

The magazine of the H.O.G.® experience | Issue 4 2015

# HOG®



➤ MY16: DESIGNING THE MACHINE ➤ SCREW IT, LET'S DIVE!  
➤ 25 YEARS OF THE FAT BOY® ➤ LIVEWIRE™ EUROPEAN TOUR  
➤ COMPETITIONS: JEEP® GIVEAWAY AND H-D® SUNGLASSES  
➤ PLUS THE LATEST FROM H.O.G.® UK & IRELAND





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## INSPIRATION FOR ALL

What a year it's been. As we approach the festive season it's the perfect time to reflect on the adventures we've had over the last 12 months, the friends – old and new – we've met and the joy of discovering new places and special rides.

The rally season may be winding down but this year's calendar has been packed full of unique events. We have a full roundup of the summer's rallies in this issue of HOG® Magazine, including highland fun and games at Thunder in the Glens, the ongoing Chapter Challenge battles at rallies like SofER and a visit to the beautiful Lake District for Wake the Lakes.

We've had some pretty inspirational moments too. This year saw National Chapter LOH Officer Elaine Shepherd and three others become the first all-female team to complete the Iron Hog Challenge – quite a feat that deserves huge congratulations.

One of the most exciting things about being a H.O.G.® member is that there's never a dull moment. And while the dust settles at campsites and venues across the UK, Chapters have already been busy planning next year's events. The 2016 schedule is already filling up – there are even a couple of special anniversaries to look out for: the Cider Rally celebrates its 25th year in May, Thunder in the Glens celebrates its 20th, July's East of England Rally is a 25th birthday party for Fenlanders, Ireland BikeFest will celebrate its 10th anniversary and the 25th Annual European Rally in Slovenia promises to be a truly special event.

Don't forget to keep a look out for your wallet-sized events card in your 2016 membership pack. It contains a full listing of next year's events as well as other important information. You can also keep up to date with all the latest news online at hogueuropegallery.co.uk and in the monthly eMagazines.

In your local dealership you'll be seeing the new Street™ 750, the latest addition to the Harley-Davidson® range of motorcycles. Created for the urban rider, it promises to further diversify H.O.G. We look forward to welcoming these new Harley® owners to the H.O.G. family.

Whatever you're riding or whatever your plans are for the coming year, there's one thing you can be sure of – 2016 promises more adventures both near and far. I hope to see many of you on the road in the new year.

**Marjorie Rae**  
Consumer Experience Manager, UK & Ireland



Photo: Peter Stichel, Germany

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VIDEOS ONLINE

As well as videos on [hogeuropegallery.com](http://hogeuropegallery.com), we've also got a YouTube channel – [HOGEuropeOFFICIAL](https://www.youtube.com/HOGEuropeOFFICIAL)



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UPDATE

PUT THE REST IN THE SHADE



HARLEY-DAVIDSON®  
PERFORMANCE EYEWEAR  
BY WILEY X®

Get your hands on some cool shades in our reader competition

Wiley X supplies everyone from motorcycle riders to soldiers with the best protective eyewear, and has been making performance riding eyewear under the Harley-Davidson® brand since 2012. H-D® protective eyewear is certified according to the toughest safety tests in the world.

WIN ONE OF FIVE PAIRS OF H-D® SUNGLASSES!

We've got H-D shades to give away to five lucky H.O.G. members – just send your most creative 'sunglasses shot' to [hogtalesurope@harley-davidson.com](mailto:hogtalesurope@harley-davidson.com) with the subject line 'SUNGLASSES GIVEAWAY'. We'll upload the photos to [facebook.com/HOGEMEA](https://www.facebook.com/HOGEMEA) so you can check them all out. Five of our favourites will win a pair of HD Gravity or HD Motion sunglasses, and the winning entries will also be published in the magazine.

**To enter**, send your crazy and creative 'sunglasses shot' (a photo of you, wearing any pair of sunglasses) to [hogtalesurope@harley-davidson.com](mailto:hogtalesurope@harley-davidson.com) by Monday January 4, 2016. Remember to include your name, address and H.O.G. membership number in the body of the email.

Full terms and conditions can be found at [bit.ly/hdsunglasses](http://bit.ly/hdsunglasses)



**HD GRAVITY #HDGRA07**

A cool matte black frame with a perfect and comfortable fit carrying an advanced partial polarised lens. The lens has all the benefits of a polarised lens, but without any side effects or distortion in the helmet visor – this lens is exclusive to the H-D Performance Line.

The GRAVITY sunglasses also feature a patented removable Facial Cavity™ Seal to block out wind, dust and debris.

RRP: 149 EUR

**HD MOTION #HDMTN01**

A sleek charcoal frame designed to match any occasion fitted with rubber injected arms and nosepiece for increased fit and comfort. It carries smoke-grey lenses with a silver coating, which will block any bug or stone coming at you, plus the sunny glare on even the sunniest of days.

RRP: 99 EUR







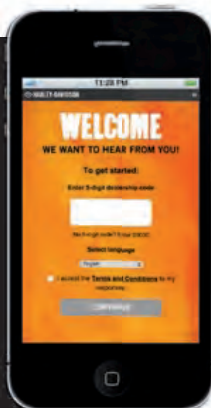
## BE HEARD

At Harley-Davidson®, our goal is to ensure that you have a great experience every time you visit one of our dealerships. Whether you're there to look around, to buy a T-shirt, to get your bike serviced or to fulfil a dream of owning a Harley-Davidson motorcycle, your experience is important to us and we want to hear from you.

'Be Heard' gives you the opportunity to provide us with feedback on your experience in real-time right from your mobile phone at the dealership.

The dealership and Harley-Davidson will receive the information you give us within hours. Let us know what's working well for you and what's not, so we can ensure we're consistently delivering the best experience for you every time you visit one of our dealerships.

So the next time you're in a dealership, look for the poster that says 'Be Heard' or ask the staff for information on how you can provide feedback. Whether you want to remain anonymous or would like to provide your name, we want to hear from you. Your feedback will help us to ensure we make every dealership experience a great one for you and all of our customers.



## CHAPTER CATCH UP

### Sofia Chapter, Bulgaria

The Sofia Chapter is one of Europe's newest H.O.G.® chapters, having been established in 2014, three months after the opening of Harley-Davidson® Sofia.

In the space of a year, membership has grown to 54 members, who hail from countries as diverse as Greece, Switzerland and the USA as well as Bulgaria. As Harley-Davidson Sofia is currently the only dealership in Bulgaria, members are based all around the country, with meetings organised every two weeks.

Bulgaria is a prime place for riding thanks to its four mild and distinct seasons and fantastic countryside. It has been an exciting year for the chapter, with the Three Mountains Ride the undoubted highlight. More than 200 H-D® enthusiasts from eight chapters and seven countries gathered in the heart of the Bulgarian mountains for the first major H.O.G. event ever to take place in Bulgaria. In the true Harley spirit, excitement and fun were the watchwords as this unforgettable ride from Velingrad to Bansko led riders through three regions, typical villages and two national parks situated in the valley between three mountains. The 2016 Bulgaria Ride will be held on June 24-26 – all are welcome!

[www.harley-davidson-sofia.bg](http://www.harley-davidson-sofia.bg)

## DEALER NEWS

Slovakia now has a third H-D dealership, in the town of Banska Bystrica in the centre of the country. The dealership, run by Rado Zubor and his wife Michaela, opened on September 18.

[www.harley-davidson-bb.sk](http://www.harley-davidson-bb.sk)

Plymouth Harley-Davidson, in south-west England, is now in a new state-of-the-art facility. The new store is close to the old location, but gives Harley-Davidson added visibility in the area.

[www.plymouthharley-davidson.co.uk](http://www.plymouthharley-davidson.co.uk)

H.O.G. members travelling to the Czech Republic now have a new H-D retail outlet – selling 'everything but the bike' – to visit in Prague's historic city centre.

[www.harley-davidson-praha.cz](http://www.harley-davidson-praha.cz)

Harley-Davidson Hamburg Süd opened on September 12.

[www.harley-hh-sued.de](http://www.harley-hh-sued.de)

Harley-Davidson Garden Route opened on September 18 in Knysna, South Africa. The dealership, located on the famous Garden Route on the south-eastern coast, brings the total number of dealerships in South Africa to 10.

[www.harleygardenroute.co.za](http://www.harleygardenroute.co.za)

Harley-Davidson Lübeck is now bigger and better! The dealer opened in March this year, but has built additional space for the shop, walk-around inspection area and workshop.

[www.harley-davidson-luebeck.de](http://www.harley-davidson-luebeck.de)



### SEND US YOUR CHAPTER UPDATES

Are you a new chapter, or have you recently celebrated a milestone event or anniversary? Tell us all about it in no more than 200 words and we'll publish it here.

Don't forget to send a photo!

[hogtaleseuropa@harley-davidson.com](mailto:hogtaleseuropa@harley-davidson.com)





VIDEOS ONLINE

As well as videos on [hogeuropegallery.com](http://hogeuropegallery.com), we've also got a YouTube channel – [HOGEuropeOFFICIAL](https://www.youtube.com/HOGEuropeOFFICIAL)



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# Prize of a lifetime

UPDATE



**One lucky Harley** owner is celebrating after picking up free lifetime H.O.G.® membership at SofER 2015, courtesy of Harley-Davidson® Insurance Services.

Harley-Davidson Insurance sponsored the ever popular 'Chapter Challenge' area of the event at Hickstead, and ran a free prize draw competition on its stand. The winner of the wallet-pleasing prize was Paul Taylor

from Surrey, whose name was picked at random from all the entries.

Paul Taylor picked up his prize, including the sought-after H.O.G. patch and pin, from Toby Sleeman at Guildford Harley-Davidson®, sponsors of Hogsback Chapter of H.O.G., which helps to organise SofER.

With free life H.O.G. membership worth over £500 and great value insurance cover

from Harley-Davidson Insurance Services, it looks like a great money-saving year for Paul.

For those not already in the know, Harley-Davidson Insurance Services is the specialist insurer for all Harley-Davidson® models and offers a 5% discount for H.O.G. members. Policy features include comprehensive cover for riding other Harley® motorcycles\*, £1,250 Helmet and Leathers cover and UK and European breakdown and accident assistance, itself worth over £100 when bought separately. It offers a free agreed value scheme\* approved and administered by Harley dealers themselves. Also worth noting is that in the event of a claim, wherever possible, Harley-Davidson Insurance Services will direct any repair work through the official Harley dealer network.

**To get your Harley-Davidson Insurance Services quote call: 0800 977 6878 or visit: [harley-davidson.co.uk/insurance](http://harley-davidson.co.uk/insurance) \*subject to terms and conditions, call for details**

## National Chapter Challenge 2015

**As the rally** season draws to a close, so too does this year's Chapter Challenge. The final results won't be announced until later in the year so we face an exciting wait. Chapter Challenge Coordinator Dave Sanders says:

"Until the final mileages come in after the end of November, I have no clue as to who has done what, so it's always a complete surprise to see who's won what. We are eagerly awaiting November 30 when the final mileages start to come in. We've just had the last rallies this year and those chapters taking part – including three new chapters this year – no doubt organised their final runs before the numbers have to be in."

There have been some great photos and lots of effort on the photo challenges as well as mileage.

It may be September but we hear it's not too late for chapters or individuals to get involved. Or why not get involved with the Chapter Challenge in 2016? It's a great way to enjoy your bike and your chapter, and the winner of the Individual Mileage Award receives a £100 voucher, redeemable at

any authorised H-D® dealer in the UK.

**Go to the UK & Ireland gallery ([hogeuropegallery.co.uk](http://hogeuropegallery.co.uk)) to see the full details of how to get involved. Or call 00800 1111 2223 or speak to your H.O.G.® Chapter Director.**







## Happy 10th Celtic Thunder

**This September** saw Celtic Thunder celebrate its 10th anniversary. To mark the occasion a special celebration day was held in Ozier Park, Waterford, where chapter members were treated to a massive offering of events and promotions, as well as a selection of food and entertainment.

All Celtic Thunder members also received a number of benefits from Waterford Harley-Davidson®, their sponsoring dealership, including a choice of either an extended one-year warranty on all bike purchases/deposits taken on the day or £500 to spend in-store on apparel and accessories. There was also a 'New to Biking' training course, discounts on clothing, apparel, accessories and more.

[celticthunderhog.com](http://celticthunderhog.com)

## Time to tour

**Ever wanted to** go on an organised motorcycle tour of Ireland that takes in the BikeFest at Killarney? New for 2016 – H-D® authorised tour operator, Tour1, is running a 9-day guided tour that starts just outside of London and includes riding the glorious Wild Atlantic Way on the west coast of Ireland. It ends at the bike festival in Killarney, where you will stay at the 4-star Brehon Hotel.

The tour starts on May 28 2016 in Windsor. Places to be visited will include Windsor Castle, Salisbury Cathedral, Stonehenge, Snowdonia, Dublin, Kerry, Galway, County Sligo, the Cliffs of Moher, County Mayo, County Clare and Killarney.

Quite simply, it's 1,100 miles of riding heaven! Your motorcycles are then brought back to London by truck or you can ride it home yourself.

**For more information visit:** [tour1.co.uk](http://tour1.co.uk)



## C&F at Faaker See 2015

**Chelsea & Fulham Chapter's** visit to European Bike Week in Faaker See this September was a triumph. The C&F/ Meridian H.O.G.® Chapter ride-out and party never fails to delight, and this year was no exception.

The riding experience in Austria was probably the best I have had in my 10 years of European touring. The roads were breathtaking, the views were spectacular and the weather was perfect considering it was September.

We met at Portsach am Main by the lake in Worther See early on the Saturday for a pre-ride brief and a promised ride-out through some of the most beautiful countryside in Europe.

More than 40 of us gathered. Friends old and new met and regaled one another with tales of derring-do on their adventures down to Faaker See. One overseas C&F member, American Dan Wilson, had flown in especially from Colorado just for our event. Now that is showing real commitment to your chapter!

The route was a circling 85 mile ride encompassing a delightful mixture of sweeping roads, challenging twisties and hillside hamlets which smelled of freshly mown grass and hot apple strudel.

There is something quite special about



riding in a tight staggered formation with your fellow chapter members through the delights of another country. We all ended up at the most stunning venue for a late lunch, the Relais & Château Spa Hotel Schloss Seefelds Worther See. Highly recommended.

The sun was out, the lake front Portobello restaurant was picturesque and the food and service were fabulous. There were toasts and photographs to record the day and tour rockers were handed out. It was great to see so many Road Captains in attendance. Rob Warr, Mick Newstead, Oliver Ackhar, Andrew Papas (Last Man for the day) and the two new RC recruits Fred Woolcott and Steve Graham, not to mention Chapter Director and founder John Warr and Assistant Director, Colin Houlston.

A huge thanks to John and Colin for their organisation of this event which I feel may just be unbeatable.

**By Sarah Papas, picture by Steve Graham**

## 2016 Rally anniversaries

**Next year marks** a special year for three of the best loved rallies in the H.O.G.® calendar. The Cider Rally celebrates its 25th anniversary, and with booking already underway be sure to put the dates (April 29 - May 2) in your diary.

Also marking a special occasion is Dunedin Chapter's Thunder in the Glens. Rally coordinator, George "Mad Dog" McGuire says: "Who would have predicted back in 1996, when a rally was first suggested, that it would grow into the success it has become today? While the first Thunder in the Glens Rally attracted 200 attendees, 2015 saw thousands. Over the years TITG has become a must-attend

event for many Harley-Davidson® enthusiasts across the world as well as an annual pilgrimage for many non-bikers who want to share the passion and the occasion.

"Plans for the 20th TITG are already at an advanced stage and it promises to be the biggest and best rally yet. Pre-registration will open in January 2016.

Open to all and free to attend, Ireland BikeFest will celebrate its 10th Anniversary. After the success of the H.O.G. European Rally, Killarney has continued to welcome bikers back year on year and looks forward to celebrating with you in 2016!"



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Harley-Davidson  
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# Classic care

## Enjoy your classic Harley-Davidson® with utter peace of mind, thanks to H-D® Riders Club of Great Britain

Classic Harleys have a place in every Harley® owner's heart, often evoking a feeling of good times from the past. Nostalgia hits, and we travel back to the sights and sounds of our youth and are reminded of the generations before. The Panheads, Shovels, Knuckles, 45s, and Evos reach deep inside and release the feel good factor like nothing else.

The interest in and number of classic models on the road certainly casts doubts on old bikes being leaky, unreliable part-dropping things from the dark ages. Properly sorted and well maintained, they add a new slant to the joys, fun and rewards that the classic Harley is also associated with. Advances in technology and the wealth of knowledge accumulated over the intervening decades mean that the weak points can be addressed quite easily and these bikes can be made as reliable and oil tight as newer models, giving you a bike for high days and Sundays or more – there are a number of rallies out there aimed solely at the vintage scene across Europe.

The Sporty is currently one of the cheapest ways into the whole classic ownership scene but, with the cult of the hipster/retro crowd growing faster than their beards, cheap classics are rapidly being snapped up. To assist those that endeavour to enter the classic scene, H.O.G.® has identified a prime resource of technical knowledge for the older models. H.O.G. and the H-D Riders Club of Great Britain, have collaborated to set up a contact point that can offer advice on sourcing spares and provide technical information. Whilst there are no guarantees that all your miles will be trouble free, with this resource you can rest assured that you've got good advice with those with Harley-Davidson® experience assisting you.

When a friend of mine went off to buy a Harley and came back with a Buell, his wife later confessed: "I just felt deflated. Then he got the Heritage, which was nice but when

he got the Shovel Chop – that's what I had in mind when he first said about getting one. I love the Shovel. I think he loves it more than me, the amount of time he spends out in the garage polishing and tinkering. It always makes him smile."

