

mag-yorkshire-region-list@mag-uk.org

Yorkshire MAG newsletter June 2023

Hi everyone,

Welcome to the second Yorkshire MAG newsletter for 2023.

Operation Earthquake Update

Operation Earthquake as you are hopefully aware is the current MAG campaign to oppose the proposed UK Government policy to end the sale of new internal combustion engine (ICE - petrol and diesel powered) vehicles - They propose to end the sale of new small petrol motorcycles by 2030, and larger new petrol motorcycles by 2035. The start of that ban is now a mere **6.5** years away !!!! The zero emissions at tail pipe policy is effectively forcing us down the Battery Electric Vehicle (BEV) route, even though it's not the ideal motive power source for a motorcycle, when compared to the convenience and flexibility of petrol.

The UK government's euthanasiation of ICE vehicles starts **next year** !!! Yes, if you thought this is something far down the road and wont happen, think again. The Government plans to start restricting the proportion of new ICE cars and vans allowed to be sold in the UK from 2024, to 'encourage' (read that as force) more BEV sales. The proportion of new ICE vehicle sales will diminish year on year. A decision has still not formally been made as regards motorcycles. However, given motorcycles were initially not part of the 2030 ban, then they were included, you can pretty much guarantee that ICE motorcycles will also be subjected to restricted sales going forward.

This is not good news and is a major assault on your freedom of choice. It will also hit you hard in the pocket. The basic economic principles of supply and demand dictate that if you restrict the supply of a commodity and demand remains constant the price will increase. So, you will have to pay more to purchase an ICE vehicle. Meanwhile, BEVs remain very expensive in comparison to ICE vehicles, again basic economic principles apply as the raw materials for lithium batteries are rare metals and not in limitless supply. Increased demand with a limited supply = price increase. Currently, the cheapest new ICE car in the UK is £12,500, whereas the cheapest new BEV is £20,000. A mid-size 600cc ICE bike starts at around £6,500 whereas a Zero SR/S (fully faired 600cc 'equivalent' electric bike) is nearly £24,000 (and this is before the market is artificially restricted).

Whilst the UK government currently steadfastly stick to their timeline and zero emissions at tailpipe policy, the EU have recently compromised on their 2035 ban by allowing internal combustion engines as long as they burn carbon-neutral petrol 'e-fuel'

alternatives. This is a significant development and means existing vehicles and re-fuelling infrastructure can be utilised, which will obviously save billions of Euros in the transition to greener transport. The UK must follow the lead set by the EU.

The first phase of Operation Earthquake involves contacting MP's to determine their stance on the proposed ban. Further phases will follow, particularly as we get closer to the forthcoming UK general election in 2024.

To date, nineteen Yorkshire MP's have been contacted (out of 55) which represents a 'hit rate' of 34.5%. In percentage terms, Cumbria leads the national MAG table with Yorkshire 2nd. However, Cumbria only has six MP's compared to Yorkshire's 55, so in absolute numbers, Yorkshire is well ahead of the rest of the country.

A huge thank you to the Yorkshire MAG members who have written to their MP's as 36% of all UK MP's contacted has been done by Yorkshire MAG members.

CALL TO ACTION:

We are having one last push to contact the remaining 2/3 of Yorkshire MP's who have yet to be lobbied. **If your MP is listed below, please contact them** with your concerns about the forthcoming ICE ban (see below for template emails). Let me know when you have contacted them (stravis@mag-uk.org) and forward me any reply as we are collating responses nationally.

