

2014

December 2014

Thu 4 - Mon 8 | Custom Bike Show at Bad Salzuflen - Photos [1](#) | [2](#)

Ten intrepid explorers set off at 1:30 on Thursday 4th Dec arriving in Brugge around 7:30 local time. We checked into Martins Hotel just behind the central Market area but the height of the minibus made it difficult finding suitable parking but eventually later in the evening we were able to move it nearer to the hotel after negotiating a one way system that was worse than central London! It was wonderful viewing the architecture and Christmas markets in Brugge.

After a light breakfast the following morning, we set off for Bielefeld arriving at HD around 4pm. A very reasonable meal in VapIano's then a trip around Bielefeld's Christmas market. A leisurely start to Saturday and then we spent all day at the show with Axel and Ian taking hundreds of photos each. Although most items were expensive it's more the uniqueness that attracts as you can find items that you cannot obtain without extensive research.

A leisurely trip straight back to Calais on Sunday and a manic encounter with the Eurotunnel depot which was full and refused us early entry. We eventually got back to Guildford around 9pm on Sunday.

Thursday 4th - Club Night Christmas Special - [Photos](#)

November 2014

Saturday 29th - End of Season Party - Photos [1](#) | [2](#) | [3](#) | [4](#)

Members adorned in tattoos of all shapes, sizes, colours, designs and positions most were real! The best supported EoS event for some years which actually sold out. There were the usual raffles, toska awards and speeches plus we were wonderfully entertained by the Voodoo Sheiks and DJ Rob Paston. The party went on until the early hours!

Saturday 22nd - 2015 Ride Programme Planning Meeting - [Photos](#)

Sunday 9th - Remembrance Sunday ride - [Photos](#)

With glorious weather and one of the largest turnouts in memory, we observed the two minutes silence at 11.00 am before setting off to Shamley Green with our friends from Thames Valley Chapter. The roads were kind and the sun shone all way to meet our adopted vicar Sally at

Christ Church. No piper this year so we dismantled the fencing and Robin rode his Ultra up to the memorial! Mark, Andy and Ron laid the wreaths for Hogsback and Don did the honours for Thames Valley after the war poem recital. Chapter DJ Robin played the Last Post and Reveille to bring the proceedings to an end, then we put the fence back together and went down the pub. Big thanks Axel ,Charley and Robin their help at the back.

Thursday 6th - Club Night - [Photos](#)

Sunday 2nd - Goodwood Vee-Power Sunday - [Photos](#)

Graham's own independent survey says it all; Midsummer Madness 52 bikes – Winter V-Power Sunday 3 bikes and one car! Hogsback riders don't like to ride in the rain!

October 2014

Sunday 26th - Spooky Ride - [Photos](#)

Andy led 23 bikes from Rykas on a not too chilly October morning to explore the mysterious caves dug under South East London. An enjoyable ride through Surrey and Kent without a Motorway in sight with some lovely little lanes; the odd pony club outing and Landrover in the the middle of the road did not bother our intrepid little group. Much hilarity amongst the cavers when someone's knob fell off, but Roger managed to put it back with the minimum of fuss. The caves never fail to disappoint and the guided tour was both funny and scary when the lights went out. A quick lunch and back to Rykas in time for tea.

Saturday 24th - Mileage Day - [Photos](#)

Thursday 23rd - Committee Meeting

Sunday 19th - Scrabble Street ride - [Photos 1](#) | [2](#)

The new Harley-Davidson Street 750 will not lead the ride, its not yet in the UK, unlike Axel who led 20 other bikes on this scenic hundred mile ride spelling the word "STREET". The ride took us via "S"eale, "T"ongham, "R"owledge, "E"ast Worldham, "E"ast Moon and "T"illington, and included two breaks, at the Seven Stars on the A272 near Petersfield and to the Whiteways Cafe. Thanks to the backmarkers Crippa and Slap.

Sunday 19th - HOG Officer Training Communications Workshop

All day workshop at HD HQ Oxford attended by Dik (*Director*), Paul(*Editor*) and Czes (*Webmaster*) covering standards and procedures for Chapter and HOG communications.

Sunday 12th - Brightona ride - [Photos](#)

Steve led a scenic ride backed by Cliff and Ruth. 26 bikes left the Dealership for Brightona after riders and pillions had warmed up with Hot Chocolates. Madeira Drive was heaving but we all managed to find a space and many soon disappeared to the great Fish and Chip Cafes after admiring the bikes on show (I voted for the Thunderbird Bike). Most of us met rain on the home straight, but despite that, a good day had by all.

Sat 11th & Sun 12th - GH-D 2015 Bike Preview - [Photos](#)

Thursday 9th - VIP 2015 Bike Preview - [Photos](#)

Sunday 5th - Goodwood Hot Hatch Sunday ride - [Photos](#)

Another ride of Graham's popular visits to the Goodwood Breakfast Club, this time led by Axel. On display was everything from classic early GTIs to Group B refugees and Perspex-windowed track day warriors. If it is designed to go (and not just for show), it was be at the Hot Hatch Sunday. Breakfast meant leaving early from Rykas, and on the return ride we stopped at the Whiteways Cafe for goodbyes. Backmarkers were Eric and Paul A.

