

HOG[®]

THE MAGAZINE OF THE H.O.G.[®] EXPERIENCE



ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

PRAGUE CELEBRATES 115 YEARS OF
HARLEY-DAVIDSON[®] AND 35 YEARS OF H.O.G.[®]

TWO ICONS. ONE SPIRIT.



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THERE'S ONLY ONE

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COMMUNITY SPIRIT

IT'S BEEN A FANTASTIC YEAR of celebrations so far, in particular the anniversary event in Prague, which attracted thousands of Harley-Davidson® enthusiasts and H.O.G.® members from across the globe, all coming together to celebrate the Motor Company's landmark 115th year.

And it's not over yet! We still have numerous other festivities to look forward to, especially the forthcoming party in Milwaukee, the home of Harley-Davidson, which promises to be another momentous and memorable occasion. It's set to be one heck of a celebration – looking back on its rich history and heritage as a company, the motorcycling that has always been at its core and 35 years of the Harley Owners Group®.

Times like these bring to the fore a recognition of how Harley-Davidson® – the company, the motorcycles or any related experience – and H.O.G. – by membership or by association – have enriched, contributed

to or even changed lives. For some the effects are everlasting. Being part of a vast and passionate community that stretches beyond boundaries, and being able to live a life that delivers rich and varied experiences bettered by the many we meet along the road, are certainly things to celebrate. The benefits can never be overstated.

Going forward, you can be sure that Harley-Davidson and H.O.G. will continue in their endeavours to provide customers and members with new and innovative products and a range of benefits and experiences – recognising diversity and being inclusive. All belong.

And, speaking of the future, in this issue we have news on the 2019 range of Harley-Davidson® motorcycles. Check out what's new!

Also in the magazine are a variety of features – examples of the many differences in H.O.G. that, rather than divide us, bring us together through our mutual understanding

and love of life with a Harley-Davidson. Whether you ride solo or with a chapter, are male or female, are young or not-quite-as-young – this is how we ride.

We also report on one of the biggest parties of the season – Ireland BikeFest – which once again surpassed all expectations, with a record 50,000 people from more than 25 countries enjoying the legendary craic. And then, for something a little more 'out there', we head to Russia for a spot of ice racing on a frozen lake – definitely an event with a bit of 'wow factor'!

Whatever you've achieved and wherever you've been so far, I hope in 2018 you've had the opportunity to enjoy yourself and, in this historic year, you have found many reasons to celebrate through Harley-Davidson and H.O.G.!

Marjorie Rae
Consumer Experience Manager,
H.O.G.® UK & Ireland



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THIS IS MY

JOURNEY

TWO ICONIC BRANDS
TAKING THE JOURNEY TOGETHER

Enjoy fantastic benefits at selected Hard Rock Cafes in Europe.



#ThisIsHardRock

IGNITION

*THEY CAME,
THEY SAW,
THEY PARTIED!*

PAUL BAYFIELD

This year's Harley-Davidson® Euro Festival was just as action-packed as we've come to expect, with around 20,000 Harley® riders congregating in the glamorous Golfe de St-Tropez for four days of live entertainment and thrilling riding.

Friday saw huge crowds at the Custom Bike Show in the hilltop village of Grimaud. Competition was fierce, but in the end Radical Chopper of Italy took the 'Best in Show' plaudits with its awesome build based on an Ironhead Sportster®.

Saturday's big event was the

parade. Locals lined the streets to watch the amazing spectacle of 1,400 riders taking to the road and snaking through St-Tropez and the surrounding countryside. Saturday night's fantastic headline performance from Simple Minds was a fitting climax to the event.

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT OUR FULL REVIEW AND FANTASTIC IMAGES FROM THROUGHOUT THE WEEKEND AT [EVENTS.HARLEY-DAVIDSON.COM](https://www.harley-davidson.com/events).

RIDING TO CHANGE THE WORLD



The dust has settled after the second annual Ride Sunday event on June 3. This worldwide fundraising event was set up last year to bring riders of all levels and backgrounds together to raise money for a huge range of charities.

The concept is simple: choose where you want to ride, choose your charity and then go for it! Entrants get set up with an online sponsorship page where they can gather donations, and this year some truly awe-inspiring amounts were raised. Overall, more than £150,000

was raised – a phenomenal achievement, we're sure you'll agree.

Harley-Davidson® is one of the proud sponsors of the event, and the lucky winner, Mark Wotherspoon – who raised nearly £12,000 for his chosen charity – got to choose a brand-new Harley® as a reward for his efforts!

Check out these pics of riders at the Maidstone H-D® dealership in the UK, who organised their ride around the beautiful roads of Kent. What could be better – great company, great scenery and great riding, and all for a good cause!



PICTURES: JONATHAN FLEETWOOD

Packing for a long motorcycle trip? You can make it as simple or as complex as you want, but what do you really need? Here are our essentials:

- Travel light. Take only what you know you need and separate your gear into bags, including one bag with casual shoes, clean trousers and shirt for when you're off the bike in the evening. Keep your waterproof gear easily accessible in a separate bag. Consider packing a spare pair of gloves too.

- Take an extra key (or key fob for proximity ignition) and keep it in your jacket – not on the bike!

- Keep your critical documents safe, accessible and weatherproof – items such as driver's licence, insurance card, H.O.G.® membership card, emergency medical information and contacts, and any hotel bookings. If it's a long trip, consider separating documents (hotels, ferries, route information) on a day-by-day basis in different envelopes, to keep things simple.

- Remember your eyes and ears – if you wear glasses, take a spare pair, as well as sunglasses and clear/yellow lenses for night riding if you

don't have a windshield. Earplugs will protect your hearing on long journeys – be sure to take spares as well.

- GPS is great, but a map can be helpful, too, for the 'big picture' or as a backup for navigation – pack a map of the area, and be sure to keep it accessible.

- A motorcycle cover takes up little room and can help keep prying eyes off your bike at night, as well as protecting against overnight weather and local wildlife.

READY TO RIDE?

- A basic tool kit is necessary. Your H-D dealer can advise on what you may need for your model. You should at least make sure you have a multi-tool, duct tape and the appropriate sockets and screwdrivers needed for basic tasks on your bike. Also take extra luggage straps, a basic medical kit, your phone and charger, and a water bottle to keep you hydrated between stops.





RIDESUNDAY.COM

5

THINGS ABOUT...

1

TALK TO ME

For a hands-free experience, use your headset microphone to speak your destination, using Voice Command on H-D Boom!™ Box navigation systems.

2

STICK IT

Plan your route online at the recently upgraded 'Ride Planner' (maps.harley-davidson.com), export as a GPX file on a USB stick, and upload it to your Boom! Box navigation system using the bike's USB interface.

3

STAY ON TARGET

To ensure that the motorcycle's GPS follows your route, create and save each day's travels as an individual ride, with as many waypoints as possible. Name each route and upload each separately to the Boom! Box navigation system.

4

ON THE FLY

With some GPS systems, you can save a route after riding it. Scroll to 'User Data' in 'Settings' and press 'Manage Trip Log'. Then press 'Save As Route'. Your recent trips will be displayed; press the one you want to save and name it under 'Edit'. The next time you ride, scroll from 'Where To?' to 'Routes' to find your saved route.

5

THINK ABOUT THIS

We've all grown to rely on our GPS systems for getting us where we need to go, but bear in mind that sometimes you know better than a computer. Don't get distracted, and remember that riding should be relaxing – sometimes it's better to turn the device off and just go where your heart takes you!

...GPS

For many of us, GPS is an essential part of our touring toolkit. Here are some tips on getting the most from your system.





THE MOST EXPENSIVE BIKE EVER BUILT

Diamonds are forever – and so is a Harley® motorcycle! H-D® Graubünden teamed up with high-end Swiss jeweller Bucherer to create this staggering custom Softail Slim® called 'Blue Edition' (no prizes for guessing why). Want to take a guess at the value? No, more than that... more... £1.4 million.



Scan the QR code for a short video on the making of the bike, or visit [youtube.com/watch?v=Nsnx7rl9IEs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nsnx7rl9IEs)



CROSSROADS

Here at H.O.G.® HQ we're always keen to hear from our members on the burning issues of the day, and we love to hear your views on all things riding. That's why we're kicking off a new regular series in the magazine where we'll be seeking your opinion. Each issue we will ask you a question, and then we'll publish the results of the poll in the next edition, along with our favourite reader responses.

To kick things off, for our next issue we want to know – do you prefer your riding jacket with pins and patches, or plain and simple? Does your jacket pay testament to your chapter allegiance and the events you've been to, or do you prefer your look to be clean and understated?



Let us know via email at hogmagazine.emea@harley-davidson.com, with the subject line 'Crossroads', or tweet us @HOGEurope. We'll publish a selection of the best responses in the next issue!

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JEEP® COMPETITION: THE RESULTS

When Jeep® was looking for judges to help decide on the winners of its customisation competition, it was only right that they called in the experts – H.O.G. members, of course!

We asked HOG® Insider readers to vote for their favourite customised Jeep model from the Jeep Owners Group member submissions, with the top three being invited to the H-D 115th Anniversary celebrations in Prague. The winner was a bold Wrangler model in black and lime green – a real stand-out colour combination!

Ten of the H.O.G. voters were lucky enough to win tickets to attend Camp Jeep® – the Jeep Owners Group annual extravaganza – which took place in July at the famous Red Bull Ring in Austria. The winners were: Edward Bell, Malcolm Seedhouse, Steve Ford, Florian Monitzer, Rose-Anne Galle, Josef Leichtfried, Yann Mesgouez, Francisco Sanchez, Ywan Vlesik and Chris Wils. Congratulations to all of you – we hope you had a brilliant time at Camp Jeep.

CHAPTER CATCH-UP

ISARTAL CHAPTER, BAVARIA, GERMANY



For the Isartal Chapter it all started more than 20 years ago, when former director and sponsoring dealer Wolfram Rummel set out to find a location for his dream business – a premises that would combine a Harley showroom, workshop, café and art gallery under a single roof. He was able to realise that dream when he found the perfect spot in Gelting in 1994, and the Harley-Davidson® Gallery and chapter are based there to this day. Visitors can get their fix of the latest merchandise and bikes, consult with the expert mechanics in the workshop, or simply enjoy a coffee and peruse sculptures and paintings by local artists.

In 1997, a group of the dealership's clients formed the Isartal Chapter. One of their first excursions followed the trail of Bavarian King Ludwig II to Neuschwanstein Castle, and since then the group has travelled to many Harley rallies and meet-ups, including Days of Thunder in northern Austria and, of course, Faaker See in the south. There have also been trips further afield, including to the US, Spain and Norway.

Today there are around 60 members of the chapter, including a very active Ladies of Harley® group. Chapter members meet regularly to ride out, but also for barbecues, parties and even weddings! Now there is a new generation of young riders coming through and bringing new life to the chapter's activities.

Here's to another 20-plus years, Isartal – we'll see you on the road soon!

COME TOGETHER

It was party time in Manchester as the newly opened Harley-Davidson® dealership linked up with the Mancunium Chapter (formerly Hatters Chapter), opening the doors to the public for the first time to celebrate a new era.

Despite being without a sponsoring dealership for seven years, the chapter has continued to be a part of the wider H.O.G.® community and the launch was a significant milestone in its history.

More than 1,500 attendees were able to sample the completely refurbished and extended premises at the new dealership, which was brimming with gleaming new Harley-Davidson® motorcycles and an extensive selection of H-D® clothing and accessories.

This was accompanied by great food and beverages, along with musical entertainment throughout the day. There was also the first chance for chapter members to show off their new Mancunium Chapter rocker patches, T-shirts and other chapter apparel thanks to the chapter's merchandising officer Pete Wilson.



To add an extra-special touch to the day, a number of celebrity guests from a well-known Manchester-based TV soap dropped by to help with the opening ceremony. Meanwhile, chapter members manned the bucket collection for the dealership's

nominated charity, St. Ann's Hospice.

Amidst all this excitement, Chapter Director Arthur Arrowsmith presented recently appointed Head Road Captain Richard Kinsey with his Head Road Captain patch.



GAME ON FOR GEORDIE CHAPTER

It was a successful visit to St Leger Chapter's new venue at the Blue Dolphin Holiday Centre in Filey for the Geordie Chapter.

"It's a great venue, with lots of on-site accommodation and plenty of potential for expansion. The food halls and the entertainment areas are just what you want, and the entertainment was – as always – top class, as were the chapter

ride-outs," said Barry Gillespie, Geordie Chapter Director.

And it was the Geordie Chapter that stole the honours in the chapter games, winning three out of five. Barry says: "We finally got our hands on a trophy and even managed second place in the slow ride competition. A great big well done to the St Leger Chapter for putting on another fun-packed rally."

FAST TIMES AT III RIVERS

It's been a busy few months for III Rivers Chapter, who once again joined forces with Essex and Herts Air Ambulance for a fun day to help raise money for the cause.

Despite being one of the smallest chapters in the UK with 45 members, III Rivers was determined to step up proceedings for 2018.

