



ISSUE 60 - MAY/JUNE 2014

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# 1066 CHAPTER



Guide dogs presentation | Plymouth weekend | Cider rally | Old police cells | Overlord museum | Posh welsh camping !?!?!

## A Few Words From The Editor


Well, no complaints from the last magazine, so hopefully I'm getting it right (either that or nobody's reading the damned thing!)

Anyway, I just want to say many thanks to those of you who have taken the time to put an article together for the magazine, and how great to see some new writers amongst you! However, I feel I need to single out one person in particular; Jackie Offen, who wrote the piece on our fantastic gift to the Guide Dogs for the Blind. A special thank you Jackie, as I know it was quite an emotional piece for you to put together.

Also, please keep taking lots of photos. There will be occasions when our intrepid photographers can't make a particular ride-out, in which case 'Your Chapter Needs You!' I'm sure Tracey would be delighted to receive your photos at such times, to share with you all through our 1066 Chapter website.

Well, if you haven't seen your article appear in this edition, I can only apologise and it's purely because I've been restricted by available space on this occasion. It means that I've now sent it to our Webmistress for cyber-publication. For heaven's sake please don't let that put you off writing in, because without you we wouldn't have a magazine!

In my role I'm in touch with the UK Editor of HOG, who is keen to receive the bits and pieces I've been sending up to them for inclusion in their e-mag. So, make sure you're fully signed up to [www.hog.com](http://www.hog.com) and keep a watchful eye out for your favourite Chapter appearing every now and then.



*Some members of the Chapter were worried that the new Editor was taking this whole 'mean-biker' thing a bit too far...*

So, in this particular edition we take a look back at the some of the ride-outs laid on for your enjoyment, and remember and celebrate the life of a dear departed member through our important charitable work. We also look forward to a full summer of events.

On a purely personal note, working shift-work means I have unfortunately missed out 'big time' this year so far on some fantastic ride-outs and trips away. However, I do get to read about how much fun you've been having, and I look forward to getting out and about with you when opportunities arise. Roll on Lille!

With so much happening at the moment in the Chapter's life, we're certainly not short of things to write about, so enjoy and have fun out there - you lucky devils!

Morrell i

ps. Sincere thanks once more to Anne, my proofreader extraordinaire.

This photo is just crying out for a captions request!



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1066 H.O.G. Chapter No: 6746



## Director's Musings

**'May you live in interesting times' is, apparently,** an old Chinese saying. And I think it fair to say we have **had an interesting few months.** John's announcement that he is to sell the dealership is, for me, part-sadness to see him go; however the greater part is happiness that he and his wife Christine will now have some well- earned time **together to do whatever they wish. It's called retirement!** I know some of our members who are in that position, and **for most, I hear it's a great thing to do.** After all, 60 years of work is some stint.

Over recent years, Steve has been taking more responsibility and has become the face of Shaw H-D, so in some ways, not too much will change. I was able to meet the new owner who seems a genuine guy, and I look forward to getting him out riding with us.

The riding season is now well underway and we have completed a few trips away, some soggy and some in sunshine. The band of riders Steve G. and I took to Wales enjoyed incredible weather. Apart from about 10 minutes on the way home, it was sunshine and warm all the way. **Amazing for Wales. We experienced some fabulous roads and scenery.** As Bob Wilko said, **'After this trip I feel confident in taking my Glide anywhere'.** Apologies for the off-roading (although it does go to show what can be done!). With 880 miles door to door, it was certainly a full-on ride. **That's nearly 16,000 miles for the Chapter Mileage Challenge.** A special mention for Duffy & Lou, as this was their first trip and it was a marathon first trip, it has to be said. There is plenty more to whet the appetite, so do keep an eye on the website to make sure you catch any changes.

The prom season is now upon us so I urge you to support these rides as:-

- 1 – our public love to see shiny metal in large numbers
- 2 – our chosen charities benefit hugely from the donations made
- 3 – **it's another reason to ride our Harleys**

I am pleased to say that SofER is moving on positively and, all being well, more can be announced in the coming weeks. Suffice to say it looks like we have settled on a site subject to the legal formalities which, of course, can take time.

**The Summer Party, aka Skelly & Colonel's Retirement Bash, is in the very advanced stages of planning, with entertainment, food and beer all booked, along with the courtesy minibus to take you to and from your hotel. If you haven't responded to the invitation sent from Shaw's, you'd best get onto it pronto.** Kev certainly has taken on the Events role with relish and I am looking forward to the party. Keep your eyes peeled for details of the ride-out planned for earlier in the day. **We are planning to leave from Shaw's in the morning and return in good time for you to settle in and relax at your chosen hotel while awaiting your carriage.**

Petshop has been selling loads of merchandise and has the new H.O.G. back- patches available, complete with new-style rockers, and loads of other goodies. Catch him at the Franklands or the Six Bells.

