

JUNE 2026

# POND LIFE



## LAKE SIDE

CHAPTER HARLEY OWNERS GROUP 7958

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So much more....



**PONDLIFE**

# COMMITTEE

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DIRECTOR  
PHILL POSTON



ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, HEAD ROAD  
CAPTAIN AND SAFETY OFFICER  
ASHLEY SMART



CHAPTER SECRETARY  
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TREASURER  
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LADIES OF HARLEY OFFICER AND  
JOINT EVENTS OFFICER  
PAM SMART



COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER  
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WELFARE OFFICER  
LYNN GUNN



EDITOR  
TONY HITCHING

# FROM THE EDITOR

Hello and welcome to this June edition of Pondlife. No holidays for me this month so back to the usual timetable!

I begin this month's intro with an apology. You will recall in last month's edition Neil's write up of the ride to Newmarket H-D and how the buddy system worked all the way to Newmarket. In celebration of such an event Paul Edwards just had to take his shirt off....but I couldn't find the photographic evidence. Having checked though various files I have now found it so here it is in all its glory.



*Alas poor Eric, I knew him Ernie...no, that's not it!*

Now onto this month's edition of Pondlife – it's a whopper! Along with the regular updates and reports from Phill, Ash and Pam we also have: a report on the recent H-D Experience Tour when it used Ingatstone as its base and Lakeside Chapter as its support team; part one of Pam's diaries as she writes about the recent adventures by Chapter members in the Southern States of America; and we also have a very important message from Phill (but ultimately HOG) for all members on what NOT to have on the back of your jacket or cut.

Add to all of this updates on events (don't forget the Cutty Sark trip is coming up as are various Birthday bashes – including our own), details of our all new merchandise and a phenomenal number of ride reports (and we haven't covered all of them for May) you'll see why I think this is a whopper.

June continues to be a busy month for the Chapter and on behalf of all of us I say “Bon Voyage” to all Chapter members who are trekking across to Honfleur with Carl leading the ride later in the month. Travel safe. And for those Chapter members who will be “going mad in Dorset” with Mr Hopper – have fun (hopefully in the sun, or is Phill going!?). Hopefully it won't be a case of “what happens in Dorset, stays in Dorset” and we get to see photographic evidence of the trip in due course.

That's all from me. With so many rides in the calendar for June I hope to see many of you on the road.

Enjoy Pondlife.

Tony H

# DIRECTOR'S THOUGHTS

Wow..!! We won't forget May in a hurry. Blue skies, amazing sunshine and some crazy temperatures. As long as a ride can keep moving these 30+ degree temperatures are bearable, but the traffic conditions are not always easy to predict. As always, keep an eye on Comms and the Chapter Website (and Calendar) in case rides get cancelled due to adverse weather. I never thought I'd be saying that about hot sunny days..!!!!



Our awesome Committee and Road Crew continued to impress with 14 Ride Outs, 1 Rally, 1 Experience Tour, a Natter Night and an AGM under their belts for May. June is looking good with 16 Ride Outs, 2 Weekend trips, 1 Inter Chapter Party, 1 Natter Night, 1 LOH ABBA Adventure and a Beach Party in Weymouth. I can't finish this round-up without mentioning the Lakeside Chapter's 15th Birthday Party which is now just one month away on Saturday 4th July. It's FREE to Members but you'll need to let Pam or Sue know if you're coming.

Everything you need to know is on the Chapter website: [www@lakesidechapter.co.uk](http://www@lakesidechapter.co.uk)

I had a brief chat with HOG at the Experience Tour and have again been "warned" of the perils of how, what and where you put patches on your back following a second and final warning from a well known MC. There's an article later in this edition. Please have a quick read and if it affects you please do something about it.

As crazy as it might seem I know the Road Crew are already thinking about rides later this year and even into next year. If there was somewhere you really wanted to go then please let any member of the Crew know (or just bug Ash!).

In 2027 it looks very much like the Chapter will be riding to the Cider Rally and hopefully Thunder in the Glens (which looks like it is being resurrected after a year off). There have also been Comms and Events notices about a Joint Party with Sherwood & 1066 Chapters and we've not even scratched the surface.

That's it from me. Enjoy the sunshine for what will hopefully be a stunning summer with Lakeside Chapter.

Phill "Rainman"

# HEAD ROAD CAPTAIN & SAFETY

As the days grow longer and the promise of open roads beckons, summer brings with it one of the most exciting riding times of the year. For many of us, it's the perfect time to take our Harley-Davidsons out more often, whether that's for group rides, weekend escapes, or simply enjoying the freedom that only two wheels can offer.

However, alongside the sunshine and longer journeys come new challenges. Warmer weather can increase rider fatigue, road traffic intensifies, and surface conditions change in ways that demand heightened awareness. As a Chapter, it's important that we not only celebrate the season but also approach it with a strong commitment to safety, for ourselves and for each other.



At the heart of our Chapter values is responsibility. Every ride we take reflects not only on us as individuals but on the Chapter and HOG as a whole. I encourage experienced riders to lead by example and support newer members. Sharing knowledge, checking in during group rides, and fostering a culture of awareness ensures that everyone gets home safely at the end of the day.

Let's make this summer one to remember, for the right reasons. Enjoy the roads, the camaraderie, and the unmistakable sound of our Harley's, but never forget that safety is what keeps the journey going, day after day, month after month and year after year.



## SUMMER SAFETY TIPS FOR RIDING A HARLEY-DAVIDSON

There's nothing quite like hitting the open road on a Harley-Davidson during the summer months, the rumble of the engine, warm air, and long daylight hours create the perfect riding experience. However, summer also presents unique hazards that every rider should be aware of. Staying safe while enjoying your ride means preparing for heat, traffic, and road conditions.

Here's a practical guide to keep your summer rides smooth and secure.

### 1. Dress for the Heat—Without Sacrificing Protection

It can be tempting to ride in minimal gear when temperatures soar, but proper protective clothing remains essential:

- **Wear lightweight, ventilated gear:** Mesh jackets, breathable riding pants, and gloves provide airflow while protecting your skin.
- **Helmet matters:** A well-ventilated, DOT-approved helmet helps regulate temperature and reduces fatigue.

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- **Avoid shorts and T-shirts:** In case of a fall, exposed skin is highly vulnerable to road rash.
- **Choose light-colored gear** to reflect sunlight and help keep you cooler.

## 2. Stay Hydrated and Beat the Heat

Dehydration sneaks up quickly when riding in hot conditions, especially with wind exposure:

- Drink water before and during your ride.
- Carry a hydration pack or take frequent breaks.
- Watch for signs of heat exhaustion: dizziness, headaches, and fatigue.

Even experienced riders can underestimate how taxing heat can be, hydration is not optional; it's critical.

## 3. Check Your Harley Before You Ride

Summer heat can affect your bike's performance:

- **Inspect tires:** Hot pavement increases pressure—check tire condition and inflation.
- **Monitor engine temperature:** Air-cooled Harley engines can run hotter in traffic.
- **Check fluids:** Oil and coolant levels are vital for overheating prevention.

Regular maintenance ensures your bike handles the stress of summer riding.

## 4. Be Aware of Road Hazards

Summer changes road conditions in subtle but important ways:

- **Soft asphalt:** Extreme heat can make roads slick or uneven.
- **Oil buildup:** Heat brings oil to the surface, making intersections slippery.
- **Increased traffic:** Tourists and holiday drivers may be less aware of motorcycles.

Ride defensively and anticipate unpredictable moves from other motorists.

