

2010

Full logs for previous years are in the Members Area

Dec

Thu 9 **Club Night Special at the Dealership** Free drinks, food and a storeful of christmas presents to buy - HOG heaven! Plus we were delighted to present Colin with a pocket watch to mark his years of service as a Road Captain. He is stepping down to take things a bit easier.

Nov

Sat 27 **End of Season Party** What can we say? Fantastic party in a superb venue, great food, two excellent bands and DJ Robbie to keep things moving along nicely. Norm's piece was made even funnier by Carl's inspired playing along and the impromptu Morris Dancers did impressively well. The photos from Axel and Ian capture some of the moments, but you had to be there to experience the wonderfully relaxed and friendly atmosphere of a major Hogsback event

Sun 14 **Remembrance Ride** Gary ended up with a wet old day for his first ride as leader. Nevertheless 35 bikes joined him from both Hogsback and Thames Valley Chapters for the Remembrance ride to Shamley Green. It was a well researched and very good ride. Well done Gary and Kaz!

Sun 7 **Goodwood breakfast** Brisk run to Goodwood for breakfast and back again for the Sunday Roast - marvellous!

Sat 6 **Club Night Fireworks Special** Brilliant night of food, fun and fab fireworks - plus we handed over a cheque for £320 to The Alzheimers Society, said a proper hello to our new Road Crew (Cliff, Robin and Dave), marked the promotion of Dell and Steve to Road Captain, and recognised Axel as one of our official Chapter Photographers. Lovely to see Mark there as well - back in his old position as Road Captain, and rarein' to go - a good evening!

Oct

Sun 31 **Spooky Ride to Chislehurst Caves** It rained all day for this one. Amazingly, seven bikes weren't put off getting to Rykas, which became 5 leaving Rykas, which became 4 arriving at the Caves (following Roger's rear wheel puncture at Godstone). The good news was it wasn't raining underground and those who lasted this long were treated to a surprisingly good tour. The guides, stories and tunnel routes change each year, so it was just as good for those who thought they'd seen it all before!

Sun 24 **Brooklands Breakfast** Surprisingly interesting destination with lots to see - and a lovely crisp, sunny Autumn day to do it too. Around 20 Hogsback bikes rode over to Brooklands to see the world's first purpose-built motor racing circuit, and the museum, with a wide range of giant racing cars, motorcycles and bicycles and an unparalleled collection of Hawker and Vickers/BAC-built aircraft, including the only Concorde with public access in the south east.

Sun 17 **Colin's Bye Bye Breakfast** More than 20 Hogsback bikes formed up behind Colin on his last official ride for Hogsback Chapter. We all swept out of Rykas and southwards to the Lobster Pot Café at Bognor where, in blazing October sunshine and blue skies, we all tucked into a great breakfast at a great sea front location. Thanks Colin - for this, as well as all the

breakfasts you have taken us to over your many years as a Road Captain for the Chapter!
Thanks also to our special guest tailender Roger Ferris - are you sure we can't tempt you back as a Road Captain?