I think that is all from me at the moment. See you on the road sometime soon.

**Bealy - Director 1066**

## Dealer Update

Time flies when you're having fun, and we must be having a great time 'cos the time is certainly flying by! We are well and truly into the riding season. We have seen many good rides this year already, what with the Kick off Ride, Plymouth and some posh camping in Wales. With many more to come throughout the summer, there really is something for everyone.



The Dealership is super-busy at the moment. Lester and his team of Motorcycle Sales are doing great with loads of new Harley-Davidsons hitting the streets of Sussex and the South East. The Aftersales Team are also keeping busy, and servicing times are getting a little stretched, so if you are looking to get your bike in for some work, be sure to book early. Give Simon, Craig L or me, Gary, a call to discuss any service work or alterations that are needed to give your bike some love this summer.

And of course, Shaw Speed & Custom are still on it! Some great builds are starting to be completed: the very cool sidecar outfit which is destined for Beirut, and the Cal Rayburn replica XR1200.

Simon has been asked to pilot the very awesome Bell & Ross B-Rocket bike at the Bonneville Salt Flats in the US. Simon is a huge drag-racing and World Speed fan, so is beyond excited at this opportunity.

We are looking forward to a very exciting summer of riding, and of course, a very exciting future for Shaw Harley-Davidson.



Take it easy and keep on riding..

Gary T



# Head Road Captain's Report

**My first few months as HRC have been very busy, as have the first couple of months' worth of rides.**

Amanda's first lead ride as Road Marshall went very well, had a good turnout and nobody got left behind in the police cells (which is good). All the other Road Crew members have also been busy putting rides together for us all to enjoy. As I write this, we have already had 17 rides, including 3 away trips, take place successfully ☺, and only 3 rides cancelled due to bad weather.

I don't know if you are aware, but we start planning the riding schedule around November time. If anyone has a burning desire to go somewhere we haven't been to before, or revisit a place you have been to previously without the Chapter and want to share it with everyone else, please do drop me an email via the "contact a committee member link" on the website, and I will put suggestions forward at the planning meeting. I can't make promises, but they could end up on the ride-out schedule for next year.

As always, remember to keep an eye on the website for the latest ride-out details, and when the weather is looking a bit dodgy, look out for the traffic lights on the website. To make sure we get the most up-to-date weather info, we sometimes leave it until the evening before the ride, to decide whether it's Red or Green.

I look forward to seeing you all out on the road.

Ride safe.... **Andy**



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## Membership Officer

**That's another renewal completed, and I can reveal 1066 Chapter membership now stands at 348.**

The last time our numbers were published was in issue number 40, way back in the autumn of 2010, and our membership then was 335. This was the highest it had ever been. For the last 5 years things have been financially very tough for many people while the economy recovers. I think our membership has held up very well under the circumstances.

A lot has happened since 2010. We have had our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations - a mass ride-out in the USA. We have had a new Director, and Assistant Director. There's a new Head Road Captain and Editor. We have just heard that Shaw Harley-Davidson is changing hands. There is a new team organizing our events. There have been two massive ride-outs with the Lille Europe Chapter, home and away, and we have gained an honorary member in Bill Davidson Jnr. Not only that, some Harley-Davidsons are now water-cooled!

Some things never change though. Still we ride iconic motorcycles with that magical name. Still a great bunch of people, enjoying themselves and each other's company. Still a diverse number of interesting ride-outs, despite the fact that we can pretty much only go east, west or north! Still a great welcome at Shaw H-D, especially on fine Saturday mornings. Still lots of parties and events to look forward to, although sadly no SofER (for this year only).

Naturally, we lose people every renewal time, then during the course of the year they are replaced with new members. This issue, we welcome Justin Woods, Kevin Scott, Christian Ridout, Darren Amy, Adrian Harris, Nick Burnett, Nick and Anne Cook, Paul Braithwaite, Grant Ginn, Shelagh Lewis, Christine Mason, Sarah-Jane McCormick, Claire Robinson, Sofija Rich, Barbara Watson and Daniel Torricelli. Welcome back to Garry Mason, (membership number 66), who has spent many years in the wilderness, but has now re-joined. What took you so long Garry?

See you all soon.

**Dougie**



# Events Officer

**Boom!!!! .... Didn't the 2014 Events year begin in an explosive and typical 1066 Chapter 'let's party' way?!**

Our former Events Officer extraordinaire, Clare Kersley, promised us plenty of shenanigans at the 'Back 2 Skool' Kick Off bash. And weren't there some, and then some more!!