## 5. Ride Smart in Heavy Traffic

With more people on the road in summer, the risk of accidents rises:

- Keep a safe following distance.
- Avoid riding in blind spots.
- Defensive riding is your best protection.

## 6. Protect Yourself from Sun Exposure

Long rides under direct sunlight can cause serious sunburn—even through some fabrics:

- Apply sunscreen to exposed areas (neck, face, wrists).
- Wear UV-protective sunglasses or a helmet visor.
- Consider a neck gaiter or bandana for additional protection.

Sun fatigue can affect concentration, so staying protected helps maintain focus.

## 7. Plan Your Ride Around the Heat on Longer Rides and When Touring

Timing can make a big difference:

- Ride early in the morning or later in the evening when temperatures are lower.
- Avoid peak afternoon heat whenever possible.
- Map out rest stops to cool down and hydrate.

A well-planned ride is both safer and more enjoyable.

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## 8. Watch for Fatigue and Take Breaks

Fatigue builds faster in hot weather:

- Stop every 60–90 minutes.
- Stretch and move around to maintain circulation.
- Listen to your body—if you feel tired, take a break.

Alertness is essential when riding a powerful motorcycle like a Harley-Davidson.



## Final Thoughts

Summer riding on a Harley-Davidson is one of life's great pleasures, but it demands respect—for the road, the machine, and the environment. By preparing properly, staying alert, and adapting to the conditions, you can enjoy every mile safely. Remember only you as an individual can determine if the heat is too much for you to ride safely.

**Ride safe and continue to have fun whatever the weather.**

**Ash**

LADIES OF  
HARLEY



# LADIES OF HARLEY

Welcome to the June edition of Pondlife, Ladies. What a wonderful month to be out and about — the kind of weather that invites everyone to enjoy it in their own special way. Some of you are stretched out by a pool, others are tucked happily in the shade, a few are chasing that glorious feeling of the wind rushing through your hair on a ride, and many are making the most of any air-con you can find.

As for me, I adore the heat. Like a contented reptile basking on a warm rock, I soak up every minute of sunshine and then some more. June always feels like a fresh burst of energy for our Chapter — long days, bright skies, and plenty of chances to get together, ride together, and laugh together.

Here's to a fantastic month ahead, filled with good company, great rides, and memories waiting to be made, of which we have quite a few!



Just a little reminder for all those who may have missed the Spring Addition of the National Ladies of Harley Newsletter Edition 2026. Double click on the page opposite and it will lead you straight there.

The magazine is over ninety pages long and full of all the mischief the Chapters are getting up to - including ours!!



Just a little taster!

(continued next page)

## Meet And Greet Ladies of Harley at the 'IRON HORSE RALLY'.

### A Fantastic Time from Start to Finish

The Lakeside Ladies of Harley rolled into the Iron Horse Rally ready for a great time — and the Casino Royale Experience did not disappoint. From the moment we arrived, the atmosphere was buzzing with excitement, laughter, and that unmistakable LOH sisterhood.

We joined in the casino fun with enthusiasm, and luck was clearly on our side. Lakeside walked away with two raffle prizes, adding an extra sparkle to an already brilliant evening. But the real highlight was the company — spending time with Ladies of Harley from Chapters far and wide, sharing stories, sharing laughs, and yes... sharing a shot or two along the way.

The warm welcome we received made the night even more special. A huge thank you goes out to the St. Leger Chapter and their LOH team for hosting such a fantastic event and making us feel right at home. Your hospitality was second to none.

We had an incredible time — and there's no doubt about it... we'll be back next year!



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## International Ladies Riding Day

### The International Ride of All Rides – Conquering the Tail of the Dragon

There are rides... and then there are Rides. The kind that stay in your bones, rush through your veins, and etch themselves into your memory forever. Our journey down the world-famous Tail of the Dragon – 11 miles and 318 curves along Route 129 between Tennessee and North Carolina – was exactly that.

The day began perfectly. The sun was shining, the air was warm, and after a hearty, full breakfast, every one of us was fuelled, focused, and ready for the challenge ahead. The bikes stood waiting – powerful, polished, and just a little bit intimidating. Hard, scary, but oh so inviting.

As engines fired up, a roar echoed through the mountains. Nerves fluttered, excitement surged, and the anticipation was electric. Then we were off – leaning into curve after curve, carving through the bends, feeling every twist of the Dragon’s spine. It was intense, exhilarating, and utterly unforgettable.

The Tail of the Dragon demands respect, and it rewards every rider brave enough to take it on. And we did more than ride it – we lived it. The adrenaline, the focus, the laughter at the stops, the shared “Did we really just do that?” moments... it all came together to create an experience like no other.

What a ride! What a day! What an experience! What a Dragon!



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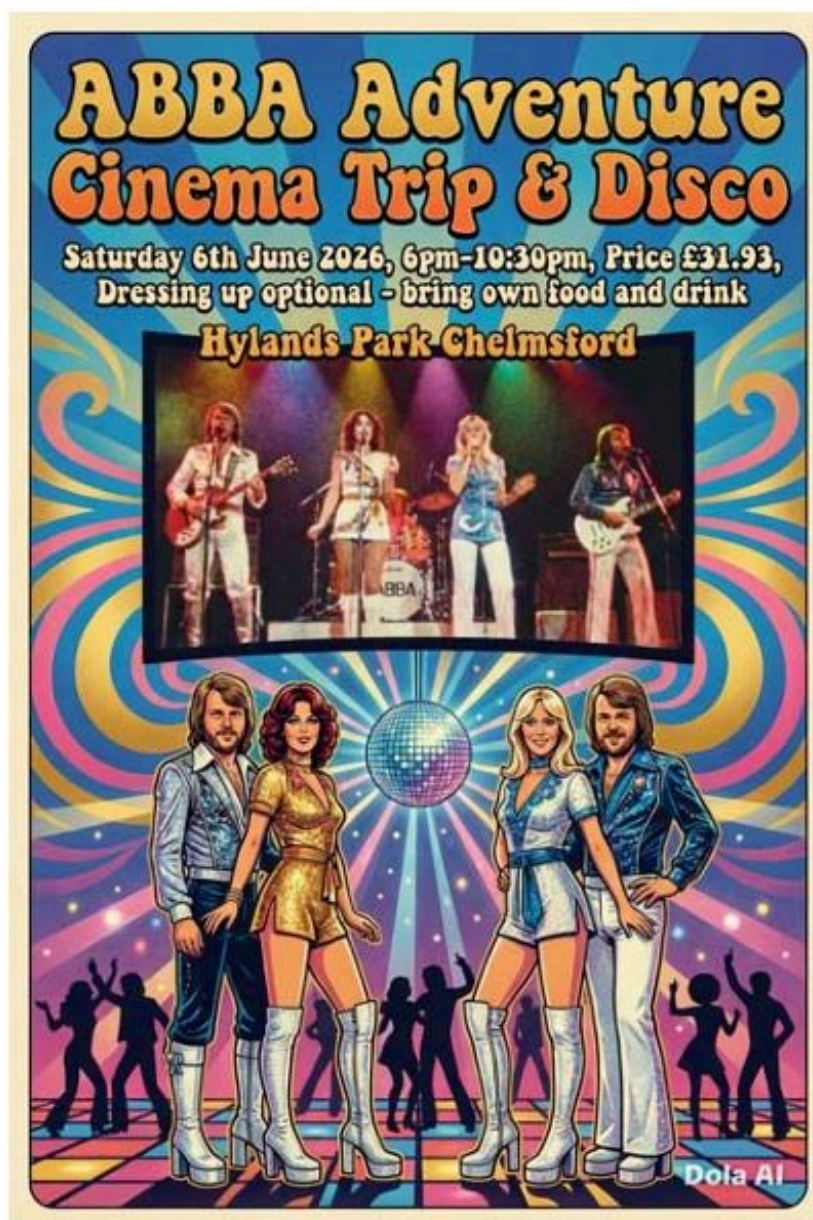
To all our wonderful Lakeside Ladies and Gents, this is just a little farewell for now. What an incredible time we've shared – the rides, the laughter, the adventures, and the memories that will keep us smiling long after the engines cool.

