

OCTOBER 2026

POND LIFE



LAKE SIDE

CHAPTER HARLEY OWNERS GROUP 7958

Lakeside Chapter have once again been asked to help Marshal the Billericay Round Table Charity Fireworks Display.



See page 56 for full details



PAGES

7

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S SADDLE

Ash reflects on the past month and looks forward to what's coming up.



9

SO ITS "HELLO FROM HIM"

Phil Hopper says a few words as our newly appointed Assistant Director.



10

HEAD ROAD CAPTAIN & SAFTEY

Vince reminds us how we mark routes on our ride-outs so we can all enjoy a safe ride without getting lost.



12

FUNDRAISING OFFICER

Chris shares what the Chapter is up to with regards to fundraising and our work with the chosen charity.



15

LADIES OF HARLEY

Pam shares the news for the Ladies.



27

A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

Lynn gives us some tips to help us look after ourselves during the darker, colder months.



28

EVENTS

Sue and Pam reflect on what the Chapter has been up to and bring us news about upcoming events.



41

A WEEKEND IN THE PEAK DISTRICT

Mary Harris tells us of an excellent riding weekend in the Peak District



POND LIFE

COMMITTEE



DIRECTOR
ASHLEY SMART



ASSISTANT DIRECTOR,
PHIL HOPPER



CHAPTER SECRETARY
NEIL SEARLE-JONES



TREASURER
STEVE WINTERS



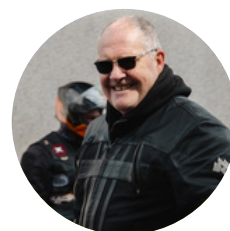
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY
MARY HARRIS



LADIES OF HARLEY OFFICER AND
JOINT EVENTS OFFICER
PAM SMART



COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER
AND JOINT EVENTS OFFICER
SUE STURTON



FUNDRAISING OFFICER
CHRIS BELL



MERCHANDISING OFFICER
DEAN KERMACK



PHOTOGRAPHER
MANDY SMITH



WEBMASTER AND HISTORIAN
KEVIN SMITH



WELFARE OFFICER
LYNN GUNN



HEAD ROAD CAPTAIN AND SAFETY OFFICER
VINCE KNIGHT



EDITOR
TONY HITCHING

FROM THE EDITOR

Hello and welcome to this October edition of Pondlife. We begin October's edition of Pondlife with a big "Hello" to "Big" Phil Hopper who bravely underwent the Trials of Hercules to come out the victor and be appointed as the Chapter's new Assistant Director. OK.....it wasn't that dramatic an ordeal, but it still deserves a huge "congratulations" from us all.

In this edition, Ash gives his reflections on the past month and what lies ahead, Vince, gives us a handy reminder on how we mark the route when on ride-outs (second man drop off and buddy system), we get the lowdown from Pam on what the Ladies have

been up to and Sue and Pam as the Events Team highlight the honour we had as a Chapter when we were asked to lead the Billericay Community Festival. Check out the events pages as well for all up and coming events.

As the nights draw in Lynn, as our Welfare Officer, gives us some good advice to help us stay healthy during the colder months. And check out the Merchandise pages where Dean has been busy with his new printing toys, coming up with some great new design ideas for Chapter merchandise. Early Christmas ideas possibly?

September continued to be an active riding month, as evidenced by the ride write-ups in this edition, which are complemented by Mary Harris giving us a run down of a number of Chapter Members' going on a tour of the Peak District. This was very kind of Mary to do this whilst we await Paul Edwards and Keith Brooks' own version of "The Odyssey" (their Italian trip) which has been promised!!! Whilst Kevin Costner believed "if you build it, they will come" I believe "if you pester enough, Paul will write it!". Watch this space.

Finally, don't forget that we are approaching Guy Fawkes' Night and we have once again been asked to marshal the Billericay Round Table fireworks display on Saturday 7 November. If you can help out please let Phill "Rainman" Poston know as soon as you can. Full details appear under the "Future Rides" section in this edition.

Well – that's enough from me.....almost. Don't forget the new email addresses for Committee Members in case you want to get in touch with us. A reminder of these addresses is on the next page.

Enjoy Pondlife and I'll see you on the road.

Tony H



FROM THE DIRECTOR'S SADDLE

The Journey Is More Than the Destination.....

As riders, we're often focused on where we're going. The next rally, the next Chapter ride, the next scenic route, or simply the next opportunity to get out on our Harleys. We plan the route, check the weather, fuel up, and point our bikes towards the horizon.

But as I reflected on the past month, I realised that what makes our Chapter special isn't really the destination at all. It's the journey we share getting there and once again we have had some great rides and events over the past month.



Every ride-out starts with a collection of individuals arriving at the meeting point. By the end of the day, we've shared stories, laughs, miles of open road, coffee stops, and experiences that create lasting memories. New friendships are formed, confidence grows for newer riders, and long-standing members continue to strengthen the bonds that make Lakeside Chapter such a fantastic community.

One of the things that continually impresses me is the willingness of members to support one another. Whether it's helping a fellow rider with a technical issue, offering encouragement to someone new to group riding, or simply sharing knowledge gained from years in the saddle - the spirit of camaraderie is alive and well throughout our Chapter. This also relates to the Committee and Crew who are always there to assist each other...and with that I and the Committee welcome Phil Hopper onboard as our new Assistant Director, Phil will make a great Assistant Director supporting me, the Committee and Members.

As Committee Members, Road Captains/Crew, we work hard behind the scenes to organise events and rides, but the real success of our Chapter comes from you, our members. Your continued enthusiasm, participation and positive attitude creates the atmosphere which makes people want to return month after month and the Committee wanting to put so much effort and time into all the events and rides for members. (Thank you.)

As we move further into the riding season, I encourage everyone to make the most of every opportunity. Join a ride you've never tried before, introduce yourself to someone you've not met or spoken with, volunteer at an event or invite any prospective new members along to experience what Lakeside Chapter is all about, we always welcome guests - both riders and pillions.

(continued next page)





Thank you for your continued support, friendships, and your passion for riding.

Ride Safe, Ride Often, and Enjoy Every Mile with Lakeside Chapter

ASH

SO ITS “HELLO FROM HIM”

Hi all.

I have been asked to write a few words following my appointment as your Chapter's Assistant Director, so here we go:

Motorbike
Harley Davidson
Lakeside HOG Chapter
Fun
Friendship
Brotherhood
Sisterhood
Riding.

Well that's enough words from me.

No, in all seriousness I am honoured and humbled to take up this position within the Chapter and will to the best of my ability support each and every one of you in what is, without doubt, the best HOG Chapter in the country.

All the best and remember it's all about the ride.

Phil H

Assistant Director



HEAD ROAD CAPTAIN & SAFETY

Well, where do I start? I seem to have spent more time ill this month rather than riding or working!

We still have a plethora of rides in the diary and the weather is being kind.

I just want to go over/refresh your memory (more for new members) on group riding as there seems to be some conflicting information within the group. So if we all sing from the same hymn sheet we will all have a safe enjoyable ride.