The incredible and poignant observation from that evening was that it was you, the 1066 Chapter audience, who did not just make this event as good as it was by mere attendance, you absolutely and comprehensively stole the show 100%, hook, line and bloomin' sinker... You are all to be justifiably applauded for your unfathomable eagerness to get stuck in, contribute, and maximise on the fun, content and potential.

This really was a truly brilliant, unforgettable, and fully-appreciated finale to a glittering seven years of successful Events organisation. Clare, everybody in the 1066 Chapter, and especially those who have worked (and of course played) alongside you on this journey of fun and laughter would like to personally thank you. It really has been a thoroughly rewarding and entertaining experience. :)

Within days now (Saturday June 21st) the 1066 Chapter/Shaw Harley-Davidson Mid-Summer Party will be upon us, celebrating Skelly's popular and successful tenure as Director. As he now retires from this role and moves forwards, ever enthusiastically embracing new, exciting, and equally demanding challenges, and all, we are delighted to say, very much Chapter-related and so hugely beneficial to the membership.

David Lewis has also stepped down from his role as Assistant Director, and similarly, we can celebrate the many and significant contributions David has made during his equally valuable and much-appreciated term in office. I know this will be a well-attended and brilliant send-off in true 1066 Chapter style for them both.

Looking forward to future Chapter events, (or more specifically, deciding upon both their possible content and themes), then you, the 1066 Chapter members, are not just invited, but wholeheartedly encouraged to offer your thoughts and suggestions; the positives, the negatives, or indeed anything, including the completely crazy and random. The door really is always open to fresh and new ideas.

This is your Chapter, so feel free either to chat directly, or alternatively drop me an e-mail. Without a doubt, it is the intrinsic enthusiasm that runs so deeply within the membership that makes the 1066 Chapter all that it is, simply the best; so stake your claim to have your say and make that notable difference.

Further to that, I am pleased to announce that I have been joined by two thoroughly likeable and lovable co-conspirators (who will also keep me well and truly in check!), Fiona George and Gail Kilshaw, both of whom have a natural and undeniable zest for fun and laughter. As part of a much larger team which includes many unsung heroes from within the Chapter who contribute so much valuable and essential work behind the scenes, as well as undeniable flavour and content towards each and every event, we collectively hope to continue in our proud tradition of partying hard, dancing badly, and laughing lots; otherwise known as, the 1066 Chapter way ..... BOOM!!

## Kev Ridout and the 1066 Chapter events crew.....



*"Always lead by example," said the new Events Officer*





**Bexhill MotoFest brings Motorcycles as Art and Moto Gymkhana to the biking public.**

*“July 27th 2014, 9am - 5pm Bexhill on Sea, East Sussex. A big new FREE TO ATTEND festival celebrating the birthplace of British Motorcycle racing. For one day the whole of Bexhill on Sea becomes Biking on Sea.”*

Shaw Harley-Davidson and Orange & Black, the Harley-Davidson authorised tour operator, have teamed up with bike1066 to bring a unique Motorcycle as Art exhibition to Bexhill MotoFest on July 27th. The Exhibition will be held on the terrace of the prestigious De La Warr Pavilion right on Bexhill seafront. The fantastic Art Deco De La Warr Pavilion is the perfect backdrop for a display of some of the finest bespoke custom bikes built by Shaw Speed and Custom division. These machines really do demonstrate how far the classic H-D concept of a raw motorcycle can be taken into the realms of becoming individual works of art that are not only beautiful pieces of work but also practical road going motorcycles. Meanwhile Orange & Black will take the worry out of your ultimate Harley Road trip across the wild west with all inclusive packages that make those legendary routes available to almost anyone with the desire to ride where their heart takes them.

If motorcycle sport is more your thing then Round IV of the UK National Moto Gymkhana championship is taking place out on the car park of the De La Warr Pavilion. Moto Gymkhana is the dynamic urban trials sport imported from Japan where rider skill and technique around a fixed course against the clock is more important than outright power or bike technology. Anybody over 18 with a minimum CBT can participate.

**History:** In 1902 Bexhill on Sea became the birthplace of British Motorcycle Racing with the launch of the Bexhill Sprints along the sea front promenade where cars, motorised bicycles and tricycles would compete head to head in a sprint time trial. The sprints ended because of safety fears in 1924 and organised motorsport disappeared from Bexhill until 2013 when a Moto Gymkhana demonstration event took place on the De La Warr Pavilion car park. In 2014 Moto Gymkhana returns for a full UK Championship round.

