

HOG on the Tyne

The official newsletter of the Geordie Chapter Harley Owners Group

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Events passed and a New Year to look forward to!

- JULIE HORSFIELD ▶ CHAPTER DIRECTOR -



Courtesy of Mr. Clelland



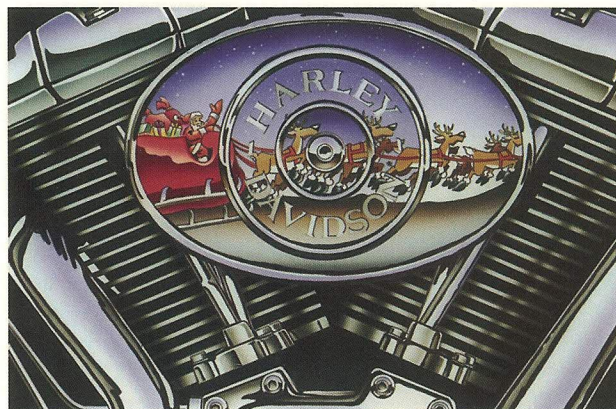
The year's end, events passed and a New Year to look forward to! I have to say this year has flown, even faster than last. Is this

a sign I'm getting older, or is it because I have lots to do within the Chapter. As we approach the end of the year it's time to check our bikes, now the damp and cold weather is with us. Have you checked your battery lately, tyres too, not forgetting the oils? A cold snap will sharp sort you out if you haven't.

The last event of the year was the Christmas Toy Run. This year, as usual, we commenced proceedings at JUST HARLEYS. The Salvation Army were invited along to receive toys collected for the less fortunate children in the community. Next we rode along to St. Oswald's Hospice in Gosforth, donating a cheque on behalf of the Chapter. Swiftly onto Newburn Leisure Centre with Selection Boxes for 'Fostering Under Newcastle Childrens Christmas Party'. This year we also decided to visit two homes for the elderly run by Age Concern. A rewarding experience as sometimes the older folk get overlooked at this time of year. All the deliveries completed, it was back to the Ouseburn for soup and hot drinks. The Chapter Christmas party followed later at the Shieldfield Club, giving everybody time to catch up with one another.

Looking back over 2007, there have been many events enabling everyone to take part at some time. The first event after the AGM

was in February, the St. Valentines Party at the Cannon Inn, Lowfell. Into March with LOH St. Patrick's Day Party. The end of the month was tinged with sadness, after a long illness, Chapter member Paul Robinson passed away. At the family's request, a large group from the chapter escorted Paul to his final resting place at Preston Cemetery, North Shields. It was a moving experience to see all of you riding your bikes in formation. Due to illness I was unable to ride, so remained at the back of the cortege in the Chapter Landrover.



Moving swiftly into April our very own Easter Egg Ride out, followed by a BBQ at the Ouseburn. The end of the month brought us the ERRAGHAIL TOUR to Scotland. May saw the start of the monthly Chapter ride outs with a trip to the MUSEUM OF FLIGHT, at East Fortune in Scotland. A great day out and well supported by our Chapter members. June was a busy month with the HOG EUROPEAN RALLY in Fuengirola, lots of members attended. At the beginning of July the Chapter celebrated its 10th Anniversary with a party/camp stay over at Corbridge Rugby Club. Next the Chapter bonding weekend at Flaxton at the end of the month. August brought outside events like THUNDER IN THE GLENS, in Aviemore. Lots of members attended, including myself. A very successful HEART 'N' SOUL RALLY took place in September, we had a special guest in Marjorie Ragg, attending from HOG UK - another first for the Chapter.

It just gets better and better each year. October followed on with the Halloween Party and November brought us the LOH Tyne River Cruise. Before we knew it we were into December and the Christmas festivities brought us full circle.

As the year comes to an end I would like to thank all of my committee for their time and commitment. The Road Crew for making the numerous ride outs possible and most important safe. Also those members who have contributed their time and efforts in helping out at the HEART 'N' SOUL RALLY, you know who you are. Without your support events like this just wouldn't happen. For that I thank you all, I hope it continues in the

future - remember *"it's not what you can get out of the Chapter, its what you can put in - that's what makes a good Chapter"*.

So without further adieu, I wish you all good health, Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

- JULIE

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