**Andrew Moreton**



## Find out more

For further information on this service that H-DRCGB has to offer email: [support@hdcrgb.org.uk](mailto:support@hdcrgb.org.uk)

You will also find information and a link through to email in Ride Resources on the Benefits page of the H.O.G. UK and Ireland online Gallery at: [hogeuropegallery.co.uk](http://hogeuropegallery.co.uk)





## National Chapter LOH Officer Elaine Shepherd looks back on a fantastic year of riding

**Reflecting on the** past few months it's been another active and exciting riding season. We each have stories and photos of our Harley-Davidson® adventures. Whether they've been solo, with partners, friends, H.O.G.® or chapter members, each journey has had us sharing their passion for all things Harley-Davidson; whether they are riders or non-riders, their stories of rides and events have been amusing, heartfelt and encouraging.

During the course of this year there have been three H.O.G. Road Captain Courses, held in Carnforth & Oxford. It was fantastic to see six ladies participating. It was also good to meet up with three LOH Officers in Nottingham to test ride the new Street™ 750 along with the latest Forty Eight® & Iron 883™ models.

Ladies of Harley have been active at many rallies; did you get to see the Red Rose cheerleaders at the Wake the Lakes Rally? Or the colourful My Little Pony ride at the South of England Rally? The Tartan themed Scottish Cloutie Dumpling ride at Thunder in the Glens? Or the Charleston

themed dance routine by the Blazin' Belles at the Blazin' Twenties Rally? Wherever you may have been you were guaranteed to see plenty of smiles.

In July I had the pleasure of taking on the challenging Iron Hog Ride with fellow LOH Jean Harding, Debbie Atterton and Gill (Moggy) Mogg. The prospect of being the first all-female team to take part in Iron Hog was exciting. None of us rides a big touring Harley-Davidson so we wondered how would we fare with smaller fuel tanks on our chosen steeds; a Springer®, Dyna®, Fat Boy® and a Sporty?

It turned out to work in our favour because we were stopping every 100-115 miles and able to stretch our legs, have a quick drink and snack on something. So, with four ladies, three days, 25 dealerships to visit and one Back-to-You tracking device, our journey commenced early one Thursday morning.

Much has already been seen, photographed, written and read about our three day adventure but it was by far one of the most rewarding, memorable, emotional, humbling, and exciting journeys we have each experienced. Our followers took to calling us The Pink Ladies, very fitting considering what we were wearing! When



we were presented with our personalised Iron Hog patches at the South of England Rally it was amusing to see that they were also pink! They are each worn with pride.

We were asked about raising funds for charity so decided it would be fitting to support a female-focused organisation and Ovacome (ovacome.org.uk), the ovarian cancer support charity, was agreed upon. We raised an astounding £1,323.

To be the first all-female team to take on this challenge was motivating; many riding and non-riding ladies supported us throughout the ride. LOH flags were a regular sight. We were clearly an inspiration to many and we suspect that there will be others to follow in our tyre tracks.

The four of us definitely 'Shared the Spark' and we would like to thank everyone for their support. It was a proud moment to be part of this huge H.O.G. family.

**Elaine Shepherd, National Chapter LOH Officer, UK & Ireland**



## TAKING ON IRON HOG

**This year Gill 'Moggy' Mogg, Elaine Shepherd, Jean Harding and I decided to do the Iron Hog Challenge! We decided on Bristol as the starting dealership as it was between us (Oxford and Bridgwater).**

The day before we set off we got together at my house and managed to get all four bikes in the garage. Moggy had purchased pink hi-viz tops and we had pink hoodies and a pink flower – it was no surprise we were called 'the Pink Ladies' on the route.

Thursday July 16 finally arrived and we were off. We had a great start to the ride with breakfast at Swansea. We had a fabulous first day, worked well as a team and had our own little jobs to do on arrival at dealerships, where the welcomes were superb. We ended that first day at Shaw Harley-Davidson®, which was a welcome sight after travelling in the dark through deer country. After refreshments, donations and lots of encouragement we arrived at our hotel at 11.55pm with 636 miles done.

Day 2: The east coast. It was another day of great support, well wishes and amazing receptions. Leeds to Edinburgh was a long run of 223 miles, and as we passed the

Scottish border the rain came, bringing with it the most stunning rainbow.

We were so happy when we arrived at Edinburgh, with snacks and iron brew to keep us going. Sadly the rain stayed with us, and then the gale force winds with torrential rain joined us en route to the Glasgow dealership. We arrived there soaking wet at 10.25pm. We stopped at Lockerbie overnight at 12.35am, another 617 miles done.

On the final day we were more determined than ever. There was no more rain and it was a great run down south, with fantastic greetings and support. We were closing in on home turf and enjoyed a fantastic run from Cheltenham, through Oxford to Reading, where we could see the light at the end of the tunnel: the M5 to Bristol. Here we go. 6.25pm and we've done it – 478 miles on that day. It was such a wonderful feeling, and so emotional. I've now got such a special bond with my Pink Ladies and I've made so many new friends en route. I will never forget such an epic adventure. I'm so proud of us all and thank each and every one of you for your unbelievable support, love, gifts, donations and encouragement.

**Debbie Atterton  
Bridgwater LOH Officer**

## LITTLE PONIES AT SOFER

**SofER 2015 was** destined to be a great event and the LOH My Little Pony Ride led by Ruth Palmer was not going to disappoint. The weather improved by the hour on the Friday and by the time 30-plus, multi-coloured, decorated bikes lined up ready to explore the beautiful Sussex countryside, the sun was shining.

The group set off at 4.00pm and was back-marked by a highly proficient road crew. All was going well until, 15 minutes into the ride, the weather took a turn for the worse and the heavens opened up, flooding many of the roads. Unfortunately the rain did little for the pony costumes, though in true Harley® spirit they kept going. No quitters here.

The group arrived back at Hickstead soon after 6.00pm to be greeted by an LOH party, including cakes, drinks and plenty of other treats, which were all very well received. And yes, you guessed it. The rain stopped as soon as they got back...

All the ladies had a fantastic time and the weather didn't dampen their enthusiasm in the slightest. Thanks from Ruth to all of those that helped in arranging what turned out to be such a fabulous day.

**Jane Robertson  
Hogsback Chapter**



## TESTING THE MODEL YEAR 2016

On Sunday September 13 a number of LOH officers were invited to try out the new range of Dark Custom™ products including the Street™ 750. Here's what they thought:

"I found the launch very informative and was really excited to try the new 750. I thoroughly enjoyed riding this bike and felt it would be a great starter bike for riders new to Harley-Davidson."

**Lorraine McGuire,  
Dunedin Ladies of Harley**

"I feel this is a good entry level bike for starting off, before getting your confidence to make the move up to larger bikes. So, big ticks all round for entry-level riders."

**Dusky, Rolling Hills Chapter**

"My first, and probably favourite was the Iron, followed by the new Street 750, then the Forty Eight®. It has to be said that all three were great fun to ride. A Harley® is whatever you want it to be. All three had very comfy seats, responsive acceleration, great braking and – just as important – good looks."

**Sue Dodds,  
Thames Valley Chapter**











CHECK OUT OUR FAVOURITE SNAPS THAT HAVE BEEN UPLOADED VIA THE H.O.G.® APP! VIEW THE FULL GALLERY AT [HOGEUROPEGALLERY.COM](http://HOGEUROPEGALLERY.COM)

DOWNLOAD THE APP FREE FOR YOUR SMARTPHONE AND ENJOY UPLOADING PHOTOS OF YOURSELF AND YOUR HARLEY® WHILE YOU'RE ON THE MOVE.

LOOK OUT FOR MORE IN THE NEXT ISSUE!





## SEND US YOUR STORIES

This is your place to help fellow H.O.G.® members by sharing knowledge you've acquired on the road.

- When submitting a letter, include your name, address, H.O.G. number and Chapter affiliation (if any).
- Keep your submission brief but include enough information to make it interesting. We reserve the right to edit submissions for length and content, but the better your letter begins, the better chance it will find its way into print.
- Email submissions to: [hogtalesurope@harley-davidson.com](mailto:hogtalesurope@harley-davidson.com)
- Submissions can be in **any language**.



### THE SKY'S THE LIMIT

Since 2012, a close bond of friendship has existed between the Hanover Chapter and the Kinder- & Jugendhaus, a residential care facility for children and young people here in Hanover. This facility is currently home to seven young people aged between 12 and 20, who live as though in a family and grow up under professional care.

We were quickly able to persuade the care facility management team and the young people under their care that riding a Harley® can be a whole load of fun. We equipped the young people with the safety clothing needed to ride a motorbike, and now every year we go on two or three one-day trips to

interesting destinations and always have enthusiastic passengers riding pillion with us. By way of a thank you, when we get them back home to the Kinderhaus, we are regaled with coffee and cake – baked by the residents themselves, of course.

For our ride in May this year, we had prepared a very special attraction: a member of our chapter has a private pilot's licence, is a member of a flying club and also owns shares in a small aircraft. The idea was to ride the 100km to the airfield where the plane would be waiting to take the children on a series of round-trip flights. One of the young people didn't really fancy a ride on a motorbike, so regularly gets a lift on

these excursions in another member's original Willys Jeep, built back in 1942.

After the two-hour ride to the airfield, the pilot gave us all a detailed briefing and introduced his aircraft and its functions. Of course, there were a lot of questions, all of which had to be answered. Then the flying got started. Three round-trip flights, each with three passengers over the foothills and the mountain peaks of the Harz, all in very good flying conditions. A bit of turbulence in places, perhaps, but that's all part of the fun! The beautiful landscape, mountains, reservoirs and the luminous yellow rapeseed fields all captured the imaginations of the passengers and kept them fascinated.



When we returned to the Kinderhaus to drop the children off, some of them were lost for words. The shared experience was simply so very powerful. As the management team reported to us later, some emotions didn't really get expressed openly until the next day. Photos were swapped and everyone had something special to relate.

We are already looking forward to our next excursion with the children!

**Erhard Kroll and Peter Ledig**  
**Hanover Chapter, Germany**

#### IN SEARCH OF NESSIE

My cabin door opened and my biker-booted friend 'Lagos' stepped in, slung his bag into the corner and said: "I cannot sleep alone – I'm afraid of the dark..." Then he climbed into a bunk and almost immediately began to snore evenly, at a volume that competed valiantly with the ship's engines.

We were on the ferry from Belgium to the UK after a journey from Schaaheim at the foot of the Odenwald forest near Aschaffenburg, via Frankfurt, Cologne, Aachen and then right across Belgium. 550km with a fully laden bike, I was really tired and now I was stuck with this snoring champion.

The next morning we teamed up with our number three, 'Hansi', and

made our way straight to the Super Rally in Lincoln.

As always, the Super Rally was a great event, attended by all our friends; but we were here on a different mission! Two days later, Lagos, Hansi and I took leave of our friends and drove up the east coast until we reached the city of Edinburgh. It was a weird sensation at first to drive into the three-lane roundabout and keep to the left. However, it didn't take long to acclimatise. Driving along the steep coastline just before Edinburgh in bright sunshine really was a great experience. Edinburgh is a beautiful city with a great history, but filled to the brim with tourists, so not exactly the perfect territory for our bikes.

Next day brought us yet another highlight: our ride through the Highlands. The roads are in only moderate condition, but the scenery is magnificent and more than makes up for them: waist-high stone walls enclosing endless meadows grazed by seemingly infinite herds of sheep and cattle.

As we came down to Inverness, we caught our first glimpse of Loch Ness. Once we had ridden down the A82 on the northern shore of the loch, as far as Invermoriston, and found ourselves a place to stay for the night, we

immediately set off to look for Nessie. Somewhere out there in those waters she had to be hiding, terrified of Lagos and his inhuman appearance. He looks a little bit like Asterix, but without the magic potion. It could not have been Hansi's fault – he just sat there serenely on his Street Bob® and scanned the horizon. After spending some time braving the shallow and ice-cold waters of Loch Ness, and once our cigarettes had gone out, we all came to the same conclusion: Nessie and Harley-Davidson® have something in common – they represent the upper and lower limits of the term 'legend'.

We rode along the line of the majestic Hadrian's Wall, the most northerly fortification of the Romans and still the frontier between England and Scotland. We used our last day to visit the ancient city of York, where we lit candles to our families in York Minster and explored the narrow streets of the old town.

Then we returned to the ferry port of Hull. My converted Wide Glide® had survived the trip very well indeed. By the time we got back to Schaaheim, we had covered no less than 2,800km, of which 1,700km were ridden on the left.

**Thomas Krapp (Krappi)**  
**Schaaheim, Germany**







**WHERE EAGLES DARE**

The Legnano Chapter's second Eagles Run was another great success, with bright sunshine accompanying every outing. One constant of an Eagles Run is the mountains – we go where only eagles dare. The Dolomites had provided an ideal setting for the last edition, but this year we opted for the majestic Val d'Aosta Alps. You cannot really go wrong in Italy. Sensing this was a luxury five-star run, our friends from the Chianti and Vicenza Chapters decided to seize the moment and join us.

We set out early on Friday morning and reached Candelo around lunchtime. After a brief but fascinating visit to the medieval Ricetto fortification, we headed for the scheduled lunch location to wait for our friends from the Chianti Chapter. We then took off towards La Thuile, making a stop in the splendid and picturesque Cogne. The breathtaking Gran Paradiso scenery provided an exceptional backdrop to a memorable group photo. We made it to La Thuile late in the afternoon to be welcomed by cocktails accompanied by local delicacies: Lardo di Arnad and mountain cheeses and cured meats. What more could we ask for? That evening, we dined al fresco beneath an amazing starry sky. After dinner, the dancing and singing carried on late into the night.

The following morning, our two-wheeled eagles were ready to spread their wings. Our twin-cylinder eagles took us to the Great St Bernard Pass, 2,473 metres above sea level. That evening, our kind hotel hosts delighted us with a sublime local-themed dinner.

Sadly, the next day it was time to head home. It felt like we had only set

out a few minutes earlier but the run was nearing its end. Our eagles, however, were keen to fly high on the Alpine peaks just once more. Before heading home, we rode up the Little St Bernard Pass, 2,188 metres above sea level. After three days of adventure in the saddle, we set off for home with our hearts and minds filled with emotions and memories. Add the joy of spending time with other chapters and the mix becomes truly

unforgettable. See you next year at the third Eagles Run!

**Giulio Joshua Parolo**  
Legnano Chapter, Italy

**BIGGER FISH TO FRY**

Having moved to North Wales in 2009 for a quieter life, I decided to take up biking again after a break of 15 years. I bought a Yamaha, which I rode locally for a very short while before deciding to go to Ireland on the bike to do some fly fishing. I had an idyllic and peaceful trip planned. Then, as I turned up for the ferry, there must have been about 50 or so Harley-Davidson® riders in front of me. It turned out they were heading to the Ireland BikeFest in Killarney, so I asked if I could tag along. I followed them at the rear of the pack, desperate not to lose them. When we pulled in for fuel, one of the lads asked where I was staying, and, when I replied that I was camping, asked if I wanted the spare room at the venue. In short, no fishing took place and I had a wild weekend and made a whole lot of new friends. When I arrived back home some days later (having broken down on my Yamaha, but that's another story), my wife said: "So I suppose it's out with the Yamaha and in with the Harley®?" Two weeks later the gleaming Fat Boy® arrived, and a few years later both my sons followed in my footsteps and now enjoy their own Harley-Davidsons. The day I went to Ireland to do some fishing changed mine and my wife's life for ever – we now have new, like-minded friends not just locally but all over the world.

**David Rowlinson, UK**

**BABY ON BOARD**

Gabriel doesn't know it yet, but of all the babies on earth, he is among those with the most godmothers and godfathers.

Barely a week old and his parents, Sébastien and Antonella, both Life members from the Haut-Rhin Chapter in France, have already given him a H.O.G.® Life membership. The apple was never going to fall far from the tree: with a dad who wears Willie G.'s signature on his riding jacket and has a H-D® tattoo, and a mum who is a rider, a Ladies of Harley™ member and secretary of the Haut-Rhin Chapter, Gabriel won't have to look too hard for a possible pastime.

He will now grow up in the magical world of Harley-Davidson and H.O.G., where he can count on a huge extended family in addition to his blood relations: friends, chapter members, and other members of the wider H.O.G. family whom he will meet in years to come.

Who knows what Harley he will ride? An electric one? Or some new ingenious type of engine yet to be thought of? It is impossible to tell yet; but thanks to his parents, Gabriel will have two main driving forces in his life: passion and freedom.

Welcome to the world, Gabriel; and welcome to the great ride that is life!

**Jean François Sorbe**  
Editor, Haut-Rhin Chapter, France ■





Paola Cammarota from Italy sent us this cool urban shot



# INTAKE GALLERY

## More photos online!

If your photo isn't published here, we may have included it in the digital version of HOG® magazine or in the Intake Gallery at [hogeuropegallery.com](http://hogeuropegallery.com)! You can send us your photos through the site too; click on 'Submit your photo'. When sending in your pictures, please make sure they are taken with your camera's quality mode set reasonably high so they are good enough for print. And don't forget to send captions!

There are lots of ways to share your Harley® photos with us:

- Visit [hogeuropegallery.com](http://hogeuropegallery.com) and click on 'upload my photo'
- Download the H.O.G.® App and send us your photos on the move – check out the App Snaps gallery at [hogeuropegallery.com/app-photos](http://hogeuropegallery.com/app-photos)
- Upload your photos to the [instagram.com/HOGEMEA](https://www.instagram.com/HOGEMEA) account
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**DON'T FORGET – WE ONLY PRINT A SMALL SELECTION IN HOG MAGAZINE, BUT WE INCLUDE LOTS MORE IN THE DIGITAL EDITION OF HOG MAGAZINE (MAKE SURE WE HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS SO YOU GET THE LINK IN THE MONTHLY HOG EMAGAZINE). WE ALSO UPLOAD LOTS MORE TO THE INTAKE GALLERY ON HOGEUROPEGALLERY.COM EVERY WEEK. KEEP CHECKING TO SEE YOUR PHOTOS ONLINE!**

EVERY PICTURE PUBLISHED IN THE PRINTED EDITION OF INTAKE GALLERY WINS ITS PHOTOGRAPHER A H.O.G.® STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER'S PIN, SO REMEMBER TO SEND YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS TOO!



