and prayer, with a few workshops in-between
and lots of socialising and fun!
The emphasis is on **REST, YOU and FUN.**

Your **ONLY** challenge is to **relax, relax, relax**

A Prize draw for all who attend will be on Saturday evening

1st Prize - Your weekend entirely free!

2nd Prize - Cinema tickets for 2

3rd Prize - Chocolates

Do you need rest and fun?

Then join us, and refill your cup to overflowing.

Who's invited?

CMA Ladies (friends, supporters, any lady you
would like to invite)

Details & Booking

See overleaf

Any questions? Call:

Sandy (0777-816509), Jackie (07941-383009) or
Pauline (07971-998786)

£10 off full booking price

Book now and don't miss this chance!

Booking Form

CMA (UK) Ladies Conference 25th to 27th October 2013

The Hayes Christian Conference Centre, Synnwick, Derbyshire, DE55 1AU

Essential Details – (Please Print)

Please tick the boxes if you **DO NOT** want:

Your address to be shared with other delegates

To be included in advertising, photographs or information.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Post Code: _____

Telephone number Home: _____ Mobile: _____

Email address: _____

Local Branch (even if you are not a member or supporter): _____

Duration of Stay (Please tick the appropriate box)

Full Time	Friday 2pm to Sunday 6.30pm	£100 pp
Day Time	Friday 9am to Sunday 9.30pm	£110 pp
Part Time	Saturday 9am to Sunday 4.30pm	£115 pp
Day Visitor	Friday 2pm to Sunday 4.30pm	£10 pp
Day Visitor	Saturday 9am to Sunday 4pm	£10 pp
Half Day Visitor	Saturday 9am to 1pm	£15 pp

*These rates include conference facilities, equipment, speakers, tea, coffee and snacks per person and are only for a continuation of 2013 prices (confirmed in October 2013) from the Hayes.

Payment Details – Please tick the appropriate boxes

I have enclosed my cheque / funds / £10 deposit to secure my booking

The remainder (£150) will be paid by cheque by standing order

Debit / Credit Card

Year 2013

Share or Single room: _____

Checklist made out for: CMA UK Ladies

Post or email to Pauline Harvey, 9 Manor Chase, Long Maccleson, York, YO26 7AP

confirm the Attendance of Pauline: placeyork@aol.com

Where to find a CMA Branch.

Scotland

Forth and Tay
Rest of Scotland
Scottish Borders

Midlands

East Midlands
Bedford
Norfolk
Norfolk Borders
(Shropshire)
Stafford
Towcester
West Midlands



Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland

North East

(East Yorkshire)
Lincs. & East Yorks
Northallerton (Thirsk)
North East
North East Derbyshire
West Yorkshire

North West

Lakes N' Lancs.
North Cheshire
South Lancs

South West

Bristol
Devon & Cornwall
Gloucester

Wales

North & West Wales
South Wales

South East

Hampshire and Dorset
Hampshire and Surrey Borders
Kent
Kent Coast
Most of Essex
South East London
(North East London)
Suffolk
Sussex
Thames Valley

Items in (brackets) indicate "Twigs" :
branches in development

?? Want to know more ??

e-mail: cma-admin@bike.org.uk

Tel: 0800 0154479

Web www.bike.org.uk

CMA is established in the following countries

Albania
Argentina
Australia
Belgium
Bulgaria
Canada
Croatia
Finland
France
Germany
Ireland

Italy
Latvia
Mexico
Namibia
Nepal
Netherlands
New Zealand
Paraguay
Poland
Portugal
South Africa

Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom
United States

For more information :
www.cmainternational.org/world-map.aspx



Yes, we know the map needs
updating (still) !!



Biker's Prayer Of Preparation (Ephesians 6 :11-16)

Jaimee Nix



As I pull on my trousers / bodysuit.

Jesus, my belt of truth; help me to hold fast to the road and close to you today.

As I put on my boots.

Jesus, my peace; ride with me today and equip me to share your Good News with whoever I meet.

As I zip up my jacket / bodysuit.

Jesus, my righteousness; reign in my heart and protect my emotions; prevent me from overreaction.

As I put on my helmet.

Jesus, my salvation; govern my thoughts and protect my mind; enable me to keep my conscience clear

As I put on my gloves

Jesus, the Word of God; enable me to cut through the lies and deceptions of the enemy so that I can see clearly the road ahead.

Jesus my shield and defender; enable me to live by faith and share your love in the power of your Spirit.

Amen.

Editor's Bit

You may have seen that, in this edition, we have not given the branch name for the authors of articles that have been submitted, and also that some articles aren't accompanied by photos of the author. In this edition, we've also reduced the font size throughout.

It would be interesting to know what our readers think of these changes. If you wish to comment, please send your thoughts, by email, to Chainlink@bike.org.uk

A reminder : if you are submitting any item for consideration for inclusion in Chainlink, please remember that any accompanying photos / images should be sent separately, and not "embedded" in a text / graphics document. If an image has to be extracted from a document, there is no guarantee of its quality in the printed magazine. We have also experienced problems with downloading images from on-line repositories and shared web-sites.

In short, if submitting images, please send them as separate attachments.

If you submit photos showing children, please make sure that you have the parents' / guardians' permission for the images to be used and confirm this when sending them to us. We will NOT use photos where this permission has not been received.

It's also worth noting that we try, wherever possible, to avoid showing bike registration details in photos. You will have seen in recent issues that these are blanked out, even though it may look a bit "scruffy".

If you want additional copies of the Magazine at any time, or a branch needs to change the number of copies it receives, please contact the Membership Secretary (contact details on page 2), who manages the distribution lists.

If you look at the contents list, you may notice names that are repeated and names that are featured regularly in Chainlink editions. Many thanks to those of you who make regular contributions to our magazine. You make my life easier.

To those who haven't yet submitted items for inclusion in the magazine, I encourage you to do it! How about telling us what your branch has done recently, a ride you've been on, a trip you've made, or writing something that will encourage our readership in their walk with God?

Not a Booker Prize writer? No matter; we can help you with content, format and all the other things that may be required. All we need from you is your story. Come on, give it a go!

Regards,

Bob
<>

UK Events 2013

Our web site (www.bike.org) has all the information required about national and branch events.

From the home page, click on Events (under Activities).

Click on "All branches, ALL events" and this will take you to a comprehensive listing of all CMA planned activities, by date.

We urge you to support as many of the items as possible.

Prayer

"Is prayer your steering wheel or your spare tyre?"
Corrie ten Boom

"I have lived to thank God that not all my prayers have been answered"
Jean Ingelow

"Prayer is the place where burdens change shoulders"
Anon

"Prayer does not change God, but it changes those who pray"
Soren Kierkegaard

"If your day is hemmed with prayer, it is less likely to unravel"
Anon

Mean It When You Say It

Tanas



Recently I have been reading John Stott - an amazing man who had many words of wisdom to give during his life; words now living on in pages, which will continue to challenge long after his passing.

In many of his writings he talks about mission, sacrifices, missionaries, social responsibilities and especially, the Cross. Many of you know that my job takes me to different places around the world and that I am often to be found at 30,000 feet, or more, above the ground. As I board the plane and look for my seat, I pray and hope that I will find a person to have a good conversation with. On one of my trips, I sat next to a man who was dressed smartly, had a book in his hand and went on reading it. As I sat next to him, I said 'good morning' and 'how are you?' He greeted me politely as you would expect from a British gentleman. After take-off and before the meal was served, we started talking about the cold weather, the rain and then politics. Later on I told him my name and so did he. Then the big question came, 'What do you do for living?' I smiled and was very happy to tell him that I was a missionary, was proud of what I do, why I travel, how many missionaries I manage and about the CMA and so on. Then I asked him about what he does, he smiled and said, 'I am a missionary too'. 'Wow', I said 'that is great, so what do you do?' 'Well', he said, 'I greet people as they come into the church and greet them again as they leave'.

My first thought was, that is not real mission, greeting people! We do that all the time; he's not a real missionary like me. But he continued, saying how ours is a very lonely world, how people are stuck with their own individualism, and with human interaction becoming less and less. 'I feel that my greeting will encourage people to feel loved and heard, and therefore they will come back to church'. I was gobsmacked, as I am a true believer in the small things that we do which make a difference in other peoples'

lives. I regretted my thoughts and then asked the gentleman to talk more about his view of mission.

The reason I share this story is because of what we do in CMA. In one of John Stott's books, he says, "Every Christian should be both conservative and radical; conservative in preserving the faith and radical in applying it." How do we apply our faith? How do I share my story, my testimony, about Jesus dying on the cross for me? Is serving a cuppa at a rally considered mission work? Is greeting a fellow biker and asking him or her how they are, considered mission? I am sure many of you have thought about this and questioned what we do and if it is effective. Well let me tell you, it is very effective and influential, too. The smile, the serving and the greeting could change someone's day and make it a better one. When you are passionate about it, about what you do, people will see it and know it, especially when you simply ask someone, 'how are you?' Be sure you listen carefully, make it a habit to look into their eyes, and give them your full undivided attention - that is mission.

