

# Network

**February 2010**

**‘produced for Reps, Activists and interested parties’**

**The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily the views of the Motorcycle Action Group (MAG UK)**

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## Editorial

Hi Guys,

Fairly short editorial this month as wanted to put this edition to bed before Nich goes to FEMA at end of January as we have our Regional AGM after which

Freedom is not something that anybody can be given. Freedom is something people take, and people are as free as they want to be. James Baldwin

I'll then have two sets of Minutes to type up.

Remember, months back, I plugged the appeal for donations to the 'No To Bike Parking Tax' legal fund whereby they

wish to challenge in the Courts the decision by Westminster City Council to instigate charges for parking your bike. They need 50 grand and, although a lot has been raised, are £20k short. So if you haven't donated, please go to their website and donate your tenner:-

<http://www.notobikeparkingtax.com/fighting-fund/>

After this editorial you'll read some more about alleged WCC plans!!

The other thing I want to mention is **14<sup>th</sup> March - Sunday** - What promises to be a massive ride in appreciation of the people of Wootton Bassett who always pay their respects to the passing coffins of fallen British troops. The run will leave Leigh Delamare on the M4, pass slowly through WB and then on to RAF Lyneham. **However, to gain access to RAF Lyneham, you will have to register by 15<sup>th</sup> February** to obtain clearance. Here is the appropriate website:-

[http://www.afghanheroes.org.uk/bikers\\_event.asp](http://www.afghanheroes.org.uk/bikers_event.asp)

Each rider attending pays £5. All monies will be handed over at Lyneham to the Charity set up by the band of mothers who lost their children in Afghanistan. Here's a bit taken directly from the website:-

### ***"Bikers To Honour Afghan Heroes On Mothers Day***

*Thousands of bikers from throughout the country are planning a spectacular mass ride through Wootton Bassett in Wiltshire on Mother's Day - March 14th - to honour the people of Wootton Bassett and the soldiers who have lost their lives in Afghanistan.*

*All proceeds raised from the ride will go to the Afghan Heroes charity, which helps our service personnel in theatre, families of the fallen and our returning troops. For information on how to register [click here](#).*

*A Facebook Group called "[Bike Run in support of Wootton Bassett: Sunday 14th March 2010](#)" has also been set up and can be viewed here"*

See a lot of you there I expect. Beware of lots \*\*\*\*\* potholes. Ride safe, AG

**Acknowledgments:- Nich Brown, Rowan Publications, George Legg, Mike Baker. David Howard. Visordown News. MCN. Right to Ride. AA. MCIA ..... and anyone else I've forgotten]**

Copy deadline for March edition:- 22<sup>nd</sup> February. Email:- AnneGaleMAG@aol.com

## **UK ends reciprocal healthcare with Isle of Man**

Guys, Please get on the website and sign this petition. Closes **4<sup>th</sup> March** so now would be a good time to sign up:- <http://petitions.number10.gov.uk/HealthcareIOMUK/>

### **WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?**

- If you make a trip to the Isle of Man and need Accident and Emergency care you will be treated as before with no charge.
- If, however, you fall ill while visiting the Isle of Man then you will have to pay for treatment and costs can quickly escalate into thousands of pounds.
- Holiday travel insurance will cover these costs in the same way it would if you went to America and became ill.
- The situation is the same for Manx residents visiting the UK.

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## RIDERS ARE VOTERS 2010

With the date of the General Election still unknown – okay, the pundits are all saying 6<sup>th</sup> May but who knows? – the groundwork for MAG's Riders Are Voters 2010 campaign is already well established. So far, the ACU (governing body for motorcycle sport), BMF and MCIA (industry) have all agreed to support the campaign. The supporting organisations will all be contributing toward the cost and effort involved in rolling-out the most effective and co-ordinated election campaign yet.

We have already contacted all the known prospective Parliamentary candidates last month, outlining the purpose of RAV and alerting them that MAG members and other riders, their friends and families are likely to be knocking on their doors to ask what they would do for biking if elected.

Parliamentarians were introduced to RAV2010 in the Houses of Parliament at the end of January, by MAG General Secretary Nich Brown, and Campaigns Co-ordinator Paddy Tyson.

MAG has been actively seeking rider's views through its RAV website and at the MAG stands in the NEC and Excel bike shows. Riders have been invited to help create the 'Manifesto' that RAV will push through to election night. Already the response from MAG members – and prospective MAG members – has confirmed that MAG's long-standing policy ideas have widespread support, whilst throwing up a few new ideas as well.

Campaign materials and advice will be published with the March edition of Network – or sooner if a snap-election is called.

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## LATEST NEWS ON THIRD DRIVING LICENCE DIRECTIVE

In recent meetings there appears to be some willingness among civil servants to change their minds over some of the more costly and complicating elements of the changes to UK rider training and testing laws that will have to change under the Third European Driving Licence Directive.

However, MAG's General Secretary Nich Brown says "we cannot afford to be complacent about this, there are some big changes coming to new riders from 2013, the last chance to minimise the impacts and get some common sense in to the gold-plating DSA seem to be hell-bent on will probably come over the next few weeks."

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## Author of the Hurt Report dies aged 81

**We owe a lot to Harry Hurt**, the driving force behind '**The Hurt Report**' – a groundbreaking investigation of accident statistics in the USA that formed the basis of many of that country's safety programmes.

