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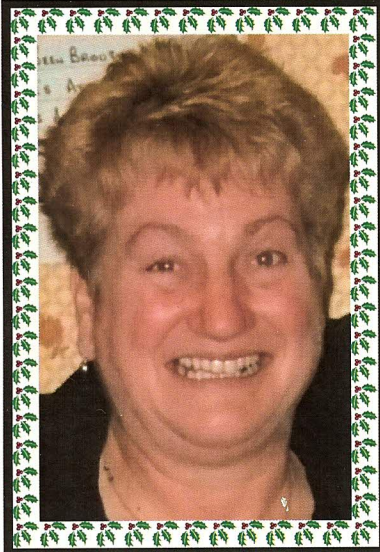
HOG ON THE TYNE



Issue 19
Winter 2010

GEORDIE CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

DIRECTOR'S FINAL PIECE



What has the Chapter been up to since the last issue of HOTT? Well let's rewind and take a look back.

The Heart'n'Soul Rally took place in September. Although there was a drop in this year's attendance we still managed to make a small profit overall. As we moved into the month of October we began with the RTTW 3 with a large contingent taking part in the ride. About 15000 motorcycles were recorded in attendance with the exception of two of our members who didn't make it to the start. Our very own Mick Ingledew, Chapter Secretary/ Membership Officer and Mandy English, Chapter Editor, were involved in an accident. Thankfully, Mandy suffered minor injuries but Mick wasn't so lucky, he attained broken bones in both hands and a fracture to his ankle. The bike went to Harley Heaven and hopefully a new bike will be in the offing in the very near future ready for next season.

October is recognised as Pink Month, raising Breast Cancer Awareness. This month was par-

ticularly poignant for me, my sister passed away from breast cancer. The LOH Pink Ride took place on Sunday 17th October, what a fantastic turnout we had. Debbie led the ride through Northumberland then into County Durham and eventually finishing at The Raby Inn, Hart, which is managed by Chapter Member John Goddard. John and his wife provided us with a bbq lunch on arrival and donations were made in lieu to Breast Cancer Research. My sister deteriorated a few days before and was admitted to the Marie Curie Cancer Hospice in Newcastle upon Tyne. I made the conscious decision to go on the ride whatever happened as I wanted to do as much as I could in the fight to raise funds for Breast Cancer Research. I stayed focused throughout and went straight to the hospice afterwards. Denise managed to see me and my daughter in our pink outfits before she drifted off to sleep. She lived another five days and passed away on 22nd October. Her funeral took place a week later; I ordered a wreath in the style of the breast cancer pink ribbon logo to highlight this awful disease which doesn't take prisoners. I take comfort in the fact that she is at peace, not suffering anymore.

Moving into November, a small group let the train take the strain in the way of a trip to York. Mick Ingledew organised it despite his sore hands and foot. I would like to point out I was on time if not a little early on this occasion. We all had a great day, shopping, sightseeing and even visit to the railway museum, finishing off in the pub.

Our next event was the Christmas

Santa Gift Ride. I appealed to the chapter membership to donate a new gift to the Salvation Army Toy Appeal. I invited the Salvation Army to come along to the dealership for the handover of our gifts, and then we saddled up ready to ride to our next stop at St Oswald's Hospice, Gosforth, where we would hand-over a donation on behalf of the Geordie Chapter. Next it was on to Rosewood Villas OAP Home, to leave some gifts for the residents, then onto the F.U.N. Christmas Party at the Blakelaw CIU, Newcastle upon Tyne, to deliver selection boxes to the children, then back to the dealership for light refreshments.

The Chapter Christmas Party organised by Greame took place the same day freeing up the rest of December to do last minute shopping.

As you all know, I am standing down as Director in January. After five years in office, I think its time to let someone else take over the reigns. I have enjoyed every minute of it, that's why it's been such a wrench, but you know, I'll always be there in some shape or form. I would like to thank my Committee and Road Crew for their support and EVERYBODY who helps at the Heart 'n Soul Rally year after year, without your input events and ride outs just wouldn't happen.

Finally I would like to wish you all a Happy Christmas and New Year, Peace and Good Health for 2011.



Julie

