

OCTOBER 2025

POND LIFE



LAKE SIDE

CHAPTER HARLEY OWNERS GROUP 7958

**COME AND
CELEBRATE
LAKE SIDE IS
TURNING 15!**

Save The Date!

Saturday 4th July 2026

**Formal Party
Invite to
Follow!**



**Buffet / Band /
DJ**

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SUE STURTON



WELFARE OFFICER
LYNN GUNN

FROM THE EDITOR

Hello and welcome to this October edition of Pondlife.

This edition of Pondlife was compiled a little earlier than usual due to me and Angie going on holiday at the end of September. So to start with a very big “Thank You” to all contributors for supplying their articles to a shorter timeframe than usual.

As this edition was prepared early, it does mean that there may be an article or two that will have to be included in next month’s edition – for instance the write up of what will have been a brilliant weekend with Lakeside Chapter playing host to 1066 Chapter for the weekend of 27/28 September. Hopefully by the time I get back the hangovers will have eased and I can ask the Road Captains for the ride write ups ready for November’s Pondlife.

As for this month’s edition we have all the usual updates on all things Lakeside Chapter and HOG from Phill, Ash gives us some important food for thought on riding into our later years (I’m not there yet of course!), Pam updates on what the Ladies have got/will be getting up to and Sue and Pam (our wonderful Events Officers) give us the latest updates on what we can all look forward to...even as far ahead as next summer with the Chapter’s 15th Birthday Bash. We also have a “Hello from me” from Mandy Smith our new Chapter Photographer.

Also in this edition, and keeping with the “riding into our later years” safety theme, Neil Searle-Jones gives us an interesting insight on the shift from two wheels to three and how it may not be as straightforward as you may think. Add to all of this the usual reminder about our merch (and Christmas is just round the corner so get those orders in quick for those Chapter “must haves” if you haven’t got them already) as well as our ride reports and you have another bumper Pondlife to enjoy.

That’s it from me. I’m off to pack and I’ll see you on the road in a few weeks.

Tony H



DIRECTOR'S THOUGHTS



Just like that it's October. The weather is definitely turning a bit chilly but the weather is mostly still on our side with warm sunshine being very much appreciated as the year begins to edge away.

There's still loads to look forward to with Lakeside Chapter thanks to the efforts of our Road Captains, Road Crew and our LOH and Events ladies all making sure that as far as possible there are loads of Ride Outs and loads of extra opportunities even should you want to leave your bike at home.

As I'm writing this we're looking forward to 1066 Chapter coming to spend the weekend with us. We've been to them several times in recent years and I know they're looking forward to spending a couple of days in Essex with Lakeside Chapter. Right now the weather forecast isn't too

great but I'm hoping the weathermen have got it wrong and Pam's Ride on Saturday and Carl's Ride on the Sunday are awesome and in the sunshine. The Saturday night Lakeside & 1066 Curry (& beer) will no doubt be a blast...!!

Our pilgrimage on the 'Ride To The Wall' is the following week and while being a very busy day, it never fails to touch you to the core with respect for our Country and the sacrifices our armed forces make. It's well worth joining us if you've never been before.

The following week I'm attending the Harley Davidson Regional Officer Connection in Bedfordshire. This is essentially a HOG Conference with all Chapters in the UK represented and Harley Davidson Chapter 'workshops' and seminars to let us know what is going on in all things HOG, Harley Davidson Europe and HD International both now and for the coming year. I'm sure to have a load of information and gossip for November's Pondlife for you all.

Billericay Round Table have just confirmed their Fireworks Event is on Saturday 8th November at Lake Meadows (Billericay). The Chapter have again been asked to 'Marshal' the main arena on the Saturday evening (4pm 'till 9pm). Details will follow through Coms but if you can be available to put on a Hi-Viz and walk around looking like you're in charge it would really help them out, (it's also a bloody good laugh).

As always, if you want to know everything and anything about the Chapter and what's happening your one-stop destination is the website www.lakesidechapter.co.uk

That's all for now.

Remember, try to add more life to your days, get out and ride...!!

Cheers, Phill 'Rainman'.



HEAD ROAD CAPTAIN & SAFETY

Wow, I can't believe we are heading into October already! Where did that sunny warm summer go...it was certainly a summer to get out and ride your Harley. The Chapter has seen some fantastic rides to both old and new destinations, and we certainly are not finished yet. Unlike other UK Chapters, Lakeside rides throughout the year so there will still be plenty of rides to come in 2025... although we can't promise the sunny warm weather and waterproofs may be required going forwards into autumn/winter.