Hurt came to public attention via the report (officially called the 'Motorcycle Accident Cause Factors and Identification of Countermeasures study') which provided an in-depth analysis of some 900 motorcycle accidents in the Los Angeles area from 1976 to 1977.

Among the major findings of the report was **that speed was not a factor in most crashes; two thirds of motorcycle crashes involved cars when a driver failed to see the bike and pulled in the biker's way**; and that crash helmets greatly reduced the risk of brain injuries in an accident.

Hurt was a lifelong motorcyclist and "never had a crash,"

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## \*\*\*REGIONAL NEWS \*\*\*

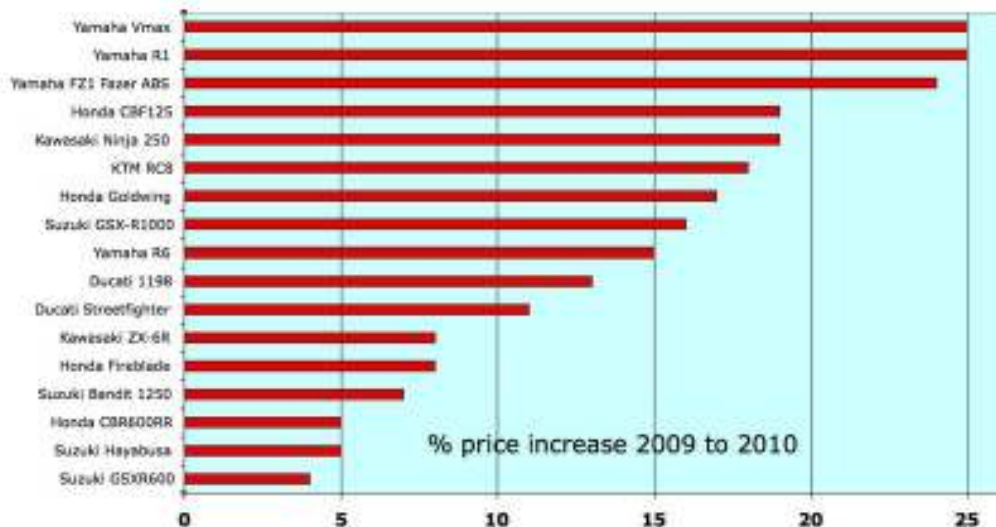
**South West News**

SW Region. After twenty years, the End Of The Road Rally on Lizard peninsular, Cornwall, has finally come to an end, due to retirement of part of organising team. Cornwall MAG will be organising a replacement event, with the modern facilities rally goes now expect, fixed plumbing including showers, an indoor music stage and a well stocked bar. Watch this space.

This region is on the up, and hopes to start three new groups across the region, near Bridgewater, Exeter and Torbay.

Mike Baker, SW Rep

*[Thanks for this Mike – every month I ask for material/feedback from the Regions and rarely get anything – so great to hear about SW Region - Aine]*

**Thinking of buying a new bike? Read this and weep**

A selection of 2010 price rises, ranging from the 25% hike to the Yamaha V-Max and R1 to the 4% increase to the Suzuki GSX-R600.

Japanese manufacturers claim that currency fluctuations and increasing manufacturing costs have forced the increases. The V-Max, for example, has gone up from £15,999 to £19,999, the R1 has risen from £9999 to £12,499 and the R6 was £7799 and is now £8999 – a full £1000 more than Triumph's brilliant 675 Daytona.

European manufacturers have also made increases, though only KTM have put prices up by over 15%.

This means that European superbikes are closer than ever to their Japanese rivals. The Ducati 1198, for example, is now only £700 more expensive than the R1. **Blimey!**

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## DSA Motorcycle Update

News about the introduction of Independent Riding, trainer booking review and site search progress can be found in the latest issue of the DSA Motorcycle Update Newsletter – download from <http://www.dsa.gov.uk/News.asp?id=SX9462-A78336D0>

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### **Institute of Advanced Motorists. Digital dashboards are a safety hazard, says IAM**

The internet dashboard, or 'infotainment system' is the next in-car device that could cause a major distraction to drivers, says the IAM (Institute of Advanced Motorists).

Intel and Google are both looking into interactive dashboards, including 10-inch screens above the gearstick which will show 3D maps, web pages and even videos. Other similar systems are being previewed at trade shows.

Peter Rodger, IAM Chief Examiner, said: "If drivers were tempted to use the internet or watch videos on the move, the results could be deadly,"

"If it's not acceptable to read a novel while driving, how can it be acceptable to read a multimedia display? Just how much information can a car driver absorb and still drive responsibly?"

"There is a fine line between providing useful extra information and causing a dangerous distraction. This system appears to cross that line," Mr Rodger added.

"Viewing things like restaurant reviews and venue information online while driving should be illegal, and it should be an offence to buy, sell, fit and transmit information for this particular use."

The systems are not designed to be used on the move, but not all systems will be impossible to use while driving. One car manufacturer's version, due out this autumn, bears the notice: "Please only use the online services when traffic conditions allow you to do so safely".

"It should be made clear that the system should only be used when the vehicle is parked," Mr Rodger commented.

