

Chapter 14

Sherwood Chapter

Harley Owners Group

2011



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The Legend Rally 2012 [TH]

2011 Chapter Committee, Road Captains & Marshals and Membership

Primary Officers as of 1st January 2011

Director
Pete Clifford
Assistant Director
Kev Taylor
Secretary
Paul Allen
Treasurer
Ann Clark

Chapter Officers as of 1st January 2011

Activities Officer
Paul Allen
Area Representative - Derbyshire
Ian Page
Area Representative - Lincolnshire
Kev Taylor
Area Representative - North Nottinghamshire
Glenn Page
Area Representative - South Nottinghamshire & Leicestershire
Mick Baines
Dealer Representative
Richard Stevens
Editor
Dai Gunter
Head Road Captain
Darren James
Historian
Dai Gunter
Ladies of Harley
Jane James & Ann Clark
Membership Secretary
Paul Allen
Merchandise
Ann Clark
Safety Officer
Glenn Page
Webmaster & Photographic Co-Ordinator
Vacant position

Road Captains as of 1st January 2011

Darren James (HRC), Pete Clifford, Dai Gunter, Paul Allen, Mick Baines, Roger Williams, Ann Clark, Glenn Page, Steve Fox, Ian Page, Sam York, Will Field, John Tonks, Steve Kinsey, Terry Hill, Ian 'Bunny' Harper, Martin Haley & Nick Godsmark

Road Marshals as of 1st January 2011

Roy Radford, Dave Shaw

Membership as of 1st January 2011

January 2011 membership numbered 298

January 2011

Unlike 2010 crispy white start to the year, January 2011 heralded in a damp start one; after one of the coldest (and whitest) Decembers (2010) in over a hundred years, January's expectations of more snow didn't really materialise. Instead, cold damp weather prevented riding for many of the Chapter Members. Soggy fields and frosty roads & pavements also prevented the early year's ramblings being repeated as per January 2010. But who really cares anyway, it's all about biking right? 'Roll on warmer and drier weather' was the thought of the month.

Moving On – Steve Cranston

January kicked off on a sad note with two tales of resignation:

Steve Cranston decided to hang up his Road Captain's badge and settle for more sedate riding seasons. After some time deliberating, Steve had made the difficult decision to hand in his rocker due to heavy work commitments and finding himself with less time to commit fully to Sherwood Chapter Road Captaincy.

Steve had been serving as a highly active Road Captain from the Lincoln Area since 2002, leading regular Sunday ride-outs from Carholme Road Racecourse, Lincoln as well as taking the occasional weekenders to Norfolk.



Recent rally attendances revealed that Steve was partial to dressing up in ladies' clothing – as much as it would be nice to print a relevant picture here, it was felt more apt for Steve's pose during an early Sherwood Chapter ride-out to the Cotswolds back in 2000 prior to Steve enlisting as a Road Captain.

Many thanks from all at Sherwood Chapter to Steve for his work over the years.

Moving On – Andy Fellows

Andy 'Yungin' Fellows was elected as Assistant Director for Lindum Colonia Chapter and so resigned from Sherwood Chapter Committee leaving the Webmaster and a Road Captain's rockers vacant.

Andy had completed a two year stint as Webmaster and Photographic Co-ordinator for the Chapter in addition to Road Captain duties. Andy remained as a member of Sherwood Chapter.



The Traditionally Late Christmas Doo

The highlight of the month was this year's Traditionally Late Christmas Doo, once again, held at the Britannia Hotel, Nottingham on Friday 21st January. Black tie & gown was the order of the evening and a fantastic turn-out was witnessed by all. The usual speech from Director, Pete Clifford came with the now



traditional presentation awards. This year, the 2010 Sherwood Member of the Year went to Shirley Whitworth. Members were asked to nominate their member of the year on their ticket application forms.

Robin Grimes was thanked for his contribution, along with all the other volunteers, at the Sherwood Rally last year.

The traditional raffle and auction brought in a substantial sum to kick off the 2011 charity fundraising pot.

Sherwood Honours the Haggis



On the 25th of January Chapter members honoured the humble haggis at the Railway Inn at Lowdham. Arranged by Glenn Page, a handful of members celebrated Burn's Night at the Railway Inn along with a traditional Scottish piper to mark the anniversary of the great Scottish poet (amongst other things) Robbie Burns.

Events & Ride-outs in January included:

- ❖ 3rd North Nottingham Area Meeting
- ❖ 5th Lincoln Area Meeting
- ❖ 11th Derbyshire Area Meeting
- ❖ 13th South Nottingham & Leicestershire Area Meeting
- ❖ 17th North Nottingham Area Meeting
- ❖ 19th Lincoln Area Meeting
- ❖ 21st Traditionally Late Christmas Doo, Britannia Hotel, Nottingham
- ❖ 25th Meadow Covert, Edwalton - Tour of the Bell Inn Caves
- ❖ 25th Derbyshire Area Meeting
- ❖ 25th Burns' Night at the Railway Inn, Lowdham – hosted by Glenn Page
- ❖ 27th Chapter Meeting (Meadow Covert, Edwalton)
- ❖ 31st North Nottingham Area Meeting

February 2011

February is always a quiet month in the Sherwood Chapter calendar and February 2011 is no exception. The heavy winter last November/December made February look like a spring April with milder than average temperatures and a reasonably dry spell, but that didn't change the fact that there was still the local council's annual allocation of salt to dispose of, and that they did, keeping many Harleys off the road for fear of early onset of premature corrosion of chrome.

The highlight of the month was a small group of Chapter members made their way over to the north west of England for the Rally with a Chalet, Southport 'Original' Cruisers' rally at the Pontins' Southport holiday resort.

February also saw the first of the Legend Rally preparation meetings. Building on another successful rally in 2010, the committee agreed tasks and areas of improvement and were soon pulling together the building blocks for the Legend 2011 Rally; more on the Legend later in the chapter.

Events & Ride-outs in February included:

- ❖ 2nd Lincoln Area Meeting
- ❖ 8th Derbyshire Area Meeting
- ❖ 10th South Nottingham & Leicestershire Area Meeting
- ❖ 14th North Nottingham Area Meeting
- ❖ 16th Lincoln Area Meeting
- ❖ 22nd Derbyshire Area Meeting
- ❖ 24th Chapter Meeting (Festival Inn, Trowel)
- ❖ 28th North Nottingham Area Meeting

March 2011

March – a month of firsts

The first ride-out for Sherwood Chapter members this year was to Uppingham (see Excerpts from Quill & Quiver and the eQ&Q section for Terry Hill's write-up on Ian 'Bunny' Harper's led ride-out).

Although this was the first Road Captain led ride-out and therefore official Sherwood Chapter ride-out, the Easter Monday ride-outs are still labelled as the 'Official First Ride' of the season (see April's section).

So why the title of 'Three Amigos'? Well early March was cold and it would appear that many Chapter members might be fairer weather riders perhaps.



YOUR WORDS, NOT MINE

TERRY HILL – FIRST CHAPTER RIDE-OUT OF 2011

The Three Amigos

Bunny, Malcolm and I met at the Shop as advertised at 11am. We waited until twenty past eleven and still no-one else came. We had two destinations planned - either Wetton Mill or Uppingham Harley-Davidson; we tossed a coin, heads for Wetton Mill or tails for Uppingham.

Heads it was until someone said there was a custom bike show at Uppingham so disregarding the toss, off we went.

The weather was not great, it was dry for a change as the last three ride-outs undertaken by the Arnold MacDonald's Crew it has rained. Anyway off we set went through Tollerton and headed for Melton at a steady pace all the way, following the twisting roads we arrived at Uppingham. A quick cup of coffee and we went inside the shop to look at the custom bikes. There were a lot of bikers there and some of the bikes were very special; there was even one that looked like it was made of wood, something Fred Flintstone would have been proud of, what great paint work.

While we were admiring the bikes, who would arrive but the Lindum Chapter with about 15 bikes. This does put our ride-out of 3 riders to shame! How come they get a good turnout, perhaps something we all must think about!

It was nice to see some old Sherwood Chapter member faces amongst the Lindum riders.

Talking to Young Un, Lindum were off to the Harley café near Peterborough, they said we could ride with them. We joined their ride-out, following the twisty roads through to Oakham then on to Market Deeping to the 'Harley's Café'.