If you have a particular destination you'd like the Chapter to ride to in 2026 please let me know and we will endeavour to fit it into the calendar.

Riding Harleys into Old Age

Let's face it nobody gets any younger! So this month's safety article looks at riding motorcycle's into Older Age... and how you might extend your riding career.

The Road Never Ages.....

Motorcycling defies age. It's not about the number of candles on your birthday cake; it's about the fire within.

As long as your heart races at the thought of twisting roads and open skies, you're never too old to ride.



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When considering riding motorcycles into old age, it's essential to recognise that there is no definitive age limit for riding. As long as you maintain your physical and mental capabilities, you can enjoy the thrill of riding at any age.

Here are some key points to keep in mind:

Vision: Clear vision is crucial for safe riding, and age related changes can affect your ability to perceive hazards. If in doubt get to the opticians and wear those glasses if prescribed.

Hearing: Being attuned to engine sounds, traffic, and sirens helps in situational awareness, which is vital for safe riding.

Reflexes: While aging may slow response time, quick reflexes are essential if evasive manoeuvres are required. Stay sharp and ensure you ride within your comfort zone.

Physical Health: Chronic pain, diminishing reflexes, and eyesight can impact riding. Regular exercise and pain management strategies can help. Book your yearly health check-up with your GP: it's always best to catch any issues early.

Safety Equipment: Advanced technology in motorcycles makes them more adaptable for riders of all ages, including those in their 80s, and even 90s. Whilst Harleys are known for being heavy compared to other brands, technology or three wheels can assist.

Safety Precautions: Following the rules of the road and taking necessary safety precautions can ensure a safe riding experience at any age.

Stay Curious: Keep learning about riding techniques and safety, book yourself onto a BikeSafe course. It doesn't matter how long you've been riding and what you think you know, there is always something new to learn or just polish up those skills.

Remember, riding a motorcycle is a hobby that requires attention to safety and wellbeing. But it's also about enjoying the ride, companionship, staying active and living life to the full.

Ride Safe & Have Fun.

Ash

LADIES OF HARLEY



LADIES OF HARLEY

Welcome Ladies to October's LOH Pond-Life article. I cannot believe I am sitting here writing to you and outside it has started to get dark and I have the lights on...it is only 6:30! Where have the light evenings gone?!!

Speaking of evenings getting dark and the blue skies of summer fading: remember to turn your clocks back on the 26th October 2024, which marks the end of British Summer Time! Good news - means an extra hour in bed!

Who is going to tell the dog?



This will be a chance to get your riding boots on, a warm jacket and go for a ride-out!

Autum, is where events, such as leaves falling off the trees and the migration of birds, indicate that autumn has started. This is greatly influenced by weather and climate, causing autumn to start earlier or later than standard definitions.



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Thank you to all the ladies that joined in the wine tasting tour and experience.



We had a great group of ladies who were fantastic company, the wine tasting was lots of fun and we all tried three English wines, grown in the wonderful countryside of Essex. Explaining the wines was our sommelier.



Following on from wine tasting we set about to demolish platters of fine hams and cheese, with chips thrown in!

The Crouch Ridge Vineyard was beautiful and well worth a visit, we all learnt lots of information regarding good wines, how to choose a wine and how they are grown and harvested! The sun was out and it was a lovely warm day.

A fantastic experience: I never knew what went into making a bottle of wine, the laws that need to be followed and the elements that change the flavour of the wine!

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Next year is fast approaching and I have sent out a list of ideas, which I have collected from you all (still happy to receive even more ideas). Have a look through them, anything you wish to add, please let me know - the world is ours to explore and if there is anything you fancy doing or going to, just please give me a shout!

The Lakeside Ladies ditched their Harleys for Paddle-boards and then experienced an outside spa!



What a brilliant time we all had, the weather was sunny, the quarry was a beautiful location and the water was a tad cold, but oh so worth it! Well as always, the Ladies of Lakeside launched themselves on to the paddleboards and what a blast we all had...yes, we had a few wonderful displays of falling into water, which made us laugh and wobble on the boards even more. However, we all mastered the skill of standing up and keeping out of the water...just! A great adventure that will be repeated next year!