- Sun 10 **Brightona** Steve Palmer led 53 bikes down to Brighton's annual bike charity jamboree. The numbers and traffic made it too much of a challenge to keep everyone together, but everyone got there. Very warm, a nice ride down, but not quite as busy as The Brighton Burn Up, which meant there was a little more room to move and it seemed a greater predominance of cruisers, making for plenty of eye candy in the sunshine.
- Sun 3 **Lakeside Launch** 5 bikes and 8 brave chapter members turned up at a wet Rykas. Due to the conditions Dell led the group via the M25 to the new Lakeside HD dealership in Essex. Smaller than G-HD but friendly people who treated us to free drinks and hog roast. A couple of other Hogsback members turned up as the rain came down big time. An interesting ride back in heavy rain concluded the day.
- Sat 2 **Ride To The Wall 3** As predicted, RTTW 3 was the biggest yet, with over 4,000 bikes pre-registered. The organisers did a great job of marshalling the event and the speeches and messages at the National Memorial Arboretum were very moving. These include an address from fellow biker and patron of RTTW, Major General Lamont Kirkland CBE, Commander of the 4th Infantry Division, and a message from the wife of the UK Task Force Commander in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. Last year's amount of £30,000 raised for the Arboretum will be easily surpassed this year. A good day in lovely weather.
- Fri 1 **Rave & Save** Guildford Harley-Davidson hosted a superb 2011 bike launch preview evening for the Chapter, complete with nibbles, drinks, exclusive major discounts just for that evening - and a lot of smiles. Thanks to all the staff for all their obvious hard work on this to make us feel so welcome.
- Sep**
- Sun 26 **Steaming Lunch** Andy finally got to do his ride to the Bluebell Line, postponed from earlier in the year due to bad weather. This time, the weather cooperated! 20 Hogsback bikes with members old and new took a lovely country route for a nice bit of nostalgia and a good lunch.
- Sun 19 **Forget-Me-Not Ride** More than 20 bikes showed up for Catherine's ride for the Alzheimers Charity, with 5 more bikes joining on route. We formed an impressive display alongside the start of the annual Memory Walk and then, overseen by actor John Altman (Eastenders' Nasty Nick Cotton) started everything off with a noisy ride through the balloon arch.
- Sun 12 **Brighton Burn Up** Several Chapter members shot down to Brighton in glorious summer weather to take part in the biggest and best Burn Up yet Mick Palmer reports "There must have been more than 10,000 bikes and Madeira Drive couldn't hold them all so bikes parked anywhere they could. Loads of trade stands, live rock n roll, dancing and all in brilliant sunshine." Check out his photos!
- Sat 11 **Faaker See** Cliff and Golly texted us in Devon to say they were flying the Hogsback Chapter flag at the head of the largest Harley Parade in Europe- all in brilliant weather. Just goes to show that while we can only be in one place at a time, the Chapter can be in lots!
- 10-12 **Devonshire Dumpling** Fabulous weekend riding up and down Devonshire hills in search of a

whole series of cream teas. Base camp in Appledore was brilliant - as was the organisation by Steve and Catherine, ably assisted by Carl and Flo, Lord and Lady of Westward Ho!

- Sun 5 **Battle of Britain Airshow** Group Captain 'Woody' and wingman 'Velvet Tongue Dorling' scrambled a large formation from Dorking for a 9am sortie over the QE2 estuary into the North Thames area, landing at an Essex NAFFI for a hearty breakfast followed by a high octane sweeping manoeuvre over the beautiful Essex lanes towards Cambridge before landing at their final destination the Duxford Aerodrome home of the Imperial war museum. With acres of display areas to inspect, time flew by and at 2pm the Red arrows interrupted the still summer air with a brilliant display, followed by WW2 warbirds Hurricanes, Spitfires, ME109s, a flying fortress and the Lancaster, the gentle drone of the turboprops was shattered by an F16 fighter which on afterburners must have rattled the roof tiles as far as Cambridge. A superb blue late summer sky with low amber sunlight illuminated the highlight of the show: Churchill's "Never in the field of human conflict has so much been owed by so many to so few" followed by a full squadron scramble of sixteen spitfires racing across the runway taking off in groups of four with their Merlin engines at full throttle resonating through the body and reducing grown men to tears. Unfortunately Richard, one of our new pilots, was shot down with a puncture on the return flight. 'Woody' and 'Sick note Shonfield' escorted Richard to safety and sent out an SOS before re-joining the group for the flight home.
- Sat 4 **Ian and Jane's wedding** Twenty bikes accompanied Ian and Jane from Leatherhead Registry Office to their reception in Epsom. Ian and Jane sent us this message: "Just a huge thank you to all who turned up yesterday to make our day so memorable I think it was a major talking point of the day. We had a fantastic day. Thanks to everyone!".
- Aug**
- Sun 29 **7 Diner-Hotel Launch** Howard led a respectable number of Hogsback bikes to the launch of a new American Diner-Hotel near Orpington. Nostalgic 50's themed atmosphere from bands, hot rods - and the diner itself! A chilled afternoon.
- 27-29 **Champagne Rally** This year was our tenth year of twinning with Reims Chapter, and Hogsback Chapter joined in again on this annual sweep through the champagne vineyards, where the bubbly stuff and friendship flowed all weekend.
- Sun 22 **Popham Fly-in** With just 2 grass runways Popham Airfield was a hive of activity despite the grim weather forecast. The same forecast meant that in the end just four real bikers coming from all directions amassed at GH-D for the ride to Popham. Loads of stalls for bike parts new and old. The bike to steal the show was a Dodge Viper power bike (V8 8.1 litre). Should be good for the Brighton speed trials next month!
- Sat 21 **Shoreham Airshow** With Roger still on holiday in Bangladesh, Carl led a relaxed ride of around 20 bikes down to Shoreham Air show. On route Jane was not convinced that Carl was going the right way and induced a road crew recovery operation (Dik to the rescue). The low cloud ceiling curtailed the aircraft flybys, but we were treated to a fantastic display by the Harrier Jump Jet and a dog flight between 5 Spitfires and a lonely ME 109. The sound of those WWII aircraft engines was one to savour.
- Sun 15 **Highgate Cemetery** Gary led 17 Hogsback bikes through London's streets and blew away Camden Market on the way to see some of the famously interred. Really interesting ride and