Thank you for every mile, every moment, and every bit of spirit you bring to our chapter. Whether you're out riding, resting, travelling, or simply enjoying life your own way, stay safe, stay joyful, and stay proud to be part of this amazing family.

This isn't goodbye – just see you soon. Until the next ride... keep the sunshine in your heart and the road beneath your wheels.

Love Pam  
XXXX

**Lakeside Ladies of Harley Adventure to come.**



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**SAVE THE DATES!!!!!!!**

**Lakeside Ladies of Harley**

**Paddle Boarding Event Repeated!!!!**

**Date: 18<sup>th</sup> July & 20<sup>th</sup> September 2026 (Both Dates)**



**St Andrews Lake**

**2, Quarry Grove, Rochester, Kent ME2 1BA**

**Cost: to be confirmed (3-hour session)**

**Time: To be confirmed**

**It really does not matter that you have never paddled boarded before and you do not need to own a paddle board.**

**Come along, try something new with friends!**

**We have repeated this event as it was so much fun and we did not stop laughing and some of us even conquered some fears!!**

**Please contact me if you have any questions.**

**Pam**

**XX**

**I hope you can join us!**



Lots of spaces available so just let me know if you want to come and I'll pop you on the list

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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**

## Lakeside LOH Social Weekend 2027 with 1066 & Sherwood.

All are welcome.. both ladies and gents..!

A great opportunity to have a wonderful evening and an overnight stay with 1066 & Sherwood Chapters.

We will eat in the restaurant on the Saturday night and the hotel lays on a function room with a DJ. The menus will be sent out nearer the time but a 3 course meal is around £28 and the food is lovely.

Please call hotel direct and state the name 'Deborah' as she has provisionally booked 40 rooms.

We ride up on Saturday and come back Sunday.

There will be an official ride up and back, we will also join the Chapters to ride in together.

I hope you can make it.

Let me know if you have any questions x

Please see flyer below.

**1066, SHERWOOD & LAKESIDE**

**LOH-SOCIAL WEEKEND**

**10TH APRIL 2027**

40 rooms available

Linton hotel | Bedfordshire LU1 3RP

**Book your room**

01582407644

65£ - Single • 75£ - Double

Ref for booking "Deborah Laurence"

SHERWOOD CHAPTER

LAKESIDE CHAPTER

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

#9794 #6746 #7958

1066 CHAPTER ENGLAND

# Harley Davidson Experience Tour – The Country Café, Ingatestone, Essex

As there is no Harley Davidson Dealership in Essex it qualifies for a visit from the Experience Tour every year. Having visited Poulson Creative Customs in recent years it was the turn of the Country Café in Ingatestone. Living in the village I was acutely aware that the location was far from ideal for the event and HD had also done us no favours by booking it on the same weekend as the Iron Horse Rally. As the local Chapter we couldn't let that get in the way.

Mary, Ann & Dean set up stall right next to the Harley Davidson registration desk and spoke to just about every single one of the 150+ people that came over the weekend to try out the current range of Harley Davidsons. It was awesome to see Lakeside Chapter members trying out the new bikes on demo rides as well



The demo route was slightly shorter than the one recy'd the previous week and was a really cool 30 minutes with some amazing sweeping country lanes where the riders could get an incredible feel for the bikes. An amazing 18 Chapter members took part. Whether it was assisting with each demo ride or marshalling traffic as the rides departed from or returned to the Café and carefully "slotting" Crew into each ride..... everyone was awesome. The rides all left on time, on the hour, every hour from 10am 'till 4pm (Saturday) and 10am 'till 3pm (Sunday). It was really, really good fun, but we were all knackered by the end.



Harley Davidson (Vicki Green, Matt Green & Megan Lewis) were knocked-out with the Chapter's help and attitude and the weekend as a whole, as was everyone else that attended and of course Lakeside Chapter.

Hopefully HD will be back in 2027 and we can do it all again.

Phill 'Rainman'

# LAKESIDE GOES STATESIDE

A group of intrepid Chapter Members recently undertook a fantastic adventure in the United States when they undertook a journey through a number of the Southern States, enjoying the sights, sounds and smells of Southern hospitality.

Here and over the next few months Pam tells us of the experiences they all shared.

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## LAKESIDE GOES LIVE IN THE DEEP SOUTH – ORANGE & BLACK TAKE NEW ORLEANS



The Lakeside Chapter went truly Live in the Deep South, wrapped proudly in Orange and Black, as we touched down in New Orleans – the beating heart of American music, culture, and soul. From the moment we arrived, the city greeted us with its unmistakable rhythm: jazz drifting through the streets, warm Southern air, and that irresistible sense that something unforgettable was about to begin. We went to a jazz evening where we watched the most amazing Jazz Orchestra: man those guys could play!

We had a couple of days to settle in, explore, and soak up the magic of this iconic city. Whether wandering through the French Quarter, listening to live bands on every corner, or sampling the flavours of Creole and Cajun cooking, New Orleans delivered an experience that felt both electric and deeply welcoming.

The atmosphere was vibrant, the colours bold, and the people full of stories. Everywhere we went, someone wanted to know about the bikes, the patches, the journey – and we were more than happy to share the Lakeside spirit.

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This trip wasn't just a visit; it was a celebration of friendship, adventure, and the joy of taking our Chapter colours somewhere completely new. New Orleans gave us music, memories, and moments we'll be talking about for years.

And this was only the beginning of our Deep South journey...



Our time in New Orleans continued to unfold with the kind of magic only the Deep South can deliver. After settling into the city's rhythm, we soon found ourselves surrounded by new friends, warm welcomes, and the unmistakable heartbeat of American music echoing through every street. We could not have left New Orleans without a trip down the Mississippi River on a famous Paddle Steamers: gosh what a steamer it was!





One of the many highlights was our welcome dinner, a night filled with laughter, great food, and a live band that brought the room to life. The moment of the evening? Without question – Lynn taking to the stage to play the washboard like she'd been born to do it. The crowd loved it, and so did we.

It was also a special night for Mary, as we celebrated her Birthday in true Lakeside style – music, friendship, and plenty of joy and a big Birthday cake. A Birthday she'll never forget.





The next morning came early, but spirits were high. It was time to load the backup van, gather our gear, and head out to collect our Harley-Davidson bikes — the machines that would carry us through the adventure ahead. Excitement buzzed through the group as engines fired up and the real journey began.