"We must allow the Word of God to confront us, to disturb our security, to undermine our complacency and to overthrow our patterns of thought and behaviour."

John R.W. Stott

If we allow God's word to challenge us, our behaviour will change, our attitude will be altered and our fear will be overcome. Seek God, trust in Him, and share your story. You do not have to be a preacher or an evangelist - just be the person God has changed and loves and share that love with others by telling them how much God loves them too.

Two years ago, at the Oscar ceremony, Ricky Gervais looked at the audience and said, 'When I look at you, I see great works of art by plastic surgeons.' But seriously, when you look at people who do not know God's love, what do you see? Sometimes we label people so that we can avoid sharing our story or do what we are called to do. If we try to see people through the Lord's eyes, then our mission will be different, our actions focused and radical. I do not emphasise how 'bad' their faith or lives might be. I concentrate on how awesome, amazing, fulfilling, joyful, filled with hope my faith is - and that this is the reason they should know Jesus. Because, once they know Him, their lives will change, just like mine, and they can then go on to share all these amazing blessings with others.

So, next time you meet someone 'on the road' - smile, greet them and be amazed at what God can do in the simple act of conversation.

A "new" Christian wrote to HMRC (Inland Revenue to us "oldies") :

"Dear Sirs,
I can't sleep at night for guilt, so I am enclosing a cheque for £100 as tax for income that I forgot to declare.
P.S. If I still can't sleep, I will send the rest."

Queen Victoria was out one Sunday with her faithful servant, John Brown. She noticed someone fishing from a boat on the loch. "Fancy people doing that on the Sabbath," she remarked. "But Madam," said Brown, "the Lord Jesus was in a boat on the Sabbath." The Queen turned and replied sharply, "Two wrongs don't make a right."

Terry Riddle



Terry Riddle was chairman of the East Midlands branch of CMA. He passed away earlier this year. At his funeral, many CMA members were in attendance. Colin Wood and Ian Cameron of CMA East Midlands were honoured to give a eulogy, from which the following is an extract.

Colin :
Terry had "Biker" running through his blood. He was known to us, and in the wider biker community, as Uncle Terry.

He started riding bikes in the 1960's; he was very much the rocker and at one time part of the Leicester Phoenix MCC. Whilst still a biker at heart, he took up riding again in the 1990's, and it was in 1997 that I dragged him along to the local branch of the Christian Motorcyclists Association (CMA)

Ian:
Those of us who knew Uncle Terry, knew he had a passion for reaching people with the Gospel, the good news of Jesus. He found the CMA gave him a natural environment for this.

In a Holy Joe's tent, full of bikers, Terry was the one who could start a conversation at all levels. At a biker pub, truck stop or a classic bike show, Terry would be found, sharing his love of bikes, both old and new, on one hand and giving a Biker Bible away with the other.

Colin:
In the last few years Terry became more actively involved in the leadership of the local CMA branch, initially as treasurer (although I think Jan had a hand in that) and more recently as Chairman, keeping us on a steady keel whilst challenging us to get out to new events and opportunities to share our faith.

Ian:
It is testament today that so many of his biker friends have come to pay their respects and to escort Terry on his final journey. We all know that Terry had rules for a Run, so, as we know he will be watching over us, here are Terry's rules for a run.

- Don't be late, or we will go without you (although I don't recall anyone being left behind, it's been close a couple of times)

-Make sure you have enough fuel – we're not stopping

- Ride in a staggered formation

Terry always took up the "tail end Charlie position" - but not today

Colin:
Terry's favourite events were those including a meal. In particular, Terry enjoyed the breakfast runs. This is always a good opportunity to invite friends, have a ride and enjoy some good food, and Terry did enjoy a good breakfast even if he always went for the "lighter option" – honest, Jan!

We will have a breakfast run in Terry's memory in September, when, of course, we will all have the lighter option! (Well, maybe. . . .)

Ian:
In closing, Terry would often be a little dour in his moods, but would never accept the criticism of being a grump or grumpy, and last year, we were able to present him with a dog tag and embroidered patch, with what we see as his epitaph; they read

"I am not grumpy - I am the voice of mature reason"

On the day of the funeral, friends from CMA and the biker community were able to ride behind the motorcycle hearse on Terry's final journey.

It was a fitting tribute to "Uncle Terry"



Left to right: Tony Stanton, Colin Wood and, with his Triumph cub, Terry Riddle



Inaugural CMA and World Horizons trip to Lille, France April 2013

Brian Carbonero

"Speak to Brian – he's always going on trips abroad". With those words at last year's CMA National Rally, Mike Fitton sent David Gallagher my way so I could help to arrange a weekend trip to France for any CMA and World Horizons folk who wanted to go.

Ironically, I'd only ridden my bike abroad once before at that point! Fortunately, David is a seasoned traveller so I just needed to help out by being his link with CMA and doing some of the co-ordination. World Horizons have a base in a wonderful white chateau in Thumeries, near to Lille in northern France. It makes an ideal trip for anyone's first time abroad on a bike as it is only about 80 miles from Calais.



David G from World Horizons (left) who made the trip possible

So the end of April this year saw over twenty intrepid souls having signed up to go. We'd all made sure we'd got the necessary documents, our bikes were in good order, and we'd also decided whether or not to put the silly looking reflective stickers on our crash helmets that are technically a legal requirement in France. Given the long winter and rubbish weather we were glad we'd settled on a weekend towards the end of April, as we'd still had snow (even here in Essex!) until a couple of weeks before we left.

As it was, the weather had warmed up and although we had rain on the way down to the ferry, the weather was good for the rest of the weekend. Other concerns were soon proven to be unfounded. Despite a couple of people worrying about it in advance, the language barrier didn't cause a problem – we even

found we could understand the CMA folk from Yorkshire without a translator!

It would have been bonkers to try and ride as one big group so, although most of us met up at Dover to travel over on the same ferry, we rode in a number of small groups the rest of the time. That worked out very well, as different groups formed based on what people wanted to do. For example, on the Saturday there was a range of options, from a long ride of around 200 miles, right through to the chance to stay more local



The Chateau

and go to Lille for some sight-seeing. This means that each of us who went has a different story to tell, and getting together over a meal in the evenings meant we could get to build new friendships and catch up on what we'd been up to during the day.



For my part, on Saturday I went with Rob and two others to head in the general direction of the WW1 battlefields in Belgium, seeing where our wheels took us in the meantime. Rob's preference for map reading meant that we found some really interesting places as we wended our way towards Belgium. Some people unkindly referred to this as "getting lost", but I prefer to think of it as having freedom to explore. I say that despite one occasion when we were trying to find the right way out of one town and ended up going all the way around a roundabout in a train station – for the second time in five minutes, much to the bewilderment of four gents who were waiting for a train. Proving the doubters wrong, Rob successfully led us to Tyne Cot Cemetery in Belgium, where there is a small museum and a very large war cemetery. It was very moving to be there, and we decided to return on Sunday to explore the area further and visit a museum about the WW1 battle of Passchendaele.

(Continued on Page 15)

(Continued from Page 14)

On Sunday we all attended a church service in the morning, where we received a very warm welcome – particularly from one member of the church who was a motorcyclist (who Mike suggested should re-establish CMA France!). Two other church members kindly translated the service for us – which was particularly appreciated given that the service lasted longer than most of us were used to, and we'd have sat there looking bewildered for two hours otherwise! We then grabbed some lunch and headed off to Passchendaele.



Tyne Cot Cemetary

The museum was well worth the trouble of the journey back there again for the afternoon.

Looking back over the weekend, it seemed to have gone all too quickly. We didn't have any problems with the bikes, other than Ted's headlight bulb going, and Rob's nearside handlebar grip coming loose in the rain on the journey to Dover. Rob apparently fixed this with some hairspray. At least that's what he said the hairspray was for – although, come to think of it, he always looks immaculately groomed even when he's been wearing a crash helmet.

We also had the chance to get a better understanding of what World Horizons do, and how CMA's support in terms of helping to provide motorcycle transport for people in other countries is put to very good use.

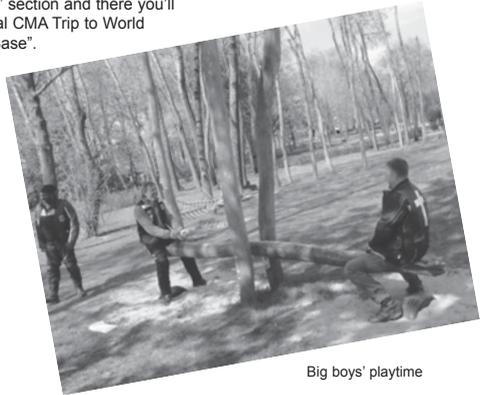
Everyone said how good it had been, and there was definite enthusiasm for doing it again. In fact, we already have a provisional date for the next CMA and World Horizons trip to Lille – the bank holiday weekend at the end of May 2014, so if you think you'd be interested in going on that one, save the date in your diary. There's even talk of similar trips to World Horizon's bases in the south of France and Morocco!

