

National Committee Attendance Sheet

National Committee Meeting				Date: 09/04/2016	
<i>Surname</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Initials</i>	<i>Region/Post</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>Apologies</i>
Armstrong	Michael	MA	Cumbria Rep	✓	
Bridgwood	Alex	AB	Lincolnshire Rep		✓
Carrott	Jane	JC	Minute Taker / National Reps Liaison	✓	
Cox	Tony	TC	North West Rep / Director TMAGL	✓	
Ford	Roger	RF	Warwickshire Rep		✓
Davison	Pete	PeD	Director TMAGL	✓	
Fawthrop	Tim	TF	Contact for Greater London		✓
France	Ann	AF	South East Rep	✓	
Gale	Aine	AG	Network Editor	✓	
Hammond	Dave	DH	Vice Chair / Eastern Rep	✓	
Hughes	Bill	BH	North Wales Rep	✓	
Lavender	Selina	SL	Chair / Director Nice Employer Ltd / Director TMAGL	✓	
Legg	George	GL	National Membership Coordinator	✓	
Lewis	Gareth	GarL	Thames Valley Rep		✓
Liversidge	Neil	NFL	Director TMAGL		✓
Lowe	Eddie	EL	West Midlands Rep		✓
Mannings	Leon	LM	Campaigns & Policy Advisor	✓	
Metcalfe	Jon	JMe	Herts / Essex Rep (Acting)		
Mutch	Ian	IM	President / Editor "The Road"	✓	
Öpik	Lembit	LÖ	Director Comms & Public Affairs	✓	
Peregrine	Tim	TP	Southern Rep	✓	
Poole	Tim	TPo	South West Rep	✓	
Rose	Deb	DR	Western Region Rep	✓	
Rose	Oliver	OR	Clubs Liaison Officer / Yorkshire Rep	✓	
Streeton	Jo	JS	East Anglia Rep	✓	
Wigham	Dave	DW	North East Rep	✓	
Williamson	Ian	IW	South Wales Rep	✓	
Wilson	Paul	PW	Contact for Northern Ireland		✓
Wykes	Steve	SW	Scotland Rep / Director TMAGL	✓	
Vacant			East Midlands Rep		
Brown	Colin	CB	West Midlands Deputy Rep	✓	
Carrott	Andy	AC	Lincolnshire Deputy Rep	✓	

Motorcycle Action Group: National Committee Meeting

Date: April 09, 2016 Time 10.00 am Venue: AGC

1. Introduction:

SL thanked all for attending.

2. Apologies for absence:

Recorded on attached attendance sheet.

3. Appointments and resignations:

Jo Streeton appointed as East Anglia Regional Rep.
Tim Fawthrop appointed as Point of Contact Greater London region.
Paul Wilson appointed as Point of Contact Northern Ireland.
Bill Hughes now formally appointed as North Wales Regional Rep.
Tony Cox returned as North East Regional Rep.
Alex Bridgwood returned as Lincolnshire Regional Rep.

4. Adoption of NC agenda:

Adopted without revisions.

5. Ratification of previous NC Minutes:

Carried.

No email votes have taken place since the last NC meeting.

6. Matters arising from previous NC Minutes:

February 2016 Action Points were circulated.

A position statement regarding the use of covert speed cameras has been completed.

A simplified membership poster has been circulated.

A presentation for use with clubs and organisations has been completed and uploaded to MAG Wiki. AC expressed concerns about it appearing that anyone can access any of the information on the Wiki. TC will look at this with Andy Meredith.

AC has provided a Pathways to Progress presentation.

LÖ reported that scripts for VT clips are a work in progress.

SL reported that the Model Rules for Regions has been revamped and is now a live document and that a new Code of Conduct is also ready for rolling out. SL thanked JC for work on these.

LÖ noted that regarding the forthcoming EU Referendum, information has been provided by both the "In" and the "Out" lobby but that both statements require editing due to length. SL suggested that when ready, they are published in Network as well as The ROAD, and distributed on the "big list".

7. Campaigns:

LÖ has been working on the Elections and reported that MAG is being taken seriously as an organisation.

LM noted that the whole organisation is working as it should be and that there have been successes with various campaigns.

He finished by stating that there would be plenty of positive things to report on during AGC.

8. Board meeting report (including FEMA):

SL reported that all Board members were present, there were no appointments or resignations and reports for AGC had been submitted.

Central is in regular contact with Leslie Johns regarding the on-line database that is being constructed. AC asked what would happen if Leslie no longer wished to be involved with the build and maintenance of this new on-line material and TC stated that it is all in a format such that it can be maintained by other personnel.

It was also reported that bandwidth is still an issue at Central and that TC is working with Greg on the new website.

A vote of thanks was requested for Leslie, Greg, TC and Andy Meredith for all the work being put in to providing these services.

SL noted that there are now coordinators for the National Stand attending Into the Valley, The Farmacy Party, The Yorkshire Pudding and Stormin' the Castle. SL and TC will coordinate the NEC Show.

Julie Sperling submitted a report to the Board via email.

SL requested that any and all advertising material for the MAG Rescue package should be disposed of with immediate effect. A new deal has been arranged with RescueMyCar.com who also cover bikes.

New membership forms are now available with the Central Office address.

Julie has been contacting advertisers with a view to converting them to corporate members.

SL will provide information regarding the new Rescue package and the benefits that will accrue to MAG.

9. Forthcoming events:

SL encouraged all to bring information regarding forthcoming events. Adverts can be uploaded to various electronic media to ensure that events are advertised as extensively as possible.