Saturday 4th - RTTW - [Photos](#)

Despite the weather forecast of high winds and heavy rain, 5 bikes and a trike turned up at Cobham. Robin gave the back marker job to Paul Andrews and put the trike behind him and asked Paul to keep him in view if possible. Made it to Cherwell without rain before it started and then didn't really stop until lunchtime with some real heavy bits when the tents at RTTW were really busy. After that the sun came out and all made their way home individually. It wasn't as bad as was expected but it was still a wet ride.

Thursday 2nd - Club Night - [Photos](#)

Wednesday 1st - Hogs a Dogging ride - [Photos](#)

Russ led his second mid-week ride with 8 riders from GH-D down into Sussex to Hove dogs in plenty of time for the first trap to lift. A great day out with some even winning and a nice meal topped it all off.

September

Sunday 28th - Oxford Landing ride - [Photos](#)

A good turnout for the ride, 31 people and 27 bikes. Stopped at Nelsons Diner then through the borders of Oxfordshire to the George at Kempford near Cirencester. Back via Marlborough and Andover and stopped the ride just before the M3/A303 junction. Welcomed three new members. No incidents and a lovely day to be riding a bike.

Fri 26 – Mon 29 | Blazin' Blazers - [Photos](#)

A party weekend started with a fast blast to Southampton HD to join New Forest Chapter's ride to the holiday park stopping for lunch on route. A party every night with like minded friends in fancy dress with most blokes opting for girls school uniforms! The Police escorted parade ending in Weymouth on Saturday and choice of scenic ride outs on Sunday completed a great weekend for about 20 Hogsback members.

Sunday 21st - Roll-a-Coaster ride - [Photos](#)

Thirteen bikes, seventeen members followed Roger through the Surrey, Kent, and East Sussex countryside on a lovely ride to Rye for their first comfort stop. Then onto the A259 to Winchelsea, Hastings, Bexhill, Pevensey and finally Eastbourne for a lovely lunch at the Hope & Anchor right on the Seafront! The weather was great: sunny, warm and dry. It was hard to believe it was mid September! After lunch the ride continued eastward along the A259 to East Dean, Cuckmere Haven, Seaford promenade and Newhaven before heading up the A26 to Lewes and then the joining the A22 at Uckfield and back to Godstone. Charlie Gordon & Pete Hillier did an excellent job as supporting road crew. A top ride.

Saturday 20th - New Members ride - [Photos](#)

Another fine day for our last New Members Ride of the season. A good baker's Dozen new members along with a platoon of road crew gave enlightenment to the art of group riding. The welcomed arrival of a Harley Trike to the ranks enabled the road crew the chance to embrace and integrate the new Harley model and rider to the formation. And so the system keeps evolving? Electric Harley's ! bring it on.

Fri 19 – Sun 21 | Opale Shores Rally - Photos [Friday](#) | [Friday 2](#) | [Sat-Sun](#) | [Sunday](#) | [Monday](#) | [Aliens](#)

Axel led us on a quick blast to Eurotunnel. Then following a quick fuel stop, Dell took over for a scenic ride down the coast ... well he told us it was 'scenic' but the fog prevented us seeing much of it! Lunch in

Boulogne and 20 minutes later we were at the rally. The chapter dinner that evening will be remembered for Axel translating the menu for Bev who was not pleased when served a whole cow's kidney. Saturday started with a tour of a chocolate factory then a visit to a military surplus warehouse followed in the afternoon by the rally parade. Better food at the Opale dinner though cheese with chocolate cake - strange or what? Our merry group split in half on Sunday with some heading home with Axel and the rest returning with Dell on the Monday.

Sunday 14th - Seaford Surprise ride - [Photos](#)

Dik led 12 bikes out of Rykas for a ride down little travelled lanes through Sussex to the quiet, vast beach front of Seaford. Once there, several surprises revealed themselves - not least the Hogsback demonstration of defiance to invading Napoleonic soldiers in the shadow of the very Martello Tower that had been designed to keep them out! Good fun, good lunch and for those who stayed, a truly memorable ride back through Sussex and Surrey lanes on a beautiful sunny, warm afternoon. Thanks to Steve Cork and Axel for tailending.

Saturday 13th - Southampton Dealer Visit ride - [Photos](#)

Sunday 7th - Trinity Buoy ride - [Photos](#)

14 bikes met at Cobham services for a 64 mile jaunt through the Dartford tunnel and along the A13 to see London's only Lighthouse used for testing the lights. A few light snacks and coffees at the small cafe (Fat Boy diner closed at present). Fabulous views of the O2, Emirates cable car and also Tall Ships sailing up the Thames for a Greenwich Regatta. Then onto Lakeside HD for a bit of retail therapy for the girls! No incidents to report but some 'iffy' motorway riding despite the briefing asking members not to make pack movements. Thanks to Slap for the rear guard.

