



SPRING 2020

CHAINLINK

The Magazine of the Christian Motorcyclists' Association



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I am grateful to our National Secretaries Paul Gardiner and Ted Russell for their e-mail prompts to our members for submitting articles for the magazines. I realise we generally lead very full lives and trying to fit everything in can be a challenge! So, once again, thank you to all who sent in articles for this issue. If yours didn't make it, I'll try and put it in the Summer 2020 edition. Ed.

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 Christ, and also seeking Him for themselves.

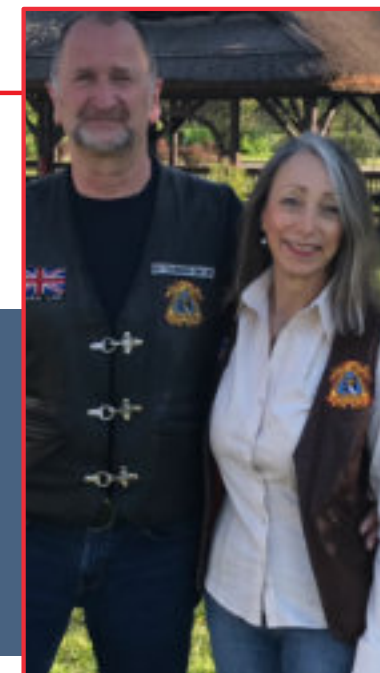
The Bible says: 'Seek and you will find' • St Matthew chapter 7, verse 7

National Chairman, CMA UK

Mike Fitton

'God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.' Psalm 46:1

As I write this (in March) we are facing changes in our daily lives that none of us could have dreamt would happen in the UK let alone the world in 2020 – we have temporarily lost the regularity of all that we love as Christians; our church services, house groups, prayer meetings and the times we get together with our CMA family. As CMA members we have temporarily lost the opportunity to meet up with our local bikers at cafes, rallies, race events, shows etc.



Is this a time to close the garage door and watch box sets of Babylon 5 or MotoGP?

Of course not, there are many things we need to remind ourselves about and those we seek to reach with the Life Changing Gospel. We need to be proactive and see this virus as an opportunity to bring the Hope of Christ into the lives of those we love who have little hope. So where shall we begin?

God is Faithful to those who put their trust in Him: He will never leave or forsake us. (1 Corinthians 1:9, Hebrews 13:5)

God's perspective matters more than opinions: Faithful follower of Jesus, Corrie Ten Boom, who experienced the worst possible conditions in Ravensbruck concentration camp said, 'If you look at the world, you'll be distressed. If you look within, you'll be depressed. If you look at God – you'll be at rest.' (see Hebrews 12:2)

Don't be anxious – rather be honest with the Lord and let Him carry your burden.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:6-7)

Jesus gave us miraculous promises – don't let the enemy snatch their Truth away – just believe and pray.

Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it. (John 14:13-14)

As we pray let God lift our view to the Heavenlies – if we are to seek God's intervention for our nation we

must pray without limitations on God's ability and Power.

Then Elisha prayed, 'O LORD, please open his eyes that he may see.' And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw that the hills were full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha. (2 Kings Ch6 v17)

Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think. (Ephesians 3:20)

Think prayerfully outside of the box about new ways to keep in contact with branch members to ensure they are supported; remember to use social media wisely, meet up via Skype, Facetime, Whatsapp, e-mail, phone calls. Contact local clubs offering to pray and support practically where possible.

Paul shared this profound statement with the church in Rome:

I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15:13)

Never forget this final thought as you minister in a world of uncertainty; the Cross begins to make sense when devastation surrounds those who do not trust God.

The message of the cross is foolish to those who are headed for destruction! But we who are being saved know it is the very power of God. (1 Corinthians 1:18)

Sandy and I send you our sincere love and look forward to serving alongside you in the days ahead in new innovative ways.

God Bless you,
Mike and Sandy

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I keep a spreadsheet on my PC which records running details of our cars and bike—have done for years. I can see at a glance what the average mpg is for the Explorer, currently at 49.1. Imagine my surprise then when, following our branch annual New Year rideout into North Wales, the mpg for that day was 76.7. Totally unprecedented! That equates to a tank range of 337 miles!

The reason for this very impressive figure for the Explorer was that, on that particular day when I was leading the rideout, we had a dear brother on a 125cc plus 'L' plate join us. Now this dear brother, instructed to ride on my tail and with virtually no experience of group riding, had some difficulty in keeping the pace that we would as normal. This slowed the whole group ride down to a painfully slow ride but nevertheless contributed to a very enjoyable day. We had a good mix of riding, with food & drink stops when we had fellowship together. A great and typical CMA combination!

The Bible instructs us to care for the weak amongst us. [Acts 20:35, Rom 15:1, 1Thess 5:14] The weakest link in the chain needs the greatest of attention.

Ride safe, keep more-or-less upright, be a blessing and be blessed!

John

Articles for Chainlink are most welcome, and should preferably be submitted by e-mail to chainlink@bike.org.uk

All images should be high resolution (originals from your camera/smartphone) and NOT embedded in a text document. Vector graphics are also welcome. Text documents should be unformatted rich text format (RTF) files. MS Word documents are acceptable, PDFs are not.

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 Executive committee. The editor retains the right to correct spelling and grammar as appropriate.

Obituary – Ray Trainor 20th October 1951 – 26th January 2020

Mike Fitton and Richard Lowe



L to R Mike Fitton, Richard Lowe and Ray Trainor on route to Ray's hometown of Limavady, Northern Ireland during the NW200 in May 2017. Looking over the head of Lough Foyle towards County Donegal.

From Mike Fitton National Chairman CMA UK

Ray Trainor was not only a dear friend but a man of God who shared the Gospel in a way that was worth watching. He was gentle in his approach, he cared for those who didn't yet know the love of Jesus, there was always a smile on his tough face and a peace that endured throughout his illness. He wasn't worried that his life on earth was ending (except for the pain that would cause to his wife Gill) because he knew by grace he would step into the presence of Jesus for eternity.

I often heard him say to someone he had just met, 'Before I go can I pray for you?' They invariably said, 'Yes' because they knew Ray was sincere.

From Richard Lowe

Chair of CMA Carlisle & Isle of Man Branch

An empty box of Biker Bibles best, for me at least, epitomises Ray's deep and irrepressible desire to hear from God, seize the moment and bring the gospel message to other bikers wherever he went. On a recent trip to the Isle of Man, the Carlisle and IoM Branch was pioneering an outreach at the Southern 100 Road Races. Miserably, in view of the lateness of the decision to make the trip, we had to go in a car as there were no spaces left for motorbikes on the ferries. Sadly, and tragically, as race day progressed, there was a fatality and the rest of the races were cancelled. This is not uncommon in the high-octane world of road racing.

Following the announcement that racing had been cancelled and the roads would soon be opening again to the public, Ray grabbed the box of Biker Bibles we'd brought and disappeared off into the subdued crowd. He soon returned with a large grin and an empty box. I looked at Ray and said, with a mixture of both disbelief and admiration in the tone of my voice, "HOW THE HECK Ray?" He chuckled and said, "I told them all, 'Mrs

Dunlop would want you to have one of these.'" Think of Ray seizing that moment—his Irish accent, his timing, and that simple but profound statement which he used to soften the hearts of the people taking the Biker Bibles he was handing out. We only have to compare Ray's approach with Acts 17:22-31 and then the word 'inspired' doesn't really cover it. Keep in mind that the meeting we had travelled to had just been curtailed because of the death of one of the riders and serious injury to several others. The week before, at the Skerries 100 Road Races in the Republic of Ireland, William Dunlop had 'succumbed to his injuries' which is the euphemism the governing body uses for a rider fatality.

Joey Dunlop, arguably the best-known road racer of all time, was the uncle of William Dunlop. Joey's funeral, which was held in his hometown of Ballymoney, Northern Ireland, was attended by a staggering 50,000 people. The Dunlop dynasty is known worldwide. Many films, documentaries and YouTube postings mean they are revered, and treated like the road racing royalty they are, especially in Northern Ireland.

Now, Ray had heard that Mrs Dunlop is a born-again lady and all the family funerals have taken place in the same Garryduff Presbyterian church in Ballymoney. Close to Joey's Bar in Ballymoney, there are life size bronze memorials of Joey and Robert and memorials recording their prolific racing achievements.

