

# RUTLAND CHAPTER'S NEWSLETTER OCT '09

## SCRATCHY'S SCRIBBLINGS



First of all let me say that I am thrilled to have been elected as the new Chapter Director. I would like to thank my predecessor Pete Ward for all the hard work and commitment he has willingly given on the Chapters behalf over the past 3 years. I spent some time as his Assistant and realise how much work is involved and how frustrating it can

be at times. I know Pete will continue to be an active Chapter member and he'll willingly provide assistance where needed. In fact, he would like to continue to organise the December Toy Run and the Easter Egg Run, which I am more than happy and grateful for him to do.

I would also like to pay tribute to the 2009 committee members that are standing down and thank them all for their hard work, our recent rally was a credit to them all. To the committee members that have been re-elected and indeed those that have just been elected, get ready to press that starter button and lets ride and have some fun ! After all that's what HOG is supposed to be all about, there are lots of new friends out there so let's get out there and meet them !

I have spoken to both Sam and Andrew at Sycamore, both of which are more than willing to continue to donate their support of the Chapter, through personnel support for the admin and of course their financial support. Without either of these we would not have a Chapter. Also, they now have two active Chapter members amongst their staff, in Richard and Stuart, which is something that both Andrew and myself have always wanted.

The committee positions have been condensed this year to try to put the emphasis, on positions that will organise events and rides. If a committee member organises a ride for instance: now it is up to them to organise Road Captains, someone to take photos and in some cases someone to do a write up for the newsletter. If they're struggling, that's why they have myself, DHL Pete and Shep, to support them, to help them out and to encourage member involvement in their events. Without events/rides you won't have any photos to display or newsletters to write and eventually you'll have no members.

We fully intend to get a draft of next year's rides/events available for, at the very latest the February meeting / Sycamore Custom Show. Some of the dates later on in the year will be marked as TBA but they will be confirmed once the event has. So if you have any suggestions or ideas they'll be more than welcome. Hopefully by getting this calendar out early, it will allow members to plan in advance, what events they want to do. During the past 12 months, the previous committee has struggled to get sufficient material for newsletters and because of this, only managed to produce one instead of the HOG required four. This year there will be four, hopefully some of you will contribute, and have a go, but if you don't, there will still be four. Just means I, or others on the committee will have to write them. Anyway, I have worked out that if I mention to Bob about an event write up, he does one. Think he's frightened what I may write about him ! Twelve months ago to the day, I picked up my new white Heritage Softail from Sycamore with the intention of keeping the mileage down on this one. Well it is now 200 miles off having 10,000 miles on it, and to make things worse, 2 months ago I bought a Sportster with 1800 miles on it, to run around on and that now has 4000 miles on it. Someone must have a key to my garage or maybe Itchy has been riding them during the week whilst I am at work. Mind you when I think of the distance trips I have done, it soon adds up and you begin to realise where the mileage has come from. Still that's what they're made for to be ridden and I love every minute that I am sat on mine. Lets hope we have a mild winter ! During the winter months I shall be working hard with my fellow committee members to try and organise a fun packed year ahead. I know we have the right people in the right places to make things happen and with your support, it should be great !

*Scratchy*



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## RUTLAND CHAPTER

### Christmas Toy Run

#### Sun 13th December

Rutland Chapters Annual Christmas Toy Run to Peterborough District Hospital, get out there and bring a gift for the kids at the hospital. All gifts should be labelled "Boy" or "Girl" with an age group where applicable. These Gifts can be dropped off prior to the event at Sycamore Harley, Uppingham who are providing a van to take the gifts to the Hospital. All bikers welcome so be sure to bring along your friends. **Arrive Sycamores, Uppingham for 10am with the ride leaving at 10.30am. Riding through Oundle Town Centre at 11am to pick up people (no stop). We will stop for 10mins at Notcutts Lay-by, Orton at 11.45am for the last pick up.**



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## SHOP TORQUE

First of all I would like to thank Pete Ward for his leadership as Chapter Director over the past 3 years. I think you will all agree it's not an easy job and he has served us well.