Fri 5 - Mon 8 | Tanks in the Town - [Photos 1](#) | [2](#) | [3](#) | [4](#) | [5](#)

Cliff, with support from Dell, led 13 bikes (18 people) to Mons to watch the WWII tanks and military vehicles celebrate the 70th anniversary of their liberation. As well as the unique military stuff going on throughout the weekend we were also made extremely welcome by the local Mons Chapter & dealership who showed us the sites of Mons and then treated us to a delicious Paella in their dealership club area. Special thanks go to Genevieve (Mons Chapter Photographer) for making this a weekend to remember!

Thu 4 - Sun 7 | Mosel WineFest - [Photos 1](#) | [2](#) | [3](#)

13 bikes and 20 members went off to the Mosel and had a cracking time. The weather was kind until we went to Bitburg and on the way back the heavens opened so we scuttled back to the hotel. We made the Friday Night the night in town which was a good idea as it was quieter. We watched the brilliant fireworks display from up the hill. We left fairly early on Sunday to try to do lots of back roads and the result was a superb riding day. This really is one of the best events.

Thursday 4th - Club Night - [Photos](#)

August

Sunday 31st - Bodiham ride - [Photos](#)

Saturday 30th - Shoreham Airshow ride - [Photos](#)

Monday 25th - Treasure Hunt - [Photos](#)

Despite the predicted horrible weather 3 couples and Axel ventured out to complete Cliff's first Hogsback treasure hunt, albeit in cars. The worthy winners with almost full marks were Nick & Julie Legg (with help from daughter Nikki). Well done. After lunch at the Princess Royal we then tested Ian & Julie's new 7 seater Fiat 500 to see if Fiat were telling porkies about the seating capacity. Amazingly we all got in.

Sunday 24th - Toast on the Coast ride - [Photos](#)

Saturday 23rd - Whitstable Oyster Run ride - [Photos](#)

Dik led 23 bikes out of Rykas on a sunny day for a lovely leafy ride through the Surrey and Kent lanes to the Oyster Mecca of the South - Whitstable. Safely parked up in our special spot we strolled around this jewel of a place for fish and chips, cups of tea and the odd oyster. Be rude not to! Then back a slightly faster way in time for tea at the end of an Indian Summer Day. Thanks to Gary Morss and Slap for tailending.

Thu 21 - Tue 26 | Thunder in the Glens - [Photos](#)

Well, we had six bikes go on the official ride from GH-D with one join us in Cumbria. That accounted for 5 of the 12 rooms in Aviemore. It ended up where we had more travelling independently than we had on the ride and I felt like a travel agent. Note to self, prioritise rooms to the riders doing the ride in future. The weather forecast was a bit iffy but we set off in brilliant sunshine and went via Scotch Corner, route 66 (A66) and Barnard Castle to get deep into the Pennines and the hotel in Alston.

Limited choice but it was OK and the rooms were good. Next morning its off to Aviemore via Otterburn, Edinburgh, Pitlochry and the A9. We had decided not to go round the Tomintoul route as the forecast was so bad. We had a drenching for 5 minutes near Perth but it was OK after that. No sooner had we got into the hotel that the heavens opened and proved what a good decision that was.

Saturday was Parade day and despite the rain lots of folk came out to cheer and wave. Sunday dawned a glorious day and we left Aviemore went around Loch Ness and down to fort William heading for Inverary via Glen Coe and Cairndow. It was a cracking ride through some fabulous scenery and was enjoyed by all. The hotel gave us the best meal of the ride and we asked the chef to come out so we could applaud him. The following morning he gave George a rubber egg next to his boiled egg and you couldn't tell the difference until you hit it :)

Its then cross country back to Alston on the monday morning riding just behind the weather front which is going south all the time. One carried on when we stopped and copped the lot! Out of the remaining six bikes three went off exploring and three of us went back home in the sunshine. We had no incidents during the official ride.

Sunday 17th - Tyneham & Lulworth Cove ride - [Photos](#)

18 bikes met early at the Princess Royal. A blast, coffee at Southampton HD then onto Tyneham Ghost Village deserted since 1944. We toured the village whilst a rain shower came through then in sunshine the scenic short hop to Lulworth Cove for lunch. On the return after fuelling up the bikes chapter members fuelled themselves up in Carlos Ice Cream Parlour.

Sat 16 - Sun 17 | Cheddar Gorgeous - [Photos 1](#) | [2](#)

Saturday 9th - Back to the Past ride - [Photos 1](#) | [2](#)

Thursday 7th - Club Night - [Photos](#)

Sunday 3rd - Goodwood Thoroughbred Sunday - [Photos 1](#) | [2](#)

Graham led 18 riders on an early start from Rykas on a bright August morning for a progressive ride through some of the best twisty roads in West Sussex, arriving by 10am to meet another 6 members who stayed overnight in Sussex (24 bikes in total).

