



inside:

- Salt & Light • 8
- Stormin' • 10
- Samson • 12
- Sandy • 27



# CHAINLINK

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AUTUMN 2021



# autumn 2021

In this edition...

Issue no. 71

From the Editor's Garage . . . . .	3
Nothing we do for the Kingdom is wasted . . . . .	4
<i>Mike Fitton, National Chairman</i>	
Official Stuff... . . . .	6
Here We Go Again! . . . . .	7
<i>Les Jones, National Rally Organiser</i>	
Salt and Light – Eastern Regional CMA Rally 2021 . . . . .	8
<i>Steve Clarke, Suffolk</i>	
Samson, Brokenness, and our Living Hope in Jesus Christ . . . . .	10
<i>Sue Brown, Bikers Church</i>	
Stormin' the Castle 2021 . . . . .	12
<i>Heidi Hill, Essex</i>	
Carpenter's Arms . . . . .	17
<i>Steve Wilds, West Yorks</i>	
Bikers Church returns! ... but never really went away. . . . .	20
<i>Alec &amp; Diane Raven, Bikers Church</i>	
Quinta – a wonderful venue . . . . .	22
<i>Christopher Houghton, South Lancs</i>	
Letter from Brian . . . . .	23
<i>Brian Jenner, Gloucester</i>	
Falling off – part 2 – protective clothing . . . . .	24
<i>Brian Carbonero, Essex</i>	
Sandy the Biker Dog . . . . .	27
<i>Jaimee Nix, Hants &amp; Surrey Borders</i>	
A 'Grand Day Out' . . . . .	30
<i>Ed.</i>	
My Lullaby, my Song in the Night. . . . .	31
<i>By Stephanie</i>	
Partners with CMA UK . . . . .	32

## From the Editor's Garage

### 'WORK' is a four-letter word.

In the past, I have occasionally heard fellow Christians confess that, *'work is a necessary evil, a curse even – and just a means to feed my family'*. Sadly, they have completely missed the point of the privilege of work. The biblical Hebrew word for 'work' is also a four-letter word: *'avad'*, a verb meaning, *'to work or serve'*, from which are derived the nouns, *'avodah'* [work, service, ministry] and, *'eved'* [worker, servant, slave, worshipper]. It's interesting that, in the Old Testament, the same Hebrew word is used both for *'work'* (as in, *'toil'*) and also, *'worship'*. So, what does this mean for us?

How often does the apostle Paul announce himself as, *'a servant of Jesus Christ'* (e.g., Romans 1:1, Titus 1:1). In Psalm 134:1 it was the work of the priests to worship in the temple by, *'serving by night in the house of the LORD'*. Colossians 3:17 says, *'whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him'*. So that means, to me anyway, that I can worship the Lord through my work! It puts a whole new meaning on work and a whole new meaning on worshipping God! No longer do I have to wait for the Sunday service to take part in *'the worship'* (singing hymns and spiritual songs) but I can worship the Lord in everything that I do and say – it becomes a **lifestyle of worship!** Of course, in this context, *'worship'* means, *'to honour or show reverence and respect for God'*. Revelation 4:11 says, *'You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power; for You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created.'*

Jesus put special emphasis on *'loving your neighbour'* (Matthew 22:36-40). When we do our job of work, we are serving our community, therefore fulfilling Jesus' command. If we offer our work as service to the Lord first, and do it in His name, to Him, then we are, in fact, worshipping the Lord. Simple! So, don't look on your work drudgingly, rather treat it as an opportunity to serve God and your neighbour!

John

Put your  
heart and  
soul into  
every activity  
you do, as  
though you  
are doing it  
for the Lord  
himself and  
not merely  
for others

Colossians 3:23-25  
The Passion Translation

Articles for Chainlink are most welcome, and should preferably be submitted by e-mail to [john@hodge.uk.com](mailto:john@hodge.uk.com)

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 text or rich text format (RTF) files. MS Word, OpenOffice and WordPerfect documents are acceptable, **PDFs are not**.

The sender must have permission for the inclusion of ALL names, addresses and pictures, especially of children, prior to submission and be able to 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.



# Nothing we do for the Kingdom is wasted

Mike Fitton, National Chairman

*When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, "Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted." So, they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten. John 6:5-13 (NIV)*

I never get tired of reading about the miracles of Jesus and reminding myself that Jesus doesn't do anything random or without purpose. **John 5:19 – Jesus explained, "I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself. He does only what he sees the Father doing. Whatever the Father does, the Son also does."**

This passage in John 6 covers the feeding of the 5000. It's a miraculous picnic feeding 5000 men plus women and children until they were full. It wasn't a stingy or miserly meal – God's provision is always more than enough. Matthew is the only Gospel that makes mention of the women and children at the picnic, he doesn't include them in the count, but he does include them in the crowd. **GOD INCLUDED THEM ALL IN THE CATERING.**

Note this point – Jesus told the disciples not to waste ANYTHING. The leftovers added up to twelve baskets, twelve FULL baskets. That wasn't a case of bad planning, or poor catering, God knew exactly how many needed to be fed and how much food would be needed to be **MORE THAN ENOUGH.**

It's important that we trust God to surprise us as we reach out to the motorcycle community 'one heart at a time'.

Three years ago, I parked my bike at Cairnryan Ferry Port waiting to go to the North West Road Races in Northern Ireland (highly recommended if you haven't been). I began a conversation with a biker in his twenties who asked about the cross I wore on my back and he accepted a Biker Bible. It was one of those effortless God-planned and

prepared moments. Before we boarded, I gave him my business card and said, "If ever you are passing come and see us." I've done this many times, hoping that bikers will call but not everyone does. Sometimes my faith doesn't expect a **MORE THAN ENOUGH** answer to my prayer... but it should!

Two weeks ago, Sandy and I were packing the car to go open water swimming at our local beach when a cyclist came down our small village high street and shouted, "**Whoa, it's Mike Fitton!**" I didn't recognise him at first until he explained we had met at Cairnryan waiting for the ferry three years ago. He shared with Sandy how I had met him at the port and again during the road races. It was incredible.

Just as Jesus ordained a young boy with a packed lunch to be at an isolated location when thousands would be hungry, Jesus ordained that I would be in a queue of bikers waiting for a ferry carrying a business card and a Biker Bible.

Giving my card and inviting him to visit wasn't a pointless exercise, just as gathering the leftovers wasn't just an unnecessary chore – both went to prove that God can and will ordain miracles.

What I need to do is expect a **MORE THAN ENOUGH** answer to my prayers – **I should call them 'Twelve Basket Prayers'** – even if the answer isn't fulfilled for three years.

I'm ashamed to say I had forgotten his name, but he hadn't forgotten mine, and I know that God has never taken his eye off him and is calling him by name.

Will you join me in praying 'Twelve Basket Prayers'? Prayers for motorcyclists you meet in random



places at random times. Oops, sorry! There is no such thing as random in the Kingdom of God!

