

The WRAG

May 2017



**Western
Region
MAG**



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

MAG Hatters Rally	1-3
All interested parties, MAG Hatters Rally	3-4
General Election Handbook	4
Events	4



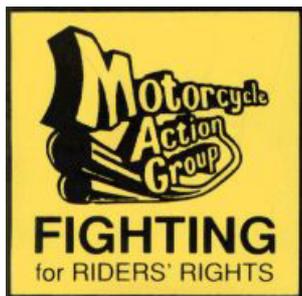
MAG Hatters Rally 2017

Compared to last years weather at Easter conditions were much more clement, and decidedly a lot less windy.

Several stout volunteers appeared on the Thursday to assist in the marquee erection, and general setting up duties. Thank you to everyone who assisted in whatever way helped on the day.

Easter Friday saw folk coming from all over England, Wales , N Ireland and Eire. The Control was kept rather busy all day booking folk in, so much so we barely had time to take a break.

One chap turned up late, and headed for the bar and ended up sleeping on his bike as he'd neglected to erect his tent first!



Not a MAG member?

Why not join now, by going to:
<http://www.mag-uk.org/en/joinmag/a6318>

And sign up on line!



There was a fine selection of real ales on tap in the marquee, with two new ones as well as the traditional ales. Also plenty of local Cider, and judging by the sore heads the following morning they went down exceedingly well. The evening entertainment was provided by Snatch it Back, a rock and blues band that had folk up and dancing.

Saturday saw Dan and Stacey led a ride through the Gloucester-

line!

-shire countryside and had lunch at a suitable hostelry. In the afternoon Chris Woodchuck entertained folk in the marquee with a variety of music.

In the evening Smokeroom took the rally by storm with the hall packed with rally folk with quite a few up on the dance floor really lettering their hair down in grand style, even having to play a couple of encores!



During the bands well deserved break the awards and draw took place.

The best Male MAD Hat went to Bristol MAG's very own Boyce with his huge Mad Hatters hat, how he got it on his bike we don't know!

The Female MAD Hat went to Taunton Mag's Sarah.

The Long Distance award went to David Garnsworthy with 410 miles, travelling all the way from County Clare on the west coast of Eire.

Thanks to all those who helped in any way and for everyone who came to the Rally.

See You All next Year George Legg RR



"The MAG Hatters, Western Region's Easter Rally was, once again, superb in its second year.

Having worked in this Region for 25 years+ its brilliant to see such a successful regional event once again.

There's lots of people to thank from the 'erection team' on Thursday to bar staff and if I try to name them I'll leave someone out so I'm not going to do that. However, I will name those who went way beyond the extra mile to make this a) happen and b) the success it was:- Paul Sysum, of course, Julie Sysum, Mark Whitehead & his lovely Helen, Jessica & Owen, Claire Bryant, Tim Derrick, George Legg. To Trace, for keeping me sane (almost) at

Control & the rest of 'Control' team for the laughs.

Here's to many more. Thank you to everyone involved. Magic. Anne Gale"



"All interested parties, MAG Hatters Rally Shakedown"

Paul Sysum, our Head Honcho for the Regional Rally - the MAG Hatters - has asked me to include on the Agenda a Rally Shakedown (previously referred to as post mortem) item at our next Regional Committee Meeting which will be held on Sunday 11th June. Venue is the skittle alley at The Railway Tavern, Fishponds.

Start time for the meeting will be 12.30. Whilst normally we run through the Agenda, I'll schedule the start of the Rally Shakedown item for 2. You may want to just come for that item or, as always, you are welcome to Observe at the whole meeting.

This is a chance for every Regional Member to have their say in open forum. If you cannot attend but have something you would like to say or contribute in any way, if you send me an email, subject heading: MAG Hatters for 11 June to aine@mag-uk.org I will read it out at the meeting to put your views forward. Despite being busy with MAG I will endeavour to acknowledge your email so, if you don't receive an acknowledgement let me know. My mobile is 0773 6941244.

******PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU ARE ATTENDING BY SUNDAY MAY 28 SO I CAN LET AMY KNOW ABOUT SANDWICHES******

Many thanks, Anne Gale, Regional Admin."

MAG PUBLISHES GENERAL ELECTION HANDBOOK, PRICE: FREE

Theresa May has announced a snap general election for June 8th, 2017 - but don't fear: MAG has the answer to getting the biker's message across using the updated MAG General Election Handbook 2017.

The Handbook covers setting up a debate, sending correspondence to the political parties and activists and engaging with the candidates. 'We updated the Handbook because of the extra information, helpful tips and experience gained by MAG members during and since the last election,' explains committed MAG activist Michael Armstrong, who has played an active role in improving the Handbook. 'We've also been developing the materials during by-elections and routine dealings with MPs, Councillors and media. The price of the Handbook is zero: we're sharing it for free. All you have to do is follow the link: https://wiki.mag-uk.org/images/9/94/MAG_General_Election_Handbook_2017.pdf or get in touch with MAG HQ using the contact details provided at the end of this release.'

The Handbook explains how to set up a debate, and how to ask the right questions at other debates. This is usually permitted and it can be the fastest way to get the riders' message across.

Michael adds 'in terms of correspondence we have a new option of using a questionnaire, which has been tried and tested. We have a list of questions which can be copied and pasted, including a standard wording for an email to use with the questions. All that's required is to fill in the blanks and press SEND.'

So you can use any one of the options - or all three. Now is the time to make our voice heard at the General Election, so that biker-friendly policies are written into manifestos and changes made to national party policies: because there's a lobbyist in every one of us. Contact MAG at 01926 844 064 or central-office@mag-uk.org

Events

May 11. Barnstaple Bike Night: North Devon MAG: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/305204766313583/>

May 26 – 28. 5th Tone Vale Tea Rally: Taunton MAG: <http://taunton.mag-uk.org/tonevaletea.htm>

June 2 – 4. 2nd Summertime Rally@one Day Bike Show: Southampton MAG.

June 8. Barnstaple Bike Night: North Devon MAG: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/305204766313583/>

June 9 – 11. LION RALLY: <http://www.lionrally.com>

June 15 – 18. The Farmyard Party: Yorkshire MAG: <http://www.farmyardparty.co.uk/>

June 23 – 25. Blackpool MAG 20th Rally: <http://north-west-region.mag-uk.org/>

June 24. Bike show: Abergele MAG

July 28 – 30. MAGFEST 2: South East MAG

The Motorcycle Action Group <http://www.mag-uk.org/en/index/a6296>

Western Region MAG <http://western-region.mag-uk.org/index3.html>

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.

A Demented Troll publication