Folks, our very own Past Director, Skelly, will be leading a ride-out to this all-day event, so come along, have fun and support your local dealership!



## Cider Rally by Bev Beechy

John and I had never been to a H.O.G. Rally, so decided to give the Cider Rally a try this year. Dave led a group of us on Friday 2nd May with Clive bringing up the rear. In total, 14 of us on 10 bikes. Unfortunately, Clive acquired a flat tyre at the Lancing pick up lay-by and had to get trailered back to Shaw's for a replacement tyre, so Bob Wilkinson kindly put the "bra" on his bike to bring up the rear.

Then, shortly after leaving the next stop, John realised he had forgotten to put his specs back on which meant he had ridden away with them perched on top of his saddlebag. So he went back to look for them, while Bob and I waited for him. Although an HGV had since parked where John's bike had been, luckily his glasses were lying unscathed right next to one of the lorry's wheels. When we caught up with the others, they were all very kind about the delay.

After riding through the gorgeous Cheddar Gorge twisties, we stopped for a cream tea in Cheddar before making our way to the Rally site to register and book ourselves in for Sunday's ride outs. After checking into the hotel, we all met in the bar before going down the road for dinner. Most then caught the shuttle bus to the rally site for the evening entertainment, but John and I needed an early night, as our lack of sleep during the preceding week (due to colds) was catching up with us.



On Saturday we explored Weston-Super-Mare and discovered a brilliant dedicated bike parking area. Bridgewater Chapter told us that all the towns in Somerset have these. I think the rest of the country could learn a lot from Somerset. There was an impressive parade of Harleys along the seafront and it was good to see that, as Clive and Judith had arrived late on Friday night, they were able to take part. Afterwards it was lovely to sit outside a seafront restaurant having lunch and cider, whilst people-and bike-watching in the sunshine. After dinner, (where John left his glasses behind again!) we went back to the rally site for the main party night, themed tropical beach party, with some very imaginative costumes to be seen. We learned on Sunday

morning that certain 1066ers have very impressive stamina and didn't get to bed until 4am! John and I are clearly lightweights...



On Sunday most of us rode to Paignton for the BMAD Bike Festival and again the weather was glorious. I hadn't spotted that there was a LoH ride which apparently ended with cake :) Hundreds of bikes of all kinds parked for miles along the seafront, with trade stands, stalls, a fun fair and the usual happy atmosphere that ensues when loads of bikers get together. After several hours strolling around we reassembled for the ride back. After dinner in the local pub, we went back to the hotel bar for more drinks and had a good old natter and a laugh together.

By Monday, I was raring to ride again and therefore instead of riding back on the motorway with Dave and Clive, we agreed with them that we would make our own way, riding the back roads to make a full day of it in the sunshine. It was a great end to a fabulous weekend.

So our first, and hopefully not our last, H.O.G. rally was over. We really enjoyed ourselves, especially getting better acquainted with some of our fellow 1066 members. Thank you all for your fun company and your patience with us rally novices and especially thanks to Dave for a very well organised trip and for booking such perfect weather.

As a final twist, our neighbour was unloading his car as we arrived home, so he asked where we had been. We were amazed to learn that he and his family had also been at the Paignton Bike Festival on Sunday! He used to ride too, but gave that up when his 3 children arrived. He is now hankering to buy another bike. Such moments remind me how lucky I am to be able to ride. Especially riding a Harley with 1066.





## Plymouth Weekend by Bob Wilkinson

It was Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April and time for 19 chapter members to begin the ride west for a weekend meeting the Plymouth Chapter. It was a shame that nobody remembered to book the sunshine, because soon it started raining, then it rained a little more, then it rained loads more. That was to set the tone for the entire weekend. The rain meant wet and slippery roads and car parks, something Des Pascoe would sadly find out to his cost in the first stop at a Little Chef, when his foot went from under him and he dropped his bike. After this everyone was far more careful manoeuvring their bikes, but there were still a few close calls.

We rode until we arrived at the Kilmington Services near Axminster where, on a workday morning, a large contingent from the Plymouth Chapter was waiting to greet us. The rain had stopped, but would return with a vengeance throughout the weekend. Refreshed and refuelled, we were skilfully escorted on to Plymouth and our hotel. After a freshen-up, it was only a short walk across the car park to the Table Table restaurant where around 30 H.O.G. members sat together for their evening meals and drinks.



Saturday morning started windy (as well as wet) for a ride out across the Tamar Road Bridge into Cornwall and down to Looe, stopping en route at Mount Edgcombe House & Country Park. The park's roads were opened up to allow us to ride our bikes to the water's edge.

It was the first and only time this has ever been allowed. After admiring the views it was time for coffees and cream teas.