Another brilliant breakfast club display of 60s classics lined the start - finish straight of the Goodwood motor circuit. The airfield was operational and a selection of classic aircraft could be seen parked around the Aero

Café, a good breakfast and home in time for Sunday lunch, thanks to Axel & Pete for their support - a perfect Sunday

Fri 1 - Sun3 | Ledbury Union - [Photos](#)

Ledbury was the main event to replace SofER (although Graham put a ride on for the non-campers) and despite the rain at first it was a cracking weekend. The venue looked after us very well and was a cracking place to stay. The parade went well and we had over 50 bikes on a fully marshalled ride which we had permission to do. There are loads of thanks due: to Dave Francis and the band who did all the music for free and blooming good they were too; To the Rugby club and staff who kept the bar open and made it very welcoming; To Thames valley for joining in; To Toby for the Van to carry all the gear; To Clive Everett for the badge design; To Dell and Wendy for all their hard work and finally to all 36 Hogsback members who braved the weather and came along and made it such a good weekend.

July

Thursday 31st - Committee Meeting

Sunday 27th - Bexhill Bike Meet - [Photos](#)

Cliff with support from Crippo & Slap led 20 bikes to the new Bexhill MotoFest event. A great day with live music, trader stands and an entertaining "moto gymkhana". A dry ride down though most of us got a brief soaking on the way home.

Saturday 26th - 1940s Revival ride - [Photos](#)

Around 20 bikes joined Crippo on a glorious Saturday riding to Sutton Green, a destination some four and a half miles away! So a slightly creative bumble took them through the Surrey Hills on a fifty minute ride arriving at Sutton Green to experience some 1940s culture with a nice lunch available. No problems and thanks to Dell and Woody for holding his rear!

Thursday 24th - St Barnabas Hospice ride - [Photos 1](#) | [2](#)

A really good turn out on a summers day for Russ's first mid-week ride to St Barnabas Hospice in Worthing. The ride was met with great enthusiasm by patients and staff with loads of photos taken. After refreshments, the ride continued onto Worthing beach café for a bit more sun and tea!

Tue 22 - Wed 23 | Poole Bike Night ride - [Photos](#)

Sunday 20th - Chat Em Up ride - [Photos](#)

Saturday 19th - Slap's Seaside ride to Littlehampton

Sunday 13th - Beaulieu Ride-in ride - [Photos](#)

Saturday 12th - Walking with the Dead ride - [Photos](#)

Cliff with support from Dell & Slap led 17 bikes on a late afternoon ride to Brookwood Cemetery. On arrival and after coffee, we were given a short tour of a small part of Western Europe's largest cemetery followed by a tour of the huge military cemetery. After walking up an appetite and thirst we were treated to a specially cooked BBQ. A great evening event. Thanks also go to "birthday boy" Paul and Sue for taking on the ride photographer role.

Fri 11 – Sun 13 July | Americana - [Photos](#)

Sunday 6th - King Cnut ride - [Photos](#)

Saturday 5th - Hogs on the Farm ride - [Photos](#)

Due to showery conditions members arrived at the farm by Harleys and cars to enjoy a dry evening of fun. Howard arranged tractor driving and pallet stacking competitions whilst Toby & GH-D sponsored the food. A tour of the big farm followed by the band playing and a few beers turned in to a great event.

Thursday 3rd - Club Night - [Photos](#)

June

Sunday 29th - Tankfest - [Photos](#)

Fri 27 - Sun 29 | Zulus in the Brecons - [Photos](#)

Sunday 22nd - Bikes & Burgers ride - [Photos](#)

Saturday 21st Midnight Madness ride - [Photos](#)

With temperatures soaring throughout the day and a clear blue evening sky, a massive crowd gathered in Ryka's car park for the annual 'Woody's

Midnight Madness' London soirée. Earlier news of demonstrations in and around Parliament Square Westminster did not stop Graham 'the old grey fox' and our brilliant Road Crew from performing another miracle and successfully guiding over 50 Harley's through the busy streets of London to enjoy a host of London landmarks which included: the Kings Road, Sloan Square, Buckingham Palace, The Mall, Admiralty Arch, Trafalgar square before entering Covent Garden to a sea of photographers where every rider in the group enjoyed their 15 minutes of fame! Then it was onto to St Pauls, Tower Bridge, the Tower of London, Parliament Square before crossing Westminster Bridge and arriving at our South Bank Turkish restaurant at 10pm on the dot! Thanks to you all for contributing to another brilliant evening event.

Saturday 21st - New Members ride - [Photos](#)

Thu 19 – Sun 22 | Magic Rally

Photos - [Thursday](#) | [Friday](#) | [Saturday](#) | [Sunday](#) | [Julie's view](#)

Another eventful visit to Magic Bike in Ruedesheim, with 24 members on 18 bikes filling up Juergen's Pension and the one next door run by Rosy. Ride leader Axel sustained a rear flat tyre on the first day right in Koblenz, but backmarkers Robin and Gary T safely led the ride to our destination, while Ian N stayed with Axel. The repair took the best part of Friday before Axel could regain control of his group in Boppard. Saturday was the traditional big parade through the Rheingau, though we should not forget to mention that Friday night - with Slade on the stage - was so bright and wet that some did not remove their Jack Daniels sunglasses!