Nothing we do for the Kingdom is ever wasted'.

Ephesians 3:20-21

**'Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.'**

God Bless you, Mike ✝



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For a complete and up-to-date list of all UK branches please check out the CMA UK website – see the link in the footer of this page.

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**



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# Here We Go Again!

*Les Jones, National Rally Organiser*



## The CMA National Rally is on the move... once more!

CMA's National Rally is one of the two occasions each year when we bring together the whole CMA family in our 'own' rally – and how it has changed since that first 'Genesis' Rally near Reading in 1984!

Over those near-40 years there have only been 3 years without a rally – 2013 (venue withdrawn at relatively short notice) and 2020 and 2021 (Covid restrictions and uncertainties).

The first National get-together in 1984 was held when CMA UK, as an organisation, was about 5 years old and it was hosted by the then Reading Branch. At that point it was decided to name each rally after a book in the Bible, with year-bars issued to match. The first was the 'Genesis' rally – our next rally will be 'Malachi' and then into the New Testament.

In the early years, when CMA was still growing in size and national presence, the rallies were passed from one branch to another to run and organise, typically for one or two years before passing over to another branch. (You will find a full list of the UK National Rallies in Chainlink, Spring 2019, alongside other articles on the EMC Rally that year – on the CMA website. Go to 'About' then 'Chainlink'.) The early rallies were usually all-camping events held in September, later moving to July.

As CMA grew in numbers (and expectation of facilities) and more legislative control was imposed (e.g., health and safety requirements, safeguarding) around 2002 the responsibility for organising the National Rally was moved to a 'national' post – initially at Stathern in Leicestershire. (This was also the location where numbers at the Rally first topped 100 ca. 2003 – and over 200 by 2017.)

Having held the rally for several years at Stathern, CMA had 'outgrown' the site. We then moved to Hollybush (near Thirsk, North Yorks), next to Huddersfield (West Yorks) and then Evesham (Worcestershire) – occupying each for 4 or 5 years. The reasons to move on have usually been increasing numbers or changes to facilities or other circumstances at

the site. And so again we will move to a new site for the 2022 Rally – Quinta Christian Centre between Oswestry and Wrexham near the English/Welsh Border (check it out on the web at [www.quinta.org.uk](http://www.quinta.org.uk)).

Interspersed with our own National Rallies, we have also hosted the EMC (European Motorcyclists for Christ) European Rallies from time to time. The EMC brings together the various Christian Biker ministries across Europe – Portugal to Finland. The first Europe-wide gathering was held in Germany in 1989. Since then the EMC Rally has moved around Europe – with UK hosting it (usually alongside our own National Rally) in 1992, 1998, 2004, 2010 and 2018. As I write this I'm surprised it has been so often! The 2019 EMC Rally at Lenchwood was a wonderful time of fellowship and international mixing – a joyful and memorable weekend.

So why come to a National Rally? Firstly, it's an opportunity for a weekend of relaxation, teaching and fun, coming together with people from other branches – meeting old friends and making new ones. It's an opportunity to see how other branches work, the things they do and to get ideas for your own branch (I always see it as being a bit like teenagers liking to check out other families to see if theirs is 'normal!').

There is usually a ride-out planned, evening worship and teaching, music, craft workshops and children's work – something for everyone. And Holy Joe's serves as a focus for chatting and relaxing, dawn till dusk and into the night.

Many of us have tales and memories from National rally weekends over the years – if you are new to CMA don't miss out!

Thanks to Snowy (Norman Jacks, North Cheshire) for compiling the list of rally dates and locations over the years. 🙏

## Do You have a story to tell about a National Rally?

Send your anecdotes to the Chainlink Editor ([chainlink@bike.org.uk](mailto:chainlink@bike.org.uk)) – funny or memorable incidents; the 'what-went-wrong' stories and life-changing events – maybe just a few sentences or a few paragraphs to publish in the next Chainlink.





## Salt and Light – Eastern Regional CMA Rally 2021

Steve Clarke, Suffolk

Sizewell Hall is a beautiful historic house on the Suffolk coast and is home to a Christian Conference Centre. One of its trustees is Martin Cullum, who suggested after the cancellation of CMA UK's 2021 National Rally that we should arrange something for Suffolk Branch and our friends from the neighbouring branches, using the camp site which is part of Sizewell Hall, overlooking the sea.

More than thirty people booked places for tents and motor homes and were welcomed with chilli and jacket potatoes on the Friday evening. Ronnie Simpson provided a candlelit 'thought for the day', and we were able to spend an hour or two chilling, chatting, and catching up with all the people we've missed so much over the last eighteen months!

The sun seems to rise especially early over the sea in Sizewell, providing a wonderful spectacle and a reminder of God's faithfulness to us day by day. Saturday morning saw a few brave souls taking a brisk dip in the North Sea, followed by breakfast, which was, of course, the 'full English'. The winding Suffolk roads are perfect for a group rideout, which took us to Thorpeness, a pretty seaside village with two excellent cafés and some welcome ice cream.



The afternoon gave us the chance to practice various games including mini-golf and some target shooting. The Hall also has a Christian book and stationery shop, and beautiful wooded grounds to explore. Meanwhile the sunny weather meant that some people were content to relax on the beach and just listen to the waves!

On Saturday evening our worship was led by Christian musicians Joe and Jemma Aiken. Jemma is the niece of Suffolk member Trevor Read. The steps down to the beach provided the perfect setting for our praise. Then as darkness fell, we gathered round the campfire for a session of truly terrible jokes!

Sunday morning meant another big breakfast served by our fantastic chefs Helen and Suzie, and then over to the 'worship barn' for a service

led by Mike Fitton, during which Suffolk's newest member Trev Maynard received his CMA patch – along with Mike's reminder of what it means to wear it.

Following our service a young man approached Martin for a chat. Andrew is the son of Suffolk associate Anthony van der Vaart, and he came along with his mum and dad to visit for the day. He's planning to join the army soon and train as a chef. Andrew had listened intently to Mike Fitton's message and decided there and then that he'd like to be baptised. Mike and Martin promptly changed into their shorts, and everyone headed for the beach.

Almost unnoticed, a white-haired biker arrived on a scooter and made his way slowly to the clifftop, using sticks to walk. Chas had ridden the fifty miles from Colchester just to spend some time with his CMA friends, who told him a few years ago about Jesus and helped him find salvation. He couldn't manage the steps but watched from a distance as young Andrew was baptised in the sea by Mike Fitton and Martin Cullum. Just as Andrew was beginning his Christian walk, Chas was approaching the end of his. Less than a week later, he went to be with his Lord.

