

CHAINLINK

The Magazine of the
Christian Motorcyclists' Association

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Winter 2009 Jesus *is* Lord

**Chainlink is the magazine of the
Christian Motorcyclists' Association (CMA) UK**

The views expressed in *Chainlink* cannot be taken as the official CMA policy on any subject. The magazine is published three times a year, to provide information for its members and to encourage them in their personal walk with God.

We pray that this magazine will stimulate non-Christian readers into thinking more about Jesus, and also into seeking Him for themselves.

The Bible says: "Seek and you will find". Matthew.7.vs7

Mike Fitton National Chairman of the CMA UK

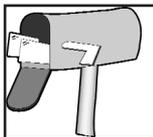
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'Working in partnership with
Bible Society'



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What's in the Winter 2009 Chainlink?

The 2009 CMA National rally was really blessed by those who worked at Storthes Hall and served us with all our food, The breakfasts, the lunches and the others meals we had, plus coffee, teas and the HUGE BBQ. We thank them for their hard work and great friendship during the time we had at the rally So everyone, something more to look forward to next year.
DO YOU NEED HELP TO BOOK for 2010?



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Lord, keep Your arm around my shoulder and Your hand over my mouth!

Moving Forward CMA UK National Rally 09

by Mike Fitton, National Chairman

Some feed back

"Absolutely incredible"

"I want to come here for my holidays"

"Best National Rally I have ever been to!"

"When I get back home I am going to book a week off for next year's rally and work as a servant."



After the 2008 National Rally at Hollybush I decided to begin praying for a new venue to take the quality of the rally to another level and be suitable for the EMC Rally 2010 that we are hosting. It was important that we provide better accommodation, larger restaurant facilities, vacancies during school holidays and a camp area for those who wanted to continue camping.

I thought this would be a relatively simple process but believe me after fifteen options all fell through I was beginning to wonder, it seemed that everywhere I enquired was already booked out for annual events! Then out of the blue Tony Hudson from the West Yorkshire branch suggested we take a look at Storthes Hall Park an ex-mental asylum (that was its

old title but currently used as a student village) near Huddersfield. The meeting was a great success and the site was booked.

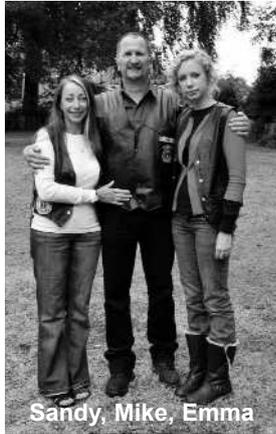
Those of you who attended this year will be unaware of the months and months of preparation that went into making the rally such a success and without Les Jones' oversight as Rally Manager it wouldn't have come together.

We decided to form a Rally Management Team for each aspect of the rally such as campsite, student room accommodation, the running of the worship marquee, registration etc. The catch was that if they took it on we wanted them to carry their responsibility through to cover the EMC in August 2010 too. We wrote job descriptions and God called His people and we had our team....

The plans were prayed over, the bookings came in, people encouraged and equipment hired, would we ever be ready on time?

The week arrived and the numbers grew and grew, we even had visitors come over from South Africa, Holland and Ireland CMA.

My greatest blessing was to see so many of you turn up with your families because we could offer en suite bedroom facilities.



Sandy, Mike, Emma

That's exactly why I chose Storthes Hall, not everybody likes camping and I don't blame them, the last thing I want to do is exclude you.

The atmosphere throughout the weekend was brilliant during

the worship meetings we knew the touch of God as the Holy Spirit convicted us to move forward seeking only the cause of Christ. We had at least one heart given to Jesus that I know of and lots of other people committed themselves afresh.

There were not only a record number of people on site (245 in total) but 40 of them were children and teenagers, thank you Lord! NOW THAT'S WHAT WE HAVE TO ENCOURAGE FOR THE FUTURE. CMA UK must not be allowed to become an older age mission to bikers we have to make a big space for those who are young now. Thank you to all those who ministered to our young people this year. Hope you all enjoyed the big bouncy castle and bouncy slide? I know I did.

We had a superb time on Saturday afternoon when Dudley Martin's rock and roll band perform the golden oldies during our huge barbecue, it even had a few of us on our feet trying our jive steps again!! This was followed by the best baptism service I think we have ever had, Chris Armour managed to find a portable baptistery and eight members went through the waters including Jim and Dot

GOUGH from West Yorks Branch. It was such a privilege for me to baptise this precious couple and as they came out of the water the tears and applause from everyone said it all.

My thanks go to Rene and Delene (International Coordinator for CMA) for sharing this celebration of the 30th Anniversary of CMA UK. Rene's message challenged us all.

We built up a wonderful relationship with the Storthes Hall Park staff and feedback has shown that they appreciated having us on site, they even defended us when the fire brigade was called when a local resident saw the campfire after worship.

My pleasure during the Sunday morning service was complete when I announced the winner of the National Chairman's Award, I decided that it would go to one of our hardest workers who loves CMA and is a great example of a servant heart. The surprise on Robert HUGHES-BURTON'S face as I called his name was priceless followed by the tears of his Dad Bob cheering from the back. He received a standing ovation from the whole marquee, thank you Robert we really value you in the family of CMA.

Our worship band was 'Solomon's Folly' all the way from Aberdeen they did a great job in spite of terrible problems with their van.

Ben (a friend of Andy and Naomi) did a dramatic presentation on a Carmen song that was unbelievable and had us all on our feet cheering needless to say he is booked for next year already!

We were delighted that a missionary family from World Horizon's could be

with us to receive a cheque for £4,000 towards motorcycles for missionaries, they hope to be back next year too.

Sooooooooooooooooo what plans have you made to be there next year?

Our National Rally doubles as the EMC Rally on the same site at Storthes hall Park between - 4th-8th August 2010.

The EMC stands for the 'European Motorcyclists For Christ' we are the host country in 2010 welcoming all Christian Bike Clubs from across Europe potentially 500-600 people and we need you to come. Take the time TODAY to book a few days off and be there next year. Some of us will be on site from Monday 2nd August to set up and prepare in good time.

The ideal situation would be if everyone who came agreed to serve for two hours during the rally perhaps on a welcome party, serving coffee, marshalling, helping to erect tents, overseeing games or bouncy castles, leading a local ride out to show our guests the beautiful countryside, translating preaching, praying etc.

Perhaps you could send an email to Les Jones on les.jones75@ntlworld.com and offer to help in anyway necessary known THAT would show a true servant Spirit.

I have been amazed when I visit the 'Colors Rally' (yes their spelling) at Iron Mountain USA, the organisers put huge volunteer lists on the walls and ask everyone to fill in their names to do the jobs required, no one has to be forced or cajoled they just volunteer and they do it with a smile. This year that didn't always happen, so will you please help us we desperately need willing hearts to give just a little time, rather than expect to come and be served.

Matthew Ch20 v28

'For even the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve others and gave His life as a ransom for many.'

I am privileged to serve with you in CMA. I cannot wait for next year, can you?

**God Bless you, Mike,
National Chairman CMA UK**



Some of the 40+ children at the 2009 National Rally

Thank you for your prayer support.

Hi, I just wanted to thank all those of you who kindly prayed for me following my bike crash in July, I am making a steady improvement although for an 'impatient patient' like me it always seems much too slow.

I have chipped two vertebrae in my neck, broken the scaphoid bone in my left hand and I have severe bursitis in my left shoulder, which is agony. My head hit the kerb at 45mph, the A&E doctor said the new Arai helmet just three weeks old saved my life Praise the Lord! I didn't even have a small bruise on my head; my leathers saved my skin and were intact until the paramedics cut them off me with not a little glint in their eye!!

The most frustrating aspect of this is I can't ride the bike or drive the car, have you noticed when you can't ride the weather seems to improve and bikes pass your house more often than normal. I just give them a wave with my good arm and pray a blessing.

My physio is based on "What will it take to grasp a handlebar and pull the clutch lever?" Sandy is delighted to be my designated driver and I have been the dutiful husband never referring to her driving skills, she is a very good driver, really she is! It's just that I am not a very good corresponding passenger, sorry Sandy.

Anyway, thanks once again I still have a little way to go but I shall get there soon God willing.

God Bless you,
Mike
National Chairman CMA UK



PS from Sandy:

That was his version, now for mine. Like Mike, I too want to thank everyone that prayed and helped us through this period. You blessed us so much and we feel really humble and loved.

I agree, Mike isn't a 'patient' patient, and the only way I can describe it is "it is like trying to keep a flea from jumping, a bird from flying and a dog from scratching!" or perhaps a man off his motorbike. Any how, it just ain't gonna happen that easy! Its really sad when I catch him looking at his helmet and leathers with a wistful eye.

Contrary to what Mike said, he does sound like Mrs Bucket (in the male form) and directs me in my driving skills CONSTANTLY! Not that I am complaining, I am a woman and I can stand the pain. There have been moments when I really did want to leave him on some isolated roundabout, a long way from home, without a map and tell him to find his own way back. But, after all, we are married for better or worse driving and one day he will get back on that bike and this will all be a distant memory, please God, let this be a distant memory!

Love you all. Sandy x



An Encouraging Word

by Rev. Bob Bogart, West Mid's Branch



*They traded their glorious God for a statue of a grass-eating Ox! They forgot God, their Saviour, who had done such great things in Egypt – such wonderful things in that land, such awesome deeds at the Red Sea.
Psalm 106:20-22*

This Psalm vividly recalls the plight of the Children of Israel in Egypt and how quickly they forgot the goodness of the Lord. Not much has changed.

About 3 years ago, we began our first ever Kingshurst Evangelical Church drama team. On the opening night of rehearsal only 2 kids came out for practice. Within a few short weeks, and because there was no interest, the drama team idea was only a memory.

This was not the only ministry to fail, nor was it the only church in England to experience frustration. Long ago this land traded their glorious God for the Ox of pleasure and self-interest.

Ironically, the greatest pleasure we could possibly find is when we fall in love with Jesus all over again and serve Him joyfully for the rest of our days. But our

nation, our city and even our particular field of ministry has conveniently forgotten the God who has done such great things for this once great country.

O Lord, break our hearts once again for you, even if you must break the back of this nation to accomplish her repentance. Tear away our pride and cause us to come back to you. Without you, Lord, our young people are doomed, our present is spiritually bleak and I can only imagine what the future will be if the reigns are not pulled in without delay. Our hearts are breaking for our local church communities. So much work and preparation goes in and so little interest in eternal things is discovered.

You, Lord, have given this nation your very presence. Down through the centuries men have humbled themselves in your sight. Revivals became the norm, not the exception. Lord, I even read that during the Welsh Revival local newspapers would print the names of individuals saved in the previous revival meeting. The world was pregnant with the Gospel and Britain was indeed great! Today, we've traded it all for a big old fat grass-eating Ox. Why would we have done something so stupid? We've forgotten the wonderful things You have done. We have grown satisfied with earthly trinkets, rather than heavenly treasures. Lord, do not forget your people; who we once were and how visibly England did cast forth your reflected image to a waiting world. Almighty God, grant us one more chance. One more - or perhaps two, and please don't be angry if we ask for three.

Fasttrack and Fastfriday

**Do you know about them? Do you receive them? Would you like to know more?
Fasttrack is the monthly Prayer letter.
cmaprayer.fasttrack@virgin.net**

**Fastfriday is the weekly urgent prayer letter. "This is a weekly prayer and fasting
on the specific issues of life, death and salvation of motorcyclists"
fastfriday@bike.org.uk.**

**For more details contact your branch chair, or see details on Page 2
It is important that you know what they are for.**

**Do you want prayer? Do you know someone who would like the Prayer ministry
team to pray for them? Do you want to be a prayer warrior?
Let us know. Contacts details are on Page 2**

Fasttrack is the monthly CMA prayer letter. It goes out on the 1st Sunday of the month and is run jointly by Kate Moore and Jen Crane. Pete and Debbie Clapham provide back up to Kate and Jen. Each branch should have a prayer coordinator. This person agrees to take on responsibility to receive the prayer letter by email each month and to email it on to all other branch members. In the event of a member or contact not having email, the branch prayer coordinator has the responsibility to post it on to them.

We also send out urgent prayer requests as we receive them throughout the month. If you have a prayer request, please send it to fasttrack@bike.org.uk. Please make sure that this is the only email address that you use, as using any other address can cause delays and keeping to one address also helps us if there is a problem. You do not have to send prayer requests through your branch prayer coordinator, but please be aware that Kate and Jen have the final say as to whether something goes immediately, or whether it waits for the monthly prayer letter. Please ensure that you have the permission of the person you are asking prayer for. We assume that you have

obtained this and it is important. Prayer requests will come to you from your branch coordinator in the same way the monthly prayer letter does.

We have been having very few new requests come in at the end of the month and therefore the prayer letter is mainly a recap of what we have received through the month. This is your prayer letter; please use it. We have been aware of situations before, but have not received an email or call about them so therefore prayer has not gone out. Prayer is one of our most powerful tools as Christians, God has healed Jim Gough, and baby Jessica and many others, through prayer. Although Fasttrack is entirely separate from Fastfriday, they run alongside each other. For example, the recent day of prayer for Mike and Sandy Fitton.

If you would like to be more involved in Fasttrack or if you do not know who your branch coordinator is, please contact fasttrack@bike.org.uk with your details.

For anything really urgent, or if you have not received a response in 24 hours, please call or text

Kate on 07500938419

Jen on 07976979791

Kate Moore and Jen crane

Linc's and East York's Get a Trailer

by Russell Boyce, Linc's and East York's Branch.

Mike suggested this piece might be a useful reference for other branches wanting to get equipment.

Earlier this year we applied and were successful in getting funds for the purchase of a trailer to carry all the equipment for Holy Joes etc.

We applied to a thing called the Community Pot through our local Voluntary Action office, most towns will have a

similar arrangement. Many councils will also probably have a similar scheme for supporting local voluntary groups although odds are it will be called under a different name.

The grants was for smaller amounts up to £5000 to support local voluntary groups in their activities and was intended to help purchase equipment or training that they felt in urgent need of. The grant is on the basis of being a one off amount for that year although it does not stop you applying in a subsequent year for another bite at the pot! Also it was pointed out that if you applied for something in the mid range you were more likely to be successful.