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### **Bikers fight back at Westminster parking charge**

Visordown News - Activists out in force less than 24 hours after council replaces parking charge signs  
Activists against Westminster Council's controversial bike parking charge have been out in force defacing parking bay signs once again - just 24 hours after council subcontractors replaced dozens of signs damaged earlier by anti bike-charge rebels.

Council subcontractors had been in action cleaning and replacing damaged motorbike parking bay signs, after they were defaced by anonymous anti bike-charge activists.

Campaigners looking to overturn Westminster Council's decision to charge bikers to park, say a large number of signs within the Council's charging zone have been 're-modified' within the last 24 hours. Activists say the council's charge is unenforceable if parking charge instructions are not displayed clearly.

Westminster Council has confirmed a penalty charge notice (parking ticket) cannot be upheld if roadside instructions are not legible.

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***And, as if that wasn't enough...***

### **Westminster parking charge scam unearthed**

The BBC has unearthed evidence that shows Westminster Council's planned car parking charge increase is part of a scheme to plug a £22million gap in the council's finances.

Alongside the controversial bike parking charge, Westminster Council also have plans to double the fees at many of the city's car parking bays, in an attempt to recoup the council's £22million overspend.

Westminster City Councillor Danny Chalkley (yes, him again), cabinet member for city management, insisted the planned increase was solely an attempt to tackle congestion & insisted it was not correct that this was to revenue raise but to keep streets running freely.

However, the BBC has seen an internal council briefing, dated 12 January, which makes it clear the "key drivers" for this year's budget include an attempt to address the overspend.

From the BBC website: The report continues: "Officers were asked to go away and look more closely at parking and community safety to find reductions or additional income.

"The areas of parking and community safety have been earmarked to contribute the majority of the £14m [the sum Westminster says it needs to find]."

Responding to the document, parking campaigner Barrie Segal accused Mr Chalkley of being "disingenuous". "This report is the smoking gun", he said. "The briefing document flatly contradicts [Mr Chalkley's] public statements."

Mr Segal said: "I find it truly astonishing that Westminster would set down in writing that it knows revenue can only be raised from parking if it is 'incidental'. Then cynically, nudge-nudge wink-wink, they come out with a load of extra charges and say it is because of congestion."

Paul Pearson, another parking campaigner, said: "Parking cannot be used for revenue generating - and that is exactly what they are doing here. This report proves it."

So, it looks like the proposed bike parking charge is indeed part of a huge scam to dig Westminster Council out of a £22 million hole.

**Watch this guys:-** <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1McvQTuhO54> and the sequel <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8nuunOrS-vQ>

### **Potholes and trenches**

MCN says...

Motorcyclists will face twice the number of potholes they did three years ago following the cold snap, experts have warned. Successive freezing winters and years of neglect are predicted to have pushed the number of potholes on UK roads to around 1.3 million compared to 800,000 in 2008 and just 600,000 in 2007.

It means thawing roads will leave motorcyclists having to dodge a pothole on average every 170 metres, according to the Asphalt Industry Alliance (AIA). Potholes increase during cold snaps because water collected in cracks expands as it freezes, causing the surface to crumble. They are most likely to form where roads have already been patched up, according to the AIA.

David Weeks, the Alliance's Director, said: "We were already fully expecting to see another 25-to-30% increase in 2008. So if you take into account the current cold snap, we could be finding that potholes recorded now are comfortably exceeding a million. We wouldn't be surprised to find the problem has gone up to around 1.3 million."

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He said the Alliance's latest annual report showed there was a pothole on average every 275 metres of road but that rate could now have increased by up to 60%. The cost of repairing a single pothole is around £70, leaving councils facing a £91 million bill, according to Weeds.

But he said the money would be better spent on "preventative maintenance" by timely resurfacing of whole roads "instead of patch and repair".

**The Automobile Association says...**

Emergency road maintenance funding is required to stop crumbling roads costing more in compensation and accidents...

Last February's heavy snow pushed up insurance claims for pothole damage by more than 250%. Repairing the potholed roads will cost local highway authorities hundreds of millions of pounds. If the roads are not repaired then drivers, cyclists and motor bike riders will be at risk from expensive damage and injuries.

Insurance companies will be hit and more claims and potential injuries will add to NHS costs – already hit by the increase in fractured bones as a result of icy pavements. Cash-strapped councils could well face a deluge of claims from road users and the risk of paying out more in compensation than on road repairs themselves.

The AA argues that the worst areas for potholes will be:

- stretches of road where potholes have been poorly repaired in the past
- stretches of road where utility reinstatements have been poor
- stretches of road that have not been salted as salt tends to melt the snow before it turns to ice
- stretches of road hit by consistent sub-zero temperatures

The AA believes that in the national interest there is a strong case for emergency extra maintenance funding for councils to head off the threat of the vicious circle of compensation claims and hospital costs outweighing the cost of repair to the roads.

Last year's ALARM survey of local authority highway departments found that more than £63 million was spent filling in potholes during 2008/9. However, a further £47 million was lost to compensation claims and extra staff costs. Even without the impact of February's bad weather, the number of potholes in England and Wales had increased 32 per cent over the previous year.