Ray would be very aware that many in that crowded grandstand and paddock were still both raw and grieving from the multiple fatalities this road racing season had experienced.

So now imagine Ray, an Irishman, owning the right accent, wearing his white cross-embossed cut-off at that meeting. Slightly stooped, overlooking his glasses, looking at you with that mesmerising stare with that quiet, low but authoritative, voice declaring 'Mrs Dunlop would want you to have one of these.'

On the back of that experience, and now with hindsight, I must say he discerned the zeitgeist of that crowd supernaturally. Ray said afterwards that the Biker Bibles 'went like hot cakes.' People were bending over rows of people to take a Biker Bible.

Simple, profound, effective and fruitful. Genius. Ray. Perhaps that is why Mike Fitton chose him to receive the National Chairman's Award at the National Rally in 2018. 🙏



Ray inspecting one of Joey Dunlop's racing Hondas on display in Joey's Bar, Ballymoney, Northern Ireland, May 2017.



Ray in the Joey Dunlop Memorial Garden, Ballymoney, Northern Ireland, May 2017.



Ray in June 2018, beside Buttermere in the Lake District, with his Triumph Bonneville T100.

Tyneside HOG Rally

George Laws, Tyne & Wear

The first time my wife and I attended a HOG Rally it was on behalf of CMA. We picked the Saturday morning slot and decided to do two shifts one after the other. With family commitments over the weekend and work during the week it seemed to be the best option. Getting there early in the morning we noticed hundreds of bikers milling around with coffees and bacon sandwiches, the staple diet of bikers in the early hours.

As I approached the CMA tent I noticed, with concern, that few people were going inside and enjoying the coffee and Christian chat on offer. Questioning Tim our Chairman he told us that they were preparing for a ride out.

For the last three years I had been attending a photography course and had recently passed and was wondering what God had in store for me and my new skill. Taking my camera I headed out onto the street and proceeded to take a number of photographs of the bikes as they set off.

Returning to the CMA tent I couldn't understand what to do next. God had led me to the rally and prompted me to take my camera equipment with me so I had to ask him, 'What next God?'

Sitting in the tent I noticed a number of people walking passed, as did my wife Caz. Without prompting and always being proactive she stood in front of the tent and began talking to people as they passed. As talking to people wasn't one of the areas I was good at I sat in the tent and tried to figure a way I could be of use to God. After an aborted attempt to talk to a chap in an electronic wheel chair I took my camera and followed the HOG members to the main field where all the tents were. To my surprise I realised not all had gone on the ride out.

Hangovers were evident and empty whiskey and vodka bottles lay outside of a few of the tents. Approaching one tent I began speaking to three men looking a little worse for wear. Their Scottish accents were thick and masked with lack of sleep, armed with my Master's Degree in English I managed to make out every third word they spoke. Showing them my camera I asked if I could take their pictures. Not too sure of their response I snapped away and left. Moving through the tents I became more open and spoke a little more freely. I started by asking if I could take a picture of their bike, then finished by asking if they would pose with it. The main point I found was that most bikers are proud of their rides and whatever the circumstances will pose next to them. It's a good way to start a conversation, 'Hi, nice bike! Can I take a photo of it? I'm from CMA, the tent with the coffee and tea.'

A number of conversations and photographs later I finished my shift and went home. Wondering what I was going to do with the photographs, God prompted me to print them out and leave them on



the table at Holy Joe's the following year. Doing my usual walk around the field I spoke to a number of people and told them about the photos. The first chap to turn up was one of the Scottish men from the previous year, hangover held at bay. When he saw the photograph of himself he beamed. "No one has ever taken my photo before", he said. When I told him he could have it he thanked me and went for his wallet. I shook my head and said there was no cost. Picking up the other two images I passed them to him and told him he could have those as well. I think he spent the rest of the afternoon in Holy Joe's talking and drinking coffee.

Later that year I bumped into him again at Stormin'. He walked into Holy Joe's looking miserable so I stopped him and asked him if he was alright. He smiled and said, "I am now I've seen you". Thanking him I asked if he had put the picture up in his garage. He looked shocked. "It's the only picture I have of me so I framed it and hung it on my wall." For a second I was speechless. The prompting I'd been given by God had meant so much to him. Later on that day one of the other chaps from the HOG Rally almost leaped over the counter to thank me for the picture.

The following year I printed out the pictures again and placed them on

the tables. To my astonishment people flooded into Holy Joe's looking at the images and taking theirs. People began talking to CMA members and enjoying a coffee or tea. While this was going on I wandered the field again taking images and talking to people, who now knew who I was and were prepared to pose next to their bikes. The 2020 HOG Rally is approaching so I'd better get printing and dusting off my laminator.

'For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.' [Eph 2:10] ↗

El Accidente en España

Stephen Wilds, West Yorkshire

It has been my privilege to spend many happy hours in Spain over the past 15 years or so, and of course to ride my motorbike on some fantastic Spanish roads. We have been truly blessed. As Christians we know the Lord is with us and that all things work together for good for those that love him, even when there are things in our lives that we don't understand. Sometimes when we go out on our bikes we pray for 'journeying mercies' and that the Lord will keep us safe. Well, why wouldn't He keep us safe? We are his children through the spirit of adoption and He loves us and anything and everything that happens in our lives is for a purpose, His divine purpose.

Sometimes some of life's events are not easy and I have to say that 2019 has been a tough year for me and my family but despite some hard times we maintain our faith in God. In fact, if any of us who have a faith in God stop to think about our lives I am sure we will be able to point to events and circumstances where God's

presence and guidance is clearly evident. If, of course, some of you who are reading this edition of the magazine don't have a faith in God, then just stop and think how wonderful it would be to have the protection of God in your life as well.

At the end of October 2019 I was in Spain and went out for a motorbike ride with a group of bikers. We rode up into the hills behind Alicante where the views and the roads are spectacular. It was a warm, sunny day and we stopped for breakfast, lunch and on our way home a final cup of coffee together before we went our separate ways. I waved good bye to the group as I turned on my route home. I negotiated a small traffic island and on to a long straight road, very rural but with a solid white line down the centre of the road. A solid white line in Spain means it is not to be crossed by any vehicle except in emergencies, not even to turn off into a side entrance. Having left the traffic island I slowly accelerated as the road on my side was clear as far as the eye could see. There was a transit van coming towards me in the distance but should have no influence on my progress as he was on his side of the road, separated by the white line and good all round conditions.

The van got to the point where it was almost along side me and without warning he turned right across my path and of course I hit him full on. The bike was smashed, I was lying in the road and the van was wearing the scars of the collision. As I somersaulted through the air I braced myself for the inevitable injuries coming my way. I finally came to a stop and was lying prone in the road, thank God no other vehicles were coming.

So what next I thought, I am in a foreign country, don't speak too much Spanish, never handled a crash abroad before and how could I explain that none of the accident was my fault, not to speak of the potential injuries I may have suffered. I was sure the police would soon arrive and they prefer Spanish, not English, when dealing with formal incidents.

As I lay in the road a young man approached me and told me his name, Joshua. He asked for my name and then explained that he was a paramedic and would look after me. He went on to say he was also a biker



and clearly saw and understood what had happened and that the accident was clearly not my fault. He said he would be a witness to the circumstances and would speak with the police as he was bi-lingual and could explain what had happened, which he subsequently did. Well, someone had got my back covered and was looking after me in a vulnerable set of circumstances. Joshua also gave me his phone number!

Within minutes, several police cars arrived and an ambulance. I was asked my name and address by the police, breathalysed and then whisked off to hospital with all the blues and twos. I didn't feel my injuries were too bad – hopefully just bumps and bruises. My concern was I knew nothing of the guy who hit me; no idea how matters would be resolved or what Joshua had explained to the police. I was in no position to sort any of this, I just had to go to A&E, get myself sorted and then deal with the accident.

Thank God I had no broken bones and was able to return to my Spanish home.