On our application we had to explain what the grant was to be used for and give a sample of estimates of how much the equipment was likely to cost. We also had



to make abundantly clear that we would apply equal opportunities to all groups likely to use the facilities that we provided and that as far as possible we would not discriminate. It was made clear that the granting group did not always support religious groups but would consider us if we made a strong enough case.

I made our case emphasising that we regularly through the year made contact with various youth groups in the area and tried to encourage responsible riding and safety when speaking with them. We also said that whenever possible we made contact with local bike clubs and offered our facilities to them when they were organising rallies. I made a particular point of emphasising that we were a locally based group even though our activities sometimes took us out of the area. I also made a very strong point of making clear that we did actively encourage anyone of any persuasion to use our Holy Joes Cafes although people obviously had to be Christians if they wanted to become active members of the organisation.

On a point of applying for funds a useful resource is the 'Directory of Grant Making Funds and Trusts' most libraries reference sections have a copy it is heavy reading

but well worth looking through. It lists all of the U.K. Trusts that make grants and what their criteria are for granting the money and who to apply to. Also some groups like the Joseph Rowntree Trust in York are worth approaching as they like to support what they see as socially motivated groups.

When we got the call to say we had got the money we had nearly forgotten the application. We got a call saying that we had won £1865 for our trailer. The only problem was that by then some of the costs had gone up with the original firm we based the application on. We looked around the internet and found a firm called Tickner's Trailer in Wisbech. When we saw their advert on Ebay we contacted them and went down to see them. We asked what they could do for the money. They managed to price us a trailer up to the last penny including V.A.T. We found they could do a custom made box trailer 7 foot long 5 feet wide and six foot 6 inches high so none of us would bang our heads! It also had tie down rings on the floor to stop stuff sliding about. They have also made it as a twin wheel braked trailer and

made a drop down ramp so everything goes straight in no effort! We had the trailer made to a maximum laden weight of 1100 kilos which most larger cars the size of a Renault Laguna or Vauxhall Vectra should manage with no problems.

Turn around from the original order to them was about a month, they were still finishing the last touches when we went to collect! When we went down to collect they said they had really enjoyed making the trailer as it was something off the ordinary.

Barrie Thompson and myself went down to place the order and to collect the trailer and dined at an excellent pub just down the road from the industrial estate each time. Finding the place did give the Sat Nav's a workout as we wended our way to and fro down the local lanes.

When it came to towing the trailer although it catches the wind when running into headwinds it tows like a dream. Even empty and on a particularly windy gusty day the trailer barely stepped out of line coming home.



Hi, It's me again

by Emma Angel-Jones.

I hope you all had an amazing summer this year and not missing the lovely, hot weather we had all summer round! I had a very hectic summer helping with the National rally and moving out and settling into my own house and starting uni. Its been a very eventful one!

The rally was amazing this year and blessed in every way possible. The two weeks leading up to it were blessed yet stressed, our house had every corner filled to the ceiling with piles of camping equipment, printed bits of paper and itineraries and a million roles of gaffer tape! I was given the lovely job of proof reading, laminating and sign making, exciting times were had by all!

A lot of prayer went up in those two weeks, praying for the new site where the rally would take place and prayer that the food we were going to have was enough for all of us!

Whilst preparing for the rally, Mike informed me that I would be reading the notices in all the services. Now this may not sound like a big thing, but I am very shy when it comes to standing up in front of people so I was PETRIFIED! I asked if I could back out and do something less scary like laminate more signs but Mike was adamant that I got up there so I said yes.

When it came to reading the notices there was one problem, I never remembered the name of the main building where we had tea and coffee and as this room was used a lot I got in some trouble. This room was called the Arboretum and me being the blonde, kept calling it the Abattoir which most of you know is a slaughter house! So I really do apologise to everyone who had to listen to me telling them that there will be tea and coffee served throughout the day, free of charge in the Abattoir!

Even though we were on a new site and it took a lot of getting used to, this rally was amazing!



There was enough food to go round, just! We did manage to eat almost everything on the site and I think we managed to drink every cup of tea and coffee they had to offer! (it was free, what can i say?)

The youth at the rally were brilliant; we had near enough 40 young people on site, which is double what we had last year! To see so many enjoying the weekend and parents weren't shy as well! I do remember seeing at one point a few adults hogging the bouncy castles!

We really hope and pray that everyone who went to the rally was blessed and had the relaxing and God filled weekend we had planned!

Just a quick update from me, I am now living in Hartlepool with another student from the college in a lovely house on a not so lovely street but to me it's all in God plans so I wont complain! It's nice to be in a town where there are no sheep in the back garden!

I have started university and loving every minute of it, even though we have a large workload already.

I was blessed to have a wonderful Christian lady as one of my tutors who I know from the Christian camps etc so loving having someone in my university to talk to if needed. I am also working with some of the kids in the area at a local youth club, which can be hard as some of them like to hurl abuse at you, but if you remain strong and let them trust you they are some of the most loving kids I have met!

Many other blessings have come across my path but this page is not big enough to write them all down! Maybe next time :

Thank you all so much for your prayers, they never go unmissed and please keep praying that my time here is all for God and everything I do is for him!

Never leave home without it

By Sarge, SAS Branch.

After what has been a difficult year so far, we managed to take a short holiday in Somerset in early September, which we are now calling our RAC holiday. Off we set, good weather, great ride and arrived at the campsite tired but content. A really great site away from everything, in the middle of the best of the Somerset countryside with its own private bay. No tell, no computer, nothing to disturb our peace including mobile signals. The next morning, a chap camping next to us was admiring Gaynor's machine and then came and asked if we knew she had a puncture? Such a nice chap. I found a 50mm long screw embedded in the rear tyre and so we called the RAC after we found a place which allowed a signal without standing on one leg, waving a stoat and singing 'Rule Britannia'. What a jape, a card this telephone operator turned out to be; was the motorcycle petrol or diesel? Had we tried to fit the spare tyre? The mechanic chappy duly arrived and looked and pronounced he would take the wheel and me to a nearby tyre place. Not able to repair due to internal damage but could order a new one from Birmingham and, yes it should arrive before we were due to go home.

Next morning we were called by the tyre shop to tell us the wheel was ready to pick up. Again we hunted for a phone signal. This time it was up a tree and wearing a saucepan on each foot. [Not really, but we had to walk down onto the beach, about 800yds]. We had agreed with the RAC mechanic that he would come back out to assist in refitting the wheel and we were to call when it was ready. Oh, how we chuckled. No, there was no record of our agreement and no, we [the RAC] don't come out just to fit a wheel. Why can't you put it back on as you took it off? The operator agreed to put our request through to the road crew. The fitter arrived and took me to retrieve the wheel and helped to fit it; wonderful guy.

After two days waiting and chatting with the local RAC mechanics we were ready to wend our way home. Wow, Minehead to Salisbury

in just over two hours. I have never seen the A303 so empty; we only overtook four cars the whole way to Salisbury. On the approach to the city centre, my clutch cable snapped. I wondered; what we should do? I know. What about the jolly old RAC? Yes, here we go again. I was asked where I was, not an unreasonable question you would agree, but did I know the post code? Yeah, right! The mechanic called and I described my position and lo, he knew exactly where it was and would be there in 30 minutes. The guy was great. Three attempts to get the cable right, but make a new cable he did and he even joined us in a cup of coffee. He let us know that the 'gentlemen in blue' were being frisky further along the road but, sadly was not allowed to salute any more. On our way we went, happy to be going home.

Two miles from home and thoughts of cups of tea and bacon butties were creeping in as we came to a stop at the last roundabout. The traffic cleared and I checked my 'blind-spots' before pulling away. There was Gaynor astride her newly rebuilt and re-sprayed ZZR600 slowly disappearing to her left with all the grace of a one legged swan on ice. As she had pulled up she had come to an area where the road had a dropped drain and her petite little leg did not quite reach the ground. Oh, such embarrassment. A smashing gent in a following van was out in a flash and helped me heave her machine upright and we made a swift and dignified exit [difficult to see blushes under a helmet!].

A chance for a wonderful few days away from the hurly-burly of the world. No, not really. Some time alone with our Lord; well some. A chance to get our money's worth from the RAC, oh, yeah.

Our bikes were not in bad condition as we had checked them over before starting out, but some things just go wrong. Put your trust in God and rest in His arms, but always carry your RAC card. Never leave home without either.

National Chairman and the 2009 Executive Team



Mike Fitton
National Chairman



Rob Urand



Tony Yalden



Ted Russell



Paul Mitchell



Jason Bee



Pete Crane



Ken Hardy



Note from the Editor

The deadline for the Spring 2010 edition is 1st February 2010

Publication dates are:- April - August - December

Time by Ken Hardy

What a brilliant time at the National Rally 2009 at Storthes Hall, Huddersfield. The weather was brilliant and the whole 4 days were absolutely brilliant.

Where were you? Yes I will be going in 2010 to the EMC; same place same time, but maybe twice as big. How exciting is that?



Mallory Park Festival of a 1000 bikes; was an amazing time as well.

Bedford did a grand job organising what turned out to be one of the best classic events I have been to, and I have been to many.

This is a yearly event, so if you missed this year book up for next.

What is your branch doing? I ask this question constantly. Many are doing a wide variety of things, as I know many have mentioned, but what we need as an Association is to let others know as well. Many people think we do one thing ie go to bike rallies, wet, in cold muddy fields and are consequently turned off, as many want to do many different activities. We are a outreach organisation, taking Jesus to the people, bikers yes, but not exclusively. Excite people to join.

Want to know what's possible? then read The CMA Vision. If there is something missing on there let me know - maybe a prize awaits you - but my guess is that whatever you want to do, then its there in black and white, wherever you are on your road with Jesus there is a place for you. Take that road with the CMA. We need your skills. We need you. You will be excited about what God is doing. Be part of it.

Have you booked your holidays for 2010? Here is a week you should consider. August 4th to the 8th Book your holiday now for this terrific event *EMC Rally at Storthes Hall Park, Storthes Hall Lane, Kirkburton, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, HD8 0WA* If your'e free to help, then book from the 2nd.

Articles for the Chainlink are most welcome. PLEASE REMEMBER. All names, addresses and pictures, especially of children, must have permission to be published. If I get them, I am assuming you have done just that, so the sender needs to be responsible for all information sent. If in doubt, run it past the President or the Exec. committee. PLEASE read the following. All pictures must be separate from any document ie, send them as 300dpi or higher in tiff or jpg, either on e-mails or CD, by post. For all photos sent, give an accompanying description of them on a thumbnail picture page, so I can relate them to specific events, then they can go on downloads as a picture montage. All photos sent will be returned. Do not send pictures taken on mobiles unless they are 300dpi +

A year in Beds.

by Keith Sanders, Bedford Branch

Bedfordshire Branch haven't been dozing off; well not all of us anyway. This year we embarked on having a second monthly meeting, consisting mainly of mid week ride outs, the purpose being to have a more social



time we could invite friends to. Some successes there, but like most new ventures, support has been sporadic. The best run out for me included a half way fish and chip stop, where I managed to try my first battered Mars bar. Brilliant. I'm hooked!

The year started as usual with several planning meetings for the BMF and our first ride out was the very successful trip on 14th March, to meet up with Norfolk Branch for lunch. Hopefully another annual event in the making.

The May Bank Holiday saw us once again at the Rushden Cavalcade, a gathering for all vintage and classic enthusiasts, run by the Rushden Historical Transport Society. Good feedback from this, of how a local church had been praying for someone, very determined that he would not look at a Bible, until he was given a Biker Bible handed out by us the previous year. He was baptised in September!

The following weekend, the Salvation Army in Northampton invited us to join them in a new venture, the running of their first Fun Day. Many good conversations to be had, and the best locally made beef burgers and

hot dogs right next to our stand; heaven.

One week further on and it was time to pull out all the stops for the BMF; see our report elsewhere.

Our activities in May ended with Pentecost in the Park at Northampton, another good opportunity to tell local Christians, as well as non Christian visitors, about the work of CMA, and in my case, to be interviewed by local radio. It's always a worry when your mates all point to you and say, ask him, and a mike is pushed in front of you. I think the right words were said!

The annual midweek ride out to Meldreth Manor took place mid June. This event is run by the local Royston MC in aid of Meldreth Manor, a school with special horse riding facilities for the less able. It is always a good night, with thousands of bikers turning up to look at the displays, show off their own machines, have a drink and a burger and meet up with mates.



Following on last years successful helmet park at the Festival of 1000 bikes, the VMCC asked us to run a similar operation for the Banbury run on the 21st June. This is a one day event for vintage and classic enthusiasts, with several thousand participants and onlookers. East Mid's. were also in attendance, handing out Biker Bibles and leaflets, so CMA managed to have quite a strong presence. We look forward to being invited back to what may become a two day event.

27th June found us at Santa Pod Truckfest, where we once again provided 6 bikes to escort "Glory Road Ministries" truck into the venue. We then joined them on their stand, giving out literature and Biker Bibles. We were also able to support them as their special guests, "Tough Talk," performed for the passers by.

At the end of 2008, we were contacted by a biker in the British Legion, organising a memorial ride out to the American cemetery at Cambridge on the 4th July. He was looking for a Minister to hold a service at the cemetery and we were able to put him in touch with one of our

members, Geoff Dodgson. On the day, we joined 250 other bikers, as police outriders escorted us from the Cambridge services on the A14 down through Cambridge and out to the cemetery, where Geoff conducted a moving service; the start of another annual event.

July was yet another busy month for us with three events scheduled for the weekend of 10 - 12 July. The annual Rave In the Nave at Ely Cathedral had been moved forward a week and now clashed with the Festival of 1000 Bikes and the Great Offley Bike and Trike Show. We had no option but to split the group up to cover all events, with Fred Gill managing to support both RIN & 1000 Bikes. Rave in the Nave is a fun time for about 1500 teenagers, held on a Friday night in the Cathedral, with CMA providing marshalling support to deal with any troublemakers. We also get to ride the bikes into the Cathedral, where we can talk to the youngster about them. See more on the 1000 Bikes elsewhere in Chain Link.

Sunday the 16th of August saw us taking part in the morning service at our base church, Cotton End Baptist. This was our



last chance to share a service with Richard, their Minister, before he leaves for pastures new. Our newest and youngest member, Dan Fall, gave a challenging message. We will greatly miss his gifts when he leaves us to take up youth training in Barnet in September.