"We knew the ride-out could improve after last year, so after conducting feedback meetings it was agreed that for the 2018 ride III Rivers would offer its full support. This included planning a slightly different route without motorways," says Martyn Coote, III Rivers Director.

On the day of the event at 8am, 25 riders from III Rivers and a total of more than 700 bikes turned up to the police



headquarters in Welwyn Garden City, along with eight police riders, ready for the 60-mile trip ending up at North Weald Airfield, the home of the Air Ambulance.

The event has raised more than £12,000, and the money is still coming in. III Rivers has committed to organising this event again in 2019. The chapter

welcomes more H.O.G. members to join them!

Martyn says: "I am proud to say that we are at the moment one of the smallest chapters in the UK H.O.G. family, but when faced with a challenge we rise to the occasion." The chapter also stepped in when an ill lady, along with 15 of her friends, wanted to ride pillion on a Harley-Davidson. It was on her bucket list. Around 500 bikes turned up, together with a police escort, collecting her from her house in St Albans and riding to Lakeside Harley-Davidson. Some £2,500 was raised for charity, with a charity head shave organised by one chapter member raising £622 alone (three of team had a lot less hair!).



THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN'S EUROPEAN TOUR

It was 'mission accomplished' for seven Dunedin Chapter members after completing a whopping 2,300-mile tour across Europe, taking in the Benelux H.O.G.® Rally along the way.

More than a year in the planning, the five bikes set off on June 7 from Kinross in Scotland, catching the ferry at North Shields and then riding through the Netherlands to La Roche-en-Ardenne in Belgium.

Then it was over the San Bernardino

Pass en route to Innsbruck, Austria, followed by Heidelberg in Germany, before heading back to Arnhem in the Netherlands.

The magnificent seven then called time on this fantastic journey, setting the sat nav to the port of IJmuiden to head back to Blighty for a well-earned rest and a nice cup of tea.

Those intrepid riders were Syd Brand, Alistair Hogg, Gordon Robertson, Kay Johnson, Brian Johnson, Lynne Giblin and John Giblin.



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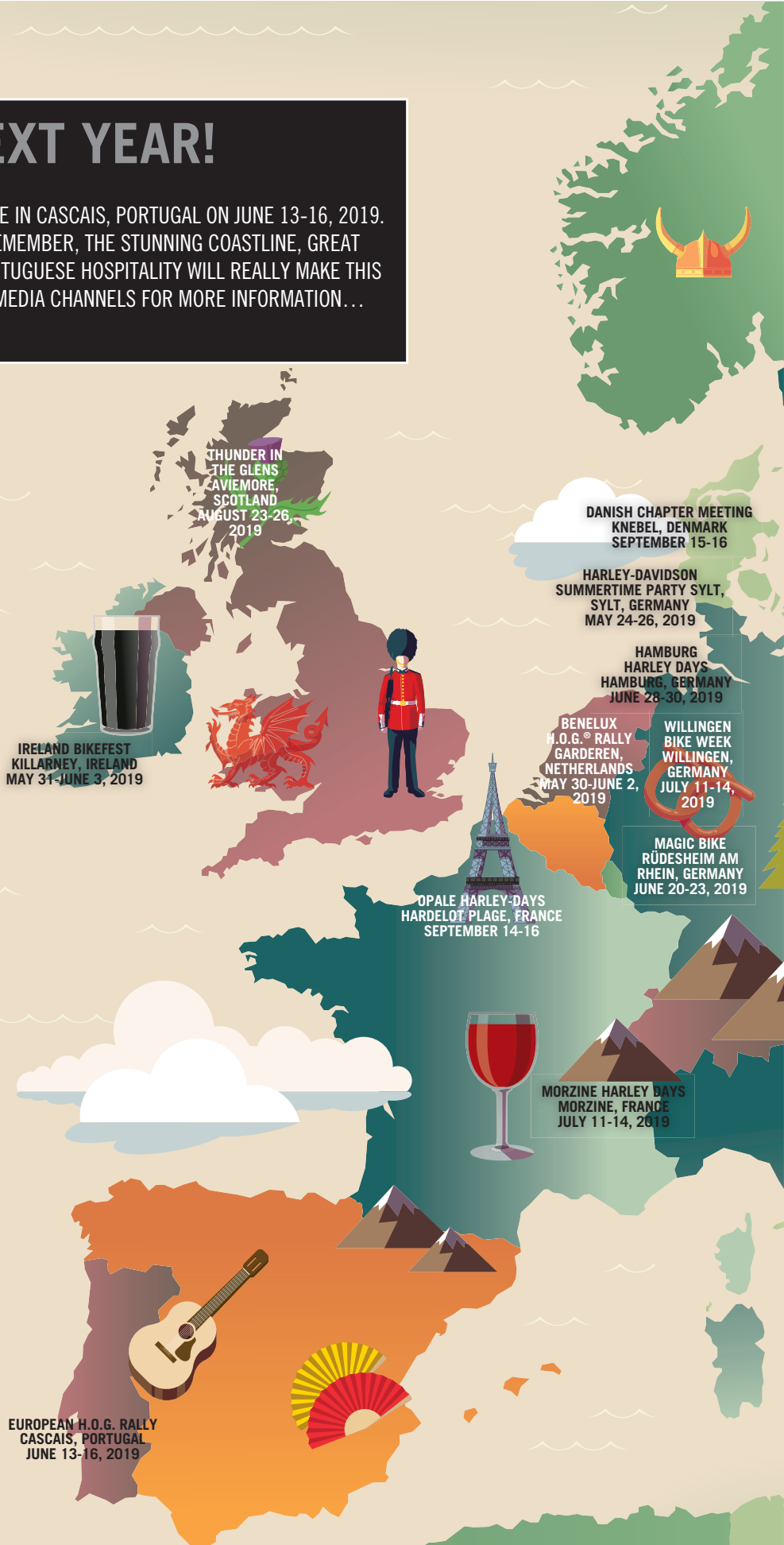
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EVENTS



H.O.G. RALLY MINSK
MINSK, BELARUS
SEPTEMBER 13-14, 2019

PRAGUE HARLEY DAYS
PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC
JULY 5-7, 2019

EUROPEAN BIKE WEEK®
FAAKER SEE, AUSTRIA
SEPTEMBER 4-9

OPEN ROAD FEST
LAKE BALATON,
HUNGARY
JUNE 5-9, 2019

TRINACRIA RUN
SICILY, ITALY
SEPTEMBER 14-16

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.
- Submissions can be in **any language**.

You can also email submissions to: hogmagazine.emea@harley-davidson.com



EXPLORING THE EAST

There are lots of challenges to face when riding in Japan – street signs written only in Japanese script, heavy traffic and, of course, riding on the other side of the road! But I was keen to rent a Harley-Davidson bike for my trip, and so I sought out the Okinawa H-D dealership. I opted for a Touring model – a Street Glide® in black.

I then discovered that no dealership in Okinawa will rent out a bike to you unless you book in advance by phone or online. Luckily, one of the salesmen was willing to help with a phone call,

and soon the contract was drawn up.

The next obstacle to arise was the need for a Japanese driving licence. I had to get an official translation carried out and signed by the Japanese office of transportation, in addition to certified copies of my original licence and passport. Then, a credit card closed the deal. Finally, I could take on those island roads!

So, where to? I checked the screen where I expected to find my GPS, only to find a simple compass instead! I learned the hard way that Harleys imported into Okinawa have no GPS.

However, this didn't prove a serious hurdle, and it took me back to my younger days of navigating with a paper map, checking it at each red light!

The best memory I took from my time in Japan was riding on the coastal roads. Long bridges allow you to cross from the main island to many other smaller ones, and the views were magnificent. Just the sound of the Japanese radio and the easy-to-handle bike as my companions for the ride – it was a dream!

Jean-Marc Schedel, Switzerland



HURRAH FOR THE HATTERS

The Hatters Chapter made their presence known at this year's Manchester Bike Show. This was the fourth time that the Hatters had taken part in this event, and chapter volunteers manned a prominent stand over the weekend.

The show also gave the opportunity to launch the chapter's annual charity collection. This year all money raised will be going to the North West Air Ambulance. After relentless efforts by the collecting team, urged on by chapter stalwart Steve Spencer, the total amount raised over the two days was £1,510 – a brilliant start to our 2018 fund!

This year representatives of the new Manchester Harley-Davidson dealership in Stretford joined the chapter on the stand. It is with great pleasure that the Hatters have been adopted as the official H.O.G. chapter to be associated with this new dealership.

To mark the move in location, the chapter's name has been changed to better reflect its association with Manchester. The chapter will now be known as the Mancunium Chapter, acknowledging the city's links to a former Roman fort in the Castlefield area.

Thank you to everyone who helped to make this another successful year for the chapter at the Manchester

Bike Show – looking forward to the next one in 2019!

Hatters Chapter, England

FOR THE SMILE OF A CHILD

When November arrives, the H.O.G.® Mallorca Chapter organises a traditional charity dinner called 'For the Smile of a Child'. The dinner is organised in support of not-for-profit organisations that help children with special needs, and it has been held for 14 consecutive years. It was originally run by the chapter's Ladies of Harley®, but has now become so large that the whole chapter is involved.

This dinner is very special as practically everything (food, drink and

gifts) is obtained through donations and collaborations received by our members. This means all of the money raised can go to our chosen charity. This year, our chosen charity was the association Mater Misericordiae, which offers a wealth of support to individuals with learning difficulties at all stages of life.

We celebrated the dinner at the Xirimiri Divertit in Palma de Mallorca, and more than 300 people attended. We are proud to have raised €3,000 for the association in donations, which will be used to renovate and refurbish the centre's pool. Thank you to everyone who helped to make the event such a success.

Angel Esbert, Mallorca, Spain





ADVENTURES IN THE US

What started as a high-school exchange year in the US when I was 17 years old ended up as a life-changing year full of amazing experiences.

As far as motorcycles were concerned, I did not know anything about them. I knew of the brand Harley-Davidson, but had never really looked into it, let alone thought of buying one.

My first contact with the brand was during a short ride on the back of a 2003 Low Rider®. During the first few minutes I was mainly concentrating on not falling off! But then I started to enjoy the ride, and sat back with a big smile on my face and an incredible feeling of freedom. In the right-hand mirror I noticed the rider looking at me, and the grin on his face that said "See?! That's why I love to ride!".

More motorcycle trips followed, and my 'host brother' and I decided to get our motorcycle licences, since we both liked it so much and also since our 'host dad' had a '98 Hugger® in the garage. We both got our licences and were trusted to ride the Sportster®.

As the end of our year-long adventure approached, we decided to finish it in style with a road trip across a couple of states, taking in part of the legendary Route 66. During that trip, I realised that I didn't want my riding adventure to

end, and that I wanted to get my own Harley-Davidson upon my return to the Netherlands.

Now, I proudly ride my very own 2017 Harley-Davidson Iron 883™.

Dion Riezebos, Netherlands

FROM CRADLE TO HARLEY®

This is Gereon. At just two and a half months old, he's already able to sit on his own Harley®!

Gereon's father Georg Kierdorf owns the Harley-Davidson® dealerships

in Bonn and Cologne, where his mother Daniela Denz is Managing Director. When their son was born late and arrived on March 19 they took it to be a sign, 1903 being the founding date of the Harley-Davidson Motor Company. Daniela returned to work soon afterwards and Gereon has since spent his time in a cradle amid a fleet of motorcycles in the Cologne Harley dealership. When the deep bass of V-twin engines sounds from the workshop, it doesn't bother the little one in the slightest – on the contrary, he even seems to like it!

A special child with a special birthday deserves a special gift, and so Gereon's father was determined to find an extraordinary motorcycle for Gereon. He set his sights on one of the strictly limited anniversary bikes launched by Harley-Davidson this year – the 115th Anniversary Forty-Eight®. There are only 2,400 worldwide, and each is numbered by hand in the American factory.

When it came to choosing the number, the choice was easy – Gereon is a son of Cologne, so 1111 was selected, as this marks the date of the year when carnival festivities begin in the city.

So by the time lucky Gereon obtains his motorcycle licence in around 17 years' time, he will be able to ride an exclusive modern classic! ■

Rudi Herzig, Germany



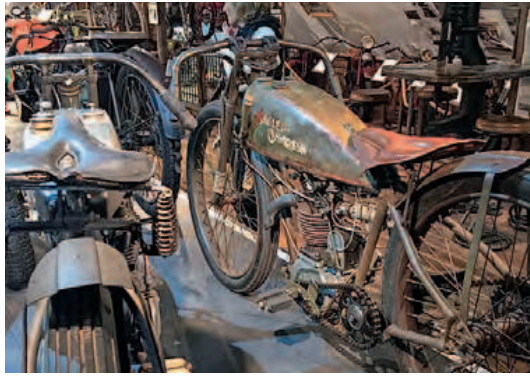
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GALLERY

Michal Krška captured this atmospheric shot of Jan Hejk on his Dyna® during a ride-out with the H.O.G.® Prague Chapter





GALLERY



◀ Kevin Hewby-Copeland's wife Lauren snapped him taking a break in the sunshine at the Talla Reservoir in the Scottish Borders

“Look out – behind you!” Danilo Pungertnik stopped his black Fat Boy® to take a picture with this imposing – and equally black – piece of rural sculpture



◀ Vincent Fenouil from France sent us this moody, evocative shot of his Road King® waiting for their next ride together



▲
Paolo, Roberto, Gianluca,
Rocco and Tony of the
Pescara Chapter formed this
colourful line-up on a Sunday
ride to Campo Imperatore in
L'Aquila, Italy

Juan Romero Serrano
snapped this shot on a
ride up to the Sakya Tashi
Ling Buddhist monastery in
the Garraf National Park,
Spain. The tight corners
proved a great test for his
XL 1200 CB! ▶





MORE PHOTOS ONLINE!