MP	Constituency	MP email
Alex Sobel MP	Leeds North West	alex.sobel.mp@parliament.uk
Alexander Stafford MP	Rother Valley	alexander.stafford.mp@parliament.uk
Andrew Jones MP	Harrogate & Knaresborough	andrew.jones.mp@parliament.uk
Andrew Percy MP	Brigg & Goole	andrew.percy.mp@parliament.uk
Brendan Clarke-Smith MP	Bassetlaw	brendan.clarkesmith.mp@parliament.uk
Dame Diana Johnson MP	Kingston upon Hull North	johnsond@parliament.uk
Emma Hardy MP	Kingston upon Hull West and Hessle	emma.hardy.mp@parliament.uk
Fabian Hamilton MP	Leeds North East	fabian.hamilton.mp@parliament.uk
Gill Furniss MP	Sheffield, Brightside & Hillsborough	gill.furniss.mp@parliament.uk
Graham Stuart MP	Beverley & Holderness	grahamstuartmp@parliament.uk
Holly Lynch MP	Halifax	holly.lynch.mp@parliament.uk
Imran Hussain MP	Bradford East	imran.hussain.mp@parliament.uk
Judith Cummins MP	Bradford South	judith.cummins.mp@parliament.uk
Karl Turner MP	Kingston upon Hull East	karl.turner.mp@parliament.uk
Kim Leadbeater MP	Batley & Spennings	kim.leadbeater.mp@parliament.uk
Lee Rowley MP	NE Derbyshire	lee.rowley.mp@parliament.uk
Louise Haigh MP	Sheffield Heeley	louise.haigh.mp@parliament.uk
Martin Vickers MP	Cleethorpes	martin.vickers.mp@parliament.uk
Miriam Cates MP	Penistone & Stocksbridge	miriam.cates.mp@parliament.uk
Mr Clive Betts MP	Sheffield SE	officeofclivebettsmp@parliament.uk

Naz Shah MP	Bradford West	naz.shah.mp@parliament.uk
Nick Fletcher MP	Don Valley	nick.fletcher.mp@parliament.uk
Olivia Blake MP	Sheffield Hallam	olivia.blake.mp@parliament.uk
Paul Blomfield MP	Sheffield Central	paul.blomfield.mp@parliament.uk
Philip Davies MP	Shipley	daviesp@parliament.uk
Richard Burgon MP	Leeds East	richard@richardburgon.com
Robbie Moore MP	Keighley	robbie.moore.mp@parliament.uk
Rt Hon David Davis MP	Haltemprice & Howden	david.davis.mp@parliament.uk
Rt Hon Hilary Benn MP	Leeds Central	bennh@parliament.uk
Rt Hon John Healey MP	Wentworth and Dearne	john.healey.mp@parliament.uk
Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP	Richmond	rishi.sunak.mp@parliament.uk
Rt Hon Sir Greg Knight MP	East Yorkshire	sothcottt@parliament.uk
Sarah Champion MP	Rotherham	sarah.champion.mp@parliament.uk
Stephanie Peacock MP	Barnsley East	stephanie.peacock.mp@parliament.uk
Stuart Andrew MP	Pudsey	stuart.andrew.mp@parliament.uk

MAG has put together an Operation Earthquake Campaign Pack, which contains a couple of template letters together with lots of other useful information.

Link to Campaign Pack: <https://operation-earthquake.mag-uk.org/take-part-operation-earthquake-campaign-pack-makes-it-easy/>

You can use the template(s) as is, or alter it to add some points you personally wish to emphasise, the choice is entirely yours, but the key bit is to ask your MP to oppose the ban (and hopefully get them on-side). It will literally take less than a minute to copy and paste the template letter into an email and send it.

If you think the Operation Earthquake template email is a bit long, Tom Lonsdale (Yorkshire Political Officer) has produced a much shorter version, with a bit of poetic licence from myself (see below) which you may wish to use.

“I am writing to you as a member of your constituency and as a motorcyclist deeply concerned that the Government’s proposal to enforce all new Powered Two Wheelers (PTWs) to be powered solely by electric batteries (enforced by the zero emissions at tailpipe legislation, due to come into force from 2030), will have unfair and disproportionate impact on riders’ freedom and practicality.

As a member of Motorcycle Action Group I share the view expressed by our national office that excluding all other options for reduction in greenhouse gases is wrong and that a universal reliance on battery electric vehicles (BEVs) for all modes is unworkable. Adopting this solitary solution to cleaning up emissions is narrow-minded and leaves the UK fleet profoundly vulnerable to monopoly of the supply chain by foreign powers. Given China controls 70-80% of the world’s supply chain for BEVs, such a reliance is strategically dangerous for UK security.