surprisingly interesting tour of a famous London landmark.

- Sat 14 **Carl and Flo do Windsor** The weather looked bad but 3 Harleys left the dealership to enjoy the hidden jewel in the Windsor Great Park. Trickling along the quiet roads within the great park, taking care to avoid startling the horses and deer we made our way to Ye Old Royal Post Office. Morning English tea and fresh cream scones were a delight for the 4 bikers. Huddled under a umbrella we kept dry from the occasional showers. After a photo opportunity at the Iron horse at the top of the long mile leading to Windsor Castle we gently cruised through the park with an impromptu visit to TV dealership (nice Coffee).
- 6-8 Aug **SOFER 7** Fantastic weekend of riding, drinking, eating, chilling, trading, dancing, bands, fun and games with 2,000 other Harley bikers. LOH and Hogsback rides were both superb, as was Ruth's LOH Poker Run, Norm and Dave's BBQ ... Just the best time!
- Sun 1 **Selsey Lifeboat Day** 32 Hogsback bikes joined up with 28 New Forest bikes for a fantastic ride-in and static display on the last fund-raising day for the Selsey Lifeboat. Really nice to be able to help out.

Jul

- Sun 25 **Henry Hook joins the Navy** 15 bikes and 19 people left GH-D for a steady cruise down to Gosport Submarine Museum. Interesting guided tour of HMS Alliance by an ex Sub-Mariner, great little cafe and great company, brilliant day enjoyed by all! Also nice to see a couple of new members!
- 16-18 **European Rally in Lugano** nearly 50 Hogsback members made their way through France, Italy, Germany, Austria, Luxembourg, Lichtenstien and Switzerland to Lugano. Fabulous riding through incredible scenery and mountain passes to join thousands more on the lakeside at Lugano. It's what Harleys were made for!
- 16-18 **Isle of Wight** - awaiting report ...
- Sun 11 **Estee Does Hastings** Warm and sunny ride for some of the best fish'n'chips this side of the Great Barrier Reef!
- Sun 4 **Convergence Ride** Well over 40 Hogsback bikes cruised through Surrey lanes and backwoods to Bisley, where we were joined by a dozen or so 1066 bikes ... and that was it! We are still trying to find out what happened to the other three Chapters! Still, Barry Heasman of 1066 led all 60 odd bikes on another nice country ride to the Mill at Elstead. All very relaxing.
- Sat 3 **Independence Day at GH-D** Fun day at the dealership with live music from blues band Flying Tigers, burger stand, Hogs Back Brewery, Ride-in Custom Bike Show and Rodeo Bull. The Mayor of Godalming was on hand to help the Chapter present the money we have collected for charity over the last 12 months. Cheques for £2,250 were split between all three of our Chapter Charities (Rainbow Trust, Alzheimers and Surrey Air Ambulance).
- Polesden Lacey** Fabulous evening at this summer open air venue for two excellent tribute bands Born to be Jovi and ZU2. Dell arranged for a marquee (courtesy of Howard) and the bikes were parked in and outside it, giving us pole position. Particular thanks as well to Wendy, Cliff, Golly & Hedley who collected most of the £250 for the Rainbows Trust charity as well as a bunch for Alzheimers during the evening. Now, we must get some more of that excellent real