If your photo isn't published here, we may have included it in the digital version of *HOG*[®] magazine – make sure we have your email address so you get the link in the monthly *HOG Insider* e-magazine. It might also appear in the gallery at blog.hog.com! You can send us your photos through the site too: click on 'Submit your photo'. Don't forget to send captions!

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- Email us at hogmagazine.emea@harley-davidson.com

Every picture published in the printed edition of the gallery wins its photographer a H.O.G.[®] Staff Photographer pin, so remember to send your name and address!



- ◀ Jan Durdina of the Banská Bystrica Chapter, Slovakia, sent us this picture showing him and his wife Zlatica Berecova at Monument Valley on a recent road trip across the US. The couple celebrated their marriage en route in Las Vegas!

PERFORMANCE: AMPLIFIED

The new Softail®
FXDR 114 is a bold
and sporty power
cruiser with
performance to
match its eye-
catching aesthetics

BY CHARLES PLUEDDEMAN



*Models pictured are US specification



pounds at every opportunity. A new aluminium swingarm achieves a 10.2-pound (43 per cent) weight reduction over a steel Softail swingarm accommodating a 240mm rear tyre. Because the swingarm is unsprung weight (weight located below the suspension) it has a significant impact on rear suspension performance, enhanced further by a lightweight 18-inch-diameter aluminium disc rear wheel. The 19-inch forged-aluminium Ace front wheel is a lightweight design that features very thin spokes. The FXDR 114 seat and tail section are supported by a sub-frame of welded aluminium tubing, and the tail section is composite. This assembly replaces the steel subframe, steel rear fender and aluminium fender supports used on other Softail models, for a combined weight saving of about seven pounds.

The rigid Softail chassis rewards assertive riders with thrilling agility through twisting backroads and congested urban traffic. Secured by the deep solo seat, the rider grips aluminium clip-on handlebars in an athletic position over the tank. The FXDR 114 features the Softail monoshock rear suspension

The new Harley-Davidson® FXDR™ 114 combines the muscle of a drag racer with the agility of a fighter jet. This unapologetic power cruiser fuses the potent power of the Milwaukee-Eight® 114 engine with the liberal use of new weight-saving aluminium and composite components to amplify every aspect of performance.

“This motorcycle is really a blast to ride,” says David Latz, Lead Product Manager at Harley-Davidson. “The FXDR 114 surrounds the very capable Softail® chassis with Milwaukee-Eight 114 power, premium front and rear suspension and a host of new weight-saving components and materials. This is a power cruiser that delivers exceptional ride and handling characteristics.”

An advantageous power-to-weight ratio is a sure path to performance, and as they developed the FXDR 114 Harley-Davidson engineers shaved ounces and



**"THIS
MOTORCYCLE
IS REALLY A
BLAST TO RIDE"**









equipped with an external hydraulic pre-load adjustment knob to allow the rider to quickly and easily dial in optimal suspension performance for the prevailing load conditions. Inverted 43mm forks stiffen the front end for improved response to steering input. The FXDR 114 offers more lean angle than any other Softail model – 32.6 degrees to the left and 32.8 degrees to the right.

The FXDR 114 is equipped with the

most powerful engine offered in the Softail chassis, a Milwaukee-Eight 114 V-Twin tuned to pound out 160Nm of torque at 3,500rpm. The forward-facing air intake is shaped to enhance the airflow into the engine. The exposed air filter utilises a new synthetic media that does not require oiling.

STYLED AT THE STRIP

The FXDR communicates its commitment to all-out performance with visual design cues inspired by the drag strip. A speed screen frames the LED headlamp and helps break the wind, while a stretched 16.7-litre fuel tank exclusive to the FXDR 114 model lengthens the profile of the motorcycle. A race-inspired chin fairing conceals much of the oil cooler. The tail section is clipped short in drag bike style to expose the 240mm rear tyre. A moulded composite rear fender is shaped to hug the tyre and moves with it through the range of suspension travel, becoming nearly invisible when the FXDR 114 is in motion. The rear lighting module and licence plate fixture is secured to an aluminium spar mounted to the left side of the swingarm, leaving the right side of the rear wheel dramatically exposed.

The FXDR 114 is available in six colour choices: Vivid Black, Black Denim, Industrial Gray Denim, Wicked Red Denim, Bonneville Salt Denim and Rawhide Denim. ■





MORE ROADS TO HARLEY-DAVIDSON

Harley-Davidson® has recently launched its 'More Roads to Harley-Davidson' growth plan, which includes some radical new products...

New models



The company's first Adventure Touring motorcycle, the Pan America™ 1250, is planned to launch in 2020.

A 1,250cc Custom model and a 975cc Streetfighter model are also planned for 2020 – the image below is a prototype of the Custom model.



Harley-Davidson's first electric motorcycle, LiveWire™, will launch in 2019 – the first in a broad portfolio of electric two-wheelers.

The result of a comprehensive, top-to-bottom assessment incorporating a 'customer-first' perspective, the More Roads to Harley-Davidson plan isn't just about new products. There will also be broader access for customers, including a multi-channel retail experience, and a strengthening of the dealer network to offer an improved experience for H-D® customers.

Matt Levatich, Harley-Davidson's president and chief executive officer, said: "Harley-Davidson is iconic because we've never been static. In moving forward, we are tapping into the spirit that drove our founders back in 1903 and every one of the

employees and dealers who rose to the challenges faced along the way. Our plan will redefine existing boundaries of our brand – reaching more customers in a way that reinforces all we stand for as a brand and as a company, and we can't wait to kick it into gear." ■



For more information, visit [harley-davidson.com/us/en/about-us/more-roads.html](https://www.harley-davidson.com/us/en/about-us/more-roads.html) or scan this QR code



The party's just getting started

STORIES ABOUND AFTER the amazing 115th Anniversary celebration in Prague and with them, an abundance of photos have been shared throughout the worldwide H.O.G.® community. Being able to follow updates on social media from ladies, whether embarking on their first trip to Europe, racking up their longest mileage haul or participating in their first overseas chapter ride-out, riding solo or with a partner, has been exhilarating and motivating.

With many more ladies keen to ride their own bikes and more pillions eagerly wanting to participate in adventures, it's no surprise that so many headed to Prague, each journey set to become an unforgettable experience.

While tales are many and that event is still a hot topic, Harley-Davidson enthusiasts still have adventures coming up in Milwaukee to look forward to. As with Prague, it will be another as much about the journey, the roads we travel, the people we meet and the friendships we make along the way. To read the stories and see the photos of LOH gatherings, with fellow female riders and their LOH flags across the nation and further abroad is moving and inspirational.

Along with all the major worldwide celebrations ladies also continue to enjoy the regular annual rallies. It's reassuring to see how much the LOH community has grown over recent years and how the addition of LOH-related activities at local/regional rallies has been embraced. Even without an LOH-focused activity you can still be assured that there will be ladies gathering together to 'Share their Spark' for a group photo with their LOH flags.

As for me, I plan on meeting up with fellow National LOH Officer Lorraine Seedhouse in Milwaukee and together we'll 'Share our UK & Ireland Spark'.

SHARE THE SPARK,

ELAINE SHEPHERD
NATIONAL CHAPTER LOH OFFICER, UK & IRELAND

ROLLIN'

THE IRON HOG Challenge is not to be taken lightly, requiring serious planning and commitment. Starting and finishing at the same dealership, you must visit a minimum of four mandatory Harley-Davidson® dealerships – Edinburgh, Swansea, Maidstone and Plymouth – in 48 hours, and ideally as many others as you can. Half an hour is added for every additional dealership visited.

For H.O.G. Officer Training Co-ordinator Jo Green, the motivation for signing up was twofold. Firstly, tackling it as a solo rider would be the ideal way to celebrate International Female Ride Day (IFRD) 2018, and there was also the small matter of turning 50.

Since the event was started

in 2012 by Axel Thill and Robin Seymour of Hogsback Chapter, only 10 ladies have ever successfully completed the challenge. "My plan was to start at Maidstone Harley-Davidson® at 7am on Thursday May 3, then call in at a total of 18 dealerships before arriving back at Maidstone H-D® on Saturday May 5, which was IFRD 2018," says Jo.

Jo was fuelled and ready to go from a deserted Maidstone H-D® at 7am with Dixie, her 2014 FLSTN Softail® Deluxe. On the hit list for the first day were dealerships in Guildford, Southampton, Plymouth, Bridgwater, Swansea, Cheltenham and Wolverhampton. Some 660 miles later, via a diversion around the M6, Jo bedded down at Stafford Services.



WITH HEARTS OF IRON



IRON

The Iron Hog Challenge saw two ladies step up from opposite ends of the saddle

Departing early the next day, she visited dealers in Preston, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Gateshead, Leeds, Chesterfield and Nottingham for a further 650 miles of fun.

“Luckily the sun stayed with me on day three, as I took in some wonderful twisty B roads

towards Sycamore Harley-Davidson in Uppingham. Riding through to dealerships in Newmarket and at Lakeside, I felt the excitement rising as I actually started to think that I might get back on time and finish.”

In fact, Jo arrived at the Maidstone dealership at midday,

well ahead of the 2pm deadline. “I’ve never been so exhausted, yet elated, in all my life! What amazed me was that at every dealership I visited there were people waving and smiling, proffering cups of tea, flapjacks, and a whole tree’s worth of bananas to ‘keep me going.’”

What Jo didn’t know was that National LOH Officer, Elaine Shepherd, was tracking her

progress and rallying the Harley and H.O.G. community, to ensure her dealership visits were well supported.

“She was simply amazing, galvanising the LOH community everywhere along the route, texting me encouraging messages and reporting on my every mile on social media. Thanks Elaine, I am honoured to have you as a friend.”

PILLION POWER

FOR NATIONAL CHAPTER Associate LOH Officer Lorraine Seedhouse, the Iron Hog Challenge presented the opportunity to be the first LOH pillion rider to visit all 28 UK mainland dealerships in 62 hours.

“It’s one of the highlights of the year for me, and a personal challenge,” says Lorraine. “It requires meticulous planning in order to complete and execute it safely and enjoy the journey.”

Starting off at 4am with husband

Malcolm at the controls, they were escorted by four riders: Colin Coghill, arguably the oldest member to complete the challenge, Royston Scott, Dean Shaw and John Gleeson.

“It’s important to eat and hydrate regularly as concentration is paramount,” says Lorraine. “Especially with only five and a half hours’ sleep over the whole challenge, being able to adapt and be flexible is a great attribute when dealing with ever-changing road and weather conditions.”

So did they do it? “You bet we did! It took



us 61 hours and 35 minutes. And as I write this, the adrenaline is pumping through my veins. I am so proud and privileged to have been able to do this challenge yet again.”

WINNERS OF THE ROAD

There are just a few months to go until the Battle of the Kings 2018 champion is crowned at the EICMA show in Milan. As anticipation builds, we take a closer look at four more of the regional winners hoping for glory this November...



With seven eligible models to choose from and a budget of just €6,000, the Battle of the Kings offers an even playing field to participating dealers. The focus is on pushing boundaries and exploring the vast range of customisation possibilities, showing customers just how much impact can be achieved at relatively small cost. As the diversity of these regional winners shows, the only limit is your own imagination.

GERMANY: WESTPOINT AUGSBURG 'FAT BOB'® CYCLOPS'

Westpoint Augsburg took inspiration from the Marvel Comics

GERMANY



X-Men character 'Cyclops'. Inspired by the similarity between the Fat Bob® headlight and the superhero's visor, Westpoint continued the theme through the rest of the bike. The bike features a murdered-out black look with barely a hint of chrome, highlighted by red accents. A more aggressive stance is created with a new solo seat and blacked-out exhausts and silencers, and a futuristic black and red paint scheme completes the transformation.

"Cyclops is a collaborative effort," says the Westpoint team. "Everyone had their opinions incorporated."



POLAND

**CENTRAL AND EASTERN
EUROPE: HARLEY-DAVIDSON
SZCZECIN, POLAND
'ACE OF SPADES'**

Poland's winning entry from Harley-Davidson Szczecin took the new 2018 Street Bob and made the new Softail® suspension the hero. A custom rear fender and custom seat create an unbroken line at the rear of the motorcycle, highlighted by the relocated rear light cluster and the low bars at the front end. Accessories from the Harley-Davidson Defiance range add to the custom look. The H-D Szczecin team claim the design puts this bike at the top of the custom pack, hence the 'Ace of Spades' name.