Intake gallery



▲ Above: Dirk Rockott from Germany brought two menacing machines together



▲ Above: Francesco Squillace from Italy captured this picturesque scene

INTAKE GALLERY



▲ Above: Jose Manuel Criado Rey took this picture in Jerez, famous as the home of sherry

▶ Right: Gary France from the UK caught the gleam of his 2006 Road King® en route to the European H.O.G.® Rally







Intake gallery



Above: Ivan Ivanov from the Goldrand Chapter in South Africa sent this picture of his daughter Yoana feeling right at home with H.O.G.®



Above: Julie Vandekerckhove from the Flanders Fields Chapter in Belgium astride her new custom-made machine.



Above: Two eras collide at Rock 'n Race in Bad Tölz, Germany in Karlheinz Wedhorn's eye-catching photo



Left: Michele Candela from Italy in pensive mood at sunset







Ian Howell's 1200 Sportster® and this P-51 Mustang make a lovely couple







Above: Mauro Sesia,  
Italy



Right: Catherine  
Bastiat, France



Above: Sébastien,  
France



Intake gallery



Left: Jean-Marie Mathias, Belgium

Right: Claudio Quintana Gonzalez, Spain





Intake gallery

Andrea Castelli, Italy

INTAKE GALLERY









Intake gallery

Right: Christoph Vigl,  
Austria

Below: Mark  
Mercieca, Malta







Below: David Sewell, UK



Above: Andrea Schymik

Left: Volker Marth, Germany





# Intake gallery

Jose Manuel Criado Rey, Spain

INTAKE GALLERY









## Intake gallery

Far right: André  
Overeem,  
Netherlands

Right: Dainius  
Suckelis, Lithuania



INTAKE GALLERY







Above: Marco Lupo

Left: Igljika Semerdjieva, Bulgaria





EUROPEAN BIKE WEEK®

# BIGGER AND BETTER THAN EVER

A record 125,000 people descended upon Faaker See for the biggest H.O.G.® event of the year

The second week of September – it's in the diary of every Harley-Davidson® rider in Europe. Five days of pure immersion in the world of the Milwaukee legend, surrounded by thousands of others who share the same passion.

As you get closer, with the breathtaking Carinthian scenery spread out before you, the excitement starts to build. You hear the roar of engines growing ever louder; you spot more and more Harleys® joining you on the road to Faaker See. For 18 years now, European Bike Week® has had a

special place in the biker calendar: the biggest, the loudest, the most spectacular event, the season finale that opens its arms to all kinds of riders from all over the world and crushes them in a sweaty bear hug. It's a huge, high-spirited celebration of all things Harley-Davidson. And with a record 125,000 visitors, and all rooms within a 20-mile radius booked up in advance, this year's event was no exception...

Walking into the Harley-Davidson Village, the difficulty was knowing what to see first. H-D® Expo drew the crowds with a







## REVIEW

18th European Bike Week®  
 Faaker See, Austria  
 September 8-13, 2015  
[hogeuropegallery.com/ebw](http://hogeuropegallery.com/ebw)



gleaming display of new models including the updated Sportster® Iron 883™ and Forty-Eight®. Just across the H-D Plaza, official event merchandise was on sale, and visitors could also pick up a free wristband for the chance to win a new Iron 883; the lucky winner, Konrad Wieselhuber from Germany, claimed his prize on the main stage as the event drew to a close on Saturday evening.

The maze of dealer and trader stalls offered enough branded gear for shoppers to dress themselves, their bikes, their children and their homes from top to toe ▶







RALLY ROUNDUP



## EUROPEAN BIKE WEEK®

in Harley-Davidson®; while those Austrian staples, beer and sausages, were in plentiful supply at the various food and drink stalls.

Just beyond the Village, the Demo area had the latest H-D® models available for test rides; while for those craving a taste of a different kind of adventure, the Jeep® Experience offered the chance to discover the capabilities of Jeep vehicles with a test drive or a gravity-defying crawl up and down a steep ramp.

As evening fell, the strains of new and classic rock rose over the constant rumble of engines, with bands including The Rainband, Graveltones and the unique sound of Celtica Pipes Rocks delighting the crowd at the main stage. More live music at the Hot Spot Bar got people up and dancing, with a fire-eating display also drawing admiring spectators. Meanwhile at the Team 412 Bar, revellers rocked out to covers of the likes of AC/DC and Guns N' Roses – and for something a little different, last year's surprise hit Prof. Washboard made a popular reappearance.

The international nature of the event was clear for all to see at the Custom Bike Show, with prizewinners hailing from



Germany, Austria, Slovenia, Italy, Poland, Greece, Switzerland, the Czech Republic, Denmark and the UAE. With almost 80 entries, the standard was once again incredibly high, particularly in the Custom and Radical categories, where the creativity and craftsmanship on show left the judges with a difficult task.

All afternoon, visitors had been admiring the bikes on display, but there were a few of the eventual winners that really caused

jaws to drop. In the Antique category, Ole Callesen from Denmark was asked so many times about the model year of his immaculate entry that in the end he stuck a label on the bike simply saying '1919'. Dreamachine Motorcycles' minimalist creation 'Full Moon', winner in the Radical category, had to be seen to be believed; while the People's Choice award went to 'The Recidivist' from Poland's Game Over Cycles. Billed as 'The World's First Tattooed Motorcycle', the bike is based on a Softail® but has been drastically modified. Two Polish tattoo artists spent 250 hours inking the Recidivist's light-coloured leather for a truly stunning effect.

Best in Show, meanwhile, was won by Omar al-Tamimi, who had brought his hand-built big-wheel bobber all the way from Dubai.

On Saturday, in blazing sunshine, cheering crowds and outlandish costumes were out in force as a glittering convoy of bikes – 15,000 of them, stretching as far as the eye could see – took part in the spectacular parade.

See you next year for the 19th edition – September 6-11, 2016. ■



# THOSE WERE THE DAYS

Since the first Hamburg Harley Days® in 2004, the Harley Days series has grown to cover eight countries, bringing free and open H-D® events to hundreds of thousands of people across Europe. Every Harley Days event has that unmistakable H.O.G.® party atmosphere, with the usual demo rides, ride-outs, parade and top-quality entertainment; but each city has something a little different to offer. Here's a look back at the 2015 events – which ones are on your list for next year? >

**REVIEW**  
 Harley Days® events  
 Various locations around Europe  
 June-September 2015

## Hamburg, Germany June 26-28

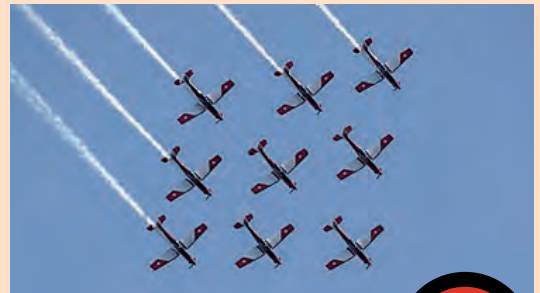


## Scandinavian Harley Days® – Voss, Norway July 2-5





**Barcelona, Spain July 3-5**



**Swiss Harley Days® – Lugano, Switzerland July 3-5**





**Morzine, France July 11-14**



**Vienna, Austria July 17-19**

**St. Petersburg, Russia  
August 6-9**



**Prague, Czech Republic  
September 4-5**



# MAGIC BIKE RÜDESHEIM

*am Rhein*

## 26 - 29 MAY 2016

### ALL BIKERS ARE WELCOME!

- Live Music on 3 Stages
- Harley-Davidson Demo Rides
- Guided Tours
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- Ride in Bike Show
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NORDIC HARLEY DAYS®

**PREVIEW**Nordic Harley Days®  
Svolvaer, Norway  
August 3-7, 2016  
nordicharleydays.com

# VIKING BIKING



## Experience some of Europe's wildest landscapes in Lofoten, in the land of the Vikings

“One thousand years ago, our Norwegian ancestors used to jump in their longboats and travel down to Europe. They were probably not very welcome, as they went around pillaging whatever they could find.

“Now the Europeans can jump on their boats – or their bikes – and head up north on their own Viking expedition; although they should bear in mind that

pillaging went out of fashion after the battle of Hastings in 1066.”

This is Rune Dahl's invitation to H.O.G.® members to join him and the H.O.G. Arctic Chapter at the 2016 Nordic Harley Days® in Svolvær, on the Lofoten archipelago in Norway. Lofoten, the group of mountains north of the Arctic Circle that stretches out west into the ocean, is Norway at its wildest: rugged peaks, unspoiled sandy beaches and the stormy Atlantic all around. Riding in this landscape is just mindblowing!

The rally site will be in Svolvær's town square, with accommodation to suit all tastes and budgets available in and around the town. Those keen for a traditional taste of Norway can choose to stay in 'rorbu', small cabins that were once used by fishermen but are now popular with tourists.

A shuttle bus will run from the rally site for those who are staying a little further out.

As well as food and drink, live music, a bike show and various activities on the rally site, there will be ride-outs to Laukvik and boat trips to the magnificent Trollfjord, where you can often

spot rare sea eagles. Visits to the Lofotr Viking museum, a reconstruction of a Viking chieftain's village, will also be arranged.

The parade from Svolvær airport on Saturday will be followed by the Bike Show Awards, before the closing ceremony on Saturday evening.

It doesn't have to end there, however! On the Sunday, riders will gather for a thrilling post-event ride to one of Europe's most famous riding destinations: the North Cape. Three days of riding through breathtaking scenery will take you to the northernmost point of mainland Europe – a truly unforgettable experience. ■

**To book your place or for more information about the event, including recommendations for riding routes to Svolvær, visit [nordicharleydays.com](http://nordicharleydays.com)**



**BALLANGEN, NORWAY**  
HARLEY-DAVIDSON NORD NORGE  
[bit.ly/RentalsNordNorge](http://bit.ly/RentalsNordNorge)

**OSLO, NORWAY**  
HARLEY-DAVIDSON OSLO  
[bit.ly/RentalsOslo](http://bit.ly/RentalsOslo)



It was a memorable end to the season for Belorussian riders, as Minsk hosted its first ever H.O.G.® rally. The event, held in the city's central square, consisted of two parts: an open-air daytime event open to everyone and an evening party for H.O.G. members.

Despite the pouring rain, more than 40,000 people eagerly watched the motorbike parade's progress on giant street TV screens, as bikers and police escorts proceeded from the rally point at Kurgan Slavy to the city centre. The motorcade consisted of more than 1,000 bikes from seven countries.

Cheered on by the crowd, the convoy rolled into the square and the party began. Throughout the day, guests could enjoy live music and performances, a large arts and crafts market, a photo exhibition of the most exciting routes across Belarus and a farmers'

# MINSK MADNESS

market with delicious home-made food.

Children could take part in games and competitions and learn traffic rules, while adults were offered a unique opportunity to pass a motorcycle licence exam right there in the city square. Representatives of Harley-Davidson® presented the local council with a Police Force Electra Glide®, which will start its active duty next year.

H.O.G. members had their own special surprise prepared by the event organisers: a huge private party with performances by the legendary Uriah Heep, UDO (Accept) and

Russian rock musician Garik Sukachev. Manowar front man and H-D® fan Joey De Mario addressed the guests, before Harley-Davidson representatives took the stage to speak to the chapters. The party lasted well into the night.

Even the cold weather failed to dampen the spirits and the event was warmed up by the hearts and smiles of people united in their love for freedom and Harley-Davidson bikes.

We are already looking forward to the next H.O.G. Rally Minsk on September 24, 2016! ■

## REVIEW

H.O.G.® Rally Minsk  
Minsk, Belarus  
September 26, 2015







# Events



## DECEMBER 2015

**15th MENA H.O.G.® Rally**  
Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt  
December 2-6

## APRIL 2016

**Africa Bike Week**  
Margate, South Africa  
April 28-May 1

**Rabat Rally**  
Rabat, Morocco  
April 28-May 1

**Harley-Davidson® Euro Festival**  
Grimaud, Golfe de St-Tropez, France  
April 28-May 1

## MAY

**Magic Bike Rudesheim**  
Rudesheim, Germany  
May 26-29

**Benelux H.O.G. Rally 2016**  
Rockanje, Netherlands  
May 27-29

## JUNE

**Ireland BikeFest**  
Killarney, Ireland  
June 3-6

**Open Road Fest**  
Lake Balaton, Hungary  
June 8-12

**Annual European H.O.G. Rally**  
Portorož, Slovenia  
June 16-19

**Hamburg Harley Days®**  
Hamburg, Germany  
June 24-26

## JULY

**Wake the Lakes**  
Kendal, UK  
July 7-10

**Finnish Harley Weekend**  
Tampere, Finland  
July 22-24

## AUGUST

**Nordic Harley Days**  
Lofoten, Norway  
August 3-7

**St. Petersburg Harley Days®**  
St. Petersburg, Russia  
August 11-14

**Polish Bike Week**  
Karpacz, Poland  
August 11-14

**South of England Rally**  
Hickstead, UK  
August 12-14

**Thunder in the Glens**  
Aviemore, Scotland  
August 26-29

## SEPTEMBER

**European Bike Week®**  
Faaker See, Austria  
September 6-11

**End of Season Rally**  
Valkenburg a/d Geul, Netherlands  
September 23-25

**H.O.G. Rally Belarus**  
Minsk, Belarus  
September 24

## NOVEMBER

**3rd H.O.G. Bahrain Rally**  
Bahrain  
November 17-19

## DECEMBER

**16th H.O.G. MENA Rally**  
December 1-4



# HORSES FOR COURSES

This year's SofER may have had a change of venue, but as ever it was an action-packed 'must attend' event. Report by Garry Stuart



## Chapter Challenge

Saturday afternoon saw the five organising chapters put their co-operative spirits to one side for the Chapter Challenge. A rigorous set of challenges included slow riding, pork the pig with a stick, water balloon toss, orb slalom, rodeo bull riding, balance beam bashing and an inflatable assault course. Congratulations go to 1066 Chapter, who were yet again victorious, closely followed by Invicta and Hogsback.



**Review** After a hiatus of one year the ever-popular South of England Rally (SofER) returned to the H.O.G.® calendar. This year SofER was based at Hickstead, the UK home of show jumping and all things equestrian.

But it was a different kind of thoroughbred that visited the famous ground – iron horses in the shape of Harley-Davidson® motorcycles, and lots of them. They came from all corners of the UK and beyond, France, Belgium, Holland, Germany, Croatia, Ireland and even one intrepid traveller, Larry Widner, from Las Vegas. And despite bad rainstorms in the run up to the weekend, the H.O.G. faithful zeroed in on Hickstead on Friday, with the gates opening at 12 noon.

### Ladies day

In keeping with SofER tradition, the first main attraction was the Ladies of Harley™ themed ride-out. With this year's 'My Little

Pony' theme paying homage to the new venue, perhaps this should have been the 'mane' attraction. The ladies gathered at 4pm, both they and their steeds covered in a rainbow of pink and glitter, before heading off for a 30 mile ride.

When, 15 miles into the ride, the unpredictable weather returned, the ride was curtailed and the ladies headed back to Hickstead for their traditional picnic reception. It was during this that three were presented with their Iron Hog award after riding to all of the UK's H-D® dealerships in a marathon ride of around 1,700 miles.

### Let's rock

Music is the mainstay of any H.O.G. rally and SofER was no different with six class acts on the bill. The Texas Tornadoes kicked things off on Friday afternoon with a great country and western show that set the tone for the day. Friday night is always

the wildest as revellers let their hair down and shake off the miles they've travelled. The Two Tone band Skadekat didn't disappoint and their ultra-high energy ska music had the whole crowd bouncing before the headline band, T-Rextasy, took to the stage. As tribute bands go they have to be one of the best in the business and not only did the singer sound like Marc Bolan, he was the spitting image of the elfin rocker. They went down extremely well with the audience indulging in some great sing-alongs.

### Saturday

The weather forecast was promising for the rest of the weekend, which was good news for the big Saturday ride-out. A column of 150 Harley-Davidson motorcycles, marshalled very professionally by the Hogsback Chapter, set out at 10.30am destined for a country pub and a date with a lasagne.





“The ladies gathered at 4pm, both they and their steeds covered in a rainbow of pink and glitter”



Saturday also saw the Ride in Bike Show, featuring some sumptuous paint jobs and a growing number of trike entries. A lone bike in the pre-evo section, a lovely blue 1970s Iron Head Sportster, was a particular highlight. The voting was simple: a bucket next to the front wheel meant that the people's choice was determined by the amount of pound coins, with all proceeds going to the Air Ambulance.

As the sun lowered, plumes of blue barbecue smoke rose above the campsite, reminiscent of Native American tepee villages in the High Plains. It was an image that was reinforced by the large Yipee Yurt village that was playing host to SofER's 'glampers'.

With the traditional Hogsback barbecue in full swing, 1066 Chapter were visited by Marjorie Rae, Consumer Experience Manager for Harley-Davidson UK & Ireland, who handed out awards to members that had made special



contributions to the life of the chapter. Later she also handed out trophies to the winners of the Ride in Bike Show and to 1066 (again!) for their victory in the Chapter Challenge.

#### Out with a bang!

All too soon it was time for the grand finale and the final band of the weekend were not about to disappoint. All female band JoanOvArc stormed into a powerful rendition of Steppenwolf's biker classic Born to be Wild in true rally fashion.

With hardly a pause between numbers, these ladies rocked unrelentingly as power rock classics followed in quick succession. The Lynyrd Skynyrd classic 'Freebird' was their final number, with many agreeing it was as good as the original. JoanOvArc are going places and SofER did well to book them.

Congratulations to the five organising chapters: 1066, Hogsback, Thames Valley, Invicta and Oxford, for successfully moving the rally to a new site and staging a great event. Roll on next year. ■



## Raising the flag

Normally SofER would be all over on Saturday night, but not this year. Rally Coordinator Skelly, of 1066 Chapter, organised a Parade of Flags ride-out – a non-stop loop that took in Brighton seafront on Sunday morning. Despite initial fears that numbers would be low, an ever-increasing line of bikes joined in the fun, leaving Hickstead at 10am led by a huge chromed Peterbilt American truck. It was a fantastic way to end a very special weekend.