Generally, most rides will be STAGGERED RIDING unless on a small country lane where we then go to single file (snake).



Staggered file means that if the 1st rider behind the Road Captain is on the left-hand side of the traffic lane the next rider should be on the right-hand side of the traffic lane, then the next rider is back on the left and so on through the group. A minimum of two seconds should be the gap between you and the rider in front of you.

THE ROAD CAPTAIN DOES NOT FORM PART OF THE STAGGER and is free to use of all the road. Please try and keep to your position in the pack to avoid everyone behind you having to change road positions.

2nd Man Drop off

This is the preferred method of route marking and as it suggests the second person in the ride (i.e. the rider directly behind the Road Captain) will be dropped off at a point along the route to mark the route for others in the group. The Road Captain will indicate, normally either left or right (sometimes it may be straight on or on a particularly long stretch as a marker to show that the ride is still ahead of the other riders). If you do not feel safe to stop there you must stop as soon you feel safe and if necessary, and it is safe to do so, go back to the point on foot to indicate the ride route.

The Road Captain should explain how they are going to indicate the drop off - normally they will raise their hand (tap their head) and point to an area of road they want you to stop. Most drops will be to the nearside of the road but occasionally it could be to the off side of the road so be ready.

DON'T MOVE UNTIL YOU SEE AN ORANGE HI-VIS JACKET!! (THE SWEEPER) STAYS AT THE BACK TO PICK UP THE DROP OFF'S FROM THE FRONT... You could be there for some time perhaps 15 or 20 minutes (if the ride gets broken up due to heavy traffic for example), but the Road Crew will eventually arrive, and you then pull off. If you leave your spot before the Road Crew arrive the whole ride could collapse. The Road Crew will generally facilitate you pulling out ahead of them but if that is not possible then just pull off when safe after the tail end and they will allow you to pass. There are no drop offs on motorways, but this will be covered in the brief.

The Buddy System

We only use this system in small groups and requires you to know who is in front of you and who is behind you ONLY and should you find that you do not have a bike behind you when a turn is made you wait at the junction until the next bike comes along before pulling off. They will do the same if necessary.

With both systems traffic plays a big part in how close or not the group is, and the idea of the system is to allow you to ride safely always knowing that the route will be marked.

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It ONLY matters that you can see a bike behind you, NOT the rest of the group.

The weather at the moment is still quite warm. Please remember to hydrate as much as you can as it is surprising how much you sweat in bike gear. Also, try not to be tempted to ride in a t-shirt, the tarmac will strip your skin in milliseconds in the event of you taking a tumble. I always say, I'd rather sweat than bleed!!

Later this month (October) the Road Crew will start compiling next year's rides.

If you have any suggestions, then please let me or any crew member know. You may drop me an email suggesting your ride out ideas. You can submit your ideas to headrc-Lakesidechapter@outlook.com. Although we will consider all your submissions, please keep them achievable.

Above all have fun, ride your bike and if possible, EAT

Vince

Head Road Captain

FUNDRAISING OFFICER

Aaron Lewis Foundation



Hello fellow bikers and trikers - yes, mine is back on the road. Don't forget we have our now famous Christmas Carol Concert again this year but with a twist, we have been asked to sing at the Kings Arms Xmas market on 5th December. We have a couple of practice nights at Pam Smart's house on 12th November and 3rd December at 6.30 so please put these dates in your diary.

We are looking at doing our Xmas run this year to a charity called Tinytoes which is a charity for tiny babies whose mothers cannot afford items for their babies. All mothers are chosen by the midwives who look after them. So we are looking for donations of nappies, bottles and baby clothes up to 6 months or anything you think will help new mums and their children.

One for your diary for next year is the Arron Lewis 10s Rugby tournament at Westcliff rugby club. The date is Saturday 26th June 2027. We will ride there, show our bikes and watch the rugby, I will let you know more details as I get them.

Well guys that's all from me for now so rubber side down and see you all on the road.



Chris

And don't forget to check out the following flyers for our charity events.

LAKESIDE CHAPTER CHRISTMAS CHOIR

CHARITY SING-ALONG

In aid of
The Arron Lewis Charity



*Join Us for a Festive
Sing-Along!*

THE
KINGS
ARMS

The Kings Arms
5th December 2026

11:00 – 3:00 (timings to be confirmed)



No experience needed — and you don't need a good voice!



Just bring your Christmas cheer and join in the fun.



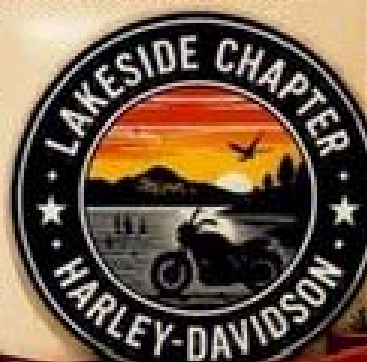
Christmas jumpers, crazy Christmas hats all warmly welcomed.



Lakeside Chapter would love to encourage all members to come along, sing your hearts out, and support this wonderful charity event.



We hope you can join us and help make the day magical.



*Sing Together. Support Together.
Make a Difference.*

★ ★ LET'S MAKE SOME NOISE FOR A GREAT CAUSE! ★ ★

LET'S FILL SANTA'S SACK! ❤️

We're building a brilliant raffle for our Christmas Party — and we need your fabulous prizes!

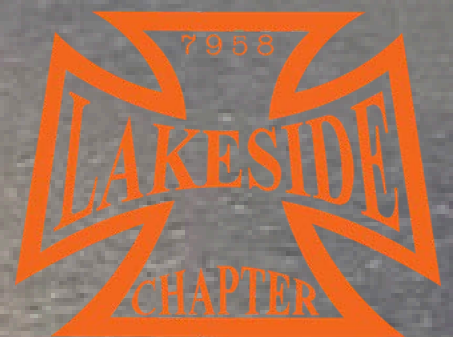
Big gifts, tiny treats, quirky surprises...
if it makes you smile, it's perfect!



Hand your goodies to Chrissy Bell — Charity Officer,
or drop them off at Natter Night.

😊 Thank you in advance — you're helping
make Christmas extra magical.

LADIES OF
HARLEY



LADIES OF HARLEY

As October rolls in and the nights begin to draw close, that familiar favourite season of mine is just around the corner. The Lakeside Ladies of Harley have kept the wheels turning and the laughter flowing, staying busy and embracing every moment along the way. With a few exciting adventures already on the horizon, it's the perfect time to look back and share what we've been up to this month. Settle in, grab a cuppa, and enjoy the ride with us.

First thing I need to remind you of is.....remember to turn your clocks back on the 25th October 2024, which marks the end of British Summer Time! Good news - means an extra hour in bed!



LAKESIDE LADIES OF HARLEY AFTERNOON TEA



A huge thank you to all the Lakeside Ladies of Harley who joined us for our Afternoon Tea gathering. It was wonderful to see so many of you there, with 14 ladies coming together to catch up with old friends, share plenty of laughter, and enjoy a truly bountiful lunch. The table was overflowing with delicious treats, and everyone certainly brought their A-game when it came to baking and food preparation!