**MIDDLE EAST & NORTH
AFRICA: HARLEY-DAVIDSON
NORTHERN EMIRATES
'LIQUID GOLD'**

Designed by World Custom Champion Omar Al Tamimi, Liquid Gold blends an ageless stripped-back look with new-age styling. The customised Street Bob® is an old-school twist on the cutting-edge technology, geometry and design of the 2018 bike.

The raised tank and sprung seat are designed to place the rider low within the bike, bringing man and machine together in a real rider's bike. The antique gold leaf finish of the tank and fenders is accentuated by hand-painted red pinstripes and brass accessories. Other design elements such as the levers, handlebars, hubs, spokes, exhaust and engine components continue the theme with 24-carat gold plating.

One of the major themes of the design is the 'cleaning' of the area below the fuel tank and rear shock for a cut-back impression.

'LIQUID GOLD' BLENDS AN AGELESS STRIPPED-BACK LOOK WITH NEW-AGE STYLING



MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

Battle of the Kings

AUSTRIA: FISCHER'S HARLEY-DAVIDSON WIEN 'ROADSTER'

"We wanted to take on the challenge of making a really cool conversion of a simple stock bike," says Fischer's chief designer MP Decker. Selecting the Roadster™ as the perfect customisation base, the Fischer's team – MP Decker and chief mechanic

Geri Lukse – kept the stance and design of the Roadster and individualised it with a three-colour camouflage paint scheme. Selected colour-matched accessories from the Harley-Davidson range complete the transformation, which is designed to show what can be accomplished with a small budget and a strong design concept.

The Fischer's team saw the Battle of the Kings competition as a great opportunity to prove their customising expertise from the first brainstorming to implementation, utilising just a little time, money and attention to detail. "We always try to meet the *zeitgeist* with our designs," says Decker.

AUSTRIA



WE WILL BE SHOWCASING MORE OF THE REGIONAL WINNERS IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF HOG® MAGAZINE, BEFORE REVEALING THE GLOBAL WINNER IN THE FIRST ISSUE OF 2019.

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**IT'S BEEN
A LONG
AND
CRAZY
RIDE...**

H.O.G.® HISTORY - FROM THE BEGINNING TO THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY PART 3: 2001-2009

1



Harley-Davidson® turns 100, H.O.G.® turns 20, and members officially become 'one in a million'

H.O.G.® continued to grow strongly worldwide as the new millennium rolled around. To handle the European growth, in 2002 a new dedicated H.O.G. contact centre was launched to handle renewals, enrolments and benefits. By 2003, H.O.G. membership had reached another milestone, with worldwide membership passing 750,000.

In the USA, thousands of rally-goers made their way to the main stage at Washington County Fair Park for the 20th Anniversary of the Harley Owners Group® and the Harley-Davidson 100th Anniversary Celebration. The 100th got more attention, but H.O.G. had the honour of starting the celebration a night early, with musical headliners B.B. King and Jeff Beck. But the celebration was not limited to members from the US – or even North America. Riders came from as far away as Japan, New Zealand, Brazil, Australia, the Middle East, and just about any other country where Harley® enthusiasts live.

Meanwhile, the celebrations continued across the world.

In Europe, the combined Harley centenary and H.O.G. 20th Anniversary celebrations were in full swing in Barcelona, Spain and Hamburg, Germany, drawing crowds of more than 100,000 – events so successful they became annual fixtures in the

1 Harley-Davidson reached 100 and H.O.G. turned 20 years old in 2003. Hundreds of thousands of H.O.G. members rode to Milwaukee to enjoy the party, including the Club H.O.G. XX birthday celebrations in West Bend, Wisconsin 2 Australian H.O.G. members congregate at Uluru to celebrate the 15th Australia National H.O.G. Rally in 2006, earning the group a place in the *Guinness Book of World Records*



2



3



calendar; Hamburg Harley Days® has grown every year since.

To mark the occasion, *Hog Tales*® produced the special 20th Anniversary Commemorative Edition, featuring dozens of dazzling full-colour photos from H.O.G.® members, as well as recollections by Willie G. and other members of the Davidson family.

While H.O.G. continued to grow in size, it also expanded in scope. New dealerships – and, along with them, new H.O.G. chapters – opened across the world. In 2005 the first authorised Harley-Davidson dealership opened in Russia, followed in 2006 by a dealership (and chapter) in Beijing, China. In other event news, Australian H.O.G. members made history when they circled the world-famous sacred site of Uluru (formerly known as

Ayers Rock). The ride took place as part of the 15th Australia National H.O.G. Rally and earned the group a spot in the *Guinness Book of World Records*.

In the US, the Posse Ride tradition continued with a two-part tour over two years that would lead riders through all 48 of the continental United States. The 'Western Campaign' kicked off in 2004 with a tour of the 22 states west of the Mississippi River, and concluded the following year, visiting the remaining states via the 'Eastern Campaign'. Across the Atlantic, members celebrated 15 years of the Annual European H.O.G. Rally with a visit to Killarney, Ireland in 2006, while members also enjoyed major events in Hamburg and Faaker See, both now major annual events in the calendar continuing to this day.

2001

FIRST CHAPTER
PARADE OF FLAGS

2002

EUROPEAN H.O.G.
CONTACT CENTRE
LAUNCHED



2003

HARLEY TURNS 100,
H.O.G. TURNS 20



2004

13TH EUROPEAN H.O.G.
RALLY, MONTE GORDO,
PORTUGAL



2005

FIRST NATIONAL
H.O.G. RALLIES IN
HONG KONG AND
SINGAPORE, 20 YEARS
OF CHAPTERS

But perhaps the most significant event of 2006 was reaching the million-member milestone. To commemorate, rather than singling out a particular member as the 1,000,000th, H.O.G. honoured all members with a special cover – a mosaic of the H.O.G. logo formed from some 1,500 smaller images of H.O.G. members riding, enjoying events, or just hanging out. Inside, the magazine featured a special million-member timeline, as well as a special ‘Exhaust’ column by Tim Hoelter, Vice President of Government Affairs for The Motor Company. Tim reflected on the important role the Harley Owners Group® played in helping get the company back on its feet during those lean early years of corporate independence.

“Back then,” he wrote, “we were optimistic about the future of H.O.G., but none of us had any idea, in our wildest imagination, that it would become so successful ... H.O.G. helped keep the true spirit of Harley-Davidson alive while we took care of some challenging business.”

Following the success of the Club H.O.G. 25 anniversary party at Milwaukee’s Miller Park in 2008 and the European equivalent at Lake Garda in Italy, in 2009, the world’s most-populous country got into the act, staging the 1st Mainland China National H.O.G. Rally. The rally started small, with about 90 people taking part, but it made a huge impact. “Wherever we went, we drew lots of attention,” said Bruce Motta, International Manager, Harley Owners Group. “If we stopped to ask directions, within 30 seconds we were surrounded by people!”

2009 became a year marked by change for the Harley Owners Group. At the end of 2008, *Hog Tales* magazine was merged with *Enthusiast*® magazine to create one bigger, better, all-new publication: *HOG*®.

Outwardly, other than the new and updated look and feel of the magazine, not much had changed. The mantra to ‘Ride and Have Fun’ remained solidly in place, and the club’s basic structures remained intact. ■



4

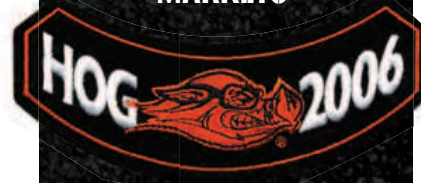
3 The milestone of one million H.O.G. members in 2006 is celebrated with a commemorative cover of the member magazine *Hog Tales*, made of a mosaic of 1,500 images of members riding, enjoying events or just hanging out 4 Harley-Davidson dirt track legend Scott Parker breaks ground in Harley style as building for the new Harley-Davidson Museum® gets under way in 2006

2009
1ST CHINA H.O.G. RALLY,
HOG® MAGAZINE
LAUNCHED

2008
MILLION MILE MONDAY
MAKES A STRONG
DEBUT, SURPASSING
EXPECTATIONS WITH
3,000,960 TOTAL MILES



2007
HOG TALES® MAGAZINE
LAUNCHES IN SIX
LANGUAGE VERSIONS
FOR EUROPE, MIDDLE
EAST AND AFRICA
MARKETS



2006
H.O.G. REACHES ONE
MILLION MEMBERS.
H.O.G. LAUNCHES
IN RUSSIA AND 1ST
MOSCOW H.O.G.
CHAPTER STARTS

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Made for

MEMORIES

Globe-trotting Harley-Davidson® rider and author Ian Mutch recalls his New Zealand adventure

FANTASTIC ROUTES ARE nirvana for Harley riders, delivering experiences that stay in the memory for years to come – the trick is getting the inside knowledge for the road ahead.

One guy who's been making a living out of documenting righteous roads is Ian Mutch, who's had several books published about his riding exploits around the globe. In his latest instalment, entitled *Gandalf's Garden*, he ventures across New Zealand to sample its celebrated landscape.

Ian spent three months on

the road, stopping off at backpacker lodges while he racked up 4,000 miles. And there was one route that beat them all – the legendary Milford Sound fiord on the South Island.

“Make no mistake, this is a three-dimensional ride through a lost world, inviting prehistoric imagery to invade the imagination,” says Ian. “I’m not a big fan of riding twisties, despite riding motorcycles for almost half a century – I’ve never really got the hang of how to do it very well. But this was something special.”



After riding down to the sea through the numerous challenging corners, Ian then embarked on an overnight cruise, exploring the ocean inlet that sparkles below the 4,000-foot mountains.

“If getting down there was memorable, coming back up was even better!” says Ian. “I love the way a Harley deals with inclines. I was once invited on CNN News to describe the unique appeal of a Harley-Davidson and referenced my Milford Sound ride. It provided the inspiration to articulate my definition.

“Bend after forest-fringed bend unfolded, offering steep drops to riotous rivers racing for the sea. Between the bends, short straights offer just enough space to open the throttle in third

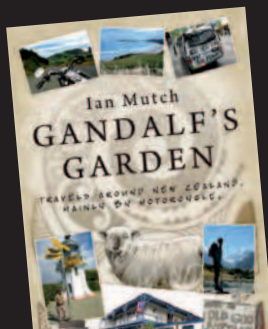
and feel the resolute pull of the huge V-twin as its voice deepens like a great bear, gripping the ground and lunging forward as it sits up to unroll a fresh vista of towering rock being circled by aerial predators.”

Rounding a bend, Ian disturbed a huge owl picking at a carcass. Startled by his appearance, it launched itself at him, fanning his face with its wings. “It was one of those rare moments in which you know what it is to be alive. Bike, bird, man, mountain, blacktop – owl meets American eagle!”

Summing up Milford Sound, Ian enthuses: “To miss this road, if you had the chance to ride it, would be a sin. To ride it fast would be a crime. It’s like a fine wine, to be savoured at a slow pace.”

GIVEAWAY!

If you want to be in with a chance of winning one of five copies of *Gandalf's Garden*, check out our Facebook page @HOGukandireland to see how to enter. Full terms and conditions are available at blog.hog.com.



REGIONAL INSIGHTS

Get the inside line on great UK ride-outs from H.O.G.[®] members in our new series

WALES

Who: Adrian Symons – Black Mountains Chapter

Where: Swansea H-D[®] to the Owl's Nest Tea Room via Brecon Beacons

AS A NEW ROAD CAPTAIN, I'd like to share one of my favourite rides. It has some of the best roads I've ridden and includes the mountain range that our chapter is named after – Black Mountains.

Starting at Swansea Harley-Davidson[®], head to the M4 before hitting the A4067/474 Pontardawe to Brynamman and grab a world-class ice cream from Cresci's Café before the next leg – the A4069 over the Black Mountains to Llandoverly.

The riding here is spectacular and features a mini 'Stelvio Pass', with a mountain road viewpoint for photos. Keep an eye out for kamikaze sheep, wild ponies and the odd cyclist.

Then onward and downward through the twisties, abruptly changing to sweeping bends and curves interlinked by long straights after Llangadog.

Then you're at Owl's Nest Tea Room, long a favourite meeting point for bikers, and 500 metres from a fuel stop. Then it's homeward over the Beacons, starting with more sweepers on the A40 past Trecastle and Sennybridge and a burst on the A4215/A470 into the Brecon Beacons National Park.

Now my favourite bit – the A4059 to Penderyn. The views combined with the ability to see the road ahead allows you to get a real hustle on. This stretch of heaven finishes at Penderyn's whisky distillery, which smells stunning even when passing. You can book a tour, though tasting is for pillions only!

From there the ride finishes at the Hirwaun roundabout, with the whole route only 81 miles – so there's no rush!