The ride continued along some narrow and, in some cases, almost washed-away roads caused by the winter floods which had devastated much of the South West last winter. The Plymouth Chapter had arranged an area right on the seafront for parking, allowing an hour for a gentle stroll around picturesque Looe. The rain turned into a deluge - and the wind got even worse. I, for one, don't think I've ever seen bigger raindrops. The rain seemed like it would never stop so we got back on the Harleys to make our way back towards Plymouth.

The roads looked and felt more like rivers. I wondered if I should re-name my Electra Glide an Aqua Glide. The bikes, even though ridden slowly, made spectacular bow waves. Soon the signs for Plymouth and the Tamar Bridge were in sight. We had arrived safely back at the hotel. Saturday night was the same format as Friday with meals and drinks at the Table Table restaurant.

When we checked out of the hotel on Sunday morning, because most of us had been disturbed by either the fire alarm or the rowdy rugby fans on the first night, and others had been disturbed again on the second night, several of us got our rooms free as per the Premier Inns "Good night's sleep" guarantee.

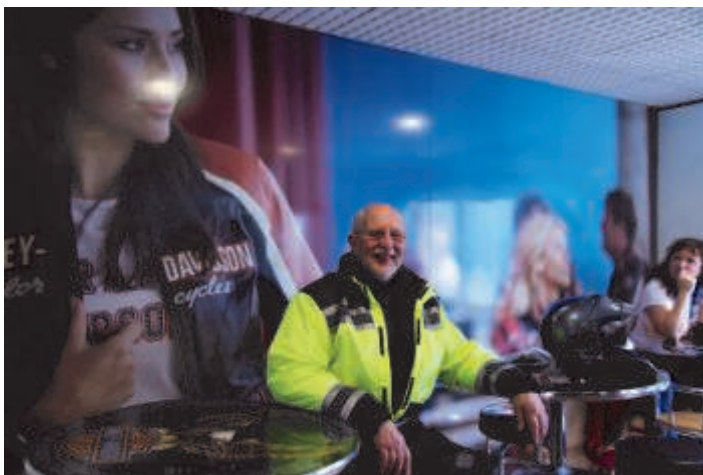
We then started the final ride out with the Plymouth Chapter towards home, including a visit to their dealership en route. The dealership was most welcoming - when we all eventually got there, having got lost! After more coffee, kindly

paid for by the Plymouth Chapter, it was off in the wet once again.



If you could pick one place on earth not to go in the wet, many would pick Dartmoor, but that is where we headed. A road over hills with lots of sharp bends describes the ride over Dartmoor. We only paused for a few minutes to view Dartmoor Prison before continuing home. The Plymouth Chapter escorted our 19 members back to the motorway services near Exeter where we said our thanks and goodbyes.

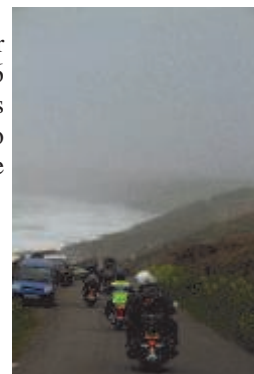
The weekend weather would bite one last time. On the last stop for food at another little Chef, it would be Steve George's turn to drop his bike on the slippery car park surface. No damage to his bike, but possibly a slight dent in his pride.



This report of the weekend with the Plymouth Chapter might seem a little "Doom and Gloom", but I can assure you it was a great weekend with great company. The Plymouth Chapter are an amazingly friendly group of Harley riders, who made us very welcome. They did an amazing job looking after the 1066 members, even if the weather did nothing to help.

They are hoping to visit our Chapter in 2015 and I'm sure 1066 members will make them feel just as welcome. Finally, I'm sure all those who attended would like to thank Steve George for his organisation.

By the way, did I mention it rained?



## Posh Camping by Mandy & Malc Duffield

It was our first ride-out of any distance, and our first weekend away with 1066 Chapter, so waking up on Friday morning, I must admit to being a bit apprehensive about the long journey ahead. But hey ho, it was a lovely sunny morning, so bike all loaded and ready to go, we set off to meet the rest of the guys at Cobham services on the M25. We had just got onto the M23 when I saw Bealy coming up from behind, so we slotted in behind him and Maz and made our way to Cobham for our first stop and briefing.

After a couple more stops for fuel, food and emptying of bladders, we eventually arrived at Llangollen. Off the beaten track, we descended down a pothole-ridden road (which was pretty scary for novices like us) to our accommodation for the weekend. We certainly were not disappointed. The lodges were brilliant. Most had hot tubs, BBQs and everything else you could wish for.