# NON-STOP PARTY

A record crowd gathered at Fakenham's Racecourse for Fenlanders Chapter's East of England Rally, says Lindsay Warren



**Review** July saw Fenlanders Chapter celebrate their 23rd East of England Rally. Held at the Fakenham Racecourse in Norfolk, it was a fantastic four-day affair with a non-stop party atmosphere as rally-goers enjoyed a 'Fenlanders feast' of fun and music.

Thursday saw a record turnout as visitors from across the UK and beyond arrived early to take full advantage of a long weekend of rally fun. Friday morning saw huge numbers gather for the traditional ride-out to Norwich, which included a civic reception held in the city centre.

The fun continued on Saturday as the sun shone brightly on the annual Saturday ride-in street party in Sheringham. The crowds gathered to welcome the bikes as everyone was cheered into the town.

Later a cheque was presented on behalf of the Fenlanders Chapter to the local Sheringham lifeboat crew fund.

Fenlanders Chapter's sponsoring dealer, Newmarket Harley-Davidson®, was well represented both on the rally site and in Sheringham, and with a good selection of trade stalls and food options, rally-goers were well catered for over the weekend.

They were also treated to a fantastic line up of live music from nine great bands over three nights, all of whom delivered storming sets that ensured the partying carried on into the early hours.

This year also saw the official launch of the 'Fenlanders Glamping Experience'. Inside these ready-pitched tents lucky campers were treated to beds made up for arrival with proper duvets, pillows and bed linen and some additional home comforts. They were completely sold out this year and we've already started selling for 2016, so be sure to be quick if you want to book.

Talking of next year, you'd better make a note in your diary for the Fenlanders 24th East of England Rally, which will take place July 28-31. Tickets will be on sale shortly so keep your eyes peeled for a Fenlanders Rally bulletin coming your way very soon.

For information and updates visit [fenlandershog.co.uk](http://fenlandershog.co.uk) ■

## What they said

*"Absolutely top drawer job done by everyone involved in putting together the East of England Rally. Thank you one and all, you should be very proud of the Fenlanders Chapter. I certainly am."*

**Garry Knowles, Newmarket H-D Dealer Principal**

*"It's all the anonymous behind the scenes work that people put in that makes things go so smoothly, so well done and thanks to all concerned. We're proud to say we're Fenlanders."*



## This year saw the official launch of the 'Fenlanders Glamping Experience'



## A message from the Chapter Director

*"We rocked to nine great live bands and had a magnificent weekend with so many of our Fenlander friends, as well as the many people enjoying their first ever East of England Rally. I danced, I laughed so hard that my ribs hurt and I spent a fantastic time with old acquaintances and new friends. From the feedback we received I think it's safe to say that everyone else had a great time too. I can't wait for next year!"*

**Neil Billig**







down to our Bike Show in the Pavilion. It was quite a sight!

Weymouth & Portland's Mayor, Cllr Christine James, arrived in style on the back of a Harley escorted by five New Forest Chapter members to meet us. After giving a short speech she checked out the bikes on show before handing out awards to the winners. With so much support from the public we were able to raise a good amount of money for our two charities: SERV Wessex (The Blood Bikes) and BASICS, who provide vital fast-response emergency roadside medicine.

Saturday night was party night, and our 1920s fancy dress theme ensured the whole site was filled with gangsters and charleston flapper girls. So many people really entered into the spirit of the event, which was great to see and made for a fantastic evening.

Entertainment was provided by two great acts, stand-up comedian Colin Cole and classic rock band Decades of Rock, who kept the party going at full swing.

The traditional Rally Awards and raffle draw were compered by New Forest Editor Trevor Langford, who kept everyone entertained with his wit and impeccably delivered jokes!

Two rides were organised for the following morning, a coastal route to West Bay – home of the hit TV series Broadchurch – and a countryside run to the world famous Cerne Abbas Giant. Both were well attended and enjoyed by everyone involved.

It's fair to say that the rally was a huge success. We've already been inundated with positive feedback, so we'll be pulling out all the stops to raise the bar yet again for next year's Blazin' Galaxies Rally. ■

Justin Moors

# BLAZIN' TWENTIES

**Review** The lure of the seaside and Dorset's lush green countryside, coupled with the roar of hundreds of Harleys and the camaraderie of the H.O.G.® family, made New Forest Chapter's Blazin' Twenties Rally (one of the last in the UK calendar) a weekend to remember.

From the get-go, despite a late-in-the-season date, the signs were good with uninterrupted blue skies and the sun beating down. Luckily the stunning weather remained for the entire weekend.

As the bikes rolled in on Friday afternoon old friends were reacquainted and new friends were made as we all got into the party spirit. In the evening the Lorraine Crosby band filled the dancefloor with their stunning performances of rock classics. Lorraine found fame singing the "I Would Do Anything For Love" duet with Meat Loaf and she proved popular with rally-goers.

Saturday morning saw the start of our Grand Parade Ride. The hour-long procession around Dorset saw crowds of people gather to wave and cheer us along the picturesque seafront at Weymouth and





“This is the H.O.G.<sup>®</sup>  
rally that everyone  
must attend”



# RUMBLE IN THE GLENS

This year's Thunder in the Glens was a truly international affair, as Garry Stuart explains





**Review** Thunder in the Glens' reputation as the 'Sturgis of the North' is spreading beyond the shores of the UK. This year had a truly international flavour as large contingents from Germany, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Switzerland and further afield poured into the Macdonald Resort in Aviemore, Scotland.

TITG is the UK's biggest H.O.G.® rally with over 3,000 H.O.G. members registering. Organised by Dunedin Chapter, it's the perfect blend of entertainment and fantastic scenic rides.

The rally runs over three days, opening on the Friday before closing out on Sunday night with a top band. In between there's a plethora of activities to occupy your time both on and off the Macdonald resort with its health spas, varied restaurants and shops stocking classic Highland goods. Down in Aviemore itself the rally is welcomed and embraced by the business community and the local populace, with many of the shops going to the trouble of creating Harley® themed window displays, and restaurants and bars flying 'bikers welcome' banners.

Every bar and restaurant put on live entertainment, especially the Cairngorm Hotel with its traditional Hog Heaven

area featuring a great mixture of traditional Scottish folk and rock music. Further up the main street is The Winking Owl, which also puts on live music. This year it was fully integrated into the TITG experience by hosting the Harley-Davidson® demo ride team.

#### Getting the party started

Friday night kicked off in the Osprey Arena with a heavy rock set from all female power trio The Amorettes, their intense stage presence and nifty guitar playing going down a storm. Upstairs, the Peregrine Suite hosted pop covers band Nae Danger, while elsewhere in the resort jam sessions and a comedy piano set by Matt Black added to the musical menu. Rounding off the night, and back by popular demand, were the 'Ballroom Gitz' with their 70s glam rock hits and camp spandex fun.

#### Grand Parade

Saturday is always the key day at TITG, the main feature of which is the Grand Parade Ride. The convoy departed Aviemore at noon in drizzly rain, although the sun soon appeared as the parade wound its way through the purple heather-clad hills to the waters of Lochindorb and its ruined fort. The turnout was fantastic and it took some 35 minutes for all the riders to pass by. Meanwhile a few interesting things were taking place back at the resort – aggression, fighting and extreme violence with blades on the manicured lawns. A rumpus between outlaw gangs perhaps? No, fortunately it was a display by the Scottish Knight League, who courageously performed full contact combat with authentic mediaeval weapons, armour and heraldry.

Around the corner the Ride in Bike Show was assembling. It was set to be the biggest and best yet, with styles ranging from cut down bobbers to big wheeled baggers and everything in between. Alan Forbes, better known as Mr Indian of Scotland, brought his Scout Bobber, Indian 4 and his new Indian 4 Dakota to the party

As evening drew in the outside stage was owned by TITG favourites Clanadonia, a traditional Scottish drumming band with pipes that deliver a visceral experience and drums that resonate deep within one's chest. An elaborate firework display

followed their performance before the audience flooded into the Osprey Arena to be treated to fantastic classic rock courtesy of Scottish band Strange Brew.

In the auditorium Keep It Cash delivered a faithful set of Johnny Cash songs to much acclaim, while upstairs in the Peregrine Suite a brilliant Ultimate Motown show went down a treat.

Saturday night was capped off by The Springsteen Sessions who are described as Europe's most authentic Bruce Springsteen tribute band. A better rendition of the 'E Street Band' you'd be hard pressed to find and the musicianship was second to none.

#### End in style

After Saturday night's partying Sunday morning was a chilled out affair, before the main Rocky Mountain High ride-out up Cairngorm Mountain departed at noon in dry sunny weather.

The final night's entertainment turned out to be the best of the weekend, including rockabilly band Uncle Red and Blondie tribute band Dirty Harry. However, the best was saved for last in the form of The Rick Parfitt Jnr Band, who swept onto the stage with such energy and personality that the whole place was rocking and dancing.

Thunder in the Glens 2015 was a great event notable for its large European presence, most of whom are sure to spread the word that this is the H.O.G. rally that everyone must attend. ■





**Review** Belfast Chapter's Hog 'n' Bog Rally was held for its sixth year at the beautifully appointed and situated Coleraine Rugby Club, hosting chapter members, family members, partners and guests of members.

Held between August 7-9 it was a great event that allowed H.O.G.® members to gather, have fun, meet up with friends and enjoy this beautiful area of north east Co. Londonderry.

A rally like this doesn't just happen. It takes a year's input from a dedicated chapter director and rally committee and planning, planning and more planning! Like so many H.O.G. events, volunteering is the key – at the entrance, filling rally packs, selling tickets, putting up and managing the camp site and ensuring there is a safe area for the storage of those special machines. This year I was entrusted with gate duties, having been given some 'welcoming drinks' to dish out.

This year's entertainment was superb, with seven bands on the bill ranging from rock, blues, pop, and folk. The highlight however was Saturday's performance by the gorgeous burlesque dancers, the Fire Angels, who spent the evening breathing out real fire at several over-excited men.

Saturday's ride-out saw about 150 bikes line up. It's always special to witness a large ride-out – the bikes in formation, their engines revving, the Head Road Captain's colours proudly fluttering from his bike as everyone is in place. And then they're off, a parade of beautiful machines ridden by their proud owners.

# HOGS IN THE BOG



Mixing stunning scenery and all things Harley-Davidson®, Hog 'n' Bog Rally 2015 was a roaring success



The ride took in the breathtaking local scenery, heading up to Castlerock along the mountain road before descending steeply into Downhill, skirting through the forest and glens into Limavady and descending again through Dungiven for a lunch stop at the Ponderosa, the highest pub in Ireland. Heading along the north coast, the sea was on the right and the huge open skies stretched overhead, making for a stunning sight.

Later it was time for the bike show with its usual selection of gleaming and polished Harley-Davidson® motorcycles.

Rolling Hills Chapter scooped the prize for highest attendance before, all too soon, it was time to say farewell to Coleraine. We're already looking forward to saying hello to the Mountains of Mourne from Newcastle for our 2016 Rally. We hope to see you all there. ■



Helen Heron



# Back to the forest



**Review** From August 21-23 Sherwood Chapter went back to the forest. They were joined by a band of merry men and women from chapters far and wide, for three days of fun in Walesby Forest.

Trade stands, a Robin Hood H-D® stand

and the chapter's own merchandiser were available across the site for guests to grab a bargain, and free tea and coffee was available day and night. Bars opened Friday lunchtime, setting the atmosphere for the night's party in the large marquee,

where a disco and live band (various artists) provided the entertainment well into the night.

On Saturday morning 85 bikes gathered for a 60 mile ride-out in perfect weather, heading out through local villages towards Lincoln and Gainsborough, and returning by the beautiful Clumber Park. On their return people gathered for the arrival of the Air Ambulance, Sherwood's chosen charity, which was presented with a £4,000 cheque.

Sherwood LOH had several events organised for the afternoon and a Chapter Challenge archery contest proved to be a great success. The show arena hosted a display of bikes, with owners competing to be the best in their category, accompanied by live music from Pretty Big Guns.

Saturday night's movie-themed party saw some great fancy dress on display as everyone enjoyed live music from Live and Let Rock. Back to the Forest was a great success and we're already looking forward to seeing everyone at next year's event between August 19-21. ■

**Roy Radford**

# THE CIRCUS MASTERS

**Review** Friday September 18 saw the second edition of Deva Legion's Circus Maximus in the beautiful north Wales town of Llangollen. Last year's event was a big success and clearly the chapter from Chester have built on that success for this year.

They put together a well organised rally with two gorgeous rides. The Saturday ride was a fantastic event, taking in 100 miles of the finest roads in Britain. The people of Llangollen came out in force to wave off the

riders as almost 150 bikes departed. The ride, which took in the Horseshoe Pass, was completed without the need to even put feet down.

The venue for the rally, the Llangollen Pavillion, proved to be a fantastic venue with a fantastic stage for the various bands performing. The weather remained kind and the field was full of tents, caravans and camper vans. The catering and food at the rally site was good, varied and well-priced

and the town offered more options with some nice pubs and restaurants that really welcomed the H.O.G.® members and Harley® riders.

Circus Maximus has a great place in the rally calendar. It's a great way to wind down or wrap up the rally season. Everyone should make it a part of their rally plan. I expect it will grow even bigger in the future. ■

**Vincent Verzijl**





**Preview** Jersey Chapter's Hogs Around the Rock returns in September (11-13) 2016. It will be a boutique event where you can relax, enjoy yourself and get to know everyone in a truly unique location.

The rally will involve riding around the island of Jersey taking in its picturesque scenery and unique history. It is a small island (9 miles by 5 miles) with around 350 miles of roads and country lanes that are often narrow and winding. Speed isn't something that you can push on the island

roads, but when there are such lovely sea vistas or beautiful countryside to look at why would you want to?

Visitors can expect a full schedule, including an evening ride-out to enjoy the sunset over the sea, rides to historic locations and a day of riding the lanes taking in the island's coastal roads. As an added bonus, the rally kicks off the day after the Jersey International Air Festival, Europe's largest free air display,

with air displays and the excellent Red Arrows closing the show.

If great hotels, top restaurants, slow speeds, stunning sights and an air show thrown in appeals to you then Hogs Around the Rock is a must! ■

[jerseyci.hog@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jerseyci.hog@hotmail.co.uk)  
[jerseyhogs.co.uk](http://jerseyhogs.co.uk)



# HOGS AROUND THE ROCK

## PUTTING THE HEART BACK INTO HEART & SOUL

**Review** After a four-year break and the closing of our sponsoring dealership Geordie Chapter decided to put Heart & Soul back on the H.O.G.® event calendar. Our rally was traditionally in September, but after contending with the darkness for 20 years we decided to go with the new dates of July 31 to August 2.

We worked hard at putting together a rally crew without disturbing our main job of rebuilding the chapter. Dawn Beattie, our LOH Representative took on the challenge of being rally co-ordinator. After deciding on a venue – Percey Park Rugby Club – things progressed nicely and ticket sales grew. Bands were booked, venue sorted, ride-out organised and we were hoping for some sun.

Were we right to bring it back? You'd better believe it! The sun came out for us and so did the people! H.O.G. chapters from as far south as the fantastic Bridgwater Chapter and our great friends from the north, Dunedin and Clyde Valley, came in droves. We even had visitors from H.O.G. chapters in Italy & Germany.

The specially organised prosecco get-together for the LOH was amazing, the bands were great, the ride-out was fantastic and the beer and food were all at the right price. The best thing for me was that we all had a great time. Thanks to everyone for coming to visit the Geordies at the Heart & Soul Rally 2015. See you all next year! ■

Barry Gillespie





# WHEN H.O.G.<sup>®</sup> HIT THE TOWN

Despite a change in venue Red Rose Chapter put on a spectacular Wake the Lakes rally, as Garry Stuart reports

**Review** Red Rose Chapter's seventh year staging Wake the Lakes had a very different feel. Previous rallies had been based at Kendal Rugby Club, but uncertainties about the redevelopment of that site meant that they had to consider other options.

It turned out to be a fortunate catalyst that pushed WTL onto a higher level as Chapter Director, Gordon Dick and his band of merry men and women brought the rally into Kendal town centre, with an inspired choice of the historic Brewery Arts Centre as rally central.

At the heart of this beautiful complex of historic buildings is a garden with a labyrinthine series of paths and terraces that lead to the upper gardens. These became the nucleus of the event, providing a thoroughly pleasant area to enjoy the great choice of food and locally brewed craft beers while spending some time relaxing between ride-outs.

This relaxed approach was key to the success of the rally as local residents and tourists mixed with the bikers in the courtyard and restaurants, completely removing any 'them and us' attitude.

The rally opened at noon on Thursday in order to allow a full day of events on Friday as well as Saturday. One of the main attractions of a rally in such a picturesque

location is the various guided ride-outs on offer, many of which took place on Friday. The traditional hardcore 'Technical Ride' for experienced riders took in the hairpin turns of the steepest roads in the UK, including Hardknott and Wrynose mountain passes. A number of other less demanding but no less scenic ride-outs also took place including a Ladies of Harley™ special outing.

Great music is the core of every rally's evening entertainment and on all three nights no one was to be disappointed. Bootleggers Bar in the centre of Kendal hosted the opening night party as hard rocking band Tin Pan Alley hammered out rock classics (with help from Black Hills' Director, Adrian Vaughan, on the bagpipes as they performed AC/DC's 'It's A Long Way To The Top').

Solo singer Paula Bolton kicked off Friday's music but nothing prepared anyone for the force of nature that was the all-female group JoanOvArc, whose musicianship and stage presence hit everyone in-between the eyes. No shrinking violets these girls when rocking full pelt and covering punk rock and pop classics in a seamlessly driving set.