Sunday 15th - Slap's Hot Rod ride - [Photos](#)

Crippo led around 20 bikes from the Princess Royal, Runfold for the 51 mile ride A31/M3/M27/A326 to Beaulieu through the New Forest. A cloudy but mainly dry day with no incidents to report. There was a slight issue with drop offs waiting too long before rejoining the pack which meant that the rear road crew had to slow up. Good exit from the pub meant that there was no need to line up and that it was easy to filter onto the A31.

Saturday 14th - Shamley Green Heritage ride - [Photos](#)

Cliff with support from Axel, Crippo and Slap led 16 bikes on a short ride to Christ Church at Shamley Green to help the church celebrate their 150 year heritage weekend. There was a ride past followed by a "park-up & display". Whilst there 90 year old Muriel achieved a life times ambition of riding on a Harley motorcycle with club member Phil and loved every minute of it.

Fri 13 – Mon 16 | Normandy Invasion - [Photos](#)

D-Day + 7 Captain Woods and his company of Screaming eagles made an assault on the Normandy beaches, the French resistance arranged faux cycle races all around Caen to confuse adversary forces sending everyone around in circles with deviations. However planning with old school navigation the company took Caen museum in a pincer movement re-grouping to the Captain's 'click-clack'. General Kiefer's bunker and Pegasus bridge were taken on the same day.

D-day + 8 A cross country B-C route to Arromarches to avoid skirmishes, on to Saint-Mere-Eglise joining the 101st airborne and finishing at Omaha beach to salute lost heroes at the US cemetery. Returning to our base port of Honfleur, it was off to the NAFFI before liberating our French hosts of all of their Gin & Calvados.

Sunday 8th - Blue Reef Aquarium (Something Fishy) ride - [Photos](#)

Dave led 26 bikes and 31 people to Southsea and got free parking! Nice ride down and we all arrived together. The aquarium was great and so were the fish and chips afterwards. The D-Day celebrations were fantastic with great bands and thousands of people. Thanks to all who came and a special mention to Cliff and Slap for back marking and to Paul and Richard for photos. Oh yeah and to Mark who won a key ring for Tracy in the Arcades! Cheers Guys brilliant day.

Saturday 7th - Shepperton Fair Procession ride - [Photos](#)

Every year for the last 10 years, a contingent of Chapter bikes has led the Procession down Shepperton High Street, round the war memorial (usually several times!) and then into the Fair site to kick off this annual event attracting thousands. Dik led 15 Hogsback bikes on the procession ride again this year - a little damp, even though it was the biggest procession ever. Thanks everyone - we'll do it again next year when we hope it will be dry enough to do our usual parade around the arena as well!

Fri 6 -Sun 8 | Ruth's Wicked Wiltshire Weekend - [Photos](#)

The Wiltshire Weekend went smoothly like a silk lining in a pair of Dent's Gloves (pardon the pun) and the weather didn't stop Ruth taking us to see the prehistoric White Horse even if we couldn't stand on it's eye! Great time spent with old friends and new friends. Thanks to Steve for keeping the group of eight bikes and trike together. All at Dents Glove Factory/ Museum, Aston Pottery and Great Western Steam would love to see us back next year.

Thursday 5th - Club Night - [Photos](#)

Sunday 1st - Hawk Conservancy ride - [Photos](#)

Henry Hook led a small ride to the Conservancy. Thanks to Steve for being rear gunner and Dave for photos. Good laugh had by all and a fantastic day as usual with great displays. Just a pity more members were not there to see it!

May

Saturday 31st - Crippo's Gelato Jaunt - [Photos](#)

Around 20 bikes left GH-D with Crippo for the hour and ten ride to Southampton H-D via A31. Quick shop and drink then into Carlos for a well earned ice cream! Whilst there, they had a fund raising event for cancer research and have asked if we could attend next year. No issues apart from a quick stop for a member who got cramp!

Saturday 31st - Slow Riding course - [Photos](#)

A big thank you to Carl for organising and for the Thames Valley Rospa Advanced motorcycle Group for giving up their valuable time to come along and give us some valuable tuition on slow manouvering control of our beloved Harley-Davidsons. It easy to see that so many of those attending came away with so such more confidence - so it was smiles around. Another plus was that £245.00 was raised for the Surrey Air Ambulance by donations from those attending. Oh, it was dry & sunny too!

Sunday 25th - Dell's 'Le petit-dejeuner' ride - [Photos](#)

An early morning breekie ride led by Dell with Crippo & Slaps assistance. 27 bikes left Burger King for an amble along the back roads of Surrey and Hampshire to Popham airfield in the sunshine. Nice breakfast then a thrash up the motorway and home for midday.