Andrew's baptism was the highlight of a wonderfully blessed weekend, which was over much too soon. Tents and sleeping bags were rolled up and stuffed into motorcycle panniers, motor homes readied for their journeys, and the camp kitchen cleaned and tidied before our final farewells and the promise that God willing, we'll do it all again next year! 🙏





This morning, I read the account of Samson's life in the Bible's Book of Judges (chapters 13-16). Samson is portrayed as a super-strong, super-fearless giant of a man who judged Israel in the absence of a king for twenty years and whom God used mightily to trounce Israel's foes. But Samson was also flawed. His lifecourse bore hallmarks of how God-given anointing can be subverted by our humanness. But Samson's story also shows how, by God's grace, his legacy is salvaged.

Well, would **you** believe It?

Before Samson was 'a twinkle' in his earthly father's eye, Judges says a 'man of God' came and spoke, while she was alone, to an unnamed 'barren and childless' wife and said she was 'about to become pregnant and give birth to a son' (v.3). There were conditions: she was to drink no alcohol, eat only foods approved by Jewish Law, as her son was singled out to be a Nazirite, 'dedicated to God from the womb' and

## Samson, Brokenness, and our Living Hope in Jesus Christ

Sue Brown, Bikers Church

would begin God's rescue of His people from the Philistines (v.5).

Later, she told her husband, Manoah that, 'He looked like an angel of God, very awesome. I didn't ask him where he came from and he didn't tell me his name.' (v.6). Manoah, though, doubted her story of the 'man of God'. Well, would **you** believe it?

But she did.

Chapter 13 interested me. It says nothing of this woman bar her barrenness – she doesn't even get a name. Yet it was she, not Manoah who took seriously the promise of conception and then birth of someone God would use to save His people. Manoah needed persuading, being sceptical of his wife's account until he had talked with the messenger himself.

It's worth a nod that neither Manoah nor his wife had recognised the messenger's identity.

He refused their food in favour of them preparing a burnt offering to the LORD. When asked his name, he said, "Why do you ask my name? It is wonderful" (vv.15-18). It seems not even God's ascension into heaven with the flames arising from the burnt offering and altar was sufficient. What finally did it was the angel's failure to re-appear (v.21). Only then, did they

perceive his true nature: "We are doomed to die!" he said to his wife, "We have seen God!" (v.22).

The unnamed wife injected simple logic here that did away with fear. Addressing Manoah's scripturally accurate reference to impending death, she answered, 'If the LORD had meant to kill us, He would not have accepted a burnt offering and grain offering from our hands, nor shown us all these things or now told us this.' (v.23).

Thereafter, then, their lives had focus, for, 'the woman gave birth to a boy and named him Samson. He grew and the LORD blessed him, and the Spirit of the LORD began to stir him while he was in Mahaneh Dan, between Zorah and Eshtao'. (vv.24,25). The rest, as they say, is history.

I loved this homespun couple. Were they rich or poor? We don't know. They do not lament their childlessness. They were simply in the midst of daily life when God broke in.

Chapters fourteen to sixteen scupper all suggestion of Samson's triumphant future, as we learn through them about the cost of Samson's egocentricity. They also speak of God's opaqueness when accomplishing His purposes.

### What Doesn't Kill us Makes us Stronger?

A growing Samson became prideful, flouting both tradition and authority. His close friends included Philistines (God's enemies) and he really liked their women. Samson's parents did not understand. They also didn't understand their special son ordering his dad to 'get' the Philistine girl who took his fancy for a wife. 'Must you go to the uncircumcised Philistines?' Samson did not want 'an acceptable woman' from among his relatives, or all of Israel.

But Manoah and his wife were unaware that Samson's predilections came, in fact, 'from the LORD, who was seeking an occasion to confront the Philistines; for at that time they were ruling over Israel'. No-one knew they were designed to cut down many Philistines, leaving 'us' a salutary message on the way.

En route to Timnah to negotiate the marriage, we hear that 'The Spirit of the LORD came powerfully upon him', moving him to tear apart a young lion with

his bare hands. When Samson returned for the marriage, he revisited the carcass; it had been colonised by bees. He scooped out some honey to eat while he was walking. On neither occasion did Samson tell his parents (who were with him), but we aren't told why.

Later, Samson sets a riddle for the Philistine men at his wedding. It uncovers his wife's split loyalties between him and her people and leads to his humiliation when she uses emotional blackmail for the answer. Again, 'The Spirit of God again came powerfully upon him' to the extent that he struck down thirty (male) Philistine wedding guests as a lesson to those who had humiliated him. 'Burning with anger, he returned to his father's home.' Prompting his new father-in-law to give his wife away to one of Samson's Philistine companions.

Perhaps predictably given his character, those events unleashed a cycle of revenge that saw him use 300 foxes, tied in pairs with their tails set alight, to destroy the Philistines' wheat harvest, vineyards, and olive groves. The Philistines retaliated by burning Samson's wife and her father alive. Samson vowed to keep on killing Philistines until he had taken his revenge and so they went to find him.

Enough was enough! Samson was captured by the Israelites and given to the Philistines to pacify them as they had been lording over Israel for some forty years. Yet, while en route to Lehi, he was again empowered by the Spirit of the LORD to break free of his ropes and kill a further 1000 Philistine men with the jawbone of a donkey. In typically forthright fashion he cried out to God, saying, 'You have given your servant this great victory. Must I now die of thirst and fall into the hands of the uncircumcised?' God opened up a spring of water for his thirst.

There, one could be forgiven for thinking that would be an end to it but Samson continued to be cosy with the Philistines. He slept with their prostitutes, and daily saw a woman called Delilah. The events surrounding that relationship eventually trapped him on account of his attachments and it was Delilah who discovered Samson's strength was in his hair.

Yet ultimately God still used his man. God does not explain why Samson was acceptable as collateral damage. I can only speculate, based on Samson's sinful lusts. But we do know he was used by God to start to rescue the Israelites from the Philistines – and to destroy their central place for idol worship, killing thousands in the process. Samson's life was not a wasted one, despite his chequered history. The prophecy was fulfilled as God anointed Samson with super-strength at key points and used his life and death to usher in a time of peace for forty years.

### Our Living Hope in Jesus Christ

Reflecting on Samson's journey from his pre-conception to his death, I have been reminded of these things:

We may not always know who we are talking to.

Some of what we see as our most God-inspired acts may not have been accredited by Him. Yet, some of our least 'worthy' acts may be exactly what God ultimately uses to bring about His purposes.

God knows us long before we are conceived. He built 'free will' into humanity with Adam and Eve. When He breaks through into our lives, He is not ignorant of who or what we are but knows all potential variations of our futures from the time of our first breath. He will use us anyway.

Nonetheless, in hindsight, we may not feel very proud of roads we've taken or things we've done. There, in the place of our humbling, we learn to activate God's grace.

Wherever we end up in life, whatever led us there, whichever choices we followed and whatever our experiences may be at our own hand, and/or the hands of others, God will always be, 'The-Living-One-Who-Sees-Me' (Genesis 16: 13,14). And we can rest assured He will enact His purposes both in and through us by any means possible.