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Special mentions have to go to Ann and her legendary sausage rolls, Julie's delicious cheese scones with a twist, Caroline's enormous pavlova, and the wonderful cupcakes made by Mary and Mandy. Alongside these were many other tasty goodies that made the afternoon such a success.

I would like to sincerely thank each and every one of you for bringing something along. We simply couldn't have done it without your generosity and enthusiasm.



It is occasions like these that remind us what a special group we have within the Lakeside Ladies of Harley.

Most importantly, it was lovely to spend time together, catching up, sharing stories, and enjoying each other's company away from our busy schedules. The afternoon was filled with friendship, laughter, and plenty of good food.

Well done to all the ladies who won raffle prizes!

Thank you all for helping to make it such a memorable event. It was a fantastic afternoon and definitely one worth repeating in the future!



To top it off, we even had a little visitor who popped in to say hello!



LOH Tiptree Challenge Ride 2026

On Sunday 27th September, 15 bikes, 17 Lakeside Chapter Members, and a whole lot of Harley-Davidson noise set off on this year's eagerly anticipated Tiptree Challenge Ride. With blue skies overhead and plenty of enthusiasm, the challenge was on!



This year's mission was simple: visit four Tiptree destinations, take a photo at each location, and collect a raffle ticket along the way. At the final stop, riders would add up their tickets to see who would be taking home one of three very special prizes... jars of delicious Tiptree Jam!



Our first stop was Heybridge Basin, where photographs were taken, raffle tickets collected, and everyone enjoyed a relaxing break sitting on the sea wall, soaking up the morning sunshine. It was the perfect start to the day and gave everyone a chance to catch up before heading back onto the road.



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From there, we rode through the beautiful leafy lanes of Essex to the Tiptree Factory. Arriving in good spirits, we were treated to some delicious cakes, kindly left over from the Ladies of Harley Afternoon Tea. After a quick comfort break and a chance to stretch our legs, it was helmets back on and engines fired up for the next leg of the challenge.



Our third destination was Cressing Temple, where we parked up on the grass and enjoyed the last of the cakes while collecting another raffle ticket. By this stage the competitive spirit was definitely beginning to show! In fact, a few raffle tickets decided to make a break for freedom and were spotted blowing across the grass in the breeze, much to everyone's amusement.



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Then it was on to the final destination, Barleylands Tiptree Café. The sunshine was still shining as the final photographs were taken and the moment of truth arrived. Raffle tickets were counted, added together, and the winners announced.



Congratulations to Phil H, Paul H, and Adrian, who each took home a prize and some scrumptious Tiptree Jam!



The ride lasted around three and a half hours and was a fantastic day from start to finish. The company was brilliant, the roads were enjoyable, and the laughter and camaraderie were second to none. Days like this remind us why we love riding together and being part of such a wonderful Chapter.



All that remains for me to say is a huge thank you to everyone who joined the ride and helped make it such a success. Your enthusiasm, good humour, and support made the day truly memorable.

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See you all again next year... when we'll be raising the stakes with five Tiptree destinations!

Adventures Coming Soon!



(continued next page)

Lakeside Ladies



Christmas Evening Wreath Making

Wednesday 25th November 2026

Pam's House

6.30pm

Bring out your creative side and join us in a

'Christmas Wreath' making evening.

All materials will be supplied to make a

'Bespoke Festive Christmas Wreath'

for your home!

Mulled wine on arrival

Nibbles & Drinks Supplied

Cost: £40:00

to be paid by the September 30th 2026

(this is a non-refundable event).

Payment to the Chapter - account Ref: 'LOH Wreath 2026'.

Please let me know in advance if you plan to attend,

Contact Pam at loh@lakesidechapter.co.uk for more information and to book a ticket!

Family and Friends Welcome.

JOIN US FOR A

2026

LADIES OF HARLEY CHRISTMAS PARTY CRUISE

DECEMBER

12th

16:00PM

**CELEBRATE THE SEASON IN STYLE WITH A 5
COURSE DINNER, SHOW, DISCO &
OVERNIGHT FESTIVE STAY INCLUDING
BREAKFAST.**

**FOR £149:00 PER-PERSON
(sharing a cabin)**

(please pay the chapter Ref: Cruise) Non-refundable

**Please contact Pam as soon as possible
to book your place!**

**Ambassador Cruises
Tilbury**

CHRISTMAS CHOIR VISIT

Howard Care Home



Saturday
19th December 2026



11:00
AM

*Come and spread some festive cheer
with our choir!*

Join us for an afternoon of Christmas songs and
seasonal goodwill as we sing for the residents
of Howard Care Home.

PLEASE REMEMBER:



WEAR YOUR
CHRISTMAS JUMPER



BRING YOUR
SINGING VOICE



BRING PLENTY OF
FESTIVE SPIRIT



A little of your time
goes a **long way** and will
help make Christmas
special for others.

GETTING THERE



MEET US THERE
at Howard Care Home

OR



JOIN THE RIDE
— see Ride Calendar
for more details

Please see the Ride Calendar for full ride details and meeting arrangements.



We look forward to singing with you!

MERRY CHRISTMAS & THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Dola Al

Until Next Month...

As we bring this month's Ladies of Harley update to a close, I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to each and every one of you for your continued support, enthusiasm, and friendship. Whether you've joined us on a ride, attended one of our social events, baked a cake, lent a helping hand, or simply cheered us on, you are what makes the Lakeside Ladies of Harley such a special group.

It's been another fantastic month filled with laughter, great company, and wonderful memories, and I'm already looking forward to seeing you all again soon.

As we start thinking ahead to 2027, I'd love to hear your ideas for new adventures, ride-outs, social gatherings, weekends away, or experiences you'd like to share with fellow Lakeside Ladies. No idea is too big or too small! Our Ladies of Harley group continues to grow because of your involvement, and together we can make next year even more exciting.

So, get your thinking caps on and let us know what adventures you'd like to see on the calendar. Whether it's discovering new destinations, trying something completely different, or revisiting old favourites, let's make 2027 a year to remember.

Until next time, ride safe, stay smiling, and thank you once again for being part of our amazing Lakeside Ladies of Harley family.



See you all very soon.

Pam

A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

Hi all

With the summer slowly drawing to a close, there is still lots to look forward to, after all, the four seasons offer their own delights!

The events team always have something up their sleeve to grab your interest, and work very hard at finding different things to do, remembering those of us that are not riders...**amazing job and we thank you!**

Now, I know in the colder months, the bones start to ache and we could start to feel melancholic, so remember to eat healthy and exercise as much as you can even whilst sitting in a chair, as this increases blood flow and releases chemicals that support our wellbeing.

Some supplements that can help are: Vit D for bone strength due to the lack of sunshine; Vit C for reducing tiredness; Vit B6 & B12 supporting the nervous system; and zinc for combating viruses and bacteria.

There may also be the offer of the flu vaccine for those who don't mind the jab! Grrrrr.

We are all very lucky to have such an amazing Chapter with so many people that care for each other.