Another first for us was on 22nd August, when we rode a "Prayer Compass" around the Bedfordshire borders. We planned stops at each of eight compass points, where we had prearranged to meet at local churches with ministers and members to pray for bikers and the local community. We received some great welcomes from our Christian family as we visited churches from many different denominations, most of whom had never previously heard of CMA and who very kindly made way for us between coffee mornings, weddings and afternoons off. I don't think that any of us completely took on board exactly what Ben meant when he told us we were going to stick as closely as possible to the County boundary. Suffice to say that the first ride, normally a 40 minutes trip on a good biker road, took one hour as we travelled from dual carriageway to A roads, to small B

roads and even country lanes with grass growing in them, sometimes doubling back on ourselves to get close to the boundary. 170miles covered in the day, a great time had, starting and finishing at Rushden Mission Church with a bacon butty breakfast and a curry supper.

More food on 25th August when Paul Crossfield hosted a pie night, providing 8 different types of pie to be sampled, all huge in size and made by his own fair hand. Wow what a treat! That man bakes a mean pie. Those who couldn't make it managed to stay pounds lighter than those of us who did, but I know where I'll be if and when we have another one; first in the pie queue!

Our last event in September saw us once again providing support for our base church at Cotton End Fun Day on the 19th.

Still to come, as I write are a ride out to support Richard Poole at his induction at Upminster Baptist Church in October, another ride out to the Shuttleworth Collection for a behind the scenes tour, and the annual Christmas events.

CMA at Mallory Park

by Keith Sanders, Bedford Branch.



FOUNDED BY G.E. ALLEN O.B.E. M.C.M. IN 1946

THE VINTAGE MOTOR CYCLE CLUB LTD.

Allen House, Werrimore Road, Barton upon Trent, Staffordshire. DE14 1LR. (01283) 543557 Fax (01283) 510547
e-mail address: hq@vmcc.net

A Non-Territorial Club affiliated to the A.C.U., V.A.A.S., A.M.C.A., member of the CBIFVC.

Keith Sanders
47 Park Road
Rushden
Northants
NN10 0RG

Thursday, 16 July 2009

Dear Keith

RE: Festival of 1000 Bikes 2009

We would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude for all the excellent work done by the CMA over the weekend.

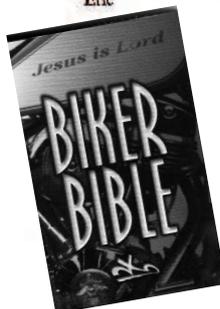
The smooth running of one of our biggest events is largely down to all of our helpers with the CMA being at the top of our list.

I have enclosed a cheque for £750.20 which includes a £100.00 donation from the Vintage Motorcycle Club as a small gesture of thanks.

Once again, many thanks for all your help and we hope to see you again next year.

Kind Regards

Mrs Sam Brown
Events Administration
Enc



"Thanks from the exec and Beds Branch to all who helped at Mallory Park, Festival of 1000 Bikes. Sales of programmes and T shirts for the VMCC raised £750 for the Bible fund (See letter), and £280 was raised running a helmet park. The whole weekend was a heaven of everything motorbikes. An amazing array of bikes, from clubs to full blown racers, sidecars, solos, the 3 wheel Morgan, and many ex racers were on site. This is our mission field. Will you be there in 2010?"

My first EMC Rally-2009 Czech Republic

By Brain Jenner, Gloucester Branch.

I knew I wouldn't get my Enfield to Czech Republic. Neither of us travel too far and it would be too long away from my wife Sue. My friends could see I wanted to go and encouraged me to use different transport. At first the car was considered, but in the end we took a variety of transport. Our car to the station to drop off Sue and luggage, drive home to park, walk to the station, Train to Bristol, Coach to



Airport, Plane (but you had guessed that) to Prague, shuttle to centre.

We had a few days off then hired a car at the airport and went to Tepla in the west of Czech.

English was good to book the rally. German to book the camp site; They took Euros and Czech crowns. The shop took only crowns and spoke Czech; good if you can speak it or point well.

Many bikes, happy campers, warm weather, good food, lake for watching or swimming (warm on top and cool lower down). I was offered a lift into town to get some supplies for us and money and gas for my driver René. Good job we had room for my crash hat and thanks again to René.

We had an hour to put up the tent, cook and eat before the meeting. We took 65 minutes. When we got there a local praise group was leading, as they did all weekend, very well, in Czech with words on the screen, sometimes in English. I have been sent a D.V.D. and words, so we can learn a couple of songs ready for next year! We found a seat O.K. as many others had taken longer than 65 minutes

to get ready or had not even arrived. By the end of the weekend the tent was full and over flowing. Many were singing in Czech, English or French, La La La etc.

Mondo (see testimony in biker's bible) was preaching in English with Czech translation. I will never forget his story of the whale and baker's shop from heaven (I guess it ought to be a Biker's shop from

heaven but that wouldn't fit with the text).

Mondo works with the Jesus Family. They helped the Czech group ("Road 146", name derived from John 14 v. 6 "I am the way (Road)"), to set up this years' E.M.C. The vision was that the profit should pay for John's gospels in Czech, with testimonies like our Biker Bibles and verse a day calendars. The Czech people are spiritually hungry and receptive after communism.

After E.M.C. 'Road 146' and some others went on a weeks mission around the republic. We had planned to help another Christian project in the East of Czech, but on Wednesday the mission was close to us so we went, taking a Czech lad keen to evangelize. There was music, silly games, gospels to give out, testimonies and preaching. Mondo Spoke in German, translated into Czech of twin unborn babies, how one believed in life after birth and a loving Mother. He told us there is life before and after death and we have a loving Father. Many people stopped to listen or accepted a gospel with gratitude.

My first E.M.C. but not my last.

The Farmyard Party-June 2009

by Dot Gough, West Yorkshire Branch



Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all".

We walked all around the site, praying as we walked across the fields and down the paths. Prayer Walking is literally praying as you walk. Before we left, we went up to

The weekend before the Farmyard Party, members from three CMA branches went up to Dunscombe Park to prayer walk the site, all meeting up at the café in the market place at Helmsley. It wouldn't be C.M.A. without a cup of tea being involved.

Is "Prayer Walking" mentioned in the Bible? No, the term isn't found in either the Old or the New Testament, but there are passages that relate to the basic principle of prayer walking. Genesis 13:17 tells how God spoke to Abraham and said "Arise, walk in the land through its length and its breadth, for I give it unto you". In Numbers 13:30 Joshua and Caleb saw the Promised Land and they said "Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it".

It was a lovely sunny day and we stood and looked down on the fields where the Farmyard Party would be held. What a beautiful view. Sheep roamed free and I could relate to the people who would be descending on Dunscombe Park the following weekend. Isaiah 53:6 says "All we like sheep have gone astray, we have turned everyone to his own way and the

chat to the MAG organisers who were already camped on site. They were there to oversee the setting up of the Farmyard Party. It was good to talk to them and to continue building on the good relationship we have with them.

As we walked away, Luke 15:3-7 came to mind. "Then Jesus told this parable. Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbours together and says, "Rejoice with me, I have found my lost sheep". I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent".

Continue to pray for all the people you met at the Farmyard Party; for all those you had conversations with and for those who took a Biker Bible. Remember, we were all lost sheep once and what a PARTY there was in heaven when we were saved by the Good Shepherd.

Stephen and Fiona Gilder Wedding

by Les Bibby, N.E.D. Branch



Celebrations 10th & 11th October 2009

Blessed with dry and partly sunny weather we were legally wed at the Ipswich Register Office on Saturday 10th October. Having kept this a bit under our hats (helmets) there were about 20 of our local CMA MESS branch friends to witness the fact, including the surprise arrival of Amy and Doug from FAT (Forth & Tay), our twinned branch, in Scotland and also Klaas Heiligenberg from CMA in Holland.

We had a very short service and hastily rode our bikes to the local Orwells Suzuki bike shop where we enjoyed an abundance of delicious burgers made by Angela at her Burger van. Angela blessed Fiona and me with our burgers, and even put extra ingredients into the normally already huge "Stephen special". Sunday 11th October dawned cool and dry again and this time we were heading for a Wedding Blessing at Fiona's church in Littleport near Ely. With a borrowed red Mini as an unusual wedding car I fetched my new wife and our two lovely bridesmaids, Hannah and Izzy, and made off with them to the church.

We'd had an Open Invitation to our wedding blessing and were delighted with the fantastic turnout of friends and family from all over UK, Holland, Germany and South Africa. We also asked people to bring finger food for a Bring & Share lunch and boy, were we blessed with a magnificent feast of savoury and sweet delights.

The wedding blessing service was particularly lovely with an inspirational message from Don Gee the pastor, and as well as a few songs for us all to sing, Nigel and Anne sang a beautiful duet about the love that God has for us and how He walks with us.

After the service all the people (about 150) walked down the road to the Harley-Davidson motorbike memorial. This was erected a couple of years ago to mark the centenary of Harley-Davidson and to honour the fact that Mr. Davidson's father came from Littleport. We've included a photo of our CMA guests gathered at this motorbike.

What a very wonderful and special day it was for us and we do hope and pray that everyone there was blessed as much as we were.

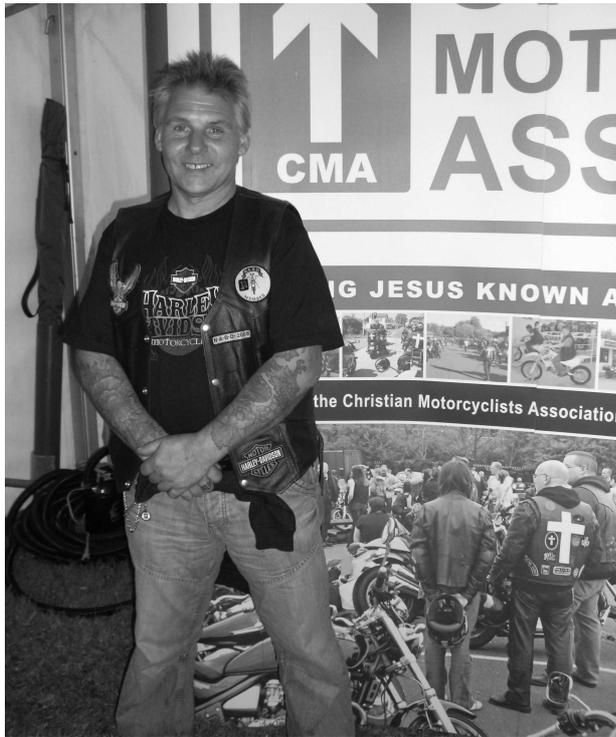
Yes they got married

Yes, we all thought it was impossible, even more impossible than Roy O'hara getting married. However, Jason, Colin and Anita Pownall and I witnessed Dale Hollinshead getting married on the 12th September 2009. It was a beautiful day in Hawkshead, the scenery was perfect, the weather glorious and the service was fabulous. The reception was on board



a boat on Lake Windermere which was the perfect end to a wonderful day.

It was such a blessing to see our Dale get married to Jan - they are well matched. North Cheshire CMA, South Lincs CMA and everyone who knows Dale, wish both Dale and Jan, God's richest blessings in their marriage.



Keith Harper at the National 2009 enjoying the fact he gave his life to Christ when Mike called people forward.

Keith said he knew it was him God was calling as he wanted to run to the front.

God bless and protect you in your walk with the Lord.



Derbyshire Duo in the fast lane

by Les Bibby, N.E.D. Branch

Hi! May we introduce ourselves? We are Les and Eunice Bibby, often accompanied by our disabled son Andy. We regularly support the North East Derbyshire branch meetings and activities.

We are grateful for many things, the love of our Lord Jesus, His goodness to our family and the strength to be active in our sixty something, not least our involvement in the CMA and the friendship shared. It is delightfully refreshing to see Christians, from sometimes different Church backgrounds, working together, pursuing a common vision, aiming to reach bikers in North East Derbyshire and beyond.

In a way, it is a shame it has taken us so long to discover bikes, or should I say for Eunice to discover and for me to rediscover, for I well remember my Triumph Tiger Cub some 50 years ago. I remember the warmth of the summer sun on my face and surviving a particularly crazy bend at speed. I remember too being stopped by the police for riding too slowly; well they were following me. I wore sparse, totally unprotective clothing, but this didn't seem to bother me as I weaved in and out of the daily traffic jam into and out of Manchester in the rush hour. Great days!



Eunice and I consider it a privilege to be part of the CMA. Sometimes I find myself feeling a little jealous though as I see and hear the machines of today, and wish that my back were stronger than it is, with the result that I have to resort to a cushion and a car seat. Consequently, our role in CMA seems to be a supporting one and we value it.

NED Secretary's comments.

As a branch we have fully experienced the value of non-biking members, and know we could not function as effectively as we do without such people. We are certainly very grateful for the time and effort that Les and Eunice put in to support us. They transport stuff we can't carry by bike and open and close the church building for our meetings. Eunice is often to be found in the kitchen, washing the cups or making and pouring drinks. They pray for us and are both ready to give testimonies whenever needed, and recently we have discovered and made use of Les's harmonising singing talent. In short, they are the sort of supportive couple that every branch needs. Sincere thanks to both of them from the NED Branch.

Dennis Harley

Support the CMA

by National CMA Treasurer, Robert Urand

If you are a member, or an affiliate, and a tax payer, then CMA can claim back the tax on your membership subscriptions. All that is needed is for you to fill in a simple form (available from your branch treasurer), and you only need fill it in once.

As an alternative to paying by annual subscription, you could increase your support for CMA by contributing by standing order. This is an instruction to your bank, to pay an amount you decide, to CMA each month. The minimum is £5, but can be any amount above this; lots of people pay £10, £20, £30, £40, or £50 per month, some as much as £150. It's up to you, again there is a simple form to fill in, available from your branch treasurer. As with subscriptions, CMA can also reclaim tax on contributions by standing order.

This all helps with the day to day funding of CMA, for example, each issue of Chainlink costs around £1,300, mainly printing and postage. These costs are met from our General Fund.

What about your branch, could it tithe to the General Fund as a branch, some branches already do?

Want to know more about how you can support CMA financially? Please speak to your branch treasurer.

Let's work together for God's glory.

Being Real.

By Duncan Hanson, Norfolk Branch.

Marybeth Whalen writes: The painters painted the wall leading downstairs. A week later, I discovered while the wall had been repainted, the habits hadn't changed. The kids were still dragging their dirty hands behind them, making what was white and clean, grey and dirty. Like that wall, if I'm not careful, I can cover up. I can wear the Christian T shirt, carry my Bible, smile like everything is great, and talk a good game about my walk with the Lord, but deep inside the ugly old habits are waiting to be revealed the moment life gets messy. I become a modern day Pharisee who focuses on the whitewash and ignores the dirty stuff underneath.