NORTH-EAST ENGLAND

Who: Simon Parry – Geordie Chapter

Where: Newcastle to Lindisfarne

THE NORTH-EAST coast from Newcastle-upon-Tyne to the island of Lindisfarne offers stunning scenery and fascinating history, and is one of the UK's finest, yet quietest, biking roads.

Start your ride in Mosley Street, in the centre of Newcastle, the first street in the UK to employ electrical street lighting back in 1880. From there, follow the River Tyne eastward to Tynemouth, then follow the coast north through the seaside town of Whitley Bay.

Turning inland at Seaton Sluice, visit the historic Seaton Delaval Hall. From here the



A189 takes you north towards Amble, an old fishing village with a beautiful harbour. Just a few miles to the north, following the A1068, you arrive at Warkworth, where the medieval castle dominates:

a great backdrop for a photo.

The A1068 continues up the coast, complimented by beautiful sea views, while the coastal village of Alnmouth is worth exploring before you turn inland to Alnwick – where the castle is

one of the main locations for the Harry Potter films.

From Alnwick it's worth making a detour inland to Rothbury and visiting the National Trust-owned house at Cragstone. From there, return to the coast to explore seaside villages such as Craster, Dunstanburgh Castle and Seahouses. It is also a good place to catch a boat ride to the Farne Islands, known as the Galapagos of Europe.

Continuing north on the B1340 your next stop should be the spectacular Bamburgh Castle – once the seat of the Kings of Northumbria. There is also a good restaurant and café here. After passing through Budle Bay pick up the A1 north for a short stretch before turning off at Beal to take the tidal causeway across to Lindisfarne. By then you'll have enjoyed all sorts of northern treats and streets!

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LIFE ON TWO STEEL WHEELS

It was riding that brought UK couple Caylee and Grant together, and now the sky's the limit for this thrill-seeking pair

Words: Alex Hearn | Photos: Jordan Pay

Racing

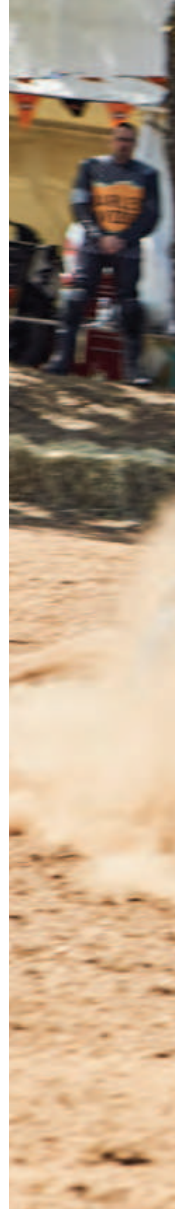


Caylee Hankins and Grant Martin are a creative couple: she's a London-based photographer, specialising in lifestyle and fashion, while his artistic outlet is as a tattoo artist in Maidstone, Kent. But there's more to their story, and it features motorcycles at its core.

Grant races flat track, and is leading the UK Hooligan Championship on a Street Rod® 750. But Caylee races too – which is how they met, as she explains: “I’ve been riding bikes for about three years. Last year I entered the DirtQuake Rookies heat races, placed first and second and then crashed out of the final! But Grant saw me try to go for the win and came over for a chat, and that’s how it all started.”

Grant’s background is in motocross, which he did from an early age: “I had no choice, Dad put me on a bike as soon as he could! I raced at national level and spent some time in Australia pursuing a pro-level career. But I got fed up of getting hurt and so I stopped.”

However, the need for speed never really left him: “A year ago I turned to flat track, with a bike supplied from Maidstone Harley-Davidson that my dad built in two weeks flat. Racing’s always racing – and tough, as it should be – but flat track is way safer than motocross. And the scene is great. It’s a grass-roots sport even at





national level, with maybe 160 riders, and that's what attracted me to it."

Caylee agrees: "I think because there aren't loads of people doing it, everybody has time for each other. And while the Hooligan race may be the main event – even the pro-class guys like to watch a load of big V-twins thundering sideways around a track – there are plenty of other races going on and loads of action."

With 12 bikes on the grid, heat races of six laps and a final of eight laps, there's a reason the Hooligan races are the ones that get the most attention. It's an old-school spectacle showing skill, bravery and tactical nous on bikes that really take some riding. And the races are sometimes held at night under lights, which adds extra drama for the crowd and extra pressure for the riders.

CRUISING IN CROATIA

Grant's impressive skills were on display earlier this year at the Harley-Davidson® Ride, Ride, Slide! international press event, held in Croatia in May. It saw a group of motorcycle journalists from

Racing

around the world take part in a three-day Harley® riding experience: a day touring with Road Glide® and Street Glide® models; a day carving corners on the new 2018 Iron 1200™ and Forty-Eight® Special; and then a full day discovering flat track on heavily customised Street Rod® 750s, with tuition from Grant and ex-WSB and MotoGP star Rubén Xaus.

Grant loved being involved: “It was great to interact with the journalists and hear their stories. And for most of them it was their first flat track experience, so to watch them progress from super-nervous in the morning to fully committed in the afternoon was awesome. I love sharing knowledge, and this was so cool. Every day I got a new set of people to ride with, and by the end I was overwhelmed by just how good so many of the riders got to be.”

Caylee and Grant also had time to step away from the track, and ride Croatia’s winding back roads together on the two new Sportster® models. Grant owned a Forty-Eight for a couple of years, and was impressed by what Harley have done with the new Forty-Eight Special: “The way the new bike is set up with the mini-apes is exactly what I did with mine. It’s great to see a manufacturer looking at what people are doing out in the wider world, away from the dealership, and responding.”

Caylee was also captivated by the Forty-Eight Special’s capabilities: “It handles corners so well, and the feel of the throttle is special. I felt comfortable on it straight away and quickly got used



to the feet-forward riding position. I could manage the bike well too – its low centre of gravity really helped.”

LOST IN THE MOMENT

Grant liked the Iron 1200’s simplicity of style: “It’s a sharp bike out of the box, and they’ve cleaned everything up that an owner normally has to sort. It’s just as good as the Forty-Eight Special but feels different, with the riding position and skinnier tyres.

“We shared a really cool time after riding both all day – we stopped out in the middle of nowhere, up high by a wind farm, and looked down with the mountains behind us. It was so quiet, and breathtaking.”

Caylee echoes these thoughts: “We were completely lost in that moment, switched off from the rest of the world and in a beautiful zone. That’s what motorcycles can do: they’re a form of transport, of course, but they’re also so much more than that. They take you places you’d never otherwise get to, in a way that makes you feel so much more alive than anything else. Coming from London, I’m always second-guessing cars around me, but there it was so free. The good tarmac and lack of traffic, the friendly local people, the amazing weather... it was a wonderful time.”

It’s bikes or nothing for these two. They ride and race together for pleasure and are planning a future that revolves around motorcycles, both professionally and personally. Travel is high on the agenda: the US, South America and especially India are on the cards, someday when they’ve hung up their racing leathers. They plan to live a life on two wheels – as Caylee sums it up: “We just want to eat, sleep and ride.” Amen to that. ■



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THERE ARE FEW riding experiences that match a road trip, particularly if you're venturing into a country that harbours numerous spectacular views to soak up. What can make it even more memorable is the welcome provided by local chapters along the way.

Back in 2017, when the Ghent Chapter in Belgium was planning its 2018 events calendar, activities officer Fabien Sempels put a serious proposal for a great escape on the table.

Nearly a year in the planning, the trip started on the west coast of Scotland after getting the boat over from Amsterdam. It included visits to Skye and the West Highlands, then picked up the North Coast 500 to reach John o' Groats.

The return leg took the chapter down the east coast of Scotland and over the border into England, finishing in Newcastle, where the chapter took the ferry back to Amsterdam.

But that wasn't all: contact had been made with two H.O.G.® chapters located along the route – Dunedin based in Edinburgh and Geordie based in Newcastle – to add an extra element to proceedings.

"It was an ambitious plan that totalled 3,000km and required 10 days to complete," says Ghent Chapter member Martin Harvey. "While the sign-up wasn't huge because of the time required, we had five bikes and seven people on board."

With a trip of this magnitude,

watertight planning is imperative. "Having designed these types of trips myself – last year we did Route 66 from Milwaukee to Los Angeles – the key is to allow enough time. You can never start too early," says Martin. "Don't underestimate how much work is involved in making the arrangements; it's very easy to miss something you would have liked to have included further down the road."

In this case the responsibility fell with Fabien, who managed the whole project from start to finish. "He did all the work! It took him over nine months of preparation, including deciding the route and making all the reservations," says Martin.

In the pursuit of harmony there was also consideration given to specific requests from riders for anything they wanted to see or experience along the way. Furthermore, adjustments were also made to incorporate a three-chapter meeting, adding to the sense of occasion.

This added bonus came via a chance meeting with Trish Gillespie (Geordie Chapter) and George McGuire (Dunedin Chapter) at the 2017 Cider Rally. Unfortunately, Trish was going to be away for their visit, so she called on a fellow chapter member to ensure a typical Geordie welcome.

"It's always nice to meet new friends, especially those that share a love of Harley-Davidson," says Jo Shackleton, Geordie Chapter member. "So when Trish told me that members of the Ghent Chapter would be passing through Northumberland and Tyneside, it was too good an opportunity to miss. I was more than happy to arrange a warm Geordie Chapter welcome, especially as their planned route would take them virtually past my front door!"

After landing in Scotland, the Ghent Chapter headed to Skye, soaking up the glorious scenery laid out before them. "Riding through the West Highlands was fantastic – the landscape, roads and weather were all spectacular," says Martin.

HIGHLAND FLING





An ambitious road trip by our Belgian cousins was made all the more memorable thanks to the H.O.G.[®] hospitality of the Dunedin and Geordie Chapters

“Arriving in John o’ Groats, a place I had always wanted to visit as it’s one of the northernmost points on the UK mainland, was a great experience. And of course, there was the meeting of the three chapters at Warkworth Castle still ahead of us.” The Ghent Chapter met the Dunedin Chapter at their hotel near Edinburgh, then rode

down the spectacular coast, stopping off for a quick photo shoot at Bamburgh Castle and then moving on to their meeting location at Warkworth Castle.

On the day, there were 10 Geordie Chapter bikes as well as three outriders from the Dunedin Chapter in evidence. “The sight of Warkworth Castle and all those beautiful Harley-Davidson[®] motorcycles gleaming in the glorious May sunshine was so impressive, it even turned the heads of two German bikers that turned up on their BMW tourers,” says Jo. “I jokingly asked them if they thought they may have come to the wrong party, to which they answered ‘it’s never the wrong party’. Nobody could argue with that statement!”

After a rest and a mandatory photo, Jo led the pack of around 20 bikes to Jennings Harley-Davidson[®] in Gateshead, where

more Geordie Chapter members were waiting with a warm welcome.

“It was the first time I had ever been at the front of a pack. As we rode alongside the River Coquet through Amble, I was grinning from ear to ear after looking in my rear-view mirror to see the majestic sight of nearly 20 bikes riding in close formation behind me.”

At the Gateshead dealership the team from Jennings had also laid on some refreshments, which were gratefully received after the ride from Edinburgh. After some retail therapy, it was time for the Ghent Chapter to leave for the ferry terminal. Again the group were led by a member of the Geordie Chapter: this time Tony McGill, who had also arranged a send-off lunch at the terminal.

“This was an amazing tour with so much to take in, made all the more memorable thanks to the great hospitality from both Dunedin and Geordie Chapters. I can’t thank them enough for all their efforts,” says Martin.



PHOTO: DEAN HAYNES PHOTOGRAPHY.COM

OUR FAVOURITE THINGS

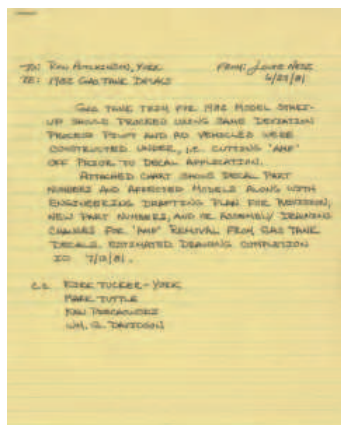
Harley-Davidson Museum® staff share the stories of some special objects

**JIM FRICKE,
CURATORIAL DIRECTOR**
Louie Netz Memo

While searching for artifacts for a Museum exhibit 12 years ago, I came upon this yellow sheet of paper. The story we were working on was the buyback, about how 13 H-D executives were able to purchase the Motor Company back from AMF.

Finalised in 1981, the buyback was a proud moment. After 12 tough years, Harley-Davidson was again in control of its own destiny. How bad was it? This memo, handwritten by Louie Netz, Willie G.'s long-time right hand in the styling department, provides a clue. Working to launch the 1982 models, Louie outlines the process for gas tank trim: "cutting 'AMF' off prior to decal application". They didn't want the name of their former parent company on the new bikes, but they were pressed for time, so they improvised.

Through many similar small actions, these leaders brought the company back.