Now the point of telling you this tale is to demonstrate that once again the Lord provided. I don't believe in coincidence and the fact that the young man, Joshua, was there to deal with all the issues must have been by divine intervention. Joshua covered everything I needed and the fact he was there and willing to help is God just looking after me, including the minimal injuries I had suffered. The bike is now with Honda and likely to be a write-off and the van driver's insurance has admitted liability. Of course I would have rather not have had the accident but, given it did happen, I can testify to the intervention of the Lord not leaving me in difficulty and sending a guardian angel.

Stop to think about your life: as a Christian, think of the times things have just got sorted, and if you're not a Christian think how the power of God in your life could make a difference.

Oh and, by the way, my new bike, a BMW 1250 RT is fabulous. Thank God for that too!! 🙏



Scripture Bike

Mickey Ayton, Hants & Surrey Borders

I've been interested in motorcycles for as long as I can remember. A youth worker at the local youth centre had a CBR 600F that he let me sit on when I was about 12, and from that moment I'd dreamed of one day owning one, racing around *Brands Hatch* and other circuits, but it had to be that bike.

I didn't know why. Anyway many (many) years later, I'm a Christian motorcyclist. I ride—a VL800 Intruder, quite different from the CBR 600F that I'd dreamed of owning. I still wanted one, but as a track bike, not for everyday use. I've been with the CMA for two years now and love it – the fellowship, the friendships, the ability to connect with Christians and non-Christians alike, just because we are bikers and being able to share what God has done in my life.

I liked going to N.A.B.D with Jay from HSB to help Sid with Holy Joe's – first time we'd helped at a Holy Joe's and it was great.

The 'Scripture Bike' was a dream, or at least it seemed to start that way...

I'd got a CBR 600F and had Bible verses put on it, and was parked at Ryka's (the local biker café). It was the Sunday before our Spokes meeting and the bike got a lot of attention. People were asking about it and about what had prompted me to do it and in the end Jay and I had many conversations. The next day was Spokes and about 60 bikes turned up...

When I woke up I couldn't get the idea out of my head, so I



started looking online for a bike. I was praying about it, about the verses I should put on it, then I got this verse:

'There is no one like the God of Jeshurun, who rides the heavens to help you, and in his excellency on the clouds.'

And immediately I thought – God's a biker!

Then I thought what does *Jeshurun* mean? So I looked it up. *Jeshurun* is a poetic name for Israel used in the Hebrew Bible, so that was my first verse. I already knew I wanted John 3:16 because it's a verse that makes you realise just how much God loves you.

I then asked other members of our branch to send verses that meant something to them. All the while praying about the bike, God gave me one or two verses along the way. Before long we had about 12 verses.

Then a bike came up – a 1999 CBR 600FX in red, white and blue fairing. It was in Kent so I called them up. When I went to collect the bike I discovered the rear frame was twisted so I ordered a replacement from the Isle of Wight motorcycle breakers, and Jay and I fitted it. A week or so later, after much deliberation and worries over quality and fitment I



ordered a set of gloss black ABS plastic fairings from China (via eBay). These arrived a few days later and with the help of my brother Martin and Jay we fitted the fairings to the bike. No such worries, they were perfect and with very little fettling fitted a treat.

It was at this point that I'd begun to realise that the 'Scripture Bike' was actually going to happen.

The next thing to do was to get someone to help with getting the scripture on the bike, so I contacted my local sign shop, who initially sounded up for the job (I trusted his work as he'd previously sign written my work van and did a great job). I arranged to go and see him but when I got there and he heard what my ideas were his mood changed instantly. He was now 'too busy' to do the job any time soon, so rather than pushing the issue I wished him well and left.

I decided to give it some time and more prayer, then while looking on the internet at sign fonts and different ways of doing what I wanted to do I decided I would do it myself, have the letters cut and 'have a go'.

I came across *Butler dSigns* in Shirley, a traditional sign writing company that had done a lot of church signs and restoration work. I gave them a call and arranged to take the bike along. I went home and wrote out the verses, downloaded the CMA logo and found the image I wanted on the front fender then went back to see them. They were more than happy, telling me they'd never done a bike before but were happy to do this one. So I agreed the price and arranged to bring the bike back.

I went back with the bike the following week as arranged and work began. Two or three days later, I got a call to say

the work was completed so I went to have a look and was very impressed with the job they'd done. I'd intended to give them a little more than they'd quoted, but they refused to take anymore, all they wanted was to take pictures of the completed work.

I took the 'Scripture Bike' to our Spokes meeting that evening and it was greatly received by everyone there. It's been to Rykas, and Newlands Corner (another popular meeting place) and gets a lot of attention. It is a conversation starter, but also, more importantly the verses on the bike speak to people even when I'm not there. On Christmas Day 2019 I took it into my local church and they used it in the Christmas message about gifts.

Hopefully this coming year we will have plenty of opportunity to share this gift with others, and have some great conversations too. 🙏



Philip's Testimony

Philip Head, Devon & Cornwall

My name is Philip Head. I am 69 years of age and am from the Duchy of Cornwall.

God will use us if we make ourselves available to Him and to His calling. This is a testimony of what I believe God is doing in my life. I hope it may be an encouragement to those who read it.

I was brought up being sent to an Anglican church. I sang in the choir, played the church organ and served on the altar (not all at the same time!) – but I was far away from God. In my 20’s I became a Roman Catholic and was indeed very good at the religious observances of being a Catholic, but my lifestyle was one of sin. I was far from God.

My first career was in the Royal Army Medical Corps, where I served for 24 years from the age of 16. Whilst I was serving in London (I was 36 years of age then) a colleague who was a fellow soldier invited me to a meeting of the Full Gospel Businessmen’s Fellowship International (FGB); I heard the gospel for the first time, prayed a ‘sinner’s prayer’ and invited Jesus into my life to be my Lord and Saviour. My life changed from that very moment. Foul language from my mouth was no more; I was acutely aware of my sin and immediately set about changing my lifestyle. Don’t misunderstand me – I’m not saying that I’m perfect. God is still working on me every day of my life, but my attitude and my approach to life are incredibly different now.

In 2015, at the age of 64 years, I woke up one January morning, brought my wife and me a cuppa tea up to bed, and declared to her, “I think I’m going to learn to ride a motorcycle”. Within six weeks I had done my theory, CBT with a school and my Mod 1 and Mod 2 test on a school’s Honda 600 CBR. Now I am now totally sold on biking.

My hope and dream are to become a Chaplain to the motorcycle communities here in the Duchy of



Cornwall. The biking community is very special, as all who ride are aware of how vulnerable we are. There is much need for somebody to draw alongside fellow bikers, to be a listening ear, to conduct marriages and funerals and to be there – to be available. “Lord, use me if you will”.

Testimony that I hope may encourage the reader

In 2019 I started training in Chaplaincy with AOG/Elim; ministry training continued with the Christian Leaders Institute. In January 2020 I qualified as an ordained Chaplain Minister; my ordination service will be on Sunday 7th June at my home church in St. Cleer in Cornwall.

My training to be a Chaplain continues, as I truly believe my calling is to be a Chaplain to the motorcycle community around me.

For my retirement years I have reinvented myself, as it were, and launched out on a passion that I hadn’t had the opportunity to pursue before. It all started with a vision over a cuppa tea one frosty, January morning, when I believe God sowed a seed in my heart.