With Pete's resignation it was decided to hold an AGM to select a new committee for the following year. My thanks go out to the committee members over the past 3 years for doing a great job and holding some good events.

On 18<sup>th</sup> September 2009 we held the AGM at the dealership and what a turnout of members (surprising what free food and drink attracts), the evening went well and I would like to congratulate Scratchy on becoming Chapter Director, I am sure with the support of the members and dealership he will do a great job also I would like to welcome the rest of the committee, Shep, Pete H, Mark, Lucy, Dave and Bob.

Here at the dealership we have made a few changes recently, we have taken on the Ducati franchise, this is in addition to Harley-Davidson and the response has been good in bringing new riders to the dealership looking at purchasing either brand.

We are also making changes to the layout of the dealership; the central staircase to the mezzanine floor has allowed us to create a new customer lounge. Which when completed, will have a TV, vending machines, sofas and we are now looking at purchasing a pool table so come on over and take a look.

Our Service Department has some great winter offers on currently. Please see below for offers.

We also have some new t-shirts and riding jackets in stock ideal for that Christmas gift.

Looking forward we will be having our birthday party 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> December with some great offers on bikes and clothing.

We will be holding our annual Custom bike show on 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> February so if you would like to enter your bike please speak to Dan or Matt Hamblin.

As this is the last newsletter this year it leaves me to say Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.  
Ride Safe, Andrew Winham.

## CHAPTER MATTERS

### 2009/10 Rutland Chapter Committee

- Chapter Director** **Garry Adam (Scratchy)**  
E-mail [rutlandchapter@btinternet.com](mailto:rutlandchapter@btinternet.com)  
Tel 07900 257230
- Assistant Director** **Pete Hewett**  
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Tel. 07980 779940
- Assistant Director** **Kenneth Shepstone (Shep)**  
Email [kennethshepstone@sky.com](mailto:kennethshepstone@sky.com)  
Tel. 07740 531256
- Treasurer** **Mark Buckmaster**  
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Tel 07908766538
- Activities Officer** **Dave Hetherington**  
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- Assistant Activities Officer** **Bob Galley**  
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- Dealer Rep** **Andrew Winham**  
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- Membership Secretary** **Jackie McIntyre**  
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Tel 01527 823296
- Webmaster** **Sam Hamblin**  
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Tel 01572 823296

Are you interested in joining the committee?  
Contact Scratchy to discuss further.  
Details above!

**For all of the Chapter's latest activities,**  
please go to our website  
**[www.rutlandchapter.co.uk](http://www.rutlandchapter.co.uk)**  
or ring the chapter helpline  
**01572 824090**

or pop into Sycamore and see our  
**notice boards in the HOG VIP Lounge.**

## WINTER SERVICE

**Riding through Winter  
or layin' up for the season?**

We are offering a complete wheel-to-wheel  
safety check which includes:

- Engine oil and filter service,
- Comprehensive 99 point check,
- \$100 corrosion protectant treatment,
- Spring pre-season safety check.



2007 MODEL YEAR MOTORCYCLES ONWARDS  
**10K MLS SERVICE  
ONLY £230**

## BIG BORE CONVERSIONS



883cc to 1200cc **£1,100 inc VAT.**  
1584cc to 1690cc **£1,200 inc VAT.**

Only applicable to models with Stage One upgrades in place.

## FULL VALET - £60

Plus we'll give you a FREE Dust Cover to help  
keep your motorcycle pristine. Including VAT.

## COLLECTION AND DELIVERY\*

Having Service work done? We can arrange to  
collect your motorcycle from home or even work  
and sort out a courtesy bike too. Call for rates.