After a short stay and refreshments we had to leave, due to Bunny needing to get back for the Nottingham Panthers ice hockey match, we said our good-byes and made our way home. In all, the sun came out in the afternoon and made it a enjoyable day.

Terryaka LaLa

p.s. Why I have I put an image of Speedy Gonzales?

Answer - Have you ever tried following Bunny when he's in a rush?

His excuse was because Boiler was at home with her flannelette nighty on! But I think that was wishful thinking and he didn't want to miss the match.



Another first for 2011 this month was the BBQ held at Robin Hood Harley-Davidson. Fresh burgers cooked on the Chapter range were very popular and well received by those who visited the shop and satisfied their tummy monster with a fine burger.

On the 26th, the 'Last Saturday' ride-out was the first of the popular ride-outs.

And the last 'first' – Ladies Tech Night at Robin Hood.

A popular event in previous years, the technicians at Robin Hood open up their workplace to give hints & tips to the Ladies of (Sherwood) Harley.

Events & Ride-outs in March included:

- ❖ 2nd Lincoln Area Meeting
- ❖ 6th Sherwood Chapter Ride-out from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 8th Derbyshire Area Meeting
- ❖ 10th South Nottingham & Leicestershire Area Meeting
- ❖ 12th Sherwood Chapter BBQ at Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 14th North Nottingham Area Meeting
- ❖ 16th Lincoln Area Meeting
- ❖ 16th Ladies Tech Night at Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 19th Sherwood Chapter Ride-out from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 20th Robin Hood Ride-out from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 22nd Derbyshire Area Meeting
- ❖ 24th Chapter Meeting (Meadow Covert, Edwalton)
- ❖ 26th Last Saturday - Chapter Ride-out from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 28th North Nottingham Area Meeting
- ❖ 30th Lincoln Area Meeting

April 2011

Unseasonably warm sunshine made this year's April the driest and warmest since records began over 80 years ago, according to Peter Levy on BBC's Look North news programme – and I thought records on weather had been around for a few hundred years – well there ya go..!

Shhh... it's a secret

An invite was sent out by the Lincoln area members inviting the membership for a ride to the Secret Chippy at.... well if I told you it wouldn't be a secret..! A meagre ravenous bunch set off from the Pride of Lincoln on the evening of the 2nd and indulged on fresh Grimsby cod & haddock and chips cooked on the antique coal-fired range in beef dripping... mmmmmm.

Several area ride-outs were had this fine month, but the two rides to write home about were the 'Blow the Dust Off' and 'Easter Monday' ride-outs.

New Riders / Blow the Dust Off Ride-out

New to group riding, and new to the Chapter, members were invited to joint a ride-out to blow the dust off the Harley and take in some fantastic scenery around the Derbyshire Peak District. Organised by Glenn Page and assisted by tail-ender Paul Allen, almost 30 Harleys made the 70 mile ride from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson to the Knockerdown pub on Carsington Water.

Four new riders received some good advice from Glenn in preparation for the ride-out and the group arrived safely at their destination. A fine ride-out exhibiting the finer aspects of the Second Man Drop-off System made sure that no-one was lost on the ride-out and everyone arrived safely at the destination.



Easter Monday Ride-out

A healthy turn-out of almost 70 Harleys turned up for the Easter ~~Bunny~~ Monday ride-out. Yes, this year's destination was a fresh venue for the Chapter. Previous ride-outs have visited Skegness, Mablethorpe and for the past three years, Stratford-upon-Avon; but new for 2011 was the East Coast venue of Cleethorpes.

With Easter being late on the 2011 calendar this year, the weather was beautiful, warm, dry and sunny. The ride-out was led by Ian 'Bunny' Harper and assisted by Mick Baines (sweeper) and Terry Hill (tail-end Charlie). A well organised and marshalled ride-out arrived at Cleethorpes seafront where parking had been pre-arranged and refreshments were at hand.

The ride-out didn't finish at Cleethorpes though; it went on to a BBQ and evening entertainment at The Railway Inn, Lowdham.

Cabinet Reshuffle

Another change in this year's committee line-up with Ian Page resigning due to various commitments was followed by a slight re-shuffle of roles within the remaining committee members.

Glenn Page took up the Safety Officer duties along with his Area Rep duties and Mick Baines took on Activities Officer duties to lighten the load on Paul Allen who resigned from Activities Officer role and took on the Membership duties as well as his Secretarial commitments on Ian Page's departure.

Many thanks to Ian for his help and input during his tenure on the Sherwood Chapter committee.

Merchandise was taken over by Lesley Ashford. Lesley volunteered to help the Chapter by taking over the merchandise as a non-committee role. Lesley's enthusiasm produced additional merchandise items such as Sherwood Chapter baseball caps, key lanyards and key-rings.

The vacant Webmaster position was filled by Martin Haley. Like Lesley, Martin took on the role in a non-committee position due to personal commitments.

Events & Ride-outs in April included:

- ❖ 5th Derbyshire Area Meeting
- ❖ 7th South Nottingham & Leicestershire Area Meeting
- ❖ 9th Sherwood Chapter BBQ at Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 11th North Nottingham Area Meeting
- ❖ 13th Lincoln Area Meeting
- ❖ 16th Ladies of Harley Cream Tea Ride-out from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 17th Sherwood Chapter New Riders – Blow the Dust Off Ride-out
- ❖ 19th Derbyshire Area Meeting
- ❖ 21st Chapter Meeting (Festival Inn, Trowel)
- ❖ 25th Easter Monday Traditional Ride-out from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 25th North Nottingham Area Meeting
- ❖ 27th Lincoln Area Meeting
- ❖ 29th Meadow Covert, Edwalton - Royal Wedding Garden Party
- ❖ 30th Last Saturday – Sherwood Chapter Ride-out from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson

May 2011

Shirley Whitworth's Chapter Charity Rally – Knockerdown

Sherwood Chapter Charity Rally was held on Friday 6th & Saturday 7th May at the Knockerdown Inn, Carsington, in aid of Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire & Lincolnshire Air Ambulances. Over 100 tickets were sold despite the forecast of heavy rain and many braved the weather and camped in various tents, campervans and caravans

£1,720 was raised towards the charities.



Our Shirley at Knockerdown [PB]

The Legend Rally Volunteers

The first of this year's Volunteers meetings was held at the Railway Inn, Lowdham, following a short ride-out from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson. Ann Clark & Mick Baines held the meeting to assist with the co-ordination of the volunteers and how the activities were going to be marshalled during the Rally weekend.

Hoggin' the Surf

John Tonks & Jim 'Jigsaw' Lee took a party of Sherwood revellers to Newquay, Cornwall for a weekender. Staying at a friendly B&B/Hotel the group enjoyed the Cornish hospitality. Of course, it cannot be said that all the Sherwood Chapter members who booked their places behaved themselves... word on the street was that a certain Mr Hill had called ahead to cancel his reservation due to a broken wrist – that was news to the rest of the group and certainly the rest of the Chapter when the following weekend, on a ride-out from the shop, Mr Hill turned up fit and well. Medical science has certainly come on in leaps & bounds..!

Poker Run

Darren James, Head Road Captain, organised a charity Poker Run on the 22nd. The event took a group of members around the countryside as well as drawing a handful of cards in an attempt to win a hand of poker. Monies raise (approximately £50) was donated to the Chapter Charity fund.

Events & Ride-outs in May included:

- ❖ 1st Sherwood Chapter Ride-out from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 3rd Derbyshire Area Meeting
- ❖ 5th South Nottingham & Leicestershire Area Meeting
- ❖ 7th Sherwood Chapter BBQ at Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 9th North Nottingham Area Meeting
- ❖ 10th Robin Hood Ride-out to Scarcliffe from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 11th Lincoln Area Meeting
- ❖ 14th BBQ at Robin Hood followed by a Rally Volunteers' Meeting at Lowdham
- ❖ 17th Derbyshire Area Meeting
- ❖ 19th Chapter Meeting (Meadow Covert, Edwalton)
- ❖ 23rd North Nottingham Area Meeting
- ❖ 25th Lincoln Area Meeting
- ❖ 27th Hog in the Surf – Sherwood Chapter weekender to Newquay, Cornwall
- ❖ 28th Last Saturday – Sherwood Chapter Ride-out from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 30th Scarborough ride-out
- ❖ 31st Derbyshire Area Meeting

June 2011

June Ride-outs

June's glorious weather saw a healthy turn-out for ride-outs, be they weekend jaunts or evening area gatherings. Terry Hill's Cotswolds ride-out proved popular even though you would have qualified for an iron-butt badge if you had joined the ride-out. Roy Radford's 'Over the hills and far away... and back again' ride-out was also very popular taking in the Derbyshire scenery.