The rest of my story is still being written... ↗

Biking Events in Devon and Cornwall including a Bristol Branch Event May – September 2020

Events in Blue are organised by Christian Motorcyclists Association
Events in Green are organised by the Devon and Cornwall Christian Bikers
Events in Dark Red are organised by Follow the Son Motorcycle Ministries

Saturday, Sunday 2-3 May	English Riviera Bike Festival	Paignton Sea Front TQ4 6BW
Thursday 7 May	Plympton Bike Night	Triumph/Harley-Davidson from 6pm
Thursday 14 May	Bike Night	Plymouth Hoe PL1 2PU
Thursday 21 May	Plympton Bike Night	Triumph/Harley-Davidson from 6pm
Thursday, Friday, Saturday 21-23 May	CMA Stand at the Devon Cycle Show CANCELLED	West Point, Exeter EX5 1DJ
Thursday 28 May	Bike Night	Plymouth Hoe PL1 2PU
Friday 29 May	Bike Night	Trago Mills, Liskeard PL14 6JY
Sunday 7th June	Biker's Service including the Ordination of Philip as Chaplain Minister CANCELLED	CleerWay Community Church, Memorial Hall, Well Lane, St. Cleer, Liskeard, PL14 5EA
Thursday 11 June	Bike Night	Plymouth Hoe PL1 2PU
Thursday 18 June	Plympton Bike Night	Triumph/Harley-Davidson from 6pm
Saturday 20th June	CMA Stand at the Beaford Bike Show	Beaford, North Devon EX19 8LU
Thursday 25 June	Bike Night	Plymouth Hoe PL1 2PU
Friday 26 June	Bike Night	Trago Mills, Liskeard PL14 6JY
Friday 26 to Sunday 28 June	Len's Run organised by Bristol Branch of CMA. Ride to Cleer from Chepstow CANCELLED	Dolau Afon, Wales SY23 4BQ
Thursday 2 July	Plympton Bike Night	Triumph/Harley-Davidson from 6pm
Saturday 4 July	Bike Festival	Penzance
Friday and Saturday 10 and 11 July	Wild South West Rally FTSMM has a marquee	Britannia Inn, St. Austell PL24 2SL
Sunday 12 July	Devon Air Ambulance Ride Out, start 0800 hrs. and finishing at The Den, Teignmouth TQ14 8BB	Trago Mills, Stover, Newton Abbot, Devon, TQ12 6JD at 0800 at 0800 or Evans Transport Ltd, Gammaton Road, Bideford, Devon, EX39 4F
Sunday 12 July	Truro Bike and Trike Show 8-5 FTSMM has a table display	Lemon Quay Truro TR1 2PU
Thursday 16 July	Plympton Bike Night	Triumph/Harley-Davidson from 6 p.m.
Friday, Saturday, Sunday 17-19 July	CMA National Rally CANCELLED	Lenchwood Christian Centre WR11 4UP
Thursday 23 July	Bike Night	Plymouth Hoe PL1 2PU
Saturday 25 July	Plymouth Bike Festival	The Piazza, Plymouth
Wednesday 29 July	CMA Stand at the Yealmpton Agricultural Show	Kitley Lawns, Yealmpton, Plymouth, PL8 2NN
Friday 31 July	Bike Night	Trago Mills, Liskeard PL14 6JY
Thursday 6 August	Bike Night	Plymouth Hoe PL1 2PU
Thursday 13 August	Plympton Bike Night	Triumph/Harley-Davidson from 6 p.m.
Thursday 20 August	Bike Night	Plymouth Hoe PL1 2PU
Friday 28 August	Bike Night	Trago Mills, Liskeard PL14 6JY
Thursday 27 August	Plympton Bike Night	Triumph/Harley-Davidson from 6 p.m.
Thurs 30 Jul – Sat 1 August	Calstock Bike Show	The Quay, Calstock PL18 9QA
Friday, Saturday, Sunday 31 Jul-2 August	European Motorcyclists for Christ (EMC)	Gullbrannagården Sweden
Saturday 12 September	Penzance Pirates Bike Show FTSMM has a marquee	Penzance Promenade TR18 4HH
Friday 25 September	Bike Night	Trago Mills, Liskeard PL14 6JY

My Love Affair with Prayer

Kathie Tostrup, Denmark

Have you ever wanted to be able to do something your entire life, maybe not even something spectacular, just a simple thing but no matter how many times you try, you just can't get it? I have always wanted to stand at the edge of a still and glittering sea and make magic happen. *Adventure no. 5 on The National Trust's list of '50 things to do before you're 11¾' is skimming a stone.* I have longed to feel the smooth stone in my palm, throw it and watch the stone dance endlessly across the water and look at the rippled circles it leaves behind but alas 11¾ arrived and left without me accomplishing my dream.

Fast forward to age 51¾...

God gave me a dream. I was on the shoreline and I threw many stones, some sank with a ripple or two, but I kept on throwing those stones on the water. I was about to stop trying when God told me to try the final stone and it began to skim on the water over and over again creating little ripples which kept increasing until the whole stillness of the water had erupted in ever-increasing circles. The water was alive and lives were revived.

After several months of waiting on the Lord I believe that the dream was actually a parable and that I should now share this because as I have walked, run, stumbled and even crawled on my Christian journey, I have heard both new and mature Christians confess that they struggle with the question 'How to Pray?' Just put the term into a search engine on the world wide web and you will see a variety of suggestions on—how we should pray, the many different types and purposes of prayer and what we should be including in our prayers. There are many tips, ways, steps or methods to prayer offered but to a searching Christian this is definitely not a case of the more the merrier!

Prayer is central to our faith, so shouldn't it literally be in our DNA? After all, God created us to be in fellowship with Him. Did we become so estranged from Him that we lost this ability to communicate or did we become so self-conscious about climbing on our Father's lap or embracing Him or too scared of it being misinterpreted that sin, self-restraint and some ancient precursor to political correctness snook into our souls and completely eradicated it? Surely salvation has restored our right relationship so why as a new creation do we still feel that this part of our DNA is often still missing? Are we just making it too complicated or worse still are we missing the point completely?

It is no surprise to me that Matthew 18:3 (KJV) says, 'Except ye...become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven'. I have found that as God uses us all differently, He also teaches us all differently and, despite my love of books and reading, it is often through the simplest, almost childish and often comical pictures, sayings and

moments that God will most profoundly touch and teach me. (For those at a certain EMC 2019 prayer meeting, a reference to becoming 'Ryanair Christians', is a 'CASE' in point! For those not present but now very curious I am happy to share this golden nugget when we next meet.)

Every parent will remember at least one occasion (amongst the many) when they had to have an awkward conversation with their child about an event, theory or situation. How to relay this to their child in an understandable, age-appropriate way has caused untold angst I'm sure. I think there is something very cathartic in being able to strip back the layers of complication that adulthood, maturity, real-life and outside expectation have encumbered us with. Perhaps this is why my favourite 'teaching tool' on prayer still remains one I came across when wanting to teach a Sunday School class about prayer many years ago and one I have used as a basis for craft activities, cooking sessions and even preaching around the world!

'The Teaspoon Prayer'

Redacted extract from my testimony 'Out of My Mind and Into Eternity (Halfway There)' March 20th, 2012. Sierra Leone.

Our first stop if you discount the spluttering stop start of the traffic, was back at Redemption Praise Chapel where armed with a T-Spoon we raised an army to pray!

It unfortunately only works in English as the abbreviation for teaspoon in a recipe is TSP.

T = Thank-you. First we have to say Thank you to papa God for ALL He has done.

S = Sorry. Then we have to say Sorry for the things we have done wrong and ask Papa God for His forgiveness because this puts us back in a right relationship.

P = Please. The Bible tells us that Papa God wants to give us the desires of our heart because He is our daddy and loves us so much.

I gave the children a plastic teaspoon each which Pastor Jan found miraculously in a supermarket. So next time you are



holding a teaspoon ask yourself, have I said these three things to God today? And remember to pray!

As if the awkward and complex quagmire of personal prayer were not enough to confound us, I can still remember the absolute sheer terror of my first prayer 'meeting' and the realisation that people prayed out loud! Matthew 18 (NKJV) says, 'If two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven.' How had I missed this fact? If people were going to agree with each other then they surely had to know what each other was praying about and that had to involve some combination of both speaking and listening.

My fears of corporate prayer were many but predominantly I didn't know the right words. I knew nothing about prayer other than 'The Lord's Prayer' from school assembly and even less about this Christianity I had embarked upon. All I knew was Jesus had saved me (and yes, I am that old, I belong to the generation when praying in school was not deemed to be offensive!) Fortunately for me though Jesus had given the only prayer I knew to his disciples when they asked him to teach them how to pray, not once but twice in Matthew 6:9-13 and in Luke 11:2-4. Better still, I knew it off by heart and I could recite it word perfect. I have come to learn through my own life journey both pre and post salvation—to know a word is not the same as understanding the meaning and understanding the meaning is not the same as recognising its power, (both positive and negative)

or its authority.

In the Gospel of John, we are told that, 'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God', that the 'Word (was) made flesh' and that He 'dwelt among us'. I love to read but I am mindful that not everyone has the same relationship with writing or the written word as I do. In the words of John we find the freedom to express the Gospel to others in practical (flesh) ways and by love through our actions. Sharing our authentic selves and our lives (dwelling among) and through sharing the story of Jesus, the Bible is after all poetry and stories, visions and dreams, that were told and passed down originally through the spoken word.