In Bible times tombs were whitewashed on the outside to disguise the death and decay on the inside. Jesus told the Pharisees: "People look at you and think that you are saints, but beneath the skin you are total frauds"(Math 23:28). Acting

like a Pharisee saying, "I thank you, God, that I am not a sinner like everybody else"(Luke 18:11), precludes Grace, mercy and compassion.

We live in an appearance-driven society and Jesus understood the danger that comes by focusing on looks instead of your Spiritual condition.

So, how do we stop it from happening?

a) Follow Jesus' example. He specialised in ministering to the broken, the forgotten, the lost and the lonely. (note, not the 'Christian' get togethers/not the 'Christian' social club/or the meeting of the 'frozen chosen')

b) Never forget that while you may be a Christian, you'll still struggle in certain areas.

c) Ask God to reveal behaviour patterns that are appearance-orientated instead of heart-orientated.

d) Surround yourself with transparent people who lift you when you fall and encourage you to be real.

So let's stand up and "Be Real".

Let's save the Lost at any Cost.

Major CMA National Events List 2010

Always check out the web site www.bike.org.uk under events, for events throughout the UK. Look at the whole of the UK. The major events where the CMA have a presence also need your support. Go, you will love it. Give it a try. Get to a 'NABD' rally or the 'Farmyard'. What about 'Stormin the Castle' or the 'HJ at Bristol'? - GO FOR IT, SUPPORT YOUR CMA.

August 4th to the 8th 2010. Book your holiday now for this terrific event EMC/CMA Rally at Storthes Hall Park, Storthes Hall Lane, Kirkburton, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, HD8 0WA

Feb 2010 Leaders weekend
Date for the AGM April 17th, 2010
The October 2010 Leaders weekend

Stomin the castle info to follow

BMF 15th to 16th May

The NABD May info to follow

The Farmyard, MAG June 18th to 20th



The Farmyard from the air

Mallory Park Festival of 1000 bikes this is a duty see page 19

Yorkshire Pudding MAG Rally August 6th to 8th

The Changing of the Colors 20-24 October
at Iron Mountain near Mena, Arkansas, USA.

Picture taken at the 2009 National Rally at Storthes Hall, Huddersfield. Ask for details of the 2010 EMC/CMA Rally. Book your time now so you are able to enjoy the fun, fellowship, food, bands, coffee, teas, ride outs, activities, worship, prayer. Whatever you're interested in, it will be there.



Find out about many other events where the CMA get involved by going to www.bike.org.uk. Look on the left for Events all Branches or look on the left for RSS feed, where all the branch events are listed. Contact a branch. We will be pleased to hear from you.

To find up-to-date information of events, look at www.bike.org.uk

'Even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve'
If everyone commits a little, a lot will be achieved.
We need you. Are you ready for this one?

European Motorcyclists for Christ E.M.C 2010 Rally

hosted by:
Christian Motorcyclists Association (UK)



CMA South Africa Band

venue: Storthes Hall Park
address: Storthes Hall Lane, Kirkburton
Huddersfield, West Yorkshire,
HD8 0WA, United Kingdom
dates: 4th to 8th August 2010



accomodation: camping, or study bedrooms for two people

whats on?: encouragement, fun, fellowship, worship,
teaching, challenges from God's word,
prayer ministry, music, ride outs, BBQ,
restaurant, coffee lounge, shop,
children's ministry.



video clips:
www.stortheshall.co.uk/video.html
www.virtualhuddersfield.com/virtualvideo-digs.htm
booking forms will be available soon on: www.bike.org.uk

CMA UK 30th Year National Rally 2009

SNIPPETS

Reflections by Peter Clapham

Just when you think God has finished blessing you He turns round and does it again and again. It was mine and Debbie's first National Rally from when we arrived we were bowled over by what Jesus was doing there. We helped out on the gate and thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. There's more as they say, everyone had gone home on Sunday except for about 20 of us. We settled down for a quiet night in the lounge when someone said "what are we going to do for food as the take a ways were closed." I suggested going back to our kitchen and pool our food resources, little did I realise there would be 17 of us for dinner.

English, Irish South African and Dutch

were suddenly gathered in a kitchen built for 6 and only half a dozen eggs and half a loaf of bread to feed everyone with. We all pooled our resources meagre as they were odd slices of ham, cheese, bacon, eggs and bread. Pressed against the cooker some of the ladies started to cook it was just like the feeding of the 5000 as we were all fed and had enough for breakfast the next morning.

We shared at a deep level about how the Lord had been working in our lives getting a greater understanding of life in our respective areas and countries. We met up for breakfast in the morning and had our fill again with food to take home with us. This sort of fellowship was one of the best Jesus moments we have had for a long time.



'Remember... rev up the positive and decelerate the negative!'

CMA UK, 30th year National Rally 2009

MORE SNIPPETS

National Rally 2009. By Martin Bridgwater

Wow! What a weekend. New site, will be fun to see this next year with even more tents; we will really be taking over the place. Over 200 people, inspiring talks, at 30 we have only just started, we just need to step out and He will honour us. Great to see the Dutch and Irish present, and an ice-cream factory as an easy ride out destination. Perfect!
Wiltshire to West Yorkshire on a 250 Vespa, what's your reason not to attend next year?

National Rally Reflections By Debbie Clapham

This year was the first National Rally we have been able to attend, mainly because this year there was accommodation. I love camping but can no longer participate, due to me now having a disability. The rally was an experience. We went, not knowing what to expect, but determined we would enjoy ourselves.

On arrival, there was a warm welcome at the gates with directions to get to reception. The accommodation was reasonable for what we paid. We had a disabled room, which consisted of a single bed and a mattress on the floor. I quickly made the bed mine.

The whole event was well organised and run and the evening worship was great; really inspiring, with good speakers.

There were several things that particularly touched me.

Firstly, the openness of the other people there. I have always tried to hide my weaknesses and here were big rough tough bikers, even men admitting their weaknesses. It was so powerful. I began to feel that for the first time in ages I could just be me; no masks to hide behind I didn't need that. Here there was an acceptance of me for being me, nothing to do with my disability. It didn't matter what I could or couldn't do, people were just glad I was there doing what I could. It was so refreshing to just be accepted for who I am.

Secondly, the baptisms; watching Jim be baptised reduced me down before my God to repent of all the times I have not done things because I would need others help to achieve it. This has even gone as far as not going out because I would need a walking stick, yet here in front of me was a man I had been praying for with four guys helping him get into the baptistry.

Wow! What a powerful weekend it was. I would like to thank all those who were brave enough to admit to their failings. Where do we sign up for next year?

Please speak to your Chair or Secretary. Book you holiday now.

CMA UK 30th Year National Rally 2009

by George Mackie, Forth and Tay Branch.

Mike inspired us to write about anything that might have occurred at the National Rally. My story is a blessing to myself in particular. I am sure Gordon Smith will not mind me sharing this tale. While



chatting to him at the rally, he mentioned he had not been a CMA member very long and he first came into contact with us through the CMA folks at Praise in the Park in Cumberland. When he said that, I was so excited and started to re-call a woman of smallish stature. very excited about meeting Christian Bikers and an organisation. She said she had to go and find this man and bring him to us. She went away and returned with this very sullen gentleman and I remember thinking he's not very excited about us. But

you have to overlook things like that and carry on as normal. This just goes to show that we should never stop taking the gospel out, wherever the opportunity is offered to us. A small table,

borrowed from an adjacent stall holder with a banner wrapped around, some bibles and bits and pieces, half a dozen bikes parked around and some willing Christians. We will never know how many people have been influenced by us in our life time. I have heard it stated that each individual, on average, affects, 10,000 people in their lifetime, But lets keep doing it and be open to new ideas and events. It was really great to chat with Gordon and to know that he is established in the Border Branch. Keep on Gordon. We love you and Kim.



BBQ at the National 2009

CMA UK, 30th year National Rally 2009

by Les Jones, Rally organiser and Mike Fitton National Chairman

Over 200 people plus 40 children attended this fantastic 4 days of fellowship, good food, excellent entertainment, plus all the many other things going on from ride outs to bouncy castles to walking around the area to two bonfire nights, BBQ and lots more. Did you miss it? then come in 2010; same place, from August the 4th to 8th, plus the chance to come two days earlier on the 2nd August to help set it up. We need many more people, as it's the EMC rally, 2010, with many coming from many other countries. To find out more, ask your Branch Secretary for information or phone 0800 015447 We will be keeping you informed as soon as we can with the booking form and the costs etc.



National Rally - 2009 by Les Jones

Running the national rally at a new venue has always been something of an adventure. Huddersfield was twice the adventure because it was a location with a formal site management organisation with whom we had to work closely AND it was to be run by a National Committee, rather than the local branch alone.

We got a few things wrong (hopefully you didn't notice) and most things right. Hallelujah! My God is Good!

This was the outcome of hard work, dedication, commitment and quick-thinking from the rally team and so many others who volunteered on rotas or just pitched in when needed.

Thank you, thank you, thank you for your servant hearts!

I shall remember 2009 for:

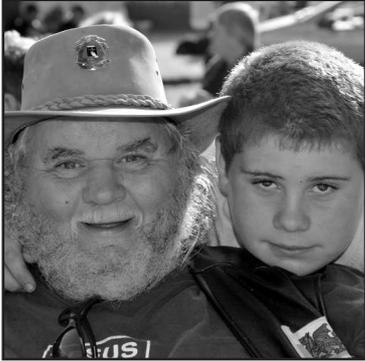
- the magnificent BBQ on Saturday evening
- the grief that setting up the baptism tank caused us
- the joy that the baptism service gave us
- blue flashing lights (ambulance 1, fire engine 1, police 0)
- and tales of Ted Russell eating berries

What do we need for the EMC in 2010?

More volunteers. and flat land to camp on!

On the following pages are pictures taken during the National 2009 - We thank Dia Bickham from our NE branch for his undoubted skills and look forward to him taking many more pictures at the EMC 2010. - We have all those he took available on request to the editor.









Where to find a CMA Branch

Scotland

(Aberdeenshire and Mearns Twig)

Forth and Tay
Rest of Scotland
Scottish Borders

Midlands

East Midlands
West Midlands
Stafford
Bedford
Norfolk

Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland

North East

West Yorkshire
Lincs. & East Yorks.
(East Yorks Twig)

North East
North East Derbyshire

North West

North Cheshire
Lakes N' Lancs.
(South Lancs, Twig)

South West

Bristol
Gloucester
Devon & Cornwall
Somerset & North Devon



Wales

North & West Wales

South East

Kent
Kent Coast
Most of Essex
& South Suffolk
(North East London Twig)
South East London
South West London
Surrey and Sussex
Hampshire and Dorset
Thames Valley

CMA is established in the following countries

Albania	Napal
Argentina	Netherlands
Australia	New Zealand
Belgium	Paraguay
Canada	Philippines
Dubai (United-Arab Emirates)	Poland
France	Portugal
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For your information, the Chainlink is produced using QuarkXpress 8.01 and Adobe Photoshop, plus Paintshop Pro. This is produced to the standard where it then goes to the printer, first for a proof run, which is signed off after checking, then the print run takes place. Nothing is changed by the printer, so keeping costs to a minimum. DVD in at one end the Chainlink out of the other. To achieve this, we have a time scale in which to do the work, which is:- 1st your contribution, 2nd placed in the magazine, with photo(s). 3rd near completion, Chainlink then goes to the Executive and proof readers, who also look at the content, to see that it fits with our mission. 4th, back to the editor, where the changes are completed. The cut off dates are 1st February/June/October, then it goes to the printer on the 15th of that month.

John 11:35 Read the Scripture

by Buster Burton, South West London Branch.

In the New International Version (NIV) we read, "Jesus wept" and it reads much the same in most other translations as well ("Jesus started crying" in the contemporary version - Biker Bible). When studying a scripture, it's best to have a few different translations to hand to get a better view of what the original manuscripts were trying to



say (for those of you who have access to the internet, www.biblegateway.com is a very useful web site to go into. It gives you many good translations at your fingertips). English is such a flat language really and can sometimes be quite inadequate to translate from the original manuscripts exactly, but reading from translations by other people (paying special attention to the footnotes, remembering this is a study as opposed to casual reading), we can get a better idea of what the original author was saying.

WHAT DOES THIS SCRIPTURE SAY TO YOU?

"Jesus wept," says it all really. Our God has got emotions. Crying is a bearing of the soul, whether it's on your own or with other people (especially with other people in public), because in this world, crying is looked upon as a weakness and considered "So not cool!"

WHAT IS THE MEANING WHEN PUT INTO CONTEXT WITH THE SCRIPTURE SURROUNDING IT?

Read the whole chapter this scripture appears in from your favourite translation.

Then take a quick look at other translations and their footnotes to get a better idea of the importance our study scripture plays. John 11:1-44 tells of how Jesus raised Lazarus from the grave, from when Mary and Martha sent a message to Jesus about Lazarus' sickness, to Lazarus coming out of the tomb. "Jesus wept" when He met

Mary and the other mourners.

WHEN WAS IT FIRST WRITTEN, WHO WAS THE AUTHOR AND WHO WAS IT WRITTEN TO?

This is also important in understanding the scripture you're studying. Dating the Gospel of John exactly is difficult, if not impossible. Some place it before 70AD and others as late as the 90'sAD, but most theologians claim that the evidence is insufficient to draw a firm conclusion. Many theologians also debate whether or not it was actually written by The Apostle John, but my faith tells me that, no matter who actually wrote it down, The Holy Spirit inspired it. After all, who built St Paul's Cathedral? Was it Christopher Wren or the master craftsmen who laid the bricks? I've also heard that a lot of theologians argue that the first few chapters have not been put in the right order, but I believe that a God who can create a universe as vast as the one we inhabit, can easily keep His Word written in the order that He wishes it to be. And lastly, who was it written to? Ha! Ha! YOU of course, and anyone else who wants to know Jesus.

IS THERE ANY BACKGROUND OR OCCASION THAT WE MUST BE AWARE OF?