This year's Parade Ride left the Brewery Arts Centre and convoyed through the

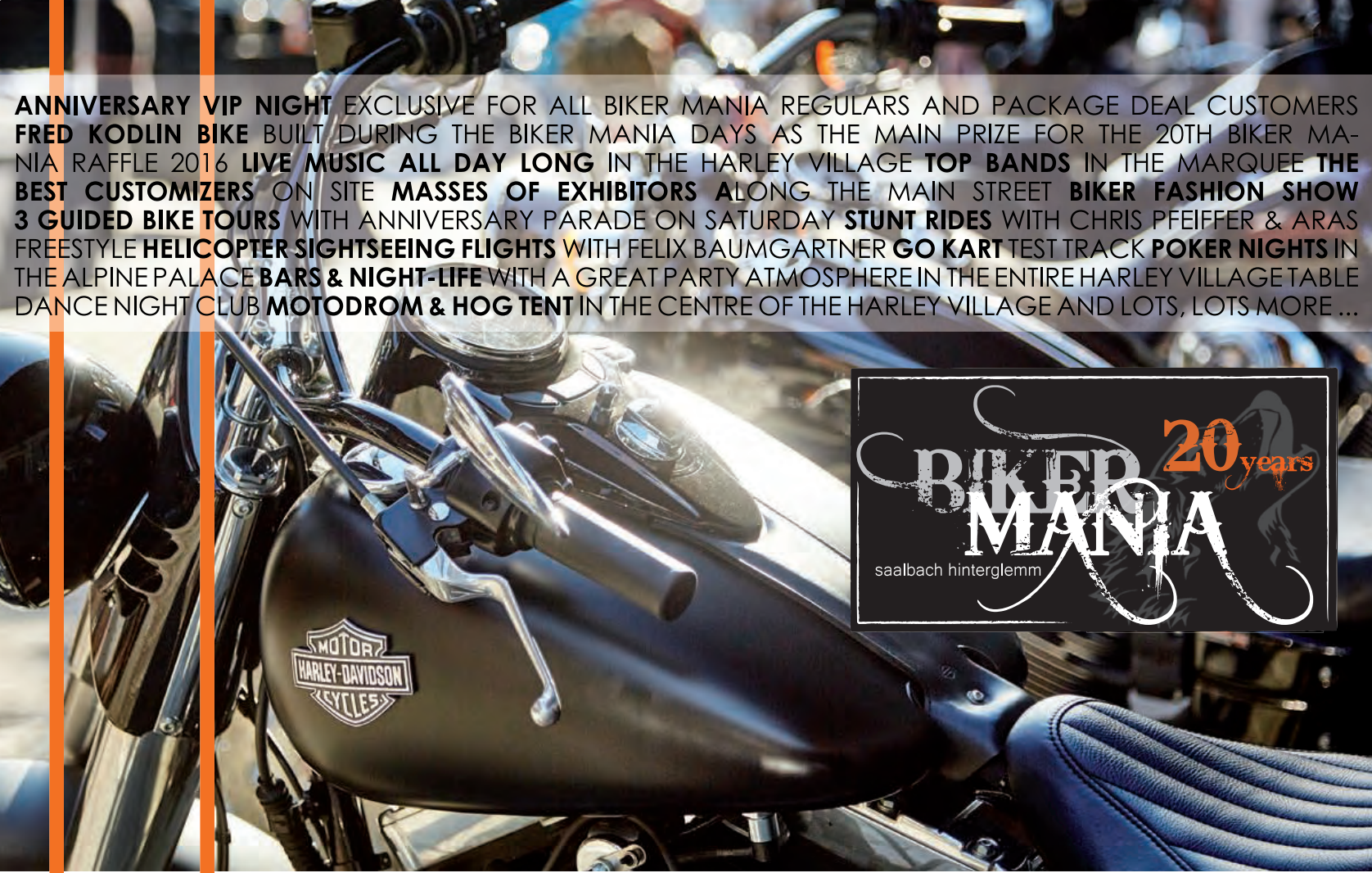


streets of Kendal in impressive fashion as locals and tourists lined the route to enjoy the spectacle. It truly cemented Wake the Lakes as a special event in Kendal and the integration of bikers and locals was complete. The convoy circulated the South Lakes passing through Windermere town centre via the spectacular Kirkstone pass returning to base just in time for the Custom Bike Show, which had some very impressive entrants this year including an Exile Cycles chopper owned by Len Rinaldi.

Saturday was July 4th, American Independence Day, and it can be no coincidence that Red Rose booked a Bruce Springsteen tribute act to round off the rally with the crowd singing 'Born In The USA' together with 'The Rising Band'. As the night wound down a sweaty and satisfied bunch of bikers headed off vowing to return to this rally, which without doubt has shifted up a couple of gears. ■



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# OLD FRIENDS, NEW ROADS

**Alexandra Oliver and her husband David have made Spain their home, but there were many new roads to discover on a recent tour with Brettours**

**My husband David and I now live mostly in Spain. We have opted for sun, sea and our Harley-Davidson® motorcycles. Dave has a Sportster® custom and I ride a 883 SuperLow®. We ride with the Alicante Chapter, who really know how to throw a fiesta, the rides often being an all-day-and-night event! We also spend time exploring Spain on our own or with friends. We love it here on the Costa Blanca; we have varied terrain, mountains, towns, villages and miles of coastline to explore – oh, and sun! The Spanish almost worship motorcyclists and are much more accepting of us on the road. The roads themselves >**



## Spain

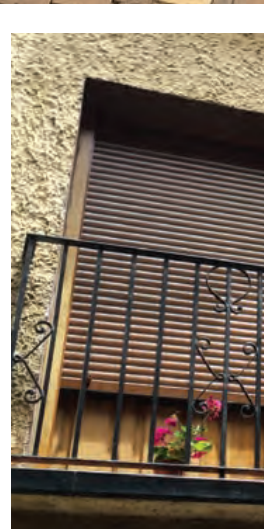
are pretty well maintained, but now and again we'll be following what looks like a great road only to find it suddenly stops, either just in a dead end or in a farmer's field – another chance to practise those U-turns...

Not wanting to entirely give up what the UK has to offer, and wanting to keep our membership of the Hogsback Chapter up to date, we keep a little lodge nestled in the Surrey Hills, with a Dyna® Switchback for David and another SuperLow® for me – this one is black and white and named Humbug!

On hearing that the European H.O.G.® Rally this year was to be in Spain, we thought it would be a great idea to join in, and set about organising our holiday; but how should we do it? On our own; with Spanish friends; or, better still, with H-D® Authorized Tours operator Brettours?

We reminisced about years ago, when David and I knew Ron Brett, owner of Brettours, through riding sports bikes. Recalling that Ron had moved to Spain, we contacted him and met up. We chatted over vino and tapas and quickly remembered why we loved his tours – in fact why we had done more than 25 with him in our sports bike days. We had since swapped our sports bikes for Harleys®, thinking it was time for a change of pace – after all, we're not getting any younger!

We tried to work out where we could join the Brettours rally tour and just couldn't





## “THE WELL-PLANNED STOPS ALWAYS SEEMED TO TAKE IN SOMETHING OF INTEREST”

come up with a suitable place to meet the group. We asked ourselves whether the comradeship would really be the same if we joined the group halfway through. Anyway, Dave wanted to stretch the legs of his Switchback, so the plan was set. We drove 600 miles back to the UK in June to collect our English bikes and joined the tour from the beginning; and we certainly didn't regret it.

So, the tour began, as a relatively small riding group of 16 people on 10 bikes set off from Portsmouth. Arriving in Santander the next evening, we had a short ride to Fuentes Carriones, overlooking a beautiful reservoir and surrounded by the Picos de Europa Mountains – it was stunning. As the tour continued, it was one highlight after another. One very memorable stage was riding through the Gredos Mountains to Trujillo, which, according to some, is the most attractive town in the province of Extremadura, a classic conquistador town that also boasts a castle from the Moorish era. Our hotel was a 16th-century former convent – what a treat!

That afternoon, we covered a 40km stretch of sweeping mountain roads and twisty bends, which was truly inspiring. On arriving at a café for refreshment, I wandered up to Ron. What I wanted to say was just a very big thank you for researching, exploring and then leading this fabulous route, but what came out was very tearful! The bar girl must have thought I was nuts (as Ron did)! Truly, though, these roads were awesome – some of the best I've ridden, and I live in Spain and have been riding for 16 years. That day my Sportster really earned its name, handling the terrain marvellously. Girl and machine, as one.

Every night we stayed in an exceptional hotel, with a two-night stop in Seville giving us a chance to explore this wonderful city and see the place where *Game of Thrones* was filmed for release this year. We then spent three nights in Jerez with the chance to visit the rally. Two weeks, 1,522 miles covered, riding across the back roads of Spain, through sleepy villages, and the best undiscovered roads you could ever wish for.

Fourteen days of the most awe-inspiring roads, amazing and ever-changing landscapes and magnificent views.

One of the best things about this tour was how relaxed it all was. Each day started at around 9.30am on the road, with frequent stops at pavement cafés for a stretch, refreshment and a chat. This was something that really made the riding a pleasure. Who really wants to say they've been in the saddle for 12 hours and not seen anything? Not me. The well-planned stops always seemed to take in something of interest too, like at the Parque Nacional Reserva de la Biosfera in Monrague, where we witnessed hundreds of vultures flying high above us, soaring on the thermals and swooping down so low they almost touched our heads.

I can't say precisely what makes Brettours touring rides so good, but the research, planning and effort that goes into each tour means you can be sure of a unique experience. The hotels, the food and the company all made my holiday a truly memorable event and one to cherish for a lifetime – what more could you want? ■

**Brettours**

[www.brettours.co.uk](http://www.brettours.co.uk)





New models







# DESIGNING THE MACHINE

Two designers discuss the new Iron 883™  
and Forty-Eight® motorcycles >



## New models

Before a new Harley-Davidson® motorcycle settles into its place of honour in your garage, long before it arrives at your local dealership, and even before it rolls off the assembly line, the vision of what that motorcycle will look like begins as an idea in the mind of a designer. How does a machine go from a sketch on paper to real iron and steel? Where do the ideas come from that inspire the sketches?

Ben McGinley and Dais Nagao are two young members of the talented Styling team at Harley-Davidson's Product Development Center whose job it is to make that happen. For 2016, they have designed a pair of new motorcycles, the Iron 883™ and Forty-Eight,® that are on the cutting edge of Harley-Davidson's Dark Custom™ styling movement. We asked each designer to describe the new models in their own words.

Dais Nagao was born in Tokyo and studied at the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California, the alma mater of H-D® Styling legend Willie G. Davidson. A fan of motorcycles and muscle cars since he was young, designing motorcycles combines Dais's love of machines and drawing.

The approach to the project to redesign the Iron 883™ motorcycle was to build a factory bobber with a bare-knuckle, rough-around-the-edges feel, but without the crudeness or imperfections you often find on garage builds.

When you walk into the dealer and see this bike on the floor, I'd like you to think how it would look after you have put your own miles on it. This is a bike that could look right with some patina on it brand new, but I think it's the privilege of the owner to put it there. The more you ride it, it may get some scratches or dings and dents, but those will make the bike look even better.

To me, the appeal of a



Sportster® motorcycle is the beauty and timelessness of its basic structure. It feels young, pure and sexy. It's nimble and agile, and everything comes together in a great package. We were given such a fantastic foundation to begin with, but we took it a couple of notches higher with a visual and performance upgrade.

The wheel design is a highlight of this project because we were able to reduce the weight by eight pounds in total, which is a big improvement in unsprung weight. From a design approach, I went back to a nine-spoke design, which is a familiar look for the Sportster family, with machine-cut spokes to give a new visual identity to the wheels. The engineering team then took that design and knew how to machine the spokes to reduce the weight. It was a big challenge, but it really adds to the agility for which the Iron 883 is known.

For the tank graphics, the eagle in particular, I worked very closely with Ted Turner, our graphic guy, and he started with the hand-sketched Harley-Davidson logo and turned that into the eagle. We had so many iterations and different sizes and placements, but the final version we came up with has the right balance, and it's located in the sweet spot on the tank.

[h-d.com/iron](http://h-d.com/iron)

# IRON 883™





NEW  
MODELS





New models

NEW  
MODELS







Ben McGinley grew up near Madison, Wisconsin and attended design school in Milwaukee. A lifelong gearhead who joined the Styling team five years ago, one of his first jobs at Harley-Davidson® was working on the Project LiveWire™ electric motorcycle.

The Forty-Eight® is all about being minimal and stripped down, but also muscular and tough. Having that fat front tyre and the small tank emphasise the engine, and it all plays into that toughness. It has a very functional look to it.

One of the things we went after with the new Forty-Eight model was to give it an even more muscular look and a bit more performance with the front end. We've gone from the current model's 39mm forks to 49mm forks. They're really beefy, very tough-looking, and add a lot of stiffness. But even though the forks are larger and we've got new cast wheels and beefy triple clamps, the whole assembly is actually lighter than the current model, so it's not only about the look but also paying attention to how we can make it perform better, handle better and be more fun to ride.

We drew some inspiration from '60s- and '70s-era Harley-Davidson graphics for the tank graphics for the Forty-Eight. The graphics echo that era without being totally literal. It's a new twist on a theme. The repeating slot

pattern in the tank graphic you'll see elsewhere in the bike. It's in the belt guard and exhaust shields, too – it adds a little bit of lightness and also provides a sort of visual theme to carry across the bike. No one piece is designed on its own; it's all part of a larger whole.

Another thing that's really cool about the Forty-Eight is how compact it appears. To keep that feeling of mass centralisation, we blacked out the pipes and added slotted shields so it brings your eye toward the centre of the bike.

[h-d.com/fortyeight](http://h-d.com/fortyeight) ■



# FORTY-EIGHT®



# GOING LIVE

Project LiveWire™, the groundbreaking electric prototype from Harley-Davidson®, came to Europe this summer with the Project LiveWire™ Experience Tour. Harley® enthusiasts in the UK, France, Germany and the Netherlands entered a competition to win the chance to test ride the Project LiveWire™ bike. Here's how it went

**Four venues. Hundreds** of journalists, dealers and Harley® owners waiting in keen anticipation for a wholly new kind of ride. Centre stage, the Project LiveWire™ motorcycle itself: sleek, sporty, daring. And again and again, the same response: "It looks so cool!"

As well as the track where the lucky test riders had the chance to try the bike for themselves, each venue had a JumpStart™ simulator for those yet to get their licence, and a centre where visitors could find out more about the bike.

After a short presentation about the project, it was time to ride! Here's the lowdown from some of the test riders. ■

## STAGE 1:

### MILLBROOK, UK

"It's a glimpse of the future. It's light and packed with technology, the chassis is nimble and the styling is futuristic but still quite Harley®. The power delivery is so impressive – max torque from an instant throttle response. It sounds amazing, like something from a Star Wars movie. I seriously hope that it goes into production, it's just amazing to ride."

**Greg L**

"I had no idea what to expect, but I was very impressed by both its look and performance. It's clearly not your 'traditional' Harley-Davidson®, but what an innovative creation! The seating position is not what I'm used to; I settled into it after a short while, but I'm not sure how I'd feel on a longer journey. The performance was astounding – having a go on the JumpStart™ stand beforehand was a good taster for what it would feel like, because once out on the track it was surprisingly responsive. I think it would be a great commuting bike."

**Elaine S**





## STAGE 2:

**MICHELIN DE LADOUX,  
FRANCE**

"I was immediately impressed by the innovative design. It's like no other bike: it has its own character – and its own song! No clutch, no shifting and really smooth – it was so easy to ride."

**Manoël B**



**"It's like no other bike: it has its own character – and its own song!"**

## STAGE 3:

**EMODROM,  
GERMANY**

"An absolutely awesome machine... I am thrilled with it."

**Michael B**

"Top notch. Unique. Innovative!"

**Arno B**



## STAGE 4:



**LELYSTAD, NETHERLANDS**

"The part that surprised me the most was the exceptionally fast acceleration without having to shift gear. You hardly need the brakes thanks to the regeneration; but when you use them, they will stop you in the blink of an eye."

"The sound is really futuristic! Of course it doesn't sound like a traditional Harley-Davidson, but it sure can't be compared with anything else. It's the perfect sound for this machine."

"The LiveWire is a totally new design and new attitude. I would definitely buy one!"

**Leon vdP**

"Riding it was fabulous! It's completely different from my Road King® Classic: different handling, and the response is astounding. The sound is a matter of personal taste: I didn't like it, but it's good that Harley-Davidson are thinking about the sound an electric bike should make, because total silence on a bike is scary. I wouldn't trade in my Road King, but if the LiveWire comes on sale, I would strongly consider buying one, because it is the future – we have to think more about our energy consumption."

**Michiel B**







# BACK IN BLACK

Get the stripped-down Dark Custom™ look

Harley-Davidson® has a long history of producing lean-and-mean-looking motorcycles with stripped-down and blacked-out design touches. From the ground-breaking XLCR Café Racer to the FXSB Breakout® model, Harley-Davidson has always used black to express raw attitude. How do you create a Dark Custom of your own?

Begin by deciding just how far you want to go...