Having had a freshen-up, we all made our way uphill for half mile to a local pub, The Brittany, where we all dined and chatted. It was a brilliant meal with very friendly staff. Going back was easier being downhill, then a dip in the hot tub and off to bed.

Next morning a number of us rode along the Horseshoe Pass up to the Ponderosa Café for an early breakfast. Then, back at Penvale Lakes for the day's briefing. At 10am we set off to the Chester H-D dealership where we had refreshments and bought the odd souvenir; I bought a dog lead!

Next was a short ride into Chester City centre for lunch and a look round. Interesting place, lots to see, even a pink fire engine for Bob! Then off to Colwyn Bay, passing through the delightful seaside resort of Rhyl. Colwyn Bay was a perfect place to stop for an ice cream but we caused a bit of havoc when we all got back on the road again. Then a scenic ride back to Llangollen. In the evening we all did our own thing. Our group, campers from lodge 3, booked a taxi and went into town and found a family-run Italian restaurant where we all had a very enjoyable meal.

Bright and breezy next morning after one of Bob's special fry ups, we set off to Snowdonia Visitor Centre. Bealy decided we needed a bit of off-road experience and took us across what can only be described as an assault course for Harleys. Once back on the main road, we unclenched our buttock muscles and enjoyed the scenery to Snowdonia. Parking was a nightmare, but eventually we all found a space.

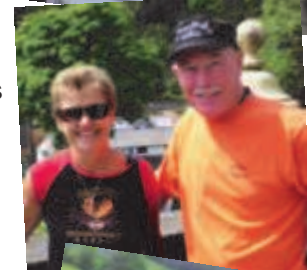
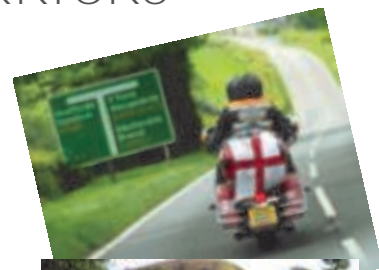
Portmerion was the next stop. What an amazing place! Not what I expected at all. Quaint buildings, beautiful gardens, delicious ice cream and a chance to buy some local pottery. Luckily for Malc, not enough room in our bag.

Back on the bikes and off to Portmadog. Found a very nice eating place in the Court Rooms. Quick look round the town then off back to the lodge again. Showered and all pushed up, we made our way back to the Britannia Inn again for another great meal.

Monday morning already and it is time to make our way back home. But first the big decision, do we wear wets or not? The forecast wasn't great. I guess only about a third of riders did. We had been on the road for about 20 minutes when it started to rain. So Bealy pulled us in at a lay-by and out came the wet gear. I think by the time we were all weather-proofed up, the sun came out and we never saw another drop!

We had a fantastic ride down through Wales. Great roads for bikes. Stopped at Crickowell for fuel and lunch, then a long ride to our next stop at Reading Services where we all said our goodbyes. Final leg home, cup of tea and slump in the chair. What a great weekend! Finally a huge big thank you to Richard and Maz for all the hard work they put in to organising the trip. Also to the Road Crew for keeping us safe. Everything went like clockwork.

N.B. Apparently, Adam Beal went missing on Saturday night. Next morning there were reports of a missing sheep!





## Chapter Presentation to Guide Dogs for the Blind by Jackie Offen

**How do you pay tribute to a great man who has touched so many people's lives?** Not just by telling people what a lovely guy he was, or talking about happy memories, but by honouring him with a special dog named after him. This is just what 1066 Chapter have done to honour the memory of former member Dave Wadey, by donating the charity funds raised during 2013 for a Guide Dog to be named Wadey.

Although it was a rather chilly start to the day, Geoff and I set off at 8am to meet up with Nanette and Jake Wadey, Des & Tracey, and Bob in Worthing. As the sun gradually warmed the day, we had a good ride over to Anne's Café to find that most who were already there had been on the 2012 USA Vegas trip, which Dave and Nan had enjoyed so much. With plenty of time to warm ourselves up with hot drinks and breakfast, it was good to catch up with everyone, and soon 44 bikes and a trike were ready to roll.

Hutch blew his whistle and, after the briefing, we set off onto the country roads with wonderful views of Sussex and Kent, not forgetting some beautiful twists and turns through Ashdown Forest. Despite a couple of hiccups with my bike deciding to cut out completely, it didn't seem long before we arrived just the other side of the M25 to the 7 Hotel & Diner.

We were met by lots of Guide Dogs in training along with a few fully-trained Guide Dogs. The puppies thoroughly enjoyed all the fuss and attention! It was great to meet the trainers and find out about the process of training. I, for one, had not realised that it takes a full two years before they are ready to do the amazing work for their new owner. One dog was so well-trained that it looked quite happy sitting on Jake Wadey's Harley for a photo for the local press!