It's not surprising with all this said that the Lord's Prayer and my love of reading lead me to pick up an unassuming paperback in the Christian bookshop and I began to read Peter Lewis's book 'The Lord's Prayer, The Greatest Prayer in The World'. I was taken on a Gospel journey through what it was I was actually praying and the key themes of the prayer; (1) Fatherhood, (2) Heaven, (3) His name, (4) His kingdom, (5) His will, (6) Sustenance (Our daily bread), (7) Forgiveness, (8) Forgiving, (9) Temptation and (10) Deliverance which brought me to the realisation why this prayer, the *Lord's Prayer* was supposed to be our God given 'blue-print' and why now its words are etched on my heart. For me it became a succinct summation of the whole Gospel and so began my 'love affair' with prayer! 🙏

Rattlesden Bike Show • 1

Martin Cullum, Suffolk

Over the past few years a local village bike show has grown from strength to strength, namely the Rattlesden Bike Show. Right from its inception Suffolk CMA have been invited to attend and serve, either running the Bike Park or running a small Holy Joe's as well as having a presence on our stand to outreach to the visiting villagers and bikers.

The greatest privilege though has been to share the band's stage with the local parish vicar. The vicar normally prays for his flock and those attending and I have been able to share a Spirit-lead short message.

This year the Bike Show was hosted in my home town of Stowmarket both in the town square and The John Peel Centre and again we as a branch were asked to attend and serve. The organiser again asked us to share the stage with the local vicar and remarked that it has become a show tradition for this to happen. I had some knowledge of one of the rock cover bands for the day and hoped they would play amongst others AC/DC Highway to Hell and Led Zeppelin Stairway to Heaven which they did, P.T.L., as I had prepared a talk on some of the lyrics of both songs. A copy of my talk is reproduced on the following page.

God Bless,

Martin 🙏



Rattlesden Bike Show • 2

Martin Cullum, Suffolk

Many thanks to Rattlesden Bike Show for the opportunity to say a few words again:

"I was recounting the other day about a Christian biker mate who was giving his testimony, basically his life story before and since asking Jesus into his life. One comment he made was that he loved AC/DC and the song 'Highway to Hell' (no doubt a rendition might be heard today), adding that since handing his life over to God he is no longer on that highway. Both Angus, Malcolm Young and Bon Scott wrote about it being a party time and friends being there too. The Bible speaks more of Hell than Heaven and the warnings that apply. It certainly is not a party or friendly, in fact the complete opposite.

"Another song we may hear is Led Zeppelin's 'Stairway to Heaven'. Mr Page and Plants monumental and unforgettable song. In the lyrics they write of misgivings, as a born-again Christian the underlying story is of a spoilt woman who's trying to buy her way to a better life. We know all that glitters is not gold. We can not work our way or buy our way into Heaven, Jesus Christ is the only way.

"Well, a 'Highway to Hell' and a 'Stairway to Heaven' an indication of expected traffic, maybe?

"I hope and pray this is not the case.

"Some true lyrics in Led Zeppelin's classic, are the lines,

"There are two paths you can go by but in the long run,
There's still time to change the road you're on"

so if you feel you are on a Highway to Destruction, please come and have a chat with us and we can explain another way. The good news of the Bible and the Eternal hope it contains.

"Many thanks for listening, enjoy the Day and God Bless."

A Brand New Day

Stephanie Thomas, Hants & Dorset

**The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;
his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.**

Lamentations 3:22-23

The past can't be changed – all we have is now. God gives to us every morning a chance to start again, a chance to do things differently. A chance to reach out and shine His light. A fresh start!

God gives us... a brand new day.

So today when you wake up let go all of yesterday, embrace the day you have been given right now. Thank Jesus for this day, this new day won't come again. So make the most of it—It is a gift! Some didn't make it today; some can't even get out of bed to enjoy it. Some can't see the new day or even hear it. So get up! Get up! Put on your coat of gladness and go out and shine brightly in this brand new day. Thank Jesus that you are alive today. Ask Him to lead you to someone, somewhere who needs your light today! And make sure you enjoy this day and do your best in it, for it won't come again. If you can and if you are not working, go and have a coffee with a friend, ring someone up, see how they are doing. Go, visit that lonely neighbour. Loneliness is a terrible thing. Go and make someone feel wanted, because they matter greatly to Jesus. If you can't do that because you are working, text them, see how they are doing. Arrange to go over. At work, be thoughtful. This may be hard but think how would Jesus be; how would He react! Be considerate to your workmates today; always be kind. You may be the only Bible some will ever get to see. Be a living testimony. Not just with your words but in your actions. Love the people God has placed around you. Thank them for their friendship, tell them how amazing they are. Many people are hiding

terrible pain inside them. Be caring, be compassionate; ready to listen.

This day is new, and it's precious. Go and look outside – look up at the sky. Beautiful, don't you think! So vast. So wide; goes on forever and ever; like God's steadfast love for us. His love never ends. God is so good, isn't He! Look at the trees – they are so strong and tall, their branches reaching upwards are amazing. They have roots growing down deep to stay upright and strong, like we need with Jesus to be rooted and grounded in him. Look at the lovely flowers – aren't they so beautiful, all that God has made! His amazing creation. Isn't it wonderful! And He made it all for you and me; to enjoy. Praise and thank Him for all he has made.

Be thankful for what you have today as well, whether you have a lot or a little, thank God for the many blessings in your life; your close friends, your brother and sister in Christ, God's family. Thank Jesus for the food in the cupboard, clean water from a tap, heating, a bathroom and a shower with hot running water. It could all have been so very different if you were born in another country with nothing, struggling to find even basic food and shelter and clean water to drink. How terrible to be starving to be so cold. Nowhere to get away from the harsh elements. Something we probably will never have to experience or know. Be thankful to God for where he has placed you; your job; your loved ones; your home and your life. This life you have been given is for living to its fullest. So go out and live it for Jesus. Shine – be bold, be brave and live this life well; with a thankful heart. This day



won't ever come again so enjoy where you are right now. The freedom you have, the choices you can make. If you are unwell—be kind to yourself. Read a good book. Have a hot drink; a warm bath with oils, bath bombs or muscle-soothing Radox—so many choices we have and can make. How very rich we all are – not maybe rich in money but we are rich in what's around us. Rich in how we can spend our time. So go on, soak in that bath and enjoy this 'me' time. Rest and take it easy. Listen to God – depend on Him. Be still and wait patiently for Him. Today is a new beginning, new hope, new possibilities. Whatever happened yesterday has gone; today is here and it's a fresh start. God's mercies are new every single morning. Great is His faithfulness to us. This day will never come again so make the best of it; go for it, embrace it, all God has planned for you in it today. Cherish it and thank Jesus for it. Walk with Jesus in it. Be joyful too; that's what will attract others to you and they may see Jesus in you. Go out and make a difference to someone else in this new day if you can. Pray for them. But if you can't, reach out to them however you do it. Just do it! This day won't last so if they or you are going through a tough time; a stressful time; an up-and-down time, be there for them, sit with them and listen to them. Be a friend – most of all be kind. Remember today is fleeting, tomorrow will come soon enough and it will be a brand new day with God's new mercies all over again.

How amazing and how priceless and precious is that!

Have a great new day. 🙏

Our Passion

Tanas Al Quassis, Thames Valley

This year I had the privilege of attending a High Noon ride on New Years day in Florida. This rideout is led and organized by CMA Covenant Riders. It is a yearly ride that starts with breakfast, biker blessings, a message, a rideout and then lunch together.



On average they get about 200 bikers. I rode with my brother's club that belongs to one of the mega churches in Tampa called Grace Church. The club is called Riders of Grace. They are an amazing bunch of people who love the Lord and want to serve Him in any way possible.

Once we arrived at the meeting point where CMS was serving breakfast some of the CMA brothers and sisters came to us and asked us if we would like to have biker blessings. At first you think they will pray for the bike but on the contrary they do pray for the biker and ask God for protection and support; and they talk about salvation and love.