**BILL JACKSON, MANAGER OF
ARCHIVES AND HERITAGE SERVICES**
Passport

Just after the Museum opened in 2008, I received a call from Arthur H. Davidson, son of the co-founder. He was 94 years old at the time. He offered to donate some 'old junk' to the Museum.

When I arrived at his house, he showed me the passports his parents used. This passport is dated 1915 for "remaining in England and Scotland" and states the "object of visit" as being "on motorcycle business."

On a later tour of the Museum, Arthur told me that his parents loved to travel. But in the course of seeing America and other countries, he recruited ever more dealers and local sales managers to help him. Those early dealers began the tradition of keeping motorcyclists riding as much as possible. But the biggest buzz was hearing that story from Arthur. His humour and knowledge were something I'll always remember.

LEIGH ALBRITTON, REGISTRAR
1940s photo

This small photograph was donated to the Archives in 2012 by a woman from Texas. It depicts her father on his new 1940 Harley-Davidson® motorcycle, which he rode to work until he was inducted into the US Army in 1941. The vehicle was subsequently sold. Years later, when her father was in hospice care, the daughter displayed this photo in his room. She believes the medical team treated him better due to the photo because they came to view him as a real person who had a life prior to being in their care. This photo and story is a powerful example of how meaningful the association with the H-D brand is for people.



**KRISTEN JONES, CURATORIAL
AND EXHIBITS MANAGER**
Wrecking Crew hangtag

My favourite object is a simple hangtag about four inches high and made of cardboard. It's die-cut to the shape of the Bar & Shield logo, and has two layers, hinged at the top, with a small red loop of string attached.



This hangtag was given to customers and fans of the company's famed Wrecking Crew – the factory-sponsored race team – ahead of the big road race held in Marion, Indiana, in September 1919. The Harley team took first, second and third places. Printed inside is the team lineup, identified by the sweaters each wore, including winners Red Parkhurst, Ralph Hepburn and Otto Walker.

A 1919 newsreel of the Marion race shows people with the hangtag pinned to their coat or suspended from their belt. For me, this humble object can connect us to people who were at that race nearly 100 years ago.



**DAVID KREIDLER,
EXHIBITION CURATOR**

Ordinary Seaman's Discharge Book

The Archives contain an abundance of artifacts from former employees, such as old union buttons from the 1940s, and handmade tools. But it's the personal artifacts that give us a glimpse of people outside of Harley-Davidson that I cherish.

Joe Ryan worked for H-D from 1919 to 1963, running the

company's service department, including the Service School, for most of his career. In the collection of Joe's documents in the H-D Archives is his Ordinary Seaman's Discharge Book from his time working as a sailor on the Great Lakes. It doesn't tell us much about his sailing career, and I've always wondered whether he abandoned a love of the sea for motorcycles. We'll never know, but I like to think so.



William B. Johnson 1/10

**JEFF MITCHELL, EXHIBIT
TECHNICIAN**

Arlen Strehlow Helmet

Shortly after I joined the Museum, I noticed a motorcycle helmet, adorned with an enormous set of horns, displayed to the public. It was paired with a photo of its owner on his Harley, with a friendly smile and that comical thing on his head. That man was Arlen Strehlow.

I came to learn that Arlen was a beloved H.O.G.® member and an icon in the local riding community. A few years later, as I was getting to know a new friend, my work at the Museum came up. Somehow we got on the subject of that helmet, and I learned that before Arlen passed away in 2007 he was an important figure in my friend's family. It's nice to know this institution is a place to remember people who have played such a big role in the lives of our guests.

**KIMBERLY THOMAS,
SENIOR ARCHIVIST**

**William B. Johnson's
Dealer Card**

After reading a magazine article and finding a validating card held in the dealer card collection of the Archives, I became intrigued by the story of a man who had broken through barriers because of his love for Harley-Davidson. Mr. William B. Johnson from Somers, New York, became Harley-Davidson's first African-American dealer in 1920, and the first African-American member of the AMA.

In 2011, I travelled to Somers to conduct research on Mr. Johnson, and to meet a member of Mr. Johnson's family and other people who knew him.

In 2017, I was honoured to represent the Motor Company at Westchester County's William B. Johnson Day celebration.



**BILL RODENCAL, VEHICLE
COLLECTIONS SPECIALIST**

1915 Model 11-J Twin

We have such a robust collection of motorcycles it's difficult to pick just one. I usually maintain a top five, and the 1915 Model 11-J is always in the top three. I regard it as the nicest 1915 on the planet – it was a groundbreaking model year for the Motor Company, in which it introduced both its first electrically equipped machine

and three-speed transmission. These advancements allowed Harley-Davidson to offer full electrical lighting and higher road speeds. Coupled with the powerful 61-cubic-inch 45-degree twin, they would give the automobile industry a run for its money. The Archives example still retains its original seat, hand grips, Renault grey finish and highly polished nickel trim more than 100 years later.

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IN CASE IT'S SOMEHOW ESCAPED YOUR ATTENTION, THIS YEAR H.O.G.® CELEBRATES ITS 35TH ANNIVERSARY. WE'VE MARKED THIS MOMENTOUS OCCASION WITH THE PUBLICATION OF A SPECIAL SOUVENIR BOOK, FEATURING SOME OF OUR MEMBERS' MOST EXCITING ADVENTURES AND SPECIAL MEMORIES. HERE'S AN EXCLUSIVE SNEAK PEEK AT ONE OF OUR FAVOURITE STORIES FROM THE BOOK, FROM BELGIAN LIFE MEMBER JEAN BALIS...



35 YEARS AND COUNTING



I became a member of H.O.G.® in 1983, when I attended the Sturgis Rally in the US.

Harley-Davidson® was presenting its new 'Evolution' engine, its new Softail model and a brand-new club, the Harley Owners Group®. I registered for this new club immediately.

However, my connection with Harley-Davidson goes back much further than that. At the age of 15 my interest in

motorcycles was ignited by two friends who rode Vespas. As soon as I reached 16, I bought a 49cc Itom moped, soon followed by a 150cc Vespa.

Whenever I saw a Harley®, I was in awe of it. One weekend in 1964, I was gazing into the window of the Brussels Harley-Davidson dealership when I saw a poster advertising the Harley-Davidson Jamboree (they weren't yet called

'rallies' in those early days) at Tremeloo, 30km from Brussels. I was 18 and the decision was made instantly – I had to have a Harley! I took a second job and saved hard, and in 1965 I pushed open the door of the Harley dealership and signed the order form for a 1955 1,200cc Hydra Glide.



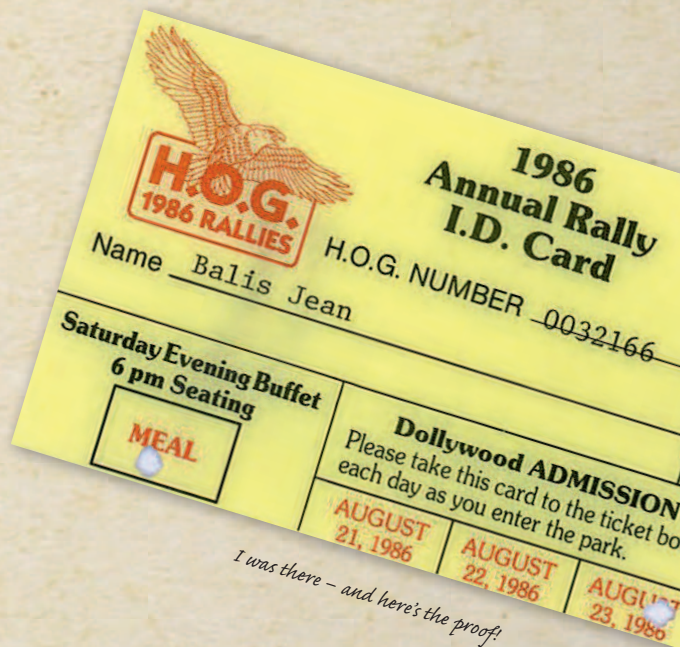
The Black Hills dealership in Rapid City, South Dakota – just a stone's throw from the legendary Sturgis Motorcycle Rally



It's 25 years since my first road trip to Milwaukee with the woman who would later become my wife



Those trips to early H.O.G. events in the US helped to fuel a lifelong passion



I was there – and here's the proof!

The following year, I shyly asked to join the club that is now called the Belgian Harley-Davidson Riders Club. I was the youngest member; at just 19 years old, I had to work hard to pay for the club outings and for the accessories for my bike – panniers, mirrors, indicators and a luggage rack.

For many years I rode my Hydra Glide in Europe, and rented bikes in the US. I have been a member of the Capital of Belgium Chapter, the Brussels Chapter and now the Namur Chapter in Belgium – as well as the

Arizona East Valley Chapter in the US!

H.O.G. was even responsible for my marriage – in 1993 I rode to Milwaukee with a young lady who would later become my wife, and who has given me two beautiful children. During those years of travelling together, we traversed the most beautiful roads and visited the best rallies and the most stunning National Parks in the United States.

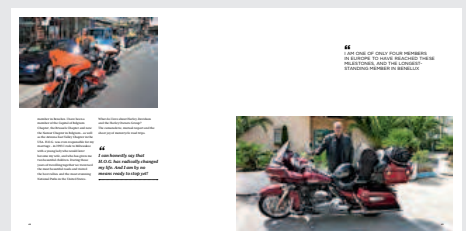
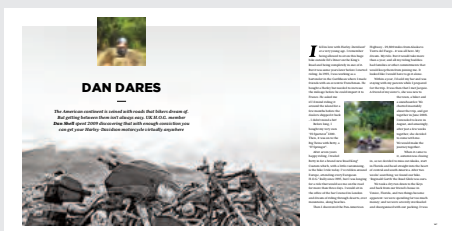
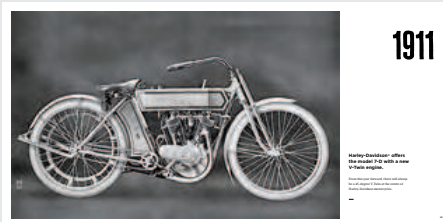
What do I love about Harley-Davidson and the Harley Owners Group? The camaraderie, the mutual respect and the sheer joy of motorcycle road trips.

FEELING INSPIRED?

Turn the page for details of how you can get hold of a copy of the book!



HOT OFF THE PRESS



It's here! We're thrilled to announce that the official H.O.G.® 35th anniversary commemorative book is now available to buy exclusively from hog35book.com.

The beautiful hardback volume features a special welcome from Bill Davidson, along with a detailed illustrated timeline of Harley-Davidson and H.O.G. history. But what really sets it apart is the incredible stories it features from you, our brilliant members.

Flick through the pages to discover adventures in far-off lands, from Thailand to Colombia and everywhere in between. From solo trips to family reunions, every type of outing is covered, with amazing photos and inspiring words to really capture the imagination. It's bound to get you planning your next road trip!

Be sure to get your hands on a copy now. Only 1,115 have been produced, so it's sure to become a true collector's item! ■

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HARLEY-DAVIDSON® ROARS INTO PRAGUE FOR THE 115TH ANNIVERSARY BIRTHDAY PARTY



Glorious weather. Amazing riding roads. Welcoming people. The city of Prague formed the perfect stage for the 115th Anniversary celebrations of the world's most storied motorcycle company when, over the weekend of July 5-8, more than 60,000 riders and 40,000 other visitors from 77 countries in Europe and across the world headed to the biggest Harley-Davidson® birthday celebrations yet seen in Europe.

The 115th Anniversary was designed as a celebration of riders and riding, and to evoke the dream of freedom on two wheels for riders and non-riders alike. Not only was the event the 115th Anniversary of Harley-Davidson itself, but also the 100th birthday of the Czech Republic, the 90th birthday of the hosts, Harley-Davidson Club Praha – the world's oldest H-D® club – and the 35th birthday of the Harley Owners Group®. The city of Prague rose to the challenge of hosting an event on this epic scale.

Following a concert by the Rolling Stones, the celebrations were kick-started with a spectacular opening ceremony hosted by none other than Bill and Karen Davidson, direct descendants of the Motor Company's original founders. That emotive opening set the stage for four days of epic celebrations.

The historic Holešovice exhibition grounds were the centre of the party, hosting a vast range of exhibitions, entertainment and tributes to Harley® history – and the riders who have supported it for well over a century. The spectacular Harley-Davidson Expo took visitors on a journey from the birth of



Harley-Davidson to the present day; expert curators had spent months gathering together the largest display of Harley-Davidson history ever seen in Europe, set against a theatrical backdrop including full cobbled streets evoking the timeless appeal of the machinery on display. Key motorcycles from the company's history, dedicated displays and video projections, historical photographs, advertisements, artefacts, accessories and even an area dedicated to the controversial era of AMF and Aermacchi showed the 115-year legacy of Harley-Davidson in a setting perfectly suited to both the exhibits and the host city.