Sat 24 – Mon 26 | Wild Hogs Road Trip – [Photos](#)

An enjoyable weekend away in North Devon with a dozen Hogsback Chapter members. Whilst the weather was against us the social side shone through. Thank you to Dik for soaking up all the spray at the back. When the weather was good the roads delivered glorious biking opportunities. We'll give it another go next year but without the rain!

Sunday 18th - Tiger Moths Humming Birds & Mosquitoes ride - [Photos](#)

Gary Tew led 14 Harleys on a hot sunny day through the many traffic lights of West London to the De Havilland aircraft museum. We were warmly greeted and had the nice surprise of Lakeside Chapter doing the same thing. An interesting guided tour and nice to be able to climb into the exhibits and pretend you were flying over Axel's house.

Saturday 17th - Compton Village Fête ride - [Photos](#)

Catherine once again led an enthusiastic group of 20 bikes and one sidecar from the dealership for the shortest ride in the season to exhibit at the village fete at Compton. Following the single drop off faultlessly executed at the first roundabout, the group headed north in the quest for afternoon tea and cakes, the Pimms tent and an interview with star of stage and screen, David Ford, who introduced the Hogsback Chapter to the appreciative crowd.

Thanks to all members old and new who supported this event. If you have any photos please send them to our foto-fuehrer Axel who was busy feeding bikers to lions that afternoon!

Saturday 17th - Big Cat ride - [Photos](#)

Axel lead 20 bikes with 26 members the 75 miles to the Wildlife Heritage Foundation, supported by backmarkers Dik Gregory and Malcolm Bradly. In a very interesting and educational tour, Catherine and Mike from the WHF introduced each big cat and its backgrounds to the group, highlighting how vulnerable and endangered many of these animals are. The raffle to win the right to feed a tiger, lion and a leopard was won by Natalie (Trevor Rawlings daughter), Pete Fitzcosta and Ian Newton. After the visit, the group headed homeward via the Maidstone HD dealership.

Sunday 11th - Southern at War ride - [Photos](#)

Pete led a merry group of 16 bikes and 22 'Hoggers' on a dry ride to enjoy the 'Southern at War' festivities at the Bluebell Railway in East Grinstead. The route meandered through some lovely country lanes to catch a steam train from East Grinstead station, along the eleven miles of track to Sheffield Park. The event theme recreated WW2 scenes on each station and period war vehicles could be seen outside. A flypast of a vintage aircraft at Horsted Keynes station was followed by afternoon tea and cake all very civilised, and an excellent time was had by all.

Saturday 10th - Lighthouse Run ride - [Photos](#)

Roger led eight lucky bikes from Rykas on a ride through a blustery Surrey and Sussex to Birling Gap to view the Seven Sisters and visitors centre. Then it was off to Beachy Head for a group chapter photo and delicious lunch at the Beachy Head Restaurant. A return ride via Seaford

and Newhaven rounded the trip off nicely. Many thanks to the supporting road crew.

Thu 8 – Sun 11 | St Tropez HOG Euro Rally

Photos - [The ride to St Tropez](#) | [In St Tropez](#) | [The ride home](#) | [Martin Wild](#) | [Katie Francis](#)

13 bikes, 16 members and a load of sunshine. The way down was spent cursing the new sat nav on the Rushmore and arguing the route with Axel at the back via Scala. The problem was that he was quite a way back so his counter instructions were often a little late and we ended up doing some interesting bits. On the first bit I was very tired after the Iron Hog (the only dates we could do it) and ended up having a cat nap in one of the stops. The first nights stop at the Campanile in the Champagne region was as expected, reasonably priced and good value and we all ate together.

The next day and its off to Villebois and the next "hotel" which whilst being very cheap was more like a barracks than a hotel. Having said that the meal in the next door hotel was very good.

We arrived at the rally on day three and everyone dispersed to do their own thing, but got together at the various mobile homes on one night or another and at a rally you keep bumping into everyone. A great rally and one of the best I have been to and the Parade was without doubt the best I have done. Rome would have won without so many riders trying to push to the front, which in the main did not happen in St Tropez. Bonnie Tyler, ice creams, pizza's and lots of wine behind us and its off to the home legs.

Les Agneax is high in the Alps near La Grave and was opened specially for us and the owner did us proud. The route up to the hotel was twisty and we passed 2050 meters through hail and snow. When we were at the top I discovered the pass I wanted to use the following day was closed due to snow. A lovely winding road day with a welcome meal at the end. The day next we woke to snow and in view of the closed pass and poor forecasts I changed the route and we stopped off at Grenoble Harley (sheltering from rain) and made our way using more major than minor roads to hotel La Gustave which was a modernists dream, minimalist and very up to date with great food.

A lovely sunny day followed and we went off to Chateau De Tour La Roy in Vervins via baby roads which although in the main flat and straight gave us the opportunity to crunch some miles and arrive at the hotel in good time. A fantastic meal followed and all enjoyed it and were happy with the prices. A quick skip to Lille to another dealer and then to Calais with most getting together on the other side of the customs to get on one

train and then travel up the motorway with members peeling off at the various exits.