What really got to me, is a guy called Steve. He is a simple guy who loves the Lord and has a passion for prayer (see photo below – he is the one with hand raised). He said, "I am not gifted nor special, but I love to pray and that is my passion and I love doing it at this rideout."

Talking to him got me to think about our passions and so I thought I would offer some thoughts for all of us to consider.

How do I discover my passion?

- Asking God? Start with prayer (many people will not start with prayer). With prayer we start to rediscover by understanding where we are and where we want to go.
- What do you love to do and work with?
- What are you passionate about? What makes you angry? Sometimes what you are angry about is what you are passionate about.

Fulfilling our role as God's children



comes from our passion and not position. You feel fulfilled when you are doing what you are passionate about, and that is your reward.

As you sit and reflect please consider these questions, as they will help you find your passion.

- What are your interests?
- What do you enjoy reading about or studying?
- What do you enjoy doing?
- What excites you?
- What are you good at?
- What do people come to you for?
- What do you secretly believe you can do but you never try it?
- What things and situations are hard and difficult for you?
- What do you find difficult to do and will not do?
- What are your recurring dreams? What come back to you?
- Is there any specific experience that made you feel alive more than other?
- What are the things that you would do without getting paid for?
- What legacy you want to leave?

We are all passionate about serving the Lord and that could come in many different ways, as we serve in different roles that are equally important. So no matter what your role is, embrace it and be the best at it. 🙏

Houghton Feast Ride Through

George Laws, Tyne & Wear

Every October the 5th or the nearest Saturday to the 5th it's carnival time. Houghton-Le-Spring in Tyne and Wear hold their yearly parade through the town. Thousands line the streets to watch this colourful community production starring local school children waving colourful flags, pipes and drums, classic cars, marching musical bands, Billy Purvis the clown, Bernard Gilpin and the Wild Boar, the Zazz dancers, the Queen of Eventide, vintage steam vehicles, professional costumed characters and... members of the Tyne & Wear and North East branches of CMA, bikes and all.



The procession starts at the Library car park in Houghton and travels along Newbottle Street, in front of about four thousand people, then heads into the Broadway where each group are officially announced, along with who they are and why they are taking part in the parade.

At about mid-day a group of ten to fifteen CMA members meet at Bethany Christian Centre and after a brief word to God for safety and help with our witness, we head off to the library car park. This is usually filled with everything from vintage sports cars to characters from *Only Fools and Horses* to *Ghostbusters*. The bottom car park is filled with local children and dancers from the area.

We aren't the only bikes to turn up and usually park next to the Honda Goldwing group. While the roads are being closed to traffic we walk

through the car park showing off the cross on our backs and talking to everyone we come into contact with. The car park is filled with people that wouldn't normally get together in the same group and provides a fantastic opportunity to talk to people and hand out Bibles and prayer cards.

The star of the show this year had to be Tom, the *Tyne & Wear County Mountie* who rode his trusty steed before us, sporting the largest CMA flag you have ever seen and carrying two flasks of hot coffee, milk and sugar. As soon as the call was given and all the foot traffic had left the car park, we were off at a steady pace. With the Canadian Mountie leading us we headed out onto the main street, stopping as often as we could to wave at the public and let them see our crosses and who we were riding for. Tom moved

carefully from one side of the street to the other passing out prayer cards and talking to people, telling them who we are and why we had a cross on our backs.

Stop-start riding may be good for the public, but it proved almost fatal for the bikes. Most overheated and just made it to the school car park at the end before anything bad happened. As we approached the focal point of the ride though we stopped in front of the church as the dignitary announced who we were and read the short blurb on CMA I had sent earlier. The place was packed, about seven or eight deep, in some places and all looking at us and who we rode for.

Finally making it out the other side, without overheating, we pulled up in the school car park and breathed a sigh of relief. No one had broken down and everyone was smiling, especially when Tom opened the flasks and handed out hot tea and coffee.

After walking the fairground, passing out Bibles, prayer cards and showing people who we are, we mounted up and headed off to the nearest café for coffee and cake.

A quote from a CMA member who shall remain anonymous but knows who he is, on the importance of cake in CMA stated,

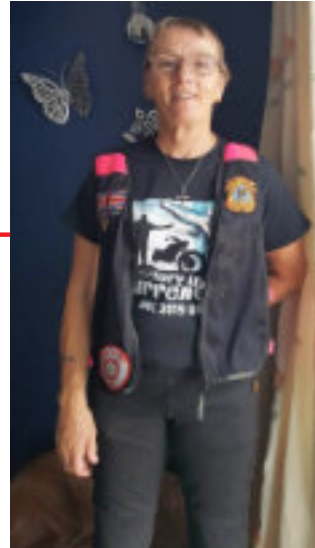
"Carrot cake, Lemon Drizzle, Victoria sponge, chocolate cake, Black Forest, cake, cake, cake, cake, cake, cake, cake, cake, cake, cake, cake, cake, cake—sorry, where was I?"

Thanks to all the riders and pillion passengers that took part. The day was a great witness and a fun ride out. If anyone would like to take part next year just contact our branch. ✚



The Prodigal Poems

Jaimee Nix, Secretary,
Hants & Surrey Borders



THE PRODIGAL'S BROTHER

How did I feel? Nobody asked
You went off and changed your friends and ideas
I stayed here still working, still earning
Just so you could chase your dreams.

The work I was doing was hard on my own
You were so wrapped up in things you had to do
You didn't notice, all my efforts were lost
You wanted my help, but I just needed you.

When things went wrong I was glad
Get your come-uppance, your just deserts
Your tears of self-pity, your moans and laments
Didn't bother me, I thought, serves you right!

When you gave it all up and came crawling home
What did you expect? All the harm you had done
I wanted what you had, I'd wanted to go.

I was so angry I couldn't think straight
I felt used and betrayed, a fool to have stayed
No work on your part would ever replace
The time spent away, or the hurt and disgrace.

THE PRODIGAL'S FATHER

When there's nowhere else to go
And your back's against the wall
Come home
Whatever was once there
Things have changed, will change
And I am still here.

When you're ready and feel able
There's a bed in your room and food on the table
Come home
Can't we work things out? now
Time and space have cleared the air.

When so much was said, deliberate hurt
Anger, frustration but we could still make it work
Come home
Regrets and pride can be put aside
I'm standing here waiting arms open wide
Come home.

THE PRODIGAL

You didn't stop me from falling and hurting myself
You didn't stop me from trying, then making a mess
You saw my misdeeds and you heard my wrong words
You let me go on with my thoughts and ideals
My own free will you said
You let me go on in my own strength for you
I left you behind in my eagerness to do.

Yet you loved me all the time
You love me and hold me
You heal all my hurts and
You kiss all my grazes
And I can come home to you every time.

You watched me as I stumbled and fell
Yet, you didn't let me out of your sight
You never let me go so far as to be out of reach
Yet all the time you had lessons to teach
And I needed to learn
I didn't want to listen, but you
talked to me day and night.

You never stopped loving me
How your heart ached with longing
As I took my share and took my own road
I thought I knew what I was doing
And where I wanted to go
All the time you waited knowing but
You never said "I told you so"
You just kept loving.

You watched me make a fool of myself
And you didn't laugh
Who am I that I know better
Than the Father heart of God
I'm sorry, I truly am
I'm coming home today.

God's Provision for a Biker Newbie

Magali Ellis, MESS Branch

I am new to biking. My biking life started in June 2018. Before then, I had no connection with bikes whatsoever, nobody in my family showed any interest in biking. Therefore, to me, the biker world was not only alien, but scary. Fuelled by films and news reports, this was definitely not the world I was going to be attracted to. Ever. If truth be known, from the outside, it looked like a frightening world!

So how did I end up learning to ride a bike?

Like most women, it all started as an opportunity to ride pillion at the back of my friend Greg's bike. I can't remember where we rode to. All I remember is the exhilarating feeling of freedom which put a big smile on my face! I also remember giggling when filtering on the A12 and feeling on top of the world on country roads! It is difficult to explain but I think the attraction lies in feeling invincible on a dangerous, potentially killing machine. I was hooked right there and then.