We are not required to understand. He knows our frames; He knows 'we are but dust...' (Genesis 3: 19; Psalm 103).

So, 'When you pray, go into your room, close the door, and pray to your Father who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.' (Matthew 6: 5-8)

'We do not have a high priest who is unable to empathise with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way just as we are - yet he did not sin. Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need' (Hebrews 4: 15,16).

### Reference:

Williamson, M. (1992) *A Return to Love. Reflections on the Principles of A COURSE IN MIRACLES*. First Edition. New York, NY: HarperCollins

[Background image: Sue Brown]



# Stormin' the Castle 2021

Heidi Hill, Essex

With leave granted and my bike having been checked over for the ride up, there were very few folk that didn't know I was off up to the Castle! Essex to Durham – or near enough!

I hadn't been camping since July at Sizewell with our Suffolk friends, so was really excited to be amongst biker folk again and in a tent – just being outdoors is great!

Wasn't sure how I'd be on arrival as Beth and I had just spent two solid days painting the exterior of the house.

I thought it best to get there on the Thursday to help with setup. Normally I have a rucksack on my back as well as the tank bag and top box, however, for the first time I took a sleeping bag instead of throws and this enabled me to bungee the rucksack on the back with the roll mat. I so wanted folk to see the cross and make them think – I often wonder what people actually think when they see the white crosses.

The Lord knows all this – its just for us to be salt and light.



Just to say, I had attached a phone-holder to my bars in case I should need a helping hand from Google Maps nearer Witton Castle. Having written a list of roads to

take on my tank bag along with some Biker Bibles



and leaflets, I asked God to keep other rally members, me and other motorists safe for the journey ahead and that He would use me in whatever way He wanted at the rally.

Off I set!

The ride up was amazingly clear and apart from one little incident where I rode into the truck park (oops!) and had to ride through into the filling station, (no odd looks) I managed to get up in good time until about 7 miles from the Castle.

So after having pootled around for about an hour I decided I definitely couldn't see the Castle and would use my phone to direct me the rest of the way.

On arrival, I met Mike coming out of the marshals' camping area and he showed me where I could pitch up next to where Shelley would be pitching her tent. Mike also said that the setup had already been done early but there would be a time to get other things set up.

A time for prayer beforehand.

Right from the start everything was so well organised. Not how I remember rallies! Perhaps this time seemed different as now I was sort of behind the scenes actually helping out – and not there to escape or be in a terrible state. This time I was there for the Lord – and not just myself.

Oh I remember the times I would try and avoid CMA

tents as I thought I'd had enough of God – how foolish and sad.

If only we would listen to the Holy Spirit's prompting and not push Him away!

At registration they were so welcoming and it was great to meet Jenny and the others who spend so much time organising everything before we get there. Shelley set up her tent and then we had some time with Mike and a few other CMA members in the **massive** Holy Joe's tent.

Isn't it marvellous how the Lord puts a bunch of folk together to serve Him!

I couldn't begin to imagine how busy that tent would become! Mike and the other experienced folk did a great job showing me the ropes.

I was glad I didn't have to maintain the urns! That is a huge responsibility keeping them topped up and in order. There were to be plenty of times the cup on the tap caught me out – we were obviously making **lots** of hot drinks!

The sheer amount of stores in the trailer Mike

brings along surprised me. Tubs of hot chocolate, teabags, coffee, biscuits, chocolate, litres of long life milk and, most amazingly, the squirty cream for the renowned hot chocolates with Flake on top! There were several banners that had to be put up as well as the all important Bible stand – there are a few Biker Bibles in other languages as well, just in case.

In spite of all the provisions brought along it was so busy this time that Sandy and Shelley had to make an emergency run out on Saturday night to find more coffee, tea and milk as well as other snacks. This was even after we already had additional supplies brought in by Mike and Sandy!

Essential supply of delicious flapjack was baked by Sandy for us to keep on serving. Thank you Sandy!

Each of us had four-hour shifts to cover over the weekend.

Boy, was I glad I **had** come up on the Thursday as arriving to a very busy tent on the Friday would not have given me a chance to ease into how things are done. Apart from making drinks, we get to pray for the folk we will serve and meet, that they will not







see us but God's love for each of them. It's quite a special feeling to be able to be there as a team – and learning how to avoid bumping into each other at busier times and making sure sugar isn't topped up accidentally into the milk container – and in the midst of all this praying and talking to God as we serve. It was great meeting folk like Ew who is right at home in a catering setting and brings a kind of calm – she sees things in advance that need doing. We managed a little explore of the Castle on the Friday which was great – they have real toilets there! That said, all the portaloos were fine and we even had a plush portashower block.

I'm not sure how many folk came through for a drink, a sit down and a chat – but it was busy, as the overflowing till suggested.

I also had the chance to do a bit of marshalling at the exit as well as walking the tent fields to keep a

look out for any issues. Must admit I felt quite tired one shift as I may have done an extra shift beforehand but shall bear that in mind for next time, perhaps just to focus my time in the tent rather than walking around for four hours – though I pray that that time would help M and K think of God's place in their lives. Grateful for all the younger marshals who do such a great job volunteering and we pray a blessing on them that they would be impacted by Holy Joe's over the years they attend and many would come to know Jesus as Lord.

Good old Tom kept many marshals supplied with hot drinks from his scooter – complete with Canadian banner.

From what I gather, the best conversations with folk in the tent are had on nights, so it is tempting to just do nights next time. Plus there's the added

entertainment of onesies and Andy's jokes.

Somehow there is always cover in the Holy Joe's so you can pop out for a look at the bikes on show such as the Brough Superior, the amazing artwork (reminders of Fran and Fred's Pilgrim that has a real message) or pop to the stalls and just generally be part of the rally. Incidentally the marshals are given food vouchers—redeemable at any food van onsite—and a wide range of foods available.

And the very first night Shelley managed to bring us all chips from the Castle—they were so tasty—made with dripping, so I couldn't resist getting more the next day – along with some fish.

We met many folk who were thrilled to see Mike, Sandy and the team again after such a

long time and many said that the Holy Joe's tent is the best place to be. All through the days and nights (remember this is open non-stop) there would be prayer requests and these would be written down for us to pray for and we still do.

Quiet time in your tent takes on a whole new meaning with the background noises and music – it's great hearing all the different bikes.

The tidy up was quite a feat – urns drained, things to be cleaned, dried and packed neatly back into the trailer for next time.

Incidentally, the ride back was great too—definitely felt God's protection all along—and Beth had managed to paint a second coat on the house for me whilst I was away!

Praising God for M who came to the Lord at the weekend and pray for her now.

I'd like to thank all the folks personally by name for making me welcome on the team and chatting with me – you all know who you are. It's great meeting folk from all other branches we may have even been praying for.