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After a few hours, it was off to the outside spa area, indulging in the hot and cold experiences. The salt, aromatherapy body scrub was amazing, as was the ice bucket, cold water plunge, sauna, and hot-tub.



What a perfect way to end the day!



Thank you to all the ladies that braved this experience and hope a few more will join us next time!

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Ladies of Harley 2026 – Activities / Trips / Adventures!

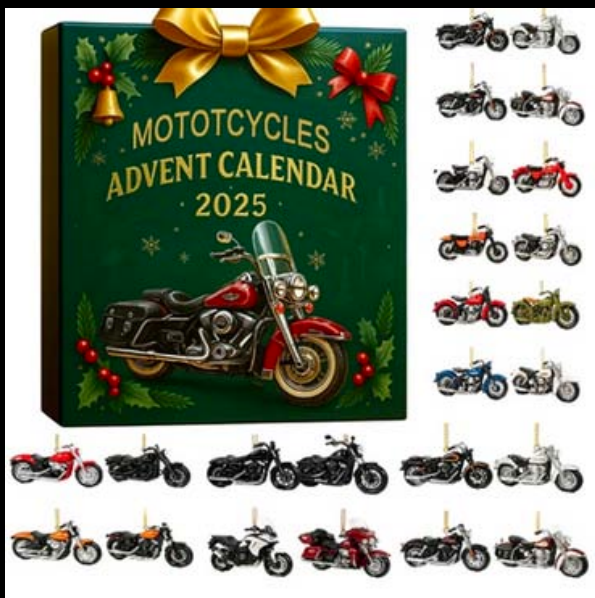
Brunch
A show at the Cliffs
Spa Day
Cooking Class
Art Gallery
Bingo Night
Tribute Night
Hampton Court
Putt Shack
Abba Brunch
Paddle-Boarding take 2
London Bus – Cream Tea / Cocktail Ride
Thursford Christmas Spectacular 2026
Kayleigh Scottish Dancing
Secret Cinema
Afternoon Tea at Paper Lock Mill
Sing Along Cinema

This is just to name a few and more ideas can be added!

Christmas.... oh yes, it is!!

As Christmas is sneaking around the corner, I thought I would share a little information regarding the traditional 'Advent Calendars' from chocolate to wine, the choice is endless!

I have even seen advertised a Harley Davidson Bike advent Calendar!!!



So what does Advent Mean?

Your advent calendar might be hanging in the kitchen or on the back of your bedroom door, with 24 little doors just WAITING to be opened.

But before you find out your first surprise behind door number one on December 1, what is the true meaning of Advent and why have Advent calendars become a tradition?

For Christians in the UK and all over the world, Advent is an important time to celebrate the arrival of Jesus on Christmas Day. Advent means 'coming' and it's the period before Christmas which celebrates the birth of Jesus. Advent starts on the Sunday nearest to 30 November - four weekends before Christmas.

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So, whatever the reason for your Advent Calendar – when you open the first door, grab your phone and take a photo!! Please send it to me and await your surprise!!

Have fun, ride safe and see you all soon.

Pam

XX



HELLO FROM OUR NEW PHOTOGRAPHER

Hello, I'm Mandy Smith aka 'Mrs Kev'.

When Kevin started riding with the Lakeside Chapter around three years ago he was very keen to take me out and meet the 'gang'. He used to say everyone is really keen to meet you and keep asking 'when is Mrs Kev coming out to ride?'

I eventually joined Kevin on my first ride on the Icy Blast in 2023 and was totally overwhelmed at the wonderful welcome I received with everyone calling out...it's Mrs Kev!!

Since joining the chapter in March 2024 I'm already the proud owner of the 25 pin and on the way to my 50!



I will confess I was rather nervous of meeting everyone and not really sure of what to expect. I thought of the Chapter as 'Kevin's thing' and wasn't expecting that it would be something I would get involved in long term. How wrong could I be. Everyone has made me feel so welcome and included and now I feel like one of the gang too, especially as just a short while ago the position of Photographer became available and I found myself saying "I could do that"!

I love to take a photograph, or two, which some of you may have noticed! I regularly make digital photo albums for our grandchildren's birthdays so have become quite adept at downloading pics from an abundance of folders on my PC. So this role is right up my alley, so to speak.

I am looking forward to creating the galleries for the website and uploading pics to our Lakeside Instagram account.

Keep taking your photos and uploading to Facebook and I will continue to promote our wonderful Chapter and all the great rides and events.