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FENDER EDGE LIGHT

SCREAMIN' EAGLE® STREET CANNON SLIP-ON MUFFLERS



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WHEELS AND ROTORS



COLLECTIONS



PAINT AND BODY WORK



HANDLEBARS

**Stripped-down urban**  
Ready to tackle the mean streets? With its slammed stance and narrow, lane-splitting profile, this blacked-out street machine is pure adrenaline and all attitude. The simple stripped-down styling brings a stone-cold look to this Forty-Eight® model, while the blacked-out Rail Collection accents deliver a brass-knuckled punch to the 1,200cc Evolution™ V-Twin engine. ■

OPTIONS





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NEW Black Chizeled Lo Handlebar . . . . .	55800431
Black Get-A-Grip™ Grips . . . . .	56100008
NEW Edge Cut Master Cylinder Cover . . . . .	41700335
Gloss Black Flush-Mount Fuel Cap . . . . .	63140-10A
Café Solo Seat . . . . .	52000200
NEW Rail Upper Rocker Boxes . . . . .	25700531
NEW Rail Gearcase Cover . . . . .	25700533
NEW Rail Trans Sprocket Cover . . . . .	34800032
NEW Rail Primary Cover . . . . .	25700532
NEW Rail Derby Cover . . . . .	25700541

NEW Rail Timer Cover . . . . .	25600060
NEW Rail Lower Rocker Box . . . . .	25700600
Diamond Black Footpegs . . . . .	50500035
Diamond Black Shifter Peg . . . . .	34690-08
Black Anodized Shift Linkage . . . . .	33778-09
Gloss Black Rear Axle Covers . . . . .	43013-09A
Chopped Fender Edge Light . . . . .	68000105

**SCREAMIN' EAGLE® PERFORMANCE:**

NEW Rail Collection Air Cleaner . . . . .	29400232
Street Cannon Mufflers – Jet Black . . . . .	64900322
Muffler End Caps – Satin Black . . . . .	65100048
Buckshot Exhaust Shield – Jet Black . . . . .	65400137



# STAY WARMER,

The MotorClothes® Winter Collection harnesses the power of technology to keep you warm on chilly rides



Left:  
Men: Out-of-Reach  
Waxed Jacket  
97559-16VM  
Tire Tread Knit Hat  
97644-16VM  
1903 Skull Ultrasuede  
Shirt 96061-16VM

Woman: Geneveve  
Metallic Leather  
Jacket 97098-16VW  
Sweater Lace  
Sleeve Pullover  
96158-16VW  
Heathered Ear  
Warmer 97815-16VW

## Men's Winter Collection

The Men's Winter 2015 Collection is inspired by the journey over rugged terrain and features texture, worn finishes, classic style and material mixes. The Collection focuses on functional cold weather products, including the introduction of our new Performance Sportswear with Infrared Technology. These versatile pieces can be worn as either a base layer for riding or a casual outer layer. This innovative material absorbs body heat – and in some

cases solar energy – and releases it back to the body, keeping you warmer for longer.

## Women's Winter Collection

The Women's Winter 2015 Collection is in tune with this season's fashion trends, with metallic embellishments, warm and cosy fabrics and leathers. Outerwear is all-important for the winter, and the Women's Collection offers several fleece and sweater knits, also introducing Performance Heat Retention technology. ■



Man:  
Cotton Flannel  
Plaid Shirt  
96057-16VM

Woman:  
Notched Neck Mixed  
Media Henley  
96160-16VW



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MotorClothes  
website



# RIDE LONGER

## WILLIE G. LIMITED EDITION JACKET

### Willie G. Limited Edition Leather Jacket

Our Men's Winter Collection includes the Willie G. Limited Edition Leather Jacket. The jacket features hand-stained, vintage leather, with distressed bronze nickel finish and a limited-edition label and key signature accents selected by Willie G. himself.

Quantities are limited, making this jacket a collector's item for any die-hard Harley-Davidson® enthusiast.

Willie G. Limited Edition Leather Jacket  
97097-16VM



Inside pocket detail



## ONE-TOUCH PROGRAMMABLE HEATED GEAR



Extend your riding season and combat the cold with our new Heated Gear.

Designed to keep you warm as a full-body solution, the Harley-Davidson® One-Touch Programmable Plug-In 12V Heated Gear relies on a fully programmable Wireless Wrist Controller to easily adjust the temperature of the jacket liner, glove liner, pant liner and socks with just one touch.

Between the seven large heating pads (two chest, two back, one in each sleeve and one neck) on the jacket liner and the nearly head-to-toe coverage with the addition of heated pant liner, glove liners and socks, this full-body cold-weather solution is the perfect option for the long-haul, year-round rider. With power drawn from the motorcycle's 12V DC power supply, there's no shortage of power no matter how long the ride.

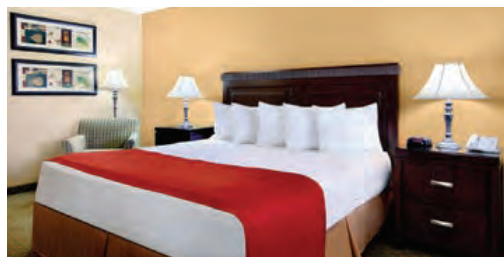
Available in our Core Collection all year round.



# Enjoy Benefits When You Ride



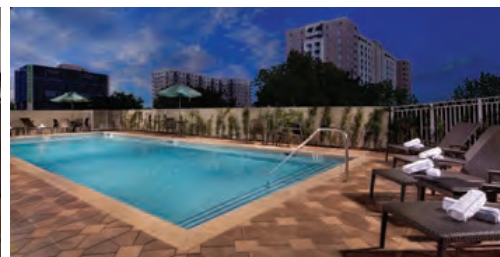
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\* Number is approximate and may fluctuate.

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Choosing a vintage model is a challenging task, but well worth it, says Frank Sander



task for a real expert, as Harleys® were identified by the motor number until 1969 and some manufacturers of accessory frames build parts that resemble the original ones very closely. One of the specialists, as far as pre-war models are concerned, is Thomas Trapp from the Harley Factory in Frankfurt, who once joked that it looked like there were more 'old-timers' of various model years on the road than Harley-Davidson® ever built.

If you are not looking for appreciation in value, but just want something cool to ride, then the search is considerably easier as many bikes have been rebuilt with reproduction frames, equipped with disc brakes and modified to have an electric starter and given a five-gear gearbox with new inner workings. These bikes, with an articulated or even a rigid frame, can be termed 'custom old-timers'. Their modern components have made them easier to handle, since a foot-operated clutch and manual gearbox are not everyone's cup of tea. With such bikes, however, it is just as important to make sure you know the origins of the bike.

Once you have found a custom old-timer, there are virtually no limits to your creativity, since depending on the model year, you can forgo indicators, there are almost no restrictions as far as the exhaust is concerned, and various other things can also be modified accordingly. A market has also developed for this and almost everything you may need to modify the bike is available as a reproduced part.

As difficult as selecting the right bike may be, the enjoyment of riding an old-timer is just huge; you can really feel and smell the history. ■

# OLD-TIMERS



**Over the past** few years, increasing numbers of 'old-timers' have been appearing on the market; happily, they are not just standing in museums but are being ridden.

When it comes to old-timers, choosing a suitable bike is often complicated and requires quite a bit of expertise. Firstly, you should ask yourself the question: 'Am I looking for something that is also an investment, or do I simply want to ride a bike with an old motor or rigid frame?' When you are looking for an old original, you can no longer really expect to find a true bargain, except in the event of one of those legendary 'barn finds', which are becoming increasingly rare. With a real old-timer, you can be certain that the value of the vehicle will continue to increase, especially in the case of the pre-war models, if they are in original condition, are from certain model years or are race models, like the Peashooter, which can quickly command six-figure sums. If you get a Captain America or a legendary Wrecking Crew race bike offered to you in a barn somewhere, then common sense should tell you that it probably isn't an original.

Before buying an old-timer, you should check that the motor and the frame originated in the same model year and that as many original parts as possible have been retained. If the bike, for example, has a reproduction frame or an aftermarket motor housing, then the value drops enormously, even if the seller assures you that it matches the original one. Checking whether the frame is an original or not is a





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locations. All tours are run by highly qualified, experienced specialist tour operators, all of whom have to meet the highest requirements in quality and efficiency to be a part of the Authorized Tours experience.

Booking a tour takes away the hassle of planning and arranging it yourself; it also ensures that every day is exciting and unforgettable while also being safe and luxurious. Think great hotels, fantastic local cuisine and secure bike parking, with the itinerary being carefully planned by fellow riders who know all the best roads, most spectacular scenery and hidden

treasures. The tour parties are generally small but perfectly formed, allowing you to make friends with fellow Harley enthusiasts as you live your dreams in the saddle.

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# PROUD TO BE





# FAT



In 1990, Harley-Davidson® released one of the most iconic bikes of all time. Twenty-five years on, the Fat Boy® still rules the road



**The year is 1990.** The Cold War has thawed into a steady accord, an unknown gentleman by the name of Tim Berners-Lee has just created something called a 'web server', and the Hubble Space Telescope is launched into orbit. The decade promises great excitement and prosperity – and the Harley-Davidson Motor Company is, after a tough decade in the 1980s, a microcosm of this positivity.

Following the buyback from AMF in 1981 and the corresponding global recession, H-D® steadily started its renaissance: the launch of the Harley Owners Group® in 1983 and the introduction of the Evolution™ engine in 1984 was followed in 1987 by the company's listing on the New York Stock Exchange, and by the turn of the decade

the recovery was in full swing. By 1989 the Motor Company was once again the number-one heavyweight motorcycle manufacturer in the USA; later that year, with the announcement of the 1990 model year line-up, one icon gave birth to another as the Willie G. Davidson-designed FLSTF Fat Boy® swaggered on to the market.

Although the Fat Boy retained the nostalgic profile of the Heritage Softail®, Willie G. offered some more modern styling traits – the cast disc wheels, for example, were a first on a Harley-Davidson motorcycle.

These 16-inch solid wheels are one of the Fat Boy's most distinctive styling touches; and, for the first 18 years, it was the only model equipped with them. >



The rear tyre is also 200mm wide – the widest of any H-D® model at the time of launch, and the key to the overall ‘fat’ look.

The Fat Boy® is built on the Softail® frame, which hides shock absorbers beneath the transmission, allowing riders to benefit from the comfort of modern suspension while retaining the old-school hardtail look.

The original Fat Boy was powered by the 1340cc Evolution™ V-twin that had been introduced in 1984. In 2000 it got an upgrade to the new 1450cc Twin Cam 88B engine, and in 2007 the introduction of the 1584cc Twin Cam 96B V-twin added even more muscle to the fat.

There are certain bikes where look and feel go hand in hand, and the Fat Boy is

a classic example. While the heavy-duty appearance never fails to attract attention, wide footboards also ensure comfort on long rides, and the low-slung saddle feels just as cool as it looks.

The appearance of the Fat Boy in the 1991 film *Terminator 2: Judgment Day* cemented its position as one of the coolest, most desirable bikes around. The bike, ridden by Arnold Schwarzenegger (or his stunt double Peter Kent), completed one of the most famous jumps in cinema history, in which the Terminator jumps the bike into a storm drain. Kent did have a bit of help – the stunt was accomplished by supporting the Fat Boy on cables,

which effectively reduced the weight of bike and rider as they hit the ground. The cables were then erased in post-production.

Several Fat Boys were used in the making of the film, but one that was actually ridden by Schwarzenegger was acquired in 2014 by the Harley-Davidson Museum™, where it is now on display. The Fat Boy (not the same one, of course) reprises its role along with Arnie in the fifth instalment, *Terminator Genisys*, which hit cinemas earlier this year.

Following the success of *Terminator 2*, Universal Studios in Hollywood created the attraction *Terminator 2: 3D*, featuring a custom-built Fat Boy. ■

# OVER THE YEARS

1



**1990**

The first Fat Boy appeared on showroom floors for the 1990 model year, and was an instant hit. Dubbed ‘The Grey Ghost’, since it was only available in grey, the Fat Boy had unique styling – and it was all about the fat. Solid wheels, a wide fuel tank, wide and heavy valanced mudguards and wide tyres made this a truly imposing, heavy-duty bike. The ‘shotgun style’ dual exhaust system also contributed to a unique look that sparked a wave of imitations.

2



**2005**

The Fat Boy got the CVO™ treatment for the first time for the 2005 model year. The Screamin’ Eagle Fat Boy boasted a 103ci Stroker Twin Cam engine, lowered rear suspension and a new steel pan-style seat, and came in three two-tone colour combinations with metal grind finish.



5



## 2015

A new front brake system on all Softail models delivers a 40 per cent reduction in the amount of lever force required at peak braking, and the handlebar master and front cylinders have been restyled. New paint colour options and mirrored chrome aluminium bullet-hole disc wheels ensure the Fat Boy continues to attract attention wherever it rolls.

4



## 2010

The 2010 Fat Boy Special (called the Fat Boy Lo in the USA) took all the style and swagger of the Fat Boy and brought it closer to the ground, with a seat height of 24.25 inches. The narrower seat and handlebars also helped to make this model instantly popular with riders of smaller stature. Half-moon footboards and painted fork tins also differentiated the Fat Boy Special's styling from that of the original Fat Boy.

3



## 2007

The legendary Fat Boy look got beefier than ever thanks to a 17-inch front wheel, increased from 16 inches, and a wider 200mm rear tyre. The signature aluminium disc front wheel gained new 'bullet' holes, while new graphics on the Fat Bob fuel tank and both fenders added another stylish touch.



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the kit, send an email to [hogtalesurope@harley-davidson.com](mailto:hogtalesurope@harley-davidson.com) with the subject line JEEP BONNET GIVEAWAY. Remember to include your name, full postal address and H.O.G. membership number in the body of the email.

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# SCREW IT,

Harley-Davidson® Lebanon and the Lebanon H.O.G.® Chapter spearheaded a unique operation to build a new artificial reef off the Lebanese coast – made from three Harley-Davidson® motorcycles

As a H.O.G.® member, you've probably seen Harley-Davidson® motorcycles in all kinds of places: city and country, mountain and plain, from the North Cape to Cape Town. But underwater?

On June 13, 2015, a crowd gathered at the busy Beirut Corniche promenade to watch three Harley-Davidson motorcycles being lowered deep into the Mediterranean Sea. Harley-Davidson flags were mounted on boats close to the shore, while a floating crane carrying a metal structure with the bikes on top was towed out to sea. An unusual sight – but the residents of Beirut are used to seeing the H.O.G. Lebanon Chapter engaged in a variety of social and community activities around the city.

This was a unique operation to create an artificial reef to help marine life and attract divers to the site. Once the necessary permits had been obtained from the local authorities, Harley-Davidson Lebanon donated the bikes and sponsored the construction of the four-tonne steel structure. A giant Bar & Shield® logo measuring eight by seven metres served as a base to mount the three Harley-Davidson Road King®



motorcycles, which had been stripped of all non-biodegradable material to ensure the project did not harm the environment.

A team of 23 divers, most of them H.O.G. members, helped to place the structure 34 metres deep near the American University of Beirut (AUB) canyon, a renowned diving location. The site will be marked on Google Maps as an official diving spot, and will also be recognised as an international diving site by the International Diving Schools Association (IDSA).

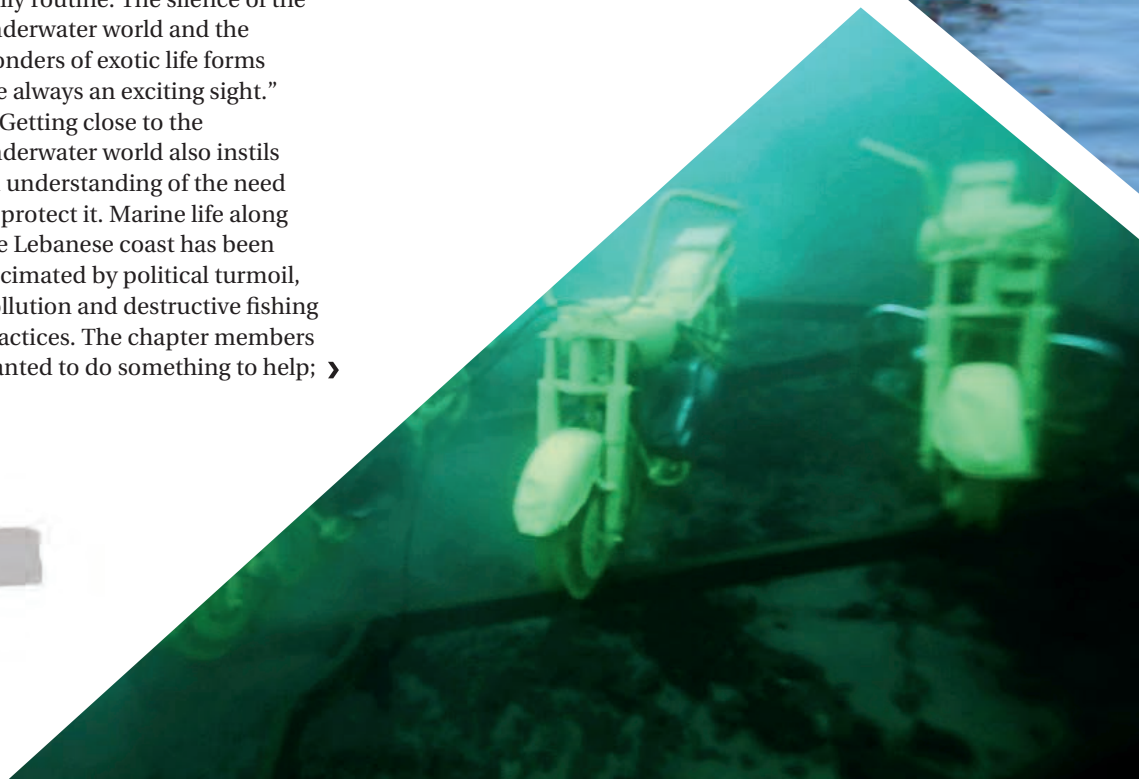
The Lebanese coast boasts several excellent diving spots, including the wrecks of HMS *Victoria*, which sank in 1893 but was not discovered until 2004, and the Vichy French submarine *Le Souffleur*, sunk by the British navy in 1941. There are also a number of spectacular natural reefs.

The project was led by Mohamad Dakroub, an experienced diver and active member of the Lebanon Chapter. "There are a lot of riders here who also like to dive, so a project that combined those two passions seemed like a great idea," he explains. "There are definitely similarities between the two. Riding a Harley-Davidson is all about the thrill of freedom and getting away from the constraints and

commitments of daily life, always finding new places and discovering new things. Riding also makes you feel a connection with the areas you ride through.

"The world of diving offers a similar thrill: divers are immersed in an unfamiliar world that always offers something new, regardless of how often you return to the same spot. It takes you completely away from your daily routine. The silence of the underwater world and the wonders of exotic life forms are always an exciting sight."

Getting close to the underwater world also instils an understanding of the need to protect it. Marine life along the Lebanese coast has been decimated by political turmoil, pollution and destructive fishing practices. The chapter members wanted to do something to help; >







building artificial reefs has been shown to attract more fish, so this seemed the perfect plan.