The ALARM Survey report is downloadable from [www.asphaltuk.org](http://www.asphaltuk.org)

- One-time cost to catch up of dealing with road maintenance backlog – £53m per authority in England, £38.3m per authority in London, £22.3m per authority in Wales
- 968,195 potholes filled over last year
- Average cost to fill one pothole £65
- £63.2 million spent filling potholes last year
- £47 million paid out in compensation claims & staff costs
- 13,212 deep trenches per authority (England)
- 1 hole in every 120 yards of road

To cope with lack of salt the AA is calling for local authorities to:

- Ask more farmers with tractors to snow plough the roads
- Mix sand with salt to make it go further and provide more grip on roads
- Use parking attendants and other contractors to clear ice from footpaths, access to railway stations and town centres
- Be upfront about which roads are being gritted and to publish maps showing gritted areas in green and non-gritted areas in red

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**Utility companies to incur increased charges for road works not finished on time - new plans announced by Transport Minister Sadiq Khan MP.**

The current maximum daily charge is £2,500, but to encourage companies to complete works on time increases to as much as £25,000 may be justified.

Also proposed are lane rental schemes for those companies wanting to carry out works on the busiest roads and good practice guidance for councils and utility companies. This guidance will outline how to make sure that those affected most by street works disruption are informed properly, for example, through working with bus companies to ensure that they can plan alternative routes and by text messaging residents and commuters affected by road works.

The plan was drawn after the Department for Transport hosted the street works summit with road user groups, utility companies, bus operators and local authorities in October 2009.

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**FEMA**

**New Communication and Policy Assistant at FEMA**

Philip Vogt joined the Secretariat of FEMA in January 2010 in order to support the Federation's activities in the fields of research, communication and event organisation.

Philip is a rider and the proud owner of a BMW R80 GS built in 1982. He has already spent ten years travelling within the EU and has got technical knowledge in motorcycle repairs, including some in the restoration of new and classic BMW motorcycles.

A German national, Philip is 27 years old, and holds a Masters degree in Environment and Resource Management and a Bachelors in Political and Administrative Science. Before joining FEMA, Philip had been working for the German motorcycle magazine "Motorrad" where he was writing for the website.

A native German speaker, he is fluent in English and Spanish, and has some knowledge in French.

Philip can be contacted at [p.vogt@fema-online.eu](mailto:p.vogt@fema-online.eu)

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**Christmas Drink-Drive news heralds Review Of Law**

In December, the Government announced it had commissioned Sir Peter North to conduct an independent review of drink-driving and drug-driving laws.

According to RoSPA... A total of 7,638 drivers were arrested after breath tests in England and Wales between December 1, 2009 and January 1, 2010. Although the figure is 16.51 per cent lower than the number caught drink-driving in the previous year's campaign, RoSPA says it demonstrates that far too many drivers are still putting themselves and others at risk in such an irresponsible and avoidable way. Three per cent of all drivers breath tested were over the limit, but the percentage rose to four per cent for drivers under the age of 25 and to seven per cent for drivers involved in an accident.

RoSPA has for many years called for a reduction in the legal alcohol limit from 80mg of alcohol per 100ml of blood to 50mg, a move which it says would save around 65 lives and 230 serious injuries on Britain's roads each year.

At blood alcohol levels between 50mg and 80mg, you are apparently two to two-and-a-half times more likely to be involved in an accident and six times more likely to be in a fatal crash than with no alcohol in your system. RoSPA also wants to see the police being given extra powers, such as being able to breathalyse drivers anywhere at any time, and supports continuing education campaigns.

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Figures published by the Association of Chief Police Officers, show 223,423 drivers were breath tested during the month-long blitz – a rise of 21.82 per cent on the previous year.

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### **Market weathers well during economic downturn of 2009 – MCIA says...**

Statistics released by the Motor Cycle Industry Association for the end of 2009 show an overall reduction in sales of 20%. The figures for the end of year show that in total 111,513 bikes, scooters and mopeds were sold.

Notably, half of the reduction in the number of new registrations can be attributed to the lower capacity bikes up to 50cc. Of these 10,000 machines, a significant proportion (circa 60%) were from the inexpensive unsupported, online brands, mainly from China and Asia, and are unsustainable in the current economic environment. In light of this, the overall market has fared well.

The market experienced mixed fortunes throughout the year, although certain sectors tended to fair better than others. Naked bikes have been one style that has ridden the economic storm most successfully. In September, Naked bikes experienced a surge of sales, achieving a 25.4% increase in market share. As the year ended, sales of naked bikes were at the same level as they were in December 2008 with a total number of bikes sold reaching 21,266 – the highest for any sector.

Although all sectors have experienced declining sales there are sectors that continue to be popular. Supersport bikes continue to feature, as the second highest sellers of the year (18,930), with a 20% market share. The third top sellers are Scooters (16,943), with nearly 18% of market share in the over 50cc class, pushing the still fashionable Adventure Sport into fourth place overall (10,416), though the share of the market for this class has remained stable during 2009.

There is still evidence of continued public interest in biking, in particular the key role that motorcycling plays in practical transportation. There are 1.5 million active riders and the Government's Statistics reveals that over half (52%) of all motorcycle trips in 2008 were made for the purpose of commuting, compared to just one-third (34%) of bicycle journeys and one-fifth (22%) of car journeys. The National Travel Survey also found that the average motorcyclist uses their bike as their main mode of transport for over one-third of all trips, making 8 motorcycle trips a week, and travelling an average of 80 miles.