Best wishes.

Mandy x

EVENTS



EVENTS

Hello from your Events Team.

What a fantastic September Natter Night we had: the 'Water & Wine' fundraising event was a great success. Thank you to all our members, you did it again! I think there was a lot more Wine than Water!!!



Just a little information regarding up-and-coming events.

1. We still have a few tickets left for the Lakeside Christmas Party at the cost of £52:00 - see flyer later in this section.
2. Please come along to 'Shuffle Up and Deal Me Out' Card Night at Natter Night on the 8th of October – see flyer later in this section.
3. It is our pleasure to support the wonderful 'Howard Lodge Care Centre for the Elderly' again this year! By sharing a little joy again this Christmas – again, see flyer later in this section.
4. Save this date – 4th July 2026...a fantastic party is on it's way!! (Flyer inside the front cover of this edition of Pondlife as well as below).

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Lastly for you all singers or not out there!!!



As September is speeding past and the sounds of Christmas is hot on our heels, I thought it would be a great time to organise our Christmas Choir practise.

Many of you volunteered to join the choir which will be a special event when visiting Howards Lodge Care Home this Christmas.

So, you are all invited for a one-off choir practise on Tuesday 18th November 2025 18:30 at My House (address to follow), instruments / props will be provided, along with all words to the carols and songs.

Please can you let me know if you will be able to attend on this date so that I can make sure we have enough refreshments in!

If you would like to join the choir, there is always space and if you cannot make the practise, don't worry, just turn up on the date and join in!!

Your Events Team sends a huge 'Thank you' for all your kindness and generosity which you have shared this year. You always come up trumps!

From your Events Team.

Sue and Pam

SHUFFLE UP AND DEAL ME IN CARD NIGHT

**FOR ALL OF YOU WHO HAVE A PASSION FOR
CARDS GET YOUR 'POKER FACE' READY AND
SHARPEN UP YOUR CARD SKILLS FOR A NIGHT
OF FUN AND ENJOYMENT.**



£5:00 to have a seat at the table!

**Payable to the chapter Ref = Cards or pay on
the night or just come along to watch and
cheer other members on!!**

8th October 2025

Natter Night

KINGS ARMS



**Speak to Pam or
Sue for any
questions and
further information!**

**PRIZE FOR THE
WINNER**

**Lakeside Chapter needs your help, to spread a little
Christmas Cheer!**

After the amazing singing performance last year...we have been invited back!



It is our pleasure to support the wonderful
'Howard Lodge Care Centre for the Elderly' again this year!

By sharing a little joy again this Christmas

So please join us on a wonderful Christmas Ride to Howard Lodge

Where you will be giving a gift of time.

Date: 29th November 2025

Meeting Time: 13:30 At: Starbucks – Halfway House

Leaving 13:45

Destination: Howard Lodge - To arrive around 14:30

Where we will sing Christmas Carols, eat mince pies, show the bikes, share gifts, and most importantly have a chat.

A much appreciated donation of money to gift each resident to receive a bottle of Shower Gel would be amazing (payment to Lakeside Chapter Account ref: Shower Gel)

or

you could purchase your own Shower Gel
and I will collect them from you.

There is a total of 80 Residents. So, the challenge is on!

Merry Showermass Lakeside!



Early bird tickets

Lakeside Chapter Christmas Party

THREE COURSE MEAL £40.00 FOR MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS.

DJ PLAYING ALL YOUR FAVOURITE DANCE SONGS!!



13TH DECEMBER 12:00 - MIDNIGHT

📍 Stifford Hall Hotel Thurrock, Grays, Essex RM16 5UE

Accommodation available at reduced rates!



Please contact the venue.
01708 719933

Family and friends are all welcome

**COME AND
CELEBRATE
LAKE SIDE IS
TURNING 15!**

Save The Date!

Saturday 4th July 2026

**Formal Party
Invite to
Follow!**



**Buffet / Band /
DJ**

Life on Three Wheels

Our Secretary Neil Searle-Jones tells us why and how he transferred from two wheels to three. It wasn't as easy as you may think and it's not just like riding a bike!

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Like all good stories of adventure and daring-do, which this is unfortunately not, it is still probably best to start with the reason why Dee and I ride a trike.

