

## The WRAG July 2011



### Western Region MAG Bike Safe Southwest



The Regional Stand was present at the annual BikeSafe Southwest event held again at Castle Combe Race circuit.

Paul and Taff with the help of other regional members manned the stand.

Three memberships were taken on the day.

#### The Thin End of the Wedge

1st July sees the spectre of compulsory protective clothing come one-step closer.

This is not about Day-glo or reflective clothing, but rather 'protective' clothing.

You may remember that about a year ago, I wrote that the DSA was internally discussing compulsory protective clothing for candidates undertaking the motorcycle test, in light of all the accidents occurring during the new Module 1 test. Rather than consider the issue of why the accidents were happening, they'd consider

refusing to let people do the test unless they were dressed in protective clothing.

Well July 1st is that date, after which, an examiner can tell those candidates who arrive 'inappropriately' dressed that their test won't go ahead.

Is one examiner's idea of appropriate clothing going to differ from another?

There is no legislation in the UK that specifies the wearing of anything other than approved helmets and eye protection. And there is no clothing standards in Europe that apply to the general public, as the 'CE' we often see, is actually in reference to the body armour.

Are the DSA rewriting the law now?

If it is a DSA concern that someone is injured on their premises, maybe they should provide the clothing they wish people to wear, as the added expense of purchase may be a huge barrier to many people accessing what could be a cheap, congestion-busting mode of transport.

Given that we are constantly told that injury levels on the test are in fact extremely low, why is there a desire to add this extra level of complexity at this time?

Maybe they are actually higher than we are being told?

Will the same controls be placed on CBT undertaking?

Is there a dispute procedure in place?

The list of what is OK and what is not leaves a huge grey area.

- The DSA say "the following is an indication of the minimum level of clothing acceptable: motorcycle boots;
- Sturdy footwear or boots that provide support and ankle protection;
- Textile or leather motorcycle trousers;

- Heavy denim trousers;
- Heavy denim jacket with several layers underneath;
- Textile or leather motorcycle jacket;
- Motorcycle gloves;

The following are examples of clothing that are not acceptable:

- Lightweight training shoes;
- Canvas basket ball trainer;
- Any form of clothing with areas of exposed skin;
- Shell suit or lightweight tracksuit;
- Distressed ripped jeans;
- Lightweight fleece or hoody;
- No gloves or skiing gloves.

What about 'Derry' Boots, that a thousand and one couriers use?

Who decides what are heavy (acceptable) or light (not acceptable?) denim jeans?

What about work/gardening/woollen gloves? Only 'ski' gloves are not acceptable. I'm sure you can see the pit falls developing.

We are endeavouring to find the answers to all these and many other questions, so I'll keep you posted. *Paddy Tyson.*

#### Mid-Wilts MAG

The Ride Out to the Brum demo by Mid-Wilts MAG, is on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July, and will be meeting up at the Kingfisher Pub, Chippenham, SN14 0J.

Please turn up with full fuel tanks, at 9:15 to depart for 9:45. For more info: <http://west-midlands-region.mag-uk.org/hoe.php>

Pet Food Run, Sunday July the 24<sup>th</sup> – Meeting at 12:00 to depart at 12:30 from the Kingfisher Pub, Chippenham, SN14 0JL. This is our annual run to Wild Things Res-Q.

This is about a 70-mile return trip to Newton Tony from Chippenham. The wildlife hospital lays on a free BBQ and gives you a guided tour of the hospital; all we ask in return is donations of food or monies to help the hospital.

### Not-Avon MAG

Not Avon MAG has their monthly business meeting on Tuesday 5th July at the Lamb Inn, Iron Acton.

There is a social meeting on Tue 19th July at the Moon and Sixpence in Tintern.

Steve Webb MP is to attend the meeting at the Lamb Inn, Iron Acton, on the 4th October

### GWR Rally

**WESTON & N SOMERSET MAG**  
& FRIENDS INVITE YOU TO:



In the pleasant North Somerset Countryside  
September 9th - 11th 2011

There will be Live music, Real Ale, Lager and Cider  
in our own bar.