Monday gave us the opportunity to have a short service with the team at the chateau before we headed home. It was a real highlight of the weekend, and provided real food for thought as we rode back to the ferry and home.



Lille

I hope this and the selection of photos gives a flavour of the weekend. There are many more photos in the album we have on our Facebook page, which anyone can find and access by typing "Christian Motorcyclists Association MESS" into the internet search engine of your choice, clicking on "photos", then the "albums" section and there you'll find the "Inaugural CMA Trip to World Horizons's Lille Base".



Big boys' playtime

Finally, a big thank you to David and all the World Horizons team who came with us on the trip and made it possible for us to have a wonderful weekend with them.

At the end of his sermon, the minister told the congregation that the Lord had called him to another church. The next song in the service was "What a friend we have in Jesus".

It was only when the worship leader saw smiles on the face of some of the congregation that he realised that the song he had chosen to follow the offering was "There must be more than this".

(This actually happened - to me; it's my story. ed)



Ian Francis

What an exciting time we've been having at Bikers Church (BC) recently. Almost three years old and going from strength to strength, we have seen such blessing and encouragement. At each meeting, we see new people coming through our doors, and people giving their lives to the Lord Jesus Christ. We are kept busy discipling these newbies and feeding them the milk of the Gospel. Our speakers over the last few months have been Sid (North Cheshire Chairman), Kevin Jones (Methodist minister/biker), Pontus J Back (International evangelist) and Colin Pownall (Bikers Church Pastor), each of whom has brought a great message which has prompted responses from us.

Our bible feast on the 3rd Sunday of each month is also becoming more popular, with attendances exceeding 25 on a regular basis. This is a great opportunity to get deeper into the Word and learn more. Each month, an invited speaker (usually from within BC or CMA) shares and teaches from a portion of scripture, and afterwards there is an opportunity for discussion and / or questions about the passage or talk. It is also a great opportunity for people to get used to speaking, presenting the Gospel and teaching from the bible.

Visit to Bikers Church by Pontus J Back

We had a brilliant week when Pontus J Back, from Finland, visited us at Bikers Church.

Pontus is an international evangelist with an amazing testimony which he delivers through word and song. He was in the North West for a week and we made full use of his presence, organizing eleven meetings in six days, during which time over 50 people gave their lives to the Lord!

John Rowley picked him up from the airport and took him to the Mercury motel near Bolton (where the South Lancs branch meet) where they looked after him admirably.

Pontus used to be a rock musician, playing with some of the biggest names in rock (Whitesnake, Lynard Skynard & Status Quo to name but three). While on the rock circuit the drugs and drink took their toll and he found himself close to death with a liver that looked like a Swiss cheese, malfunctioning kidneys and bleeding internal ulcers. He was

On a Tuesday morning, we have a regular bible study led by Colin Pownall for people who are free during the day to come and learn more from the Word. This is well attended and those who come are getting a real blessing from the teaching.

We are also expanding (no jokes about the waistline please) into the Midlands, with a new branch of Bikers Church in Walsall at the Rock Church (Lichfield House, Lichfield Street, Walsall, WS1 1TJ). The host church is very enthusiastic and is keen to help with the worship and refreshments. Please pray for this new venture that we will see the same (or better) results that we have seen in the North West. Please pray for the leadership team, that they seek God's will in how to further His kingdom amongst the biking community in the Midlands and be an effective witness in the area.

We at Bikers Church North West, together with the North Cheshire branch, are sponsoring a Formula 2 Sidecar outfit (Team Founds racing) and in March we attended a fundraiser for the team and presented them with a cheque. This is a unique opportunity to reach bikers from the racing scene. We are hoping to get along to some local races (Oulton Park & Anglesey), to distribute biker

bibles & tracts and share our faith with the racing teams and the spectators. Our logo will be on the bodywork of the sidecar outfit, hopefully raising our profile and making people curious as to who we are and what we stand for. We don't know what involvement (e.g. Holy Joes / gazebo) we will be allowed yet, so please pray for this witness.

Coming up, we have some child dedications planned. We would also love to see some of our newly saved members follow Christ's command and go through the waters of baptism - hopefully it will be before the weather turns too cold, so that we are not breaking the ice (like the last time!)

We look forward to seeing you at Bikers Church in the near future, either in Warrington or Walsall. Whether it's your first time or you have been many times before, the warm welcome will be the same.

miraculously healed and now spends his life telling of how he found new life in Christ.

Hopefully we haven't scared him off and he may be visiting us again in September or October. If you didn't manage to make it to any of his meetings, then I strongly urge you to try and get to see him on his next visit, bringing non Christian friends with you.



The Sun Shines On The Righteous

Clare Barratt

"The Sun shines on the righteous?" – it certainly shone on the Bikers Church on the Bank Holiday weekend service at the Rock Church in Walsall, a service that was run by the Shropshire Twig of the CMA.

The service had been work in progress since it was decided that different branches could take a service each month and May was the turn of Shropshire.

The overwhelming feeling of the Shropshire Twig members was that the service should have a theme, involve everyone in the branch and leave the congregation uplifted and ready for any challenges we faced in the weeks ahead. I've set out below how it all developed, how we all worked together to make the service a special and memorable one with the accent on praising our Lord.

The service was based around the theme of the Armour of God (Ephesians 6:10-20), as one of the members, Chris Barratt, had a message whilst praying very early on in the planning, and went with the guidance offered him whilst in prayer. From this, he developed a sermon covering the topics of the belt of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, the helmet of salvation, the shield of faith, sword of the spirit and shoes for the gospel of peace.

Brian Evans opened the service with a welcome and a prayer, and then explained how he had come to the CMA and how the twig was developing as it aimed to become a branch.

This led onto one of our supporters, Julie, reading 1 John 1:5 - 10



It was then the turn of the Rock Church worship team, led by Tony Hanson, uplifting

spirits with the worship songs Majesty, Amazing Grace, Mighty to Save and How Deep The Fathers Love For Us.

Helen Evans then took up her place as "comper" and introduced two more members, Anthony and Debra Galliers, who very bravely shared their testimonies, which they had only shared for the first time on Easter Sunday this year, when they were baptised at their local church in Shrewsbury.

A new supporter, Elisa, even though only having attended one Shropshire meeting and one previous Bikers Church service, read the verses of Ephesians that were the topic of the sermon, delivered by Chris.



He was introduced by Helen, who lead prayer for him before he spoke and aided him with readings. His sermon covered the topics already mentioned :

Belt of truth – holding up our spiritual pants! – Chris felt this was representing our mission within the biking community and beyond, and it was followed by a reading from John 14:6

Breastplate of righteousness – our cut offs and protective clothing, followed by a reading from Matthew 18: 19-20



Shield of Faith – seen as our motorbike, getting us from place to place, allowing us to spread the word and deflect the arrows of the evil one. This was followed by a reading from 1 Peter 5:8-9

Helmet of Salvation and Sword of the Spirit – our helmet, of course, is our helmet of salvation, protecting our heads and minds so we may continue our work, and the Sword of the spirit is our Bible, piercing through the evilness and spreading the word of our Lord, followed by James 4:7

And lastly, **our shoes** (or in CMA case, motorbike boots,) - allowing us to be steadfast and secure in our footing when spreading the Gospel of Peace, ending with Romans 10:15

Brian then read the Lord's Prayer, explaining how it gives the person praying strength and relating it to our everyday lives, and closing with a prayer of thankfulness.

The worship team then stepped up to the fore once again, and roused the congregation with The Battle Belongs To The Lord, Greatest Day In History (O Happy Day) and Majesty – and the congregation were singing for all they were worth, praising the Lord with their voices and hearts.

Another one of the new supporters of the Shropshire twig, Mike, read Ephesians 6:23-24, ending our first Shropshire Twig Bikers Church service.

We all found the experience very uplifting, incredibly nerve racking, but so very worth the time and effort we all put in, trying to make this service a message from the Lord that we will stand and ride together, deflecting the arrows of the evil one, by spreading the word of the Gospel of Peace.

From Raleigh to VFR

Rob Davies

I was a bit apprehensive about sharing my testimony, as it doesn't really fit the biker model. I was never abused as a child, never in a children's home, never rescued by a back patch gang or coerced into criminal activities. I genuinely believed that it may be of little interest to others.