### Special offer to all Rutland Chapter members



This voucher entitles you to

**10% off  
parts & labour**

in our car workshop

Bring this voucher with you  
or quote 'Rutland Chapter'  
when you call 01572 823296

or book online at

**[www.SYCAMOREUPPINGHAM.co.uk](http://www.SYCAMOREUPPINGHAM.co.uk)**





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## Know Your ABCs (ABCs of Touring)

Knowing your H.O.G.<sup>®</sup> benefits should be like knowing your ABCs. Take, for instance, the ABCs of Touring ... it's not as if any of us really need an extra incentive to ride. But there's something thrilling about exploring the back roads and happening upon a town that begins with the letter "Z." It's the little discoveries that make riding so fulfilling. Not to mention, all the great prizes you could win.

It doesn't take much to take part in the ABCs of Touring. All you do is collect photos of yourself and your Harley<sup>®</sup> holding a current edition of *Hog Tales*<sup>®</sup> in front of "official" signs for various entities – cities, counties, states, countries, etc. – and you could be eligible for great prizes. Check your *H.O.G. Membership Manual* for more details on how to take part, or visit [members.hog.com](http://members.hog.com).

## Make Your Miles Count (Mileage Programme)

H.O.G.<sup>®</sup> is all about riding and having fun. The H.O.G. Mileage Programme rewards you for doing what we all love to do most ... ride. The more miles you log on your Harley<sup>®</sup>, the more recognition you receive. Pins, patches, motorcycle medallions – all awarded to you because you ride.

A H.O.G. Mileage Programme pin and patch will be sent to all H.O.G. members upon enrollment in the program. If you have more than one motorcycle, be sure to enroll each additional bike. After enrollment, additional awards can be earned by achievement of the mileage levels listed in your *H.O.G. Membership Manual* and online at [members.hog.com](http://members.hog.com), starting at just 10,000 miles. Don't waste another mile!



### **HAVE YOU LOGGED IN YET ?**

Rutland Chapter's website now has a member's only section! Register and you'll get access to **newsletters, meeting minutes, members only**

**forum, members only chat, greeting cards, free tools and more!**

Goto [www.rutlandchapter.co.uk/memberlogin.html](http://www.rutlandchapter.co.uk/memberlogin.html) to register now!

**Rutland Chapter  
Helpline**

**01572 824090**

call to hear a pre-recorded message detailing this week's events plus any last minute changes.



## DIARY DATES



These are just some of our forthcoming events, make sure you logon to our calendar on our website [www.rutlandchapter.co.uk](http://www.rutlandchapter.co.uk) and check the notice boards in Sycamore to get the very latest details!

### **RTTW 2009 - Saturday 10th October**

Following the success of the "Ride to the Wall" in 2008 where over 2000 bikers rode from Tamworth to the Aboretum to commemorate our fallen war heroes. It is back again only this time bigger and better!

The ride leaves Drayton Manor near Tamworth at 11am, but if your planning on going straight there, be sure arrive as early as possible. The Chapter have a planned ride to attend this event which leaves **Sycamore Harley at Uppingham at 8.30am prompt**. Avoid any queues by registering online at [RTTW.org](http://RTTW.org) or alternatively register at event

### **HOGGIN THE BRIDGE 10 - Sunday 18th October**

The annual "Hoggin the Bridge" event takes place at 11am from Severn View Services Junction 1 M48 on the English side of the old Severn Bridge. This event attracts upwards of 5000 harleys, the Bridge is closed specifically for this event, as is Chepstow Centre where there are Traders and Bands. The Chapter has no organised ride to this event, although there are members planning on attending, check the members website for contacts.

### **OCTOBER MONTHLY MEET - Wednesday 21st October @ 8pm**

Monthly Chapter Business and Social Gathering at the White Horse at the Morcott junction of A47 and Ketton road, opposite JET garage, 3 miles East of Uppingham.

### **NOVEMBER MONTHLY MEET - Wednesday 18th November @ 8pm**

Monthly Chapter Business and Social Gathering at the White Horse at the Morcott junction of A47 and Ketton road, opposite JET garage, 3 miles East of Uppingham.

### **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TOY RUN - Sunday 13th December**

Rutland Chapters Annual Christmas Toy Run to Peterborough District Hospital, get out there and bring a gift for the kids at the hospital. All gifts should be labelled "Boy" or "Girl" with an age group where applicable. These Gifts can be dropped off prior to the event at Sycamore Harley, Uppingham who are providing a van to take the gifts to the Hospital. All bikers welcome so be sure to bring along your friends.