We read at the beginning of the chapter that Lazarus was from Bethany. In the same village lived his sisters Mary and Martha. Mary was the one who later poured perfume on the Lords Feet and wiped His feet with her hair (John 12:3). Lazarus was well known by Jesus. We can tell this by the message the sisters sent to Jesus, "Lord, the one you love is sick." (John 11:3 NIV) and later in verse 5 "Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus." The Disciples were also worried about going to Judaea because, when they'd been there before, the Jews had tried to stone Jesus, which surely happens at the end of this chapter (John 11:45-57).

WHAT STANDS OUT MOST TO YOU ABOUT THIS SCRIPTURE?

Here you must be very careful, because it's so easy to go off at a tangent over another scripture. For instance, in verse 6, Jesus, deciding to wait another two days before departing for Bethany, may stand out, but we must remember we're studying verse 35 not verse 6. This can be left for a study of its own. We are studying "Jesus wept". So, WHY did Jesus weep? Was it just because everyone else was weeping and He didn't want to be the odd one out (remembering, of course, that there were no tears when

He met Martha)? Surely we can ignore that possibility, because following the lead of others is not Our Lords style, quite the opposite in fact. So that means it has to do with Mary and the other mourners. So, what would YOU have done in Jesus' shoes? Personally, I'd have run around telling everyone that everything would be OK. Or, to use Commander Shores immortal words at the beginning of the television show Stingray, "Anything can happen in the next half hour!" But Jesus didn't, No, "Jesus wept" with everyone else.

WHAT MESSAGE CAN WE AND OTHER CHRISTIANS LEARN FROM THIS SCRIPTURE?

Our God is an Awesome God and feels with us on a one-to-one level. OK, so He knows everything will be all right in the end, He tells us this throughout The Bible. He's also told us a bit about the tribulation we must go through in The Last Days, but that doesn't mean that He believes 'The End Justifies The Means', far from it. Wars, famines, tsunamis etc, have all been predicted to happen and must happen before Our Lord returns (Revelation 22:6), just as Lazarus had to die before Jesus could bring him back to life. So, if you've ever asked the question, "Where's God when these disasters strike?" well, now you know, He's weeping WITH YOU, me and the rest of the world!

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Mission what is it all about?

By Tanas Alqassis, Thames Valley Branch Chairman.

Why do we do it? Does it work? I am sure many of us come across these questions and for some they will be a discouragement and for others an encouragement.

As a biker, I take every opportunity to go for rides, meetings or rallies so that I can see bikes. It is an

amazing experience as you can talk with anyone about bikes, speed, new bikes, old bikes, repair work, maintenance and rides.

As a follower of Jesus, do I take every opportunity to talk about His wonderful salvation, His love on the cross, His gift to me specifically and I share about how Jesus changed my life.

Over a year ago, at my first rally, I was told we only setup Holy Joe's and serve coffee and tea and unless people come and ask questions we do not try to shove the bible in their face. I thought it was a little strange because I am used to giving people tracts and telling them about Jesus in the streets. One time, we set up Holy Joe's and as soon as we finished we started to pray for God's blessings and grace. Later on that day, the next door person who was selling motorcycle parts asked me if we are religious and I started to talk to him about our faith and what we do, it was an amazing opportunity. Another time, one man came in our marquee and asked if we could pray for him.



You see, many people are keen to find someone who would listen without judgement, listen with a real intention of understanding, and listen because they care about the other person. I was amazed how many people come to our marquee just to talk and be with us. Anyone can talk. It is easy to give tracts or preach in the streets, but to live a life that shows Jesus in us takes a lot of work, commitment and grace.

So what is mission all about? I put it in these simple words:

It's about the way we live our lives; about everything we do each day; how we deal with people we meet, with our own families, enemies and friends. Mission is a life style that reflects our true identity and calling.

I am blessed to carry my cross and ride for the Son. I want to share God's love with others in my everyday activities as I struggle, overcome, and pray for change.

So the next time you are in the street, in a restaurant, at a rally or other event, be sure you are listening and showing God's love.

The Challenge of the the Three Bridges

By John Draper, Yorkshire Branch.

Just before 1:00 am on the morning of Friday 22nd May 09, Jonathan overtook me on the Severn Bridge with one of his arms raised to acknowledge that we had accomplished our challenge. The challenge had been for me and a group of friends to ride over 3 bridges, a distance of almost 1000miles, and return home, all within a 24 hour period. The group included friends, Jonathan and Carl, and CMA members, Julia from NED, Tony from West Yorkshire, and Barry from Hull.



traffic between Edinburgh and Glasgow, the traffic flowed freely. When it wasn't raining, the scenery in Scotland was fantastic as we went up and down the hidden dips on the A68 towards Jedburgh and then as we travelled back towards Carlisle. We made good time on the ride down to the Severn crossing, other than being delayed in the road works west of Birmingham. I got home at 5:45 am on Friday, having ridden well over 900 miles.

We had set off from Ferrybridge services at 8:00am on Thursday morning, 21st May, had ridden over the Humber Bridge, then on to Edinburgh and crossed the Forth Road Bridge and then down to the Severn Crossing.

The Severn crossing was the last of the bridges, so all we now had to do was to ride back home, but before setting off up North we had time for a tea stop at Maggor Services, located at the end of the old Severn Bridge. This stop allowed us to rest for a while and recount the events of the previous 17 hours.

As usual, the weather had been fairly miserable at times, meaning that for about 150 miles it was very wet and for about 50 of those miles we also encountered hailstones. On the positive side, our bikes (650 Bandit, SV1000, XZ10R, GPZ500, GS1200 and my F650GS) were reliable and, other than running into rush hour

We were able to raise over £3,000 for Andrea's Gift, a Yorkshire based charity which helps people with brain tumours, as well as funding research into the causes of brain tumours
(see www.andreasgift.org.uk)

The reason for me organising the event and wanting to support this charity was that it is 10 years ago since I had the first operation to remove a brain tumour and wanted to give something back as a way of celebrating this milestone.

Looking back over the last 10 years and the day of the challenge, I know that I have been through a lot physically, but have always been grateful for the prayer and support I've received from family and friends. I'm sure that these experiences have helped to make me a stronger person. I'd also like to say a big thank you to those who joined me on the ride, to those who prayed and to all those who sponsored us.

Homecoming and Club House report.

By Sid O'Neill, North Cheshire Branch.

Well, 2009 has certainly been a busy one for N.Cheshire. With some big changes. After meeting for nearly two years at the Mercury Motel, and before that at Arthur's garage in Ashton; neither are in Cheshire. The North Cheshire Branch has finally come home, back to Cheshire. In fact, in the 13 years I've been involved, the branch has never in Cheshire, where it originally started.

All that changed earlier in the year after a conversation with the owner of a local motorcycle dealers in Widnes, which, if you look, is in north Cheshire oddly enough. I'd been popping down to make the owner (Phi) the odd brew over the years and singing the praises about CMA etc. He turned round and said that the rooms above the shop would be ideal as a meeting place for CMA!



"Lets have a look then" I said. Well what a Mess we found upstairs. Over the years the rooms had been rented out to various bands, who had in turn wrecked the place. It was a real mess. Phil was fed up with all the agro. I must admit I thought it was too much of a mess to fix up, so I

asked the branch to come along and have a look. The reaction was very positive and ,before we knew it, skips were hired and Karl brought his van and a clean up operation began. Colin Pownall organised painting teams and I made sure all the repairs needed were done. Walls needed repairing, and rebuilding in some cases. Doors and fire escapes were fitted, not to mention the mess clearing. But everybody got stuck in and the place started to come together.

The Lord just seemed to bless us as we turned the place around for His Glory. The first day me and Kev went to look around the place we were shocked to find a satanic alter upstairs in one of the back rooms. We asked the land lord to leave us alone for a bit. We prayed over the mess and could feel a tangible oppression in the place. We made a deal with the owner, put some money down, went back upstairs and prayed again. Explaining that we were Christians and that we had a legal right to be there and that this place would now be used to the Glory of God and His Son Jesus Christ, and the ministry of CMA. It took us a few months to get it into shape. Time and money were given and the place started to come alive. It's a very large building and there were two other bands using it. I asked them if they would refrain from playing loud music on Thursday evenings, while we were there. Guess what happened. Yep! Wid Stock on Thursday nights as they blasted their music out from the rooms next door. I was gutted. I remember one night going upstairs and getting on my knees and asking the Lord for a breakthrough. Just give us Thursdays Lord. The next week the band did a runner. Owing Phil rent?

We siezed the rooms and did a deal with Phil. They had wrecked these rooms and we totally rebuilt them and cleaned them out. We now have 80% of the building and a really good relationship with the other band who don't come on the nights we are there.

We also open the club on at least two Saturdays each month and make free brews for the bikers who bring their bikes in for repairs and MOT's. It's been a real blessing. Great fellowship and we get to meet many bikers and often manage to hand them a Bikers Bible. One or two have even started to join us on our CMA night. A church in Huyton, Merseyside donated a digital projector and we have also been given a PA system, which we play music through. We can now fill a whole wall with DVD's and films, plus link it to a great sound system. The Lord has really blessed this work.

It's not all been plain sailing and at times it's been intense. I often felt the pressure of making it work and I'm sure we ruffled a few feathers in the spirit world. There was oppression at times, but we pressed on, even when times were difficult. If things got too bad, we realised we'd not prayed enough, and were in danger of running ahead of God's plans. When we moved from the Mercury Motel we left a new Twig. South Lancs CMA, headed by Phil Parker and Ernie and Gilian. They keep a CMA presence in the area. Because it is near Rivington Barn, a very popular biker meeting place, we did not want to totally leave that area. Please pray for them. We still meet with them and work together at times. So, for the first time in over ten years, N.Cheshire CMA is back in Cheshire. We've had 5 new members join us at my last count; Godly men who love the Lord and ride bikes. What a blessing. This article only scratches the surface of the work and

potential of this place. It's great to have our own place to decorate and put CMA banners up and biker related pictures. The place has really come together.

It's a first for any CMA branch in the UK to have a home. A place where we can come together, praise the Lord and meet and encourage others in the living God. The whole place just points to Jesus. We even have a life sized cross that Arthur made for the Classic Bike show once. Well we now have a home for it. I hope the pictures I've sent to Ken manage to make this article. You're all very welcome to join us for a visit. I'd also love to see the CMA exec meet there once or twice a year. God willing, His plan will see fruit. Please continue to pray for us. We now have a financial commitment to honour, with rent and rates and electric. So far we are not doing bad. But like always two or three are making up the difference in any short fall. But as you know you can't out give God. He's no man's debtor. I hope you have enjoyed this short write up and that it gives you an idea of how the Lord is blessing us as we serve Him through CMA. I'd like to dedicate this write up to all the members who helped us find a home for N.Cheshire.

May our Lord Jesus bless you always.



A harvest of best intentions

by Paul Lucas, Lincs & East Yorkshire Branch.

It comes easy to most people to say '**I wish you all the best**' and with every good intention there is of course a heart felt sincerity. Some people, especially those politicians with a certain charisma, can be entirely convincing in their stated objective and passion to do the right thing. Barack Obama comes across as just such a man with a mission and his resolve to be the last US President to need to reform health care provision for his



nation, is to be applauded. My hope and that of many others I'm sure, is that he succeeds where many before him have failed. Our own Prime Minister, despite his wonderful Scottish lilt, does not carry quite the same charisma and is frequently the butt of jokes and is hounded mercilessly for his appearance. We understand both these two leaders to be men of faith, the Christian faith specifically, and as such what do we expect of them? Impeccable standards? An ability to constantly turn the other cheek or to keep going no matter what the odds stacking against them? All of the above and more I should think.

Heading home to Hull from a glorious days motorcycling on the moors (on my now somewhat aging BMW), I noticed on the road ahead, a real old crock of a motor car as I left the market town of Malton. It had spoked wheels, so thin they looked as though they were made for a Silver Cross pram. This narrow little one seater was clearly a vintage of some sort

and being curious thought 'I must have a closer look!' Annoyingly, the chap turned off just before I got the chance, but then a few miles down the road, there he was again in front of me with two cars in front of him. 'Great' I thought 'he'll be stuck there, so I'll get a close up from behind'. To my astonishment, at the first sniff of opportunity, this tiny vintage zipped past the two modern cars in one slick move and away he went like a rocket.

Eventually, I passed the cars myself and even winding the throttle I had not a hope of catching this enigmatic little machine, by now far in the distance. Finally, he stopped at the village of Wetwang, so I caught up and stopped to marvel at this curiosity. Approaching the car, I flipped my visor and said to the driver 'what on earth have you got under that bonnet?' 'Was I going a bit quick?' he said 'It's just the normal engine for a vintage Bugatti, 5litre! They would do 'the ton' as racers you know'. This little car's performance far outstripped its appearance, and thereby hangs the tale! We all know that appearances can be deceptive, yet so often we are dismissive in our thinking on account of them. We trust our political leaders to do things for the right reasons, even if they are not always done in what appears to be the right way. Charisma is one thing, but effectiveness is another. When people fail and things break down, there will always be hard questions to ask and to answer. I would urge people to

temper their understanding in the light of their own lives and beliefs and to realise that all anyone can possibly do is their best. Sometimes, however, our best is just not enough to make the difference needed, yet that should not stop anyone attempting to fulfil their best intentions. How can we love those who fail, with a true compassion, when our judgement has already been passed? We can't, and so we must allow a gathering, a harvest of each and every best intention, in the hope that some of these offerings come to fruition and yield a richer harvest, despite their many appearances.

In William Paul Young's novel 'The Shack', a father grieving with a Great Sadness for the violent loss of his youngest daughter, gets to ask his harsh questions of a woman called Sophia, who represents God's wisdom. Amongst her many responses she says this:

"He chose the way of the cross, where mercy triumphs over justice, because of love"



Pass the Bugatti? You must be joking !

A greater statement outside the Bible we are unlikely to find. When life has failed, or people likewise, to do justice, then only mercy can restore the balance. Such is the love of God. You may think someone is too far past it or even too young to make the difference, but hold your judgement; there are yet some Bugattis of faith out-sprinting the younger models and also some younger models who are well able to refine the best of the old to bring about the new, the long awaited renewal. There is room for all ages and capabilities in God's kingdom, for 'the first will be last and the last will be first' (Matt 20.16)

The CMA go to many rallies, shows, and motorcycle events throughout the UK. Let the CMA know about your rally. Ask about the Holy Joe's Cafe that the CMA take to many rallies. Can we come to your rally? Contact detailson page 2.