I was brought up in a very caring home with two siblings where I was the eldest. My parents showed me love all of my life and introduced me to church from a very early age. I attended Sunday school from as early as I can remember and continued to do so up until my late teens. I remember when I was ten years old (46 years ago) attending a young people's meeting after church where we were shown a 'Fact and Faith' film. This was a type of Christian documentary where the wonders of the natural world were demonstrated in the context of God's word and creation. I was utterly fascinated and all of the teaching that I had had in Sunday school came flooding into my head. Later that evening I told my mum, and together we prayed and I asked Jesus to forgive my sins and to come into my life. I was a new creature and my life was his forever! For the next seven years I continued to attend the Baptist church that my parents went to. I attended several meetings per week including four services on Sundays. I don't believe that many young people were more thoroughly churched than me.

A major milestone in my life happened when I was seventeen and one of my friends arrived at church on a Kawasaki H2 750. I couldn't believe my eyes. I can't tell you how much I wanted one, but as I only earned 70 pence per week delivering newspapers, I knew that there was very little chance of owning one unless I took up bank robbery or mugging pensioners!

I was desperate to join the motorcycling community so I carefully scrimped and saved until I had got the four pounds I needed to purchase an ancient Raleigh Runabout moped. This was hardly an H2 but at least I was rolling! My machine was flat out at 23 mph and got there fairly quickly when I supported the rather pathetic motor by pedalling furiously. I never imagined that it would be of interest to others, so I didn't bother locking it away at night. Someone else obviously did have an interest, however, and it was stolen late one night.

I managed to persuade a bank manager to lend me a couple of hundred pounds, but

instead of buying a perfectly good second hand BSA or Honda, I went for a brand new Cossack Voskhod 175. This was an atrocious machine with



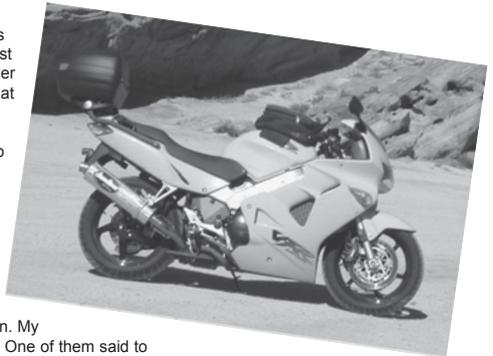
almost no front brake and very dodgy ignition which had the massive disadvantage of giving me an electric shock whenever I put my feet on the floor! I later swapped this machine for a push bike and did not touch motorcycles again for thirty years.

I left home for the first time at eighteen to go to college. I was determined to allow Christ to shine through me whilst I was away but on the very first evening, I let myself and the Lord down by going out with a small group of new associates and getting blind drunk. I was devastated with myself, but for the next two years I continued to have a dual existence. When I came back to my parents, I behaved like the perfect Christian but when I was away at college I was just one of the students, never admitting to my peers that I was a Christian. Late one evening I had been out drinking with a group of friends and the subject of religion and Christianity came up. The beer must have given me confidence because I started to share what Christ meant to me and how I had become a Christian. My friends were astounded. One of them said to me, "Rob, if you believe all this you shouldn't be out like this with us, you should be in church praying for forgiveness!" I felt terrible. God had spoken to me in a strange and wonderful way.

The next day I turned up (slightly hung over) at a Baptist church nearby. The people there were wonderful to me and I rapidly gained a new circle of friends who supported and helped me. My dual life was over and my life cleaned up. There was a massive difference in my new church and friends compared with

the church where I had been brought up which was not obvious to me at first. There was a passion for Jesus amongst the people of my own age that I had never seen before. I told my new friends what I had noticed and they quickly realised that although I had been a Christian for several years, I knew nothing about being filled with the Holy Spirit or spiritual gifts. This was a teaching that was frowned upon by the church that I had been brought up in. After being invited to a Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International meeting and being prayed for by my new friends, I allowed the Holy Spirit to baptize me and I was able to speak in tongues and develop other spiritual gifts.

The years have rolled on and I have been involved in loads of different types of Christian ministries and activities. About five years ago, I was invited to my brother's home to join a New Year celebration. I remember arriving outside his house and parking the car. As I walked the few yards along his front path, the Lord spoke to me in a very unique and strange way. I call it my own personal Damascus Road experience. The Lord said to me: "Rob, go and buy a motorcycle!" When I went into my brother's home I immediately told him what had happened. One of the invited guests that evening was Colin Pownall, (CMA big chief and all round good egg!) He immediately shouted, "Praise the Lord" and I made plans with my brother to get riding lessons and to get a bike.



I took riding lessons in early February and passed my test after four days instruction on 14th February 2008. The same day I bought my first bike for over thirty years, a second hand Suzuki Bandit. I now own a very beautiful 1999 Honda VFR 800. I have been involved with North Cheshire CMA and Biker Church for over a year now and am feeling God's call to increase my involvement. I am eager to find out what God has in store for me during the coming years.

Hands at Work, South Africa

Martin Cullum

I joined the CMA fifteen months ago having ridden motorcycles for 32 years and been a Christian for 23 years.

After assisting at an Alpha Course at Battsiford Free Church, I felt challenged to reach out to people with whom I associate with; namely other bikers. Whilst at the TT Races in 2011, I visited the CMA stand and picked up a Biker Bible and spoke to representatives there. On returning home, I searched out the local CMA branch, located in Ipswich, on the internet.

At Battsiford Free Church, we support a family within a Christian Charity called Hands at Work who invited a team to visit South Africa and help, experience and report back to encourage other people to visit in the future. As a builder, I felt willing to go to assist in some elements of building and maintenance, even though as a Suffolk lad I had never ventured out of Europe, and I was to discover that using my building skills was not to be in God's plan during my visit.



The Pastor of the Church, Iain Shaddick, and myself travelled in February this year, leaving England at a minus 4 wind chill and arrived in Johannesburg to 32 degree heat – what an introduction to South Africa! We drove to Pebbles near White River, in the province of Mpumalanga, near the border of Swaziland and the Kruger National Park.

Hands at Work are a Christian Charity with its hub in South Africa, who travel within a three hour drive from the hub to communities in Mandlesive, Siyathuthuka and Nhluvuko. Its main aim is to care for orphaned children within the black communities whose parents have died of Aids. They visit communities and seek out ladies who are already caring for children and provide education, finances, food and clothes to that community, all based on Jesus Christ as a foundation. They also operate in other African countries.

Whilst we were there we visited various communities, sang and prayed with Community Care Workers at their home-based community hut and assisted in feeding between 50-70 orphaned children on their return from school. We played games and spent time with them which was incredibly humbling as adult interaction and even a simple gesture of holding a hand was alien to them.



We spent one night staying with a 15 year old lad who was caring for his four year old niece while his 19 year old sister was in hospital, three hours away, caring for her two year old baby who was suffering from malnutrition. We slept in his mud hut, with no locks or door and the toilet was a hole in the ground, ten minutes walk away. We collected water for him in 25 litre drums via a hand operated pump, ¾ mile away, down a mountain side, while he cooked us tea. If the pump stopped working, water came from a stream a further mile away in the valley. It really makes you appreciate clean water from turning on a tap at home.

As a church, we are intending to send a team in July 2014 to further our relations with our Hands at Work colleagues and the communities that we visited. We are also setting up increased financial support for our family at Hands at Work and as many children as we can in a community called Share. We are offering shares in Share at £15 per child per month. If you would like to get involved, please email me at 145maxvelocity@gmail.com.

***The deadline for the next edition is
14th September, 2013***

A missionary called John Vassar knocked on the door of a person's home and asked the lady if she knew Christ. She said, "It's none of your business!" and slammed the door in his face. He stood on the doorstep and wept and wept. She was looking out of her window at him weeping. The following Sunday, she went to her local church, wanting to know more about Christ. She said it was those tears.

*"The whole of history is
incomprehensible without Jesus."
Ernest Renan*

It's Never Too Late Sue Brown

On 19th May, my 90-year old mother got baptised. She had been visiting from Portugal, her home for the last 27 years with my father, who died just before Christmas 2012. During breakfast, we had been listening to the Sunday Service on BBC Radio 4. It is one of my pleasures to do this each week, as I attend a large, non-denominational, metropolitan church in central Manchester where such things as the Anglican calendar are not observed. The service progressed and the subject of Pentecost arose. As we ate our porridge, my mother pointed out that it was, albeit in a slightly different way, the day when the followers of Jesus got baptised. We reflected on this and I remembered that four people were due to get baptised that day in my own church. This was welcome news. We had lingered over breakfast and would struggle to arrive for the usual 10 o'clock start, but the baptisms meant we had an extra half an hour. I opened my laptop and found the Vinelife page on which the church's approach to baptism was described and we looked at that together.

It transpired that my mum had been baptised, for purely administrative reasons, almost sixty years ago. She had to be in order to get married to my dad. Mum said that, back then she hadn't really got a faith of any kind, but she was engaged to a Welshman who was brought up going to chapel. It was irrelevant that his attendance had stopped as a young man serving in the Royal Navy and had not been part of his post-war working life. He had remained a man of faith and marriage was something that took place in church. So my mother got baptised. She rounded up a couple of female friends (who giggled all the way through) and, in her own words, "went through the service just to get her man". Then she and the girls went to the pub!