**Arrive Sycamores, Uppingham for 10am with the ride leaving at 10.30am**

**Riding through Oundle Town Centre at 11am to pick up people (no stop)**

**We will stop for 10mins at Notcutts Lay-by, Orton at 11.45am for the last pick up.**



**View photos of events on**

**[www.rutlandchapter.co.uk](http://www.rutlandchapter.co.uk)**

**Don't forget to upload your photos next time you come back from a ride out!**



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## LEOPOLDSBURG RALLY, BELGIUM JULY 09

For those of you that have done this event before you will know what a fabulous time can be had and this year was no different. Eight bikes met up at Peterborough at 6 o'clock on the evening of Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> July to ride first to The Harley Night at the Ace Cafe. On the way Chemical Dave picked us up making 9 bikes heading south.



As usual the cafe was buzzing, then we had to say goodbye to Tall Dave and Chemical Dave who were making their way home and would not be coming with us to Belgium. Mick, Scratchy, Wizz and Nelly, Lucy, Daz, Little Dave and I were off for an adventure. We rode through the night to Dover

arriving around 0300 very cold and very tired and I had to question whether it was worth it. We got on the 0330 ferry instead of the planned 0430 but it was very busy and we did not get the 1 hour planned sleep we all needed. We blasted up the motorway missing the morning rush on the notorious Antwerp Ring Road finally reaching the rally site at 1000. Normally we all stop in the local hotels but this year they were all booked up very early, so rather than miss the event we camped on site. Cost for rally was a very reasonable 30 Euros which included live groups each night and a disco, free breakfast each day with as much free coffee as you could drink until midday plus entry to the town for the ride out and party on Saturday afternoon. We set up tents and went for a local ride around the local Harley shops then into Leopoldsburg for a look around and something to eat then back to the site for beer and a good evening of music and laughs.



Next Day, we went into Leopoldsburg to watch the action. If you have never been to this event I cannot tell how great the Saturday is. The Mayor gives permission to shut the whole centre of the town off to all

cars from 1000 to late evening. Only bikes from the rally are allowed in and there is a half mile circular ride you can go around without a helmet posing. All the bars and kebab shops spill out onto the pavements and the whole route is flanked with on lookers from the site and the local towns. We met some Harley Riders from Anglia Region (Richard from Harleys Cafe in Deeping among them who of course is also chapter member) and some of my friends from Naseby Field Harley Riders. You could sit there hours watching the spectacle and we did, but at half two it was time to go back to the site for the ride out. No helmets are required for the 20 mile ride which goes through some beautiful woods and towns (ah, who like me remembers those days in England on a bike with the wind in your hair ? far out !). The ride out ends back in Leopoldsburg where the posers and Looney's continue riding around the circuit sometimes the girls are backwards on the tanks, or 3 people to a bike, burnouts and wheelies, I am sure you get the picture and of course we did a fair bit of posing as well. Back to the site again for a great evening, meeting up with lots of people from England who knew us. Next morning it was pouring down, so after another free breakfast we packed up and set off in torrential rain at 1000. One hundred miles later it dried out, off came the waterproofs

and spirits revived we had a break and a welcome coffee before the final leg to Calais and an uneventful ride home at 2000. Would I do it again ?? damn right I would, that was my



third time there and hope to make it 4 times next year. Would I camp again? yes I would, it was cheap, the breakfast was very good considering what you paid and the toilets and showers were very clean and well looked after but of course

you cannot beat a hotel room so who knows next time. I can recommend this event to you all, you need to see the Saturday in the town, to believe how cool it is. Many thanks to the 2 Dave's for their company to the Ace Cafe and to the other loony's who came to Belgium with me, it was a fab time and huge laugh, my sides are still aching as I write this. Would I change anything next time ?? it was a mistake doing the Ace first, it wore us out, and although it was good getting to the site at 1000 for pick of pitches it was a mistake going for such an early ferry. Next time I shall go for the 1000 ferry and arrive later OR as in previous years stay overnight at Dover to get the 0800 ferry.