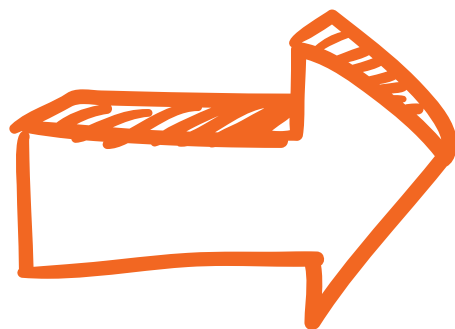
There are always people working behind the scenes to make this Chapter what it is, so please feel free to speak up if there is anything you wish to know or need - there will be someone to help.

Never let anything get you down!

Lynn



EVENTS



EVENTS

WELCOME TO YOUR MONTHLY POND LIFE FROM YOUR EVENTS TEAM!

A big warm welcome to all our Lakeside Chapter Members as you dive into this month's edition of Pondlife. There is so much to look forward to – from upcoming ride-outs and social gatherings to a handful of exciting save-the-date events already lined up for 2027. Your Events Team is busy planning, organising, and creating opportunities for everyone to get involved - but we'd also love to hear your ideas. If there's an event you'd like to see happen, a ride you've been dreaming about, or a fun activity you think the Chapter would enjoy, please share your suggestions. After all, your Events Team is here to work for you, and your inspiration keeps our calendar thriving.

BILLERICAY COMMUNITY CELEBRATION & PARADE

LAKESIDE CHAPTER LEADS THE WAY – SUNDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER 2026



The Billericay Community Celebration and Parade brought colour, excitement, and a true sense of fun to the High Street on Sunday 13th September 2026 – and Lakeside Chapter had the privilege of leading the parade. It was a moment that will stay with us for a long time.



(continued next page)

The atmosphere was electric from the very start. The streets were lined with the Billericay community, cheering, waving, and showing incredible support as our bikes rolled proudly through the town. Children were thrilled by the roar of the engines, their faces lighting up with excitement, while adults enjoyed the chance to sit on the bikes, chat with Members, and feel part of the experience.



For Lakeside Chapter, it was a proud and memorable moment. Our Members demonstrated unity, professionalism, and the warm spirit our Chapter is known for. The sight of fourteen bikes riding together at the head of the parade created a fantastic buzz — one that reflected both our passion for riding and our commitment to community involvement.



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It was, without doubt, a fantastic day out. The energy, the smiles, and the shared joy made it an event to remember. We are delighted to confirm that this celebration has now been added to the calendar for next year – and we look forward to representing Lakeside Chapter once again. I hope you will be able to join us.



UP AND COMING EVENTS TO LOOK FORWARD TO!

Ghost Bus Tour

16th January 2027
£17.00
Payable to the chapter
by October 1st 2026

Starting point:
Northumberland
Ave London WC2N 5BY

Reference:
Ghost

Time: 6:30

For more information ask your Events Team

Dola AI

CHRISTMAS CHOIR VISIT

Howard Care Home

Saturday 19th December 2026 | **11:00 AM**

Come and spread some festive cheer with our choir!

Join us for an afternoon of Christmas songs and seasonal goodwill as we sing for the residents of Howard Care Home.

PLEASE REMEMBER:

- WEAR YOUR CHRISTMAS JUMPER
- BRING YOUR SINGING VOICE
- BRING PLENTY OF FESTIVE SPIRIT

A little of your time goes a long way and will help make Christmas special for others.

GETTING THERE

MEET US THERE at Howard Care Home **OR** **JOIN THE RIDE** – see Ride Calendar for more details

Please see the Ride Calendar for full ride details and meeting arrangements.

We look forward to singing with you!

MERRY CHRISTMAS & THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Dola AI

♥ **LAKESIDE
CHAPTER
CHRISTMAS
DINNER**

SOLD OUT

© 2026
© S... Hill, Billericay, CM11 2XY
→ 6:00 10:30 PM

★ **What's Included**
Three-course Christmas meal
Drinks & canapés on arrival
Festive atmosphere with your Lakeside family

♥ **Tickets**
£35.00 per person for all
Non-refundable
Payable to the Chapter
Reference: "Christmas Meal"
First 30 tickets are subsidised
by the Chapter - hurry don't miss
out!

♥ **Dress Code**
Wear your favourite
Christmas jumper or your best
best party wear – sparkle, jingle,
jingle, or roll in full festive
chaos.

© **A Night of Food, Fun & Harley Spirit**



**Lakeside
Chapter**

**Chinese New Year
2027 Celebration**
Year of the Goat

Songs Buffet Restaurant,
Chelmsford, Essex

Friday 12th February
7pm

£19.99
Payable on the night

Please let Pam know, so
she can book you your seat.



Dola AI

Lakeside Chapter

Indian Meal
at The Bekash Restaurant



Wickford, Essex
Friday 5th March
7pm

Meal payable on the night

Please let Sue know, so she can book you your seat.
I hope you can make it!

Dola AI

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As we wrap up this month's article for Pondlife, your Events Team would like to extend a heartfelt thank-you to all our Lakeside Members for your continued enthusiasm and support. It has been a pleasure sharing our latest updates, ride-outs, and community activities with you. We look forward to catching up again in next month's edition, where even more news, plans, and upcoming events will be waiting for you. Until then, ride safe, stay connected, and know that your Events Team is always here to support you.

Your Events Team



Sue and Pam

XX

Merchandise

Boom...!!!

New for 2026



Men's Zipped Sweatshirt sizes:
S (36") to 2XL (52")

Men's Hoodie sizes:
XS (34") to 5XL (62")

Ladies Hoodie sizes:
XS (8) to 2XL (18)

£30 each

Order from Dean - our Merchandising Officer

New for 2026



Front



Back

Men's new design 1 t shirt

All sizes available

£14



Front

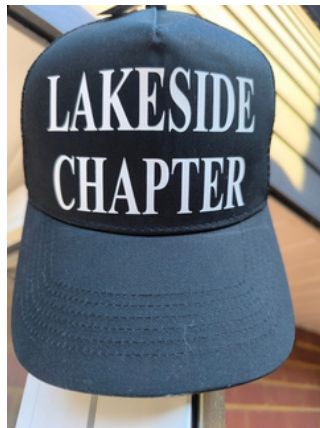


Back

Men's new design 2 t shirt

All sizes available

£14



New design trucker style caps

£12

Coming soon.....new Lakeside Chapter LoH designs

Order from Dean - our Merchandising Officer

15TH ANNIVERSARY MERCHANDISE

Order from Dean - our Merchandising Officer



Men's 15th Anniversary Hoodie £30

Sizes XS (34") to 5XL (62")

Men's 15th Anniversary Polo £16

Sizes XS (34") to 7XL (66")



Ladies 15th Anniversary Hoodie £30

Sizes XS (8) to 2XL (18)

Ladies 15th Anniversary Polo £16

Sizes XS (8) to 4XL (22)



Limited addition 15th Anniversary 500ml water bottle £10
(only 8 available).