As she reminisced and I told her of the similarities between baptisms at Vinelife and those that take place at Bikers Church, she said that she'd been feeling more and more that she should get baptised 'properly'. During the last twenty years, both my parents had begun to go to church and have enjoyed a deep and growing relationship with Jesus. The subject had come up a few times at their church, St Vincent's (in the Algarve), but had not gone further. Since my father's death, my mum's wish had become more urgent. I explained that, when baptisms take place at Bikers Church, we give an invitation for anyone else who feels moved to be baptised and can articulate their reasons, they can be.



I didn't think Vinelife would be any different. We changed our clothes and got our towels and set off for Manchester.

On arrival, I found the Pastor, Phil Smith, and explained the position. My mother wanted to get baptised – would that be a problem? It was not. We met with Ralph,



who was introducing the days' baptisms and he talked us through the process. With the other four getting baptised, my mum would need to be willing to get up and say a few words – where she had come from and why she was choosing to do this now. Then they would move over to the pool for a whole body dunking! The service began and, after a time of singing, this is exactly what happened. Mum's testimony was simple. She said she'd come from Portugal and she was staying in Bolton with 'her Susan' and that for some years she'd felt increasingly that God was calling her to be baptised. She said, "My first was one of convenience. I didn't have a faith of my own, but I had to get baptised to marry my husband. I've just lost Tom after 58 years of marriage and now I want to get baptised again."

It was perhaps one of the greatest honours of my life thus far to be able to assist. And so my little mum, who is less than 5'2", got baptised. It was a full immersion in cold water, in front of a church full of 'strangers' – but, in Jesus, she was with her family. She was shivering afterwards, so we went for a celebratory bowl of tomato and roasted red pepper soup with homemade bread, across the park.

It's never too late to get baptised.

Merchandise from CMA UK

Please browse through the CMA UK web site for the merchandise that is available, using the link on the website, or go direct to :

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

All profits from the sale of merchandise go to the Biker Bible fund.

The products are now listed with codes so that you know exactly what you are ordering. Download an order form.

Please ensure that it is completed fully; especially that you specify sizes.

Note that any merchandise bearing the CMA logo is available only to CMA members and requires your local branch Chair's signature on the order form.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email us at merchandise@bike.org.uk or call 0800 0154479 and leave a message. We are still accepting urgent orders via email.

All cheques should be made payable to "CMA UK Merchandise" and sent with your order form to the address shown of the form.

National Chairman and the Executive Team



Mike Fitton
National Chairman



Elaine Williams
National Secretary



Rob Urand
National Treasurer



Jason Bee



Ian Cameron



Ted Russell



Bob Hughes-Burton

No picture yet

Charles Clapham



Sid O'Neill

Executive News, giving a brief rundown as to what's been happening, is available after the executive meeting via the website The Exec are there to serve. Do not be afraid to contact them.

News From The Executive

AGM 2013

The CMA UK AGM 2013 was hosted by the East Midlands Branch and held on 20 April 2013 at All Saints Church, Loughborough. Our thanks go to the Branch and the Church for hosting the event and looking after and feeding everyone.

The meeting started with a time of worship led by the Church's worship group. Following this, the AGM business commenced and, after some general formalities of agreeing the minutes for 2012 and appointing tellers and a secretary for the meeting, Mike Fitton gave his report. He spoke about the European Conference, his sabbatical in the USA and the resources available to CMA UK, which I have listed below. Mike's theme was "Take New Territory", so what are our branches doing in seeking to go into places where there is no CMA presence?

Rob Urand presented the accounts for the year and all other reports had been circulated for Members to read prior to the meeting.

Debbie Clapham and Tony Yalden stepped down from the Executive at the AGM. Charles Clapham and Ted Russell were elected to serve on the Executive.

There was a discussion about the National Rally and a few other points were mentioned. Mike then summed up the AGM and the meeting closed in prayer.

The 2014 AGM will be on Saturday 26 April 2014 at a venue to be agreed. Please put this date in your diaries.

Resources

CMA UK has a number of resources for you to use, including those listed below:

1. Biker Bibles
2. Fasttrack
3. Tracts
4. Chainlink
5. Merchandise
6. CMA UK's website

Executive Meetings 2013

Executive meetings for the rest of 2013 are on 14 September, 19 October and 30 November. The Executive would appreciate your prayers for their meetings and the on-going projects that they are involved with.

Elaine Williams
CMA UK National Secretary

Jesus was born in a borrowed manger. He preached from a borrowed boat. He entered Jerusalem on a borrowed donkey. He ate the Last Supper in a borrowed upper room, and He was buried in a borrowed tomb.

Now He asks to borrow the lives of Christians to reach the rest of the world. If we do not speak, then He is dumb and silent.

Dr. Leighton Ford

God Loves Chatterboxes! Hallelujah!!

Yvonne Miller

"Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know" (Jeremiah 33:3 NKJV)

"He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him" (Psalm 91:15 NKJV)

"...the prayer of the upright is His delight" (Proverbs 15:8 NKJV)

I am well known as a "chatterbox", and once I get going, it's hard to stop me! Even my letter writing is known to go on for pages, and emails sometimes run off the page. Recipients often say to me "Your letters and emails are like detailed novels, enjoyable to read, accompanied by a cup of coffee! How do you find the time and the resources to say so much?" That, I can answer quite honestly, comes from the wonderful gift that God Himself bestowed upon me with His inspiration to write about things I learn, things I see, situations I experience, and most of all, when God desires for me to share a burden and, in so doing, encourage someone else who might be experiencing something similar.

As parents, we often have to ask our children to stop talking so much and to give us a bit of peace. This is ironic really, when we spend the first year of our children's lives teaching them to talk and learn words!! There is a delightful saying: "A child spends its first year being encouraged to talk, then spends the next twenty years being told to shut up!" True!!

Communicating (I don't like calling it chatting) is something I truly enjoy, and will happily strike up a conversation with any obliging stranger at the bus stop, shopping centre, hospital, or maybe just walking along the road. At first it was my parents who worried about this and warned me of the dangers that could arise, and now my husband and family equally get frustrated and worried that I love to chat to anyone .

Emails are an instant and quick way to communicate with our family, friends and others, but there are times when the server or website is overloaded and crashes so that messages cannot get through. Or a recipient has software that filters emails and some messages go immediately to "spam" or "trash".

Phone calls can also become frustratingly tedious, especially when you dial a number, then have a choice to make from about eight options, only to get a robotic recording informing you that: "Due to an unusually high call volume we are unable to take your call at this time. Please call back later, or leave a message and we will call you back as soon as we can." More often than not, they never call you back!

God never ever tires of our calls or s-mail (Spirit mail). His "line" is never too busy for our call to Him, and He has an abundant,

unlimited, capacity to hear and to help when we speak to Him. In fact, God is waiting right now for a call from each one of us, and amazingly, He has the power and capacity to speak back to each one of us all the time! Isn't this amazing? We don't even have to worry that there is "someone else on the line" who might listen in. Each one of us has direct access to His grace, love and hearing ear, plus we get His answer when we ask Him for it.

We can call 999 at any time of day or night, and there is always someone to answer; someone who is trained to stay calm and to convey that calmness to us when we are panicking. Sometimes, in our hysterical situation, we are unable to say what the problem is and our emotions are out of control. The operator does not see this as the problem, because already the right emergency service has been contacted, and they even know your phone number and address, due to advanced technology, so while the operator is calming you down, the emergency service vehicle is already pulling up at your front door.

It is the same with our "999" prayers to God. Sometimes, in our desperate situations and pain, we are overwhelmed and don't know the words to speak. But God hears because He knows our name and everything about us, and help is on the way. In Romans 8:26-28 we are encouraged with the words that the Holy Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. The Holy Spirit speaks for us when we can't! Isn't that so amazingly gracious of God to provide us with this helpline? So come on talk to God ALL THE TIME, day or night . . . because He loves chatting with us and never tires of us being "chatterboxes". In fact, God desires for us to spend time with Him, chatting, praying and calling on His help and guidance in our daily lives.

So I say, thank God, and praise Him that He loves my endless chatter, my endless communication with Him, and the endless songs and praise I sing (silently, because everyone would evacuate if they heard my tone-less voice), that fill my heart and mind with the wonderful psalms and hymns to His glory.

Just recently, I had the unnerving experience of having to travel by train, alone, from Guildford to Redhill in Surrey, at night. The situation arose because of my husband being kept overnight in hospital in Guildford,

and I did not relish the thought of travelling on the motorway alone at night, especially on the M25. So, I decided to leave my car at the hospital and to travel home by train. The first thing I did, of course, was to ask the Lord for His safety and guidance in my decisions.

Well, Guildford station was not too bad, and I boarded the train for Redhill. There were only two other people in the carriage besides me. I sat chatting to the Lord and we had a joyful time together.