Even if, in the long term, it does prove to be practical for cars, motorcycles powered by battery will not be capable of performing in the same way that Internal Combustion Engine (ICE) powered machines currently can. This is due to the fact that although cars can get bigger and heavier to incorporate more powerful electric batteries to give more range, such an option isn’t really practical for PTWs.

It is therefore essential that PTWs are excluded from the proposed legislation. The number of vehicles involved is so small that it will have negligible impact on the total greenhouse gases emitted by the national fleet. All road transport (cars, vans, lorries, buses and other road vehicles) accounts for around 30% of global carbon emissions. The UK contributes a mere 1% of this 30% of global carbon emissions, so a total ban of ICE vehicles in the UK will reduce global carbon emissions by a whopping 0.003%. Motorcycles and scooters represent a mere 1% of UK traffic so a ban of those will reduce global carbon emissions by a colossal 0.00003%. The ban will not contribute anything tangible to reducing global carbon emissions.

The EU, which also plans to ban the sale of petrol and diesel cars from 2035, has recently agreed a compromise whereby synthetic 'e-fuels' will now be permitted. This is a significant development as it will allow existing refuelling infrastructure to be utilised, as well as existing ICE vehicles but with a much smaller environmental impact when compared to petrol and diesel vehicles. The UK must follow the EU lead in this area.

Please will you give me an assurance that you will seek exemption from the ICE ban for all PTWs, and allow synthetic 'e-fuels' to be permitted from 2030, in parity with the EU ? If you are unwilling to do so would you please explain your reasoning."

Please support this campaign, your chosen lifestyle very much depends on it !!!

Yorkshire Region Meeting

The next Yorkshire Region meeting will be held on Wednesday 28th June 19:30 - 21:00 at Squires Cafe Bar, Newthorpe Lane, Newthorpe, South Milford, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS25 5LX.

Every Yorkshire MAG member is very welcome to attend, where you can witness MAG democracy in action and have a say in how your region is run. Hope to see you there.

AGENDA

1. Welcomes and Apologies
2. Minutes of the Last Region Meeting (held at Brighton Ferry on 12th March 2023)
3. Regional Reps Report
4. Committee Reports
 1. Vice Rep - Martin Burgess
 2. Political Rep - Tom Lonsdale
 3. Secretary - Marcus Holden
 4. Social Media / Website - Marcus Holden
 5. Treasurer - Gary Timms
 6. Press / Media - John Nettleship
5. Local Reps Reports
 1. East Yorkshire - Garry Williams
 2. Huddersfield - SallyAnne Slater

3. Leeds & Bradford - Keith Maven (interim contact)
4. South Yorkshire – Stuart Hatfield
5. Wakefield – Steve Travis
6. York – Richard Suddaby
6. Operation Earthquake Region Update
7. Riding School Recruitment Initiative
8. Setting dates / venue in advance for quarterly Region meetings - Proposal of first Wednesday in each quarter i.e. Jan (Q1), Apr (Q2), Jul (Q3), Oct (Q4)
9. Date for Yorkshire Region AGM - Proposal of Wednesday 6th September at Squires
10. MAG AGC - Saturday 23rd September at the Tone Vale Rally site in Devon - motions and nominations (for elected officer / director roles and awards)
11. Leeds Fight Motorcycle Theft event – Date TBC
12. AOB
13. Date of Next Meeting

MAG Annual General Conference

MAG's 2023 AGC will be held on Saturday 23rd September at the Tone Vale Rally site in Devon (Nearest postcode TA9 3RH). In accordance with MAG's Constitution, MAG invites motions and nominations to be received no later than June 30th, 2023.

The following roles are up for election at AGC 2023:

- Directors of The Motorcycle Action Group Limited (five positions, tenures of one - four years)
- National Chair
- National Clubs Officer
- National Reps Liaison Officer

The Board is currently without a Director of Finance.

Both motions and nominations may be sent by post to MAG, Unit C13, Holly Farm Business Park, Honiley, Kenilworth, Warwickshire CV8 1NP or via email at mag-hq@mag-uk.org.