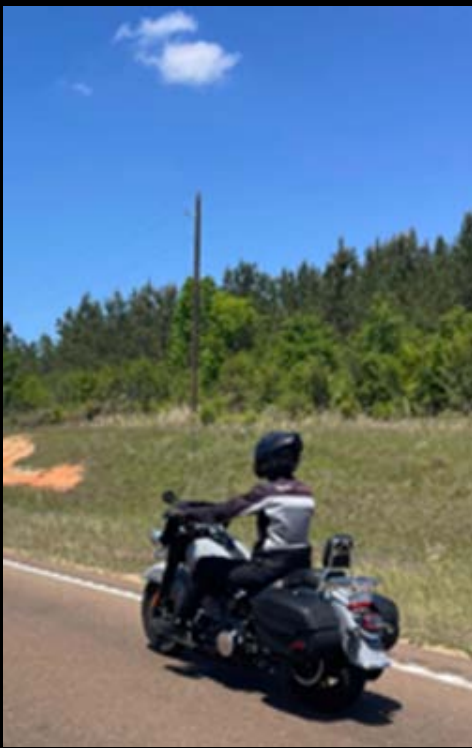


Leaving the charm of New Orleans behind, we rode out toward Natchez, crossing the incredible Lake Pontchartrain Causeway — the second-longest road bridge in the world, stretching an astonishing 23.83 miles across open water. Riding that bridge felt like gliding across the horizon itself, a perfect start to the miles and memories waiting for us.

The Deep South had welcomed us with open arms... and now the open road was calling.

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Another early start had the Lakeside Chapter back in the saddle, ready for the next chapter of our Deep South journey. With the sun rising and the air already warm, we pointed our bikes toward Vicksburg and the legendary National Military Park – a place steeped in American Civil War history.

In true American style, we rode our Harleys through the entire park, following 16 miles of winding, twisting roads that carried us past monuments, battle lines, and stories carved into the landscape. We were lucky enough to have our very own tour guide, Mr. Hopper, who kept us fully immersed in the history of the Vicksburg campaign. His passion and knowledge brought the past to life, turning every stop into a moment of reflection and fascination.



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From there, the adventure continued as we made our way to the iconic Natchez Trace Parkway. Although the full route stretches an incredible 440 miles, we rode a beautiful section of it — smooth, scenic, and rich with history. The Parkway offered a peaceful contrast to the intensity of the battlefield, giving us time to breathe, ride, and take in the beauty of Mississippi.

By the time we reached our stop for the night, we were more than ready for a comfortable bed and a good meal. And after a few days filled with history, miles, and memories, both were very well deserved.

The Deep South continued to surprise, inspire, and welcome us at every turn — and the road ahead promised even more.

**To be continued!**

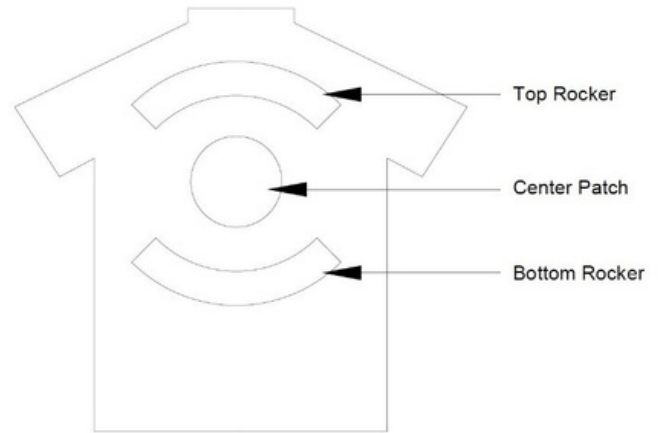
Pam



# HOG Guidance and Advice to ALL Chapter Members

Here's an article I'd hoped I'd never have to write!

After a chat with HOG at the Experience Tour I feel compelled to pass this on to all Chapter Members as a matter for serious consideration. HOG Chapters (and a great deal of other motorcycle clubs and organisations) enjoy a life on the open road enjoying each other's company without any issues. There are however certain 'rules' that exist where a few MC or 1% Clubs request that certain things are to be restricted to them alone.



As an example, a Non-HOG Club is not allowed to display their Club Name over a HOG Eagle Patch. The worst that might happen for 'impersonating' a HOG Chapter is that they might get a letter from HOG asking them not to do it, but nothing more

If, however, the MC rules are broken it can be much more serious ranging from a "telling-off", being ordered to remove your cut immediately, having the patches actually cut-off your jacket on the spot or having your cut taken from you. This may even be backed-up with a good 'slap'.

The story that came with this information was that a HOG Chapter's Ride Out was pulled-over by an MC and everyone in the Ride subjected to a rather intimidating time due to a single member having three patches on his back.

To make this crystal clear, as a HOG Chapter we are allowed to wear a Top Rocker (saying Lakeside Chapter). We are allowed to have the HOG Eagle underneath this.

## WE ARE NOT ALLOWED TO HAVE A BOTTOM ROCKER OF ANY KIND

If (as a number of our members do), you want to have HOG Year patches or Rally patches on your backs as well, that's OK, but no BOTTOM ROCKERS.

In my 14 Years at Lakeside Chapter I think I've encountered MC Clubs & members on just a handful of occasions so the odds of an encounter are very slim but it's a chance I don't want to take with the Chapter or a Ride Out.

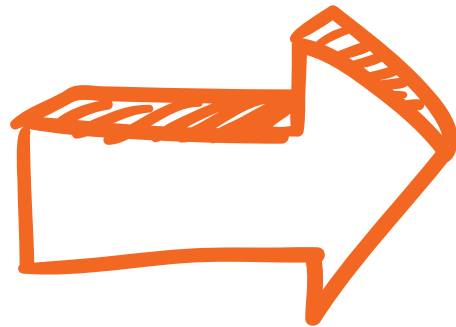
**If you have Top and Bottom Rockers and a centre patch of any kind and you show-up for a Chapter Ride you will be asked to remove your cut or wear a Hi-Vis to cover the back.**

If you are ever 'caught' on your own by an MC I'd never forgive myself for not making this "warning" as obvious as possible. If your cut displays the 3-patch set-up AND has a Lakeside Chapter patch or pin anywhere else on it and you get stopped then you will not only suffer the consequences of their "judgement" you will also be setting-up the Director (me) for a really uncomfortable encounter with them at a later date.

Finally, I really am so sorry to be typing this. These Clubs don't mess about and take this VERY seriously (whether you do or not). Any questions, please call or talk to me or any of the Crew.

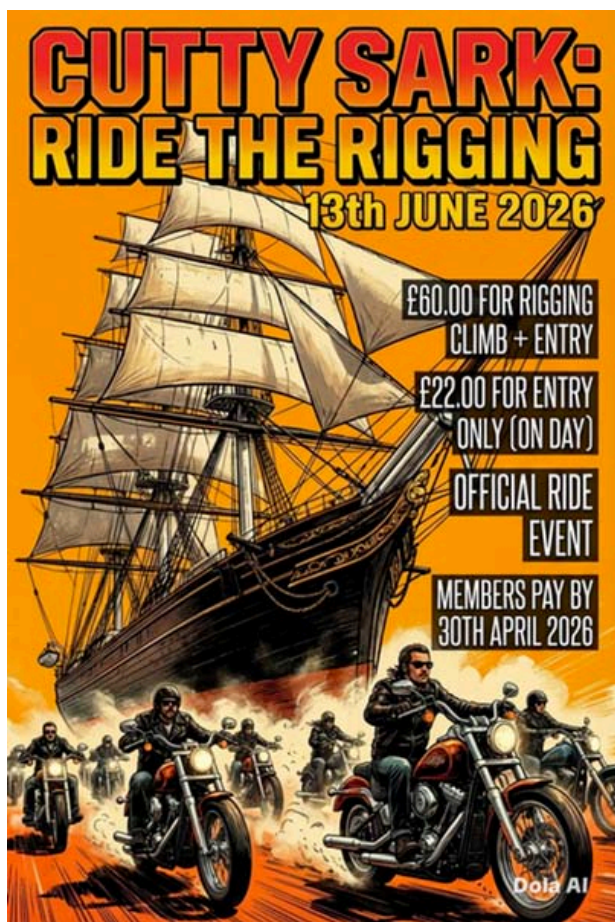
Phill "Rainman"

# EVENTS



# EVENTS

Don't forget our ride to the Cutty Sark, where you can—if you are feeling brave—climb the ship's rigging (booking required), explore the Cutty Sark itself (pay on the day), or simply relax with a drink and something tasty in a nearby café. Check the flyer or contact Sue or Pam for details.