Arriving at Redhill, I noticed it was VERY dark, and the station "attendants" were walking around with torches. Ooooh, this was scary, I can tell you, especially with me not being very steady of my feet. I followed one of the torch bearers, albeit not an Olympic torch bearer, yet he was very obliging and took me to the right platform to board the train for Three Bridges station. The stairway was pitch black and the other platform had very dim lights that kept flickering on and off. Whew! I thanked God for His presence and safety and we spent time chatting together. The train arrived and two stops later I arrived home at Three Bridges, where my dear friends met me and took me home. Again, my conversation with God proved to be fruitful, because I found my two dear little dogs had been absolutely good for the twelve hours they had been closed indoors. But most of all, I bombarded the Lord with my endless praise and thanks for Him keeping me safe. I continued praying and asking that He favoured both my husband Paul with a pain-free night's sleep and that I would receive His peace to also sleep well. Faithful as He is, He calmed me down, and gave me a restful sleep, awakening me the next morning refreshed and joyful for His blessings.

God never stops in His pouring out with His provisions, blessings and grace! That Thursday morning I was on my way to the station to return to Guildford, but first popped to my neighbour to leave a key in case I would be late returning, and so that they could let my dogs out. When they found I was going up by train to Guildford, they would not hear of it, and insisted in taking me there by car. What a blessing! Again, this was thanks to God listening to my endless chatter and prayers.

(Continued on Page 23)

Paul was allowed home that lunchtime, and we had a safe and pleasant journey home in our car. God is providing and answering prayer, too, with Paul's recovery and every day sees a great improvement. To God be the glory, praise and honour.

As you can see, I have rambled on and on again with my chatter, and it is becoming increasingly obvious that when it comes to speaking of my precious Lord, I never tire of singing His praises

I hope that you can see, from reading this "epistle", how faithful God is towards all of us when we take the time to spend time with Him! When we make it our priority not to be "too busy" to contact God, we will find that He is always there, no matter what the time of day or night, and He is always ready,

quick and desiring to take our call for help, or just to have a chat.

Some people find it hard to talk to God because they feel He is too holy to listen to us. Don't be fooled by the devil telling you this. Jesus took away the curtain which separated us from approaching God direct, when He died on the cross for us and our sins. When we approach God in Jesus' name, God sees in us His Son, Jesus. So, be bold and strong, and approach God He is waiting to have communication with you, and He loves it when we come to Him for a chat.

My friends, I pray that you will all become "chatterboxes" with the Lord. That you will have the confidence, peace and boldness to spend every moment that you can in His

s-mail room. Fill your hearts with songs of praise, fill your minds with His Words and promises and let Him cover you with His grace, blessings, love, peace and safety in all your comings and goings. If you can't find the words to speak, know that the Holy Spirit will speak for you, and always remember that God knows you, everything about you and, before you even call to Him, He knows your needs. Let us never stop praying and talking to God, because He loves us so much, He will never get tired of our communication so get out there and get online to God! I cannot imagine a moment of not talking to God because I am a chatterbox, and I hope and pray that you, too, will come to experience the joy of being a chatterbox with God!

Still Figuring Things Out...

Sue Brown

"If you love truth, be a lover of silence. Silence, like the sunlight, will illuminate you in God and deliver you from the phantom of ignorance. Silence will unite you with God himself. More than all things, love silence; it brings you a fruit that tongue cannot describe. In the beginning we have to force ourselves to be silent and then there is born something which draws to silence. May God give you an experience of this "something" which is born of silence. If only you will practise this, untold light will dawn on you as a consequence. After a while, a certain sweetness is born in the heart of this exercise and the body is drawn almost by force to remain in silence."

(St. Isaac of Nineveh)

Forrest Gump: "Momma always said that dying was a part of life. I sure wish it wasn't".

This week, one of my dearest friends told me of his aggressive prostate cancer and the 30-year-old son (whom I have known since boyhood) of another dear friend committed suicide. Sometimes, there are more questions than answers.

Across town, heavy rain obscures my view of the hills while I sit at my desk, trying to regain my equilibrium. I've always tended to be pretty optimistic, but lately my view is less secure. Since my father died five months ago, I seem to spend my time suspended between a life I have in Portugal, where my parents are (or is it only 'were', now, since my mum is there alone?) and the life I have in Bolton. They blend into one another like items of clothing, washed too hot or too long together that, by the melding of their colours, are inexorably joined.

When my body is in one place, my heart is in the other. It's not so much that I am torn, as that a gradual unpicking has been taking place beneath my surface, far beyond the reach of humankind. Somewhere only God can see. I don't know my edges anymore and, even if I did, I don't think I could balance on them safely. My feet slide like someone set down on a frozen pool. I try to make sense of things, but it's like walking on ice.

Occasionally, it's like walking in a hurricane. Occasionally, I somehow find the presence to duck behind a rock and hear it all continuing around me. For that moment, that second, that hour, I'm held by a peace that is unutterably precious. In its silence I can sense the voice of God. I am learning to be quiet. At least, I think so... Today, the earth reels like a drunkard and I want to run away from everything. I have been waiting, but the wind is absent. I'm still figuring it out.

Forrest Gump: "I just wanted to tell you that I love you..."

Forrest Junior: "I love you too, Daddy."

Forrest Gump: "...I'll be right here when you get back [from school]"



There is no situation so chaotic that God cannot, from that situation, create something that is surpassingly good. He did it at the Creation; He did it at the Cross. He is doing it today.

Handley C G Moule

When Thomas Edison's desk was opened, years after his death, a card was found among his papers. It read, "When down in the mouth, remember Jonah; he came out all right."

My American Adventure

Ian Francis

I had wanted to ride a Harley in the States for years and, in 2012, I had my opportunity.

I'd been trying to organise this trip for four years, but something always prevented me, either lack of cash, lack of a job, the death of my father, lack of holidays and dozens of other reasons. But last year everything fell into place, and in March I started planning my trip around some of the southern states calling in on various CMA chapters en route. The CMA USA website was invaluable, giving locations and times of meetings, email addresses and pictures of the officials for each chapter.

I planned a route taking in Tennessee, Kentucky, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina and Virginia. I worked out that, in fourteen days, I could meet up with ten chapters and ride from 100 to 300 miles per day. I had the locations of each meeting point (the Americans are great because they invariably meet at restaurants) and googled nearby motels / hotels. By June I had received a few responses from the chapters and was pleasantly surprised at how hospitable they were in offering me accommodation and hints for my trip.

Two of the chapters in North Carolina had replied saying that their monthly meeting in September had been cancelled, as it was the weekend of their state rally, so I got the contact details for the rally and arranged to pay on arrival.

In July, I bought my flight tickets; this was getting serious - it was actually going to happen. In August, two weeks before my trip, my mum was taken into hospital. In the week before the trip, she was transferred to the Intensive Care Unit, as her internal organs began failing. I went to Bristol to see her and was devastated by her condition. I had gone down with Elaine (my wife) and two children. We were only allowed to go in two at a time, so I went in with my daughter and then Elaine went in with my lad. When Mum had Elaine on her own she said to her that I HAD to go on the trip.

The next day I was at Manchester airport with deep sadness that I may not see my mum alive again.

Even though my time in America was tinged with the sadness of not knowing about my Mum, I had a fantastic time; the weather was perfect, the Harley never missed a beat, and the people I met were brilliant. It took me a few days to get my head into holiday mode.

I stayed off the interstates and tried to keep to the US highways or state roads, which, in general, are empty and well maintained. I stopped when I was hungry at numerous small town diners and just took in the fantastic scenery. At the North Carolina state rally, I met up with a guy called Jim from Kingsport in Tennessee who was going to be my host for four or five days. He and his wife Karen were perfect hosts and looked after me well. I followed Jim on his Ultra Glide classic up the Blue Ridge Parkway, along the Devil's Whip and over The Snake; if you ever get over there, these roads HAVE to be some of the best I have ever ridden, along with the Tail of the Dragon (which I will do next time I'm over there).



charmed by my English accent and wanted to talk to me, I don't think I've ever talked as much as I did in those two weeks; especially at the rally where it seemed like no matter where I was or what was going on there was always someone to talk to. I had a really good conversation with a group during the fun and games (which the Americans take a LOT more seriously than we do in the UK).

Besides Jim and Karen in Kingsport TN, I have to mention Luke and Lee Ann in Nashville, TN, Curt and Claudia in Elizabethtown, KY, Walt and Shirley in Roanoke, VA, and Paul from Somerset, KY, all of whom showed true Christian hospitality and brotherhood.

When I got back to the UK, I braced myself for bad news but there wasn't any, my Mum had held on for me and I visited her for three weekends before she gave up her struggle and passed into the Lord's presence.

I would encourage anybody who has a desire to meet up with brothers and sisters from other countries to do it, because the blessing they get and you receive is immense. If you ever need a hand organizing a States-side trip like mine and don't know where to start please get in touch with me and I will help in any way I can.