From the Constitution:

6.g. All matters to be included within the agenda of the Group Conference should be sent in writing and received at the Central Office of the Company not later than midnight on the last day of June in the year of the General Conference. Submissions can be sent by email to nominations@mag-uk.org or by post to the registered office address. Submissions received by post on the first working day following 30th of June shall be accepted. All proposals should include the name, address and membership number of the person proposing the matter and the person seconding it.

6.i. All nominations for the directors or other officers of the Company must be seconded and must be submitted after 1st June in each year. Submissions can be sent by email to nominations@mag-uk.org or by post to the registered office address. Submissions received by post on the first working day following 30th of June shall be accepted. All proposals should include the name, address and membership number of the person proposing the matter and the person seconding it. Each nominee must have been a member for at least 12 months prior to the nomination and must include a manifesto of not more than 1200 words with their nomination.

Awards

MAG invites nominees for the following awards:

- The Fred Hill Freedom Award - Awarded to the MAG member who, in the opinion of the National Committee, has made an outstanding, sustained, significant and positive contribution to the work of the Group over a period of years.
- The Richard Tegg Award - Awarded to the MAG Member who, in the opinion of the National Committee, has made a sustained, significant and positive contribution to the work of the Group over a period of years at a local level. National Committee members are not eligible for this award in relation to their national work or NC activity, but may be nominated in respect of specified local non-NC activity as an ordinary member.
- The Steve Tannock Teamwork Award - Awarded to the local group, region, or other team of MAG members who, in the opinion of the National Committee, have made a significant joint contribution to the work of the Group.
- Honorary Life Membership - Awarded in respect to significant work over a sustained period on behalf of the group. Except in exceptional circumstances, nominees for Honorary Life membership should have been fully paid-up ordinary members of MAG for an unbroken period of at least ten years prior to nomination for this award.
- Media Award - Awarded to a person or publication who, in the opinion of the National Committee, has been MAG friendly in the promotion of and/or reporting of MAG.
- Young MAG Member Award - Awarded to the MAG member, who in the opinion of the National Committee, has made an outstanding, significant and positive contribution to the work of the Group over the last year. This award is only open to members under the age of 25, or whose 25th birthday falls within the year in which they are being considered for the award.

Nominations for awards may be made directly to your Regional Rep (stravis@mag-uk.org), or to the Chair via email (chair@mag-uk.org) or by post to Central Office (The Motorcycle Action Group, Central Office, Unit C13, Holly Farm Business Park, Honiley, Warwickshire, CV8 1NP). The NC will consider all nominees for awards at it's July meeting on Saturday 8th July.

Note: Anyone who is interested in becoming a Director of MAG Media or NEL can submit a manifesto to the Board at any point during the year. All Directors roles are on a voluntary unpaid basis.

Link to The Network MAG activists newsletter

https://wiki.mag-uk.org/index.php/Editions_of_Network#2023

The MAG activists newsletter, Network is published at the start of each month and can be accessed with the above link.

Fight Motorcycle Theft

Motorcycle theft is a major issue in our region. West Yorkshire consistently shows the worst levels of motorcycle theft outside of London. Nationally motorcyclists are victims of approximately 25% of all vehicle theft, despite representing only 3% of the potential vehicle theft targets. Several Yorkshire MAG members have had their bikes stolen recently. This is often perpetrated by armed gangs with links to organised crime. The stolen bikes are either used to commit other crimes or moved out of the area and likely stripped for parts. The thieves are quite blatant and have been seen using angle grinders in broad daylight to cut through chains and locks. They often carry knives and/or other weapons to deter anyone who challenges them. There are also reported instances of bike jackings at junctions and traffic lights, again when the rider is threatened with weapons. Riders have been followed by other bikes and or scooters with a view to stealing the bike.

Enough is enough !!!

The Motorcycle Action Group would like to invite you to attend a public meeting we are organising (in partnership with Leeds City Council) to address the issue of motorcycle theft in the West Yorkshire Police area. **The date and location of the meeting will be announced shortly** (we had originally scheduled the meeting for Saturday 24th June at the John Charles Centre in Leeds but we couldn't get the availability of key stakeholders on that particular date (local MP's, Mayor, Police and Crime Commissioner and/or Deputy etc). Rather than see it crash and burn it was better to postpone and reschedule when we can get the availability of the key stakeholders. The date was suggested by Leeds Council based on availability of the meeting room at the venue).