“We initially thought of creating a Harley-Davidson® dive spot in the form of a large balloon,” says Mohamad. “We then came up with the better idea of creating an artificial reef by placing motorcycles underwater, knowing that metal attracts fish life.”

Bassam Oud, a trainer at the Calypso diving centre in Beirut, welcomed the idea but said that it would require funds and persistence. At this point, Marwan Tarraf from Harley-Davidson Lebanon came forward to offer financial support.

The team began by identifying the issues to be resolved. Joe Chidiac, owner of Calypso diving centre, and Bassam Oud took charge of scouting the waters for ideal placement spots with a sufficient flat area. A location at a depth of 34 metres was chosen



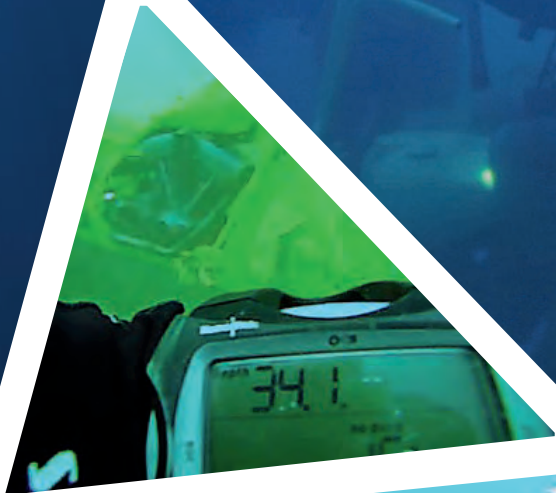
“THERE ARE A LOT OF RIDERS  
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LIKE A GREAT IDEA”



to shield the motorcycles from sunlight in order to ensure that the site remains preserved for longer. The placing of the structure was covered by several media outlets including the BBC, and has already attracted divers from around the region.

“We’ve had lots of positive comments,” says Mohamad. “A lot of divers have already visited the spot more than once.

“Since the place we chose was a sandy sea floor with almost no marine life, a few months after the installation of the bikes we have already observed a considerable change there. The spot is now attracting all kinds of fish, stingrays and sharks, and is now a permanent location for more than 13 lionfish. This can only be good for the area and is sure to keep attracting more visitors.” ■





# GIVE IT YOUR



## BEST SHOT

Capturing the ride is easier than ever thanks to smartphones. Here's how to make your shots stand out

### Words and photos:

Carlan Tapp

Several years ago, while on a commercial photo assignment, I was asked a question that has stuck with me ever since: "What's in your toolkit?" In other words, what do you need to get the job done?

It really got me thinking. A camera is a tool, and a powerful one at that. But taking good pictures is not so much about the camera as it is about how it's used. Good photographs require the photographer to slow down, to see and personally express the world in front of them. This is true no matter what type of camera you're using.

How do you do this when travelling on a motorcycle? The answer, as it so often is on two wheels, is to keep it simple and travel light. It's just like with the toolkit you probably keep on your motorcycle for emergency repairs. A basic set can meet most of the challenges you encounter on the road.

It's the same with your camera. These days, chances are the smartphone you carry comes with a pretty good camera. And if you use it well, that can be all you need to capture memorable images from any journey you take.

Here are a few tips for using your phone camera (or a simple point-and-shoot) to improve your picture-taking and capture your next ride. ■

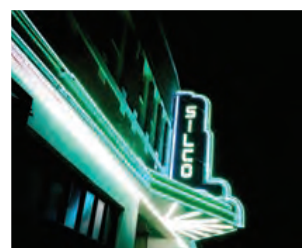
### EARLY MORNING



MIDDAY



TWILIGHT



EVENING

## SEEING THE LIGHT

As the sun rises in the morning, travels overhead, begins to fade, and slowly turns to night, the quality and feeling of light changes. Our eyes adjust to

the changes quickly. The camera can record the changes and colours in ways our eyes may miss. Try taking photos first thing in the morning, at midday, twilight and evening. Practise taking pictures after dark; the results will amaze you.

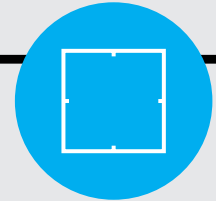


## FRAMING – FOCUS – EXPOSURE



**There's an old** saying in photography: the photographer is responsible for what goes in the frame. Before you take a picture, take a moment to carefully look at the screen on your phone. Is there anything in the picture you don't want? Sometimes moving your phone less than an inch can make the difference between a good picture and a great one. Move the phone around to see how your composition within the frame will change. Try not to cut your frame in half with the horizon line. Move it up or down a little for better results. Once you have the framing, a simple tap on the screen will set the focus and exposure.

**MOVE IT** Moving the phone and reframing changes the composition to include more foreground or sky. Note that the two trees have remained the same size, and only their position within the frame has changed.



## GAINING SOME PERSPECTIVE

**The distance of** objects from your camera and from each other affects perspective. The closer your subject is to the camera, the larger it will appear. Colour can affect perspective too. Warm colours (reds and oranges) often appear to come forward, while cool colours (blues and greens) appear to recede. In addition, light-toned objects often appear to be closer than dark ones.

Your point of view or vantage point can also have a strong influence on perspective. Looking up at a building can increase the feeling of height. When you approach a scene to photograph it, try not to always shoot at eye level. Look at the subject of your photograph standing at your normal height, cut the height in half, then in half again. Look for angles and elements that can add interest.



**LEFT PICTURES:** (TOP) Getting closer to the tyres makes them appear larger. (BOTTOM) Warm colours against cool colours create dimension.

**RIGHT PICTURES:** (TOP). Holding the phone about three feet off the ground. (BOTTOM) Holding the phone above my head. Notice how the road in the second photograph opens up with the change in camera height.



## GETTING CLOSE

**Riding to Sturgis** last year, my route led me directly through acres and acres of sunflowers. The view from the road at 65mph was a blur of yellow and green. Then I stopped, turned around, and parked by the field. I realised it was all about slowing down, seeing, framing and getting close. The closer I got, the more I saw.

Try using your phone camera close up. It's better not to zoom in with the camera, as it may degrade the quality of your photograph. Simply walk closer to the subject you're photographing.



# “I realised it was all about slowing down, seeing, framing and getting close”

## IMPORTANCE OF SCALE

One reason landscape photographs may not turn out as expected is that they lack scale. To create scale, use familiar objects in your photographs. Small objects make the landscape appear wide and big. Large objects in the foreground make it appear smaller. As you frame your next landscape picture, try adding a familiar object – maybe your bike or a fellow rider.

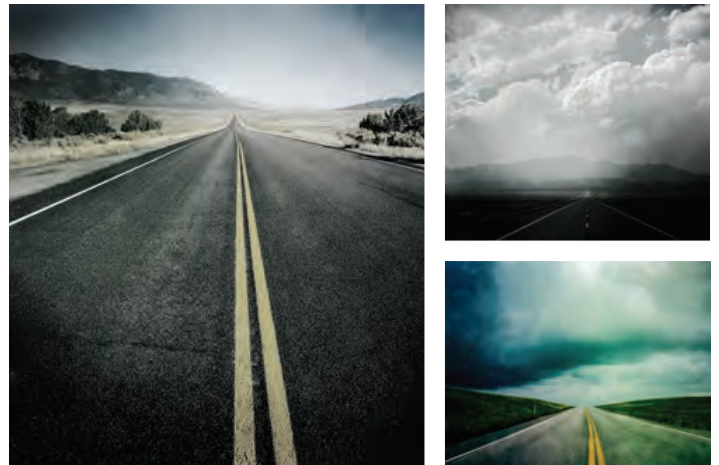


**TOP:** The motorcycle helps create a sense of scale and depth in the landscape. **LEFT:** Placing the house in the frame at a suitable distance from the camera can control the impression of scale. **RIGHT:** The rider in the foreground provides dimension in the surrounding environment.

## RAIN OR SHINE



If you're like me, you sure are happy when the sun is out and the road ahead is dry. But the weather will change – always. And weather, rain or shine, can help create interesting photographs. When you stop to put on the rain gear, remember to pull out your phone and take some pictures. A zip-lock bag with a small hole cut for the lens makes an inexpensive waterproof case for your phone.



**LEFT** Early morning light mixed with light fog on the horizon. **TOP RIGHT** Riding into storm clouds. **RIGHT** Heavy rain softens the scene.



## TOOL TIPS

### FACTS & ACTS FOR SAVVY SHOOTERS

**FACT**  
Your phone camera creates pictures in jpeg format.

**ACT**  
For emailing, small jpegs are fine. If you want to make a print or submit your pictures to *HOG*® magazine, be sure to use large jpegs.

**FACT**  
Pictures take up memory space on your phone.

**ACT**  
Download pictures to your computer to free up memory space before leaving on a trip.

**FACT**  
Apps extend the photographic capabilities of your phone camera. They range from emulating old and different types of traditional film to changing edges and borders.

**ACT**  
Explore, experiment and have fun!

Photographs for this article were taken with an iPhone using the Hipstamatic app.  
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# THERMOREGULATION AND YOU

Fighting the effects of excess heat on two wheels



**The human body** has a remarkable thermoregulation system. Under most circumstances, it does a great job of keeping your innards at an ideal 37°C. When things outside your body get too hot or too cold, it has ways to adapt.

## Your body is hot

Understanding how to cool your body properly starts with understanding how it maintains such a consistent inner temperature. You might wonder: if our

body temperature is 37°C, why are we so comfortable at 'room temperature'? Simply put, it's because the chemical reactions occurring inside your body are continuously producing heat, which must be dissipated. At approximately 21°C, wearing a modest amount of clothing, your body sheds heat at the same rate it produces it.

When you start moving around, your body generates more heat. You start to feel warm as your body tries to cool down.

The same thing happens when the ambient temperature goes up. If the air conditioning breaks, and the room temperature rises to, say, 30°C, your skin doesn't cool as effectively, so your body finds other ways to shed the excess heat.

The first thing it does is sweat. Glands in the skin secrete moisture, which draws heat from the body through evaporation. That's why the phrase 'it's a dry heat' really does have meaning. In the desert, this process works quite efficiently. Sweat



evaporates from your skin before you even know it's there, taking excess heat with it. If you find yourself thinking "I'm not even sweating!" – you are, you just don't feel it.

In more humid environments, your body sweats, but the air is already so moist it can't evaporate easily. And if it can't evaporate, it can't do its job. The sweat stays on your body, along with the heat, making you feel hot, sticky and uncomfortable.

Your body is also cooled through convection. Scientifically speaking, this means the removal of heat through the circulation of air. Motorcycle-ly speaking, this is that wind-in-your-face feeling we all love. And in the heat, the wind can be a lifesaver.

### In the heat of the day

Let's say your plan for the day is a 500-mile ride across the desert. Your first heat-fighting measure is to start early, when it's cooler. In fact, you may even need to bundle up a little to start; it can get really chilly overnight in the desert. Dress in layers that can be shed easily as things heat up. Ideally, the layer next to your skin should be a breathable synthetic that will draw moisture from your skin. A long-sleeved (more on that in a moment) synthetic T-shirt is a great choice. Layer up from there as needed. If it's nice and chilly, a top layer that breaks the wind may be necessary. In warm weather, a mesh jacket over-layered with a rain jacket in cooler morning air works well.

Now, as the temperature rises throughout the day, you can shed layers as needed. But don't take off too much. In blazing heat, it may be tempting to strip down to your T-shirt, but covering up can actually help you stay cool.

For starters, exposed skin dries out very quickly in the sun and wind. Yes, this can help with the cooling effect, but it also

makes it harder to keep your body hydrated. Keeping your arms covered (remember that synthetic long-sleeved T-shirt) helps reflect the heat of the sun, prevents sunburn and helps keep your sweat from evaporating too quickly.

### Fabulous fluids

Which brings up another crucial point: stay hydrated! This may be the single most important thing you must do when riding in the heat – not just to keep you comfortable but to keep you safe. When your body becomes dehydrated, bad things start to happen.

So always pack water or a good thirst quencher, like a sports drink. I like to start with a big bottle of sports drink and then refill that with water when it's empty. Stop more frequently than you otherwise might and drink each time. The cliché is that you should "drink before you feel thirsty" – but it's a cliché because it's true. The effects of heat stress can sneak up on you.

With that in mind, if you start feeling a little weary, hang out in the air conditioning for a while; it's best not to hurry when the heat's on. And be alert for other signs of heat stress. These can include:

- Heavy sweating
- Extreme weakness or fatigue
- Dizziness or confusion
- Nausea
- Clammy, moist skin
- Pale or flushed complexion
- Muscle cramps
- Slightly elevated body temperature
- Fast and shallow breathing

If you ever start to feel dizzy or light-headed while riding, pull over safely as quickly as you can. Find some shade or air conditioning, and get hydrated.

If symptoms persist, pour water over your head and neck. Elevate your feet to help increase blood flow to your brain. Get help if you need it. And don't go back out on the road until you're 100 per cent sure you're recovered. If your symptoms are serious, it's probably best to stop for the night.

### Tools of the trade

Beyond the mesh jacket and long-sleeved T-shirt, other gear choices can help you keep cool. Something as simple as a wet bandana around your neck or under your helmet can do wonders. Soaking your T-shirt helps a lot. If you ride in high temperatures frequently, consider investing in a 'hydration vest' lined with crystals that absorb and hold water to keep you cool while you ride.

Many of the newer Harley-Davidson® Touring models have vents that open and close, allowing you to control the amount of air that flows across your body. Many full-face helmets also have adjustable vents.

Remember, both you and your Harley® motorcycle are air-cooled. When you're stuck in traffic, the air flow stops. If it looks like a long delay, sometimes it's best to get off the road and wait it out. And make sure to keep up with your oil changes to protect your engine.

Finally, don't forget to use sunscreen on any exposed skin, especially covering spots like the back of your neck, the backs of your hands, or that little gap you might have between your gloves and the ends of your sleeves.

Your body does a great job of cooling itself. With a little help, it can do even better – and make the hottest rides safer and more comfortable. ■

**Mike Zimmerman is a H.O.G.® member and long-time Harley-Davidson enthusiast**

**“... stay hydrated! This may be the single most important thing you must do when riding in the heat. Not just to keep you comfortable but to keep you safe. When your body becomes dehydrated, bad things start to happen”**



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# How Harley® won my heart



**Sergey Kamenev, H.O.G.® Consumer Experience Manager for the Commonwealth of Independent States region, admits he wasn't always a Harley® fan – and explains how his mind was changed**

I never used to dream of owning a Harley®. I have always liked Harley-Davidson® as a manufacturer of legendary motorbikes – the symbol of freedom on two wheels – and I would buy H-D® T-shirts with various dealer logos to remind me of the places I visited. Nonetheless, I continued to ride different makes of motorbike, and for various reasons I never associated myself with Harley owners. And then, after 15 years as an active motorcyclist, I made my first acquaintance with an Electra Glide®. It happened

while I was travelling in the USA, when I decided that no road trip across America could be complete without a ride on a Harley.

Filled with visible excitement, I stood in the motorbike rental car park waiting for my ride. But it was obvious that the haggard Electra Glide I ended up with had already done a few coast-to-coast runs in its time, so both its performance and its sagging suspension failed to impress. I was, however, mightily impressed with the reception I got

wherever I went: wherever the two wheels took me, whether a huge city or a small town, people were always keen to strike up a conversation as soon as they noticed the Harley. I have travelled around the world a lot on a motorbike and visited many countries, but I have never had such a reception on any other bike. I was especially impressed by the solidarity of Harley owners – each of them struck up a conversation with me as though we were lifelong buddies, and was ready to help in any way. This made a very good impression on me; but having returned the rental bike, I concluded that I was probably not ready yet for one like this of my own.

A few years went by, and one day a beautiful window display tempted me to walk into a Harley-Davidson dealership in my home city of Moscow. The highly efficient salesman immediately pounced on me and, after a few minutes of conversation, talked me into test-riding a Project RUSHMORE bike. Remembering my earlier disappointment, I put up a certain resistance, but eventually I gave in. There are no words to describe the experience and the feeling I got from this new motorbike! This was love at first ride; the new Street Glide® was simply waiting for me to ride it. Needless to say, I clocked more than 30,000km in the first season.

Harley-Davidson has now become an integral part of my life and I am endlessly proud of it. I can confidently say that every biker will experience a moment in their life when they discover their own Harley, even if at present they give a sceptical look to the riders in waistcoats with eagles on their backs. ■





# H.O.G.® HOSPITALITY

We continue our tour of restaurants and hotels that make great meeting points for Harley® riders on the road...



FRANCE

## MOTORBIKES AND MEGA-YACHTS



The Harley-Davidson® Euro Festival, in Grimaud in the south of France, is the ideal way to kick off the riding season. If you need somewhere to rest your head – and bike – look no further than Domaine Des Naiades, a brand new holiday resort from Eurocamp.

This large wooded parc lies just above Port Grimaud, and its leafy terraces offer the perfect place to unwind after a hard day's riding. Choose from a range of detached self-catering accommodation, each with multiple bedrooms and your own outdoor space. This includes modern holiday homes. You'll find everything you need to keep you happy on site, including a restaurant, bar, takeaway and heated Olympic-sized pool. The beach is just 900 metres away and from the colourful harbour at Port Grimaud you can sail to St Tropez. This famous, elegant resort is well worth a stop to take in the finer things in life, including the most impressive mega-yachts you'll ever see! For a taste of

something a bit more down to earth, don't miss Port Grimaud's weekly market.

When it comes to planning the nuts and bolts of your trip, you're in safe hands with Eurocamp. They have a specialist Groups Team with lots of experience planning H.O.G.® tours around Europe. They can book all your travel, insurance and accommodation. The beauty of a Eurocamp booking lies in its flexibility: arrive and leave any day you like, plus you'll pay one single price for the cost of the accommodation, rather than per person.