The world's best contemporary custom Harley-Davidson motorcycles from the best builders across the world were on display in the Prague Custom Gallery. A jury of motorcycle builders and designers spent the year choosing the greatest 50 custom bikes in the world for display – a jaw-dropping selection of artistry in iron. The builders competed with each other for the prestigious Anniversary awards, with the top prize taken by the two-litre trellis-framed masterpiece 'Pressure Drop' from the UK's Rocket Bob's Cycle Works.

Harley-Davidson's undisputed ownership of the custom space was also on display in the ride-in Custom Bike Show on Friday, with riders and builders showcasing their own incredible custom bikes for the chance to win awards across a range of categories. After fierce competition, the Best In Show award was finally taken by an exquisite Ironhead Sportster® creation: 'The Skinny', built by Italy's Fabrizio Caoduro.

The Dark Custom Island, meanwhile,

MANY THANKS!

Successful events of this scale are impossible without teamwork by everyone involved, and huge thanks go to all our partners for their tremendous support and professional co-operation. The authorities of Central Bohemia, the H-D Club Praha, the Czech Republic Land of Stories, the authorities of the city of Prague, the main sponsors Mastercard, Jeep®, and Staropramen, the people of Prague and the Czech Republic, and many more deserve our thanks and respect for being the perfect hosts and supporters for such an epic event.



Prague 115

showcased the company's edgier side, with an FMX show featuring the Czech freestyle motocross star Petr Pilát; skate and freestyle competitions; a radical and innovative stunt show; and music from DJs and live bands. Visitors could try their hand at slackline, or play darts and football while the DJs and bands kept the music turned up for a real party atmosphere.

The crowds of visitors also demonstrated humanity and respect for others through an auction of helmets, with the proceeds benefiting the girls of Pramen, a charity helping disabled women, and to support Czech army veterans' families. Painted and customised by well-known musicians, athletes, travellers or actors – including a helmet by Karen Davidson – the auction raised more than €20,000 in total.

The Czechoslovak Island was themed around the 90th birthday of the H-D Club Praha, the world's oldest Harley-Davidson club, and the 100th anniversary of the Czech Republic itself with displays by Czech and Slovak federation clubs, the Federation of Harley-Davidson Clubs Europe and the Route 66 Association, alongside delicious Czech food specialities, great local music and the famous Czech beer.

The H.O.G.[®] Village formed the meeting point for all members of the Harley Owners Group[®], celebrating 35 years since its formation. Friends from across the world met up here to rock out to music and enjoy hospitality from Hard Rock Cafe Praha and the Jack Daniel's stand, supporting the world's largest motorcycle owners club.

The best cuisine was available at the Food & Drink Zone including traditional Czech cuisine, Thai, Tex-Mex, steaks,



sushi and more, with non-riders able to wash it all down with an ice-cold Czech beer from the Staropramen stand – and a special non-alcoholic beer for riders too.

Harley-Davidson partner and sponsor Jeep[®] was present in force at the Jeep Touring Zone with displays of its most iconic models, a zip line directed to the Jeep Lounge, and an off-road course to test one's driving skills and demonstrate the capability of the company's models. A Family Zone catered for the younger members of the global Harley-Davidson audience to bring enjoyment to a generation of future riders.

More entertainment on site came from the Biker Games Competition, with riders testing their skills in a closed-course competition; the European Muay Thai Championships live on site, followed by a gala Muay Thai party; and music from more than 40 live bands, encompassing an eclectic range of acts from the international and local Czech and Slovakian music scene, covering bluegrass, country, rock and rap and culminating in a headline act from global hitmakers The Hives.

Of course, the 115th Anniversary event was geared as much around riding as partying. Throughout the event, riders with a valid licence could take a demo ride on any of the current 2018 Harley-Davidson models at the Harley-Davidson Demo Area – even helmets and riding gear were provided – and for those wishing to see more of the beautiful riding roads of Central Bohemia, Guided Tours led by local riders from H.O.G. Chapter Prague showed riders the twisty roads and charming river valleys, castles and chateaux that make this region famous across Europe.

The Central Bohemia Challenge was a unique riding challenge rewarding participants with unique commemorative coins, while the Czech-American Challenge by the US Embassy encouraged riders to hit the roads and see the incredible sights on offer in the region. Also adding to the celebratory atmosphere were Ride-Ins to the event, carefully arranged by rider groups; activities spread across 107 authorised Harley-Davidson dealerships across Europe; and a huge range of parties, rides and gatherings across the city and surrounding area.

The famous Harley-Davidson Parade on Saturday saw 4,000 bikes promenading through cheering crowds on the streets of Prague, and taking in the historic sights including a photo opportunity in Wenceslas Square.

Four days of celebration finally drew to an end with a spectacular closing ceremony on the main stage. And with that, the 115th Anniversary party was over as tens of thousands of riders headed back home. But the city of Prague itself remains – and welcomes riders back to write another chapter in the book of freedom, at Prague Harley Days 2019 from July 5-7. See you there! ■





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When the world's
deepest lake iced over,
an opportunity opened
up for some pretty
spectacular racing...

Words: Sergey Kamenev
Photos: Evgeny Ryazhev



THE

WE
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WE
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NO



The ancient lake creaks with an even, thick and distinctly darkened ice. The ice reflects the rare rays of the spring sun, which weave their way through the cloudy shroud of this gloomy morning. Any sound in this place carries for kilometres; suddenly, the silence is shattered by the crash of two-cylinder engines waking up after hibernation.

A number of brave riders from the H.O.G. Baikal Chapter in Irkutsk, Russia are embarking upon something truly unique. The Harley-Davidson® motorcycles travel one by one across the ice of Lake Baikal, leaving deep furrows on its surface from their spiked tyres. And thus, on March 31, 2018, the first Baikal Ice Harley Challenge begins.

Although the day isn't sunny, it's unseasonably warm, which contrasts with the white, icy surface of the lake. The riders are determined, but a certain trepidation is difficult to hide: few people before them had dared to ride on the lake in winter on a motorcycle, let alone a Harley-Davidson.

The event was an incredible success, and the organisers hope that next year the Baikal ice will host guests on Harley-Davidson motorcycles from all over Russia. ■

Russia



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KILOMETRE ZERO:

SWEET 16



On the second weekend in May, Madrid has been taken over by Harley-Davidson® motorcycles every year since 2002

In Madrid's central Plaza del Sol, close to the old Post Office building, lies a solitary stone slab.



It's easy to miss, but its significance is huge: it marks the starting point for Spain's six main radial roads (A1 to A6), which spring from the Spanish capital like spokes on a motorcycle wheel. This stone is known as 'Kilometre zero' (or Km0 in its abbreviated format). The Km0 event has become an institution in the Spanish Harley® scene. ■

DAY 1

FRIDAY

The event begins at Madrid's official H-D® dealership, Makinostra. This simple administrative process becomes one of the most defining moments of the whole event, as an endless succession of hugs and reunions with old friends gives rise to an array of amazing anecdotes. After signing up and collecting the rally packs, the group is escorted by the Municipal Police towards the show.



DAY 2



SATURDAY

A group ride explores the region's winding roads, heading towards the restaurant where we stop for a traditional Spanish lunch of empanadas. Upon return, everyone takes a short time to recharge their batteries for the biggest night of the weekend. As dusk falls, the fiesta fires up in earnest: after a bite to eat, we thank our sponsors and all the chapters for their attendance with a trophy. Then it's time for the real party to begin, with an exclusive concert for the rally participants.



DAY 3



SUNDAY

Just like every year, there's an extraordinary benefit parade through Madrid's streets in support of the Spanish Red Cross. Open to every H-D owner, the number of participants grows year on year. The contributions gathered by the participants and the tickets sold in the Golden Raffle raised a total of €2,356.

The parade ends by the majestic Puerta de Alcalá, a stunning 18th-century arch. We take this opportunity to capture a traditional photograph of the group, featuring the flags of every chapter present. And with that, the motorcycles disperse and the city returns to its usual hustle and bustle... see you next year!



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DESTINATION: Killarney

A visit to Ireland BikeFest offers far more than top-notch entertainment

IRELAND BIKEFEST in Killarney has established itself as a must-attend event, thanks to its unique mix of live music, entertainment and legendary Irish hospitality. However, it's not just about soaking up the unique atmosphere of this legendary festival.

WILD RIDES

The area surrounding the event also offers a host of amazing distractions to discover away from the celebrations, adding further to BikeFest's major appeal.

The location is only a short distance from the south-west section of the Wild Atlantic Way – the world's longest defined coastal touring route. Making the most of their many natural assets, the festival ride-outs take in the Ring of Kerry, the Skellig Ring and also Dingle and Sleat Head, which make up the most beautiful section of the Wild Atlantic Way.



Other highlights in and around Killarney itself include Ladies View, Torc Waterfall, Muckross House and Gardens, Ross Castle and Killarney House. These all form part of Killarney's famous National Park, which means visiting any or all of these incredible beauty spots is free.

Tours of the inner workings of the stately homes and castles do incur a nominal charge but, to be honest, the gardens, lakeside landscapes and ancient woodlands are where the true value lie. So just park up, take

a stroll and appreciate why Killarney has been a favourite among travellers for more than 250 years.

FOLLOWING THE FLOCK

Of course it comes as no surprise that this year's Ireland BikeFest was hailed as the best ever – after all, this is an event whose whole philosophy is built on upstaging the previous year. The trick, according to festival chairperson Breffni Ingerton, is constantly developing and refining the format to ensure it stays true to its core values while delivering an experience that keeps new and existing customers returning year on year.

It seems to get the results, as more than 50,000 people flocked to the 2018 event, making it the biggest ever and putting it firmly on everyone's bucket list. "I can sum up this year in one word: fantastic!" says Breffni.

BIGGER AND BETTER

As for Ireland BikeFest 2019, plans are already afoot, says Breffni. "It's now on everyone's

'to do' list. We have a very loyal customer base and it's important to them that we reinvent and reinvigorate to make it even bigger and better next year."

Breffni compares the forthcoming 13th anniversary as a coming of age for Ireland BikeFest. "We're now entering our teenage years and, like a teenager, we now have independence and freedom and we're going to give it loads!"

International tribute acts are already being sourced and there's also the possibility that festival-goers will be able to fly in and collect hire bikes on arrival into Dublin or Belfast.

"We're looking at a lot of things, and hope to make an announcement about plans in August. Our customers have confidence we'll deliver, and that pushes us to excel."

One thing that is guaranteed – next year's Ireland BikeFest, like all the preceding years, will be the best ever.



Ireland Bike Fest 2019
May 31-June 3
irelandbikefest.com

UK & IRELAND EVENTS 2018/9



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SEPTEMBER 2018

6-9
CIRCUS MAXIMUS
Deva Legion Chapter
devalegionhog.co.uk

14-16
HOGS AROUND THE ROCK
Jersey Chapter
jerseyhogs.co.uk

14-16
SPARKLE / TWINKLE TOURS
Ladies of Harley® –
various locations

28-October 1
BLAZIN' BIG TOP
New Forest Branch
newforesthog.co.uk

MARCH 2019

23
WINTER BALL
Bridgwater Chapter
bridgwaterhog.co.uk

MAY 2019

3-6
CIDER RALLY
Bridgwater Chapter
bridgwaterhog.co.uk

17-20
IRON HORSE RALLY
St. Leger Chapter
ironhorserally.co.uk

17-20
20TH ANNIVERSARY RALLY
Sherwood Chapter
ironhorserally.co.uk

31-June 3
IRELAND BIKEFEST
irelandbikefest.com

JUNE 2019

7-10
THE GATHERING
Clyde Valley Chapter
clydevalleyhog.co.uk

21-23
HOGS IN THE HAYFIELD
Great Western Chapter
greatwesternchapter.uk



Geordie Chapter's Heart & Soul Rally, 2017

27-30
WAKE THE LAKES
Red Rose Chapter
redrosechapter.com

28-29
ROAR ON THE MOOR
Aire Valley Chapter
avhog.co.uk

28-30
VALLEY RALLY
Thames Valley Chapter
thamesvalleyrally.co.uk

JULY 2019

11-14
PROUD TO BE RUTLAND RALLY
Rutland Chapter
rutlandchapter.co.uk

25-28
FENLANDERS RALLY
Fenlanders Chapter
fenlandershog.co.uk

26-28
HEART & SOUL RALLY
Geordie Chapter
geordiehog.com

AUGUST 2019

2-5
HOG N' BOG
Belfast Chapter
belfasthog.com

16-18
OLD SKOOL RALLY
Nene Valley Chapter
nenevalleyhog.co.uk

23-26
THUNDER IN THE GLENS
Dunedin Chapter
dunedinhog.com

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Belfast Chapter's Hog N' Bog Rally, 2017

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A FANTASTIC Journey

Visiting every Harley-Davidson® dealership in the UK is no mean feat. However, Jo Hadwin was up to the task...

WHILE HER FRIENDS were jetting off to Las Vegas and New York to celebrate their 40th birthdays, Jo Hadwin had other ideas on how to make this milestone a memorable one.