And don't forget all of our other merchandise

Order from Dean - our Merchandising Officer



1/4 Zipped Fleece £17.50
Sizes XS - 3XL



Men's track polo £22
Sizes XXS - 3XL



2 Tone Softshell Jacket
£22
Men's sizes S - 4XL
Ladies 8 - 18



Men's Polo £14.50
Sizes XS - 8XL



Zippered Hoodie £25
Sizes S - 5xl



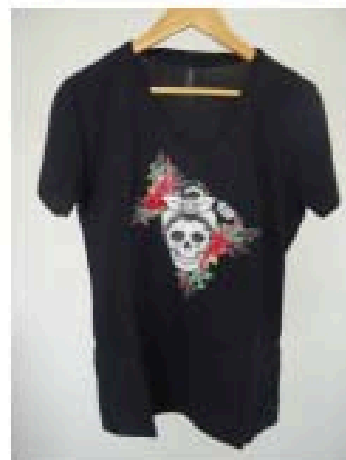
Heavyweight Hoodie £30
Sizes XS - 3XL

Men's Chapter T-shirt £14
Sizes XS - 6XL
Also available as a long sleeve £16
Sizes S - 4XL



Wicking T-shirts £12
(Available in Black or White)
Men's Sizes XS - 5XL
Ladies Sizes 8 - 18
Long Sleeve Ladies £13.50

Knitted Beanie Hat £7



Ladies Skull T-shirt £15
Sizes 8 - 16
This print is also
available in
Zipped Hoodie £25
Zipped Sweatshirt
£27.50



Ladies Chapter T-shirt
£14
Sizes 8 – 16



Ladies Motorbike/Wing T-shirt £15
Sizes 8 - 16

Also available:

Sweatshirt £22.50
Sizes XS – 4XL

Unisex Long Sleeve Polo £15

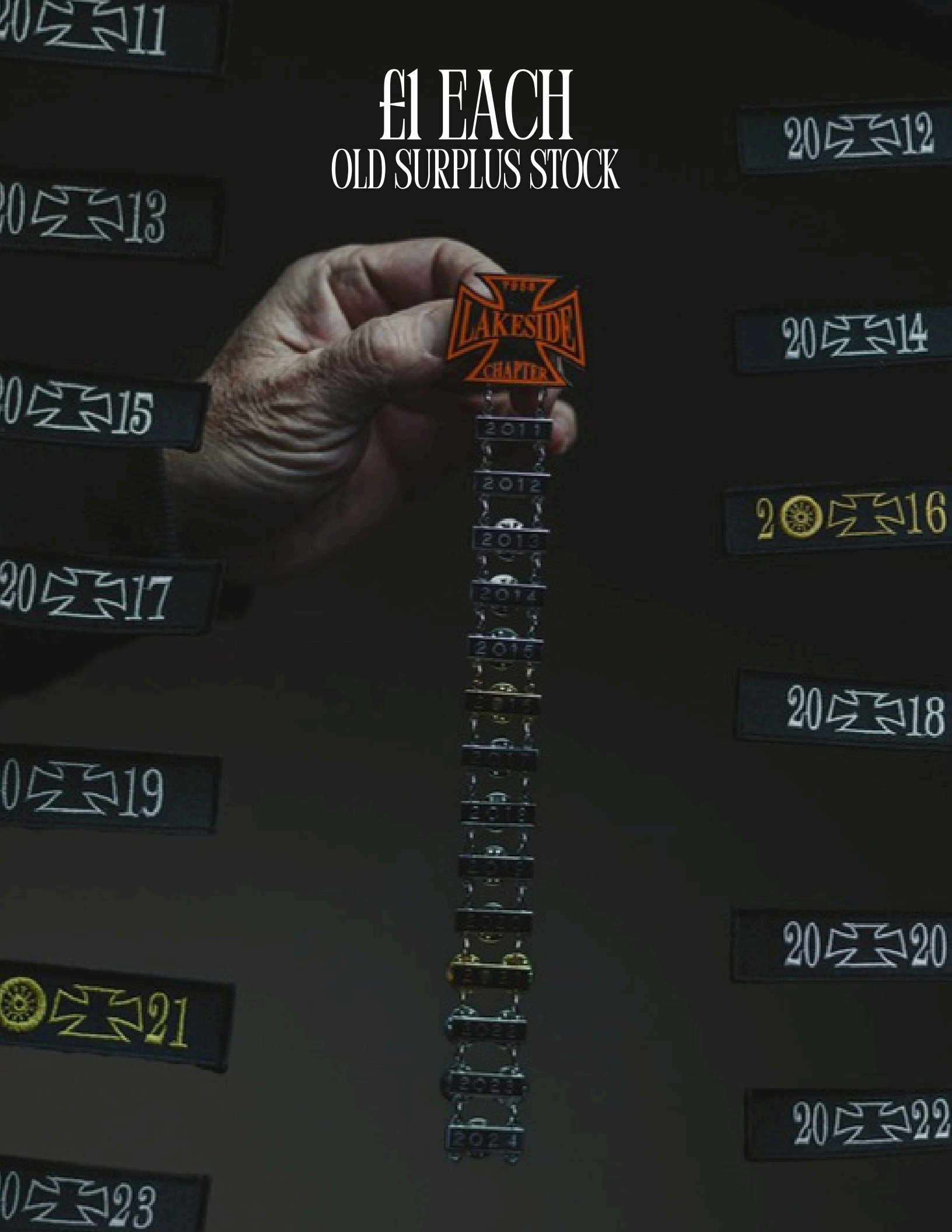
Zipped Sweatshirt £27.50
Sizes S – 2XL

Chapter Cap £15

For all merchandise, contact Dean at merchandise-lakesidechapter@outlook.com

£1 EACH

OLD SURPLUS STOCK



A WEEKEND IN THE PEAK DISTRICT

Whilst Paul and Keith finish off the tale of their summer trip to Italy (I will get it out of them!), Mary has been kind enough to write about the trip she and Paul, Phil and Nicky, along with Kev and Mandy recently took to the Peak District. Another Chapter outing for the future maybe.....?

=====

On a cloudy Friday in September six of us set off on a weekend of riding and fun in the Peak District, Derbyshire. Our journey started at the ever popular starting point of the Halfway House where Paul and I met with Phil H and Nicky. Then onward through Brentwood and Ongar to meet Kev and Mandy at the A414. A short hop from there on to the M11 to start our main journey. First stop for breakfast at Cambridge Services, and then on to the A1 towards Chesterfield, where a visit to Harleyworld (home of Chrome Hill Chapter) was made.



We were made very welcome and, of course, purchased the obligatory dealer T's! As we were leaving the skies had become darker, and on Kev's advice most of us donned our wet gear. This proved to be a very wise choice!



From Chesterfield we continued our journey, passing Chatsworth House and arriving at our accommodation for the weekend – Ye Olde Nags Head in Castleton. We were met there by Jaq, Deb and Mark who we had met on the Live in the Deep South Tour in the USA earlier in the year, who had come over from Sheffield to join us for a couple of days. A fun dinner with drinks was enjoyed.