As many of you know Dee had a brain tumour in 2017 and then a cranium plate installed in her head in July 2018. When she had healed we had a couple of trial rides on our Ultra Low in November 2018 to see how she felt about riding as a pillion. The rides were successful and Dee wanted to carry on riding, but both of us decided that the danger of dropping the bike at low speed with the possibility of Dee pitching off and banging her head was quite high and unacceptable. As we both still wanted to ride and stay in the Chapter we opted for a Harley trike. We choose a Freewheeler rather than the Tri-Glide Ultra as the Freewheeler front end is based on a Road King with the seating/riding position, slimline rear structure and lack of the back box more bike like.



This was delivered in March 2019 and the fun began. Riding/triking is totally different from riding a bike or driving a car. An obvious point but hard to get your head around when you are first on it. You have to actually steer it to go round bends rather than using lean angle or counter steering. This made for some entertaining times, if not scary, on our first few trips. As you do not need to lean into corners as on a bike you tend to start by sitting upright so when you do go around a bend you find the centrifugal forces leaning you the wrong way - not too bad for me as I had the bars to hang on to, but for Dee she was sliding slowly off the seat with cries of "help". It took us a couple of rides to realise this and master leaning into the bends to make life easier. Obvious when you think about it but not when you first ride a trike.

The other exciting learning curve we found was to do with braking. When you brake on a bike either going straight or if over egging the speed in a corner you still retain an element of directional choice. Braking on a trike is a straight line process as any braking, hard or gentle, causes the steering to become rigid. In a straight line you cannot turn the bars and in a corner if you need to brake the trikes front wheel tends to straighten. You then find yourself heading into the oncoming lane - not good for a long life or healthy heart. We had an incident on a recent (2025) ride out when I had a senior moment and over egged the front brake on a corner and went straight across the oncoming carriageway. Only the slow speed and quick reaction of the oncoming carriageway driver prevented a nasty accident. You cannot get complacent when triking.

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Braking has become an art form that is quite straight forward when you know the trike's behaviour under braking (excluding senior moments that is). Unfortunately none of the available advice from HD Dealerships when you buy one mentions this, although in the Good Old USA if you buy a Trike you get proper tuition and access to some good On Line videos. As I previously said both of the above are obvious when you have experienced them but they are not intuitive to you on the change from bike to trike. It is probably easier going from car to trike.

After a couple of months and 1,500 miles, including a couple of overeager braking sessions involving on-coming traffic, we both wondered if the change had been a good idea, but as further time went on the riding became more natural and we were even filtering in traffic.

Strangely, the width at the rear was not as much of an issue as I first thought it would be. The Ultra we had was wide with its lower leg shields, highway pegs and large side panniers and the extra width of the trike I found easy to account for.

Although the trike is about 15inches wider than an Ultra /Glide it is a more stable platform and this makes it relatively easy to slow speed filter in lanes of traffic especially if there are cats eyes or poor lane joints. The main disadvantage is on single carriageways where the extra width usually puts you in the oncoming traffic lane.



The trike has grown on us both, the stability especially on damp and wet road surfaces, gravel or unpaved carparks, muddy lanes with grass in the middle and turning around in narrow roads with the removal of the fear of dropping a bike really has made us appreciate it.

They are not for all and you have to be prepared to take some stick but it is usually good natured. However, over the five years, in two Chapters, we have owned a trike we have observed that some of the so called “banter” especially that concerning “macho’ elements has deferred riders from trying a trike to the detriment of themselves and their pillions which is a shame.

As the years have progressed we have become fans of the trike as it enables us to continue riding safely and to participate in the full social life of the Chapter. We would recommend it as an alternative to anyone if their health/strength or regular pillion have issues with a bike or they cannot be bothered to get a full bike licence (you can ride a trike on a car licence).