10. Observer requests:

SL stated that there are four (4) observers' positions available at all NC meetings and encouraged attendance. She also clarified that anyone attending to deputise for a Regional Rep is not classed as an observer.

11. Additions to emailed reports:

Regional Reps

British Independent Islands – vacant

Cumbria Report – from Michael Armstrong, Cumbria RR

Whitehaven MAG.

Meetings are going well.

Easter Egg run was on the 20th of March, 150+ bikes attended and a raffle was held at the finishing point.

Furness MAG.

Meetings are going well with a social scene established for upcoming rallies.

Organising the Dead End Rally.

Piel Island Party already organised.

Group have put in an order for some Furness/Cumbria MAG clothing to be made to raise money for local funds.

RR Report.

Regularly attend Whitehaven MAG meetings.

Send NC emails to Furness/Whitehaven MAG.

Attended the Whitehaven MAG Easter Egg Run, I invited Sue Hayman MP for Working to attend (and she did). Invited Jamie Reed MP for Copeland, no reply!

Sent Mutch a write up and photos of the Egg Run for The Road magazine.

See you at the AGC.

East Anglia Report – from Selina Lavender, East Anglia RR & chair

Most significantly we had the Regional AGM 19th of March. Jo Streeton was elected Regional Rep so this is my last report. I will be supporting Jo as her deputy.

Bury St Edmunds MAG: hosted the Regional AGM, made a donation to MAG and a donation to the Foundation. Meeting attendance steady. Late Egg Run going ahead on 3rd April.

Haverhill MAG: being so close to Cambridge (Eastern Region) we will be talking to Eastern Region about how we might attract Cambridge members to the Haverhill meeting.

West Norfolk MAG: attendance is low, some members joined the London Fred Hill Run. Looking at local events to attend as these start in April. Going to look for another meeting venue come the lighter evenings.

East Midlands – vacant

Eastern Report – from Dave Hammond, Eastern RR & Vice Chair

Attended a Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Road Safety Partnership event along with Selina, the event itself was disappointing but made some useful contacts.

Held regional meetings

Keeping regional FB pages updated, Supporting Peterborough group.

Peterborough MAG Update 13th February 2016– 9th April 2016

As of 1st April 2016

April 2015 – April 2016 £1000.00 has been passed over to ER/central.

Campaigns issues:

Signage up Lower Bridge St re No push bikes

Contacted DFT re London Road signage & Peterborough City Council again...should be up by end of April.

The said bus & motorcycle signs will now be available to all.

Succeeded in obtaining a secure motorcycle parking area at Ferry Meadows Nene Park Trust.

Rep attended a Local ADI Group re working together on Peterborough road issues.

Campaigns officer contacted local road safety re running a campaign on roundabout usage in the city.

List of events & any monies raised:

Accepted invitation for MAG Stand in Town Centre 21st May 2016

AGM/quiz have been rescheduled to the 10th May 2016

Successful change of venue
Tink
Peterborough MAG Rep

Greater London – from Tim Fawthrop, Greater London contact
No written report, Tim is new to the NC and has begun to hold meetings in London.

Herts & Essex – from Jon Metcalfe, Herts & Essex RR. No written report

Lincolnshire – from Alex Bridgwood, Lincolnshire RR
No written report.

North East Report – from Dave Wigham, North East RR

Very short one at this time of year.

Groups.

Darlington and Durham continue to tick over the main issue at the moment being the Newcastle Orcas and we are currently in a letter writing marathon with Newcastle City Council re the potential fitment of even more Orcas to other city schemes.

Volunteers at Durham are looking into travelling further afield with the NE MAG stall next year to the issues locally. They have invites to some non-MAG events in Cumbria and are looking into attending some Scots events with Steve Wykes. More to follow in the spring.

Sales of the Blue prostate badges have slowed down with the winter but there's a ¼ page add in this Road and sales will pick up again with the new rally season.

Gordon the Dep Reg Rep is having considerable success with his road reporting scheme and has appeared in Road under the name 'Road Ferret'

Blyth group have gone into suspension until after Christmas. The group was mostly made up of club members from other clubs that used the name Blyth MAG to run events that used the MAG PLI. But did not raise any funds or support MAG and contained a number of members that were actually anti MAG. Being told they would no longer be given access to the MAG PLI unless they raised the funds to cover the costs, plus seemingly insurmountable internal wrangles led to the suspension. There are genuine MAG members that have shown an interest in re-starting meetings so this will be looked into after the Christmas break.

North Wales Report – from Bill Hughes, Acting Rep
No written report, verbal update at meeting

North West Report – from Tony Cox, North West RR & TMAGL Director

12th February: – Board Meeting, MAG Central

Attended the Board Meeting minutes available at www.mag-uk.org.

13th February: - NC Meeting, Wren Hall, Wroxhall

Attended the MAG NC meeting at Wroxhall, minutes available at www.mag-uk.org

14th February: - Fred Hill Run

This was our 12th North West Fred Hill Run but the first one from a new location, The Petre Arms, home of Red Rose MAG. Weather was great and good turnout.

20th February: - Red Rose Rock Night

It was a very successful first event for Red Rose MAG making around £250 profit for MAG. The pub which hosted the event, The Judge Walmsley at Whalley was very supportive and bodes well for future events.

28th February: - NW AGM

The NW MAG AGM was held at the Petre Arms, home of Red Rose MAG. Many thanks to Oliver Rose for being the NC observer. There were around 30 attendees and some lively debate ensued. No real changes in the Regional Officer positions with me still at the helm.