The following morning, joined by two Triumphs and a BMW, we made our way up the hills and across the moors towards Bakewell. Once in Bakewell we enjoyed the local Bakewell Puddings in the Original Bakewell Pudding Café. On our way back to the bikes we spotted Sherwood Chapter on a ride out, lots of waving!! We then continued on to the Lady Bower Reservoir, which was made famous as the training area for the Dambusters. The water levels were extremely low, but not low enough for us to see the roofs of the village which was flooded to create the reservoir!! We then headed back through the amazing scenery to Castleton, again for a great night of drinks and food at the Old Cheshire Cheese Pub, which is renowned for its pies!



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On Sunday, we woke up to a beautiful sunny day. The guys from Sheffield headed back. We then set off on a very scenic ride to Holmfirth in Yorkshire (just across the county line) which was home to the filming of Last of the Summer Wine (for those old enough to remember it!). Our route took us up a very windy 1 in 3 road, with a wonderful hairpin! We also had to avoid escaped cows, but the views and the scenery was well worth it. Once at the top we had a lovely ride across the top of the moors to Holmfirth. A beautiful little town, where we found a place to park our bikes across the stream from Nora Batty's house.

Mandy, Nicky and I were accosted by a local man who was very excited to take us round to Nora Batty's for photos, and also show us Compos house. Kev, Phil and Paul had carried on to find an amazing coffee shop in an old mill, and hadn't noticed we were missing!! However, we soon caught up with them. We made our way back on a different route, again with very twisty scenic roads and down the Winnats Pass into Castleton.



(continued next page)



Once back we explored Castleton, unfortunately we were unable to visit Peveril Castle as it was closed for the day due to staff sickness, however we walked on from there to Peak Cavern, The Devil's Arse!



Following a stopover in another pub for a well earned drink (there are at least six pubs in this small village), we made our way back to our accommodation for dinner. A special dinner tonight as we surprised Nicky with a birthday cake and gifts for her birthday the following day.

(continued next page)



Monday arrived too soon, and having packed up we set off on our journey home with cloudy skies, however our weather guru Kev assured us that the further south we got the sunnier it would become. We took a scenic route down to Newark for our first stop off, where we had a quick drink and fuel stop. Then on to Cambridge Services for lunch, and then home. We had the most amazing weekend, in a very beautiful part of the country. Maybe a Chapter weekend in the making for 2028?



Kevin, Nicky, Mary, Paul, Phil and Mandy

RIDE OUT ARTICLES



WEDNESDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER: TEA FOR A FEW AT LONG MEDFORD

What a pleasure it was today to see our members' smiling faces who were kind enough to join me on the ride to the longest town in the country.

After checking the Crew had received my route that I had issued the day before, we left Boreham services (a tricky place generally to leave from), but we all managed to stay together... hooray, heading off on some lovely Essex country roads towards Gransmore Green, Great Saling, Shalford, Wethersfield, Sible Hedingham, where I intended to turn right.

Checking my Satnav, it was clearly telling me to carry straight on....hmmm I thought, WHY!!

Knowing I had previously planned two different routes due to road closures, I realised I had opted for my second recce'd route. Having given the crew my intended route, I could just hear them saying..."does she know where she is going, is she lost", and having a good old laugh!



Actually, I'm pleased I took that route, as it meant less time on the A131 and more time on country roads towards Great Yeldham, Little Yeldham, Bulmer passing Sudbury and on to Long Melford.

As I had booked a table two weeks prior to our visit, Lisa at the tea room welcomed us: they honestly could not have been nicer!

On leaving, they said what a nice bunch of people we were, always good to hear!

Thanks to the road crew, Paul, Mary, Neil & Dee for your support: I could not have done it without you!

Lynn

TUESDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER: BOOKING HALL CAFE



Tuesday 15th September 2026 brought a mix of cloud and sunshine as thirteen Chapter members on twelve bikes met at Battlesbridge for the ride to The Booking Hall Café in Rayne. After the briefing, we set off through the Essex countryside, following B roads and country lanes, sweeping through the county's bends and avoiding squirrels along the way. We arrived safely, and although the service was a little slow, the sandwiches were exceptional: fresh bread cut into thick doorstep slices with a choice of fillings. We sat at picnic tables on the former railway track, eating and chatting until it was time to head home.

Thanks to the members who came along for the ride, Kevin, and Paul (along with Mary) for looking after the rear.



Mike.

SUNDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER: MERSEA ISLAND

What a fantastic day out with the Lakeside Chapter! With Vince being sick with an ear infection I agreed at 09.00 to take on the ride. We had a great turnout of members enjoying a scenic ride through the Essex countryside before arriving at beautiful Mersea Island for refreshments, great conversation, and stunning coastal views from the Victory Pub.



Perfect weather, fantastic roads, and even better company made for another memorable Chapter ride. A huge thank you to members and guests who joined us and to the road crew for keeping the ride running smoothly.

Ride Safe. Ride Free. Ride Together.

Ash

TUESDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER: WALLY'S CAFE



Tuesday 22nd September 2026 saw a group of 12 members on 11 bikes meet at Battlesbridge for the ride to Walley's Café at Acton, Suffolk.

The start of the day was overcast but was forecast to improve as the morning went on. After the briefing we set off using a mix of roads. The ride took us through the towns, villages and hamlets and there was a mix of old builds dating back several centuries and new builds. The roads were bendy with rises and dips into valleys giving some nice views. Traffic was surprisingly light and we arrived at the café in good time. Inexpensive food and drink was ordered and consumed, but as a member found out salt is no replacement for sugar in tea! Walley's Café is definitely a throw back in time with the décor and table clothes.

Thanks to the members for coming for the ride and Pam and Kevin for looking after the rear.

Mike.



SATURDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER: BBQ RIDE TO OCHSMOKE

What a fantastic day out for the Lakeside Harley-Davidson Chapter as 22 bikes, 21 members and one very welcome guest set off on a brilliant fun ride through the beautiful Essex countryside, heading towards the OCH BBQ in Stock! With the engines rumbling, chrome shining and plenty of smiles all round, we took to the winding country lanes, enjoying the twists, turns and stunning scenery along the way.

It was one of those rides that reminds us exactly why we love being part of the Harley-Davidson family – great bikes, great roads and, most importantly, great company. The sound of 22 Harleys cruising together through the countryside certainly turned a few heads, while the camaraderie, laughter and good spirits made the journey just as enjoyable as the destination. Of course, no Lakeside ride would be complete without a bit of banter, a few cheeky smiles and the usual friendly rivalry over whose bike sounded the loudest! Arriving at the OCH BBQ in Stock, it was time to park up, stretch our legs, share a few stories from the road and enjoy some well-earned food and refreshments. A big thank you to everyone who came along, the crew and our guest for joining us and becoming part of the Lakeside family for the day.

With 22 bikes, 21 members and one guest, we certainly made a great sight on the roads, proving once again that it's not just about the destination, but the journey, the friendships and the memories we make along the way. Another fantastic Lakeside Harley-Davidson Chapter ride, another great day in the saddle, and plenty more adventures waiting just around the corner. Keep the shiny side up, the rubber side down, and the Harley spirit alive!