Neil



LAKE SIDE CHAPTER **STOCK MERCHANDISE**

Prices with 10% discount

LADIES

V-Neck T-shirt (Flower Design) size L - **£11.25**

Zippered Hoodie Pink size M - **£22.50**

V-Neck T-shirt (Skull Design) size M & L - **£11.25**

Wicking T-shirt Black size M x2, Sapphire Blue size XL -
£10.80

V-Neck T-shirt (Motorbike/Wing Design) size XL - **£13.50**

Chapter T-shirt Black size M & L White size L - **£12.60**

2 Tone Softshell Jacket size L - **£22.00** (New being sold
on behalf of a member)

MEN'S

Polo size L - **£13.05**

Longsleeved T-Shirt Black size XXL - **£14.40**

1/4 Zippered Fleece size XL - **£15.75**

2 Tone Softshell Jacket size 3XL & 4XL - **£22.00** (New
being sold on behalf of a member)

Email - merchandise@lakesidechapter.co.uk

Don't forget I carry the following in stock

Knitted Beanie Black or Pink **£7**

Winter Neck Scarfs Black **£10**

Summer Neck Scarfs Black, Orange & Pink **£6**

LAKESIDE CHAPTER MERCHANDISE 2024/25

For all enquiries and orders contact Ann at:
merchandise@lakesidechapter.co.uk



¾ 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

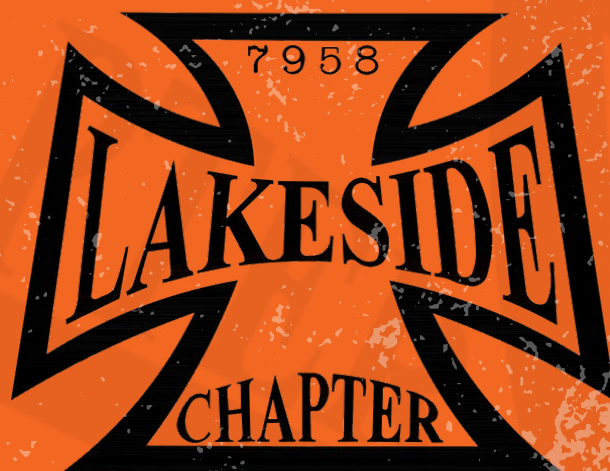
Zipped Sweatshirt £27.50
Sizes S – 2XL

Chapter Cap £15

£1 EACH OLD SURPLUS STOCK



RIDE OUT ARTICLES



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.

WEDNESDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER: TIN ROOF CAFE

With Neil's trike still stuck in the garage by a skip that refused to budge, I took on the ride with a few days notice.

The recce ride the previous day was in glorious sunshine, but needless to say the day of the ride was overcast with wet weather forecast. The original route was a planned ride of around 45 miles and about 90 minutes, however I'd also looked at a shorter route of about an hour, and with rain forecast on the hour mark the group voted on the shorter route.

In the end it stayed dry for the ride and indeed would have been dry for the extra mileage! Next time we'll do the longer ride as the route out to Burnham, then back via Latchingdon is a lovely route of twisties.

All in, nine bikes and nine riders came along for the ride and I think everyone enjoyed it apart from the gravel parking at the café!

Neil and Dee met us at the Tin Roof and good food, drink and banter was had by all.

Thanks to Mike and Paul for crewing and to Lynn for taking one for the team by wearing the full wets that kept the weather away!

Cheers... Kev



SATURDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER: DUXFORD

On a sunny Saturday, eight people and seven bikes met at Starbucks Halfway House for a ride to Duxford. During the briefing, as no one intended going to go into the Air Museum, it was agreed that we would go straight to the Duxford Community Café instead.

We took mainly A and B roads, starting off through the chaos of Wilsons Corner in Brentwood, which led us on through Ongar, by which time we were all back together. We carried on through Matching Green, Hatfield Broad Oak, Elsenham and Ickleton. Eventually arriving to a very warm welcome and a reserved table at the Community Café in Duxford.

Thank you to all who came along. Also thanks to Phil Hopper and Kev Smith for crewing.

Paul.



THURSDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER: WALLY'S CAFE



Thursday 18th September 2025 saw five bikes and six members gather at the Barge Inn at Battlesbridge for a 45-mile ride to Wally's Café at Acton Suffolk. It was a mix of cloud and sun for the day and it was a bit blustery to start with. But the route was going to take us along mainly B roads with a few bits of A and a country road or two, so hopefully we'd be sheltered a bit from the wind.

We set off on the hour and 25 minute journey and stayed mainly as one group for the whole ride. Although mainly B roads, there were plenty of bends to be had along the way. To make things more challenging, the poor weather we have had put gravel and mud onto the road which had not been there when checking the route. Thankfully no dramas and we all arrived safe and sound at the café.

The café itself is a throwback to the 60's or 70's era with plastic table clothes and brass etchings, mirrors and old-style water colours around the walls. Having said that the service is good along with the food, which is simple fare and reasonably priced.

Thanks to those who came along and for Pam with Ashley crewing at the back.