The meeting format will be similar to a hustings, where the stakeholders who can impact on the issue are given a brief opportunity to explain what action they are taking or planning to tackle the issue, but the majority of the time given over to a Q&A session with members of the public. This is your chance to question our speakers (which includes Senior Police Officers responsible for Vehicle Theft) and put forward your ideas to fight bike theft.

The Leeds meeting is part of a number of Fight Motorcycle Theft roadshows being held throughout 2023. Three have already been held (Kent, Birmingham and London), the

next will be Leeds with Hull, Nottingham, Manchester, Cardiff and Edinburgh to follow. The previous meetings have seen very tangible outcomes, and the hope is that the Leeds meeting will be equally effective.

We need a big turnout to make these events a success. Bums on seats really do make a difference. Hope to see you there !!!

If you have questions and points you would like to raise but can't attend the event in person, please email these in advance to stravis@mag-uk.org and we will raise these on your behalf at the meeting.

Yorkshire Pudding Rally

Now the Farmyard Party Rally is over, the next Yorkshire MAG rally to look forward to is the 20th Yorkshire Pudding Rally (YPR) on Friday 4th – Sunday 6th August at Escrick (between York & Selby).

This rally sells out every year, usually a couple of weeks after the FYP, so, if you would like to go to this most splendid rally, you need to buy your tickets sooner rather than later to avoid disappointment.

The good news is that these are available to buy at your local MAG meeting (see below for meeting days and venues for the Yorkshire MAG branches).

The YPR is Pre-Book Only and a bargain at £35 for the whole weekend (Saturday ticket £25).

Remember, if you buy your tickets directly from your local MAG branch, you save on the on-line booking fee (which are per ticket not per transaction !!!) and postage more money in your pocket = more beer money what more of an incentive could you possibly want !!!

MAG Podcasts

The MAG podcast had landed and ready to stream now!

The podcasts are being produced on a monthly basis and feature MAG's Colin Brown, Director of Campaigns and Political Engagement, recapping and discussing the most recent news and events with a variety of guests.

You can find the Podcasts on the MAG Youtube channel:

www.youtube.com/@MotorcycleActionGroupMAG.

Please like and subscribe.

Branch Reports:

Garry Williams - East Yorkshire Rep

Bike theft continues to be major issue in Hull and East Yorkshire. MAG has recently started promoting Fight Motorcycle Theft meetings across the country, with the public being invited to a hustings type event, fronted by a panel of speakers (there are details of a forthcoming Leeds meeting elsewhere in this newsletter). Our branch has tentatively agreed to hold a similar meeting, with contact already made with an inspector at Humberside police who has indicated his willingness to attend. With sufficient support to facilitate an event, we will be looking to hold it in early autumn. Once details are finalised, I will publicise via email and across local bike Facebook pages.

After a lot of effort, we now have East Yorkshire MAG T shirts and hoodies available to order in a full range of sizes and colours, with a big thank you going to Rod Littlely for the design. Sadly, take up has been slow, which is disappointing as all profits go directly to MAG, so please take a look and get an order in!

Ron Gillard took the stand out to the InSpire Ride event at the International Bomber Command Centre in Lincoln on 14th May. This annual event attracts hundreds of bikers each year, and Ron reports that although he did not sign up any new members, he did get a lot of interest in the stand and took the opportunity to talk to riders, and let them know what MAG is all about, which is good positive publicity. The next outing is to the Hornsea Bike Event on 13th August.

We recently bid a fond farewell to Kelly, the manager of the Foresters Arms in Beverley who has left for pastures new. We have held our meetings at the Forresters for many years, and understand the pub is remaining open. We are hopeful that the new management will still support MAG by allowing us continued free use of the venue. We thank Kelly for her hospitality and send our best wishes for the future.

As previously mentioned, our Spat rally returns to Brighton Ferry over the weekend of 15th to 17th September. Ticket details have yet to be finalised, but are normally available at the Yorkshire Pudding rally, so watch this space.