Jim and Karen

(Editor's note : TOTALLY in agreement about the Blue Ridge Parkway and other roads in the Carolinas).

Whoever said that the roads in the States are just straight bits of tarmac has never ridden in this area.

I was invited to speak at four of the chapter meetings about CMA UK and shared some of what is going on over here. Everyone was

Broken. Not Me! The Bike

Sid O'Neill

As I rode up to the Church in Glossop with members of N.Cheshire branch, having been invited to speak, I heard the unmistakable "pop" as a nail or screw burst into the recently fitted new rear tyre. Hoping for the best, I parked it up and we went inside to take off our wet gear and drip all over their lovely old Anglican church. The lady vicar had contacted me earlier in the year to ask if we would ride over and share the vision of CMA at their morning service.

We each took turns to share and the vicar spoke from Ephesians 6:10 - The Armour of God. John Rowley, one of our newest supporters modelled his biking armour, helmet, jacket and boots. etc, as the vicar shared from this well know scripture. Later, being mature Christians and well known members of North Cheshire CMA, we felt the need to play on the children's toy motor bikes. It was the first time most of us had gotten our knee down on two wheels, much to the amusement of the children!



The boys are back in town!!

By this time I'd forgotten all about my "POP"! Later, we filled our hungry tum's with a great lunch provided by the church, and then headed outside to re-discover the flat rear tyre waiting for me.

Kicking it seemed a good idea while I decided what action to take. Should I ring the break down recovery and sit for a hour or so, or option two, squirt in a tin of tyre foam being waved under my nose by an eager Anglican? Option two won, "Do not exceed 30 mph" warned the tin.

Well, ten minutes later, and doing 70mph on the M60, all seemed to be going well. Neil and his step son Phil followed me all the way back home and I had to chuckle when he got off his "shiny" Huyabusa which was now covered in escaped foam from my poorly rear tyre. But we made it and the tyre stayed up. I knew that tin info was dodgy!



bts. Hopefully as you read this article it will be back together again. If push comes to shove, I could use the toy one in the picture. Less parts to break. The trusty ZRX has been a great bike. It's a bit like Trigger's brush (that's an Only Fools and Horses joke). With 97,000 miles on the clock, it's mostly used for CMA work. I bought it off Jason Bee over eight years ago. It will ride again; I just pray my bank balance can keep up with the repairs. I've just discovered the down pipes have rusted through. Oh why not! That toy bike is looking more and more like a good option.

So what is the moral of this story I hear you ask? Don't rely on an old Kwak with 97K staring at you from the Speedo!!No, only kidding. It's don't give up! No matter what the day brings, whether good or bad, don't give up. Jesus said (John 16:33) "In this world you will have trouble, but take heart for I have overcome the world!"

Whatever the day brings, hold on to your faith in Christ Jesus.

A few days later, I had time to pull out the bike and remove the tyre to have it repaired or replaced. New Neil had kindly given me a good replacement tyre. As I pulled out the bike I noticed a water leak from the less than two year old replacement radiator. Hoping it was a lose pipe I checked the fittings all seemed tighter than I could manage.

Gutted; radiator bust, tyre bust, my phone bust, and even the lawn mower had packed in! I looked at my bank balance and whispered, "I'm so sorry I'm going to have to abuse you again." It seemed reluctant to hand over money that its balance could not back up. As I write this article, the bike's in



The AGM, (in April every year) is a weekend of fellowship, praise and half a day of the business. Have you ever been? The hospitality is always excellent, as is the food, etc. This is for everyone in the CMA.

Need to know more? Ask your branch chair or a member of the exec. The Exec are there for you to speak to - so ask all those questions.

Thoughts to Ponder

Via Sarge

- Why doesn't a chicken's egg taste like chicken?
- Why is it that cargo is transported by ship while a shipment is transported by car?
- Does peanut butter really have butter in it?
- Do mimes watch silent movies?
- Is the fear of flying groundless?
- What would you use to dilute water?
- Can atheists get insurance for acts of God?
- Do you need a silencer if you are going to shoot a mime?
- Can I get arrested for running into a fire station yelling "Film! Film!"?
- Can you be a closet claustrophobic?
- Could someone ever get addicted to counselling? If so, how could you treat them?
- Did Adam and Eve have navels?
- Did the early American settlers ever go on a camping trip?

"Sick Joke" No.1"

A minister was reading the Lesson at a morning service. As he reached the bottom of the page, he read the words, "... and Moses was sick." He then accidentally turned over two pages at once, and continued, "and the lot fell on Aaron."

"Sick Joke" No.2

A little girl was in church with her mother, when she started feeling unwell. "Mummy," she said, "can we leave now?" "No," her mother replied. "Well, I think I'm going to throw up!" "Then go out the door and around to the back of the church, and throw up behind a bush." After about a minute, the little girl returned to her seat. "Have you been sick?" mum asked. "Yes." "How could you have gone all the way to the back of the church and come back so quickly?" The little one replied, "I didn't need to leave the church, mummy. They have a box next to the front door, with a sign on it that says, 'For The Sick.'"

Church Affiliations

Dougie Spence



I have a question for every member and supporter of CMA. Have you thought about asking your Church's leadership if they would be interested in becoming an Affiliated Church?

We are all members of a Church, whatever the denomination, and with our membership of CMA we are often missing from Sunday services as most biker events we attend happen at weekends.

I was surprised to find out at this year's AGM that there were only ten churches affiliated to CMA in the UK. With the group at present having 306 Members and 164

Supporters, it made me ask the question, "Why?"

What surprised me more was that of the ten affiliated churches, five were affiliated through one branch - Bedford. Church affiliation is a great way of keeping your church up to date with what is going on in CMA, as they receive regular Chainlink magazines.

At Bedford, we encourage our members to speak to their churches about affiliation and try to go and visit them at least once every two years to take a service and give updates on what is happening.

I know that being a member of CMA can take you away from your home church a lot, but this is a way of giving something back to them. Churches can help us with prayer while we are out in the mission field at rally's serving tea in Holy Joe's. We always need prayer support.

If you would like more information about Church Affiliation ask your branch leadership or contact the membership secretary.

Please pray about this.

Positive Outlook No 1

There were two ways that David could have looked at Goliath. He could have said, "Boy, he's one big mountain of a man, I'm out of here." Or, he could have said, "Boy, he's so big, I can't miss." David did the latter.



Positive Outlook No 2

Instead of seeing the soldier next to him as a galling restriction, Paul saw him as a captive audience.

Chuck Swindoll

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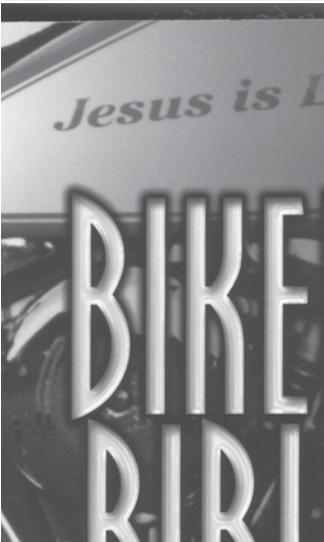
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Humility

Religion says : Be good, conform yourself.

Epicureanism says : Be sensuous, satisfy yourself.

Education says : Be resourceful, expand yourself.

Psychology says : Be confident, assert yourself.

Materialism says : Be possessive, please yourself.

Asectism says : Be lowly, suppress yourself.

Humanism says : Be capable, believe in yourself.

Pride says : Be superior, promote yourself

Christ says : Be unselfish, humble yourself.

Chuck Swindoll

Everything in God's store is on the
bottom shelf you have to get
on your knees to get it.

Robert Collier

CMA Bedford : Rushden Mission Church

Sandi Buss

CMA Bedford Branch managed to at last get all their bikes out of SORN and left their cars at home to take a service at Rushden Mission Church.

One of the presentations was given by Emma-Louise Spence, a youth member of CMA.



The question, "What is CMA?" was very expertly answered by Emma-Louise, who explained that the CMA is a charity. Our aim is to make Jesus known to the biker community and we attend events that interest a lot of bikers and this gives us a big opportunity to talk about Jesus to the biker community. She spoke about our Biker Bibles and told the audience we have given away 50,000 bibles in the past four years, and that Biker bibles are good for bikers as they fit nicely in your pocket and don't take up much room in your top-box.

Well done Emma-Louise, the youngest member of Bedford Branch! The rumour that she is the most intelligent member of Bedford and due to be promoted to best speaker ever is totally unsubstantiated.



Bob Buss gave an interesting overview about CMA International (31 countries, 125,000+ members, etc.) and our set up in the UK.

Michael Sharp, the oldest member of Bedford branch, spoke about his upcoming off-road trip to Africa. He is an inspiration to



us all and a great role model for all bikers, young and old.