Crabbes Ginger Beer ...

Fri 2 **Goodwood Festival of Speed** ... awaiting report

Thu 1 **Club Night Special** at Bisley Pavilion. Lovely summer's evening brought out nearly 70 Hogsback bikes to a great venue. The verandah bar never looked better with lines of gleaming chrome in the twilight. The midges and mossies had a wonderful evening too ...!

Jun

Sun 27 **All Tanked Up** Tankfest was excellent - we rode there with a small but select group who realised that it was a waste of time watching the England match on Sunday. Much bigger bang for the buck at Bovingdon!

Sat 26 **Hogs and Porcers** ...

25-27 **Belgian Bunfight** The Ardennes roads were made for riding motorcycles and right in the heart of it all is La Roche. A jewel of a place and a jewel of a hotel on a bluff, overlooking the old town. Great weekend trip, nice relaxed riding from Andy and Roger and lovely summer weather all the while.

Sun 20 **Petworth Fathers Day** Hogsback Chapter returned to Petworth House by special invitation for a lazy afternoon of music, sunshine, a public display of our prides and joy, and a little history too...

Sat 19 **Woody's Midnight Madness** Hogsback Chapter's annual invasion of the streets of London - this time with a 40 bike contingent rumbling up the Kings Road, invading Covent Garden and then into the City. Finally a late night supper of shish kebab next to the London Eye illuminations. Lights! Cameras! Action! It was all there, as the photos reveal...

Sun 13 **Secret Squirrels** - Keith's visit to the home of Britain's secret, successful and cerebral war effort, Bletchley Park. A most interesting trip for the dozen or so Hogsback members who correctly didn't take the forecast seriously.

Sat 12 **Shepperton Village Fair and Raft Race** 20 Hogsback Harleys headed up the Procession to kick off the Shepperton Village Fair with rolling thunder! Appreciative fair-goers enjoyed the spectacle followed by a static display in the arena. Then, as the summer day warmed even more, thousands watched Hogsback Chapter's entry compete with over 40 other rafts - a record breaking year - on the Thames. The raft was brilliantly engineered by Martin Oliver and Dave Francis under watchful eye of project leader, Norman Mann. And we were all rewarded as crew members Gary Baker, Nick Dorling, Fiona Leaves and Jayne Thomas powered the craft to win Fastest Raft - amazing stuff! See the video [here](#)!

Sun 6 **Breakfast in Bognor** A sizeable clutch of Hogsback bikes followed Colin down to one of his favourite South Coast breakfast spots - the Lobster Pot for a Full English in the sunshine. Lovely!

Sat 5 **Ride to the Coast** 20 bikes and 26 people cruised the Surrey and Hampshire Lanes on a gorgeous day to Littlehampton - and everyone managed to squeeze into the amazing East Beach Café, then a walk down the seafront to the river for an ice cream. A good ride.