Let's remember each other in prayer. Please remember J who came with P (who is due to take her test) that she would know the Lord in her life and find safety in riding for Jesus and changing the world, *'one heart at a time'*.



Right from the start everything was so well organised – not how I remember rallies! Perhaps this time seemed different as now I was sort of behind the scenes, actually helping out – and not there to escape or be in a terrible state. This time I was there for the Lord – and not just myself.

## Don't miss out in serving at a Holy Joe's!

Many memories came to me of times when I had been so far from God at these rallies over the years—the crazy behaviour and being totally drunk and sad as well as deeply confused—and how in His grace He has brought me back and covered (and still does) all my wrongdoing and independence of Him.

**Thank you, Lord!**

Oh how we need to be closer to God – just as all the lost around us. So we pray for this, for safety and for each soul that entered Holy Joe's that they would consider the Lord and look forward to the next rally where they may come to know Him, if not much before!

Don't miss out in serving at a Holy Joe's! ✝





## Carpenter's Arms

*Steve Wilds, West Yorks*

What joy there is in being about our Father's business. So it was on the 15<sup>th</sup> September. The Carpenter's Arms, a Christian drug and alcohol Rehab Unit in Melton Mowbray invited the CMA to run a morning devotional service for both residents and staff. Having had some previous involvement with the centre, I was asked to organise and convene the meeting which turned out to be a great blessing to all.

Mike Fitton (National Chairman) agreed to speak, John and Paul Hodge (North Cheshire) agreed to play keyboard, guitar and sing, Bob (North Wales) gave a word of testimony and Les (East Midlands) read the scriptures. We were assisted by Andrew, Daniel and David from Harvest Fields in Doncaster, along with a number of other CMA members who came along to support.

The service began at 10.30am and ended shortly after mid-day when we joined together for lunch and informal fellowship, before going our separate ways back home.

The important point is that we, as the Lord commanded, were out preaching the Gospel and four guys opened their hearts to the Lord. We praise God for each of them and pray that they will grow in the Lord having



made their initial decision. We also pray that the seeds of our witness will have fallen on good ground with others who heard and that they too will come to saving grace in Jesus.

As I set off from Doncaster, I was concerned that the inclement weather would soak all the bikers travelling, but the rain cleared and the last 50 miles was dry for those travelling from the east of

England. The North Wales, Liverpool and East Midlands contingent had a dry run all the way and everyone returned home safely, having had a great day of fellowship and service under the CMA banner as well as a good rideout.

We of course love to ride our bikes but we are Christians first, taking the opportunity to use our bikes as a tool in furthering the kingdom of God. What a

privilege we have to share the Gospel and what joy we share when we see a positive response.

Subsequently I have received an email from the trustees of the Carpenter's Arms saying how they all had enjoyed the meeting and the blessings everyone felt in the presence of the Lord. A great day out and about our Father's business. ✠





## Bikers Church returns! ... but never really went away.

Alec & Diane Raven, Bikers Church



'I was glad, very glad, when they said to me, "Let's go into the House of the Lord today!" ...' So wrote King David at the start of what we now know as Psalm 122.

It wasn't until after the Coronavirus lockdown was eased – a lockdown which had prevented us from actually going to church – that this verse had any real meaning for many of us. Yes, we could watch services on-line, including Bikers Church (amazingly!) but it just wasn't the same.

Initially, for many whose job it was to plan, host, lead worship or speak at Church services, the chance to have a rest from such activity was most welcome. But this rest was short-lived as the realisation dawned that the World Wide Web was sitting there just waiting to be used!

God is amazing, and even a humble organisation such as CMA Bikers Church was blessed with the opportunity to use a state-of-the-art studio from which we could live-stream our monthly services. We want to acknowledge and thank Andrew Davies, the son of one of our CMA Members, for making this happen – as well as the faithful team of 'regulars' at the studio and our visiting speakers and musicians (who contributed either on-line or in person).

For the purposes of online video we created a Facebook Page and also a channel on YouTube, both called 'Bikers Church UK'. Several other countries also have Bikers Churches, so we wanted to be sure that any search results would find us! All of the monthly events are still available to view, along with occasional

short devotional-style videos by Mark Coles, one of the Bikers Church Elders. Thus, we became a virtual church – Bikers Church On-line.

One of the 'buzz-words' of the Covid-19 crisis has been 'the new normal'. Taking Bikers Church on-line helped us to see that we could reach a much wider audience than folk local to Warrington. Also, folk who might never be able (or want) to actually go to a Church could join in without fear or embarrassment. We never expected to receive favourable comments from viewers in the USA and as far away as Kenya! Furthermore, interest has been expressed regarding starting a Bikers Church from CMA branches in various parts of the country.

With the easing of lockdown bringing the opportunity to be able to meet once again, in person, the Bikers Church Leadership Team decided that, for our 'new normal', it was imperative to continue streaming the monthly services. Sadly, the chapel at Rixton – home to Bikers Church for ten years prior to the pandemic – currently does not have the facilities needed for live-streaming, so the decision was made to take up the offer from a nearby Church to use their building and equipment.

Thus, having checked all the Government guidelines and putting various restrictions in place, Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2021 saw the first in-person Bikers Church service since March 2020. It was great to be able to see friends again but even greater to be able to worship God together in the same room!

For those of you with a thirst for such details, here is the technical bit: the team at St Martin's Methodist Church in Woolston (Warrington) had already invested in several large HD television screens and installed all the necessary cables to a dedicated technical desk at the rear. They had yet to fix two cameras on the rear wall, so for this first service, Andrew provided a couple of cameras. These were linked to a new video mixer and the resulting video was uploaded simultaneously via ethernet to our online channels.

Those folk who had been involved in streaming the Bikers Church services during the restrictions discovered that actually having a 'live' congregation was a huge blessing and a relief. For those of us who attended this 'new normal' service, it was great to be with like-minded people again and to be able to worship God in singing together. With the best will in the world, trying to 'do church' without any interaction between facilitators and congregation is an uphill struggle! The trademark heckling and banter—which is all part of the Bikers Church we have come to know and love—was back, and we enjoyed every minute of it!