OVER THE HILL

YOUR WORDS... NOT MINE..!

No I don't mean too old to do anything, more a case of over the hills and far away as the song goes.

In this case that was the title given to Roy's ride-out on Father's Day.

That sounds interesting; I thought I'll give that a go. So not knowing where we were going a small band of bikers gathered at the shop in anticipation. Just over a dozen or so bikes turned up, a few bringing their "better halves" along, possibly to keep us all in line.

When everyone had arrived Roy gathered us for the ride briefing. Roy ran through all the essentials with our very own smiling assassin (Paul Allen) acting as un-official prompter to Roy.

The man with the most nicknames, Terry Hill, stepped up to the plate and volunteered to be Tail-end Charlie; good on that man especially with his injured wrist? Paul offered to be the sweeper and look after anyone who might breakdown or need assistance. 'Big thumbs up' to Paul for that. (Note to committee; don't let him near anything sharp) Paul managed to slice off a chunk of his thumb at the chapter barbeque the week before. (*Did we charge for the extra protein in the bun??? - Ed*)

So all kitted up engine's running, off we set.

Off up the A52 to derby then up towards Bakewell. As I've said before the best bit about an organised ride-out is the part where you don't have to think about the route just enjoy the ride. Well we soon turned off the main roads and started to climb up into the peak district, taking in some

twisting and steep winding roads. This certainly gave me an opportunity to get to grips with my new steed. Although bigger and heavier than my old Sportster the Road King handles easily when on the move.

As we wound our way up higher into the peaks the views were outstanding, with dry stone wall criss-crossing the countryside as far as the eye could see.



Dotted along our journey there were little outcrops of farm houses here and there. People and children stop at the rumbling sound of our little band of riders, their waves and smiles making up for the cloudy and overcast skies, passing through quaint little villages like Glutton Bridge and Flash (that's a place not an instruction) and then on to our destination of Tittesworth Reservoir.



Roy had arranged parking for us right alongside the visitors centre. And as we

rolled in I noticed there was a classic car show on in one of the adjacent areas.

We all popped into the visitor centre for a comfort break and a chance to grab a drink and bite to eat. When I popped back out a little later there were quite a few people admiring our bike and as the sun broke through they looked an impressive sight.

They seemed to be drawing a bit of the crowd away from the classic car show if only for a short while. One or two people started asking about the bikes and Sherwood Chapter. Roy did a great job chatting to them and explaining about the joys of Harley ownership.

Time to go, so off we set winding our way back through the peaks stopping off at The Knockerdown Inn for another short break. We were made very welcome by all there as we had held a small fund raising weekender there not long before.

Suitably refreshed and relieved we set off back down to Derby. As we all rumbled back down the A52 towards Nottingham riders peeled off to make there way home.

What a surprising ride out it was; taxing in places, breathtaking views, little surprises around every corner.

I'd like to say a big thank you to Roy our Road Captain, Terry for looking after the tail end, and putting up with me (and all that with a broken wrist!?!), and a big 'thumbs up' again to Paul for acting as sweeper.

A mystery ride can hold a few surprises.....



Ride safe and keep smiling Dave Waltham

Thigh slapping fun at Fort San Antone

Sam York organised a thigh slapping, shit kicking, cowboy boots, leather chaps weekender at Fort San Antone, Preston on the 24th – 25th June. The 'ranch' held overnight revellers after they ate, drank and line-danced the night away.

On the Continent

Many Sherwood Chapter members enjoy riding and holidaying with their Harleys on the continent; the Editor of the Quill & Quiver often receives write-ups and pictures taken by Chapter members of their latest

escapades to the Continent (and other locations around the globe). Here's a write-up from Glyn Kay, Phil & Jill Biddles...

Friday 3rd June and we are off to the south of France to enjoy the sunshine.



A great start with beautiful weather all the way to Portsmouth where the overnight ferry will take us to Le Havre. Early morning out of the port and we are soon travelling over

the Pont de Normandie. Not the highest bridge in France but frightening enough for someone not keen on heights. That was enough boring motorway so it was on the scenic route down to our first nights stop at Appleton's farmhouse near Argenton-sur-Creuse in the Loire Valley. A few beers then a nice evening meal served on the terrace. Sitting there enjoying the wine and food thinking 'this is the life' when suddenly there was a rumble of thunder and flash of lightning. "It's okay guys it goes round us here". Well not this time. The heavens opened and the predicted bad weather forecast looked correct at this point.

Next morning overcast skies but we set off through the forests of the Loire and soon found the storms had been more serious than expected with mud and debris washed on to the roads. As the day continues the weather improved and we progressed to our destination of Le Vieux Chêne B&B in Serignac, about 45 minutes west of Toulouse. On arrival our hosts Mark and Merryn Thomas were enjoying the sunshine in their garden. Within the hour Jill and I are in the swimming pool. Glyn preferred to sample a nice cold beer or two. During our evening meal Mark, an avid Harley rider, suggested he could take us on a trip through the Pyrenees and over the border into Spain.

Next morning the forecast is not great but predicted to get worse during the week so we decide to take a chance and hit the road for the mountains with Mark leading on his Deuce, Glyn on his Rocker C, and me and Jill on the Heritage. As we climb toward the mountains we hit fog, but continued in hope of improved weather and we were not disappointed as the skies cleared to show some sun. Not too long and we are enjoying the experience, fighting to get the Harleys round the very tight hairpin bends, especially as the Dutch and German guys overtaking us on their KTM and BMW bikes. Anyway over the first high one, Col Du Aspin to Arreau and the sun is with us we continue onward and upward till we are in Spain. Time for food in Bossost as parking the bikes outside a cafe we are greeted by a biker. He recognised our patches and said he had been on security at St Tropez where he met some of our guys. A beer and a bite to eat then we take our return trip back to our digs.

Tuesday and it's raining, so it's a trip into town with our hosts in their Land Rover for a bit of shopping and then back to our B&B for an afternoon of beers and snooker.

Wednesday was not looking too good for riding but we planned to visit Toulouse and Carcassonne. Sure enough as we hit the motorway around Toulouse the rain came down like a monsoon. No matter, we are halfway to Carcassonne so we

keep going. On arrival at the beautiful old city, a little damp and cold, we take advantage of a dry spell to walk through the narrow streets and sample some of the fine food and beer before going back through Toulouse, taking the opportunity to visit the HD dealership before returning to our digs for more food and wine.



Another day and we wake to cloudy skies, what happened to the south of France sunshine? Our hosts fancy a ride to Saint-cirq-Lapopie, a picturesque little town in the Dordogne region so we are invited to go with them. Again a short motorway trip before finding some more entertaining roads to travel along with views to admire.

Friday - time to start our journey back with a one night stop at Route 66 hotel based in Bussiere Poitevine in the Loire valley. Following our planned route



away from the motorways, we enjoy a five hour ride through forests and gorges. As we pull into the courtyard of the hotel we are greeted by Harry the owner. A real character who loves the biking fraternity as displayed by number of t-shirts hung in the bar and messages from around the world written on the walls. His collection of bikes and American cars are also to be admired on show in the garages.

Saturday We have a 300 mile journey ahead for our party destination of Houpeville north of Rouen so decide to take the motorway for the majority of the day. Off we set up, to Chatellerault to pick up the A10. A boring journey completed by 4.30pm and it was bikes in the garage and rest ourselves up for the festivities of the next day. The party started at 12noon on the Sunday and continued until 3am Monday morning. Feeling a bit worse for wear we were on the road again by 10am to La Havre for the afternoon fast cat ferry which docked at 5pm in Portsmouth. Weary from the whole experience we headed home on the fastest route. Home again, in glorious sunshine, we had completed 2089 miles. A great holiday even though the weather was not the best.