Stephne Hope - Secretary CMA NE London

Has designed a Kidz Activity book that they print when they have events, where children are present. No copyright restrictions, their designed by Stephne and Dave. Normally they print it on slightly more heavy paper than usual, they generally also give 4 colouring pencils with it. Details for pencils can be provided if you wish. Any future ideas or amendments These are PDF's, but can be sent to you as word documents. You are welcome to use these at your branch.

They have proved very popular at the shows and events where we have had them. As further ideas and time permits, we'll continue to evolve the booklet. By all means, if you have any ideas, artwork etc all are welcome for future kidz booklets.that would be suitable to include in the booklet, let us know.

please contact Stephne, details on the branch web site.



Ring of Kerry May 2009

by Jim Armstrong, Northern Ireland Branch.

Over the last few years the Northern Ireland branch of CMA has endeavoured to go on a good long run over a weekend. At the start of the year I mentioned that I had been to the 'Ring of Kerry' a couple of times by car, but I always wanted to go there on two wheels. Of course, if you make the suggestion, you have to



organise the event. Served me right! I should have remembered from the last time I opened my mouth.

Anyway, we set off towards the town of Listowel, County Kerry, where I had booked a hostel for fifteen bikers. Despite the way it is spelled in English, it is pronounced Liz Stole (trust me). We met at McDonald's at Sprucefield, about 10 miles south of Belfast and after some refreshments (you have to), a quick outline of the proposed route, a quicker questions and answers session and a word of prayer, we were off.

As it turned out there were twenty bikers in all, including a trike and a couple of husbands and wives, who were obviously attracted to the trip, as there were 'honey moon' suites available in the hostel. Some of those travelling had not been in County Kerry before, some had not been with CMA before, and some were not Christians and we hoped that nothing we would do or say would put others off, but that they would enjoy our company and come again.

The trip south took us over the border near Monaghan and we aimed for Athlone, which is right in the centre of Ireland. Using mainly good N roads and avoiding motorways and dual carriageways, we enjoyed a lovely run down to Limerick and after a few wrong turns, (who's leading anyway?), found

the N69 and finished the run down into Listowel. (240 miles from Sprucefield) The hostel, Billeragh House Hostel, was on the N69 about three miles south. It is an old country manor type house and we had the whole place to ourselves. Michael, the land lord, was welcoming and gracious. I think he didn't know quite what to expect as he hadn't had much contact with either bikers or Christians! Set in its own grounds and secluded from passing traffic, the bikes were safe and so were we. Some guys used other local accommodation, which was just as good. Once settled, we headed into town for a well deserved meal and retired to the hostel for a short chat and 'thought for the day.'

Saturday was a beautiful day and after breakfast, 'thought for the day 2' and a quick discussion about the route, we all set off more or less in the same general direction-Dingle. Some of those with us had not been there before and wanted to see all the touristy sights and go



at their own pace. Others followed William, who used to drive tour buses around the county, and this proved easier than consulting maps, etc. After a ice cream in Dingle, we enjoyed a short deviation through Connor Pass. Some really, really enjoyed it, and all of us thought it was very worthwhile. Lovely views from the top and a good run back down the way we had come. Next, we headed towards the Ring of Kerry. I have enjoyed this many times by car but this was the best weather by far of any trips I had previously done. It waswait for it.....too hot! When we got to Kenmare we had to stop and strip off (not too much mind) and find shade somewhere.

After an hour or so, we regrouped and headed in the general direction of a pass in the middle of Macgillycuddy's Reeks. I stopped for a photograph and, by the time I put my camera away, the rest of the guys (apart from Norrie) had carried on without me and I didn't see them again until supper time. I came to a junction and I thought they would have gone right, so I turned right- only they hadn't.

The big plus to all this was that I had a secret ambition to travel through Gap of Dunloe and Norrie and I did. It was just lovely. We returned via Killarney to Listowel (total 270 miles) and a very welcome supper of pizza and 'thought for the day 3'. There were many stories to be exchanged and we all were full of

praise for the lovely day we had had.

Michael, the land lord, called to see how we were all getting on, and it was a great pleasure to tell him about the CMA and present him with a 'Biker Bible' The next day he called again and told us he was surprised that the CMA was worldwide and had so many 'clubs' everywhere. At least he read that bit, hope he reads the other bits too.

Sunday morning, and it was time to go home. 'Thought for the day 4' and we prayed together and left the hostel. Andrew had a friend at Listowel Christian Fellowship and some of us went to the morning service, where we were able to share why we were in Listowel and what the CMA was about. It was good to have fellowship with them. Some cruised home at their own pace and others made various detours as they headed generally north.

We all had a brilliant time and I would encourage any of you interested, to come to this beautiful part of Ireland. If you do, and, if you use the Billeragh House Hostel, tell Michael we're still praying for him.



Biking in the Blitz

Sent in by Jackie Russell, New Forest Branch'

Early this summer we visited The River of Life Fellowship in Ferndown, Dorset, for a baptismal service. Over tea and cake after a lovely service I was talking to a lady called Audrey Best, and she mentioned that she had been a dispatch rider for the Home Office during World War II. She was describing her adventures riding through the Blitz, and agreed to write down her memories of that time.



obstacles, whilst controlling the bikes, in 1st gear. I was most upset when we were told to now use 2nd gear. The thing had more gears!

Slowly we progressed and went out on the roads. Following each other (eight of us) with Mr James (a Police DR) leading us. Going round Marble Arch one morning I was held up in traffic and lost sight of the group. I went

round and round Marble Arch, then to my relief I saw them going down Park Lane.

The week was taken up by going out driving to various places; our depot, where the bikes would be kept down in Lambeth, where we would wait for dispatches, the petrol station, and to a canteen in Lambeth where the food was very good, and some of the Policemen there were pretty good too!

Friday morning came, and we drove out to Boxhill, then returning to Hendon three of us were told we had passed for day-time driving and could go home early. But we had to return the next week for night-time driving, and that went well.

As the war went on I spent more time out on the road than in the office. We could not carry maps in case there was an invasion, and they fell into the wrong hands. Our runs were around South London, Dover, Cambridge,

'Very early in 1943 a 'billet doux' came around the Board of Trade office where I worked in London, asking for volunteers to make up a Dispatch Force for the Home Office. At that time the Police Dispatch Riders (DR's) were very busy with other duties. That sounded good fun to me, 18 going on 19 years of age; I marked the 'yes' box and waited.

A call came from the Home Office to go for an interview, which went well, until they asked my age! They had to have my parent's permission, which, much to my surprise, my father gave. My mother was not so pleased.

A weeks training at Hendon Police College followed. We were given green battle dress uniforms, leather gloves, crash helmets and boots, oh yes, and goggles. A short talk and we were out by the bikes. We were taught how to go round all sorts of

and Southend and to the different Ministries in London. We went to Hospitals and Army camps. There was not so much traffic around then, of course, but we had the bombs, the awful fires from the incendiary bombs, the smoke and smog, and the hose pipes across the roads for the fires. I remember New Cross very well, with the tram lines, and the roads were made of some sort of blocks which were very slippery when wet, yes, I came off in New Cross, but no harm was done. Other memories were of the Police on traffic duty. If they saw us they always stopped our lane of traffic; perhaps they wanted to see us stall the bikes? The taxi drivers would have a go at us too, all in good fun!

It was a wonderful experience. In uniform we could walk into any of the Ministries. I saw some amazing places and met some wonderful people. When the war was over, we had our 'Standdown' Parade at Wellington Barracks, and were told, amongst other things we had taken around, were all the plans to overcome the 'Doodlebugs' and the Rockets. They must have been the rather better dispatches we carried. Some were nasty looking things in glass jars!

What a brilliant example of service and bravery in such a young woman. Audrey managed to find a picture of her and a friend with their bikes. She is with GXU 838. Can anyone identify the make of bike?



Merchandising

By Andy and Naomi

**A huge THANK YOU for your continued support.
Please find below some of the new items available.**

For members, we have a **Zipped Fleece** (with zipped pockets). This is available in Navy Blue (Male XS - 4XL and Female XS - 2XL sizing available). £25.00



There is also an alternative fleece for affiliates and supporters.

(The faithful CMA Embroidered Logo)

This is available in Navy Blue with the same sizing as the above.

The new badge is now available to purchase at £5.00



First Aid Kits. We have some First on The Scene Kits available at £6.00 each

They contain: 1 Bag, 1 Foil Blanket, 2 rebreath mouth to mouth with air filter masks, 2 relipads (low adhesive dressing pad), 3 pairs of gloves, 5 alcohol-free wipes.

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God's Image in us

by Yvonne Miller, SAS Branch.

Malachi 3:3 says 'He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver'.

We all know the story of creation in Genesis. God made man 'in His image' and He found this good.

Right from the beginning, we are constructed in His image, even down to our unique fingerprints! I personally find this so awesome and beautiful. At the same time I am able to say this knowledge pulls me up short whenever I find myself in a situation which might displease my Father God.

It caused me to reflect on the above Scripture from Malachi 3:3 'He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver'. God Himself purifies us until He sees His image within us! This is quite a sobering Scripture verse. Have you ever had the opportunity to watch a silversmith at work? I have never had this privilege, but read a very interesting story about some ladies who had done a Bible study on Malachi 3 and wondered what this statement meant about the character and nature of God. One of the women decided to find out and visited a silversmith while he worked.

As she watched the silversmith, he held a piece of silver over the fire and let it heat up. He explained that in refining silver, one needed to hold the silver in the middle of the fire where the flames were hottest to burn away all the impurities. Thinking of the verse in Malachi 3:3, the woman asked the silversmith if it was true that he had to sit in front of the fire the whole time the silver was being refined. The silversmith answered that yes, he not



only had to sit there holding the silver, but he had to keep his eyes on the silver the entire time it was in the fire. If the silver was left a moment too long in the flames, it would be destroyed.

The woman was silent for a moment, thinking on this dedicated task, then she asked the silversmith: 'How do you know when the silver is refined?'

He smiled at her and answered: 'Oh, that's easy when I see my image in it.'

When I read this little story I gave thanks to the Lord for it, because it made me understand more fully what Malachi 3:3 tells us. We need to go through the heat and flames of life to be purified in our faith and trust of God. Our characters, emotions, mentalities, attitudes and lives have to be cleansed of impurities so that God can see His image reflected back to Him. This is why, at times, we may have to endure the heat in the hottest part of the purifying fire, where our faith is tested to the limit in order to bring us out as a shining, pure image of Christ.

Note what the silversmith says about having to keep his eyes on the silver the entire time, because if it is left a moment too long in the flames, it would be destroyed. God has His eyes on us all the time! He knows that a moment too long in the heat would destroy us. He knows exactly when to turn the heat off!

Do we trust Him enough when we are plunged into 'hot' situations? The silversmith sits right by the hottest part of the fire holding the silver.

He never lets the silver drop into the fire. What an encouragement and comfort this is to us when we realise that God is right there with us when we go through the fires of tribulation in our lives. God is holding onto us when we trust Him, and He will not let us be destroyed, nor will He let us endure too long, because He knows exactly when to pull us up and out of heat. 'When I see my image in it!' says the silversmith. What a joy to the Lord it must be, when He pulls us from the heat, seeing His image in us!

Do we reflect God's image in our daily lives? Or are we tarnished and dull, like silver which needs a buff or cleansing?

How often do we act on something and believe we are doing the right thing, only to have it backfire and the consequences upset and anger more people than ourselves? Especially when we charge into taking something on board, without seeking God's wisdom and will first.

I know.....because like the 'sons of thunder' in the New Testament, I have quite a quick and volatile temper, which thankfully through prayer, the Lord is dealing with.

Often I have had to stop, think and pray before I react, and thus I have learned to respond rather than fly off the handle in lots of situations.

Only the other morning I almost put a note on someone's windscreen because they had parked inconsiderately in our road, taking up more than one parking space where parking is very limited. Suddenly I felt this 'nudging' voice in my heart saying: 'Why are you doing this?' Talk about feeling uncomfortable! Isn't it wonderful when this happens, because we know exactly where that voice is coming from! Immediately I said: 'Lord, this is displeasing in your sight...please forgive me and cleanse me!' I tore up that note and immediately felt such a sense of

relief.

Oh, don't get me wrong....that same day I was tempted and challenged by old 'Hook-foot' when my friends came to visit and could not get a parking and lo and behold they said 'Why don't you put a note on their windscreen?' You should have seen their faces when I said 'Because my Father told me not to!'

God wants to see His image reflected in us and shining back to Him. God doesn't want to see the tarnishes of our misconduct because it is not His image when we behave contrary to how He would deal with a situation. So whenever we are tempted to do our own thing....let us stop and ponder whether it will reflect God's image, not only to our Father God, but to those around us who will witness our behaviour whenever we are put through the 'fire and heat' of situations in our lives.

I pray for you all, my precious family in Christ, that God will reveal His purifying spirit in your lives as well as mine, so that we will all reflect His Image back to Him.

Precious Lord, thank You for Your assurance that You will never let go of us, and that You know in Your perfect wisdom, just how much of the fire we are able to endure so that we come out of a situation refined and pure in your sight. Strengthen our faith and love for You Lord, that we may always know, through Your Holy Spirit, what is pleasing and right in Your eyes, and that we may always respond according to Your will alone.

Thank you Father for Your unfailing and faithful grace, love and salvation and we ask that in Jesus' Name we may always reflect Your image in our lives.

We pray this in the precious Name of Your Son, Jesus our Saviour.

Vision with an interpretation

by Leon Wolsey, Norfolk.

Whilst in prayer, I was blessed with a vision which I believe was from the Lord. Both myself and my pastor, David, prayed over the matter and it was felt that I should share this testimony with the church. In the vision I saw a



large wooden serving bowl and spoon. The bowl was full of water and surrounding the bowl were many other smaller bowls. The smaller bowls were made of all kinds of materials such as gold, porcelain, clay, silver etc. But none were of wood.

The serving spoon dipped into the serving bowl and began to pour water into the smaller bowls. Some of the bowls remained empty, even though the spoon poured un-measurable amounts of water into them. Others filled with water but leaked as they were cracked, but they still retained a good amount of water. The rest of the bowls were able to fill to over-flowing when served by the spoon, which had only to dip into the serving bowl once during all this time.

This was the vision that I have prayed over and I asked the Lord for an interpretation through scripture.

After several days of praying over the vision, The Lord placed this scripture

on my heart from Romans CH: 15 V; 13.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with the power of the Holy Spirit.