Nan and Jake presented a cheque for £4,000 to Marion Clayton, 1066 member and Secretary of the Sevenoaks branch of Guide Dogs for the Blind. This amount allows us to name a dog and the decision had been taken to name 'our dog' Wadey. Although it was an emotional moment for Nan and Jake, I know that they are very proud to have such a wonderful honour paid to Dave.

After yet more refreshments we made our way back along the same route to Black Down where the ride finished, only to find most of us then headed on down to Shaw's for more coffee! Now we wait for news that Wadey has been born, and look forward to meeting him.

A huge well done to everyone in 1066 Chapter for raising an amazing amount for such a great cause.



## Overlord Museum, D-Day landings, Portsmouth by Andy Jackson

**My old Drill Sergeant, 30 plus years ago, gave me some sound advice: “Recruit Jackson, if you’re gonna survive this man’s Air Force, you’ll need to be grey, stay in the shadows and don’t volunteer for nothing.”** Sound advice that I still adhere to.

So here I am on my Street Bob, a newbie dressed in black, patchless and no badges to boot. So far so good. The brief by Group Captain Dougie was direct: depart 10.30 sharp from the Black Down Services. Pickups to include South of the Cuilfail Tunnel and Lancing. No drop offs until approaching the Junior Ranks Mess at the Great Saltern Mansions, Copnor. Filled with confidence and gung ho, this is my kind of ride! So off we set, my OIC at the lead, his lower ranks in the middle, and his trusty NCOs in the rear. Beasts of characters, comprising of Mick, Nick and Richard.

Don’t mess up Jackson you’re grey, remember, in the shadows. Unfortunately for us, that also included the weather. In fact East Sussex proved to be a bit wet, with drizzle covering my Bob and especially the lower half of my trousers and providing a miserable ten minutes of riding around the Brighton by-pass. No such thing as bad weather, just bad clothing! The roads heading west then appeared to be drying up. The A27 west of Worthing allowed the convoy to pick up speeds of 70 and I felt the wet being forced from my visor and bike. The roads at the Hampshire border seemed to be dry. Happy days. My NCO was never far from my mirrors. I felt I was being graded and my exercise was nearly over. Had I cracked it? Who’s the Daddy?! I had spoken too soon, What the F...?! Out of nowhere, my trusty steed lost all power and I was doing 70 on a dual carriageway. This was an experience that I hadn’t been taught 6 months earlier whilst doing my direct access. Panic! Where’s my hazard warning switch? Why didn’t Harley Davidson make a sodding great big red button on the fuel tank? So what do I do? I know - wave my near side arm furiously to alert my closest riders. Thankfully they gave me the widest of berths and, to be honest, at one point I thought I was going to take off. Stop flapping your arm Jackson, panic over, you’ve stopped. My three burly NCO minders descended, faces like thunder but I guess trying not to laugh. With some technical advice, I then turned off the bike, waited a second, and hey presto! She fired up. Bitch. I had gone in a nano-second from grey man in the shadows to a day-glo-coloured newbie in the spotlight - my cover well and truly blown!

My henchmen were now even closer to my tail and to make things worse, I was at the front playing catch-up. Don’t panic Mr Mainwaring! I won’t go into too much detail about a certain roundabout near Havant that I found very interesting (so much so that I needed to go around it twice), but I soon caught up with rest and the Airmen’s Mess was in sight. We parked up, and many comments of “All right Andy?” were received, but then I was accosted by the OIC and with his puppy dog eyes. The mortal words came tumbling out... “Andy, how do you fancy writing up the day’s brief?” Don’t tell ‘em your name Pike. Don’t volunteer. Don’t volunteer. “Errm yeah, ok boss.” Damn!

We found our tables, diggers were provided and much scoff and swill consumed. My rhubarb and custard was shared with the help of Lin, my new best friend, and war stories entertained the tables.

Stabilisers fitted to the bikes to counteract the extra weight taken on board, we hit the road. Drop-offs were needed for the final 10 minutes of riding, and five minutes into this process, the OIC managed to lose all of his recruits and his NCOs. A quick about-turn was applied with the help of another passenger physically pushing him into a side street, but as luck would have it, the group turned the corner to observe his antics. Sorry Dougie, for mentioning it, but I couldn’t help myself. Just pleased that somebody else entertained the troops that day.

We had arrived and the sun was now shining in sunny Hampshire. Some clever bartering gained us all entry as senior citizens, and being a newcomer to the ripe old age of 50, it provided my wife with great amusement when told.