1-3rd April: - Manchester Event City Bike Show

This was the 5th year this show has run and going from strength to strength. I did a contra-deal with the organisers this year and for assistance with the advertisement of this event we got a premium position in Hall 1 FOC. It certainly paid off as we had a record memberships taken, sold £75 of badges and patches, over £50 of cash donations and £400 worth of event tickets sold. I am writing a separate report for the Road which will contain all the show details.

National IT Matters

The new database is now running with live information and Leslie is working closely with Julie at the office to iron out any bugs. Phase 1 complete. I am continuing to maintain the main website until the new one is ready for launch. I am finding it difficult at the moment as we have had a crackdown at work on being able to get through the firewall to ftp do other servers and so all having to be done from home.

Local Group news activities

All NW groups functioning well although not had chance to get about for a while. Salford MAG have moved venues to the Bird in Hand, Eccles.

Northern Ireland – from Paul Wilson, Northern Ireland contact

No written report, new to NC, no meetings as yet.

Scotland Report – from Steve Wykes, Scotland RR & TMAGL Director

Principal activities over the period were engagement with the Scottish Road Safety Framework and preparation for the Scottish hustings with lesser but no less important involvement in ensuring Leon can present Pathways for Progress to the Edinburgh Transport Forum.

12th/13th February - Attended Board and NC meetings.

8th March - Attended Final stakeholder and Board meeting of Scottish Road Safety Framework review. The Framework sets out interventions and indicators aimed at improving Road Safety and monitoring safety improvement with the aim of casualty reduction. Managed to get indicator on speed changed from a somewhat meaningless average speed on Scottish Roads to a more insightful indicator of proportion of vehicles travelling at inappropriate speed. On Motorcycling I was less successful in changing the headline indicator of reduction in motorcycle casualty numbers to a measure of casualty rates, however the importance of monitoring casualty rates with changes of usage has been minuted and will be considered. The meeting also gave me the opportunity to quiz the head of Scotland's Road Safety Camera partnership on the deployment of covert speed cameras which are not deployed in Scotland and are considered to be counterproductive in terms of highlighting accident black spots. Commitment to continue engagement with review of Motorcycling guidelines in Scotland incorporating latest IHIE and TfL information as well as our Pathways for Progress.

13th March - Attended Glasgow and District MAG AGM former Rep Derek Ferris has had to step down due to work commitments, his efforts since the formation of the branch are much appreciated. Andy Cameron a keen and active member has taken over as rep and I wish him every success.

29th March - Attended presentation by the Collision investigation unit organised by the IAM. Interesting and useful presentation indicating measures and techniques used to ascertain accident causation in serious collisions. Slightly disconcerting was the comment that police at the scene often came to the wrong conclusion as to cause and blame proved incorrect after proper collision investigation.

1st April - Attended PATAP steering group meeting contact with Road Safety Partnership Steering group initiated to ensure motorcycles are adequately considered. Sought advice as to the progress of Edinburgh's

trial of Bikes in Bus lanes, believed to be progressing without problems. Les Vallence is no longer in charge of the project having been replaced in this role by Jamie Robertson.

Have been contacting political parties and members concerning Scottish hustings scheduled for 13th April candidates from Labour and the Tories have confirmed attendance other parties are being chased up. Despite changes in dates and initial omission of my request to get pathways for Progress presentation tabled for the next Edinburgh Transport Forum this has now been arranged for the next meeting on 11th May.

In addition, continue to attend Edinburgh and Glasgow MAG meetings.

Best Regards and see you at the weekend.

South East – from Ann France, South East RR

It has been a very busy few months and looking at getting busier with a regional Summer Festival in the planning for July. There were some issues to sort, and some messy finances, but as of this week am hopeful that this has all now been rectified and the region can capitalise on the new fervour....

EAST KENT is now up and running again with regular meetings going on and events already planned. They are establishing a working relationship with their local councillors to improve road qualities etc.

NORTH KENT have an AGM later on this month with a few keen to have group grow. Stephen Mallet has been in contact with local MP with regards to the lower Thames Link and how this will impact motorcyclists. BRIGHTON is still as vibrant as always. With good relationships with local councils and the Bus Lane use in the town itself getting excellent feedback, along with secure parking being installed at key areas throughout and the groups involvement in the Brighton Bike Nights during the summer.

EAST SURREY has become rather quiet, however with the planned event for the region being held more centrally we hope to attract old and new members alike. It has a high percentage of riders and is an affluent area too, so plans to be more high profile will be actioned throughout the coming year.

HASTINGS...has been a non-functioning group for a few years now. But with a few new members signed up in the area and a new venue (owned by a previous MAG rep) a preliminary meeting is being held this month with a view to promote. An AGM will hopefully be held within next few months.

CHICHESTER has been involved with several local events including the local college who hold a yearly motorbike festival. Being on the border of Hampshire they are also involved with a lot of the events promoted via Portsmouth and Southampton MAG groups.

BEACHY HEAD after discussions with the regional committee we have to assume this group is now closed down. After being moved from Eastbourne & Uckfield it has lost all its key members. A future group back in the Eastbourne area is planned for the future.

All in All...my first few months as Reg Rep has been quite a rollercoaster ride and a steep learning curve!

South Wales Report – from Ian Williamson, South Wales RR

Cardiff ran a run out in aid of the Air Ambulance and MAG, proceeds split 50/50, raised £500 for MAG, which together with the £400 from Aberystwyth means South Wales has raised £900 this year so far. Aberystwyth had a run to the motorcycle dealers in South Wales in order to try and get more corporate members, results awaited.

Ken Huntley from Aberystwyth MAG is tasked by the Welsh Government to investigate reports of Orcas in Cardiff and to ensure removal. No feedback as yet.