Also, don't forget this fantastic exclusive...the 50th anniversary of the classic album "Bat out of Hell" – the album that introduced the voice of Meatloaf and the music of Jim Steinman to the world! Check out the flyer below.....you will need to register an interest for this one, as it is a one night only, tickets are around £45:00 (waiting for them to be released to confirm the price).

Please contact Pam or Sue and we will place you on the list!

Hurry do not miss OUT!



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Don't forget Invicta Chapter's 35<sup>th</sup> Birthday bash coming up this month



## BOOKING FORM

Name(s) of guests:

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

Any dietary requirements/allergies.....

Total amount due at £30 per person.....

Please make payment to the Invicta bank account with your surname and "party" in the reference

Bank account: Invicta HOG  
Account no. 21401238  
Sort code: 40-03-16

Accommodation can be booked direct with Judds Folly by calling them on 01795 591818. Please note that all rooms have been reserved in the name of Simon Williams

---

**COME AND  
CELEBRATE  
LAKESIDE IS  
TURNING 15!**

---

**SATURDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2026**

AT

**YE OLDE PLOUGH HOUSE  
BRENTWOOD ROAD**

**RM14 3SR**

**(ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE CONTACT VENUE)**

**01375 891592**

**FREE EVENT FOR MEMBERS**

**GUESTS £10**

**(PAYABLE TO THE CHAPTER REF: 15<sup>TH</sup> PARTY)**

---

**FINGER  
BUFFET  
DRINKS  
FROM 6PM**



**DJ / BAND  
CARRIAGES  
AT  
MIDNIGHT**

**Hurry only 40 tickets left!!**



**1066 Chapter and Sykes Dealership Summer Party & BBQ**

**When 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2026**

**Cost: £30:00 – includes all food & drink**

**Live Band & DJ**

**(payable to lakeside chapter) reference 1066 party 26 – (this is a non-refundable event) payment needs to be made by the 30<sup>th</sup> April 2026 to secure your place!**

**Accommodation: Eastbourne Polegate Premier Inn – 03337774677**

**A minibus will take us from the hotel to the party and home again!**

**There will be an official ride to Sykes dealership**

**For more information or concerns, contact Sue or Pam.**



# LAKESIDE CHAPTER 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 yours today from our Merchandising Team**

# 15<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY MERCHANDISE

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Men's 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Hoodie £30

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

Men's 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Polo £16

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Ladies 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Hoodie £30

Sizes XS (8) to 2XL (18)

Ladies 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Polo £16

Sizes XS (8) to 4XL (22)



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



# STANDARD CHAPTER MERCHANDISE

Contact Dean at [merchandise@lakesidechapter.co.uk](mailto:merchandise@lakesidechapter.co.uk) for all enquiries and orders.



¾ Zipped Fleece £17.50  
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Ladies 8 - 18



Men's Polo £14.50  
Sizes XS - 8XL



Zipped Hoodie £25  
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Heavyweight Hoodie £30  
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Men's Chapter T-shirt £14  
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Also available as a long sleeve £16  
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Wicking T-shirts £12  
(Available in Black or White)  
Men's Sizes XS - 5XL  
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Ladies Skull T-shirt £15  
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This print is also  
available in  
Zipped Hoodie £25  
Zipped Sweatshirt  
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Ladies Chapter T-shirt  
£14  
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Ladies Motorbike/Wing T-shirt £15  
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### Also available:

Sweatshirt £22.50  
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Unisex Long Sleeve Polo £15

Zipped Sweatshirt £27.50  
Sizes S - 2XL

Chapter Cap £15

# £1 EACH OLD SURPLUS STOCK

2011

2012

2013

2014

2015

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2021

2022

2023



2023

# RIDE-OUT GUIDELINES

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

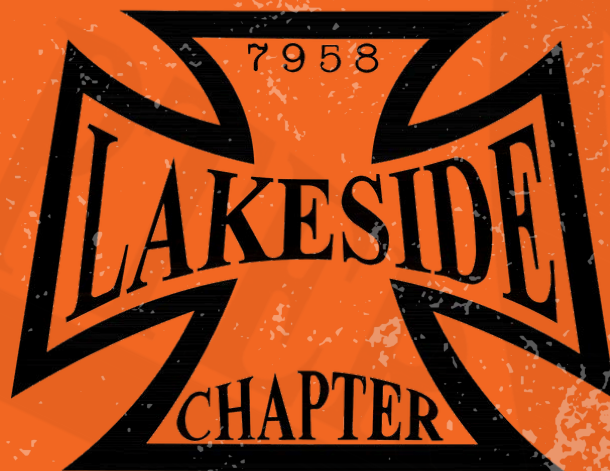
## **Ride Guest Policy**

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.

# RIDE OUT ARTICLES



# SATURDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> MAY: BRIGHTLINGSEA

As a late addition to the diary I put on a ride to Brightlingsea Beach on Saturday 02 May. We, again, left from Costa Coffee, Clock Tower retail Park in Chelmsford. A good turn out with nine bikes and eleven members. We left in sunny and warm conditions, a surprise as this was my second ride with Rainman with us and no rain (we may need to consider changing his name to “Drought”).

The route was about one hour and half and comprised minor A and B roads going via Galleywood, Danbury, Maldon, Abberton, outskirts of Colchester, Elmstead Market, Frating into Brightlingsea. We used the Buddy system but had a small problem on the outskirts of Colchester that fortunately was resolved and we all arrived together.

A drawback of coastal towns is now from end of April you have to pay for motorcycle parking. We had refreshments at the Bateman Cafe van and watched the tide come in. Mrs Kev even went paddling. A very pleasant start to a Bank holiday weekend. Photos can be found on FaceBook as well as our Chapter website. Thanks to all those who came on the ride and contributed photos to Facebook and to Kev & Mandy Smith plus Mike Keogh for Road Crew duties.

Neil



# TUESDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> MAY: TIPTREE TEA ROOMS AND MUSEUM



Tuesday 5th May 2026, was a mixture of sun and high clouds, but dry when eleven members of the Chapter on ten bikes gathered at Battlesbridge for this midweek ride to Tiptree Tea Room and Museum.

The briefing was held and we set off to ride the lanes and roads of Essex with all the twists and turns Essex can offer (with a couple of straight bits thrown in for good measure). Some over focused riding saw a turn missed by a member. Being realised by the road crew the wayward members we rounded up and returned them to the marking rider of the turn and eventually the pack was back together again. We subsequently continued on without further incident.

Arriving at the location and parking up we sat out in the not so Secret Garden for lunch and a chat. The small museum there gives the history of jam making in the area and is worth a walk around, not forgetting the jam shop to get all your jam, chutneys and sauces before you leave.

Thanks to Neil (along with Dee) and Kevin for looking after the back and getting us all back together.

Mike



# SATURDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> MAY: NOAH'S ARK GOLF RIDE

The Lakeside Ladies of Harley (and Gents) set off on their Noah's Ark Golf Ride under bright, sunny skies – perfect weather for a morning out on the bikes. The route wound through a mix of scenic Essex roads, offering everything from open stretches to twisty lanes, making the journey as enjoyable as the destination.