Thanks to Axel for looking after the rear. All in all a good trip with the odd mishap but nothing major and a good time for all with a rally thrown in. How better to spend your holiday?

Monday 5th - May Day Run to Hastings - Photos

On a beautiful May Bank Holiday 35 bikes met at Rykas and were led by Crippo on a 72 mile run via Brighton to Hastings. Last year's event attracted around 32,000 bikes and this year looks like it was even busier! There were the usual trader stalls, food, music and like minded bikers. No incidents to report, group kept together well with thanks to sweepers Cliff and Slap.

Sunday 4th - Goodwood Supercar Sunday ride - [Photos](#)

This year we made the trip down to Goodwood Motor Racing Circuit for the annual Breakfast Club Supercar Sunday! The ride to Goodwood is always interesting with some of the best motorcycling roads in the South. Fine weather and an 8.30 am start means we arrived just in time for a late breakfast!

Saturday 3rd - Oгри Run ride - [Photos](#)

Nigel Smith had a better offer so Russ took on his ride to Wesson's Cafe. A great day with almost forty bikes and a nice mix of new members and older members. A fantastic ride with a passing stop over at Shaws on the way home. My thanks to Slap and Crippo for being back markers.

Thursday 1st – Saturday 3rd - Iron HOG Challenge - [Photos 1](#) | [2](#) | [3](#) | [4](#) | [5](#)

A tired and weary but jubilant band appeared late Saturday night having completed their challenge. More to follow.

Wobin's Log - Day Two

"It's 02:10am and we have just got to the hotel. Traffic not good today although it stayed dry. Amazingly no real dramas just a long day and almost 700 miles. Once the sun went to sleep the temperature really dropped and it was very cold. Lots of people following progress on web. Need sleep back on bike at 7:00am."

Wobin's Log - Day One

"Ride started well with a dry quick ride to Southampton and went downhill from there. Really wet over Jurassic Coast and down to Plymouth. Wet on the way back up to Bridgwater where David Atkinson was the greeting party. Thanks David we were beginning to think that nobody had read

*anything or gave a s**t. We then had showers for the rest of the day, but when we got to Swansea they had a reception for us and cakes and coffee for us and it was really nice of them. Thank you Black Mountain Chapter! Riders of Bristol was shut and nothing stirred but when we got to Oxford the chapter director was there to greet us. Thank you for coming out at that time of night in the rain xx Made the hotel without mishaps and time for bed as on bike at 06:30 ;)"*

Thursday 1st - Club Night - [Photos](#)

April

Sunday 27th - Brighton Jukebox & Collectors Fair ride - [Photos](#)

Slap, on his first ride as Road Marshal in charge, led a party of 13 bikes over to Brighton race track braving the rain with all arriving safe and sound. Unfortunately once at the race track, Myles' CVO Convertible 110 engine decided to start over revving forcing Myles to call the AA out to recover his bike. Slap then led nine bikes to Newlands Corner where the ride ended.

Saturday 26th - Bad Wabbit Shin Dig ride - [Photos](#)

Crippo led nine belligerent bunnies on eight bikes from GH-D on a country route to Bognor via Petworth meeting naughty pheasant, awful badger, frightening fox and scary slow worm on the way. Nearly made the whole journey dry but not quite. No incidents to report other than Crippo nearly losing his wets off his rack! Thanks to Slap and Cliff for road crewing.

Saturday 19th - Rochester ride - [Photos](#)

(originally the Bob the Builder - Diggerland ride) The sun shone on the seven bikes and eleven members who travelled to the historical city of Rochester this Easter weekend. A cultural event that ignited the interest of all who attended...the Fish & Chip shop!

Friday 18th - Wheels Day - [Photos 1](#) | [2](#)

About thirty five bikes enjoyed an indirect route through country lanes, in unparalleled sunshine to Dunsfold Aerodrome, the new home of the annual 'Wheels Day' event organised by the Surrey Street Rodders. Starting with cold 'hot cross buns' and a coffee at the Dealership, we set off and managed to skirt some impressive traffic problems leading to the event. The displays of numerous American 'muscle' cars was extremely impressive, together with some restored and converted 50's and 60's British cars. There were also an innumerate number of stallholders selling just about any and every tool a mechanic could wish for, plus clothing,

bike and car jumble and of course customising gear by the bucket load! A good time reminiscing and admiring was had by all.

Thursday 17th - Committee Meeting

Sunday 13th - Pioneer Run ride - [Photos](#)

Moving this year's 75th Pioneer Run to a later date was the perfect choice. Ryka's café car park soon filled up with the sound of 47 Harleys. 2 more were to join up on route to a glorious morning on Brighton's seafront. The obligatory fish and chips (with mushy peas) and ice cream were soon being consumed by most. Thanks to Gary and Adam for road crewing this larger than expected ride-out.