Pre-Book £10 (free pint for MAG members)  
Gate Price £12  
Rally Patches for the first 150 to pre-book  
At our NEW rally site in Sandford, North Somerset  
On the A368 (Near the Ski Slope) BS25 5PF  
**No Fires, Pets & Cars by Prior appointment only**  
Cars Pre-Booked only & with Priority to Blue Badge holders  
£5 Charge per-car - Blue Badge holders Free  
Last day to Pre-book 31st August  
Rally Contact:  
Info: Deb 0778 907 0759  
Bookings: The Troll 01934 838535 or george@leggyatton.fanet.co.uk  
Booking Information, Rally Terms & Conditions at:  
<http://north-somerset.mag-uk.org/gwr.html>

The GWR rally is now only just over two months away, have you booked your tickets yet?

The Rally is on a new site, which should be easier to find and the field is flatter!

The bands this year are 'Goldfish don't Bounce' 'Black Nasty' and Backbone.

Tickets are £10 pre-booked or £12 on the gate, there's even a discount for group bookings.

For more Info go to: <http://north-somerset.mag-uk.org/gwr.html>

### Weston Bike Nights

There will now be a Bike Night at Weston on the evening of 7th July, as North Somerset Council have said the present location of the Bike Nights will not be affected by the T4 on The Beach preparations.

### July 2011

**1 - 3.** Heart of England Rally: **West**

**Midlands MAG:** <http://west-midlands-region.mag-uk.org>

**1 - 3.** Chinnor Bike Dayz XV: **Wycombe**  
**MAG:** <http://www.wycombemag.co.uk>

**1 - 3.** Barnstormer Rally: **Estonians MCC:**  
<http://www.estoniansmcc.com/>

**2.** 2nd Midsummer Mayhem Party Night:  
**Wakefield MAG:** <http://wakefield.mag-uk.org>

**2.** Brum Demo: **West Midlands MAG:**  
<http://www.mag-uk.org>

**8 - 10.** 7th Cock Out Rally: **Unwanted Mcc:**  
<http://www.unwantedmcc.co.uk>

**9.** Van-Taz-Tik Rally & Bike Show: **Van**  
**Diemans MCC:**  
<http://www.vandiemannmcc.com/>

**10.** Bikes Bands & Booty: **Brighton MAG:**  
<http://brighton.mag-uk.org>

**15 - 17.** Dorset MAG summer party: **Dorset**  
**MAG**

**15 - 17.** Big Willie's Over The Border Bash:  
**Dorset MAG**

**23.** Calne Bike Day. **Rotary Club Calne**

**23.** Aberystwyth Bike Show & Party 2011:  
**MAG Aberystwyth:**

<http://www.magaberystwyth.co.uk>

**29 - 31.** 25th Classic & Custom Motorcycle

Show: **Triumph Owners MCC** (Berkshire Branch)

**Aug 2011**

**5 - 7.** BURNING BUDGIE RALLY: **West**  
**London Harley Riders:** <http://www.wlhr.org>

**5 - 7.** The Yorkshire Pudding Rally:  
**Yorkshire MAG:**

<http://www.yorkshirepuddingrally.co.uk>  
**12 - 14.** End of the Road Rally: **MAG**

**Cornwall**

**19 - 21.** Ganton Gathering 2011:  
**Scarborough MAG:**

<http://www.gantongathering.com>

**20.** The Bristol Bike Show: **The Bristol Bike**  
**Show:** <http://www.thebristolbikeshow.co.uk/>

**20.** The Bristol Bike Show After Show Party:  
**Bristol MAG:** <http://bristol.mag-uk.org/>

*The Motorcycle Action Group accepts no responsibility for the content of this publication and the views expressed are not necessarily those of the Editor or MAG.*

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