Phil & Jill Biddles, Glyn Kay



THE COTSWOLDS

MARTIN'S & DAVE'S TAKE ON TERRY' RIDE-OUT

We met up for the ride to the Cotswolds at Castle Donington services. Around 20 bikes in all turned up. Weather forecast was to be very warm (if you're reading this several weeks later you will remember a mini heat wave on the Sunday & Monday, was this summer?). Started off with grey clouds which burnt off as the day went on, and boy was it hot! Anyway, Terry led us off down the A42/M42 and then via different bits of motorway and 'A' road to our destination of Moreton-in-Marsh, which is on the old Fosse Way. Very pretty place with lots of history. Managed to park all the bikes in a nice line outside a public house (then went to use the



cafes'!) We stopped there for about an hour for refreshments and a look around.

Terry did say in the pre ride brief that the original idea of going to Bourton-on-the-Water was probably a bad idea as it would get very busy, so Moreton-in-Marsh would be our stop off point instead. What a good decision! We rode slowly through Bourton-on-the-Water for a look after lunch, and to say it was busy would be an understatement. I've been there a few times previously and I've never seen it so busy! From there Terry took us through some picture postcard villages and scenery, on some excellent roads that were surprisingly quiet. We took a route through Banbury Cross, heading in the direction of Northampton. We finally

stopped for a very welcome refreshment break in the afternoon at Brixworth Country Park. It was now VERY warm and sticky! Poor Jim (Jigsaw) discovered his bike had snapped some exhaust studs, said it sounded funny on the ride, so we had to leave him there awaiting rescue from the AA.

The ride home was through Market Harborough, Oadby and onto the M1 at Leicester Forest East, where folk started to split off for home. The original mileage estimate was 170, but I clocked 233, so wouldn't be surprised if we deviated from the original route slightly. Anyway, I would like to thank Road Captain Terry Hill and Tail-end Charlie Mick Baines for a brilliant day out. Well done to you both.

Martin Haley

Events & Ride-outs included:

- ❖ 2nd South Nottingham & Leicestershire Area Meeting
- ❖ 5th Sherwood Chapter Ride-out from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 6th North Nottingham Area Meeting
- ❖ 8th Lincoln Area Meeting
- ❖ 11th Sherwood Chapter BBQ at Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 13th Robin Hood Ride-out to the Peak District from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 14th Derbyshire Area Meeting
- ❖ 16th Chapter Meeting (Festival Inn, Trowel)
- ❖ 19th Sherwood Chapter Ride-out from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 20th North Nottingham Area Meeting
- ❖ 22nd Lincoln Area Meeting
- ❖ 23rd Sherwood Chapter Ride-out from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 24th Thigh Slapping Weekender at Fort San-Antone
- ❖ 25th Last Saturday – Sherwood Chapter Ride-out from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 26th Sherwood Chapter Ride-out from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 28th Derbyshire Area Meeting
- ❖ 30th South Nottingham Area Meeting

July 2011

Robin Hood Harley-Davidson celebrated its 8th birthday this month with a bash at the shop. All were invited to come along and enjoy the festivities and fancy dress (courtesy of the staff at Robin Hood) and there were additional bargains to be had if you had the cash to spend.

The Oggie Rally

This year a concerted effort was made to support Plymouth Chapter's first HOG Rally. Kev Taylor took a small troupe of Sherwood members down to the south coast to enjoy the festivities at the Oggie Rally. Along the way they encountered heavy rain, sunshine, and poor driving from passing motorists. But this did not deter the enthusiasm of the group to enjoy the weekend to its full.

Plymouth Chapter's first rally hosted around 300 guests almost filling the rugby field with tents and Harleys. The entertainment consisted of the obligatory ride-out (in fact there were two, one to Padstow, the other to Widecombe), a ride-in show and the evening entertainment of live music & disco.

The ride-in show was poorly attended with just a small number of bikes on display – perhaps this was due to the layout of the site and many bikes were in a sorry state after the Friday ride in the wet weather.

A guest of the Sherwood camp was Rocket Ronnie – a 'Grumpy' and Brummie all rolled into one. But the Sherwood troupe were not complaining, Ronnie enjoyed cooking so he was drafted into the group as an honorary Sherwood member for the weekend, keeping everyone's bellies full of great nosh.



Rocket Ronnie prepares dinner at the Oggie Rally [DG]

Meadow Covert

The alternate Chapter meetings at the Meadow Covert stopped this month. All meetings were reverted back to the Festival Inn, Trowel.

With a new landlord at the Meadow Covert, although welcoming, the Chapter felt it inappropriate at this time to continue at the venue.

With the opening of the new Robin Hood Harley-Davidson dealership shop due in January 2012, the Committee felt it more appropriate to continue with the Festival until the end of the year and then during the AGM, discuss an alternative venue closer to the dealership for the start of 2012 season.

3, 2, 1 Charity Ride

The Yorkshire Riders of Sherwood (now fondly known as YROS) pulled together a superb charity event last year and raised a fantastic amount of money for the Sherwood Chapter's nominated charity – the Lincolnshire & Nottinghamshire Air Ambulance. This year, Colin Young headed up another sterling effort and pulled out of the had the 3, 2, 1 Ride - 3 counties, 2 days, 1 great cause.

Superbly organised, the band of Yorkshiremen and their fellow Sherwoodites set off for the two days of riding through some of the most scenic part of England, raising money for the Chapter's charity (L&NAA) in so doing. Read the Q&Q excerpt from Margaret Sheard on how the weekend transpired.

Last year, YROS (the Yorkshire Riders of Sherwood) decided to do a sponsored East to West coast ride to raise money for the Air Ambulance Charity. It was a huge success, raising £4803 on the day which was included in the Sherwood Chapter's donation, totalling £10,500 in all.



This year, YROS decided to do it again but with a different route and hence the 3-2-1 event was launched. Colin Young put his thinking cap on and together with our Director, Pete Clifford,

came up with the idea of riding around 3 counties, over 2 days, for 1 great cause, hence the name of the game.

Colin, Wayne Clamp and Dave Farrand put their heads together, planned a route, and arranged petrol/food stops, sponsorship forms and advertising and everything else that needed to be done. There was a massive boost to the ride when Ian Jennings of Robin Hood Harley-Davidson agreed to become the main sponsor for the event, covering the cost of all food and drink that was not donated free of charge.

Saturday 9th July - 8am: The first leg of the route started at the Burger King car park in Leeds for an 8.30 start.

The 'posse' of 11 bikes was made up with members of YROS and Blondie (aka Tony Ellis) from Nene Valley. We set off for a donut breakfast at the Robin Hood Dealership in Beeston where we picked up another 10 bikes before setting off to our mid morning

stop at the Sycamore Dealership in Uppingham. Andrew Winham very kindly supplied us with donuts and coffee. The next stop found us travelling into Lincolnshire for a very nice lunch at the Asda Superstore in Boston. This was a buffet laid on free of charge and the friendly staff made us very welcome. The church, close by, is rather impressive and, I was told by a Sherwood member, that it is known as the "Boston Stump" because it is the only landmark rising above tree level. It's so flat in that county. No need for many gear changes around there. After lunch we headed for Cleethorpes for a comfort break in Tesco's car park. No freebies but Harrogate Spa Water had provided us with some free bottles and Walkers Shortbread gave us some free biscuits for our stop. On again towards Doncaster for our overnight stop at the Holiday Inn. Those of us who were staying overnight booked in (at a discounted rate) and freshened up for a pre-arranged evening Indian buffet. The hotel very kindly extended happy hour at the bar until 10 o'clock, but thanks to Colin we could not put this too much use as he announced an 8am start next morning. We spent a pleasant evening of friendly banter in the hotel bar. Mick Baines even suggested a game of Bingo (might need to re-think activities officer for next year).