May

- Mon 31 **Ruth's Ride** 11 bikes joined Ruth for a pleasant ride to Bosham and a great afternoon tea in the sun.
- 29-31 **Zulus in the Brecons** After a wet ride through some little-known Hampshire lanes the weather over the Welsh border for the rest of a glorious weekend. Memorable meals, jokes, views and company. Great hotel and most interesting visit to the 24 Welsh Regt Zulus museum in Brecon. The riding was fantastic, and the ride over the Black Hills on a drovers road was brilliant. Fabulous weekend from Gary & Chris, Norm & Gwen. Our sympathies to Sally and Mike who had to bow out after Sally sideswiped a car on a sharp bend on the way down and cracked her ankle. We're sure we will see her up and about soon.
- Sun 23 **Lord of the Rings** The Corks led 20 or so bikes - including special guest riders Marj Rae (UK Manager HOG and Rider Services) and Dan Mattias (US HOG Manager, North East) - on a gorgeous day to the very centre of the Avebury Ring. We rode in the sun, we lunched in a pub, we strolled around 5, 000 years of human history and then we rode in the sun again. Kind of perfect really.
- Sat 22 **Compton Fete** Great ride today led by Catherine and Steve did to the Compton Fete, including six Ladies of Harley bikes on the ride. Russ came too but his bike wouldn't start when we set off to do our laps of honour!
- Sun 16 **Brunch at the Ogrí Café** The 12 riders who scoffed at the forecasts of lunchtime rain swept through Sussex country roads, arriving at Wessons for a huge, famed all-day breakfast. Then we roared back, all getting back home before the rain finally struck - much later than the forecast. Still, if you missed a great ride, you at least had time down the allotment!
- Sat 15 **New members ride** Once again Graham briefed a dozen or so newer members on riding the Hogsback way, before a group ride down to Bury Hill on lanes, country roads, and faster roads on the way back - the full riding range.
- Mon 3 **The Birds Ride** Ten bikes turned out for a delightful ride down the A24 and A272 to Bentley .After a hail storm at Rykas the weather improved and the sun came out which made looking round the 23 acre bird parkland motor museum and House all owned by the late Gerald Akew most pleasant.
- Sun 2 **Colin's Coastal Cuisine** Colin reports: "*On my arrival at Ryka's I found found five brave souls waiting for me. Four of the five had two wheels but one (who shall remain nameless) had four. After discussion we decided that as the weather was uncomfortably inclement we opt for a quick whiz up to Newlands Corner for breakfast and then home to watch the MotoGP. By the bye, Gary Morss has a really nice car.*"
- 1-3 **Chocolate Soldier Run** to Bruges We came. We saw. We chocolated. A little on the damp side - and a tad cool - but a great weekend nonetheless. Lunch in Ypres, mussels, chips and chocolates in Bruges and a very nice lunch on the coastal road on the way back to Calais. And of course, the incomparable Motorcycle Loft Hotel. Nice, relaxing weekend - can't wait to do it all again next year!