The industry is keen to halt the trend of declining sales and has called on the Government to consider a scrappage scheme for the motorcycle sector. Key industry figures are to meet the Business and Enterprise Minister to discuss this and related issues early in February.

The MCI is also committed to the industry's 'Get On' campaign, which is bringing new people into the market and growing the pool of customers. People who haven't got a bike and want to get started can enjoy a free one hour taster session with a local trainer and so far it has proven popular and successful with 80% of people who try a bike booking Compulsory Basic Training and starting their journey to a full licence. ([www.geton.co.uk](http://www.geton.co.uk))

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### **Parliamentary Q's and A's**

11 Jan

**DVLA: Databases. Bob Russell:** To ask the Minister of State, Department for Transport what his policy is on allowing private companies access to information on the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency database for commercial purposes.

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**Paul Clark:** Information held on the "driver" record may only be disclosed to private companies for commercial purposes with the explicit consent of the individual and when there is a demonstrable need to confirm an entitlement to drive. For example, when hiring a vehicle or driving as a condition of employment.

Information held on the "vehicle" record may be disclosed under provisions of the Road Vehicles (Registration and Licensing) Regulations 2002. This provides for the release of information to those who can demonstrate "reasonable cause" to require it, such as an issue around the vehicle and its use. Disclosure generally results from incidents where the motorist has incurred some form of liability. It is recognised that motorists have an obligation to comply with road traffic and other regulations when using a vehicle and to act responsibly and with consideration for other road users, pedestrians and landowners in doing so.

Any private car parking company seeking information about the keeper of a specific vehicle must be a member of a DVLA Accredited Trade Association and conform to its code of practice. DVLA provides vehicle data, containing no personal details, to commercial customers for statistical use and to provide vehicle check services to consumers when purchasing a second-hand vehicle or parts for their current vehicle. Information is also supplied to assist in safety recalls from time to time.

All disclosures of information are made in accordance with the requirements of the Data Protection and Human Rights Acts. Requests for information are subject to audit to ensure they respect agreements and legislation.

**Bob Russell:** To ask the Minister of State, Department for Transport which (a) police forces, (b) other public agencies and (c) private companies are permitted access to the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency database to obtain (i) details of vehicle registration numbers, (ii) names of licence holders and (iii) private addresses of licence holders.

**Paul Clark:** No organisation has direct access into the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) records.

Information from both the driver and vehicle record is provided daily to the National Police Improvement Agency for inclusion on the Police National Computer system for use by all police forces. All other requests for information are considered on a case-by-case basis.

Private addresses of driving licence holders may be provided to public agencies with the consent of the individual or if they have a statutory right to it e.g. HM Revenue and Customs, the Child Support Agency and the Department for Work and Pensions. These requests generally relate to law enforcement activities. DVLA does not provide the name or address details of licence holders to any private companies, only details relating to their driving entitlement and endorsements. Employers, recruitment agencies and private companies, such as car hire companies, may make a request for details of a driver record if they have the consent of the individual and provide their name, address and date of birth.

Vehicle registration numbers need to be provided to the DVLA in order for a search of the vehicle record to be made. Therefore, DVLA does not disclose details of vehicle registration numbers from the vehicle record.

12 Jan

**Speeding Offences. Mr David Amess:** How many (a) males and (b) females in each age group who were prosecuted for speeding offences were subsequently found to be without (i) insurance and (ii) a valid driving licence in each of the last two years.

13 Jan

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**Electric Motorcycles. Lembit Opik:** What assessment has the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills made of the merits of providing support to producers of electric motorcycles and mopeds.

14 Jan

**Roads : Accidents. Mrs. Villiers:** To ask the Minister of State, Department for Transport what research into the effectiveness of traffic policing in reducing numbers of casualties on the roads his Department has commissioned in the last five years

**Paul Clark:** In 2007 the Department for Transport published a research report on the development of a database to examine the relationship between road policing activity and accident reduction available at:- <http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/roadsafety/research/rsrr/theme2/roadpolicingaccidentreduction/>

15 Jan

**Road Accidents (Scottish Parliament). Gil Paterson:** To ask the Scottish Executive how many road accidents involving motorcycles and cars have been reported in the last five years, broken down by (a) local authority area and (b) parliamentary constituency.

18 Jan

**Automatic Number Plate Recognition. Bob Russell:** To ask the Minister of State, Department for Transport what recent discussions he has had with operators of motorway service areas on the installation of automatic plate registration number equipment; and if he will make a statement.

**Chris Mole:** Operational issues affecting the management of a service area are the responsibility of the site operator and Government have not been involved in discussions regarding the installation of automatic number plate recognition equipment.

**Roads: Accidents. Chris Ruane:** To ask the Minister of State, Department for Transport how many and what proportion of drivers involved in road traffic accidents did not have (a) insurance, (b) a valid MOT certificate and (c) a driver's licence in each of the last three years. [311726]

**Paul Clark:** The information requested is not collected centrally.

In 2003 the Department for Transport published a research report on unlicensed driving which included an estimate for the number of personal injury road accidents that involved a driver found guilty of driving without a licence. The report is available at:

<http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/roadsafety/research/rsrr/theme2/researchintounlicensedreport.pdf>

21 Jan

**Electric Vehicles: Motorcycles. Lembit Opik:** To ask the Minister of State, Department for Business, Innovation and Skills what assessment his Department has made of the merits of providing support to producers of electric motorcycles and mopeds.