MAG is leading on the new Enhanced Rider Training Scheme with the Welsh Government, much to the disgust of the IAM.

Cardiff MAG attended the Sunbeam Rally in Cardiff and recruited two new members and some good PR. Efforts are continuing to get Blood Bikes Wales to affiliate to MAG

South Wales will be without a representative from the next NC meeting as I Williamson is stepping down due to health issues.

South West Report – from Tim Poole, South West RR
No written report, verbal update at meeting

Southern Report – from Tim Peregrine, Southern RR
No written report, verbal update at meeting

Thames Valley – from Gareth Lewis, Thames Valley RR

Apologies for the further radio silence I have been rather distracted by the arrival of Elaine and I's son Toby on the 3rd of March by c-section weighing a sporting 9lb 3oz.

Firstly I had hoped to make the AGC but that isn't now going to be possible so please accept and give my apologies.

Things in the Thames Valley remain much the same, Reading's Bike awareness day a few weeks ago was excellent and their Easter bike show went well despite appalling weather, things are on track for the Lion Rally and Wycombe's Dirty Donkey and Chinnor Bike Dayz.

We still have the donations (£10k I think) to make from Reading and Wycombe. Group wise WeBe are wobbling a bit, Wycombe and Windsor remain steady and Reading is seeing a few new faces.

Personally we are stretched organising the Lion Rally, I am chair and Elaine control and sending out the tickets.

Also I am now working for the Harley-Davidson Dealership at Reading which entails working Saturday's with a limit of taking a maximum of 5 off per year. This will make it virtually impossible for me to attend the NC and as such I am still looking for someone else to take on regional rep. Currently though there are no candidates so I will carry on treading water.

Warwickshire – from Roger Ford, Warwickshire RR
No written report

West Midlands – from Eddie Lowe, West Midlands RR & Colin Brown, West Midlands activist

Activity Report

7th February 2016 - 3rd April 2016 2016

Eddie continues his stalwart efforts in the region leading every monthly region meeting and planning the HoE and Brum Demo

Brum Demo/Heart of England Rally

Preparations for the 40th Anniversary of the Brum Demo this year are continuing. We are branding the Demo as a positive celebration of the results of 40 years of campaigning and planning to use the Demo as a platform to promote awareness of the advantages of PTW's that are recognised in the WCA 20 year transport strategy.

We are planning an inaugural MAG National Slow Riding Championship for the HoE. All regions and affiliated clubs will be asked to send a champion to compete for the National Championship.

Regional AGM re-scheduled for 14th May 2016

Armadillos campaign

With Leon's guidance and assistance, we are still fighting the war on these invading mammals. We have placed an Fol request for the RSA for the scheme. The battle appears to be a losing one but we are not finished yet.

Awaiting date for a meeting in April with Councillor Lowe, leader of Dudley Council who has been appointed as Cycling Champion for West Mids Combined Authority

14th March – Birmingham Safer Roads Partnership meeting

Attended BSRP meeting. PTW's were shown as the highest represented VRU group in KSI's and I took the opportunity to point out the lack of funding/initiatives for PTW safety. Contact made with Police, Fire Service etc

30th March – BPA Parking Forum

Delivered a brief presentation on secure parking for PTW's. Useful contacts made with BPA and other organisations present. Contacts also sourced for the MAG Foundation for the parking app.

Western report – from Deb Rose, Western RR

Hi all brief as requested:

Weston and Bristol continue to have good attendance Gloucester lower attendance - now hold meetings monthly instead of weekly but rideout and social meetings planned for other weeks Mid Wilts, Not Avon and Swindon do not have regular meetings at the present

Gloucester have now held their AGM...D. Powell returned as rep

Maghatters rally well attended...a few problems caused by storm Katy...monies still being calculated but a modest profit is expected.

Busy programme of events over the next few months.

See you all on Saturday

Yorkshire Report – from Oliver Rose, Yorkshire RR

No prizes for guessing what's been going on here - AGC is right upon us, and it's taken a lot of my time up over the last couple of months. I've also been floating about observing at my neighbouring regions AGMs.

Elsewhere in the region, all the branches appear to be working hard on both political matters and fundraising as usual. The main thing I've noticed is the continued innovation in their fundraising activities, with all sorts of weird and wonderful ideas coming out and being successful when no-one would have expected them to do so.

AC reported that Lincolnshire Region AGM returned AB as Regional Rep.

TPO reported that Mid Devon AGM had taken place.

TP reported that a couple of AGMs are forthcoming and that Salisbury Show has secured funding that will go to road closures and SIA training for marshals.

AF reported a good opening meeting for a new group in the region and a couple of forthcoming AGMs.

DW is in discussion with North East Combined Authority.

i. Chair and Vice-Chair

Responded to two Cambridge road schemes.

Attended the London Fred Hill Run. We now have a new contact for greater London in Tim Fawthrop.

Attended the February NC and Board meetings.

Finalised December NC minutes.