Carl



TUESDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER: DEE'S DINER



A midweek ride to Dee's Diner – with dry weather and even a glimpse of the sun! Sixteen riders on fifteen bikes assembled at Starbucks Halfway House for departure at 10.15 a.m.

The first order of the day was to present Jerry Palmer with his rider award for 10 Chapter rides – well done Jerry. Then, with the briefing all completed it was time to set off.

Using second man drop, the route took us up through the lanes of Herongate towards Billericay. Crossing Billericay High Street towards West Hanningfield, before turning to Downham and Sandon. From Sandon the route took us along the lanes around Hatfield Peverel, before bringing us out on to the main road along to Dee's Diner.

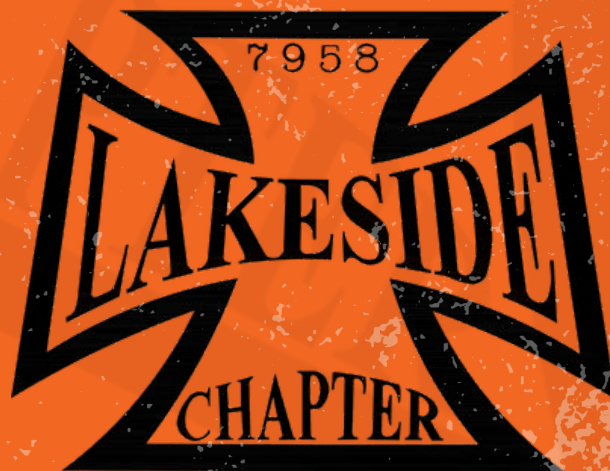
Thank you to everyone who came along, and to Phil H and Kev for crewing.



Paul H.



FUTURE RIDES



RIDE-OUT GUIDELINES

Chapter activities are conducted primarily for the benefit of H.O.G. Chapter members.

Ride Guest Policy

An Event Guest is permitted at the discretion of one of the Chapter Road Captains.

A Chapter member is permitted to invite one guest per event, to participate and may only have the same guest on six occasions in any membership year. If the event is subsidised then the guest will need to pay full cost.

Each guest must sign a Ride Disclaimer and the host Chapter member must take responsibility and must ensure that the guest abides by the Chapter rules.

There are various channels of communication regarding ride-outs and upcoming trips, either local or abroad – Pondlife, the Chapter Website, Facebook and Google Calendar.

At times, due to circumstances beyond our control, rides may be cancelled/changed/postponed at very short notice.

If requests are made for you to show your interest in a particular event, please only do so via the requested means and please do so within the time frame requested. This is very important and will enable the road captains to accurately and efficiently plan the upcoming ride/event



We have a number of meeting places from which the Chapter begins its Ride Outs. The usual start points are as follows:

The King's Arms, Orsett, Grays, RM16 3LX

Starbucks, by the Halfway House (A127, just at the turn-off for the A128), CM 13 3LL

Boreham Services BP (truck side), A12, just north of Chelmsford.

Pod 8 (by Costa Coffee), Clocktower Retail Park, Chelmsford CM1 3FJ.

The Barge Inn, Hawk Hill, Battlesbridge, SS11 7RE (this is by the Battlesbridge Antiques Hall).

Tim Horton's, Lakeside Retail Park, Grays, RM20 1WN.

Always check Google Calendar, FB, the Website or weekly comms for most up to date information, including on the up to date start times of rides.

Ride outs (starting from Tuesday 6 October) through to the November Natter Night:

Tuesday 6 October -- Blast to Blossom Bites, Wimbish. Meet at Boreham Services at 10am for a 10.15 departure.

Saturday 10 October – Church Farm café, Chiltern Hills. Meet at Starbucks at 10am for a 10.15 departure.

Wednesday 14 October – Mill Race Moto, Colchester. Meet at Starbucks at 10am for a 10.15 departure.

Sunday 18 October – Duxford Community Café. Meet at Starbucks at 10am for a 10.15 departure.

Tuesday 20 October – The River Palace, Dobb's Weir. Meet at the Barge Inn at 10.15 am for a 10.30 departure.

Thursday 29 October – the RSM ride to Bradwell on Sea. Meet at Boreham Services at 10am for a 10.15 departure

Saturday 31 October – The Harleyween Ride to High Beech. Meet at the Kings Arms at 12.30pm for a 12.45 departure.

Saturday 7 November – Billericay Fireworks. Meet at Starbucks at 3.45pm for a 4.00 departure. See flyer below for full details.

Sunday 8 November – Remembrance Ride, Orsett. Meet at Starbucks at 10.15am for a 10.35 departure.

Then we are at our Natter Night in the evening of 11 November at the Kings Arms, Orsett from 6.30pm.

Lakeside Chapter have once again been asked to help Marshal the Billericay Round Table Charity Fireworks Display.

As in Previous Years we will be the 'Arena Crew'... which basically means we'll be wandering around the main public arena answering really important questions like, "where are the toilets" and "what time are the fireworks" and other really important stuff. There is a serious crowd safety side to it but it's mostly about being 'obvious' and making sure everyone enjoys the event.

Phill 'Rainman' will lead a short Ride-In from the Halfway House (Meet at 3.45pm & depart at 4pm). If you wanted to make your own way there, please meet Phill at the 'Control Hut' at Lake Meadows at 4.30pm and we'll do a quick site walk-around and safety brief before the gates open at 5pm. The Fireworks finish at 8.30pm (when we get free burgers from the food stalls). The roads are clear enough to drive home from around 9pm.

The Round Table donated £750 to the Chapter Charity account last year to thank us for our help. They simply couldn't do it without us.

"Yes" you get an Arena Crew Hi-Viz, a walky-talky, you get to see £25K of fireworks go up, right over your head. "Yes" there are free burgers after the show. "Yes" every single penny the Round Table makes goes to local charities.

Just remember to dress 'warm', wear decent boots and bring a torch...!!!

If at all possible, please let Phill know if you are coming. Either tell him on a Ride Out or leave a 'reply' via the Chapter Facebook page on the Fireworks 'Post'.

There is secure parking for the bikes in a public 'no go' area right next to the Control Hut. If you're going to drive, it is suggested you park at the Railway Station, or in Radford Crescent.



2027 DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

1066, SHERWOOD & LAKESIDE
**LOH-SOCIAL
WEEKEND**
10TH APRIL 2027

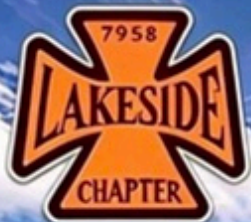
40 rooms available
Linton hotel | Bedfordshire LU1 3P
Book your room
01582407644
65£ - Single • 75£ - Double
Ref for booking "Deborah Laurence"

SHERWOOD
LAKESIDE
CHAPTER

Ride from Notts, Sussex & Essex
★ to the event ★

#9794 #6746 #7958





- SAVE THE DATE -

**Lakeside Chapter is riding to Gent
Belgium on the 11th - 13th June 2027**

Lakeside Chapter – Weekend in Amiens, France.