Interpretation:-

The Scripture led me to the interpretation after much prayer that the serving bowl and spoon were our Lord Jesus Christ.

The water is the Lords Holy Spirit; Living Water. The smaller bowls, made of different materials, were the peoples of the earth, black, white, Asian etc. The bowls which remained empty after serving were the people who rejected the word of God. The cracked bowls, which retained much water but also leaked, were each and every one of us in the church who accepts Gods word, but still holds onto earthly faults.

Finally the bowls that filled to overflowing are God's people in heaven, completely perfected and full of the Holy Spirit.

I pray this is all of God and of help to Christians everywhere.

Praise the Lord.

The Biker Bible is brilliant

by John Livemore, West Midlands Branch.

A glossy cover, small enough to be placed in the hand, in the pocket, and big enough to fill the soul because it is God's Word.

I am very impressed how the small group of CMA bikers have done so much witnessing. Approximately 32,000 biker bibles to the unsaved in 2.5 years, plus the tracts and testimonies. Brilliant!

Also to be a small part of this is a privilege. Never, in all my 25 years of Pastoral Ministry, have I given so many bibles to the un-churched.

And so to August:- Three of us rode to the Wellsbourne airfield for the regulation cuppa on the terrace, eyes peeled for bikers. Then onto Earlswood. There God detained us with a Christian friend. Just as we were about to fire up engines, a guy came striding over. "Good to see you bikers".

After some pleasant chat, I felt led to tell him that we belong to the Christian Motorcyclists' Association- to which he said "Ooh" 2 with an



John and his wife Birgitta

upward swing.

Emboldened, I talked of the Biker Bible. Would he like to see one? A yes progressed to him gladly owning it.

Then he told us the story, that recently his son and daughter-in-law had found God in a big way, and just a few weeks previously had started going to a Baptist Church; all rather

puzzling for him. So the poor guy then came to Earlswood and met Christian Bikers, very strange. He must have felt God had cornered him.

We pray that he and his wife will have also found the Lord, along with the family.

This time, wonderfully, we found out a little of God's dealing with our witness.

I suspect most of our witnessing has a deeper story behind the scenes and, unknown to us, it is a link to some (many) finding the Saviour.

Good innit!

To sponsor this magazine, or just one page, please e-mail the editor. This magazine is distributed all over the world, but is also on the web at www.bike.org.uk and we get many visitors to the CMA UK web site.

“View from the sofa”

by Pete Crane, East Midlands Branch.

Life in the slow lane



cars, vans, taxis, and a whole load of lorries, including tippers, tankers, bin lorries etc., I have come to one major conclusion about road use.

Traffic would flow a lot better and we would be far less stressed if people

In this article I will be sharing my knowledge and experience as a professional driver and trying to make other road users a little more considerate. Or, put less arrogantly, having a bit of a moan about life as a lorry driver, whilst giving folks a few pointers that may keep them a little safer.

Firstly, I will clarify a few terms. Lorries are often referred to as HGV's (Heavy Goods Vehicles) but the term was dropped in favour of LGV's (Large Goods Vehicles) in 1997, when there were a number of changes to the licensing rules.

Up to 3.5 tonne can be driven on a car license (up to 7.5 tonne if test passed before 1997). 3.5 to 7.5 tonne is known as Category C1, 7.5 to 32 tonne rigid is Cat' C and articulated or vehicles with a trailer Cat'C+E . Each license requires a separate test and you have to progress from C1 to C and on to C+E. Having driven a great variety of vehicles over the years, motorbikes,

were more considerate. But to achieve that we need to understand the difficulties encountered by other types of vehicles.

Most of us drive cars as well as bikes and I'm pretty sure we know that in some respects it makes us better drivers because we are more aware of the way those other vehicles manoeuvre and perform. For example, bike riding car drivers will usually double check their offside blind spot before turning right as they are more aware that bikes may be overtaking a line of traffic.

So here are a few pointers about lorries.

Over the past few years there have been an increasing number of vehicles sideswiped by LGV's, on motorways in particular. In fact, at the moment I regularly travel on the M1 between Junctions 19 and 13 and see the consequences of these incidents about once a month.

It is so common we now just say there has been a "coming together, the usual, a foreigner and a car".

What happens here is that a left hand drive lorry has moved out and hit a car that has been sitting in his offside blind spot.

Even with all the mirrors fitted to modern trucks there is a sizeable blind spot about level with the cab, big enough to completely lose sight of an average car in. So the advice here is not to hang around when passing a foreign truck and certainly don't drive along in such a position. It is worth pointing out here how to recognise a LHD lorry if you are not in a position to see the driver. Most trucks now have a kerb mirror fitted above the passenger window, so the driver can see the kerb when manoeuvring and on LHD Lorries this will be on the offside, i.e. the right hand side. Another useful technique is to look at the side mirror and see if you can see the driver clearly; if not it is probably LHD. It is worth doing this anyway as you can often see if the driver is looking at his mirrors and therefore whether he has seen you. It is also possible to tell if you are in his blind spot if you look and can't see his face in a mirror.

Generally, looking at a lorry driver will often give you an idea of what he is going to do as you can see whether he has seen you or what else he is looking at that might affect his manoeuvre. When manoeuvring, lorry drivers are taught to drive on their mirrors; they will constantly check both sides to avoid hitting kerbs or trapping other road users. So usually, if a lorry is in a

position that prevents you passing easily, it is because he has to be there in order to manoeuvre safely or he may be deliberately stopping you from slipping past him because he can see a hazard you cannot and is protecting you. Don't assume he is just doing it to annoy you and go blasting past.

Often just holding back can actually speed up your journey. A classic problem I encounter daily is when I am turning right into a narrow side road from a single carriageway with a filter lane. As the side road is so narrow I need to cut the corner slightly so a vehicle coming up the side road to turn right needs to hold back so I can get round. If not, we reach stalemate. I cannot turn because I would hit him, he cannot get out because traffic is passing me on my nearside and can't see him. And neither of us can back up because of traffic behind us. If as I approach, I see a vehicle moving into such a position, I will straddle the nearside lane and the filter to prevent the traffic behind coming past so he can get out. I end up doing this far more often than the emerging vehicle holds back to let me round. I am sure it's just because the other driver doesn't realise what is going to happen.

Lorry drivers are taught to look far ahead and plan in advance, but many other drivers seem to just react to whatever is a few feet in front of their vehicle; they just don't see situations developing. This is why so many get so stressed because they have to keep reacting to things quickly that they could have seen coming if they had only been looking far enough ahead.

Of course I do recognise that lorries can be a cause of some annoyance for other road users because they do tend to be quite slow and can be difficult to pass, especially on narrow or winding roads. One company I worked for a while ago actually had a complaint from a motorist that an 18 tonne vehicle of theirs was holding up the traffic on the A47 between Leicester and Peterborough, because he was only doing 40 mph on the single carriageway road. The point here was the fact that the driver was only obeying the national speed limit for the vehicle on that road. Often people don't realise that the national speed limit is different, depending on the type of vehicle being driven. LGVs over 7.5 tonne are limited to 40mph on single carriageways, 50 mph on dual carriageways and 60 on motorways, although the last of these is theoretical as all modern LGVs are fitted with a speed limiter set to 56mph. You may find lorries doing more than this on downhill sections, as those fitted with cruise control only apply the



exhaust brakes to control speed not the wheel brakes and they can run over the limiter, especially if fully loaded.

But while this may be a temporary annoyance to other road users, it does mean that in most cases a trucks speed can be predicted. This can be useful when joining a road and merging with LGVs. All a car or motorcycle has to do is to get up to 56 mph to be able to match the lorry and merge without too much trouble. It still amazes me that so often I see cars, easily capable of achieving that sort of speed, ambling up a motorway slip road, well below that, either having to stop or forcing LGVs to pull out into the middle lane. This often causes problems if the middle lane is occupied by other lorries already, as they are not able to move into the outside lane (as it is illegal). The knock on effect of such actions frequently cause LGVs in both lanes to have to brake and I am sure, in heavy traffic this is the cause of those traffic jams that seem to have no obvious cause. Once again, a bit of planning on the part of merging vehicles can stop this from happening in the first place. While on the subject of speed limits, it is worth me pointing out to those of you who from time to time may drive vans, that the speed limit for them is not the same as those for a car or motorcycle.

Small vans, defined as car derived vans up to 2 tonnes maximum weight are treated the same as cars and motorcycles (escort type vans), but transit type vans come into the category 2 to 7.5 tonnes, which has the following speed limits. Single carriageway 50mph (not 60), dual carriageway 60 (not 70) and 70 on motorways.

So many people I know who use such vehicles occasionally have been quite surprised when I have mentioned it, particularly when borrowing my van to do Holy Joes with. For many years now I have felt that a good way to help people become more aware of other road users' problems would be to put them in others shoes so to speak.

For example, once you have passed a car test you should be required to go out in a lorry and on a motorcycle, to see things from those different perspectives. Just being a passenger in a lorry or on a motorcycle, with suitable commentary from an experienced driver would, I'm sure, be enlightening and could change many attitudes.

While this is really a pipe dream, I do have one idea to put to you. Next time

you are out on your bike or in a car and not in too much of a rush, follow a lorry for a while (at a safe distance of course). Stay back and look at the mirrors. Look into the cab at the driver. Watch where he places the truck at junctions. Look at the line different types of lorry take on roundabouts and bends. Most LGVs are driven in a fairly predictable way so you can then often anticipate what a vehicle is going to do and react accordingly.

Most good LGV drivers will be able to tell you what another LGV driver is going to do most of the time.

There will always be exceptions but if you are able to understand how and why a truck manoeuvres the way it does, it will make you a better road user.

Another story of a Bible being used for God's Glory.

sent in by Keith Sanders from Bedford Branch

Ann and I met a Rushden Baptist minister's wife in the Park yesterday. We hadn't seen her since we stopped doing youth work, which is over 5 years ago, because she didn't know we had taken up biking and were in CMA . Anyway, she told us that an old guy, Don, in her church had picked up a Bible at Rushden Historical Transport Cavalcade, a three day local event over the first May Bank Holiday weekend, where we have had a stand for the last three years. He must have picked this up last year as he is now dead, but he gave it to a guy who was a biker. This chap had refused to read a Bible and several in the church had been praying for him. Although adamant that he would not read a Bible he said he would read the Biker Bible because it had been given to him by Don, who he had a great respect for.

This man has now given his life to Jesus. Praise the Lord.

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CMA at Bedworth Wesleyan Reform Church

by Graham and Natalie Johnson, West Midlands Branch.

Bedworth Wesleyan Reform (Free Methodist) Church (BWRC) is the spiritual home of Graham & Natalie Johnson, who belong to the West Midlands branch of CMA. Such is the enthusiasm and support for CMA that the Church is now affiliated.



Graham and Natalie's Suzuki Burgman 400 bike proved a hit with the children - it's easy to get on and off - and Barrie's Honda 600 was popular with the ladies. Graham's Dad, Colin Johnson (the Church President) even climbed on the back for a photo opportunity. (The last time he was on a bike it was his old NSU Quickly, so you can work out how

Members of the West Midlands branch have been visiting BWRC for a number of years now, to lead services, but this year we thought it would be good to do things a little differently.

Although not a CMA Member himself, the Church Secretary, Barrie Parsons, is a biker and he is keen to support the work of CMA. It was his idea to organise a barbecue on August 9th, to raise funds for more Biker Bibles.

Despite much publicity, we didn't manage to attract any non-Christian bikers, and instead of being an outreach event, the afternoon (and evening) turned into a time of fellowship, as one big family.

As well as Graham and Natalie, Alan Finch and Bob and Debbie Bogart attended on their bikes.

long ago that was)!

The event was one of great blessing and raised £135 towards the Biker Bible fund. This was given to friends from the branch on Sunday 16th August when Jim Platt and Pete Clapham blessed us with their ministry. On that day we were joined by more branch members (and more bikes) and following a fellowship lunch, those of us with bikes rode to nearby Coombe Park, Coventry, for a walk, a chat and an ice cream!, before returning for a much needed cup of tea, prior to the evening service.

More events are planned for the coming months, to raise more money for Biker Bibles.

Join the CMA at the many rallies and events that can be found at:-

www.bike.org.uk look for RSS Feed or Events on the left.

Phone us on UK freefone 0800 0154479 for more information.

The Precious Things by Sue Brown, North Cheshire



The precious things so often overlooked.

As I sat in front of my mother's laptop to download today's photos, I was struck with almost physical force by how frequently the wonder of life can simply pass one by. I am visiting my parents in hot (36°) and sunny Portugal, which is where they've lived now for 24 years next month and the familiar sounds of life in the Brown household wash over me. I am an adult child with the blessing of living parents and today, for whatever reason, I realise that I have known my Mum and Dad for 52 years, through thick and thin, good and bad (from both sides), richer and poorer, sickness and health. So I decided to compile an alphabetic list of all those other precious things about being alive I often overlook, but which I want to thank God for right now. Without a lengthy heart-searching, the items on this list have come to mind:

Ambling too hot to do anything else today (I'm in Portugal with my parents)

Becoming ever more certain over time of the singular equity of God's love

Chips only ever just a few, from someone else's portion, preferably Janine's (my daughter)

Death and the vast array of possibilities it opens up to anyone who makes it beyond the pain

Empathy a giver's gift that's often forgotten within the bonds of family

Frost on sunny days, thickly rimed and crisply magic on anything that stood still last night, outside

Great-coats in the early 70's and the ambience of older boys who wore them

Hydroponics, because in my patio even weeds exist within the realm of the miraculous

Ichthus on the bumper in my heart

Juleps (mint) in the novel I am reading, I've always wondered what they are

Kilometres, and that constant mental transition into miles, when I am touring

Leftovers that no-one in the family cares about me eating from their plate

Mucky faces after playing in the sand

Not having to think about work, if I don't want to, for a while

Ordinance survey maps, I love their promises of travel

Plinths that boast of recognition, like the ones beneath my father's sailing cups

Questions so personal, so explosive, so risky, so necessary, so revealing, so often used as weapons

Restoration; loving, painstaking, process-driven; rarely linked with words like 'superficial' or 'quick'

Sitting in the bath without my costume on and not having to hide

Trumps ripsnorters, family stories, family jokes, family traits, freedom, acceptance, joy

Uniformity and uniqueness, each one with its silver lining

Vichysoisse, without the cream, (almost) my all-time favourite kind of soup

Welshness, which I seem to carry round inside me even though I've never lived there

X-rays for much the same reason as Ordnance Survey Maps (haven't you ever seen 'Inner Space'?)