Apparently, we have now become a 'hybrid church' – Bikers Church On-line and Bikers Church In-person. The virtual has become actual again. Actually – it's both! 🙏



Mixer Desk gifted to Woolston by Keyteq



Andrew setting up for live streaming

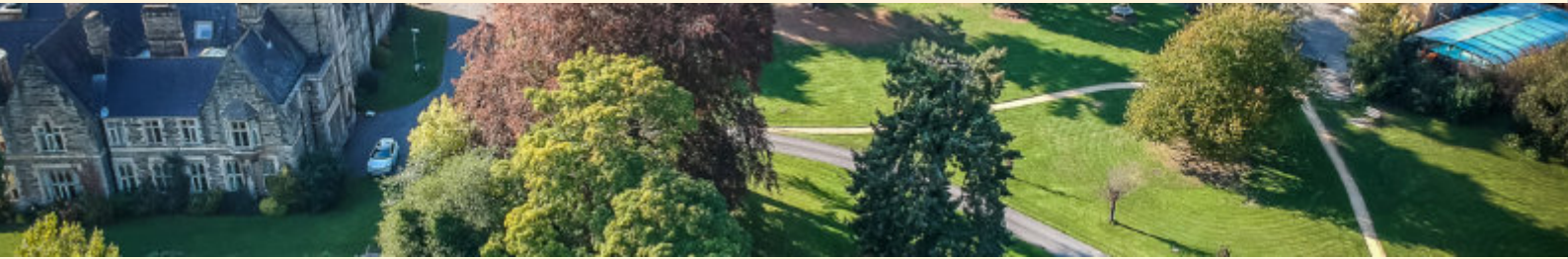


The resources table



## Quinta – a wonderful venue

Christopher Houghton, South Lincs



### CMA UK National Rally 8-10 July 2022 at Weston Rhyn, Oswestry, Shropshire SY10 7LR

It's a while since a group of us took the trip to Quinta to see what the place was like. What astounded me was the feeling of peace about the place. It's been a Christian conference centre for many years and the sense that it has been soaked in prayer just oozes out of the place. If you follow the following link (<https://www.quinta.org/history/>) you get a sense of the history of the place. From the mid 1850's you can see how Christianity has enabled it to become what it is today.

Quinta is a private estate which is ideal for CMA UK, though we won't have sole use of the grounds as other groups are booked in along side us. It does however offer lots of space for fun games and also quiet contemplative reflection. There's even a swimming pool we can book by arrangement. The facilities that are available to us are a vast improvement on past venues. There's the option to not have to bring a tent and use the shared dormitory arrangements that are open to us to book. There's also a good network of hook-up arrangements for those wanting to arrive in their camper vans. For campers' Hi-de-Hi! there is lots of field space to pitch up, though some of the fields have a slight incline to them. There's always a benefit to arriving early for the best pitches. There will also be access for campers to hook-ups if required.

If you want more information about the place just follow the link and explore the Quinta web site (<https://www.quinta.org/>). For the overly keen and zealous, bookings will be available through CMA so don't go trying to contact Quinta directly.

The venue offers an opportunity for some great ride outs along the English Welsh borders but just don't follow Mike Fitton and his Garmin – if you do you can be promised some good off-road gravel track experiences. Just beware not to take a left out of the front gates to Quinta unless you are competent at

green-lane riding. Now there's temptation for you all. Lol. For those who are tempted, don't say we didn't warn you.

More details about booking will follow on the CMA UK website so keep checking in on the CMA UK bike.org.uk website (<https://www.bike.org.uk/events/national-rally-2022>).

The café at the Ponderosa, Horse Shoe Pass, has to be on the check list to visit as a great biker café venue. Just put <Ponderosa biker café> into any search engine for a wealth of information, videos and links. The Ponderosa is a great place to mingle with a pocket full of Biker Bibles to hand. An easy way into conversation is 'Wow is this yours?', followed by *how*, *what*, *where* and *when* questions.

Blessings to you all and looking forward to sharing a wonderful time there with you.

Please keep the team in your prayers as we continue to firm up the details of arrangements.

As safeguarding officer for CMA there are concerns, especially around the swimming arrangements and changing facilities, but with lakes, woodland and electricity there's a lot to consider around safeguarding.

Remember, safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. 🙏

## Letter from Brian

Brian Jenner, Gloucester

"How come Peter gets 3,000 at Pentecost and I am just stood out here in this crowd of bikers?"

"Why is it the NHS has all the patience and I have so little?"

At a recent Branch Zoom meeting much was said about the long-windedness of our ministry and the fact that even after all the time we spend meeting people and being Christ in their midst it is not always us that gets the pleasure of seeing them come to Christ. This started with rejoicing in hearing of the conversion of someone at 'Stormin' the Castle', I think, and also one earlier at the Farmyard. I have just had a thought – I have no idea how many and who may have tried to lead a certain man in the right direction but it was only in his last hour or so that he came to know Christ, to become the most recent 'Christian in heaven'. As I write I think of all the farming parables of Jesus and though farmers do not often have to wait a lifetime, though olives take a while to fruit from seed they do spend many months and have to visit often and tend occasionally. So if we are standing in a car or bike park and no one is taking any notice let us try offering our time to Jesus once again and let Him worry about how long it takes and who His Spirit will touch.

Brian

*[I think Mike's article on page 4 goes a long way to addressing this issue. Ed.]*



# Falling off – part 2 – protective clothing

Brian Carbonero, Essex

For part 1, published in the last edition of Chainlink, I covered crash helmets. For this one I'm taking a look at what we put on the rest of our bodies when riding our bikes. This is a much larger subject, and one with a much broader range of opinions as the UK currently has no legal requirement to wear any protective gear on a motorbike other than a crash helmet. For this article I'm focusing mainly on protection, and not going into factors such as prices, style, weight and whether the garment itself has some level of waterproofing.



My leather jacket's shoulder after the crash. The cosmetic colour layer was scuffed off, but the leather itself was fine



My leather trouser's knee after the crash - as above in terms of impact

## What are we protecting ourselves from?

Even ignoring all the obstacles that line the roads we ride, tarmac itself may look smooth from a distance but it is designed to ensure tyres can grip to it. From the point of view of skin, soft tissue and even bone, it is best thought of as a cheese grater. Then there are all those obstacles, plus the potential for things to hit us at speed even if we don't fall off, such as stones thrown up by other vehicles, large insects, pigeons and twigs falling from trees to name but a few.

Studies of real world motorcycle crashes showed that the most common form of damage faced was due to abrasion and that, perhaps unsurprisingly, wearing gear made a significant difference in the levels of soft tissue injuries sustained by the motorcyclist, e.g., gravel rash. These injuries can be enough to prove fatal even at comparatively slow speeds, not least due to possible medical complications from infections.

When I crashed I was wearing full leather gear, with the jacket and trousers made 3 years earlier by Hideout Leathers in Essex, who also make leathers for racers including for the Isle of Man TT. I hit the tarmac hard on my left side, doing probably about 30mph. The impact was enough to break 6 ribs and my shoulder blade and to cause a lung to half fill with fluid. The armour protected my shoulder

from breaking and the leather ensured I didn't suffer any abrasion to my skin, muscles and bones as I slid along the tarmac, and so after a few months all my injuries had healed. Without my gear I would have undoubtedly broken more bones and been left with significant abrasion injuries to my hand, arm, back and legs – likely life altering injuries which would have required much more medical treatment and had an ongoing effect on both me and my family.

## I just don't know what to wear!

The choice of clothing for motorcyclists can seem endless, so how do we make a choice?