God provided in a miraculous way – someone in what is now my CMA branch gave me her Suzuki GS500 that she had had on her list to repair for years. So I spent the summer 'repairing' it. Well, more like helping to take it apart, de-greasing it and making sure I collected and stored all nuts and bolts safely! I am not into mechanics but I am a willing helper and God surrounded me with friends who knew how to repair and fix motorbikes (God's Provision #2). It was actually fascinating to see the design and engineering of the motorbike, deconstruct it and reconstruct it. Then it was frustrating when yet another thing fell apart, yet another part needed ordering and still the bike would not work! One and a half years later, the Suzuki GS500 is still not rideable and remains an on-going project. Everyone has/needs a project, right? All the while through the Suzuki project I was so keen to learn how to ride. But without a motorbike that was going to be difficult.

In the meantime I was riding pillion and Greg introduced me to our local CMA branch – MESS. It

felt a bit daunting as I was sure the lack of bike knowledge was going to show up but straightaway, it felt like coming home: everyone welcomed me with open arms. Straightaway, it was meeting brothers and sisters in Christ that became the overarching feeling. Whilst I could not really associate myself with the bike stuff at first, I kept going to the CMA meetings. One day, when people were talking about how the Holy Joe's serves the biker community at rallies and how important their work is, I remember thinking 'I can do that'. God was showing me that He had something for me to do in the biker community and whilst I could not compete with the biking stuff, I could surely be of service in hospitality. (God's Provision #3)

Summer came and went, Autumn 2018 was well under way and the Suzuki would not budge. She'd cough and splutter but nothing more. Frustration was setting in and my October half-term holiday came and went. I had planned to start riding the bike then, so I was disappointed. November came with God's miraculous Provision #4. My friend Greg had spotted a Honda Deauville for sale at our local motorbike garage. He was raving about the Deauville, how comfortable it was and how it would be a great bike to learn to ride on. He took me round to see it and it was cheap, it only needed minor mechanical changes, but best of all it was rideable. It was old and the fairings looked a bit battered on one side but it was rideable!! He was half thinking of buying it for himself as it was such a bargain, and then I took the plunge and bought it. There was I, not even six months into the biker world and proud owner of two motorbikes!

God's provision did not stop there. He does engineer everything down to the smallest details in your life and He had already lined up where the bike was going to be stored and how I was going to learn to ride: a disused playground at my former place of work. He had also engineered how I was able to learn to ride a big bike straight away! People tell me I am lucky, but I know that my God is looking after me and providing for my every needs!

The day after the bike purchase was the 12th November 2018. We went to collect the Deauville,



rode it to the playground (me as pillion) and as soon as we arrived there, I was put in the riding seat and shown the main bits: throttle, brakes, gears and had a tentative lap of the playground. Over the next month, I trained several times a week, sometimes several times a day. Slow riding, cone work, figures of eight – you name it! The *Beast* – short for *Beauty and the Beast* – as I nicknamed her, chewed me up and spat me out, mainly from riding so slow that I'd come to a standstill and, hey presto, promptly found myself on the ground! Other times it was simply gravity, she is a big, heavy bike and once the tipping point is reached, there is no way I can hold it upright! But I kept getting back up and practising – until the 22nd December.

The 22nd December was the day I took my Deauville and rode on the road like a big girl! I was sent on my own, out of the gates, onto the road, turned a few metres up the road into a little parking area and came back. Yes, you read correctly, it was just a few metres or yards up the road but my heart was in my mouth, my chest was exploding and my head was rehearsing all I needed to remember to do: indicators, shoulder checks, second gear, stop, first gear, turn, look! I had never known so much concentration in my life!

I came back with a huge smile on my face, I had conquered my fears! I had gone out of the gates and back safely! But before I could break into a happy dance, Greg was waiting for me, got me turned around and we went on a 'proper' bike ride along the country roads and through the local villages. Was I nervous? Yes, I was. And I ached for three days afterwards. But it was the best Christmas present I have ever had!

When I started riding, back in November 2018 and when I joined the CMA two weeks later, I knew I wanted to go to the EMC rally in August 2019. I was determined to improve my riding so much that I would be able to ride to Lenchwood for the rally. That was my target. Well, God had other plans as there were so many more opportunities for me that year: being a CMA volunteer helping to park bikes at the Southend Showdown in April; charity riding for the Herts and Essex Air Ambulance in May; exhibiting my bike at a community village fair with the CMA and getting kids on and off my bike all day; talking to people; praying with people; riding to Le Touquet in France with Jimmy and Greg – just for cake as it turned out to be, in July; riding to the EMC

Rally in August; training with the Essex Advanced Biker group; being at Harwich with my CMA family for the Essex Air Ambulance in September and many, many more. I ride with my cross on the back

everywhere I go – sometimes on my own, sometimes with the CMA girls and guys. Wherever we go en masse to support the ordination of a vicar at one of our CMA members' church, or get a CMA group of eight to Southend for fish and chips, or just ride with a couple of guys to the Epping Tea Hut or through the bends to Burnham-on-Crouch, God always provides the opportunities for us to talk to other bikers and to members of the public.

I consider myself a newbie still, with just over a year of riding my big bike, constantly learning something new and enjoying every minute I spent on the bike! I look back on my biking journey and I thank God for opening so many doors, for surrounding me with friends,

placing me in His CMA family, providing so many opportunities to talk about Him and for using me to reach other bikers. Being part of the CMA has given me a purpose in my Christian walk and has anchored my faith in God in a deeper and stronger way. It has given me the opportunity to serve God in many different ways and I am looking forward to what God has in store for 2020. ✝



My Deauville



Parking bikes at the Southend Shake Down – April 2019

With Triumph your Name we shout!

There is a time to weep
And a time to laugh
A time to mourn
And a time to dance.

Praise and sing

Wake up, wake up, praise and sing
Dance and worship the mighty king
God is moving like never before
As the Spirit comes weep no more.

His living waters flowing free
The glory of Jesus covering me
Spirit and word mighty and strong
Can you hear his deliverance song?

Raising up an army before our eyes
Calling us together for the prize
Prophecies, dreams, visions we seek
Empowering the lowly and weak.

The dawning of Gods amazing light
Rising to banish the darkest night
Every corner of every land
Jesus you hold in your mighty hand.

Like a tent your glory stretches out
With triumph your name we shout
A new song Jesus we sing to you
As the Holy Spirit floods us through.

A rush of wind and your golden rain
Saturate our inner most being again
Covering the earth and all the sea
Jesus his resurrection power in me.

Amen

By Stephanie †

Update On Biker Bibles

Russell Boyce, East Yorkshire

Around October last year the warehouse that we used in Scunthorpe was closed due to business restructuring and all stock in the warehouse gradually transferred to warehouses in Immingham and in Grimsby. Our stock of Biker Bibles are

time at the warehouse collecting the Bibles. The place where the Bibles are stored is a multi-purpose building which has a library and the warehouse is above it. There are sometimes problems with staffing so I have to fit in when it is convenient to them and

obviously have to give them a reasonable bit of warning when intending to come.

Once collected, the Bibles are kept at my house until either dispatched with a courier or someone collects the Bibles from me.

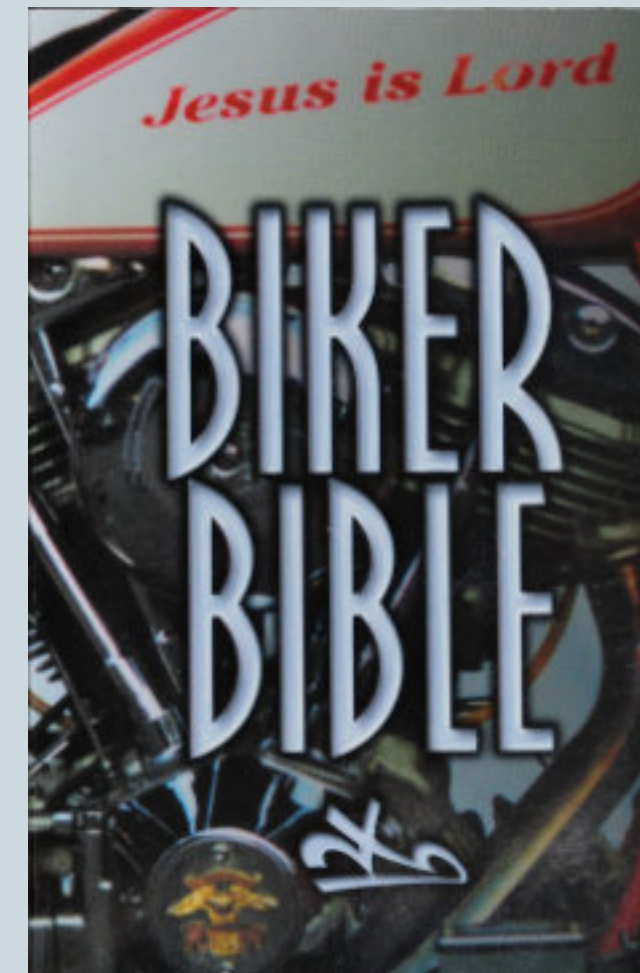
I would ask branches to let Rob Urand and me know well in advance before they need the Bibles. All branches have a reasonable idea of events happening in their area and how quickly their stocks are likely to dwindle. Once the Bibles are collected and at my house, if they are being collected by the branch can they arrange to collect them promptly, otherwise they will be cluttering up my hallway. If they are being dispatched by courier I will generally have them on their way the same day

or next that they have been collected.