**Ride Safe - Bob Galley (OAP)**

## SOFER RALLY, BISLEY AUGUST 09

The South OF England Rally this year was once again held at the fabulous Bisley Camp Site in Surrey, on the weekend of the 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> August. This event is always very popular and this year was no exception, it was once again a complete sell out with all 2300 tickets having been sold. We this year were well represented with about 20 Chapter members in attendance.

We all met at the Brampton Hut Services at 9.30am on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> of August, to travel down as group in the hope of all getting camped in the same area. Everyone had their waterproofs at the ready, with my wife Itchy in attendance - rain was to be expected. One thing did amaze me - how the hell do Hobbit and Wolfie fit that much stuff on a sportster ! We set off with DHL Pete in the lead and had a surprisingly dry and uneventful run down, with exception of the roundabout to join the M25. I was at the back and seen the group roar when the lights turned green, at this point Lucy dropped her camera and by the time she had picked it up the lights had changed back to red, leaving Winky (& Angie), Lucy and myself waiting for the next green light. Eventually it came, and Winky roared off like a "bat out of hell" with the intention of catching the rest of the group. Only problem was, he completely ignored the great big blue M25 signs, and took the turn for Central London. He soon learned of his error when Angie started to batter him, whilst continually pointing towards the big blue M25 sign. Before long we were back with the group and enjoyed an uneventful, dry journey all the way to Bisley. We arrived at about 11.15am and joined the queue to book in. It was all very well organised, unlike us, who somehow ended up camping in 2 groups. I think Bob and Wizz got a little over excited when they saw a tent and wanted to camp next to that ! As we were putting up the sun came out and it became very warm. I will





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went and booked on the "red" ride out (Windsor Castle & Henley etc) for the Saturday morning. There are 2 ride outs (red & blue) but you have to be sharp in booking down for them as they soon fill up. With the tent pitched and the ride out booked we all headed off to the supermarket for portable refreshments (alcohol). Later on, we were all sat by the tents in brilliant sunshine enjoying some well earned drink whilst nattering about anything and everything. Mike eventually joined us when he finished cleaning his bike whilst wearing his Harley Davidson pyjamas ! DHL Pete explained that he didn't drink at all, but joined Richard on the wine, just to be sociable. In the evening we went up to the main event area where we enjoyed some of the bands, wandered round the many trade stalls and sampled some more alcohol. Next morning, the sun once again was shining, and considering that DHL Pete doesn't drink, he definitely looked like he had a hangover to me ! Off on the ride out we all went, it was certainly very picturesque, especially Windsor Castle. After about 60 miles there was an organised stop for refreshments and a barbeque at a pub. Well to be honest they couldn't cope, by the time the queue for drinks had gone down, the barbeque had run out of food. Anyway I thought nearly £9 a head for the barbeque was a bit steep, and I don't think Richards comments as to the whereabouts of Dick Turpin went down too well. Some of us dodged the barbeque and headed off to local hostelry for bar snack later on, which was much more reasonable. The last band of the weekend to play were "the new Amen Corner" and they had definitely saved the best till last, I thought were great and they soon had the place buzzing. Sunday morning arrived, we packed up and all headed back home, amazingly still in gorgeous sunshine, looks as though Itchy may well have finally lost that rain cloud ! In summary, it is a great event, it easily copes with the amount of attendees and has a very good atmosphere around the place. This is definitely one of the events we should plan to attend next year as Chapter, we need to tell all the members early on in the year that we're going and encourage them to attend. We could bring the barbeque in the Dealerships van and maybe our gazebo, so that we can have a Chapter barbeque on the Saturday afternoon, as many of the other Chapters were doing. What we do need to do is book early because it will sell out and perhaps plan to leave at 9am on the Friday.