SallyAnne Slater - Huddersfield MAG rep

Huddersfield MAG is having a busy 2023 celebrating our 30th Birthday along with MAG's 50th Anniversary.

22nd March 2023 – MAG PIE Night at our HQ The Field Head. Lovely grub, followed by delicious buns a la Linz. Apparently the Beer Lucky Dip went down well. A great evening

all round raising a phenomenal £270.46 . Huge thanks to everyone who attended, ate food and bought tickets.

19th April 2023 – Ups and Downs Up North – Mountains and Motorbikes. Our very own Tom Lonsdale presented a very interesting and informative slide-show documenting his recent travels to Norway (featured in Open Road issue 104 [flickread.com/edition/html/index.php?pdf=6396dfd5de845#64](https://www.flickread.com/edition/html/index.php?pdf=6396dfd5de845#64)) and the Simmer Dim rally – on the Shetland Islands. The talk was followed by the sale of buns and sausage rolls, raising a magnificent £34. Thank you Linz and Glennys. And Tom of course.

12-14th May 2023 – Tan Hill Inn. Wow what a weekend. The Fabulous Five (Andy, Linz, Ron, Tom, Sal) travelled oop north on the Friday. The site was rammed with camper vans and motorhomes. Plenty of room for the tents and the bikes (and a micro-camper). Weather was a little gloomy but that didn't deter the Five. After ensuring the tents were well pegged as it is always a tad breezy up there, we headed to the bar. A lot of ale was swigged. A lot of food was consumed (well you all know Huddersfield MAG runs on their stomachs!!) A lot of banter was ...bantered. We shared our table with three local likely lads, two of whom were bikers.

We then headed to the Barn for the entertainment. Bessie and the Zinc Buckets certainly did that. For four hours. Sitting on a filthy floor rolling around to Oops Upside Your Head was not my finest moment.

We had a plan for a Ride Out the following day. Blue skies and a golden ball. Perfect. But of course we had to pig out on bacon butties first. Ian Mumford dropped in for a visit. Tom led the ride. Two Tigers and two Guzzis. Stunning scenery and great biking roads. Including the gravelly sheep poo lane (track ?) that wound it's way through three farms and three closed gates. We visited Low Force Waterfall and agreed to walk to High Force. Tom set off at his best pace and soon disappeared over the horizon. He took the Yorkshireman's route to the waterfall. The rest of the gang took a slightly different route, and ended up at a gate where the gate keeper would not let us pass unless we paid £3. Each. So we had ice creams instead. Another great ride back to the Tan Hill Inn. Apparently we had missed Keith Maven who had ridden up after the Panos Memorial Ride. More food and beer and banter.

Sunday morning and we struck camp. After a full breakfast of course.

If you've never stayed over at the Tan Hill, please try it. The staff are very helpful and friendly. The visitors are amazing. Always something to see. Bikes, cars, helicopters and sheep.

Two things I have learned from this trip. MAG friends rock !! And I am useless at taking photos !!

Huddersfield MAG will be taking their infamous Top Box on Tour to South Yorkshire 22/07/2023, and Wakefield MAG later this year.

We continue to support other MAG group events and promote actions from MAG Central.

Keith Maven (interim contact) - Leeds and Bradford MAG

The group still remains without a formal MAG Rep but seems to be still functioning with the various roles being carried out by several people and only one business meeting and one social meeting each month on the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays.

Marcus is still doing a sterling job of chasing up Leeds Council regarding the future of the bikes in bus lanes trial which is coming to the end of its 12 month trial and pushing for it to now cover all bus lanes, no news yet though.

As you aware, the lack of attendance of invited representatives of the Leeds Mayor or local MPs has lead to postponement of the planned meeting on bike theft in the area, hopefully the delay can improve this situation.

Socially, We attended the 2nd Panos Memorial ride which was organised by Steve Corbridge which was well attended and went without any incidents, and Bob Hawkins organised a "Thank You" night out for Manny's service as our Rep, again it was well attended.