Don't forget, always contact Rob first as I cannot issue Bibles on my own say so.

I hope this clarifies issues with the Bibles.

Russell †



now stored in Grimsby, this means that instead of a 10 minute drive to get the Bibles I now have a 30 mile drive each way which can vary in time taken according to the prevailing traffic conditions. If it is busy I have known it take me 45 minutes each way, plus the

Noteable Quotes

Ed.

Here are some of the quotes I've noted over a period of several years. I sometimes use one or more when preaching or sharing a word in our fellowship meetings. Feel free to use them as appropriate. The source is included should you need to seek the appropriate permission. A couple of them are my own – come, I'm sure, by the inspiration of God's Spirit! More in the next issue...

Concerning election, predestination and the divine sovereignty

'The best and safest ways to deal with these truths is to raise our eyes to God and in deepest reverence say, "O Lord, Thou knowest." Those things belong to the deep and mysterious Profound of God's omniscience. Prying into them may make theologians, but it will never make saints.'

A W Tozer, The Pursuit of God, p68

Opposites

'Sometimes the best way to see a thing is to look at its opposite'

A W Tozer, The Pursuit of God, p105

Compromising the Word of God

'Truth gains nothing by being mixed with falsehood, but falsehood gains much by being mixed with truth: It can deceive more people more effectively. The honest man gains nothing by collaborating with the shady character, but the shady character gains much by collaborating with the honest man: He obtains credit and an undeserved reputation for honesty.'

John W. Robbins, Trinity Foundation

'It was said of the evangelist Charles Finney that when he opened his mouth he was aiming a gun and when he spoke the bombardment came. But we often engage in playfighting, firing corks from pop-guns, or making a noise with harmless caps and paintball repeaters.'

Greg Haslam, Preach the Word! p37

Church swapping

'Instead of Christians seeking the Lord about which church He would have them be members of in order to meet the needs of others, they engage in comparative 'shopping' trying to see which church will meet their needs. Agape love always puts self last, and in God's economy one important way He meets our needs is by using us first to help others. 'He who waters will also be watered himself.' (Prov 11:25)

Therefore churches which preach the Cross, holiness, repentance, and a crucified life, are unable to compete 'in the marketplace' with those that preach an unbalanced extreme of health, wealth and prosperity.'

James Jacob Prasch, The Final Words of Jesus, p180

Religion – the core of the problem

'Religion is for unbelievers; it's the business of the godless. Religion is what man makes out of God; Christianity is what God makes out of man.'

Karl Barth, Swiss theologian, Houses that Change the World, p173

Pride

'The sin of pride particularly has caused the downfall of Lucifer in heaven; most certainly it can bring mortal man down too... he (Satan) forever tries to discredit the truthfulness of the Word of God; he coaxes men to deny the authority of God, and persuades the world to wallow in the deluding comforts of sin.'

Dr Billy Graham

'If we want to continually know God's Presence and Glory, the way is simple. As soon as we begin to think or speak evil of our brethren, we step outside of the glorious presence of God. Gossip (telephone, texting, e-mail, internet chatting – so easy to do it), backbiting, unkind thoughts and words about each other (even if there's a just cause), will all remove us from that intimate place with Him.'

Ed, March 2005

'The pastor's role is not about growing numbers; it's about growing people: it's not about growing a flock; it's about growing a lamb.'

Ed, November 2010

Partners with CMA UK

We are supported by, and support, the following organisations:



Open Doors is an international ministry serving persecuted Christians and churches worldwide. We supply Bibles, leadership training, literacy programmes, livelihood support and advocacy services. We also seek to mobilise the church in the UK & Ireland to serve Christians living under religious persecution.



We make Scriptures available where there are none. We work to help the church engage with the Bible more effectively. And we endeavour - through the arts, education, media and politics - to make the Bible available, accessible and credible in our culture.



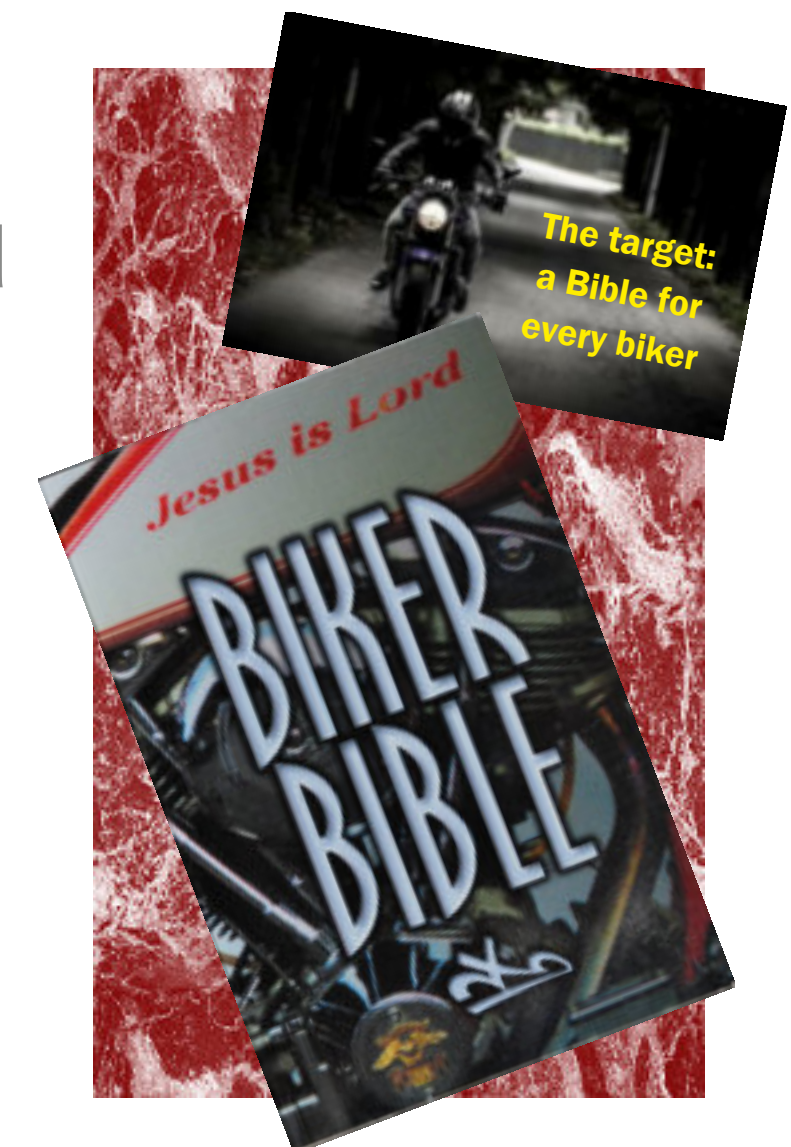
Our mission is to make the life-changing wisdom of the Bible understandable and accessible to all.



World Horizons exists on behalf of places and people not yet prayed for, churches not yet planted and cross-cultural workers not yet sent. We are a prayer based, pioneering, prophetic, pastoral mission movement.



For 150 years The Evangelization Society (TES) has served the UK as a major evangelistic organisation – seeking to see men, women and children brought into the Kingdom of God.





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