**Lets do it**

**- Scratchy**

## HDRC RALLY, WALESBY AUGUST 09

Having set my heart on a Bank Holiday weekend away and finally getting to attend the "thunder in the Glens" rally, in Aviemore, Scotland. I was disappointed to find that the others planning on attending had dropped out. Mind you the weather forecast for up there was not good, and we were planning on camping ! As an alternative, a few of us decided to attend HDRC International Rally at Walesby, in Sherwood Forest. This probably is their equivalent of our Sofer Rally and with some of our members also being in the riders club, as well as a lot of friends I have within their Naseby Field and Anglia Branches, I decided to tag along. Four of us, myself, Bob, Paul, Wizz and Nelly met up at Bobs "Retirement Home" in Stamford, with a big black cloud looming, we quickly donned our waterproofs prior to departure. We shot up the A1, pulling in at the Ram Jam Inn to meet Janet and Shep, by this time it was throwing it down. We were already wet, so wasted no time in heading north to Sherwood Forest and found the campsite with no trouble at all. We booked in, picked a camping area, ensuring that we kept space for Fulton and Piper, who we knew were travelling up

later. Then shot off to the local supermarket for much needed refreshments, calling in at a local pub for some food on the way back. Back at the tents, we opened said refreshments and had plenty of laughs, even though the weather was not very good, whilst waiting for the Scottish contingent to arrive. Eventually at around 8.30pm (and yes it was dark) they arrived soaked to skin. Fulton jumped off proudly brandishing the new tent that he just bought, my thoughts were putting up a new tent in the dark, mmm this should be interesting ! Tracey wisely stepped to the side, as he picked his camp spot and strode towards it in the dark, tent in hand, unfortunately one of Sheps guide ropes was in the way, down he went, head first. Well laugh, I was crying in the end ! Piper was much more organised he put his up inside out ! The two food stalls on the site were dreadful, basically it was inedible. Thankfully our friends from "Naseby Field" had a "chill out" tent, which served hot drinks and some delicious homemade cakes. I particularly liked the Ginger cake and was promised a never ending supply should I attend their rally next year, which I fully intend on doing ! It was without doubt the best tent on the site and they really did make us feel welcome ! It was good to meet up with some old friends and to meet some new ones, the only downsides, were the weather and as previously mentioned the food. Other than those it was a great weekend with plenty of laughs. On the Saturday we had our own ride to Matlock Bath and on the Sunday we went to Doncaster Harley Davidson, calling in at the Sherwood Forest visitor centre on the way back. It was here that my dad Bob, took me to see the "Great Oak", well talk about a tree on crutches. The rides both days were lead by prospective Road Captain "Wizz" and his Inter-Planet-ary Sat Nav. The laughs we had during the weekend at his expense were priceless !

**Stay Shiny Side up - Scratchy**

## HAMBURG HARLEY DAYS, JUNE 09



Five Bikes set off from Peterborough services the morning of the 24<sup>th</sup> June en route to Hamburg Harley days, Jim and Babs, Paul, Mick, myself and Barry and Sue from Nene Valley. It was advertised as one of the biggest events in Europe

with 30,000 bikes last year. When we planned it we could have made it with a one night stop over, it is 500 miles from Calais, but we decided to stop twice. First night found us parked up in lovely old hotel in Brugges then out for a wander. It is a beautiful place and we soon found a nice restaurant overlooking the square where good food, drink and good company were the order of the night. Next day we set off to stop in the Teutoburg Forest near Hamburg along some lovely A class roads rather than blasting up motorways. It was a modern clean hotel run by a young couple with great food, the drinks were a lot cheaper than in France which was a surprise. While having dinner 2 deer ran through the field opposite which was great sight. Next morning, an 80 mile blast to Hamburg marred only by miles of road works and 40 mph restrictions. The sat navs worked a treat and we booked into hotel near the rally site in centre of the city only to find that 4 weeks previous they had moved the rally site to the outskirts due to complaints from residents. A short walk and an underground ride soon found us at the site which was clearly not big enough but we had good time. The small stalls, I would assume it would have been