Stuart Hatfield - South Yorkshire rep

We have agreed a date for our Bike Show and Huddersfield MAG's Top Box Sale 'on tour' to celebrate MAG's 50th anniversary. This will be on Saturday 22nd July at the Market Hotel, 2 Wentworth Road, Elsecar, S74 8EP.

Top Box sale from 1pm and Band (The Interiorz) will be on at 3pm. Prizes for the bike show will be awarded between the bands sets. All proceeds to MAG and Smart Motorways Kill.

All Welcome.

Steve Travis - Wakefield MAG rep

Our popular bike show, at the Wakefield Gala at Clarence Park Arena, was held on May Day Bank Holiday Monday (1st May). Our stand was populated with lots of MAG promotional material, leaflets, posters, copies of the Road magazine, and a few Wakefield MAG products for sale. We also set out our fund raising game, raffling prizes most of the branch had donated. Finally, we had a 1-90 raffle where the winner will get £50, with £40 to the MAG coffers (once we have sold all 90 numbers). The entrants started to roll in from about 10:30 onwards, lots of coming and goings throughout the day and at one point we counted over 40 bikes in attendance.

At the time of the judging we had 15 odd bikes, 3 motorcycle combinations and a trike to choose from. An absolute guaranteed best in show, a mint 1970's Suzuki two stroke had left early, so unfortunately couldn't be judged - if the owner is reading this, stay until 14:30 next year ;-)

The bike show judging started around 1:45pm and we had 6 show winners and an Overall Best in Show to find. We had a panel of 2 judges this year, but as always, the judges decisions were difficult (downright impossible !!) as there was some quality machinery on display, but we eventually came up with a consensus. With the winners decided, it was time for the prize giving cue drum roll:

- Maeving RM1 electric bike, owned by Rep, Steve Travis (and no, it wasn't a fix, that's why we had two judges !!)

- Honda Fury
- Harley Davidson Road King
- Yamaha Diversion (Mint and unmolested 30 year old bike)
- BMW Combination
- Triumph Thunderbird Combination
- **Overall Best in Show** - Harley Davidson Dyna

Seven well deserved show winners !!!

The game and 1-90 raffle raised £85, all of which goes towards the MAG fighting fund. MAG Product sales raised a further £6.50 and donations totalled £12.43. We also signed up 4 new MAG members. Not bad for a days work. Last years tombola raised £134.17 but we did have less 'non-biker' visitors to our stand this year - the burger van which always brings a lot of people up to the top part of the arena (as it has the smallest queues) was noticeably absent this year, and we believe that kept people in the main arena.

Another highly successful Wakefield MAG May Day Bike Show at the Wakefield Gala. A huge thanks to everyone who brought along their bikes / trikes / combinations to show, visited the stand, spent lots of money on the games and products, made donations, joined MAG and of course, a huge thanks to all our volunteer marshals who were there early, stayed late, and helped make the show the great success it was - you are all heroes !!!!

And to everyone we spoke to and invited along to our meetings, we meet in the Thatched House on Aberford Road, Stanley, Wakefield, every Tuesday at 8:00pm ... hope to see you all down at a meeting soon.

We will be hosting another show at the Wakefield Gala next year, so hope to see you in 2024.

2023 is quite significant for Wakefield MAG for we are 21 years old !!!; Significant also for MAG nationally as MAG is 50 years old this year !!!

To help celebrate this monumental anniversary, we are hosting a Saturday Bike Day on **Saturday 9th September (12:00 - 17:00)** at the Thatched House, with a bike display / show in the car park, Steve the Landlord will be laying on a BBQ, we'll have our Wakefield MAG stand and the legendary Huddersfield MAG Top Box Sale (on tour) will be joining us so lots of opportunities to bag some bargain bike gear. We'll also have a tombola and prize raffle. We are also hoping to feature live music but if we fail in that endeavour, we'll have recorded music playing.

Hopefully you'll be able to join us in September, to help celebrate MAG's 50th and Wakefield MAG's 21st birthdays.

Richard Suddaby - York MAG rep

We had our AGM in January which Garry Williams observed and Steve Travis attend.