"I wanted to do something different," says Jo. "As Ill Rivers Chapter is currently a chapter without a sponsoring dealer, when I'd look at HOG® magazine, every time I'd see all the dealerships involved in activities and I was keen to know more about how they connected with their chapters."

A FLASH OF INSPIRATION

With her 40th approaching, Jo's husband Richard had a flash of inspiration, suggesting an ambitious road trip that stopped at all the Harley-Davidson® dealerships in the UK and Ireland. "It was a fantastic idea! We immediately started planning the route," says Jo.

Having been riding for only 18 months this was quite an ambitious plan for Jo, but Richard has been in the saddle since he was 16. His 40th birthday, like Jo's, was also Harley themed, receiving a Sportster® Forty-Eight® from his better half.



FOUR-OH!

LICENCE TO THRILL

Jo signed up for an intensive two-week course and, following an initial fail, she was successful three weeks later. A week after that she was on her first ride-out. The dealership tour, however, was a significant step forward.

"As you can imagine, it required a lot of planning. We had to work out the opening times of the dealers, distances in between, ferry times, accommodation and so on," says Jo. "The main thing for me was to make it a holiday and not a timed event like the Iron Hog Challenge, so we ensured there was enough time in the day to take in the scenery or to explore the dealerships."

However, Jo's gift subsequently made her a Harley® widow, as she admittedly didn't aspire to the rear seat. "I'm too much of a control freak to ride pillion, though being an associate member I began socialising with the Ill Rivers Chapter members, going to club nights and getting to know the people," says Jo.

"When it comes to Harley, it's not just about riding, but also the socialising and lifestyle. It was this element that drew me in and encouraged me to go for getting my own licence."





Road trip

It took three attempts to arrive at an efficient route that factored in all the requirements, including a maximum distance of 200 miles a day. To allow friends and fellow members to follow the journey, Jo also set up a Facebook page to document their progress.

STEP BY STEP

Then came the big day. The first stop on Jo's odyssey was Newmarket H-D®.

"It was great to meet the dealer principal and some of the chapter guys, to see all the great stuff that can happen between both parties – it gave us plenty of ideas for the future," says Jo. It's expected that Ill Rivers will be adopted by a new dealer opening soon.

"What surprised me was the amount of response we got from dealers and chapters along the route, who were keen to meet up and organise ride-outs. I'd met people from other chapters before, but never felt the true bond that exists between chapter

and dealership, so that really opened my eyes."

So what were the highlights out on the road? "Jersey was fantastic! The people are so friendly. They met us off the ferry, took us to the dealership, dropped us off at the hotel and picked us up the next day for a ride-out. It was door-to-door service!"

Also up there was Wales, a previously undiscovered area for Jo. "We rode from Wrexham in the north down to Builth Wells. Then just before the Brecon Beacons we met with the Black Mountains Chapter, who took us on a two-hour ride," says Jo.

"We were group riding through this amazing scenery, then stopping at the top of a mountain that served up views for miles. I really didn't know just how beautiful this part of the UK is."

In fact, such was the expansive landscape along the route in Wales, Richard, being originally from New Zealand, began to feel a little homesick.



SOUND ADVICE

And so, looking back on this amazing adventure, is there any advice Jo would give to fellow H.O.G.® members looking to head out for a similar escapade? "Don't underestimate how long you'll stay at the dealerships," laughs Jo. "We allotted 30 minutes, but once you're there chatting away and looking at the custom bikes you start to forget about the time."

The other bit of advice is to ensure that the number of miles you plan to cover each day is a comfortable one. "Go at your own pace, and don't be hung up if stuff happens along the way. We were diverted by an accident in the north-west, and the road we turned off on to was amazing. It's that true free spirit of Harley®: you go where the road takes you."

Way to go, Jo!

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP



Whether you've just bought your first Harley® or you're a H.O.G.® Life Member, make sure you're getting the most out of your membership...

Here are our top tips on how to get set up and keep up to date with your H.O.G. family.

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Joined the club? Now get the T-shirt. There's a huge range of official merch available at hogmerch.com. Whether you're looking for a classic eagle tee, a heritage pin for your jacket or a new flag for your chapter, you'll find it here. There are products to suit all sizes and styles, and discounts available on bulk orders.

Check out the dedicated range of merch for the 35th anniversary, including the

beautiful hardback commemorative book.

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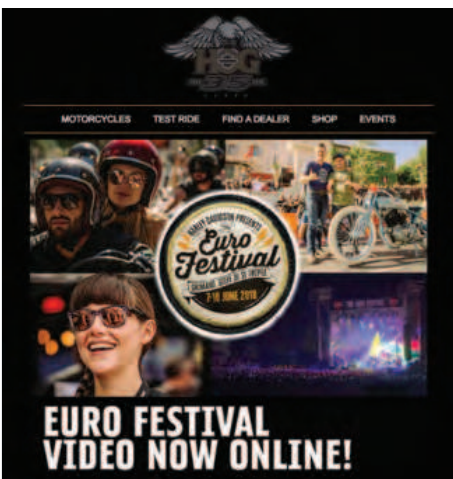
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Looking to renew your H.O.G. membership or got a friend who wants to join? It couldn't be easier to sign up or renew – here's how:

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You can also contact us by telephone on 00 800 1111 2223 (toll-free, subject to your phone provider); our multilingual customer services team will be happy to assist you!



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As a H.O.G. member, you'll receive our monthly e-newsletter, *HOG Insider*. It's packed full of the latest riding stories, news features and updates from the H.O.G. world.

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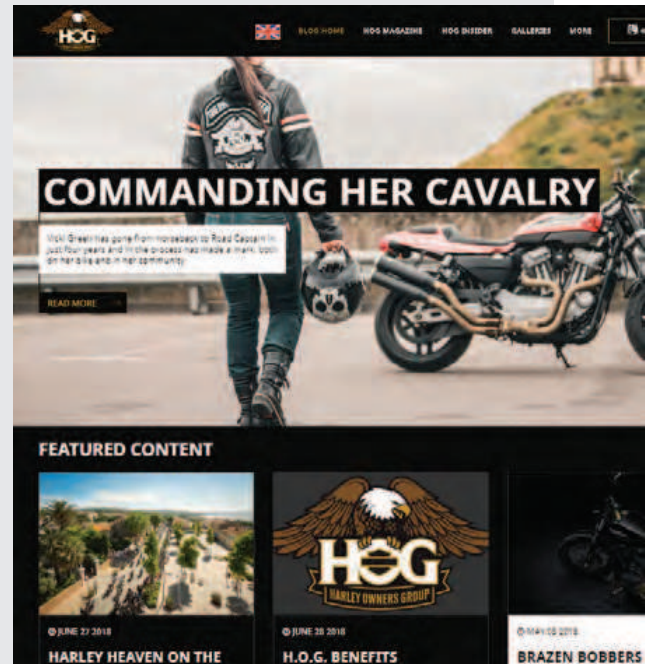
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- under 'Update your info', select 'My interests'
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That's it – you're all signed up!

CHECK US OUT

Visit our new online hub, the HOG Blog, at **blog.hog.com**. Here you'll find a curated selection of the most exciting and inspiring stories from *HOG* magazine and *HOG Insider*, including some of our favourite features from the archives.

The 'Galleries' section of the HOG Blog is all about you – it's where we publish the snaps that you send in via the H.O.G. app and via email. Every week we include our favourite as Ride of the Week. Check out what fellow members have been getting up to, as well as shots from the latest H.O.G. events around the world.



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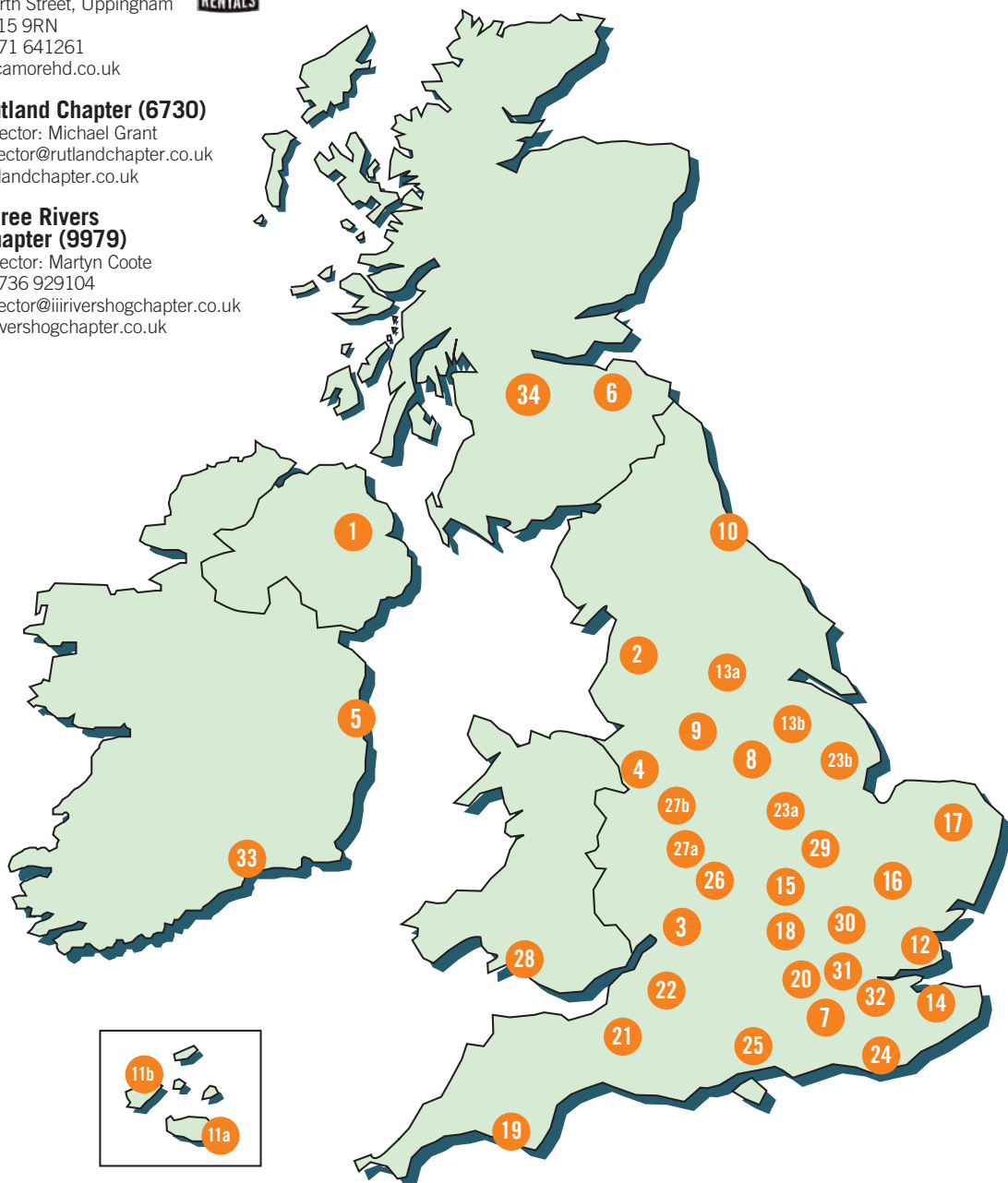
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SHAPING THE FUTURE

Hayley Jones, Project Marketing Manager for H.O.G.® International, offers her first impressions of working with the Motor Company

MY JOURNEY WITH Harley-Davidson® began just a matter of months ago, and boy has it been a learning curve! To be able to join such an iconic company has been a dream come true for me. How many brands in the world have advocates who are so passionate that they tattoo your logo on to their bodies for life? This incredible brand loyalty is like nothing else I have ever experienced.

The passion of our riders is what makes my role of Project Marketing Manager for H.O.G.® International so rewarding. As a marketing professional, it is an honour to be able to influence the journey of the Harley Owners Group® in the year of its 35th anniversary. I used to read about this world-leading loyalty scheme in my marketing textbooks, and here I am helping to shape its future.

I remember as part of my interview research visiting the dealership in Guildford and chatting to the team there. I looked around the chapter lounge and was genuinely astounded by the commitment the chapter members have, arranging so many great ride-outs both at home and abroad. It was at this point my perception of riders began to change. If I am honest, I used to think that riders were a bit of a scary bunch, but over the last six months I have come into contact with so many riders and their incredible stories that I now realise what amazing communities these chapters are. With a thirst for the open road and the thrill of a shared adventure, one can't help but be inspired.

I have also been lucky enough to meet H.O.G. members face to face during my first H.O.G. rally – the Harley-Davidson Euro Festival in St. Tropez in June. I can honestly say that I met only friendly, interesting and polite members who were keen to share their stories: about their rides to the event, about the fun they shared with friends at the event the night before, and, of course, about their motorcycles. The atmosphere is like nothing I have ever experienced; by the end of my trip, the constant roar of those wonderfully distinctive Harley-Davidson engines seemed like a lullaby.

I look forward to meeting many more H.O.G. members on my travels, and learning as much as I can about this remarkable extended family of riders across the world. See you on the road! ■





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