Sunday 10th July - 8am: Ready for off; 20 bikes this time from YROS, Sherwood and that bloke from Nene Valley. We picked up another bike on the way to our breakfast stop at Filey. Bacon butties and coffee had been donated free of charge and the use of their microwave for the gluten free bread. All the bikes filled to the brim for the long journey up to Stockton on Tees for our lunch time stop at The Mill Volvo Dealership. Yes I know,

they sell 4 wheeled vehicles but nevertheless, they provided a lovely spread of sandwiches and we also got more free

water and shortbread for our afternoon break. Was it lunch or was it dinner? Ask Courtney and Dave Sheard for their views on this ("could be a long debate as Courtney is very stubborn" says Dad). Better still - don't! Next stop Sedbergh, now in Cumbria, (previously West Yorkshire). Colin had contacted the Parish Council about using their car park and they kindly allocated some space for us free of charge. (They even threw in a £10 sponsorship, maybe we could rename it a Display & Pay car park). During this break the Parish Councillor told me that she was hoping to move to Norfolk.

Having lived in Norfolk for a temporary three year period, I found it a completely alien concept even to consider such a thought. Leave such beautiful scenery for another very flat county - how could she? Each to their own I suppose. Anyway, the final leg of our journey took us to Colin's work associate's place, Houseman International Transport in Darley (North Yorkshire) for a brilliant BBQ provided free of charge yet again!!! A beautiful setting for the finish of a fantastic weekend.

Colin announced that we had raised about £7500, a lot more than last year and to do it by doing something that we all love doing - riding our bikes - made it all the more rewarding. Dave 'Faz' did an excellent job appointing the 2nd rider drop-offs. No-one got lost, no-one broke down, members did as much as they wanted to do; the whole 2 days, the Saturday, the overnight stop or just a meal, or just the Sunday. We actually rode into 9 counties but it didn't matter as long as we raised some money. It was a brilliant weekend and although the skies constantly changed from bright blue with fluffy white clouds to grey and threatening thunder clouds, we did not get wet. Well we did have about 2 minutes of quite large drops, but we won't count those.

A big thank-you to everyone who did the organising and of course to everyone who took part.

Margaret Sheard
(Dave's pillion, YROS)



Supporting Local Schools & Charities

An invite to attend a Primary School at Woodhall Spa coaxed ten Harleys to attend one fine evening.

Jane James (LoH) received the request and sent out invites to the members of Sherwood Chapter to meet at the Friendly Farmer and then ride over to Woodhall Spa where the troupe lined up their Harleys in the schoolyard on show for the kids & friends of the school, St Andrew's CE Primary.

It was a pleasant evening with plenty to eat (hotdogs & burgers, ice-cream etc) and a fly-by from a Spitfire.



ST ANDREW'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL **Parent Teacher Association**

King Edward Crescent
Woodhall Spa
Lincs
LN10 6RQ

standrewspta@live.com

Richard Arden
PTA Chairman
Brackenford House
Tor-O-Moor Road
Woodhall Spa
Lincolnshire
LN10 6TD
Tel: 01526 353902
Mobile: 07948391310

Tuesday, 26 July 2011

Dear Jane and all the Sherwood Chapter

Schools out! And just a distant memory. So it's time for me to catch up with some of my thank You's.

Thank YOU ALL so much for making our evening in Woodhall Spa a special one. The Kids loved all your Bikes. Seeing you ride in head lamps on was a fantastic start to the event. Took me back to my biking days.

I can now tell you that the Summer Spectacular made a total profit of £2028. That's an all time record! ☺ Over the last School year the PTA have made a profit of nearly £7000. All this will be spent on improving the School environment for the Children. This year we have purchased Cameras, book bags, given money towards school trips, two new ovens, rugby shirts for the whole team, plus lots of treats such as ice creams at sports days, present for the Royal Wedding celebrations, the list goes on.

Also I can report that our goal of building a Trim Trail for the older Children is almost at fruition. Next term we shall engage in talks with companies and builders and involve the Children in the actual design.

Thanks again and do let me know if your in the area I will make sure there is a cup of tea in the Village for you.

Regards

Richard (Boggit)

Bunny turns to the dark side...

There is no-one in the Chapter who has not met or heard of Ian 'Bunny' Harper. Well, July was a significant month for Bunny as he turned in his Harley after several years in the Chapter, the last few as Road Captain, for a Lambretta... yes, that's right, a scooter. Not just a scooter, but an Italian scooter..!

Bunny felt the need to turn to the dark side – but we all look to the future in the hope that one day he will see the truth prevail and return to the Chrome & Steel we all love so much (apart from Bunny of course).



Bunny's wit and jokes at the Chapter Ride-outs will be missed as will his great ride-out destinations. But do not be perturbed too much; I'm sure we will see him at various locations (waiting for a breakdown van for the Lambretta) such as the Chapter Rally and perusing the V-Rods at Robin Hood Harley-Davidson.

Many thanks Bunny, for all the effort you've put into the Chapter over the last few years.

The Legend Rally Volunteers

The second Volunteers' meeting was held at the Railway Inn, Lowdham on 25th July. With just over four weeks before the rally, the final stages of preparations were planned. The key items are, of course, the volunteers, for their help in areas from erecting the Marquee to cleaning the toilets.

Ann Clark produced a book to record Volunteers' names. This will be held by the Chapter and added to over future Rallies to record the names of those who willingly gave up their time for a successful rally.

Events & Ride-outs in July included:

- ❖ 2nd Robin Hood's 8th Birthday Bash & Sherwood Chapter BBQ at Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 3rd Sherwood Chapter Ride-out from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 4th North Nottingham Area Meeting
- ❖ 6th Lincoln Area Meeting
- ❖ 7th Sherwood Chapter Ride-out from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 9th Sherwood Chapter Charity Weekend – 3,2,1 Ride
- ❖ 12th Derbyshire Area Meeting
- ❖ 14th Chapter Meeting (Meadow Covert, Edwalton)
- ❖ 15th Hoggin' the Beaver
- ❖ 18th North Nottingham Area Meeting
- ❖ 20th Lincoln Area Meeting
- ❖ 22nd Sherwood Chapter supported 2011 HOG Rally - Plymouth
- ❖ 26th Derbyshire Area Meeting
- ❖ 28th South Nottingham Area Meeting
- ❖ 30th Last Saturday – Sherwood Chapter Ride-out from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 30th Barn Dance at the Meadow Covert
- ❖ 31st Sherwood Chapter Ride-out from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson

August 2011

August was filled with final preparations for the Legend Rally. Checking with traders, food & drink vendors and of course, with Thoresby Estate management to make sure that all was set for another successful rally.

August Ride-outs

Paul Allen led the Chapter to Saltburn for a second year's visit to the seaside town. Again, well attended and all who rode their Harleys agreed it was another successful ride-out.

Roy Radford with the aid of Terry Hill took the Sherwood members on a ride-out to Cambridge:

I woke up early on Sunday morning, opened the curtains and saw it had been raining most of the night. 'Oh bloody hell' I thought to myself 'I have got to tail end today'. It was one of those moments when I thought to myself 'why did I offer to tail end?' Well I did and just had to get the bike out and make my way to the shop - should I put my water proofs on or not? After looking out 'yes' was my answer.

Well on arrival at the shop Brian was already there and I thought another idiot! The next idiots to arrive were Roy and Sandra followed by Nick.

Roy asked "Are we going on the planned ride or go back to bed?"

The decision was well we're up so let's go for it! We made our way to the motorway south-bound to the Loughborough turn off and then through Sutton Bonnington, Wymeswold, towards Melton Mowbray and arrived at Harley Davidson at Uppingham for a cup of coffee. Roy asked if we liked how he had reserved parking for us all as there was nobody there. Nick, Brian and myself were thinking no other right minded Harley biker would take their nice chrome bike out with the weather looking like it was. Looking up the weather was not looking too bad so off with my waterproofs (good omen or bad?)

We left Uppingham and went through some country lanes winding through Bulwick, heading to Oundle where we were told to look for Big Bird? Well I couldn't see any 6ft yellow bird? It turned out to be a rather large hawk which circled around us and left me a mess on my windshield - cheers! Following the

winding lanes towards Huntingdon we arrived at Grafham Water where we had a nice apple & blackberry pie with custard (really hard bikers we are). A great spot, it reminded me of Rutland Water with all the wind surfers out there. After a short break we made our way back to the A1 northbound off around Rutland Water back towards home.

I must admit we never got wet all day and most of the day we saw sunshine but they do say the sun shines on the righteous! In conclusion it only goes to show sometimes it's best to make the effort and I am glad I did.

Thanks for a great day Roy - just a pity there were not many more idiots came out to play.