The committee had some minor changes. We said goodbye to our political officer. His role wasn't filled. I have absorbed this role. We created two new roles. Ride coordinator and Events coordinator. The remaining roles remained the same.

In February we hosted our first Fred Hill Run. It was well attended. Roughly about a dozen bikes.

In March our branch and our local café, Strawberry Fields hosted our first Egg Run to support the childrens ward at York District Hospital. We raised over £1000. We spent £200 on items to donate. Triumph A1 Moto kindly offered to be a drop-off point for the general public to donate eggs. We managed to raise 250 eggs from the public. Local businesses also donated money. In total, we donated 250 eggs, activity books and, £810. There was roughly about 65 bikes involved in the run from Strawberry Fields café to the hospital. We've already started planning our egg run for 2024 with Y&S hospital charity.

In April, we hosted our start of season showcase. Although we didn't raise money for ourselves, we feel like this was very beneficial for our reputation and relationships with local businesses. We had a local training school turn up, Whiteknights blood bikes, an up-and-coming motorcycle clothing brand, local Hydrographics business, and a local charity CMD Ride of Hope who we work very closely with. We have realised that we have drastically outgrown the café and will need to find a larger premises to host any further showcases. The café totally sold out of food. There was a steady stream of people all day we roughly estimate 200 - 300 people.

In May we hosted our rally Slaughtered in Cropton. We originally were going to axe the rally the next year. We had such positive feedback that we will continue to host SIC. We were intending on moving the rally to another location. Instead we are contemplating host two micro rallies next year. We have 39 turn up. This made us a little money but with the price of the other rallies we couldn't put our price too high for what was on offer.

That brings us to June. As it stands as a branch, we don't have anything on this month. Most of us will be at farmyard party. We have other activities planned for the year, but I will leave that for future reports.

Branch report.

Politically we had a slow start to the year however, since our political rep left, I've picked up the pieces. I've liaised with York council. We have managed to get the council to agree to fit fixed security into the car parks that are lacking any fixed security for Motorcycles. However, this is very recent and the proof is in the pudding. They have agreed to it and have said they will give me a date very soon when the installations will happen.

I've been in contact with our MP Rachel Maskel. Are use the operation earthquake template to contact her. However, she didn't reply. I sent her a personal email and she replied within 15 minutes. She is very keen to have a meeting however this needs setting up. I have been in contact with her PA and I'm waiting for availability dates for July. We've also had a switch around at our local council elections. Our council leader has changed and we are still waiting for a executive for transport.

Since York is quite small, I have sent out feelers into North Yorkshire. I've been liaising with the Executive for transport at the newly formed North Yorkshire Council. We have been invited to be a stakeholder within their working group. Again, this is very recent. The North Yorkshire council are still finding their feet. However, communication has been very fast so I feel this might be positive.

How do I feel our branch is doing?

Well, I think we're doing quite well at the minute in the aspect of recruiting new members and raising our profile. Every time we have a meeting there is somebody new. We had a very impromptu meeting this month, even with the short notice we still had three new potential members turn up. Two of them signed up. I would probably say we have about 30 branch members, half of them are under 30. I think our reputation is getting bigger and in time i think this will generate into raising money. As it stands, my main objective is to grow the branch. Our monthly rides out are getting popular too.

Local group meetings

Your local groups are the lifeblood of MAG and the best way for you to get the most from your MAG membership. All have a full calendar of meetings, ride outs and events and we all try to support each other, so come along and say hello. You'll be glad you did.

East Yorkshire MAG meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays from 8pm at The Forresters Arms HU17 0PR

Huddersfield MAG meet every Wednesday from 8.30pm at The Fieldhead HD3 4FB

Leeds and Bradford MAG meet every 1st and 3rd Tuesdays from 8pm at The Royal Hotel LS28 8PR

South Yorkshire MAG meet every Thursday at The Market, 2 Wentworth Rd, Elsecar, Barnsley S74 8EP from 7pm

Wakefield MAG meet every Tuesday from 8.00 at The Thatched House, 434 Aberford Road, Stanley, Wakefield, WF3 4AA

York MAG - Third Friday of each month from 7:30pm at The Black Swan, Peasholme Green, YO1 7PR.