First, back to basics. Regardless of our personal preferences, if you have a crash or come off your bike then:

1. Any bike gear will be better than none, and the more of your body you cover with gear the better protection you'll have.
2. However good it is, bike gear will only make a difference if a crash is potentially survivable; it cannot make us invincible and so continuing to improve our riding skills is also really important in avoiding crashes in the first place, and to also get the most enjoyment from riding our bikes.



Abrasion on the engine crash bar caused by the crash



One view of the mirror stem holder on the left of my handlebar showing how the abrasion wore the metal away (it was originally round)



A different view of the above



The bent out of shape ignition key, caused by the bike's instrument assembly being forced back over it

Aside from those two truths, different materials provide different levels of protection. The levels of abrasion resistance vary enormously. For example, when stitched to a bag weighing 75 pounds and dragged along tarmac, cotton denim jeans lasted 1.1 metres, fashion weight leather lasted 1.3 metres, Cordura Nylon Type 440 lasted 5.6 metres, Kevlar 29 Aramid Fiber (1500 Denier) lasted 6.7 metres, and motorcycle race leather lasted 26.2 metres.

In addition to its material, the construction of the garment is important. Joins between panels are an area of weakness. Fewer panels mean fewer seams and double or triple stitched seams are better than a single line of stitching. Seams and zips should not be along areas of high impact, such as the outer sides of arms.

Armour helps absorb and spread the impact over a larger area, helping to protect vulnerable joints and parts of the body. Being able to replace armour in line with manufacturers' instructions is also important, as is ensuring that it will stay where it is supposed to be. Individual pieces of armour held onto elbows/knees with Velcro straps may be OK for skateboarders, but they are unlikely to stay in place if you come off a motorbike.

As well as providing protection, also look to ensure whatever you're wearing doesn't adversely reduce your ability to control your motorbike. It should fit well and not be able to ride up in a slide, exposing your skin, otherwise you won't be getting the protection you've paid for. It also needs to be comfortable for the duration of your ride or it will be a distraction and cause fatigue.

## We have standards to maintain...

But it's not only what material but how it's used that is important. Just because a pair of jeans has Kevlar somewhere within them doesn't necessarily mean they'll give you good protection.

In the UK and EU, since 1994 any garment described as Personal Protective Equipment has had to meet a CE standard. For motorcycle gear this has been EN 13595, a standard for protective clothing for professional motorcycle riders. So that must mean anything with a CE mark must be as good as the MotoGP stars wear right? Not exactly... Some jackets and trousers may not have been described as PPE but sold as fashion clothing, and even a lot of bike gear has been sold as being 'non-protective' with only the armour being tested to CE standards.

In 2020 the EN 17092 'Protective Garments for Motorcycle Riders' standard was introduced, which tests the protection and integrity of the whole garment, not just parts of it. With Brexit, manufacturers will now also need to achieve the separate UKCA mark for the UK market, and any selling to the UK and EU will double badge their garments. From our point of view, a modern bit of kit with the CE and/or UKCA mark will mean the same thing.

In terms of how much better a garment is than the minimum standard, the only rating system I have found that follows a consistent system to rate motorbike clothing is the Motorcycle Clothing Assessment Program (MotoCAP) with products tested at Deakin University in Australia. It is voluntary and uses a



five-star ratings system to assess how well gear protects a motorcyclist in a crash, based on impact protection, burst resistance and abrasion resistance. Test results are weighted to emphasise the need for greater protection in high risk areas, and a separate rating is given for breathability and water resistance. It has been recognized by FIM (Fédération Internationale de Motocyclisme), receiving their 2019 Road Safety Award.

As of writing this, of 184 jackets tested, 1 had 5 stars (the highest rating), 8 had 4 stars and 25 had 3 stars, with the rest having 2 or only 1 star. Even if a jacket or pair of trousers you're considering buying isn't on there, it will give you an idea of the type of thing to look for and what to avoid. Their website – <https://www.motocap.com.au/> – also has other useful information, including a diagram showing the high risk areas of the body; useful to know when looking at gear.

In terms of avoiding fakes, as well as the usual advice of buying from a reputable seller, looking for CE/UKCA marks, and avoiding bargains that seem too good to

be true, try to look at as many different products as you can in person. Get your hands on them, including high-end stuff, for an idea of how they are constructed and how the materials feel.

### What's underneath?

A common reason given for not wearing gear is due to it being too hot; readers from certain other countries would marvel that the UK could ever reach temperatures they would consider 'hot'! I tend to overheat easily, but I've found that wearing a properly fitting base layer of man-made material under my leathers keeps me quite comfortable in even our hottest weather; much more so than if I wear a cotton t-shirt under my textile jacket with its vents front and back.

Also consider what you put in your pockets and where. For example, keys put in your trouser pocket can cause you a serious injury in a crash.

Regardless of whether you follow ATGATT (All The Gear, All The Time) or a different approach, I hope this summary is useful. Enjoy riding and keep safe. 🙏

## Sandy the Biker Dog

*Jaimee Nix, Hants & Surrey Borders*



On August 23<sup>rd</sup> 2020 I brought home my RSPCA-rescued Saluki Lurcher. He is approximately 8 years old. They had taken him in at Christmas (on my birthday!) and called him Santa, I couldn't leave it at that. I found lockdown hard and needed a companion. However, I was quite aware that owning a dog would restrict getting out on my bike. I did bring it before God and asked for His help and guidance, believing, 1. He had given me the dog and, 2. I was still meant to be an active member of CMA.

When I mentioned to people that I would like to get him on the bike I received various reactions and some of the comments started to put doubts in my mind Did I have the skill to keep the bike steady when he moved? He is too big... too heavy... how to protect him in an accident, etc. He reacts badly to other dogs and has a high prey drive because he was used for

hunting. Would he try and jump off when I stopped? Would he react when he saw another dog?

I searched the internet for dog carriers and saw several animals being transported on motorbikes. Wendy and I tried various containers and plastic boxes. We even encouraged him to get in some of them, bribed with treats of course.



**Sandy the Biker Dog**  
see following pages



The next bit was how to get a container secured to my bike. I removed the sissy bar and pillion seat because we had seen one from America where the Alsatian sat long ways over the back wheel. I made enquiries about getting one of their designs. About £1,000 plus import tax and shipping. To get an idea of how much room he needed I put his own dog bed across the panniers.

Then we saw the plastic dog bed in the shop and thought there's a possibility. Got it home and put a sheepskin in it and bribed him to get in. Great! We had a container, now how to secure it on the bike.

I put the pillion seat back and mounted up my panniers. The dog bed sat across ok so I bought thick foam and cut it to protect my pillion seat.



Tying Sandy in his new 'bed'

Inside the bed I put a bathroom mat for him to sit on. I drilled holes and made slots for straps and tied it on. It sort of went over the back wheel.

Good job Sandy is a food junkie. After several attempts to get him to jump up onto the bike I eventually got him to sit down and strapped him in.