Also, in August, ride-outs and Chapter BBQs continued with some Chapter members attending other Chapters' rallies.

And of course, the big event in the August HOG UK calendar is Thunder in the Glens. Once again, a large number of Sherwood Chapter members attended the successful rally at Aviemore.

Events & Ride-outs in August included:

- ❖ 1st North Nottingham Area Meeting
- ❖ 3rd Lincoln Area Meeting
- ❖ 6th Charity Ride-out from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 7th Sherwood Chapter Ride-out from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 9th Derbyshire Area Meeting
- ❖ 9th Robin Hood Ride-out to the Six Hills Motorcycle Night from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 11th Chapter Meeting (Festival Inn, Trowel)
- ❖ 13th Sherwood Chapter BBQ at Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 14th Sherwood Chapter Ride-out from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson

- ❖ 15th North Nottingham Area Meeting
- ❖ 17th Lincoln Area Meeting
- ❖ 21st Sherwood Chapter Ride-out from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 23rd Derbyshire Area Meeting
- ❖ 25th South Nottingham Area Meeting
- ❖ 26th HDRCGB Rally at Walesby
- ❖ 27th Sherwood Chapter Ride-out from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 29th North Nottingham Area Meeting
- ❖ 29th Bank Holiday Ride-out - Rievaulx Abbey, Yorkshire
- ❖ 31st Lincoln Area Meeting

September 2011

The Legend Rally – Sherwood Chapter's 12th Rally

September held the event of 2011 for Sherwood Chapter: the Legend Rally, Rally 12. Almost a year in the making, both committee & a handful of volunteers worked hard to bring together another successful rally at Thoresby Estate in the heart of Sherwood Forest.

The rally opened its gates at midday on Thursday 2nd September when more than 180 rally guests checked in for the festivities. More arrived the following day and more than 300 guests enjoyed the weekend's Sherwood hospitality, including a large contingent of Opale Shore Chapter (France) who visited the rally for their first time.



Opal Shore Chapter members [DG]

Live music, fun games and ride-in show were just a few of the items on the agenda, and to cap it all off, a huge fireworks display filled the Saturday night sky. The latter caught many by surprise as a surprise it was; only a small number of event organisers knew of the display and had kept it a well guarded secret to make the rally's crescendo one to remember.

Three ride-outs over Friday & Saturday kept Sherwood Chapter's guests out of mischief, the main ride-out stopping off at Southwell for some refreshments and a bite to eat.

Sherwood Chapter's sponsored charity for 2011 was the Lincs & Notts Air Ambulance, and to receive this year's donation, the Air Ambulance Team lead by Jim Vickrage arrived once again in style in their new helicopter.



Several charity events held through the year had raised over £11,000 for L&NAA with an additional £2,600 for the Yorkshire Air Ambulance. Thanks to Shirley Whitworth and team, the Chapter beat the 2010 record fund raising total of £9,600.

THE LEGEND RALLY

THE LEGEND CONTINUES

Sherwood Chapter's The Legend Rally started the month of September with a storm – were you there?

Pete Clifford, Chapter Director of Sherwood Chapter, does not mess around: he is proud of his rally and the team that pull it together, and rightly so. "We may not be the biggest," Pete began, "but we've got one of the best rally venues in the country." The beautiful Thoresby Estate, in the heart of Nottinghamshire, was the venue for September 2-5's Legend Rally and it made a spectacular base for the weekend's party.

With a superb team of Chapter members and volunteers behind him, Pete and rally organiser and Chapter Editor, Dai Gunter, pulled together a great party. The rally gates were thrown open on Thursday lunchtime and, unexpectedly, around a third of the weekend's rally-goers had arrived by day's end. "We had a big brazier fire to sit round while the band was playing, which was a great way to kick things off," remembered Pete.

The next morning, with good weather on their side, the remaining attendees rolled in. Superb bands entertained everyone that evening. It was the perfect backdrop to some time to sit back, relax and enjoy yourself.

Next day, there was some serious rally fun to be had. "We do a bike show and silly games," said Pete. But Sherwood Chapter couldn't claim a home win: "We had a team from the Opale Shore Chapter in France, who walked off with all the

trophies," laughed Pete. This has cemented the two Chapters' relationship, however, and 18 members of Sherwood will be heading over the channel to their rally, where they will be invited to join the two Chapters with a twinning ceremony.

Later on the Saturday, around 130 bikes took part in the ride-out to the historic town of Southwell, where they stayed for a couple of hours. Back at the rally site, it was time to recognise the Chapter's incredible achievement through the charity work that the Chapter has carried out throughout the year.

The Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire Air Ambulance landed at the rally site to receive a cheque for an amazing £11,000, while a further £2,600 was donated to the Yorkshire Air Ambulance. Pete commented: "It's a good cause to raise money for, well-deserving of our support and it was nice to have the helicopter on-site to hand over the cheque, but we hope we won't ever really need them!"

Then, it was time to relax again. For Dai, Pete and the 30 other volunteers, all that was left to do was to sit round the campfire, enjoy the bar in the field and the function area – and start looking forward to next year. ■

For news of next year's rally or to find out more about Sherwood Chapter, visit their website www.sherwoodchapter.co.uk

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Sherwood Chapter & Opale Shore Twinning

Another historical milestone for Sherwood Chapter occurred in September. A group of 12 or so Sherwood Chapter members took a journey over the Channel to visit Opale Shore and attend their rally. It was strange scene as the French Chapter took over the entire town, partying in the street and town square (see Pete Clifford's eQ&Q write-up below).

The highlight of the weekend's revelry was the official twinning of Sherwood and Opale Shore Chapters; Pete & the Sherwood Chapter members were invited onto the stage to be presented with a Chapter Twinning flag and a commemorative twinning picture – the date: Saturday 24th September.

Needless to say, that fired off the rest of the activities that continued well into the wee small hours of Sunday morning.





WORDS FROM YOUR DIRECTOR

THE TWINNING OF SHERWOOD & OPALE SHORE CHAPTERS

This is the bit from the director, me, Pete Clifford, trying not to repeat last year's stuff and the year before and the years before that. As always, this time of year is a bit of a downward slide for the time spent riding. The last Chapter rally and RTTW being over and done with and no more H.O.G. rallies to attend in 2011, just the odd Halloween and Christmas party to go to at Robin Hood HD. The (warm) riding season is just about done, leaves falling and hiding the potholes and dare I say when it rains, well it becomes a bit twitchy around the old buttock muscles to say the least! Enough! I've just looked back at last Q&Q and see that this has been aired before, time for something new to talk about.

Le Fransais; Opale Shore to be precise, just around the corner from Calais, 240 miles from my back door; this was the last full weekend out on the old steed; she's done 52,500 miles now and boy have I enjoyed them all. Well not the ones in the recovery van to Heart & Soul when she let me down at Wetherby Services. Stop! Enough! Just checked again and yes this has been said also in a previous Q&Q.

Back to France and yes what a weekend. The alarm clock worked and I set off early enough to meet at the Friendly Farmer and was late. Do you ever get that feeling you have left something behind? Well some of us do leave things behind and I didn't have to beg forgiveness from anyone as it was my colours I left and I wasn't going to France without them so a u-turn was executed, better than my effort in my bike test as I remember and I bet that's somewhere in a Q&Q as well. So finally I made the Friendly Farmer and met up with the other Sherwoodites who were also off southbound to France with Kev & Gill leading the way, Helen in the middle and me, doing the Tail-end Charlie thing. Next stop was the services down the M11. We picked up American Jon. The ride to the tunnel was quite chilly to say the least and once on the train we were there in no time, Calais that is. The other side of the tunnel was a lot warmer and brighter so the coast road was our chosen route and what a choice. You could just make out the White Cliffs of Dover whilst cruising down the twisty roads of the Côte d'Opale - superb. We passed some remarkable scenery and of course one or two big gun turrets with massive concrete reinforcements surrounding them. The thirty or so miles from the tunnel to Hardelot were soon behind us and the ride there finished in beautiful wooded surroundings at the Hotel Regina, 2km from the town centre. Check-in was a little complicated to say the least but we were soon meeting in the bar ready for the walk into town, for a beer or two. We found Robin & Janet sat smack bang in the middle of town, in the sunshine having what looked like a rather nice cold beer. The sunshine was just what the doctor ordered and on that we had some more beers and then went for super. The stage for the weekend's entertainment was in the middle of the town, outside in the sunshine and there was some great music being played. After supper we went to the Opale Chapter hospitality tent and had some drinks where Jean Luc, Chapter Director and I signed two certificates, one for each Chapter, twinning officialdom. After whiskey and god knows what else it was time