Released February NC minutes. Amended February NC minutes.
Attended Come Dine with MAG in Barnstaple.
Attended a Road Safety Partnership meeting in Huntingdon with Dave Hammond.
Sent out electronic version of the membership flyer to a local training school and offered support (Dave Hammond main contact)
Issued a response to the TfL Urban Motorcycle Design Handbook.
Input and sign off on a response to the Northern Ireland Assembly re: compulsory helmets for trike riders and passengers.
We have a new contact for Northern Ireland in Paul Wilson, we have exchanged emails but I've not managed to talk with him yet.
Made a response to an article by David Williams in the London Evening Standard relating to the amount of money invested in road schemes to 'benefit' cyclists.
Attend East Anglia AGM as NC observer.
Watermarked the current constitution.
Highlighted some documents with Julie that needed the address changing and re-issuing.
Started photographing products to replace the existing ones in The ROAD.
Got to grips with MAG Wiki.
New MAG letter templates.
Working with Andy Carrott on position statements.
MAG Membership Powerpoint.
Opened a Twitter account and started Tweeting.
Assisted Central with Twitter so now they have access to the MAG Twitter account.
Various Facebook postings and responses to questions on to the National FB page.
Input to Network.
Monthly BSH articles.
Article for The ROAD.
Crunched the numbers to see which Region would be receiving the Bald Eagle Award this year. Made sure the office has all the details for awards and certificates.
I have talked with a number of Regional Reps, contacts and activists to support them / answer questions.
The stand at the 3 main Yorkshire rallies and Stormin' the Castle will now be managed by Avril and Kay from the North East.
I speak with the office once or twice every week. I have been speaking to Lembit every week since he's come back on line after his op. I speak with Leon approximately every two weeks.
Currently I am focused on AGC, the agenda, making sure people are prepared for the awards section and bringing together everything we need to deliver to the venue.

Vice Chair Report

Keeping National FB page updated regularly with useful information as well as some humorous post to keep people interested.

Assisting Chair with Power Point presentations & an ear when needed.

ii. Finance Officer

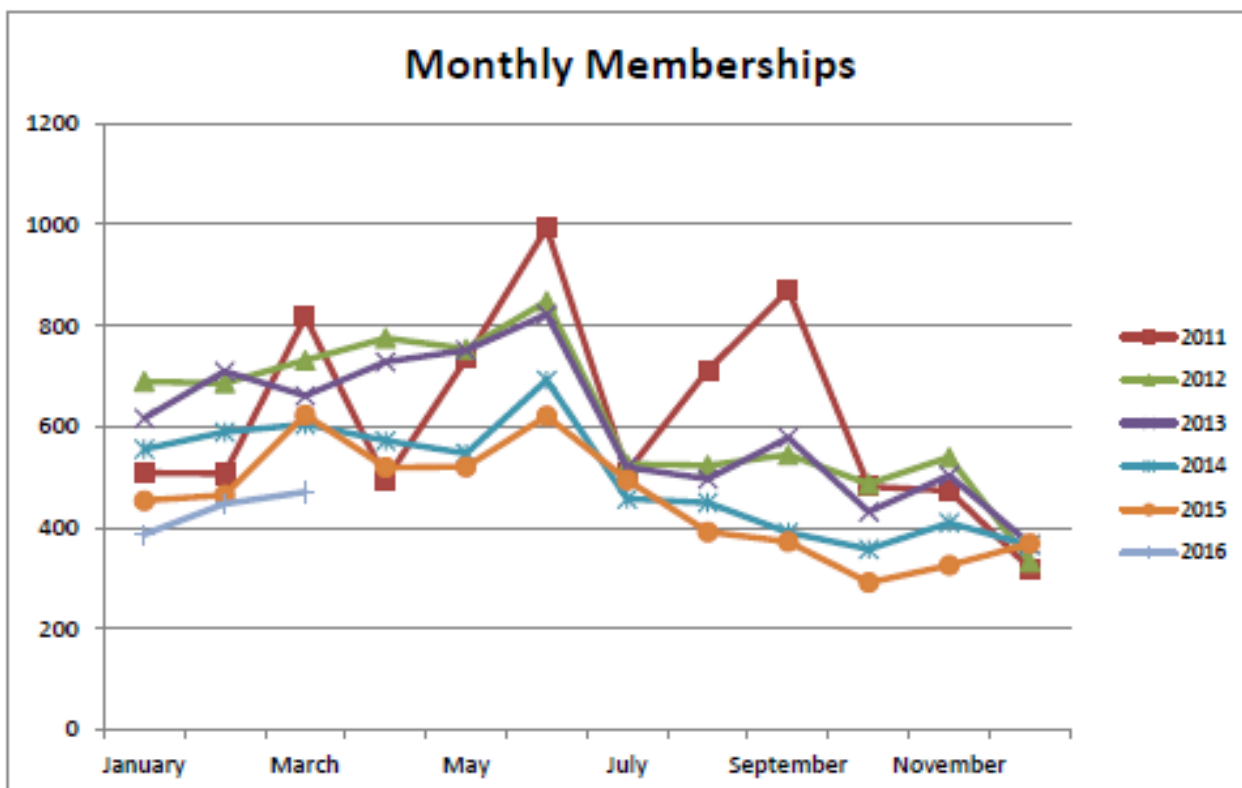
Finance Report

This is a brief report detailing any significant data which will allow you to see how we are financially for The Motorcycle Action Group Limited up to end of February 2016.

2014/15 accounts are with the Board for signing.