You, and your God-given potential to grow, to experience, to have value, to know Him in this world

Ziman Clare, my childhood best friend and the family that came with her, thanks.

Well, I am truly amazed it took me only 40 minutes to come up with the above. Why don't you have a go? You may be surprised by what comes out, I know I have been. I have just one tip: don't discount any thoughts as being too silly or too random; they're not.

God bless you all, dear readers.

Summer suns are glowing

by Graham Johnson, West Midlands Branch.

Recently, Natalie and I spent a week camping in the Cotswolds. One of the draw-backs of getting older is that one sometimes has reason to get up in the night I'll say no more than that, but I'm sure many readers will know what I mean!

On one particular occasion during the holiday, I had to get up at 5.30 am, and as I walked as quietly as I could along the path towards my destination, I could see the sun rising away to the east. The sky was at that time a pale orange colour. Having achieved my objective, I stood for a few minutes in the coolness of the early morning and watched the sky as it slowly changed colour.

I eventually crept back into the tent and slipped back into the sleeping bag. As I lay there, I became aware that the tent was filled with an orange glow as the sun rose. I was tempted to go back outside and watch the skies again, but the thought of having to unzip the tent door quietly again put me off! (It's nigh on impossible to do).

This made me think about the sun. We need the sun in our lives, It gives us light and heat. Very few species can survive without light and heat. The axolotl (blind aquatic lizard) springs to mind but not much else. It sustains life and it's always there. Even when we can't see it, on dismal days, it's there, and when it sets in the evening, it's rising somewhere on the other side of the world.



I'm reminded here of the old hymn by William Walsham now, one which we rarely sing these days. It's "Summer suns are glowing, over land and sea". The first verse tells us that 'happy light is flowing, bountiful and free. Everything rejoices, in the mellow rays, all earth's thousand voices, swell the psalm of praise.' And so we should praise

God for His provision of the sun, as described in Genesis 1:16-18.

But if we are to praise God for giving us the sun, which we need to sustain our physical lives, then how much more must we praise Him for giving us His Son, who gives us eternal life, when the earth's sun can no longer sustain our worn-out bodies.

The same hymn talks of God's free mercy, streaming over all the world, and His eternal love, shining as broad and deep and glorious as the heaven above. God's mercy is made free to us when we believe and trust in His Son, Jesus Christ. Jesus is the evidence of God's love for us. John 3:16 tells us that God loved the world so much that He gave us Jesus, His only Son, to live and die for us, so that if we believe in Him, we can have everlasting life.

As amazing to the eye as all the wonders of the heavens are, including the deep orange glow that lit my tent up that July morning, God's love, through Jesus is much more amazing.

The sun is always in the sky, but all too often it is hidden behind the clouds, clouds that often bring rain and storms. Just as there are storms in the physical sphere of life, so too we experience storms in our spiritual lives, but the Son doesn't hide when the spiritual storm clouds threaten to darken our days. Instead, He shines through the gloom, lifting the veil of darkness. This spiritual darkness is the work of the devil, but

Jesus is greater than the evil one. Without the sun in the sky, our planet would be in perpetual darkness. The last verse of the hymn says that life is dark without God, but death with Him is bright. We have that to look forward to, the morning when we meet Jesus face to face. And so we ask the Light of light, Jesus Christ, to shine over us, lighting our pilgrim way, going on before us, to that endless day.



reg charity number: 506169.

JUMBO is a voluntary organisation, which aims to take children and young people with special needs out for a day of fun on motorcycles and sidecars and other 3 wheel combinations to a place of interest.

JUMBO has been running since 1961, with the first run out going to Dudley Zoo. This year, for our 48th run out, we went to The Black Country Living Museum. A great time away.

This is a fun weekend for individuals and all the family; We have FREE camping from the Friday through to the Monday, with a social on the Saturday night and the big run out taking place on the Sunday.

JUMBO needs 3 wheelers to come on the day and give the children a fun day out.

Not only do we need 3 wheelers, we also need solo motorcyclists to come along and assist the police with marshalling our route.

So if this sounds like something you would like to join in with, please feel free to contact us or check out our website www.jumbogb.org.uk

(sidecars and 3 wheelers mikepriestley@blueyonder.co.uk

solos and general enquires petlyn@blueyonder.co.uk)



The Seed

A successful businessman was growing old and knew it was time to choose a successor to take over the business. Instead of choosing one of his Directors or his children, he decided to do something different. He called all the young executives in his company together. He said, "It is time for me to step down and choose the next CEO. I have decided to choose one of you. "The young executives were Shocked, but the boss continued. I am going to give each one of you a SEED today, one very special SEED. I want you to plant the seed, water it, and come back here one year from today with what you have grown from the seed I have given you. I will then judge the plants that you bring, and the one I choose will be the next CEO." One man, named Jim, was there that day and he, like the others, received a seed. He went home and excitedly, told his wife the story. She helped him get a pot, soil and compost and he planted the seed. Everyday, he would water it and watch to see if it had grown. After about three weeks, some of the other executives began to talk about their seeds and the plants that were beginning to grow. Jim kept checking his seed, but nothing ever grew. Three weeks, four weeks, five weeks went by, still nothing. By now, others were talking about their plants, but Jim didn't have a plant and he felt like a failure. Six months went by, still nothing in Jim's pot. He just knew he had killed his seed. Everyone else had trees and tall plants, but he had nothing. Jim didn't say anything to his colleagues, however. He just kept watering and fertilising the soil. He so wanted the seed to grow. A year finally went by and all the young executives of the company brought their plants to the CEO for inspection. Jim told his wife that he wasn't going to take an empty pot. But she asked him to be honest about what happened. Jim felt sick to his stomach, it was going to be the most embarrassing moment of his life, but he knew his wife was right. He took his empty pot to the board room. When Jim arrived, he

was amazed at the variety of plants grown by the other executives. They were beautiful -- in all shapes and sizes. Jim put his empty pot on the floor and many of his colleagues laughed, a few felt sorry for him! When the CEO arrived, he surveyed the room and greeted his young executives. Jim just tried to hide in the back. "My, what great plants, trees, and flowers you have grown," said the CEO. "Today one of you will be appointed the next CEO!" All of a sudden, the CEO spotted Jim at the back of the room with his empty pot. He ordered the Financial Director to bring him to the front. Jim was terrified. He thought, "The CEO knows I'm a failure! Maybe he will have me fired!" When Jim got to the front, the CEO asked him what had happened to his seed, Jim told him the story. The CEO asked everyone to sit down except Jim. He looked at Jim, and then announced to the young executives, "Behold your next Chief Executive Officer! His name is Jim!" Jim couldn't believe it. Jim couldn't even grow his seed. "How could he be the new CEO?" the others said. Then the CEO said, "One year ago today, I gave everyone in this room a seed. I told you to take the seed, plant it, water it, and bring it back to me today. But I gave you all boiled seeds; they were dead, it was not possible for them to grow. All of you, except Jim, have brought me trees and plants and flowers. When you found that the seed would not grow, you substituted another seed for the one I gave you. Jim was the only one with the courage and honesty to bring me a pot with my seed in it. Therefore, he is the one who will be the new Chief Executive Officer!" If you plant honesty, you will reap trust. If you plant goodness, you will reap friends. If you plant humility, you will reap greatness. If you plant perseverance, you will reap contentment. If you plant consideration, you will reap perspective. If you plant hard work, you will reap success. If you plant forgiveness, you will reap reconciliation. If you plant faith in God, you will reap a harvest. So, be careful what you plant now; it will determine what you will reap later.

Whats hapening in your area?

by Bob Bogart



In answer to a letter Mike wrote,
Bob visited his Stratstone,
local Harley dealer.

Upon receiving your letter I was
HAPPY to go down to B'ham Harley-

Davidson and meet with the manager
and Sharon. I took 5 Biker Bibles and
your letter. They were most engaging
and open to receiving the Bibles. I
pointed out the 'biker' testimonies in
the front and back. One of the
employees quickly said he would love
to have a Biker Bible, to which I
readily handed him one. I assured the
manager that if he needed more
Bibles or had any questions that we
were there for him. I also took several
of our CMA tracts and left them with
the Bibles. Thanks for providing me
with this opportunity.

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Andy Sennett, whom Ward Gethin are sponsoring this year in the National Superstock 600 Champs, with Neil John, the founder of the BMF Biker Legal Line. Neil is a solicitor at Ward Gethin, one of the largest firms in East Anglia, which is dedicated to serving the needs of bikers and their families. Ward Gethin has departments dealing with many areas of law, including personal injury claims, civil and commercial disputes, house sales and purchases, family law, wills and IHT planning. For friendly and efficient advice, from one biker to another, call Neil in the first instance:- on 01553 660033.

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A message from Mike Fitton, National Chairman (UK) CMA



In our Chainlink magazine we try to include articles that will help you see that as Christian Bikers we have a relationship with Jesus Christ and that

it is the most important thing in our lives, even second to riding bikes!

We haven't always been Christians though; there was a time in our lives when we considered how much God loves us and then responded to it personally.

But you might ask, how can we have a relationship with Jesus? By being good? No, because we could never be good enough. Well how then? The Bible clearly states that the one thing that creates a barrier between God and us is our 'sin'. In other words, the things we do wrong. God loves you and I so much that He wanted to forgive us and begin a relationship with us, but He had to deal with the sin first.

So out of love for you, God sent His Son Jesus Christ to earth, to die on a cross to pay for the sins of the world, then rise again three days later. He hadn't done anything wrong, but He would be held responsible for your sins and mine. It hardly seems fair does it that Jesus should pay for the debt I owe, but He did.

All that we are required to do is believe that He died for our sin and ask God to

forgive us.

It seems so incredibly simple that it can't be true, but that doesn't change the fact that it is.

You can begin a relationship with Jesus Christ today, right now. God will hear your prayer. If you have never prayed before, try the one below:

Lord Jesus, You died on the cross so that my sins could be forgiven. I want You to come into my life and take charge. Please forgive all the wrong things I have done, make me clean and fill me with Your Holy Spirit to live the life you want me to live. Amen.

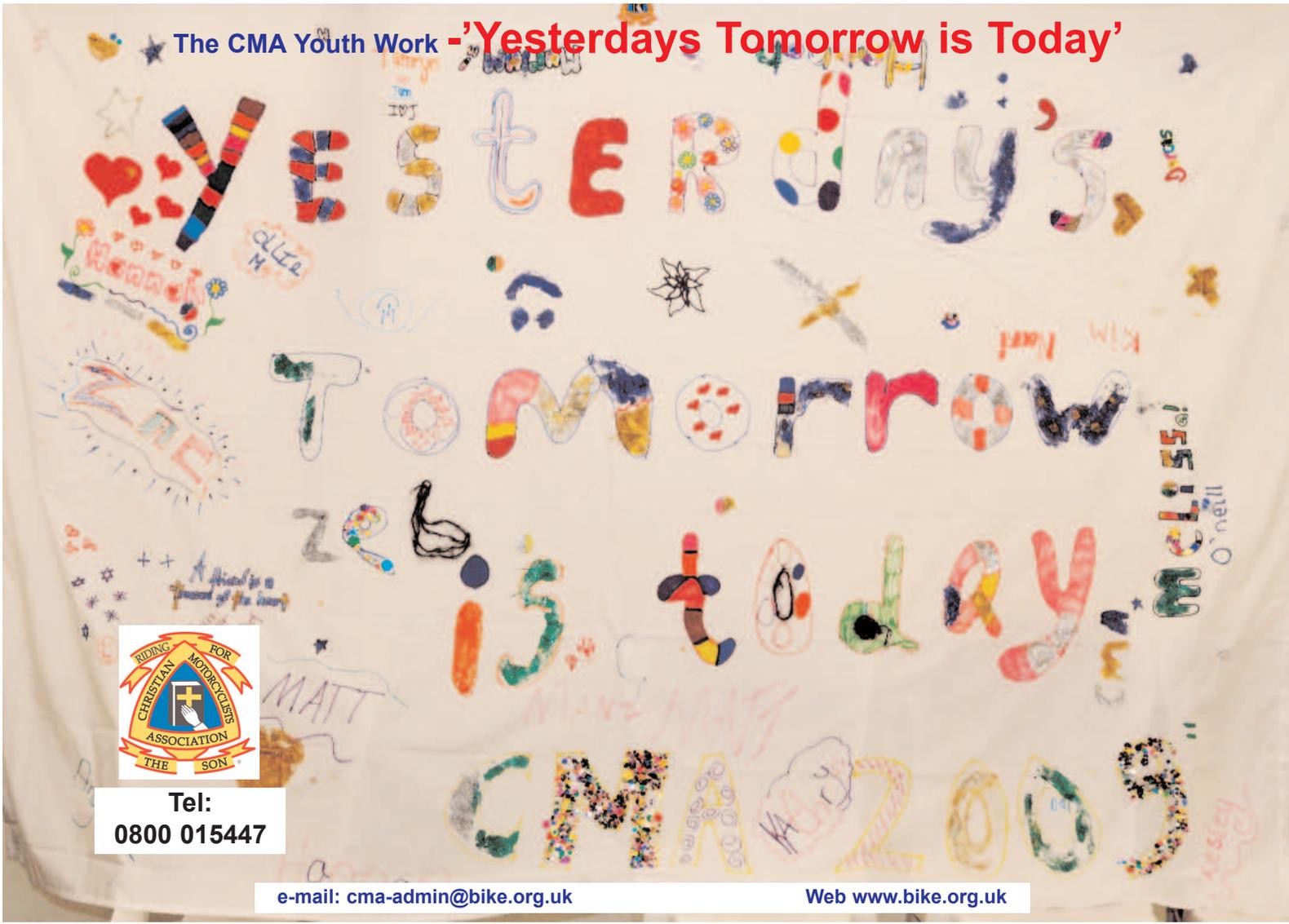
If you have prayed this prayer for the first time and meant it from the heart, well done.

You may not feel any different at first, but it will be a good idea to tell the person who gave you this magazine. With God's help you need to find a good church that can offer you the support, understanding and friendship you need. You are now part of God's family. God Bless you,

Mike FITTON
National Chairman CMA UK

We want to support you too, so get in touch with us at:
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The CMA Youth Work - 'Yesterday's Tomorrow is Today'



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