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but it was full of all the big local Harley dealers and international names in custom parts. That evening some went to the famous Reeperbahn and others stayed in the local bar next to hotel and sampled the delights of Jagermeister which strangely tastes of cough medicine with a kick like a mule, but when in Rome and all that. Next day some of us walked to the river and the docks for a look around, some of the city could do with a makeover, the grassy areas needed cutting and there was far more graffiti than in London which was surprising. We all revisited the rally site by bike in the afternoon but it was uncomfortably packed confirming our assessment that it was too small. That night we all went to the Reeperbahn where a massive party was taking place. It is not just the red light area, it is also full of casinos, bars, theatres and everyone was having a good time looking at all the bikes. The next day, Sunday, we set off home which was our one planning error. To get to our one night stop over near Brugges we had nearly 450 miles to go so we had to set off without seeing or taking part in the parade. If I did it again I would stay and extra night. We stayed one night on way back in small seaside resort called Blankenberge. Strange or what, it was a hot day as we approached but a sea mist rolled in and the temperature dropped. We booked into a hotel and went for meal only to find the restaurants overlooking the beautiful beach were closing at 8 o'clock in the evening. We found a nice place in the end and had nice meal and again the company and chatter was first rate. Next day we blasted home without any incidents. It was disappointing that the rally site was moved, we had deliberately booked the hotel in Hamburg near the advertised area but at least it was still near the Reeperbahn where the best part was being held. 30,000 bikes ??? not sure but there was a LOT. Would I do it again ? yes but only if the site was moved back to the larger area near the Reeperbahn. Many thanks to all those who came with me for their friendship, I will always remember the ride and the laughs, Far out !!! **Bob Galley**

## WORLDS SHORTEST FAIRY TALE

Once upon a time, a guy asked a girl 'Will you marry me?' The girl said, 'NO!' And the guy lived happily ever after and rode motorcycles and went fishing and hunting and played golf a lot and had tons of money in the bank and left the toilet seat up and farted whenever he wanted to. The End

## HOGGIN' THE FROGS, NORMANDY JUNE 09

For those of us who forgot why we gave up biking the first time in our 20s and 30s, it all came back to me as I battled against the June rain on the way to our first night's stop in Abbeville on our French adventure! I was all for trading it in for a Ford Focus and calling it a day on a motorbike once more. We had set off earlier that morning, the three musketeers -Lucy, Chemical Dave and I - from Brampton Services for a five-day sojourn in Normandy, France. I knew we were in for a good weekend when I couldn't even find my way into the service station 20 miles from my house, a bit disconcerting since I was supposed to be leading the trip! With no further incidents, we boarded the ferry on time having managed to miss a sharp shower whilst we had a cup of tea. The ferry trip was smooth although, numerous Porsches, Lamborghinis and Ferraris surrounded us on their way to the Le Mans 24-hour race. Having discovered that I hadn't even managed to book the same hotel as the rest of the party, which once we arrived at Abbeville included Val and Martin, it was obvious it was going to be one of those trips. However after this initial hiccup, everything did go according to "plan". The second day we set off, now numbering five, for Uppingham's twin town of Caudebec-en-Caux. Despite Martin's sat-nav