Mike



SATURDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER: KRAZY HORSE

A Destination for Petrol-heads. Krazy Horse are a group of motorcycle, car and Microlino dealerships which were started by Paul Beamish as a hobby when he couldn't get the bike parts he needed locally. They have grown into a multi-dealership for both motorbikes and cars.

The day was warm but dull, however there were plenty of bikes out across Essex making the most of a dry Saturday before the Autumn weather really kicks in. We weaved our way through the outskirts of Chelmsford & Braintree then onwards through Halstead and Sudbury before hitting Bury St Edmunds some 75 miles from our starting point. Using the buddy system we maintained a good pace and stayed together as a pack almost throughout the whole ride and arrived altogether at the Empire House destination ready for a coffee and lunch.

Ash



SUNDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER: MEADOW CROFT KITCHEN

With the briefing done and the sun shining we headed off on a route that would take us 1hr 20 minutes instead of the direct route of less than 20 minutes! This saw us heading through Hutton/Ingatstone/Hanningfield and out towards Burnham before crossing back to Latchingdon and onwards to Battlesbridge and Meadow Croft Kitchen. The restaurant was busy but they were able to accommodate ten of us on one big table. As always the food and service was great, definitely somewhere to go if you want a great breakfast/brunch or dinner... or you want to visit the German Christmas market (yes that was in full swing in September!).



Thanks for your continued support.

Ash

THURSDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER: TARKAS CAFE



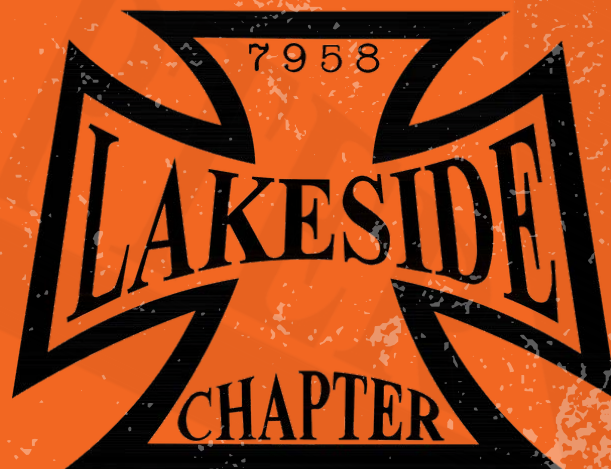
Thursday 25th September 2025 saw a small group of six bikes and seven members gather at The Barge Inn, Hawkhill, Battlesbridge on a bright and sunny day for a ride to the Essex/Suffolk boarder.

Briefing held and off we set along a mix of A, B, country roads and lanes, but with lots of twists and turns along the way, (as well as the odd pheasant or two). Passing through villages and hamlets, an hour and forty minutes riding and 48 miles passed us by and we arrived at Tarka's Café, Baythorne just in time for the lunchtime menu to start. Being a pleasant day, even if a bit windy we sat outside on the decking to have a chat and a bite to eat. A little over an hour later we said our goodbyes and began our journeys home.

Thanks to the members who came out for the ride and for Lynn for looking after the rear.

Mike

FUTURE RIDES



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.

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 coms for most up to date information, including on the up to date start times of rides.

Ride outs (starting 2 October) through to the November Natter Night:

Thursday 2 October – Parlour café, Burnham on Crouch. Meet at The Barge Inn at 10am for a 10.15 departure.

Saturday 4 October – Ride to the Wall. Meet at South Mimms Services on the M25 in the car park outside Costa Coffee at 6.00 am

Tuesday 7 October – Bungalow Diner, Marks Tey. Meet at Starbucks at 10am for a 10.15 departure.

Tuesday 14 October – Rosey Lea's, Bishops Stortford. Meet at The Barge Inn at 10am for a 10.15 departure.

Wednesday 29 October – Abberton Reservoir. Meet at Boreham Services. Time TBC.

Saturday 1 November – Harleyween (destination TBC). Meet at Boreham Services. Time TBC

Sunday 2 November – Poker Run. Meet at Starbucks at 10am for a 10.15 departure.

Saturday 8 November – Billericay Fireworks. Meet at Starbucks at 3pm for a 3.30 departure.

Sunday 9 November – Remembrance Sunday. Meet at Starbucks at 10.15am for a 10.35 departure.

Then we are at our November Natter Night in the evening of 12 November at the Kings Arms, Orsett from 6.30pm.

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.

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OF POND LIFE**

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