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**For more details contact Eurocamp on +44 (0) 1606 787280, email [hog@eurocamp.com](mailto:hog@eurocamp.com) or visit [eurocamp.co.uk/hog](http://eurocamp.co.uk/hog)**



# HEART OF BELGIUM

**Belgium: the most** underrated country in Europe? Van der Valk Hotel Charleroi Airport offers you the perfect opportunity to discover this fascinating part of the world. Located less than an hour's ride from Brussels, the historic city of Mons, the French border and the Belgian Ardennes, the hotel provides a great base for exploring Belgium's rich history and picturesque scenery. A trip to Namur, home to what was once one of Europe's mightiest fortresses, is well worth it; head south from there and you are into the forests and rolling green hills of the Ardennes, dotted with picturesque towns like Dinant and Bouillon. Get on to the smaller roads for some truly memorable rides.

Van der Valk Hotel Charleroi Airport is offering a 10% discount on the room rate

for H.O.G.<sup>®</sup> members, plus a free drink at the bar. The restaurant is open every day and offers a varied seasonal menu. All rooms are en-suite with wi-fi, television and safe; and, for a touch of luxury, suites are also available. There is indoor parking for your bike. The hotel owner Ben Wohrmann and assistant manager David Dillen are both motorcyclists, and will be happy to suggest some great rides in the area. Guided tours can also be arranged.

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## BELGIUM



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**Jeremy Pick**  
Manager, H.O.G.® Operations EMEA



**Gemma Kirby**  
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**Marta Ostrowska**  
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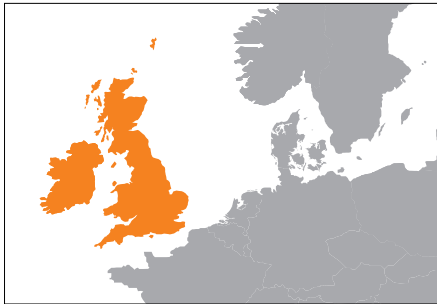


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**Stephane Sahakian**  
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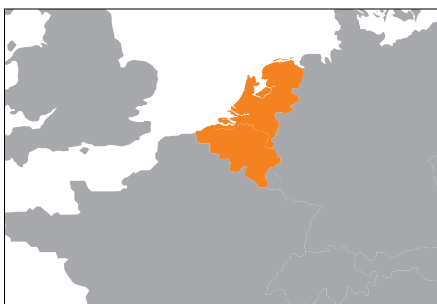
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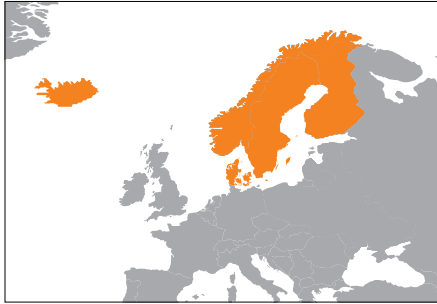






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Experience Manager



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**Do you want to update your contact details online?**

**Do you want to register for events and rallies online?**

**Would you like to receive your monthly e-magazine by email?**

If your answer is yes, then log in to [hog.com](http://hog.com) and create your own profile if you haven't done so already. It's easy and only takes a few minutes! Each email address can be used once only.

**New H.O.G.® member? New H.O.G.® profile!**

Before you can log in to [hog.com](http://hog.com) you will need to create your own profile with your membership number. Please follow the instructions on the screen. If you recently joined us, it may take up to 10 days before you can create your own profile.

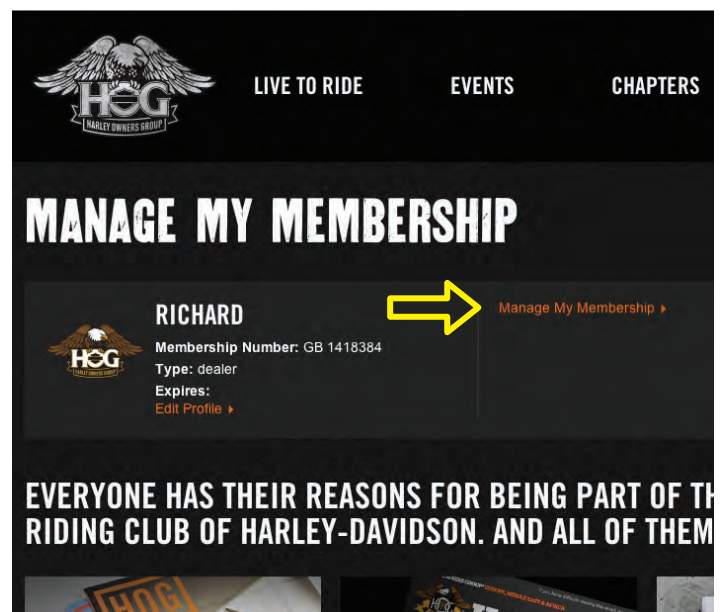
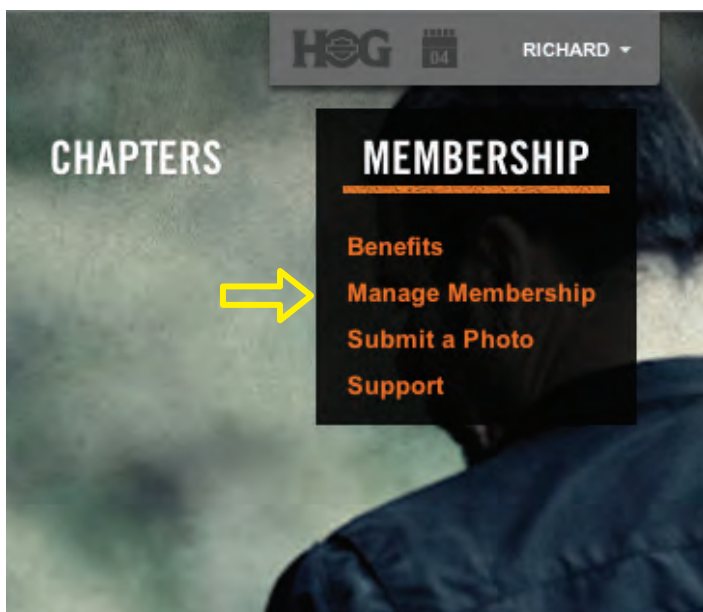
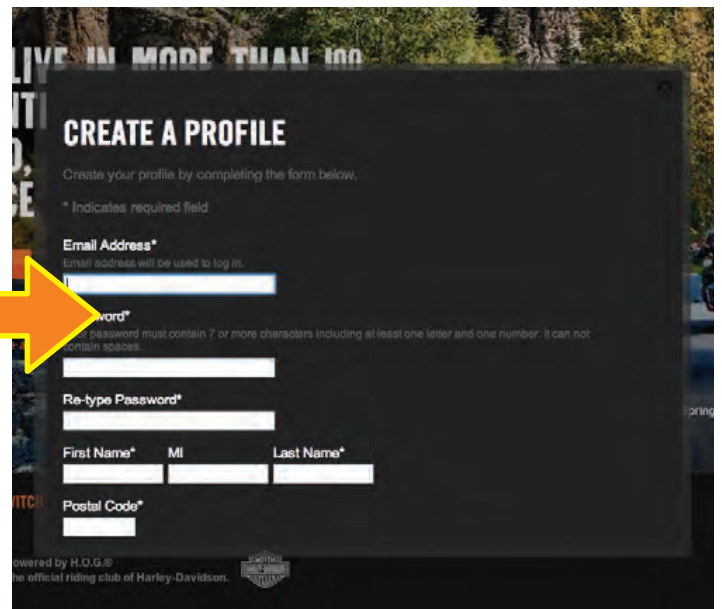
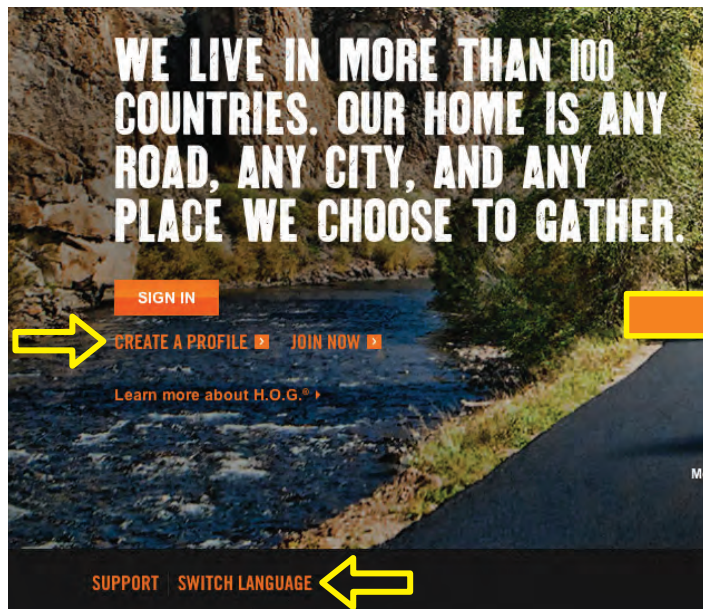
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1. Once logged in, please click on **'Membership'** in the top right of the screen.
2. Select **'Manage Membership'** from the drop-down menu.
3. On the next screen you can check and update all details and renew your membership.
4. Make sure your postal and email address are correct. Also, make sure you have 'opted in' to receive H.O.G. and Harley-Davidson communications to receive your monthly HOG® e-magazine.

**Don't forget to save all changes and process all updates!**

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07866 461398  
mike@mgcr.co.uk  
avhog.co.uk

**b St Leger Chapter (6752)**

Director: Andy Coe  
01302 881047  
director@stlegerhog.org.uk  
stlegerhog.org.uk

**2 Newmarket Harley-Davidson®**

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blackbear.co.uk



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fenlandershog.co.uk

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kevin.dewane@gmail.com  
07990 743179  
icenicchapter.co.uk

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rollinghillshog.co.uk

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0151 357 2124  
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deval legionhog.co.uk

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00 353 8 62403953  
director@gcgi@gmail.com

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dunedinhog.com

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**9 HarleyWorld**

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01246 830444  
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**Peak Riders Chapter (9943)**

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director@plymouthhog.co.uk

**21 Riders of Bridgwater**

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01278 457652  
ridersmotorcycles.com



**Bridgwater Chapter (9087)**

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07771 901668  
mogggy33@sky.com  
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**22 Riders of Bristol**

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**26 Stratstone Harley-Davidson® Birmingham**  
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**27 Stratstone Harley-Davidson® Wolverhampton**  
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 01902 371611  
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**b Stoke Chapter UK (8046)**  
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**29 Sycamore Harley-Davidson®**  
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 david@rutlandchapter.com  
 rutlandchapter.co.uk

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 info@readingharley.co.uk

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 director@thamesvalleyhog.org.uk  
 thamesvalleyhog.org.uk

**31 Three Rivers Chapter (9979)**  
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 martyn.coote@ntlworld.com  
 iirivershogchapter.co.uk

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 020 8857 9198  
 warrs.com

**Meridian Chapter England (6726)**  
 Director: John Warr  
 020 8857 9198  
 j.warr@virgin.net

**33 Warr's Kings Road**  
 611 Kings Road,  
 London SW6 2EL  
 020 7736 2934  
 warrs.com

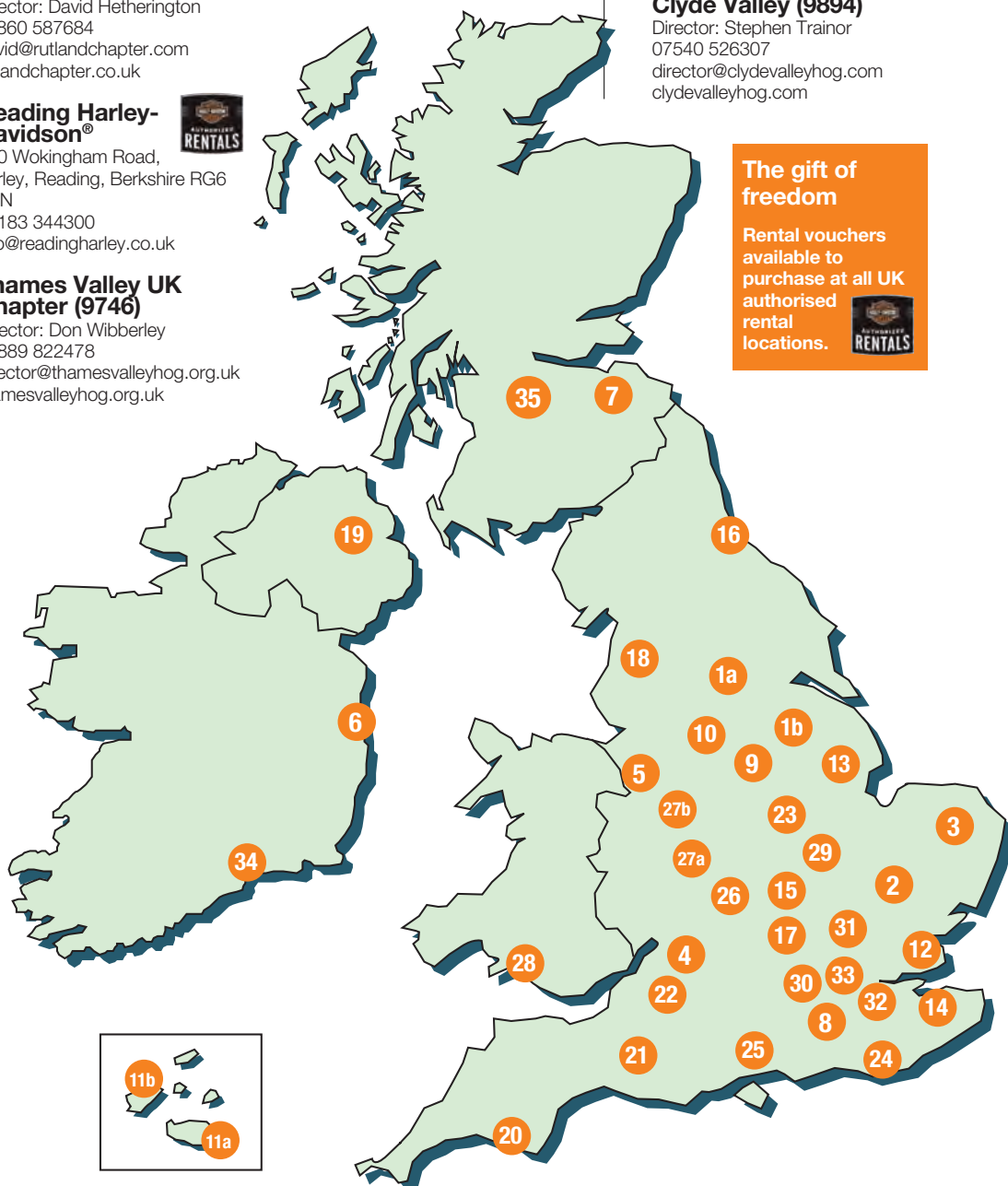
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 020 7736 2934  
 j.warr@virgin.net

**34 Waterford Harley-Davidson®**  
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 Waterford, Ireland  
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**Celtic Thunder Chapter (7567)**  
 Director: Michael Thompson  
 00 353 872471577  
 thompsonm@eircom.net  
 celticthunderhog.com


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# H.O.G.® EVENTS 2016

WHAT'S HAPPENING THROUGHOUT THE UK AND IRELAND

## APRIL

 29 – May 2  
The Cider Rally  
25th anniversary  
Bridgwater Chapter  
[bridgwaterhog.co.uk](http://bridgwaterhog.co.uk)

## MAY

13-16  
Iron Horse Rally  
St Leger Chapter  
[ironhorserrally.co.uk](http://ironhorserrally.co.uk)


## JUNE

 3-6  
Ireland BikeFest  
[irelandbikefest.com](http://irelandbikefest.com)

 3-6  
The Gathering  
Clyde Valley Chapter  
[clydevalleyhog.com](http://clydevalleyhog.com)

17-19  
Hogs in the Hayfields  
Great Western Chapter  
[greatwesternhog.co.uk](http://greatwesternhog.co.uk)

## JULY

 7-10  
Wake the Lakes  
Red Rose Chapter  
[redrosechapter.com](http://redrosechapter.com)

8-10  
Horseshoe Rally  
Rutland Chapter  
[rutlandchapter.co.uk](http://rutlandchapter.co.uk)

8-10  
Hog the Humber  
Aire Valley Chapter  
[avhog.co.uk](http://avhog.co.uk)

22-24  
Dragon Fever  
Black Mountains Chapter  
Wales  
[blackmountainshog.co.uk](http://blackmountainshog.co.uk)

 28-31  
East of  
England Rally  
Fenlanders  
25th Birthday  
Fenlanders Chapter  
[fenlandersshog.co.uk](http://fenlandersshog.co.uk)

29-31  
Heart 'n' Soul Rally  
Geordie Chapter  
[heartandsoulrally.com](http://heartandsoulrally.com)

## AUGUST

5-7  
Hog 'n' Bog  
Belfast Chapter  
[belfasthog.com](http://belfasthog.com)

 12-14  
South of  
England Rally  
[sofer.co.uk](http://sofer.co.uk)

19-21  
Sherwood Rally  
Sherwood Chapter  
[sherwoodchapter.co.uk](http://sherwoodchapter.co.uk)


 26-29  
Thunder in  
the Glens  
Dunedin Chapter  
[dunedinhog.com](http://dunedinhog.com)

TBC  
Old Skool Rally  
Nene Valley Chapter  
[nenevalleyhog.co.uk](http://nenevalleyhog.co.uk)

## SEPTEMBER

9-11  
Circus Maximus  
Deva Legion  
[devalegionhog.co.uk](http://devalegionhog.co.uk)

 TBC  
Blazin' Galaxies  
New Forest Branch  
[newforesthog.co.uk](http://newforesthog.co.uk)

Additional points will be awarded to chapters participating in the National Chapter Challenge for submitting an amusing group photo of up to ten chapter members displaying their chapter patches taken at one of the events specified by  in this event list and one other event in this listing of their choice. For more information on how to participate visit [hogeuropegallery.co.uk](http://hogeuropegallery.co.uk) or contact your chapter director.





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HEARTRATE  
**90** BPM



ALTITUDE  
**53** M

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