**Mr. Khan:** I have been asked to reply. Passenger cars are by some distance the biggest source of emissions from road transport, forming almost 60 per cent. of total UK domestic CO2 transport emissions compared to less than 1 per cent. by motorcycles. As such, the focus of government support is on cars where it will have the biggest impact on greenhouse gas emissions from road transport. We recognise that electric motorcycles offer environmental benefits compared to conventional motorcycles and they are already zero rated for VED purposes and exempt from fuel duty. We anticipate that electric motorbikes will be able to access the re-charging infrastructure installed as part of the £30 million Plugged in Places framework.

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## EVENTS

Sunday, February 7, 2010 - **West Midlands Fred Hill Run 2010**

**Organiser:** West Midlands MAG

*Ride ins from various locations to meet up at The National Motorcycle Museum for 1pm*

**Location:** National Motorcycle Museum, J6 M42

Saturday, February 13, 2010 - **Leeds MAG Valentines Party**

**Organiser:** Leeds MAG

*Starting around 8pm, DJ and Raffles. Come and get loved up!*

**Location:** The Dragon 150 Whitehall Road Leeds LS12 4TJ

Saturday, February 13, 2010 - **St Valentines Party**

**Organiser:** Unwanted Mcc

*Starts Noon, Live Band "HOT FOR TEACHER" 24hr loos, Food, Raffle, St Trinians fancy dress.*

**Location:** Rockbar, Shobnall Sports & Social Club, Burton on Trent, Staffs DE14 2BB

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

Saturday, February 20, 2010 - **East Anglia MAG Regional AGM**

**Organiser:** East Anglia MAG

*Regional AGM Starts 2:45pm*

**Location:** The Royal British Legion, High Street, Manea, Nr. March, Cambridgeshire

**Web:** [east-anglia-region.mag-uk.org](http://east-anglia-region.mag-uk.org)

Saturday, February 20, 2010 - **North Cambs MAG AGM**

**Organiser:** North Cambs MAG

*Local AGM Starts 2:10pm*

**Location:** The Royal British Legion, High Street, Manea, Nr. March, Cambs

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

Sunday, February 21, 2010 - **Leeds MAG Fred Hill Run**

**Organiser:** Leeds MAG

*Run date has changed due to Leeds Rep work commitments and Valentines Party on 13th February*

**Location:** Squires Cafe Bar Sheburn in Elmet to The Sun Inn Norwood Leaving at 11.30am

Thursday, March 4, 2010 - **East Yorkshire MAG AGM**

**Organiser:** East Yorkshire MAG

*East Yorkshire AGM, 8.30pm start*

**Location:** Beverley Rugby Club, Beaver Park, Norwood, Beverley, HU17 9HT

**Web:** <http://east-yorks.mag-uk.org/>

Saturday, March 13, 2010 - **St, Patricks Party.**

**Organiser:** Unwanted Mcc

*Rock Disco & Live music from Stevie & his wandering manolin. Fancy Dress, Iris/Green theme. Late Bar, Food, overnight loos, free camping, disabled access. MAG, NABD & BMF affiliated.*

**Location:** Rockbar, Shobnall Sports & Social Club, Burton on Trent, Staffs DE14 2BB

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

Sunday, March 14, 2010 - **Bike run in support of Wootton Bassett**

**Organiser:** Afghan Heroes charity. [www.afghanheroes.org.uk](http://www.afghanheroes.org.uk)

*Ride through Wootton Bassett, to show the people we appreciate all that they do for our fallen heroes.*

**Location:** The ride will be starting at Leigh Delamere Service Station J17 (eastbound) of the M4.

Please start arriving from 10:30am.

Saturday, March 20, 2010 - **West Midlands MAG AGM and Black Country MAG AGM**

**Organiser:** West Midlands MAG

*West Midlands region AGM, Black Country AGM starts Noon, followed by West Midlands AGM at 1pm*

**Location:** The Park Inn, Woodsetton, Dudley, DY1 4LW

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Saturday, March 27, 2010 - **MAG Fundraiser.**

**Organiser:** Burton MAG

*Fundraiser for MAG UK, Rock Disco & live Band "Medusa Rising" Free camping, overnight loos, disabled access. Food. Late Bar. £5 on the Door.*

**Location:** Rockbar. Shobnall Sports & Social Club, Shobnall Rd, Burton on Trent, Staffs, DE14 2BB

**Enquiries:** Ruth (MAG Rep) 07988521400

**Email:** [Burtonmag@aol.com](mailto:Burtonmag@aol.com)

Saturday, March 27, 2010 - **West Midlands Easter Egg run**

**Organiser:** West Midlands MAG

*Leaving Bewell Head Club at 12 for a run to Acorns Childrens Hospice, Worcester.*