Saturday 12th - ABC (2) ride - [Photos](#)

A glorious day and a bibble through the Hampshire and Surrey countryside as Oxfordshire was cancelled due to the closure of Sonning. 13 riders joined Robin ably assisted by Nigel and Russ at the back with Axel doing the Photo duties. We started with GH-D and moved through Jacobs Well, Normandy, Fox Corner, Pirbright, Deepcut with the mandatory stop at Deepcut Cafe. Then Camberley, Yateley, Eversley followed by a stop at the Leather Bottle in Mattingly where Dell Evans joined us for Lunch. Then it was off to Basingstoke and Deane, Upton Grey and Greatham including of course Surrey Heath. Any rider who did both ABC rides has enough points for the basic challenge. Hopefully they will build on that and get a higher score. No incidents just a good day out.

Thursday 10th - First Aid course - [Photos](#)

Very informative First Aid Refresher for our Road Crew, all for your safety and comfort. A big thank you goes to Greg of ROSPA and our Safety Officer Carl Christensen.

Sunday 6th - Beaky's Boot Sale - [Photos](#)

Saturday 5th - Start of Season Party - [Photos](#)

Saturday 5th - New Members ride - [Photos](#)

March

Sunday 30th - ABC(1) ride - [Photos](#)

9 bikes started bright and early and collected the really difficult ones of Z and Q along with a host of others. Lunch and coffees were taken on the run and Robin ended the ride at Barton Stacy services.

Saturday 29th - Road Crew Training - Photos

Saturday 29th - Mileage day - [Photos](#)

Sunday 23rd - Aces High ride - [Photos](#)

Charlie on his first outing as a Road Marshal led 14 bikes round London to the RAF Museum at Hendon. Those that wanted to stopped at the Ace for a cuppa on the way home.

Sat 22 - GH-D 5th Birthday Bash! - [Photos](#)

The chapter charities took a whopping £609.40 in donations at the coffee, tea and cake stand! Thanks to Sue, Ruth, Margaret, Tracy and all those who helped out on the day. The generous donation of gorgeous bakes went like hot cakes and the tea, coffee and soft drinks were very generously supplied by Toby and the dealership, without whom none of this would have been possible.

Thu 20 - VIP Evening - [Photos](#)

GH-D hosted a VIP evening showing off three new models: the Sportster SuperLow 1200T, the Dyna Low-Rider and the Special Edition Dyna Street Bob.

Sun 16 - Scrabble Softail ride - [Photos](#)

Axel led one of his signature "Scrabble rides" on a 130 mile scenic journey scrabbleing the word "Softail" via "S"idlow, "O"ckley, "F"ive Oaks, "T"illington, "A"vington, "I"tchen Stoke and "L"indford. Actually, he missed out "A"vington and "I"tchen Stoke but it was a great sunny day out! Special thanks to backmarkers Robin and Adam.

Sat 15 - Green Beret ride - [Photos](#)

Twenty-six bikes joined forces with Roger taking a scenic route down to a very sunny Southsea to visit the Royal Marines Museum. A special entrance fee for the over-sixties was an added bonus to the fascinating and truly moving tour through the extensive museum. A real insight into the sacrifice these professionals have made for their country. Then it was ice creams on the seafront before the journey home by different route. Thanks to supporting road crew, Robin.

Sun 9 - The FAST Cody Flyer ride - [Photos](#)

Gary Tew stepped in to cover Pauls ride on what was a surprising sunney warm day. A short but lovely back lane route to the venue. Fascinating guided talk on the history of Farnbrough and the Cody first man to fly in Britain.

Thu 6 - Club Night - [Photos](#)

Sun 2 - Winter Nutcracker ride - [Photos](#)

February

Sat 15 - Buns & Bikes for Beating Bowel Cancer - [Photos](#)

Thank you to everyone that braved the elements to support the Beating Bowel Cancer 'Buns & Bikes' Event at the dealership. A special thanks to the Dealership for hosting this event and for providing the raffle prize, to all the brilliant cake makers, (and we have many!) for Sally Wenham, Sue Hillier and Margaret Bradly who were running the cafe, Julie legg for doing the raffle and Dave Francis and Andy Cripps for providing the Music, Shaun for lending us the Urn and teapots. We raised over £380.00 - The sun shone too for a brief spell!! Many Thanks

Ruth - Ladies of Harley

Thu 6 - Club Quiz Night - [Photos](#)

Sun 2 - Shooting at Bisley - [Photos one](#) | [two](#)

Dell & Bill's yearly treat for the Chapter. This year they managed to make the day bigger squeezing 14 members in. The sun shone through the gun powder smoke and we got to experience a variety of firearms. Well done to Nicola for winning the Chapter Shooting Cup.

January

Thu 16 - Committee Meeting

Sat 11 - Road Crew Meeting - [Photos](#)

Sat 4 - New Year ride-out - [Photos](#)

Carl led eight bikes (*and two cars*) for a great day out despite the weather and on this rare occasion, all the participating Harley-Davidson motorcycles were water-cooled!!!

Fri 3 - New look Chapter website launched

The new website has also been designed to be easier to read especially on smaller devices such as mobile phones and to overcome the problems being experienced by a number of members using iOS7.

Thu 2 - Club Night - [Photos](#)