to try the Irish bar for some more beer. Yes you've guessed, it was a late night. Saturday morning soon came around and four bikes shot over to Boulogne for breakfast, croissants and coffee, very nice. After brecky Robin and myself had a slow ride back through the city centre of Boulogne and down the coast rode, eventually arriving at Hardelot where we were told there would be a ceremony at 2.30pm in the town centre, so all the Sherwood members that were there would go on stage with Opale Shore as French TV were there with the press to report on the official twinning ceremony. On behalf of Sherwood Chapter I was presented with a flag that was designed by Virg, the Treasurer of Opale Shore Chapter. The design is superb, with the French & Union flags cut diagonally and both Chapter logos on the appropriate half. Jean Luc and I exchanged certificates and words about the event. Later I took the Sherwood Chapter flag for a spin on the Opale Shore ride with about 1000 others and was asked to ride behind Jean Luc who was at the front, I felt honoured to do so. What a difference the police make on a ride out. A point of the finger to the side of the road and hey presto the car stops and doesn't move until tail-end Charlie has passed, if only it could happen in this country. The ride lasted an hour and it was amazing to see that every village came out to wave to us and the big American Kenwood tractor unit made its presence heard with a continual blowing of its air horns, magnifique. We arrived back from the ride out at about 5.30pm so the bars were empty-ish. Time for a large beer and then get the bikes back to the hotel and freshen up for the night's activities. What a day it had been so far and we still had to have dinner. 110 sat down to eat and did we laugh; our meals were already booked, we did that before we left for France, organised or what? Before sitting in the restaurant we had a band march through the street and we were all asked to join in the dancing, we did and then went to dinner. The same band decided it was then time they marched through the restaurant and didn't want to leave, when they saw that free beer was being handed amongst the musicians. Eventually we ate but before we did I made a small announcement and thanked Opale Shore for their hospitality and kindness and said that it was a pleasure to twin with such a magnificent Chapter, all said through my translator of the evening, Dom a fine English speaking Opale Shore Chapter member. It's on YouTube; copy and paste 'Sherwood Chapter twinning with France' and take a look. Eventually after food, wine and beer we all departed and yet again, some of us made it to the Irish bar to finish off the evening well into the early hours; believe me, it's the only way to finish off a great weekend. Bright and early next morning American Jon and I joined the ride and we rode to Coquelles on the ride-out and departed the ride following Virg on her Sportster to the next island where we

said our goodbyes and thank-you's. What a fantastic weekend. Thanks to Kev and Gill for the ride there and for the communications between the two chapters prior to the week end that made the twinning happen, à la votre.

Opale Shore Chapter and Sherwood Chapter, long may our friendship last.



Events & Ride-outs in September included:

In between the two momentous occasions of the Legend Rally and Sherwood/Opale Shore Twinning, Steve Fox & Steve Kinsey too a ride-out to one of the highest inns in England - Tan Hill Inn (Britains Highest Public House) – it was featured on Everest Double Glazing TV advert a number of years ago.

After a bite to eat, the group took their ride-out on a jaunt around the beautiful Yorkshire Dales, and in the afternoon partook of a cream tea in a village café – how delightful..!

Events & Ride-outs in September included:

- ❖ 1st Legend Rally – Sherwood Rally 12
- ❖ 6th Derbyshire Area Meeting
- ❖ 8th Chapter Meeting (Meadow Covert, Edwalton)
- ❖ 10th Sherwood Chapter BBQ at Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 11th Ladies of Harley Cream Tea Ride-out from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 12th North Nottingham Area Meeting
- ❖ 14th Lincoln Area Meeting
- ❖ 17th Robin Hood Ride-out to Rutland (evening ride)
- ❖ 18th Sherwood Chapter Ride-out from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 20th Derbyshire Area Meeting
- ❖ 22nd South Nottingham Area Meeting
- ❖ 24th Last Saturday – Sherwood Chapter Ride-out from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 26th North Nottingham Area Meeting
- ❖ 28th Lincoln Area Meeting

October 2011

Ride to the Wall

The month of October was extremely quiet following a hectic September. The major event of the month was Sherwood Chapter's involvement with the Ride to the Wall event which took place on the 1st of the month.

This year, Dave Ferrand (YROS) had been charged with organising the ride-ins from an array of venues on the peripheries of the National Arboretum at Alrewas.

Dave had meticulously planned the gathering sites where thousands of motorcyclists would meet on the morning of the event to safely ride from the meeting venue and on to the Arboretum. After many hundreds of miles in the planning and many sleepless nights, Dave eventually finalised the routes and with the aid of lead riders at each of the meeting venues, all riders arrived at the Arboretum safely.

Steve Fox (Sherwood Chapter Road Captain) found himself volunteering for the Leicester Forest East Services meeting point. Over 500 motorcycles were expected and Steve had to enlist the aid of Sherwood Chapter Road Captains & Marshals. On a glorious and unseasonably warm October morning, 470+ two-wheeled machines pulled up at Leicester Forest East Services.



Just by chance (so it seemed) our friends in blue happened to be at the Services. The lone traffic car (plus two officers) radioed in and by the time we were set to depart the Services, another traffic car and four police motorcycles formed a rolling road-block to ensure all 470+ motorcycles left the Services without incident. The escort continued to the large roundabout at the junction of M1 and A453 where the police stopped all traffic to allow the ride-out smooth transition onto the A50.

In glorious sunshine, the 470+ motorcycles arrived a little while later at the Arboretum to pay their respects to those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for their country. A moving ceremony and wreath laying service was augmented by a team of army parachutists who displayed their expert training with pin-point accuracy when jumping from a perfectly fine aeroplane into a crowd of motorcyclists (well, a cordoned off area that is).

Officials at the Arboretum stated that this year's RTTW was the biggest single event they had ever held at the venue with more than 10,000 motorcycles and 15,000 guests.



[Photos courtesy of Tim Holt]



RIDE TO THE WALL

SHERWOOD CHAPTER PAYS ITS RESPECTS

Sherwood chapter gathered en masse to yet again pay there respects to our fallen war heroes.

Riders gathered at Leicester forest east services to partake in this years ride to the wall. And after a short but exceptionally well organised ride to the national arboretum, marshalled and led by our own Road Captains, we arrived at the war memorial.

We were, I believe the 2nd ride to arrive and the parking area was already starting to fill up.

Pete Clifford, our director, took me over to the reception area to sort



Thanks to Natalie for helping with as I'm not good with words and my hand righting is awful.

Another year has passed
but still our memories
live on forever.
'Lest we forget'



In Remembrance

Once the service had finished the Chaplin called upon all the wreath layers to come forward up the main steps to pay there respects.

As my name had been selected out the hat (as they say) and my uncle's name is on the wall it was an honour.

Natalie my daughter who is an adult instructor in Nott's ACF accompanied me and took these photos.

Once the wreath's had been laid the memorial was opened up to all visitors to look up the names of relatives and loved ones.



The whole day including the ride in was exceptionally organised and marshalled. Many thanks go out to all the RTTW organisers, the staff at the memorial and everyone involved.

What a wonderful way for the biking community to come together and show there respects and solidarity in supporting our brave forces.

We'll never forget.....
Hope to see you all next year.
Dave Waltham



out the chapter wreath and it was arranged to pick it up later for the wreath laying ceremony.

We all then had a chance to grab a bite to eat and have a good look around in the wonderful sunshine the made the day so much better.

2 o'clock soon arrived and my eldest daughter and I collected the wreath and wrote a few word on the card.