sending us down a dead end into a forest, noon saw us standing in front of the town sign having our photo taken with the Chapter flag. We cruised into Caudebec-en-Caux and parked up near the church. Following on from an excellent lunch, we went to introduce ourselves to Monsieur le Mayor who was not available but who arranged for a guide to show us their extensive museum collection. Three hours later, we left Caudebec by way of the Pont Bretonne, the steepest humpback bridge in France. Two other major suspension bridges later, we arrived in Honfleur, acknowledged to be the prettiest port in Normandy. Another excellent meal followed with an early to bed in order to continue on our way to Bayeux. On the way we visited Pegasus Bridge and our only other shower of the whole journey where Lucy and Val managed to get damp buffs once again. It's no fun and who likes a damp buff? Val and Martin managed to upset the French café owner by speaking French! (Ok, well it might have been me) That afternoon we visited Sword, Juno and Gold beaches. We booked into our hotel in Bayeux for two nights and walked into town for a few drinks and superb French food. Saturday the three musketeers departed to visit Omaha and Utah beaches. The American cemetery (as seen in Saving Private Ryan) at Colleville is a sombre place that really brings home the futility of war by the sheer scale of its rows and rows of pristine white crosses and manicured lawns. Later we visited the village of Ste-Mere-Eglise where a parachutist played by red buttons in the film 'The Longest Day' still hangs from the church tower. Sunday we set off for home, but in my usual and well-organised fashion, I had managed to book a different ferry and departure port to everyone else. Seventy five miles of motorway to heading for Cherbourg was fine but the last 5 miles, the fog descended and visibility was down to about 50 yards I managed to find my ferry without riding off the end of the quay and had a non-eventful journey back to Poole and onto Peterborough. Lucy and Chemical Dave also arrived home safely leaving Martin and Val to enjoy another week riding around Northern France. Final comment, we have got to do Northern France again next year, and I made contact with the Brittany HOG chapter at SOFER this year and there is potential for a linkup.  
**Richard (Not Pierre or Jean)**

## AGM AND CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

As many of you are aware we held an AGM on the 18<sup>th</sup> September at Sycamores. Mostly I have received very positive feedback about the Evening, ok there was no vote but there would have been had we had a surplus of nominations. If there is anything you think we can do to make it better for next year, please don't be shy with suggestions, email them to me and I'll see what I can do.

Finally with the next Newsletter planned for January, this will be last Newsletter of 2009. So I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all, and your loved ones, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May Santa bring you all those shiny bits that your after for your bike, and I'm sure the ladies have their eye on that special bit of clothing. I know I've made a list, but Anne has been just laughing at it say "you must be joking". She'll be buying it, she just doesn't know yet !

**Keep Shiny Side.....Scratchy**





# RUTLAND CHAPTER'S NEWSLETTER OCT '09

## BACK PAGE BEAUTY



### Harley Davidson 2009 Rocker C

As the chrome-laden version of the Rocker, the Rocker C features an industry-first 'Trick' seat design, which hides a passenger pillion and struts under the solo seat. To accommodate a riding partner, simply lift up the solo seat and install the concealed passenger pillion over the Rockertail rear section for surprisingly comfortable two-up riding.

In contrast to the more understated Rocker model, many components are chrome plated, including the headlamp and triple clamps, the handlebar riser, the fork lowers, and the tank console and speedometer. The finned aluminium oil tank, frame and swingarm are colour-matched to the sheet metal, which features flame graphics.

#### Features:

- Rigid-mounted, 1584cc Twin Cam 96B engine
- 6-speed Cruise Drive transmission
- Active intake and exhaust system
- Black powder coated engine with chrome covers
- Chrome, staggered shorty exhaust with dual mufflers
- New low profile front fender
- Finned cast-aluminium oil tank
- Polished, cast aluminium, tapered five spoke 19-inch front/18-inch rear wheels
- Rockertail rear section
- Stretched fuel tank with recessed cloisonné medallion
- 'Trick' two-in-one seat with concealed passenger pillion
- Independent V-bar handlebars
- Console-mounted speed shop style speedometer
- Colour-matched frame, swingarm and oil tank
- Chrome fork lowers, headlamp, console, speedometer and other components
- Smart Security System

List price £15,954

Sycamore price £13,995 on the road

call Stuart or Jon for details on 01572 823296.

## CHAPTER MERCHANDISE

	HOG Eagle badge £5
	Large "Rutland Chapter" Rocker £15
	Large LOH back patch £15
	Large Eagle HOG Back Patch £15
	Rutland Chapter Friendship badge £8.50
	Small "Rutland Chapter" Rocker £8
	Small LOH patch £8
	Small Eagle HOG Patch £8

## Rutland Chapter T-Shirts



unisex style

available in black

all sizes  
S-XXXL

only £10

all proceeds  
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for sale in the dealership  
and at chapter events