**Location:** Acorns Childrens Hospice, Bath Road Worcester

Sunday, March 28, 2010 - **Mad Cow Easter Egg Run**

**Organiser:** Bury St Edmunds & District MAG /BSE Mad Cows

*Please bring donation of a chocolate Easter egg or cash for the run to Scope.*

**Location:** Meet outside Bowers in Risbygate Street, Bury St Edmunds to depart at 11 a.m.

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

Sunday, March 28, 2010 - **Wirral Egg Run**

**Organiser:** Wirral Egg Run

*Last year we had an estimated count of over 10,000+ bikes, with there passengers, riding the 20 mile route from New Brighton Wallasey, to the ending point at Clatterbridge Hospital. On the day we expect lots of Press interest with TV as this year is our 30th Year.*

**Location:** Starting from Coastal Drive, New Brighton, Wallasey. See website for more information.

**Enquiries:** Philip Whittam

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

**Email:** [whittamp@aol.com](mailto:whittamp@aol.com)

Friday, April 2, 2010 - **Berkshire Egg Run**

**Organiser:** Thames Vale Vultures

*Berkshires Annual Easter Egg Run arranged by The Thames Vale Vultures, on Behalf of The Variety Clubs Childrens Charity. Bring an Easter Egg (or several)and enjoy the ride.*

**Location:** Starts Norcot Hill, Tilehurst Reading Berks meeting at noon. Leave at 12.30 and ride through Reading to The Abbey Rugby Club, Emmer Green, Reading.

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

Friday, April 2 - Sunday, April 4, 2010 - **Slippit Inn Rally**

**Organiser:** Gloucestershire MAG

*Gloucestershire MAG would like to welcome you to the Slippit Inn Rally on 2nd - 4th April 2010.*

**Web:** <http://gloucester.mag-uk.org>

Saturday, April 3, - Sunday, April 4, 2010 - **Reading MAG Easter Bike Show**

**Organiser:** Reading MAG

*The Reading MAG Easter Bike Show starts at 11am on 4th April 2010. Don't forget there is a party on the Saturday and Sunday night. Bike Show/Trade Stalls/Club Stands etc on the Sunday. Evening meal on Saturday and Sunday. Breakfast on Sunday and Monday.*

**Location:** Reading Abbey Rugby Club, Peppard Road, Emmer Green, RG4 8XB

**Enquiries:** Contact Steve: 07931526914

**Web:** <http://www.readingmag.org.uk>

Saturday, April 3, 2010 - **Easter Run**

**Organiser:** South East Northumberland MAG

*For Northumberland Childrens Homes & Hospital Wards.Bring Easter Egg (or several), enjoy the ride.*

**Location:** Woodhorn Northumberland Museum & Archives, Queen Elizabeth II Country Park, Ashington, Northumberland, NE63 9YF Contact Jude Douglas - 07867886552

**Web:** [www.senmag.org](http://www.senmag.org)

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Sunday, April 4, 2010 - 9th **Spring Surprise Bike Show**

**Organiser:** Salisbury MAG

*12 Noon start. Everyone an Entrant – Everyone a Judge. Unique trophies, bar, revised catering, prize raffle, cash raffle and trade stands.*

**Location:** [Salisbury Livestock Market, Netherhampton Road, Salisbury, SP2 8RH](#)

**Web:** <http://www.salisburymag.co.uk/>

Wednesday, April 7, 2010 - **Bury St Edmunds & District MAG AGM**

**Organiser:** Bury St Edmunds & District MAG

*It's AGM time again, bring your membership card to vote; meeting starts at 8pm prompt.*

**Location:** British Sugar Sport & Social Club, Hollow Road, Bury St Edmunds

**Web:** <http://www.bsemadcows.co.uk>

Friday, April 9 - Sunday, April 11, 2010 - **15th Hand Pulled Rally**

**Organiser:** Beermonsters MCC

*Beermonsters MCC are holding the 15th Hand Pulled Rally. Trophies. Live bands and DJ. Raffles in aid of Yorkshire Air Ambulance. 24 toilets & hot showers. NO cars except blue badge holders - by appointment. Exclusive 'Beermonster' Ale. No fires.*

**Location:** [Ripon Racecourse, North Yorkshire, HG4 1UG](#)

**Enquiries:** [katejones444@msn.com](mailto:katejones444@msn.com)

**Web:** [www.beermonsters-mcc.org.uk](http://www.beermonsters-mcc.org.uk)

Friday, April 30 - Sunday, May 2, 2010 - **Into The Valley 2010**

**Organiser:** Yorkshire MAG

*30th April 2010 - 2nd May 2010. The Rally thats By Bikers, For Bikers, in Aid of Biking. This event is a fundraising event for MAG UK. There will be two huge tents with bands and DJs playing throughout the weekend, and Comedy show (Sat pm) - all brought to you by Back Street Heroes. Ride in Custom Show - sponsored and run by 100% Biker. Food and quality beers at pub prices, with a marquee to sit down and enjoy them in. We also have the usual Trade Stalls, and a huge communal bonfire!*

**Ticket:** Pre-book £15. On the Gate: £20

**Location:** We have a new venue! Dalton Estate, South Dalton, East Yorkshire

**Enquiries:** Telephone 0800 988 3199

**Web:** <http://www.intothevalley.co.uk>

Friday, May 7 - Saturday, May 8, 2010 - **Lanchester Centurions Ben Hur Rally**

**Organiser:** Lanchester Centurions MCC

*Same site as last year, no cars, dogs or fires. 499 PRE BOOK TICKETS ONLY - NO GATE SALES. All pre book entries get a badge. Usual live bands, bar, food silly games, stalls etc.*