Events & Ride-outs in October included:

- ❖ 1st Ride to the Wall
- ❖ 4th Derbyshire Area Meeting
- ❖ 6th Chapter Meeting (Festival Inn, Trowel)
- ❖ 8th Sherwood Chapter BBQ at Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 9th Sherwood Chapter Ride-out from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 10th North Nottingham Area Meeting
- ❖ 12th Lincoln Area Meeting
- ❖ 15th Ladies of Harley Cream Tea Ride-out from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 18th Derbyshire Area Meeting
- ❖ 20th South Nottingham Area Meeting
- ❖ 23rd Sherwood Chapter Ride-out from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 24th North Nottingham Area Meeting
- ❖ 26th Lincoln Area Meeting
- ❖ 29th Last Saturday – Sherwood Chapter Ride-out from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 29th Halloween Party at Robin Hood Harley-Davidson – including a fancy dress ride-out

November 2011

The AGM

The main event for November was the Annual General Meeting. This year, the AGM was held at the Festival Inn on the 3rd November.

All committee posts with the exception of Director were up for renewal. Darren James, Head Road Captain, had asked not to be reconsidered for the 2012 committee due to work constraints; all other positions held by incumbent committee members were non-contested.

Two member applications were received to fill the vacant Head Road Captain position: John Tonks and Terry Hill both applied for the position. With both applicants already fulfilling Road Captain positions they were suitable qualified for the role.

A vote on the night by the members attending the AGM elected Terry Hill as Head Road Captain.

Other committee posts remained vacant after the AGM: Membership Officer, Historian & Webmaster. All three posts were covered by existing committee members in a caretaker role.

All committee posts are held for two year tenure as stated by Sponsoring Dealer Robin Hood Harley-Davidson, with the exception of Director whose tenure is three years. Applications for Director will be invited in the 2012 AGM.

In addition, the Chapter sponsored charity for 2012-13 was voted and the Lincs & Notts Air Ambulance Service was once again the winning charity.

Chilli Day at Robin Hood Harley-Davidson

Sherwood Chapter holds BBQs on a regular basis at Robin Hood Harley-Davidson to extend the Chapter's hospitality to friends & members alike. Pete Clifford's burgers are a must and you will never taste a finer burger. Committee members, Road Captains and volunteers help out with the BBQ, but the lion's share of thanks must go to the Chapter Director who oversees the BBQs and ensures that the equipment, meats, buns, etc are all organised, even on the rare occasion when Pete cannot make the day due to other commitment.

On the 19th November, there was a twist of the tale... a chilli day, a great big bowl of chilli for all who visited the shop. Again, Pete Clifford, along with Mrs Terry Hill, & Karen Elliot supplied the chilli and a crumble, all hot and bothered, and it was well received by those who partook on the cool November day at Robin Hood Harley-Davidson.

Road Captain's Annual Meeting

Newly elected Head Road Captain, Terry Hill, took on his first official duty on the 24th of the month with a gathering of Sherwood Chapter Road Captains & Marshals. This annual event was first introduced by Darren James in 2006 and soon became a key event in the annual preparations for ride-outs and other events in setting calendar dates for the following season.

The meeting tables all suggested venues and ideas for ride-outs for the next season and with the aid of the calendar, dates & lead riders are agreed before posting on the Robin Hood Harley-Davidson official wall calendar that is printed by the shop and given out free to those who wish to accept it.

In addition, the events are communicated via the Chapter website events page with meeting times & venues detailed for the members and guests to make note of in their personal diaries.

Also included are official Sherwood Chapter rally events whereby the Chapter may decide to ride en masse to a number of rallies.

Derby & Nottingham Areas combined festive bash

This year, the Derby & Notts area meetings combined for a festive bash at the Denby Lodge on the 29th of November. Organised by Glenn Page, Mick Baines & Paul Allen, the trio managed an affordable Xmas Event for the Sherwood Chapter members. All fifty seats were sold out. A fantastic night had by all.

Events & Ride-outs in November included:

- ❖ 1st Derbyshire Area Meeting
- ❖ 3rd Chapter Meeting (Meadow Covert, Edwalton)
- ❖ 5th Robin Hood Bonfire Day & Chapter BBQ at Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 7th North Nottingham Area Meeting
- ❖ 9th Lincoln Area Meeting
- ❖ 15th Derbyshire Area Meeting
- ❖ 17th South Nottingham Area Meeting
- ❖ 19th Chilli Day at Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 21st North Nottingham Area Meeting
- ❖ 23rd Lincoln Area Meeting
- ❖ 29th Derbyshire Area Meeting

December 2011

Lincoln Area Christmas Bash

The onset of winter and of course, cheaper servicing rates at Robin Hood Harley-Davidson, festive parties with Derby & Notts Areas combining this year for a bash at the Denby Lodge on the 29th November and the Lincoln Area getting together on the 10th December, meeting at the Ritz Wetherspoons Pub and then invading an Indian restaurant for a traditional Xmas curry (not sure how traditional a Xmas curry might be, but I guess if it's happening regularly, then tradition it must be).



This year's Lincoln Area bash was organised by Jeff Bayne (aka Y.I. Man). Jeff, a former Area Rep for Lincoln, made the appropriate visits to prospective restaurants and bars before deciding on the traditional option and informing the Chapter membership via newsletter.

Meanwhile, the Derby & Notts bash was organised by Glenn Page, Mick Baines and Paul Allen and held at the Denby Lodge, Derby.

Great turn-outs at both parties made sure that all enjoyed the festive spirit.

New Webmaster & Membership Secretary

Following a request for vacant Committee positions, Malcolm Pritchard offered his services in taking up the Membership Secretary's role; meanwhile, after Martin Haley announced at the AGM that he'd be switching off his modem and finishing as caretaker of the Chapter Website at the end of the year, Andy Fellows took up the challenge again after a short break carrying out official services with Lindum Chapter.

Both Malcolm and Andy take up the new roles in January 2012.

Brass Balls Ride-out – that last ride-out of 2011

This year Terry Hill pulled together the route and organised the obligatory New Year's Eve ride-out, a short run for those who turned up and met at Robin Hood Harley-Davidson for the lunchtime ride-out to brave the British winter weather.

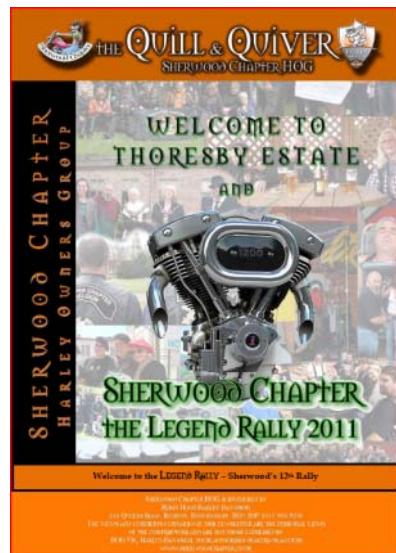
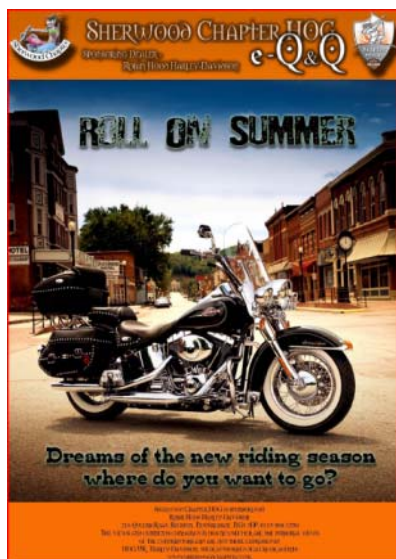
Events & Ride-outs in December included:

- ❖ 1st Chapter Meeting (Festival Inn, Trowel)
- ❖ 5th North Nottingham Area Meeting
- ❖ 7th Lincoln Area Meeting
- ❖ 10th Ricardo's Christmas Ride-out from Robin Hood Harley-Davidson
- ❖ 11th The 2nd Salvation Army Toy Run
- ❖ 13th Derbyshire Area Meeting
- ❖ 15th South Nottingham Area Meeting
- ❖ 19th North Nottingham Area Meeting
- ❖ 21st Lincoln Area Meeting
- ❖ 31st Brass Balls / Warm Up Your Cocksles Ride-out

The Quill & Quiver magazines of 2011

The Quill & Quiver and the eQ&Q can be downloaded from the Chapter website's members section.

Visit www.sherwoodchapter.co.uk today.



All excerpts from the Q&Q in this chapter of Sherwood History can be found in the above editions of the Q&Q and eQ&Q.