After a smooth but somewhat interesting, cheerful ride, the group arrived at Barleylands, where everyone took the chance to enjoy refreshments, ice cream, and lunch. The atmosphere was relaxed, friendly, and full of that familiar Harley camaraderie.

The adventure didn't stop there. Lynn, Mary, and Pam took on a round of Noah's Ark-themed adventure golf, travelling through a playful world of animals preparing to board the Ark. The course had it all –

- rivers to cross by raft,
- tunnels to navigate,
- animals to dodge,
- and illuminated rooms to conquer.

There were plenty of laughs, a few near-misses with mischievous wildlife (of the plastic variety), and a whole lot of fun from start to finish.

A great time was had by all, both on the ride and on the golf course.

Thank you to everyone who joined in and made the day such a success.

Pam



# SUNDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> MAY: BLACKMORE ANNUAL MOTORCYCLE SHOW

Once a year the picturesque Village Green in Blackmore Village is turned into a bike-park for all manner of old and new motorcycles. It never seems to be advertised very well but one of the local Parish Councillors contacted me to see if we were going and that was that...!! I needed to reccy the Experience Tour Route (which was happening just one week later) and this seemed a perfect opportunity to try out the route with a number of bikes.



We met at the Country Café, which would be hosting the Tour and I was knocked-out when 22 bikes turned-up. The weather was good but rather chilly. The roads were empty. We did a complete Round-Robin and ended up back in Ingatestone High Street around 40 minutes later. The ride then swung back through Ingatestone via a different route to Blackmore. There were 100's of bikes on the Green. We all parked up and dispersed in different directions taking in the atmosphere and enjoying all the bikes on show.

To be fair, the temperature did drop and chilly turned into cold rather quickly. About an hour and a half after we'd arrived everyone had left. It was still a good ride and a cracking destination. Hopefully we'll visit next year.

Phill 'Rainman'



# TUESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> MAY: RIVER PALACE CAFE, DOBB'S WEIR



Tuesday 12th May 2026 was a bright but slightly on the cool side, the wind bringing the temperature down, when eight members of the Chapter on nine bikes met at Battlesbridge for the ride to Dobb's Weir on the Essex/Herts border. Briefing held, we set off into the countryside for the twist and turns for the next 37 miles, passing through hamlets, villages and towns along the way. Scenery was a-plenty ranging from open fields to ancient woodland. All arrived safely and while we were just having a chat in the car park a group of sports bike riders came in, so we made a quick dash for the café to get in first. Once the food orders had been sorted, we had a chat and put the world to rights before setting off once more for home.

Thanks to the members who came along and for Neil (along with Dee) and Kevin for looking after the back.

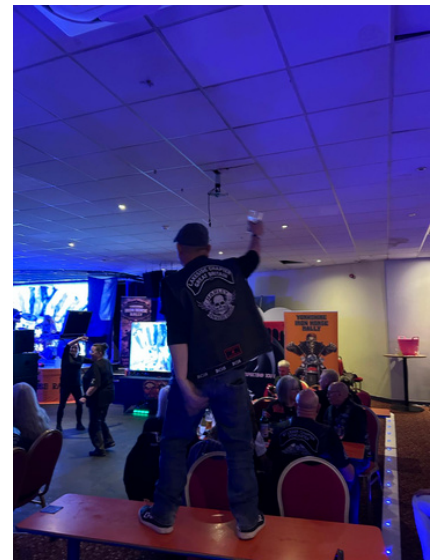
Mike.



# FRIDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> TO MONDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> MAY: THE IRON HORSE RALLY



Eight bikes and nine riders left the Shell Service station on Friday 15 May for Filey, North Yorkshire via Peterborough and Doncaster services for The Iron Horse Rally. We all arrived dry and safe and headed off to our caravans. The evening started for Pam and Sue with the LOH meet and greet where we sat with our friends from 1066 and we both won a raffle prize which is very rare for me! After collecting our rally packs, we met up with everyone else in the bar where we were joined by Steve who had ridden up with some friends from home and the evening started with a raffle and some games. We wound our little Duracell bunny up and sent him on his way (little Paul) where he made lots of new friends and was even dancing on the tables to The Coyote Rock Band.



Saturday we all assembled in the main car park and departed at noon for a ride to The Crown Inn, Hutton-le-Hole via the wonderful Yorkshire countryside. We waved at Derek as we passed Bangers and Cash at Thornton-le-Dale, then up through the beautiful Rosedale Abbey. Then a steep climb up to Blakey Ridge which offered the finest views across the North Yorkshire Moors and after an hour's stop we headed back to the Blue Dolphin. A quick bite and a freshen up and we were back over to The Starlight Bar where we started with the fancy dress competition where we were represented by Sian, Paul, Keith and Mark, a 'comedy' show and bo#\*+cks bingo. We then danced the night away to The Lazy Jaynes who had the dance floor full, even Keith was showing us his best moves!

(continued next page)

Sunday started with a breakfast with a view: a lovely coastal cafe found by Mark which was just what we all needed. The sun was shining and the banter started early. We refuelled and headed back to the car park for the ride to Staxton Hill which marks the northern edge of the Yorkshire Wolds. We took a stunning route across the Wolds via the estate village of Sledmere to arrive at our lunch stop near Pickering. After approximately an hour's stop we made our way back across the beautiful moors towards Whitby and along the coast back to Filey. We were all a bit jaded by now but headed back to the bar which was a bit more subdued but we still had more games to play. Keith won a chance to play 'who wants to be a millionaire', but failed to qualify with fastest finger first. But, we did have another winner with Mark in the raffle with a £50 prize. Sunday evening finished a lot earlier for some. Keith, Paul and Steve (seems to be a reoccurring theme here) were the last to bed again!



Monday, we met at 10.00 for the ride home where we were lucky with the weather and only encountered a few small showers. We all got home safely and look forward to doing it all again.

A huge thank you to Carl, Sian, Barney, Pam, Ash, Mark, Keith, Paul and Steve for making it a fabulous weekend and also the whole of the St Leger Chapter who know how to organise a rally and lead a ride with over 100 bikes without anybody getting lost! I'm already looking forward to going back next year for their 20th anniversary rally.

Sue



# TUESDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> MAY: TARKA'S CAFE



Tuesday 19th May 2026 was an overcast and wet start to the morning when nine members on seven bikes met at Battlesbridge for a ride to Tarka's Café. Briefing held, we set off with the rain coming down but, with the forecast of drying up during the ride, as promised the rain gave way to an overcast sky about 20 minutes into the ride. We were using a mix of country roads, lanes and A and B roads. We rode until a slight incident stopped the ride about 30 minutes from the destination. Being delayed by about an hour the ride was cut short, and we rode into Finchingfield to stop for lunch at Winners. Whilst there the sun came out and dried up the roads for the ride home.

Thanks for the members who came along and assisting me at our enforced stoppage. Thanks to Pam along with Paul (along with Mary) for looking after the rear.

Mike.



# WEDNESDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> MAY: BIKE BARN BIKE NIGHT

With the weather due to be warm the first bike night of the year was added to the calendar, as there's something special about a summer evening ride—warm air, clear skies, and Harleys carving their way along open roads. Members of the Lakeside Chapter gathered for a bike night run to the ever-popular Bike Barn.

With the group ready, the ride-out began in an orderly and well-managed formation using the buddy system. The ride did get broken up but the tail riders ensured everything got back on track. The route itself didn't disappoint, offering scenic stretches of countryside, gentle bends, and just enough open road to remind everyone why they fell in love with riding in the first place.