He sat there while I rocked the bike, I started the engine, he wasn't bothered. More treats, I put it into gear and rode slowly to the end of my short drive, paddled back, did it again, paddled back. Then I accelerated quicker, the dog bed moved and he became anxious. So to stop the bed from moving and therefore make him feel secure I put the sissy bar, minus padding, back in place. This has pushed the bed right over the pillion seat leaving a small area for me to sit on. Fortunately, I don't take up much room.

Sandy wears a harness used by mountain rescue dogs. It has a handle which I use to guide him off the bike and store his straps. The following day I repeated the short rides to the end of my drive and paddling back



Pinewood Bike Night

and this time the bed was secure and he seemed more at ease. He was ok so now it was just me and my confidence. My road is busy and I was worried about pulling out into the traffic. I wanted to do the first ride in the early hours when no one was around. Wendy would ride behind me to keep an eye on Sandy. Well, we didn't wait, I bit the bullet, put my full gear on, got Sandy back in the bed and strapped him in. Quaking in my boots I pulled out between traffic and rode round the block, including negotiating a couple of mini roundabouts. Sandy stayed put enjoying the breeze on a rather hot day. His weight was making the bed tilt unevenly so I put a board across the panniers to make it more rigid.

The next day we rode further afield, Sandy shifted position on a very lumpy road, the bike wobbled, I braked and I held it. The third day we rode for over 2 hours stopping at a lake to give Sandy some exercise then back home. Day 4 – Pinewood bike night. For 3 days Sandy had no eye protection. The Doggles I had ordered didn't come so I went to Toolstation and bought 3 different pairs of safety goggles – one of which was a good fit. He was getting better at jumping up into the dog bed and each trip we were making adjustments for his safety and comfort. When I put the goggles on him he didn't try to take them off – he knew what they were for. However, whenever I stop and turn the engine off he takes them off pronto. He attracts a lot of interest wherever we go and some folks are amazed, so he gets photographed quite a bit.

I am happy because I am no longer restricted, and he loves being out with me on the bike and is happier than being stuck at home waiting for me to come back from a ride. We have a cycling poncho ready to cover him if it rains and the Heath Robinson method of strapping the dog bed to the bike was replaced by a specially engineered bracket and plate. Now when I put my bike gear on, he expects to go with me. He waits by the bike ready to jump in on command. The treats help of course. A three-day trip to Wales is planned. I hope he likes scenic roads.



Llandrindod Wells Town Centre

## Welsh Update:

Sandy's Welsh trip was a huge success. He was the centre of attention wherever we went. He must have been the most photographed dog in Wales that week-end. He travelled like a pro, jumping on and off the bike with ease. He slept in the hotel rooms without a fuss. The best thing of all is the smile he put on peoples faces as we passed through towns and villages. 🐾



At the Two Hoots Café, Devil's Bridge, near Aberystwyth





## A 'Grand Day Out'

Ed.

So, what a pleasant surprise it was to come across Steph (her poem opposite) and two of her friends in the main car park at Betws-y-Coed!

As Christians walking with the Lord, we don't have 'chance' meetings. The scripture says, **'The steps of a good man [or woman] are ordered by the Lord...'** (Psalm 37:23). Well, we are not good in our own merit but made righteous through the shed blood of our Lord Jesus Christ (1 John 1).

Steph and co. had ridden all the way up from Hants & Dorset branch country, navigating their way through the wild country of Wales and ending up in the well-known touristy village in the Conwy valley and gateway to the Snowdonia National Park. The English translation of Betws-y-Coed is, 'Prayer House in the Wood'. Now, there's a thing! Betws is one of North Cheshire branch's regular rideout stopping-off places and quite often we will arrange to meet up with our good friends from North Wales branch for food, fellowship and outreach. Very fitting, indeed!

It was lovely to chat with Steph, after the initial greetings, and encourage and bless each other. Steph is one of our most regular contributors to this magazine and it was really a pleasure to see her.

I had literally just pulled up in the motorcycle parking area opposite the row of cafés and gift shops, removed my helmet and, there she was! Talk about, 'right place, right time'! Our heavenly Father is just totally expert in arranging our itinerary in a fascinating way we could not begin to engineer ourselves.

I was out that day with my brother Paul and the reason for our being there, as I thought, was to bless two of our non-biking friends from Liverpool with a 'grand day out' on motorcycles. Obviously, the Lord decided to add a little more to what was truly a blessed day. As our chief, Mr Fitton, says on page 4, there is 'nothing wasted' in the Kingdom of God! ✝

## My Lullaby, my Song in the Night

By Stephanie

The Lord says,  
My beloved, my bride  
Singing over you is my delight  
Come away with me my love, my fair one  
Come away to my secret place  
Under my mercy come and just be  
Till we stand face to face  
I see you my child, I see you  
You are so beautiful to Me  
So beautiful to Me

Bring your weariness  
Bring your pain  
Bring that heavy load  
Bring it to me again

And lay it down at my feet  
Don't run away  
Come, my child, come  
I am waiting for you, longing for you  
Let me take great care of you today

Come and find your rest in Me  
I'll breathe life inside your lungs  
I'll bear you up on eagle's wings  
Dry bones will dance and sing  
Dry bones will come undone

I will take you to still waters  
And restore your tired soul  
You are my beautiful child  
Come rest and be made whole

You're my beloved, you're my bride  
To sing over you is my delight  
Come away with me, my love  
Come away with me tonight

I stand before you now Lord Jesus  
And you sing over me a beautiful song  
A lullaby of love in this darkest night  
I run to you into your embrace  
In your arms is where I belong

When I can't sleep I call out to you  
And you come, you come in such power  
I bring everything that's of myself to thee  
I lay it down at your feet  
I'm letting go in this midnight hour

Giving you my every burden, every worry  
Giving you my every sorrow, every care  
Giving you the heartache, all the pain  
On my knees I wait on You, my God  
My Father, I know you're there

I sing my song of the night, my lullaby  
My love song to you, my God of power  
The night can't have me, Jesus  
Because I belong to you  
Not this dark night not the lonely hour

Beautiful Jesus so holy, majestic  
It's you Father God that I see  
Caressing me, soothing and filling me

Oh Lord, You are beautiful  
Sitting at your feet I am not afraid  
I sing my lullaby to you my Father  
Your presence makes me so brave

Then I bend right down  
And wash your feet with my falling tears  
Drying them gently, lovingly with my hair  
Lord you care so much, you care

A sweet aroma fills the room, so strong  
So overwhelming as you lift me up  
And dance with me in the air  
I pour out my adoration, my love song  
Jesus you are everywhere  
Beautiful, beautiful Jesus

Beautiful, beautiful holy King  
You're beautiful; oh You're so beautiful  
My praise, my song in the night to you I bring  
Holy, holy, holy, my beautiful King



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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.