(Known as the Venice of France)

SAVE THE DATES

8th - 11th July 2027

Amiens is an historic city in Northern France known for it's Cathedral 'Notre Dame' (Yes, I know there's one in Paris as well...), but this is the largest Gothic Cathedral in all of France... I love a good Church...!!



Les Hortillonages, 300 hectares of floating market gardens (we'll probably ride past them and not through them).

Quartier Saint-Leu, The old medieval quarter bursting with waterside cafés and restaurants. There's even the 'House of Jules Verne' which has been turned into a museum and tribute to this famous author.



You must know 20,000 Leagues under the Sea, Journey to the Centre of the Earth and Around the World in 80 Days to name but a few....

We will also be visiting Harley Davidson Amiens to stock-up on a Poker Chips and a few new bikes

There'll also be some time to explore the many shops and bars in the town.

Details to follow in the next month following the recy.

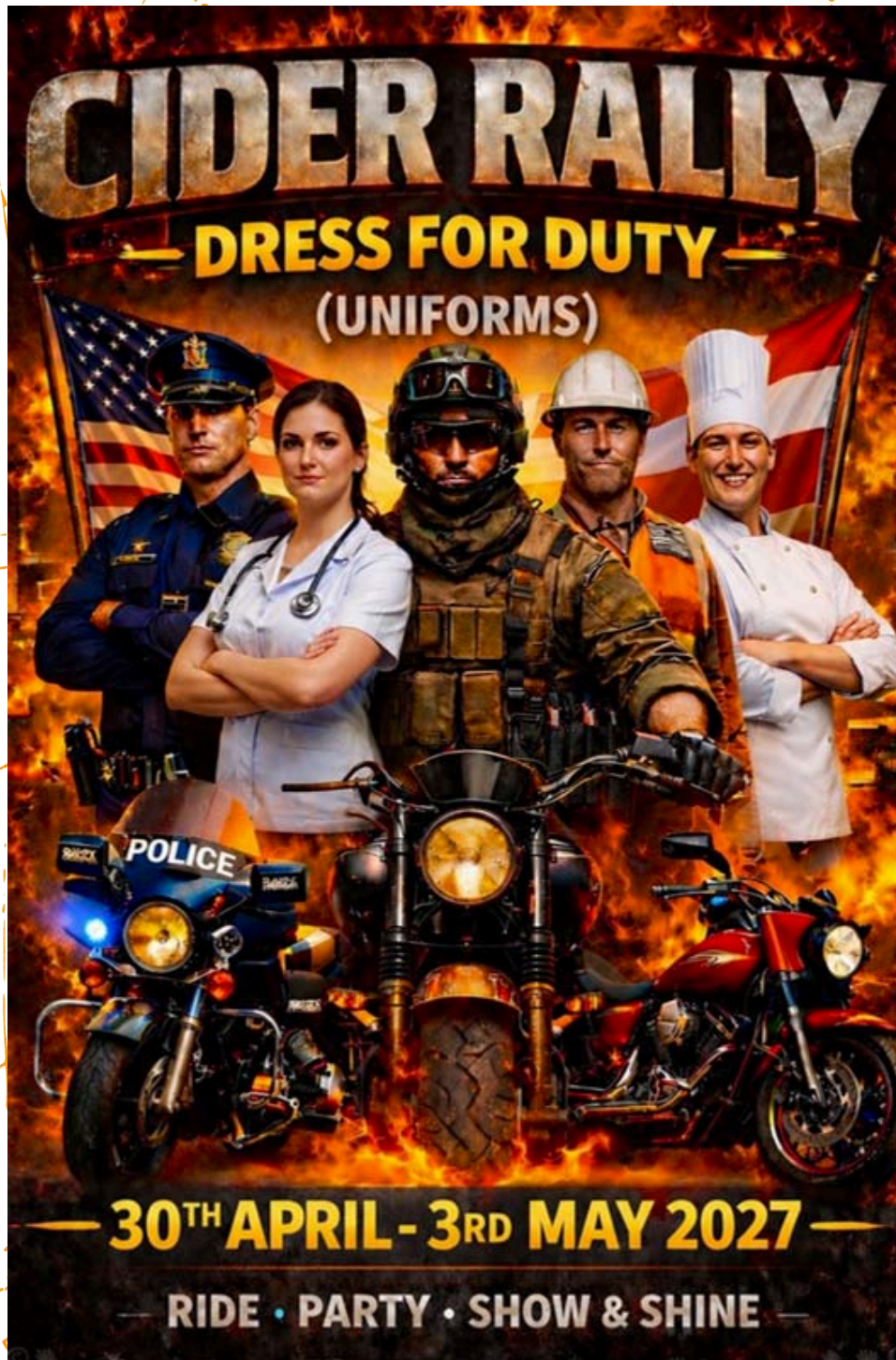
Hotel in the centre of town with private secure parking.

Train times and stop-over breaks for lunch at Le Touquet and others...

We may stay at Folkstone on the Thursday evening (8th July) to get an early train on Friday morning but this is TBC. We'll return home on Sunday afternoon.



2027 RALLIES



2027 EUROPEAN HOG RALLY

A reminder regarding next Year's HOG Rally to Croatia.

The HOG Hotel details have been released (in the UK & all of Europe).

Rooms are expected to go quite quickly.

Chapter Members will be staying in the Hotel Konati from Friday 11th June and departing on Monday 14th June 2027. The Hotel is on the Sea Front with bike parking. It's B&B and right in the middle of the Rally.

It's €500 (ish) for 1 person in a double room for those 3 nights.

You don't have to stay here. There are loads of options. Follow the link and if you're joining us, let Sue know and she'll add you to the WhatsApp Group.

Here's the link for the hotel

<https://2027hograllyhotels.com>



10:37
WhatsApp 5G 92

HOME WHERE TO STAY MAP ABOUT US

PHOTO GALLERY 10

SEASIDE HOTEL
HOTEL KORNATI

Set right beside Biograd's seafront promenade, Hotel Kornati combines modern coastal comfort with open Adriatic views and easy access to the center of European H.O.G. Rally 2027. A solid pick for riders who want restaurants, the waterfront and the rally atmosphere just steps away.

SEA VIEW

DEDICATED MOTORCYCLE PARKING

From €170 / night

0.1 km 2027hograllyhotels.com

LAKESIDE CHAPTER RIDE AWARDS

Lakeside Chapter operates a **Ride Out Awards Program** based on the number of Official Chapter Rides each Member attends. You must ensure you 'Sign-In' with the Road Captain each time you attend a Ride Out. This helps the RC know the number of Members on each Ride and will be recorded by the Chapter Historian on the Ride Awards Spreadsheet (displayed on the next Page).

Multi-day Rides and Rally's may count for more than one Ride Award. Check with the RC for this.

Ride Award Pin Badges will usually be awarded at Natter Nights for 10, 25, 50, 75, 100 (and so on) for completed Rides.

There is an All Time Total Ride Award Page and a Total Number of Rides completed (so far) this year so you can track your progress.

**BE IN THE NEXT EDITION
OF POND LIFE**

**SEND YOUR PHOTOS AND ARTICLES
TO:**

**EDITOR-
LAKESIDETCHAPTER@OUTLOOK.COM**