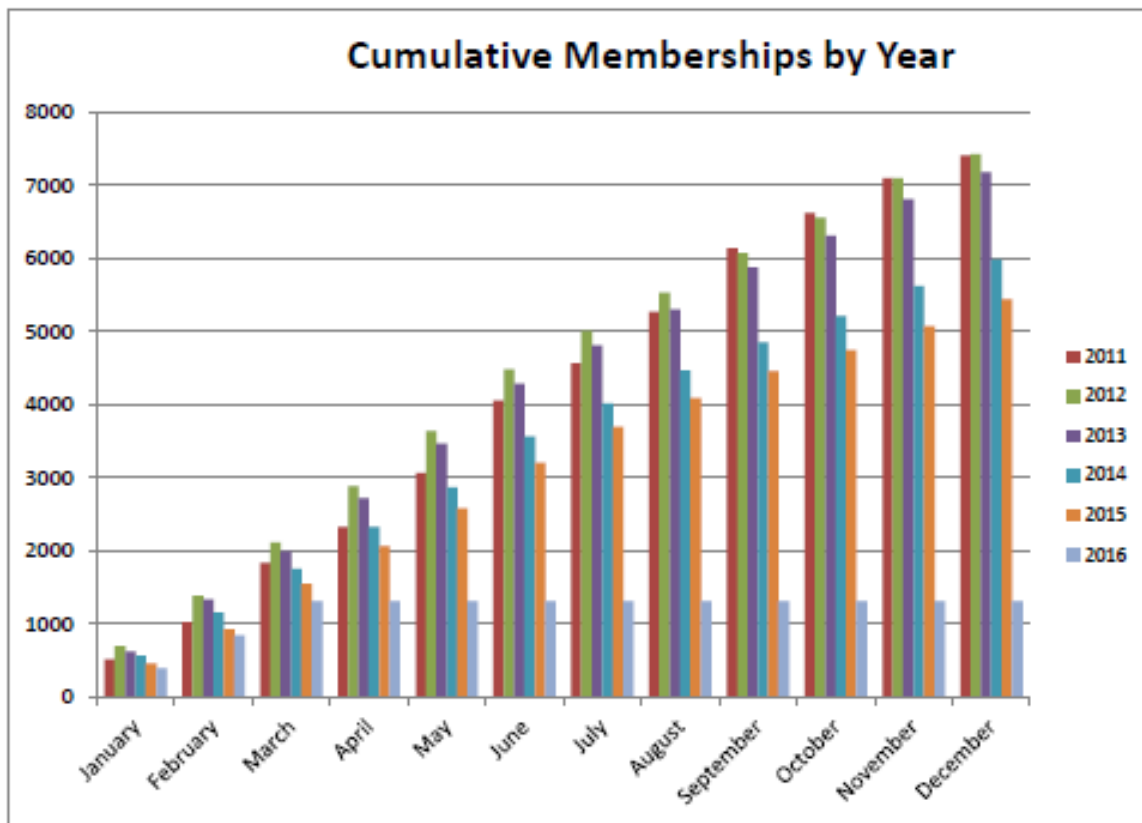
The office is still having broadband issues regarding bandwidth, this is being reported on and monitored by the two suppliers – no update regarding exchange upgrade but ultimately we will continue to experience the same issues until fibre is installed – no change. The new database has been used for the last three weeks and still undergoing improvements but overall we have only had a few minor issues which have quickly been resolved. Thank you to Leslie Johns on this work.

The below graph shows that memberships by month have continued to decrease and generally follow the pattern of previous years. Please note the graph includes most of March 2016 transactions; these are not reconciled month end figures.



To help understand the figures and their effects to our total numbers of membership please see the following chart showing each cumulative year by month. Please note that all membership figures are new/renewed memberships and exclude Life memberships and voting memberships of affiliated clubs or corporate members. Previously it was calculated that we had 1500 Life members (old database) and now with the new database the actual figure is 1404 and we have now been able to cleanse some of the data to give accurate figures.





Plus 1,404 Life members.

Cash balances as at today 07.04.16 or where indicated.

TMAGL	Lloyds – current	07.04.16	2841.29
TMAGL	Lloyds – instant access	07.04.16	48228.87
TMAGL	Lloyds – standing orders	07.04.16	1389.12
NEL	Lloyds – current	01.03.16	8218.40
MAG Foundation	Lloyds – current	01.04.16	971.20
MAG Foundation	RBS – current	19.03.16	2633.81
MAG Media	RBS – current	11.03.16	4532.48

Report circulated by email.

iii. National Clubs Officer

Quickie from me - the only thing I've been working on is the presentation to AGC which I'll be making available to the NC prior to the meeting (once I've written the show notes).
OR stated that Clubs presentation is now completed.

iv. National Reps' Liaison Officer

Ongoing:

Code of Conduct approved at February NC meeting and can now be rolled out nationally for Reps and Officers at all levels.

Work on building a procedure manual for hosting AGC, by developing thorough notes provided by Sarah from Taunton MAG, is close to draft stage.

Continue to support Regional Reps with welcomes and provision of information.

Continue to support Chair/Vice Chair with admin tasks.

Drafted article for The Road to encourage existing and potential Regional Reps.

Looking ahead:

Work on Version 2 of Reps' Handbook, which will include more information and guidance in respect to matters I.T. related.

Develop an induction process for new officers. Hopefully this will be moving up the priorities list going forward in 2016.

Jane Carrott

v. Executive Officer

April 2016 Board/NC (AGC)

**Nice Employer Ltd and The Motorcycle Action Group Limited Report
Julie Sperling Executive Officer.**

Updates

Offices – Costs are continuing to be small and manageable. Business rates charges have now come through for the financial year 2016/17 and Warwick District Council have re-applied the small business relief keeping those costs to a minimum £438.82 for the year. I have also met with Clive Gamlin of Castlemead and the insurance costs have increased slightly only due to the rate increase from 6% to 9.5% Insurance Tax otherwise the actual costs have remained the same. The main difference to acknowledge is the excess for the Hired in Plant policy has increased from £250 to £350 per claim.