**Location:** Lanchester Cricket Club

**Enquiries:** Helene 07748 800000, Alan 07871 046426, Lanchester Cricket Club Weds eves 7:30pm

**Web:** <http://www.lanchestercenturions.org.uk/>

**Email:** [admin@lanchestercenturions.org.uk](mailto:admin@lanchestercenturions.org.uk)

Friday, May 14 - Sunday, May 16, 2010 - **The Number One**

**Organiser:** MAD MAG

*A great family friendly rally, now in it's 27th Year. All Welcome. Cheques payable to Middlesbrough MAG. Remember Stamped, self addressed envelope.*

**Location:** Tunstall Lane, Near Stokesley

**Web:** <http://www.thenumberone.org/>

Saturday, May 22, 2010 - **Tees Valley Bridge Run**

**Organiser:** Estonians MCC

*Starts Middlesbrough Transporter Bridge at noon and crosses all the bridges over the River Tees. Finishes Eggleston. Maps provided. £5.00 per person, includes burger and hot drink at Eggleston. Live Band on the evening. Over night camping available.*

**Location:** Middlesbrough -Eggleston in the Tees valley

**Web:** <http://www.estoniansmcc.com/>

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Saturday, June 5, 2010 - **Eana Hog Roast & Bike Show**

**Organiser:** EANA MCC

*EANA MCC Hog Roast and Bike Show. Come over and enjoy the live music plus our real barbequed hog Roast, 12.00pm start. This year there will be limited pre-book only camping available to sleep off the fun, so book early at £5.00 per head including show. Show only £2.00 OTG.*

**Enquiries:** James on 07710 171166 or visit [www.eanamcc.com](http://www.eanamcc.com).

**Location:** [The Candle Stick Public House, Essendon, Hatfield, Hertfordshire, AL9 6BA](#)

**Web:** [www.eanamcc.com](http://www.eanamcc.com)

Friday, June 11 - Sunday, June 13, 2010 - **Lion Rally**

**Organiser:** Reading MAG

*The longest running MAG rally in the south - custom bike show, trade stalls, attractions and distractions. Real ale and cider bar, brilliant bands both nights, camping. £20 in advance - and get a £10 beer voucher FREE if you are a MAG member (has to be a valid membership of course).*

**Ticket:** OTG £20, your first drink is on us. (max value £3.50p)

**Location:** Grazeley, Reading, Berkshire, RG7 1PL

**Enquiries:** 0118 988 3226

**Web:** <http://www.readingmag.org.uk/>

Friday, June 18 - Sunday, June 20, 2010 - **Farmyard Party 2010**

**Organiser:** Yorkshire MAG

*18th - 20th June 2010. The biggest and best motorcycle only rally in Europe. This year we have more covered areas than ever including the 'Back Street Heroes' sponsored 'BIG TOP' - a huge circus tent featuring all our main attractions. A BIGGER blues tent, a dance tent, and a BIGGER 100% Biker tent! A huge Food Court marquee and sponsored ride-in custom show. This is a bikers only event - strictly no cars, no vans, no pedestrians.*

**Web:** <http://www.farmyardparty.com>

Friday, July 2 - Sunday, July 4, 2010 - **Heart of England Rally**

**Organiser:** West Midlands MAG

*New venue for The Heart of England rally incorporating The Brum Demo. Demo to start at Longbridge and ride into Centenary Sqare, Birmingham. Live bands, disco, stalls and camping. Prices held yet again- £10 pre-book, £12 otg. Day tickets available for £6.*

**Location:** Kings Norton RFC, Ash Lane, Hopwood, Nr Alvechurch B48 7BB. Brum Demo to start

**Web:** [www.westmidlandsmag.org.uk/](http://www.westmidlandsmag.org.uk/)

Friday, July 2 - Sunday, July 4, 2010 - **Estonians MCC 2nd Barnstormer Rally**

**Organiser:** Estonians MCC

*Estonians MCC 2nd Barnstormer Rally, Seamer Grange Farm, Nr Stokesley, North Yorks. Live Bands, Disco, Late Bar both nights; Games; Bike Show.*

**Location:** Seamer Grange Farm, Nr Stokesley, North Yorks

**Web:** <http://www.estoniansmcc.com/>

Friday, August 6 - Sunday, August 8, 2010 - **Yorkshire Pudding Rally 2010**

**Organiser:** Yorkshire MAG

*Strictly pre-book only, the last of Yorkshire MAG's summer events. This rally is for bikers only and will have a marquee with bands and disco playing throughout the weekend, lush camping with showers, and The Bonfire In a Skip! Food and quality beer, trade stalls, plus the Saturday Ride-out Ride-in custom show on Saturday afternoon sponsored and run by 100% Biker.*

**Ticket:** £15/person. Cheque (inc S.A.E) to 'Yorkshire Pudding Rally' PO Box 5047, Rugby CV21 9HL.

**Location:** Hesley Wood Scout Camp, Chapeltown, Nr Sheffield, South Yorkshire

**Enquiries:** Tel: 0800 988 3199

**Web:** <http://www.yorkshirepuddingrally.co.uk>

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