Fred & Fran Gill gave their testimony, speaking about their personal experiences,



and shared with us how God led them on a journey to forgiveness.

Bill Kemp prayed for us.....



Yes, we need prayer; lots of it!!!

Keith Sanders gave a short message which provided food for thought and then



introduced Dougie Spence, our main speaker.

Dougie's theme was "Stepping Out In Faith", and, in his message, he said that emotional and spiritual breakdowns can take a long time to get over. He shared that was going through emotional turmoil, but, with God's help, he is working through it.

"I believe God was with me during my illness and has helped me with my recovery. I needed to spiritually step out in faith and let God do the rest. God can help us rebuild our broken and shattered lives. All we need to do is step out in faith".



Every branch needs a Dougie !!!

(Continued on Page 29)

Dougie continued :

"Bedford branch has a cross made from broken motorcycle parts. Someone took time to design it find the parts and build it. This was his way of stepping out in faith.

We are going to take this cross to the various events we attend around the area



and use it as a tool to talk to motorcyclists about what Jesus can do for them. How he can take their sinful lives and recycle them into a life that lives for him.

The cross, as we know, was used to crucify Jesus. Jesus died to fulfill prophecy, to take away our sins, to help us rebuild our lives. Jesus does for us what the person who built this cross out of broken parts did. He puts us back together again and rebuilds us. You could say that he recycles our lives to live for Him. God will give us whatever tools we need to tell others of His Love. We just need to step out in faith and trust Him.

We, the members of C.M.A. UK, use the opportunities we have at motorcycle events we attend to step out in faith to talk to other motorcyclists.

Let's all ask God to help us use the opportunities that He puts in our everyday lives to step out in faith and tell others about Jesus and His Love for us.

Luke 17:11-19 : As Jesus continued on toward Jerusalem, he reached the border between Galilee and Samaria. As he entered a village there, ten lepers stood at a distance, crying out, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"

He looked at them and said, "Go show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed of their leprosy.

One of them, when he saw that he was healed, came back to Jesus, shouting, "Praise God!" He fell to the ground at Jesus' feet, thanking him for what he had done. This man was a Samaritan.

Jesus asked, "Didn't I heal ten men? Where are the other nine? Has no one returned to give glory to God except this foreigner?" And Jesus said to the man, "Stand up and go. Your faith has healed you."

How does God call us to step out in faith?

Every time we put our trust in God we are stepping out in faith, whether it be starting a new job or even crossing the room to speak to someone you have never spoken to before. We step out in faith when we trust God to heal us; when we trust him to make our broken hearts whole again. We step out in faith when we trust God to give us a purpose and direction for our lives. We step out in faith every time we pray to God.

Sometimes, stepping out in faith means asking God to help us get out of bed in the morning, to give us strength to face the day. You may be going through an illness that makes you feel like you can't do anything. You may be going through a family crisis that is causing problems. These are the times when God is asking us to step out in faith, and He will heal us as we go.

Sometimes the steps we take are like the steps of a young child, when we need help to make them; sometimes, they may be huge leaps. It does not matter to God, as long as you are making them in faith.

When we step out in faith and we are helped or healed, are we like the nine who said nothing or are we like the Samaritan who came back and thanked God?



Some of the bunch before the service

God works first in us to enable us to step out in faith. We cannot do it without him. Even if the step is not what we want to do, it is what God wants us to do - we just don't know it yet. God has the power to heal us from any illness or any other problem in our lives, all He asks is that we step out in faith.

Once we have learned to step out in faith God will hear us and answer our prayers."



Commandments

A woman was posting an old family bible to her brother. She wrapped it up and took the parcel to the post office. "Is there anything breakable in here?" asked the clerk. "Only the Ten Commandments," she replied.

Men and women are able creatures.

We have made over 32 million laws, and haven't yet improved on the Ten Commandments.

Happy Birthday Harley !!

16th June, 2013

VATICAN CITY (AP) – Pope Francis has blessed thousands of Harley-Davidsons and their riders visiting the Vatican.

Thundering engines nearly drowned out the Latin recitation of the "Our Father" prayer that accompanied Pope Francis as he greeted the crowd before Sunday Mass.

The Harley riders were celebrating the manufacturer's 110th anniversary.

Thousands travelled from all over Europe to take part in the blessing. The street leading to the Vatican was packed with parked Harleys along both sides of the road, about

Once the service got under way, bikers in their trademark leather Harley vests sat in the square alongside nuns and tens of thousands of faithful Catholics taking part in an unrelated, two-day pro-life rally.

Pope Francis addressed them both afterward, giving a blessing to the "numerous participants" of the Harley gathering.

During Mass, the Pope cautioned that "power and pleasure", among other things, lead to God being "replaced by fleeting human idols which offer the intoxication of a flash of freedom, but in the end bring new forms of slavery and death."

Despite the unusual crowd for papal Mass, the Vatican spokesman, the Rev. Federico Lombardi, noted that there were probably quite a few Christian riders in the crowd and that regardless, anyone is welcome. "I know great people who have big bikes," Lombardi said.

For the pro-life crowd, Pope Francis offered prayers "for every human life, especially the most fragile, defenseless and threatened."

Earlier in the week, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.-based Harley gave the Pope two white classic Harleys for the Vatican police force to use.



Standing in his open-top jeep, the Pope drove up the main boulevard leading to St. Peter's Square.

four or five bikes deep. Many riders had decorated their motorcycles with flags, stickers with the Vatican keys or pictures of Pope Francis, CNA reports.

Truisms via Sarge

Beauty parlour: A place where women curl up and dye.

Cannibal: Someone who is fed up with people.

Chickens: The only animals you eat before they are born and after they are dead.

Committee: A body that keeps minutes and wastes hours.

Dust: Mud with the juice squeezed out.

Egotist: Someone who is usually me-deep in conversation.

Gossip: Never tell a lie if the truth will do more damage.

Kleenex: Cold Storage.

Inflation: Cutting money in half without damaging the paper.

Mosquito: An insect that makes you like flies better.

Raisin: Grape with a sunburn.

Secret: Something you tell to one person at a time.

Skeleton: A bunch of bones with the person scraped off.

Toothache: The pain that drives you to extraction.

Tomorrow: One of the greatest labour saving devices of today.

Yawn: An honest opinion openly expressed.

Wrinkles: Something other people have. You have character lines. Ha!

***The deadline for the next edition is
14th September, 2013***



Sandy, Mike, Emma

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

National Chairman CMA UK

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

**CMA UK PO BOX 8155
Loughborough
LE11 9AR**

Free Phone 0800 0154479

Is there a branch near you?

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East Yorkshire
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Hampshire & Surrey Borders
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Lincs and East Yorks
Most of Essex
Norfolk
Norfolk Borders

North and West Wales
North Cheshire
North Allerton (Thirsk)
North East
North East Derbyshire
North East London
Northern Ireland
Rest of Scotland
Scottish Borders
Shropshire
South East London
South Lancs
South Wales
Staffordshire
Suffolk
Sussex

Thames Valley
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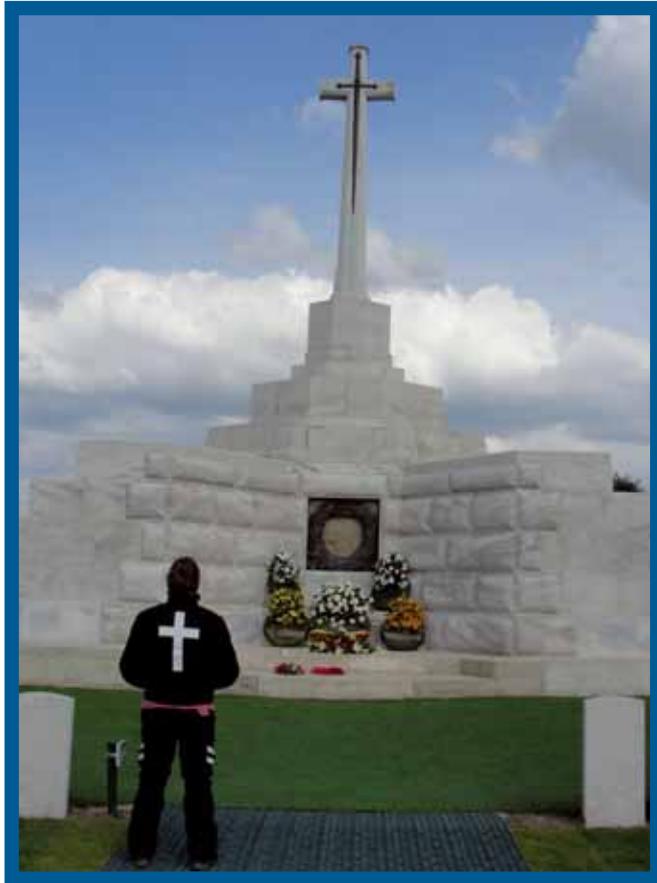
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