Arriving at the Bike Barn, the group was welcomed by Dean who filmed our arrival for the chapter Facebook. The venue continues to be a favourite meeting point for riders across the region, and it's easy to see why. With rows of bikes parked up and riders mingling freely, the sense of community was unmistakable and it's a reminder of why bike nights remain such an important part of the riding calendar.



A big thank you goes to everyone who attended and helped make the evening. If you haven't yet joined one of these runs, make sure you do—because when the Lakeside Chapter rolls out, it's always more than just a ride.

# SATURDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> MAY: THE THREE HORSESHOES

There's nothing quite like a sunny ride-out to bring the Lakeside Chapter together, and the recent run to The Three Horseshoes proved to be another standout morning on the calendar. Combining scenic roads, great company, and a classic pub destination, the ride delivered everything that makes Chapter events so memorable.

The gathering point was alive with anticipation as members arrived to head off to a new destination: familiar faces mixed with a few newer members, all sharing the same enthusiasm for the road ahead. As always, the pre-ride briefing set the tone, making it clear that we would be using the second man drop off system to mark the way, ensuring that everyone felt confident and ready to go.

The route to The Three Horseshoes offered a perfect mix of open stretches and winding country lanes, allowing riders to settle into a comfortable rhythm while enjoying the best of summer riding conditions around the Dengie Peninsula.



The journey itself was as rewarding as the destination. Rolling through picturesque countryside, passing through quiet villages, and feeling the warm air made for a ride that reminded everyone why they ride in the first place. There's a shared understanding among riders during moments like these –no need for words, just the connection between road, machine, and rider.

Pulling into The Three Horseshoes, the group was met with a welcoming and relaxed atmosphere. The pub, a favourite among local riders, provided the perfect setting to unwind. Bikes lined up proudly outside as members gathered to enjoy food, refreshments, and plenty of good conversation.

As the food was eaten and drinks emptied, engines came back to life, and one by one the bikes roared off watched by others at the pub, a reminder that sometimes the best rides aren't about distance but about the experience itself.

A big thank you to everyone who took part and helped make the ride to The Three Horseshoes another fantastic Chapter outing. If you haven't joined one of these runs yet, now's the time—because with the Lakeside Chapter, every ride is one worth taking.



# TUESDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> MAY: POPPY'S BARN

On the hottest day of the year so far (!), nine bikes and eleven members braved the heat on a ride out to Poppy's Barn near Clavering (Saffron Walden).

It was a fairly straightforward run out through Brentwood and Ongar, then round the back of Bishops Stortford and on towards Saffron Walden. The buddy system worked a treat with the pack being together for most of the time, and we all arrived as one group. Thanks to Phil and Pam for crewing and for helping to keep us together.

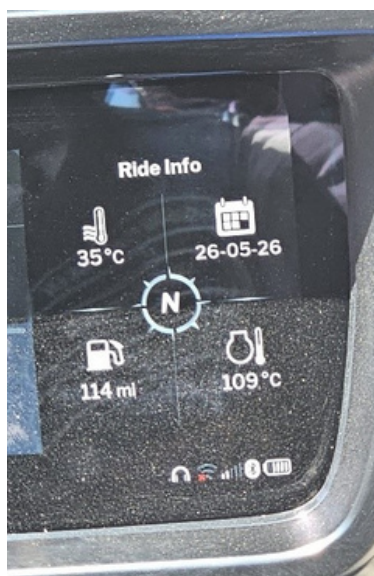
The previous recce ride promised a warm welcome and Poppy's did not disappoint. We were pretty much the only one's there for most of the time and were able to find a nice round table to accommodate us all. The food was excellent as was the milkshake!

Poppy's Barn is in the middle of absolutely nowhere, and is a beautiful, peaceful destination. If you are ever out that way I would highly recommend it.

The bike thermometer showed 35 degrees on the way home, and it sure felt like that.

Thanks to all who came along, given the predicted heat I was pleasantly surprised to see that many!

Cheers... Kev



# SATURDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> MAY: BONNIE'S CAFE

Phill “Rainman” had obviously been keeping a very close eye on the weather forecasts as this was a late addition to the ride calendar. Having had 30-odd degrees centigrade during the week and zero chance of rain for a further few days I think Phill thought it was safe to put on a ride. So, on Saturday 30th May, after a stimulating Chapter Committee and business-like Road Crew meeting 11 members on eight bikes met in the car park at the King’s Arms for what was advertised a round-robin route to Bonnie’s café at Billericay.



With the briefing completed – and the presentation of a 100 rid badge to Adrian Belcher (well done Ade) – it was time to saddle up and head off.

A direct route to Bonnie’s would have only been about 10 miles or so, but Phill had found a nice route that covered about 30 miles. On leaving the Kings Arm’s we went through Orsett village, Bulphan, through North Ockendon and north to Great Warley. Riding through the woods at Gt Warley was particularly pleasant – the trees giving plenty of shade on what was another very hot day. After finding our way to Ingotstone (with a short parade down the High Street and the locals no doubt thinking “oh no, not that noisy lot again” after the H-D Experience tour), we headed off south east down to Billericay and Bonnie’s café.

Phill had rung ahead and we were warmly welcomed by the staff and shown to our tables which, whilst outside, were under shade. Drinks were quickly served and a little later good food arrived. Thankfully the café wasn’t too busy, so even though we’d finished eating, there was still plenty of chatter to be had and we were not hurried from our tables.

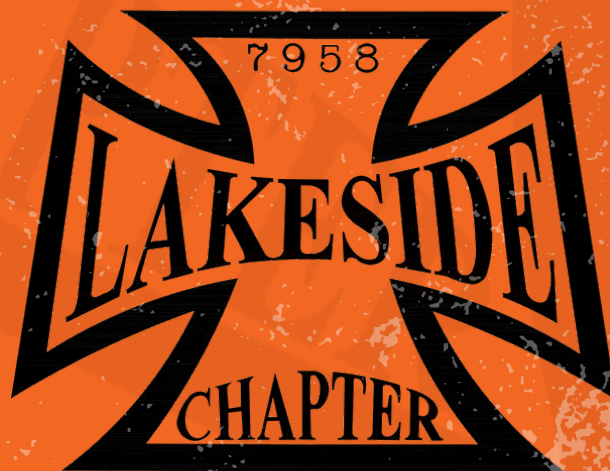
Eventually we did all set off - some via the adjacent garden centre (find anything nice Dudley for Ann?), whilst others took a more direct route to the car park and headed off home.

Many thanks Phill for arranging the ride, and to Neil (and Dee) and Kevin (and Mandy) for Road Crew duties.

Tony H



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

=====

Ride outs (starting from Thursday 4 June) through to the July Natter Night:

**Thursday 4 June** – Coach House Kitchen, Hatfield House. Meet at Starbucks at 10am for a 10.15 departure.

**Saturday 6 June** – Café 206 Rochford. Meet at Starbucks at 10am for a 10.15 departure.

**Sunday 7 June** – Flatford Mill, Suffolk. Meet at Starbucks at 10am for a 10.15 departure.

**Wednesday 10 June** – River Breeze Café and Bar, North Fambridge. Meet at Starbucks at 10am for a 10.15 Departure.

**Saturday 13 June** – Cutty Sark. Meet at Starbucks at 10am for a 10.15 departure.

**Sunday 14 June** – Hanningfield Reservoir. Meet at Starbucks at 10am for a 10.15 departure.

**Tuesday 16 June** – Church View Café, Mistley. Meet at Boreham Services at 10am for a 10.15 departure.

**Tuesday 16 June to Friday 19 June inclusive** – Chapter goes mad in Dorset (Wyemouth more specifically). Meet at Tim Horton's, Lakeside at 9am for a 9.15 departure.