IT – During March I have mainly concentrated on the development of the Members Database built by member Leslie Johns, this was launched on Monday 21st March, we had a few minor glitches which were worked through and we are now only using this online variant. As we come across an issue we inform Leslie who reacts with an almost immediate turn around response so has not caused any delays in the office. We are now beginning to get to grips with it and learning the databases new capabilities as it is further developed. Work is now starting on our email lists membership subscribers, roles and regions which is the first part to integration for the website and the office for automated list enrolment and vice

versa. Our only issue regarding this is the bandwidth to our broadband services, which are out of our control but something I still have to investigate further.

MAG (UK) – No further updates.

MAG Media – I have managed to convert one of our regular advertisers in to a Corporate member and agree an advertising package for the year and they've paid up front as well. This approach could be the way to go and offer other Corporate members a fixed package, your thoughts would be appreciated on this.

MAG Foundation – I attended the BPA meeting with Colin Brown, where he asked to be able to conduct a presentation, which went very well and highlighted the issues raised regarding secure motorcycle parking. The BPA new President is a motorcyclist and was pleased that we had contributed and resurrected the connection. The organiser promised that all carparks that hold the Park Mark will be audited and the findings will be forwarded to us regarding the options available but this only covers around 25% of all carparks. We also made some new connections regarding parking apps and parking security options – these will be investigated.

Staff – All staff are happy and continue to be busy. Once the full interface of the membership database is in flow, this will change how Carol's role will be completed - reduce repeated data input and some of the paper hungry functions which will free up time to allow Carol to take on further tasks. Lembit seems to be very active and he now sees the benefit of taking the time he needed to recover fully from his operation. We must continue to keep his priorities well defined and set deadlines – as this works better with his style of working.

Sub-Contractors contracts – Leon continues to be overwhelmed and we are looking at ways to reduce any stress caused by this – I have insisted that he takes some time out on a regular basis to keep his focus. ***

My role – As advised previously I have started to look at policies and the largest of all were employee related, so I have gone through the Employee Handbook and updated where necessary and forwarded to the Directors of NEL for consideration – ongoing from last report. Due to the added pressure of the membership database I have not fully looked at our Health & Safety policies but have started to ensure that the information we have is current and up to date. As previously stated the new membership database is fully operational and will admit that some days it necessitated extra time allowance but happy to report its total success and well within the deadline for implementation. There are lots of variables with it and we will start to go down the list of wishes in order. There will be a major data cleanse at some point in the future but the basics are there and already many improvements to the old one.

MAG Member Benefits – MAG Rescue has been provided by the same company I believe from 1997 and had always received a good/fair service from them. Unfortunately for the last year things have not been smooth with the payment of commissions, member issues/complaints and contact unavailability. Jeff Lewendon was fully aware and recently had been suffering the same regarding contact so he was investigating other options for us. He sourced another supplier in the form of Rescuemycar.com (slight irony here!) where the commission rates are similar to the previous supplier but with a scaling increase of commission based on sales to MAG members (as an incentive for us to maximize this). The cover options are better and prices for the same service are the same price along with a good reputation. In the meantime we also received notification from Jeff that the previous supplier would no longer offer the service to new subscribers and would for renewals offer a third party service which to me was not acceptable, this was with immediate effect in real terms giving just over a week's notice. I have gone ahead with the new supplier so that MAG members do not miss out on the member benefit and hope that you are happy with my decision. I will monitor the commission received and compare to the previous supplier and advise accordingly.

*** indicates redacted information

Report circulated by email.

vi. Contractors

I have to say that despite our differences in recent times I am rather missing Neil's presence at NC meetings. The thing is, that since my ears seem to be showing the wear of 40 years of riding motorcycles he's one of the only people on the NC I can hear. I'm inclined to believe that the rest of you are all deliberately whispering in order to make me feel inferior and I can tell you now it's not going to work. I'm on to you. So can we all speak up at the next meeting please and stop this nonsense because it's not big and it's not clever.

Now where The ROAD is concerned there are those who look at the magazine and say gosh! do you do all that on your own? These are the people I like. There are others like my old friend the Bug who I am on my way to visit now on the Isle of Wight, who says how the hell can this piece of infantile shit take you two months to produce? Of course we can all see that he is a fool, despite having spent many years as a sub and sometimes editor of a regional daily paper.

Blessedly the job has got far easier than it used to be before everyone and his dog went digital and as we've seen one dog sometimes takes over the reins completely at times. But enough of this tomfoolery.

This issue has once again been completed on time, hopefully with 84 pages all different from the others. My thanks to Missi Julie at central for spotting the duplicated meetings page. I've afforded her the privilege of accessing the printers' website with necessary passwords so she can see all the pages laid out and identify such glaring errors at the critical time when fate always seems to lead to me being up into the early hours when my eyes get very tired and such oversights are most likely.

I doubt if we will ever eradicate the last minute rush that leads to the midnight oil being burned as it is in these last days that everyone seems to wake up and say oooh can you squeeze this in or you clot you've called our rally the gay gibbon when it is obviously the ray ribbon. No offence to anyone gay or to gibbons - or indeed to gay gibbons, gay gordons or other entirely legitimate permutations of human or arboreal life.

Three things contrived to squeeze me for time on this issue. Lembit is to blame for most of them as he insisted on me coming to London for a reason I've forgotten but we ended up at a very strange and rather elite party in the middle temple that is situated between Fleet St and the river. It's a maze of atmospheric old courtyards populated with carousing barristers, notorious politicians of entirely legitimate persuasions, loud entrepreneurs with the kind of diplomatic sensitivity that would make Neil look like the subtlest of ambassadors and Estonian robot manufacturers. I felt as if I had fallen into a Noel Coward play, the plot of which had been assisted by PG Woodhouse in a setting inspired by Sherlock Holmes' rooms on Baker Street. The only way to deal with it was to accept the vin rouge pressed on me with enthusiasm by the loud entrepreneur and observe the eccentric kaleidoscope evolve through a progressively blurred prism of alcohol induced myopia.