Those of you who have never visited Overlord, you must. It kept us all entertained during the two and a half hour brief by a very enthusiastic senior salty sea dog, providing much insight into the D-day Landings. We left at 5 in the sunshine, trousers now dried out, confidence restored. Bring it on! Sorry folks, nothing to report on the way home. I would like to express my thanks to Dougie and the Road Crew for organising and arranging this day out.

**Senior Aircraftsman Andy Jackson C8208945 Royal Air Force Rtd.**



by Melissa Tuttle

**As I woke to a gloriously sunny morning, I couldn't help thinking it was going to be a good day out.**

I fired up the beast and blasted over to Shaw's to back-mark Amanda's first ride out. There was a nice, manageable group of 15 bikes, 2 trikes, and 4 Road Crew looking forward to visiting the Police Museum in Brighton. Even Skelly decided to come along for a bit of a bus-man's holiday.

As Amanda started her briefing, I could tell she was a bit nervous and I recalled my first ride-out. It may not seem like that big a deal to lead a ride, but believe me, on that first one you start the day hoping there are no new road works that weren't there on your last recce, then hoping you don't mess up the route or lose anyone, and lastly you pray no accidents... especially if you are the one ending up on the ground! You return home absolutely knackered and wonder how you can be so tired after only a two hour journey.

I'm sure Amanda had her own set of worries on the day but it barely showed. She delivered the pre-ride speech with confidence and led a flawless

ride to the museum. Upon arrival at the car park we made our way to reserved parking and a short walk to the museum itself. At this point she must have been breathing a sigh of relief. One, we all made it....even the trikes! Two, we made it on time and had no issues with parking. A silent "phew" could almost be heard.

Once inside the museum we received a guided tour of the building and a talk on the history of Sussex Police.

Afterwards, the ride-out ended with each finding their own way back home. Amanda went home to a well-deserved glass of wine or two with Richard, who by the way, back-marked his first ride-out that day.

The amount of planning was evident by how smoothly the ride-out, parking, and tour went. So hats off to Amanda for a successful and enjoyable first ride-out. I'm looking forward to joining your next ride and welcome to the road crew....bet you're glad that's over!

*"Boys, when I tell you to wait at the drop off point, I mean it!"*



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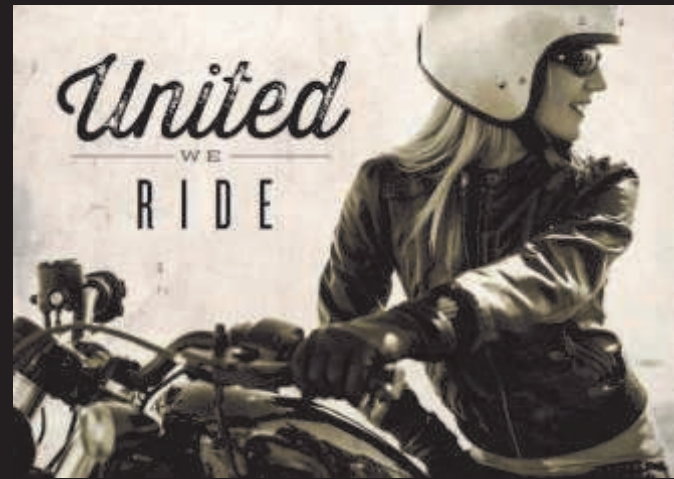


Richard



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## ride-outs until the next edition

### June

Charity Fun Day, Bl ackboys  
 Sat 14 Skel ly

Chiddingstone Castl e  
 Sun 15 Gus

Pool e Dream Machines  
 Tue 17 Vicar

**SKELLY & THE COLONEL'S**  
 Retirement Ride  
 Sat 21 Beal y

Ride West & Chichester  
 Bike Show  
 Sun 22 Mel issa

Deal er Ride  
 Sat 28 Steve G

Isfiel d Vil l age Fete  
 Sun 29 Steve G & Wol fie

Lil l e Weekend  
 Sat/sun 28/29 Rich K

### July

Jail house Caf e  
 Sat 5 Gus

Michel ham Priory  
 Sun 6 Clare

Fairford Airshow  
 Fri/sun 11/13 Wol fie

Bedgebury Forest  
 Sun 13 Hogtog

Redoubt Fortress  
 Sat 19 Mel issa

Bentl ey Motor Museum  
 Sun 20 Micko

Worthing Show  
 Sat 26 Barney

Bike 1066  
 Sun 27 Skel ly

### August

Deal er Ride  
 Sat 2 Steve G

Thames River boat Ride  
 Sun 3 Greeny

Hampton Court  
 Sun 10 Micko



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