**Saturday 20 to Sunday 21 June inclusive** – Invicta Chapter 35th Birthday party. Meet at Starbucks at 2.30pm for a 2.45pm departure.

**Tuesday 23 June** – Hainault Forest. Meet at Starbucks at 8.15am for a 8.30 departure.

**Thursday 25 June to Sunday 28 June inclusive** – Ride to Honfleur. Meet at Tim Horton's, Lakeside at 4pm for a 4.15 departure.

**Saturday 27 June** – Smoke and Brunch ride (Bike Shed). Meet at Boreham Services at 10am for a 10.15 departure.

**Tuesday 30 June** – Parlour Café, Burnham-On-Sea. Meet at The Barge Inn at 10am for a 10.15 departure.

**Thursday 2 July** – Bike Shed, Shoreditch. Meet at Tim Horton's, Lakeside at 5pm for a 5.15pm departure.

**Saturday 4 July** – Birthday Bash ride to the Country Café, Ingatestone. Meet at Starbucks at 10am for a 10.15 departure.

**Sunday 5 July** – Billericay Summerfest. Meet at Starbucks at 11am for a 11.15 departure.

Then we are at our June Natter Night in the evening of 8 July at the Kings Arms, Orsett from 6.30pm.

# Honfleur 2026



**Come and join us on a weekend jaunt to Honfleur**

We'll be hopping on Le Shuttle early on Friday 26th June 2026, taking a scenic route to Honfleur and returning on the afternoon of Sunday 28th June 2026.

We will find some fun things to do and some delicious eateries for you!

**We are staying at The Mecure Hotel which has secure parking and you will find the link below**

<https://all.accor.com/hotel/0986/index.en.shtml>

We will let you know which trains to book closer to the date.

Please let Sue or Carl know if you'd like to come along and we'll add you to the what's app group

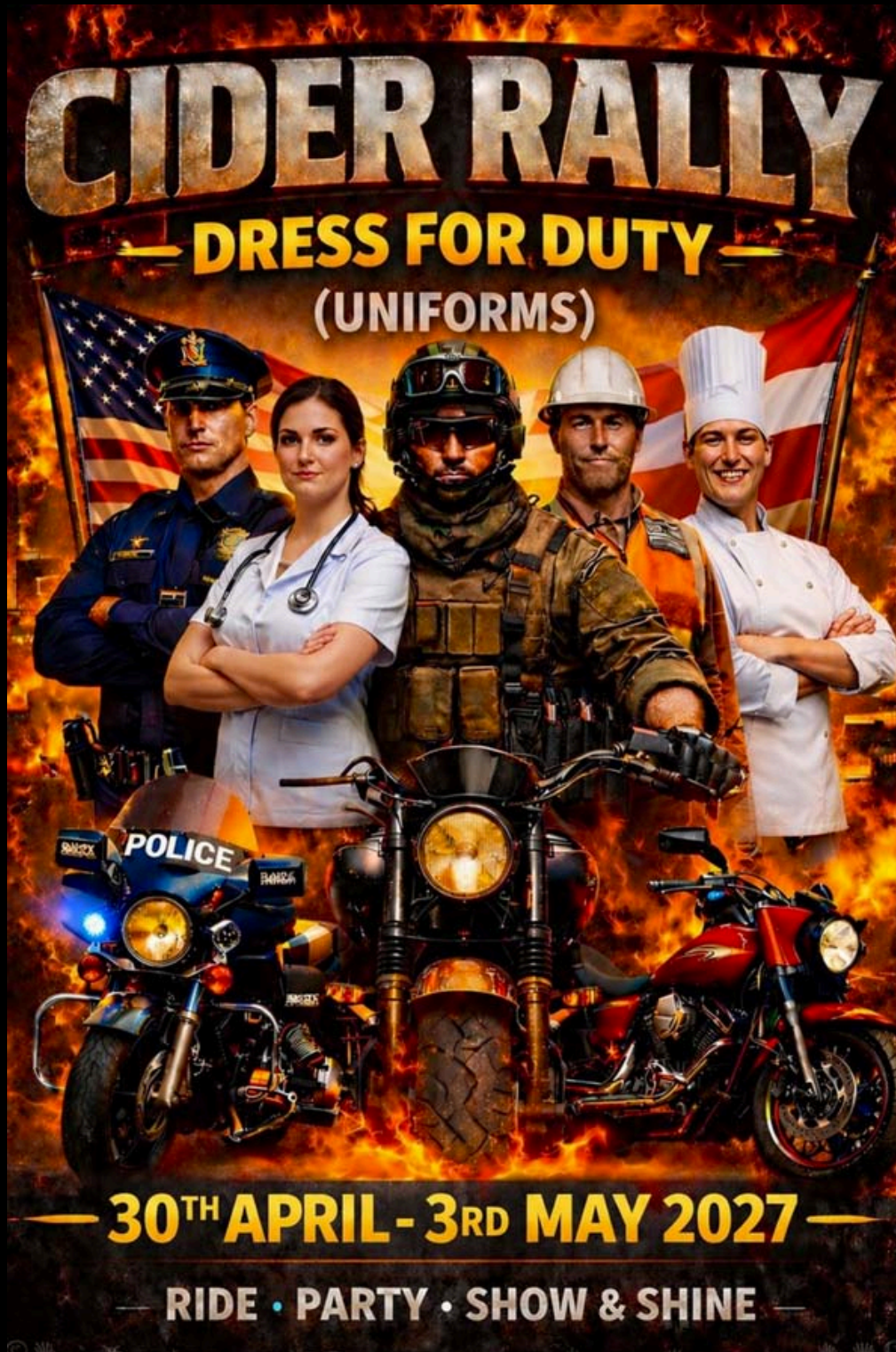
**Many thanks and hope you can come along!**

# RALLIES

**YES - We are already looking to 2027!!**

Come and join us at the first rally of the 2027 season at Weston Super Mare, The Cider Rally, which is being held 30 April - 3 May. Tickets are now on sale, so go to this link and come and join the fun!

[www.trybooking.com/uk/events/landing/111703](http://www.trybooking.com/uk/events/landing/111703)



## 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.

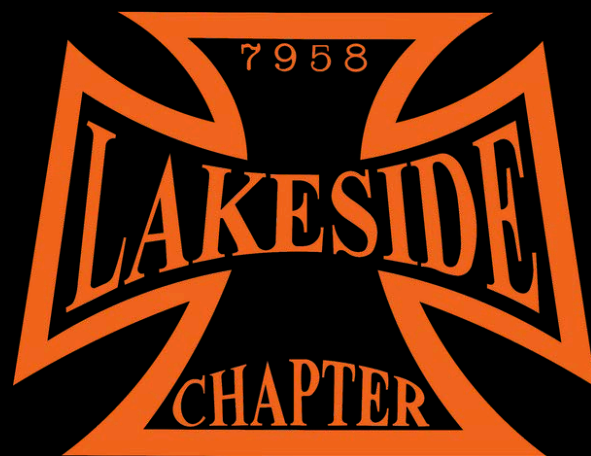
**Ride Award Pin Badges** will usually be awarded at Natter Nights for 10, 25, 50, 75, 100 (and so on) for completed Rides.

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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# POND LIFE