I should emphasise the fact that Lembit's work ethic and ability to bounce back from the odd shandy is something to marvel at. The surgically attached mobile growing out of his ear operates so much of the time that even if he might seem to be in a relaxing environment, he isn't. I suspect we may have to remove all technology from him for periods of recuperation during which he must be forcibly taken to remote locations to undergo work-free cold turkey and recharged.

When Lembit arrived at mine some days later he forced me to drink a glass of red wine after which I naturally became a tad flamboyant and batted my Mac off the arm of the sofa. My living room floor is all bare boards and sadly the screen splintered- furthermore the hard drive went goofy and every tiny action precipitated endless revolutions of the pitzah of death. Fortunately, I was back in London the next day for a meeting at the ACE Cafe so I dropped the Mac, not literally this time, at Lembit's favourite laptop fixing venue in Lambeth where a new screen and hard drive were fitted. The machine then had to be sent to Cumbria to where my Mac consultant has moved his business for two days of re-distillations that thankfully seem to have been covered by my monthly consultancy fee.

On the bright side The Ace meeting went well with 15 people turning up, some of whom were meeting me for the first time and were obviously thrilled by the experience. Tim who is to be the first London rep seems like a good egg and lives close to Tower Bridge which is about as central as central gets. A pub with a room has now been located and meetings advertised in this issue of The ROAD.

I was further delayed by the construction of a fence designed to make my garden Jack-proof as he had torn out a rotten section of the old fence and legged it which brought me close to cardiac arrest. Since my Mac was away undergoing surgery - hang on I've told you all this haven't I? Well I've started so I'll finish. The Mac returned substantially enhanced but the fence was not finished for another two days so Jack could not access to the garden which sent him barmy and he chewed up my venetian blinds trying to get through the French windows. I had help from Kirk who is a bit mad and is occasionally tazered by the police or as he describes the experience in posh stentorian style, 'I have been treated to a little electrolysis courtesy of her majesty's constabulary.' Kirk is handy when there are huge blocks of concrete to be unearthed but then he wanders off to commune with buttercups from time to time and this extended the task.

Anyway what of this issue? Well it got somewhat delayed by the aforementioned plus total of about a week of filming at my house and related sites by a film crew who were making a programme about people planning to use their home for holiday lets or converting for B&B purposes. This is of no help to MAG of course but it does explain a degree of truancy that put a little more pressure on me. I am hoping to do holiday lets with mine when I go on my occasional trips, speaking of which I must of course go to Iran at the earliest opportunity though not before AGC you'll be glad to hear.

Progress on this one was also retarded by the fact that after dinner in the evening I have been trying to work using my laptop on my lap in the living room in front of the woodburner as I can't seem to heat my loft enough to be comfy up there. The loft is where my big monitor is and I work quicker when I'm using that in conjunction with the laptop. Anyway I have now recruited help in the shape of a plumber called fairly vague Dave who has fitted a big fat radiator in the loft. It got fired up today for the first time and instantly turned the loft into a sauna so I shall be happier working up there in cool weather in the future and this is a source of great joy as you will no doubt agree.

With this issue finished I went over to the Isle of Wight to see an old mate called the bug he of the newspaper world and one of three people seated in his parents dining room in 1973 when we toyed around with names for an organisation to repeal the helmet law. Well while over there delivering a bed in pieces I thought I'd capitalise on the trip by trying to meet the former MAG member who set up the Rider Action Group. I met him in a spectacular pisshole of a pub next to the ferry terminal and he seemed like a pretty decent sort of bloke. I gave him a take on staffgate that I hoped would persuade him that we are not the total bunch of bastards he might have thought and emphasised the need for MAG to have as many members and groups as possible in order to employ the staff needed to be an effective lobby group. He didn't argue with anything I said and we parted after an hour or so with the intention of keeping in contact. I found the meeting more convivial than I'd thought it might have been and judged it time well spent. Who knows perhaps we can get MAG re-established on the island. I did tell him about Lembit's initiative re the helmet law on the island which he thought was a really cool idea though his view of the MP for the island was not favourable.

Anyway there I was in line for the ferry and the printers ring and say two pages have gone wrong so I correct them in the car while shuffling forward to the ferry and then email them at sea as the ferries now have wifi. You may say big deal what do you want a medal?

As you may have guessed - the answer is yes.

I hope this has been helpful

Mr M

None.

12. Any other business:

None.

Meeting adjourned for Annual Group Conference

Meeting reconvened post-Conference

SL welcomed Ian Churchlow as a new Director for TMAGL.

13. Appointment of Vice Chair:

SL appointed DH as Vice Chair.

14. Appointment of Network Officer:

AG was re-appointed as Network Officer.

SL noted that IW is stepping down as S. Wales Rep due to ill health. Deputy Rep Gareth will be assisting with cover for the region.

15. Priorities:

L&L priorities were identified as follows:

Elections
Road widths
London Mayoral election
Helmets for trike riders in Northern Ireland
Provision of information relating to the EU referendum

All published documents will be checked for relevance, watermarks, etc.

LM observed that the issue around road carriageway widths will be fundamental.

L&L are looking to produce three press releases a week going forward, along with an all-inclusive release monthly.

AC raised concerns regarding the links on the MAG Wiki and the fact that it appears that access is unrestricted. TC will look into this.

DH thanked SL for her work as Chair over the past year.

Meeting closed.

Date of next meeting: Saturday 11th June 2016.