Apr

- Sun 25 **Riviera Ride** Steve led a good ride down to the coast via Bognor Littlehampton and Rustington ending up at Sea Lane Cafe on the seafront at Goring Worthing, where it was sunny and warm.
- Sun 18 **Brooklands Spring Gathering** Dell led 43 Hogsback bikes through leafy lanes on the best day of the year so far to our premier reserved parking spot at Brooklands. Here we helped celebrate the anniversary of the official start of motorcycle racing in the UK in 1908. Great atmosphere and great day out in glorious Spring sunshine.
- Fri 16 **SeeAbility visit** Led by Dell, 6 bikes took the 5 mins ride to SeeAbility at Leatherhead which is a home for the blind with other disabilities. Once they cooled down enough to touch we had 6 of the residents (handy 1 per bike) who were assisted in touching the bikes. Several were able to sit on the bikes and we started them up to much excitement. Well worth while and many thanks to those who turned up on a weekday.
- Sun 11 **Seaford Surprise** Chillier temperatures than yesterday, but just as much sun accompanied 30 bikes on Dik's ride to Seaford. The surprise was not just the amazingly nostalgic Seaford Museum in the Martello Tower, but the fact that Seaford's Mayor was there all chained up and ready to greet us. Mayor Tracy Willis is also a member of 1066 Chapter as well as being famous for her appearance on a recent Gok Wan's Fashion Fix. Empty country roads and glorious sunshine - a good day.
- Sat 10 **New members ride** Many new members comprised the 40 or so bikes that turned up for the first New Members ride of the year. After a comprehensive briefing, Chapter Safety Officer Graham Woods split the bikes into 3 groups for a staggered ride to Bury Hill for a debrief followed by a big group ride back. Lovely Spring Day for it too.
- Mon 5 **Easter Monday Red Marley Hill Climb** Six Hogsback bikes braved the grey skies for a longish ride to the Red Marley Hill Climb - home of the 'pimple', a near vertical hill at which riders hurl their machines with great force. An interesting day - though parking in a muddy field added extra and somehow, fitting, challenge.
- Mon 5 **Easter Monday Charity Egg Run** 22 bikes headed off in dubious looking weather and had a dry but cold ride to the Black Rabbit, raising a total amount for our charities of £110. 8 bikes came back to Rykas for more tea before getting home mid-afternoon and everyone - including lots of newer members - seemed to enjoy the ride.
- Fri 2 **Wheels Day** Half a dozen Hogsback stalwarts ignored the black clouds and were rewarded by some nice cars and bikes around. Sadly the threatening weather had kept some of the better cars away, and at lunchtime everyone found out why. All above and beyond the call of duty for Ride Leader Keith - he had to ride 100 miles home in it!

Mar

- Sat 27 **Start of Season Special** Over 120 members came along for a relaxing evening of hot food, live music and chat, chat, chat! Music from an excellent young band with no-name and support from Dave Francis. Such talent! Great evening, with the bonus that the Chapter got to buy early bird Bisley tickets!
- Sun 21 **Tally Ho! to Tangmere** Smooth as silk ride led by new Road Marshal Dell and supported at the back by Norm and another new Road Marshal, Gary. A good day out in the sunshine.

- Sun 14 **Mothers Day Run to Wooton Bassett** This was a ride for the Afghan Heroes Charity, aimed at raising money and awareness for the wounded and fallen soldiers currently in Afghanistan. Originally an idea by an 18 year old girl biker to do with a few friends, in the end the Hogsback Chapter contingent, led by Corporal C Christensen RAF Police R8125946 (Retired), joined over 10,000 other bikes and another 5000 pillions through Wooton Bassett High Street. Riding through the village, hundreds of people were lining the roadside applauding our support for our troops in combat and those who had fallen in both ongoing conflicts. You had to be there to get the real sense of pride and passion. Current estimates range between £75,000 and £100,000 raised for the charity. A brilliant day out.
- Sun 14 **Pioneer Run** At last! The sun shone, the air warmed (a bit!) and it remained dry for a fantastic early Spring ride down to Brighton for 15 Hogsback bikes. Norm had arranged a secret stop where we could see the pioneers chunter by, while munching on farmhouse bacon sandwiches and drinking hot coffee - all without having to wait. In fact it was all waiting for us! Then a very pleasant ride in the sunshine down to Madeira Drive for more of the same. Great stuff!
- Sat 13 **GH-D First Anniversary Day** Brought some welcome sunshine for a great day on which hundreds of people and bikes flocked to help the dealership celebrate. The event included a Custom Bike Show, a Custom Paint Display from 'Altamura', the 'Under the Gun' band, the Hogs Back brewery, Burger Stand and charity raffle in favour of 'Chase Children's Hospice' and Alzheimers. A most successful day for everyone involved.
- Sun 7 **Breakfast at Goodwood** 15 Hogsback bikes met early at Rykas for a brisk ride to Goodwood for the pre 1973 "Tax Exempt" breakfast club meet. When it was posted as a spirited ride, Graham wasn't kidding, but with the sun out, a safe spirited ride was just what the doctor ordered after what has seemed like the world's longest winter. A brilliant first run of what promises to be a great season!
- Feb**
- Fri 26 Ian popped over to the Ally Pally bike show to see the sights and takes some pics - see our Photos page